



Village of
Tahsis

Minutes

Meeting	Standing Committee of Business Liaison
Date	November 13, 2024, 2024
Time	10:00 a.m.
Place	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

**Committee
Members**

Councillor Brenda Lenahan, Committee - Vice Chair -
(chaired the meeting in Councillor Moore's absence)

Dan Dahling, Local Business Community Representative

Linda Jordan, Local Business Community Representative
Sheryl Roger, Local Business Community Representative

Amit Sharma, Local Business Community Representative

Mark Tatchell, CAO (Ex Officio)
Paige Sawyer, Economic Development Coordinator (Ex Officio)
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager (Ex Officio)

left at 11:20
returned
12:02 p.m.

by video (11
am)

by video
by video

Absent

Councillor Ryan Moore, Committee- Chair

Public

2 members of the public

1 by video

Call to Order

Councillor Lenahan called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Lenahan acknowledged and respected that this Standing Committee of Business Liaison is meeting upon Mowachaht/Muchalaht territory.

Introduction of Late Items

Lenahan: COW 0081/2024

THAT the Standing Committee of Business Liaison approve introducing the Draft Tahsis Community Beautification and Tourism Infrastructure Action Plan under New Business (included with "M1").

CARRIED

Approval of the Agenda

Lenahan: COW 0082/2024

THAT the Agenda for the November 13, 2024, Standing Committee of Business Liaison be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

**M. New
Business**

1

Village of Tahsis Beautification and Tourism Infrastructure Action Plan.

Lenahan: COW 0083/2024

THAT the Standing Committee of Business Liaison receive the draft Tahsis Community Beautification and Tourism Infrastructure Action Plan and engage in a discussion regarding this plan.

CARRIED

Lenahan: COW 0084/2024

THAT public input be permitted.

CARRIED

Items discussed included the following: focus of the committee; village beautification ideas; room taxes; business licenses; MRDT Program (Municipal Regional District Tax Program); forming community partnerships; relocation of the benches and shelters; trails; grants; obtaining donations; signage; Tahsis vision, theme and style and tourism infrastructure ideas such public bathrooms, shelters and dog parks.

Mayor Davis to follow up with Regional District on the MRDT Program.

Lenahan: COW 0085/2024

THAT at the next meeting the Committee discuss both short term and long term actions with regards to beautification and tourism infrastructure.

CARRIED

There was a brief discussion on the proper procedure for requesting information from the Village office such as a map of village owned properties.

Adjournment

Lenahan COW 0086/2024

THAT the Standing Committee of Business Liaison adjourn at
12:11 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct this

3rd day of December, 2024

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' shape followed by a wavy line.

Chief Administrative Officer

DRAFT

Tahsis Community Beautification & Tourism Infrastructure Action Plan

Basic tourism infrastructure, community beautification and community building efforts are foundational to:

- Creating a welcoming community for visitors in order to increase the success of our existing businesses, increase the rate of repeat visits and enhance word-of-mouth marketing.
- Fostering community well-being through social infrastructure such as childcare, K -12 education, continuing education, recreation programming, playgrounds, and community events to be able to attract and retain new residents including people who wish to invest or start local businesses and work in our community (ie:the school, public works etc.)

These initiatives will not only support economic development but also will make gains on municipal, regional and provincial priorities including: age friendly, active transportation, accessibility & inclusion, public safety, green spaces and community wellness. There are several (mostly small) grants targeted in these areas.

The funding and human capacity for these ideas is limited but opportunities exist to work with community partners, volunteers, and granting organizations. It is also possible to recommend that the village start a reserve fund specific to beautification and tourism infrastructure.

Possible community partners include:

- Local businesses
- Tahsis Literacy Society
- Tahsis Senior's Society
- Jade Coast Conservation & Trails Society (Sarah from Shorebird)
<https://www.jadecoastbc.com/home>

Beautification Ideas

- Hanging baskets placed on every municipal building from May to October.
 - Village budget for purchase?
 - Village staff or tenants will water and care for baskets
 - Plan ahead and order in fall.
 - Future plan for baskets to be built or purchased locally
 - Tahsis Literacy Society workshop for basket building for community members and for village?
 - Could consider seasonal baskets for winter as well (ferns, cedar boughs etc)
- Planters
 - Build new concrete or wood planters to replace existing ones
 - Purchase new concrete block planters for the "wall"

- Create Butterfly & Bee Gardens
- Neighborhood contest every spring to help clean up and beautify - could divide the village into “neighborhoods” for this initiative with additional benefits of social connection

Possible Grants:

Neighborhood Small Grants (Reopens in Spring 2025)

\$500 for projects that bring people together socially or promote skill sharing

<https://neighbourhoodsmallgrants.ca/grants/nsq/>

BC Hydro Regreening (Application deadline Jan 31, 2025) \$10,000

Supports planting of trees and other vegetation

https://www.bchydro.com/community/in_your_region/regreening.html?utm_source=direct&utm_medium=redirect&utm_content=regreening

- Run more VOT clean up days to help residents with dump runs (Spring-Summer-Fall?)
- Theme for the village? (Could possibly explore this further through the redevelopment of the Museum and Tourist Info Centre as an interior designer will be engaged)
 - Indigenous history
 - Mill & logging history
 - Natural environment - ocean, rivers, forest, mountains and wildlife
- Install posts (or use Hydro poles if allowed) for holiday lights and summer “flags”
example <https://www.flagandbanner.com/banners/municipal-beautification-street-pole-banners.asp?srsltid=AfmBOopGWK35hsn53ulcy38X5BbuG9zzNd8VHWBnlbaX4LzLpw1dtlqJ>

Tourism Infrastructure Ideas (with an eye to also improving community well-being & the livability of our village)

- Wayfinding Signs (example <https://hisigns.com/projects/municipal-wayfinding-signs/>)
 - Around village for village assets (recycling, fire hall, recreation centre, museum, village office, boat ramp, Leiner Trail & Bull of the Woods trail)
 - Include other public assets like Canada Post, library, ambulance, health centre and school?
- Trail signs on trails for wayfinding, distances, cultural history
- Connect “Townsite” with “Cardiac” neighborhood on old road/ pathway - paving and lights, to encourage safe, active transportation, walking route and for emergency use.
- Benches along roadways for people who need resting spots

Possible grants:

Active Transportation Grant - Need to apply for planning grant first and then infrastructure grant for wayfinding signs, road safety, lighting, multi use pathways and <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/funding-engagement-permits/funding-grants/active-transportation-infrastructure-grants>

*Outdoor Recreation Fund of BC - Open again in Spring 2025 - Up to \$10,000 Grants for community based initiatives that create meaningful outdoor recreation and nature based opportunities
<https://www.orcbc.ca/grants-for-outdoor-recreation>*

*Outdoor Recreation Council of BC - Grant Funding list
<https://www.orcbc.ca/funding>*

*Age Friendly Project Grants - To make gains on recommendations in our Age Friendly Action Plan
<https://bchealthycommunities.ca/index.php/age-friendly-communities/>
(link to VOT Age Friendly Action Plan - <https://villageoftahsis.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Village-of-Tahsis-Age-Friendly-Community-Action-Plan-FINAL-Dec-2019.pdf>)*

*Rick Hansen Foundation - Accessibility Grants
<https://www.rickhansen.com/bc-grants>*

- Create a Community Gathering Space
 - At waterfront, large covered area with picnic benches, washrooms, possible BBQ or firepit, possible stage, etc
 - Would create a landing pad and day use area for tourists, and could host markets and other events

Possible grant:

*Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET)- Need to wait for current grant process to finalize
<https://islandcoastaltrust.ca/apply-for-funding/infrastructure-investment-programs/community-placemaking/starting-your-application-community-placemaking-program/>*

- Public Washrooms
 - Needed at waterfront (inlet) park and other?
 - If portable, build structure to beautify and protect from the elements.
- Trail Improvements & Maintenance plan
 - Make a plan for improvements to the Leiner River & Estuary trails and Bull of the Woods trail.
 - Make a trails maintenance plan and set aside village budget and staff time for trail maintenance OR create an external contract for maintenance.

- Start a future trails plan to legitimize other regional trails (Maquinna Trail, Boulder Trail etc)
- Road Signage Project
 - To ease navigation for visitors, increase public safety and to improve the look of the village.
 - Address the need for clear signage for parking, especially in the public dock area.
 - Clean road and street signs and cut bushes that shade or obscure signs.
 - Replace those that are old and faded, remove ones that are unnecessary and add any that are needed.
 - Improve signage for “one ways” and “no exits” (to improve safety and alleviate issues for residents and visitors)
 - Add more reflective tape and pay particular attention to school zones and crosswalks. Consider changing “playground zone” from “school zone” so that speed limits are in play from dawn till dusk, all year.
 - Consider reevaluating speed limits to create a more uniform approach throughout the village.
- Move Benches & Shelters
 - Make a plan to move existing benches and shelters (from recent grant project) to locations that are more appropriate & picturesque, more accessible and more useful given patterns of human use.
- Update website (create new or refurbish the current one) with engaging photography, newsletter sign up for residents and visitors to be looped in to news, events, etc improved navigation and updated format that makes it easier to keep the website current. Provide links to the Tahsis Living Blog.

Other grants & ideas for funding of related initiatives

- Municipal & Regional District Tax Program
 - Could be applied regionally or municipally - maybe something to engage the SRD on?
 - Collects tax from accommodations to be reinvested in tourism marketing etc
 - <https://www.destinationbc.ca/what-we-do/funding-sources/mrdt/faq/>
- Playground Revitalization grants <https://www.habitat-systems.com/british-columbia-grant-listings/>
- Recreation Centre revitalization including building & programming

For programming: <https://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/>

For built environment:

- **Accessibility Grants List (Not exhaustive)**
https://www.destinationbc.ca/content/uploads/2021/08/Accessibility-Related-Funding-Opportunities_for-Tourism-August-2021.pdf
- **Enabling Accessibility Grants**
<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/enabling-accessibility-fund.html>