



STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 26, 2021 **FILE:** 0540-04 Board

TO: Chair and Directors
Regional Board

FROM: Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: **PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR BYLAWS NO. 385 (WILSON), 424 (CHAN), 432 AND 433 (QUADRA LINKS)**

PURPOSE

To consider holding hybrid (virtual/in-person) public hearings at the Quadra Island Community Centre to permit the consideration of four land use bylaws applicable to Electoral Area C.

POLICY ANALYSIS

An application for rezoning in Electoral Area C was reviewed at the April 28, 2021 meeting of the Regional District Board, at which time the following resolution was passed:

Abram/Whalley: SRD 387/21

THAT all public hearings related to *Local Government Act Part 14* initiatives affecting land within Electoral Area C be postponed until Province of BC public Health orders allow for indoor public gatherings with participation by the general public.

As result of this resolution, the Board deferred consideration of public hearing dates for land-use proposals in Electoral Area C until the COVID-19 situation had stabilized to the degree that indoor public gatherings could resume in a safe manner.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the postponement of public hearings in Electoral Area C, three rezoning bylaws and one Official Community Plan amendment bylaw have been on hold for between three and 13 months:

1. Rezoning Bylaw No. 385 (Wilson)
2. Rezoning Bylaw No. 424 (Chan)
3. Rezoning and OCP Amendment Bylaws No. 432 and 433 (Quadra Links)

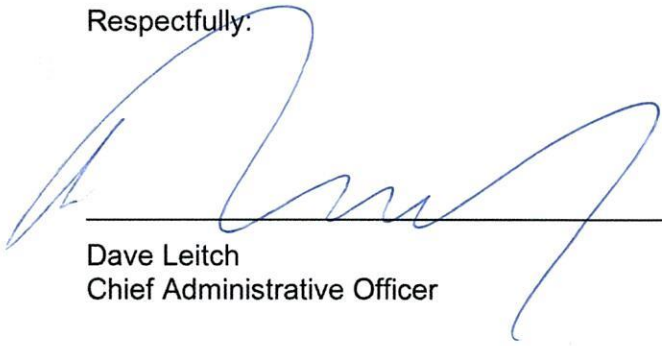
The Public Health Order on Gathering and Events permits in-person public hearings with safety precautions in place, and Bill 10 [*Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2021*]¹ enables local governments to hold virtual, electronic public hearings on a permanent basis. Since the Regional District will be able to hold public hearings within the next few weeks under these rules, further direction is being sought from the Board regarding the processing of these applications and the provision of appropriate messaging for the applicants and the general public.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

¹ Passed June 1, 2021 and effective September 29, 2021.

Respectfully:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Leitch', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: Meredith Starkey, Parks and Planning Manager