

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SAVE CABLE BAY A CALL TO ACTION: WRITE A LETTER!

PLEASE WRITE A LETTER TODAY and email it to The City of Nanaimo MAYOR & COUNCIL

It is now time to email the mayor and council to request that the east side of Cable Bay Trail is preserved and protected as park. It is also important to request a minimum 100M buffer on the west side of the trail. NALT previously spoke about the significance of the 100M buffer at a May 2022 City meeting stating that it was based on the tree size and that there would be blow down effects if such a buffer was not maintained. The City has not provided us with a timeline as to when the subdivision could be approved (or denied) or when the Rezoning hearing will be.

Council have previously stated they <u>do not want a form email</u>. So please send them an email stating why protection of Cable Bay is important to you. A couple of ideas:

- Why do you and your family enjoy walking the Cable Bay Trail and over to Joan Point Park?
- If you have photos that you can share with them please do that.
- If you have time to put together a presentation on Google Docs or Power Point please do that.

POINTS TO CONSIDER: Here are some excellent reasons why Cable Bay should be protected:

- Preservation of Natural Habitats (second and old growth forests, Garry Oak meadows, wildlife, wetlands...)

- Biodiversity Conservation (maintaining ecosystems that support a diverse range of wildlife including mammals, birds, amphibians, insects, and other sensitive species)

- Climate and Water Regulation (preserving trees to mitigate climate impacts and maintain natural water flow patterns, crucial for local ecosystems and community resilience)

- Public Access and Enjoyment (ensuring continued access to the beloved trail and Joan Point Park, which provides unique opportunities for outdoor recreation and wildlife observation)

- Unique Ecological Features (protecting rare Garry Oak meadows and old growth forest, which contribute to the regions ecological diversity and heritage) ***Governments like the word HERITAGE usually

- Responsible Land Use Planning (advocating for sustainable development practices that prioritize conservation and community well-being over short-term industrial or residential expansion.

- Environmental Stewardship (encouraging local government to demonstrate leadership in environmental protection by safeguarding critical natural areas for current and future generations.

- Economic Benefits of Conservation (recognizing the economic value of preserving natural areas for tourism, recreation, and ecosystem services, which contribute to local quality of life and property values.

The City of Nanaimo has stated that they are going to reach out to both the federal and provincial governments to protect Harewood Plains. There are at least 5 Garry Oak Meadows on the east side of Cable Bay. Species at risk have also been identified on these meadows and a Species at Risk assessment should be done on all of the meadows including the meadows on the west side. It is crucial that the City ask for the protection of Cable Bay not only for the endangered meadows, the forest and the ecosystems but because it's also a tourist destination. Cable Bay Trail, "A Jewel of Nanaimo" should be park!

Please share this *Write a Letter* information with your friends, and also share the website savecablebay.org with friends who are not on social media.

There are 10 email addresses to copy and send with your letter: mayor.council@nanaimo.ca, Jessica.Stanley@rdn.bc.ca, sheila.malcolmson@bcndp.ca, SDPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Doug.Routley.MLA@leg.bc.ca, LisaMarie.Barron@parl.gc.ca, ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca, Steven.Guilbeault@parl.gc.ca, <u>premier@gov.bc.ca</u> Please copy us at: Savecablebay@gmail.com

Let's do this! Thank you from the Save Cable Bay team!