
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 2, 2003
To: City Manager
From: Planning and Development Services Department
Subject: City of Kelowna Neighbourhood Satisfaction Survey

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive the report from the Planning and Development Services Department dated April 2, 2003 regarding the completion of the Neighbourhood Satisfaction Survey.

BACKGROUND

The Kelowna Official Community Plan (OCP) provides direction on how to accommodate growth. This direction is based on community input, which shows that the majority of residents prefer to preserve agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands and provide for growth by increasing the density of existing and future residential areas.

Responding to residents' preferences in the context of a limited land base and a growing population requires using land in a more efficient manner. Accordingly, the OCP promotes an increase in the density of residential types of development, including infill lots, secondary suites, townhomes and apartments.

Unfortunately, achieving these types of housing can prove difficult in that residents of single unit households sometimes oppose change because of apprehension of how new housing types may influence their quality of life. To overcome such obstacles, staff felt it would be helpful to identify the nature of any impacts. Once identified, it was hoped that if there were substantial impacts, efforts could be taken to overcome them so as to encourage sensitive infill that achieves OCP objectives while preserving quality of life.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SATISFACTION SURVEY

Survey research can be helpful in identifying residents' observations with regard to issues such as those relating to neighbourhood satisfaction. The Planning and Development Services Department applied for and was awarded a grant from the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation to assist in conducting a study that examines actual impacts of introducing infill forms of housing into established single unit residential neighbourhoods. Infill housing forms have been defined as housing forms that are more dense or less land intensive than single unit households. Examples of 'infill' housing include secondary suites, houses on small lots, townhouses and apartments.

Portions of the report summarizing the findings of the Neighbourhood Satisfaction Survey are attached. The full report is available in the Council reader file and has been posted on the 'What's New?' and 'Long Range Planning' sections of the City webpage. The report data was obtained by surveying residents living near infill forms of housing. Their responses are compared to responses from residents living in uniformly single unit but otherwise comparable residential neighbourhoods. The attached brochure has been prepared to summarize some of the survey results and has also been posted on the 'What's New?' and 'Long Range Planning' sections of the City webpage.

It is hoped that promoting the brochure and the survey results in print format and on the City's webpage will help the City better implement the Official Community Plan growth management and housing policies. In this regard, the attached information may be useful to residents, developers, elected officials and planners.

Signe K. Bagh, MCIP
Long Range Planning Manager

Approved for inclusion

☐

R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, ACP, MCIP
Director of Planning & Development Services

GDR/SKB/gdr
Attach.