



CITY OF PORT ALBERNI

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

TO: Ken Watson, City Manager

FROM: Scott Smith, City Planner

DATE: June 19, 2013

**SUBJECT: REPORT ON RESULTS OF PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY FOR
PROPOSED SIDEWALK, CURB AND GUTTER BYLAW**

Issue

To consider the input received from the public, through the Sidewalk, Curb and Gutter public opinion survey.

Background

City Council received an email on the April 8, 2013 regular meeting requesting a new bylaw to require property owners to maintain the sidewalk, curbs and gutters free of grass and weeds. The current Boulevard & Tree Care Maintenance Bylaw requires property owners to maintain water and cut any grass on the boulevard to keep it in a neat and tidy condition. It does not require property owners to keep the sidewalk, curb or gutter free of grass and weeds. Council directed staff to gather public input regarding a possible bylaw that would require property owners to maintain weed and grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters adjacent to their property.

A short public survey was open from April 24, 2013 to May 24, 2013 and was made available to the public primarily online via links posted on the City website. Paper (see attached) surveys were also made available at City Hall for residents who did not wish to do the survey online.

Discussion

There were 185 residences that accessed the survey with a 163 to 166 answering the questions. There are three charts included in the report that summary the results. Approximately 55% of respondent's were concerned about weeds in the sidewalks; 65% indicated they are able to maintain weed free sidewalks and 52% would support a new bylaw requiring resident's to maintain weed free sidewalks, curbs and gutters. We also received a significant amount of comments that have been included in this report. These comments were diverse, but some of the repeated comments are summarized as follows:

- People already maintain the sidewalk in front of their property.
- Concerned that people would overly use chemicals to control weeds.
- The City of Port Alberni should keep the sidewalks free of weeds.

Options

1. Prepare an amendment to the boulevard maintenance bylaw to add the requirement for property owners to maintain sidewalk, curb and gutter free of grass and weeds.
2. No bylaw change.
3. Increase the service level and direct the City public works to undertake this work on an ongoing basis.

Discussion

The first option would have Council consider adoption of a bylaw that would require property owners to maintain a weed free sidewalk, curb and gutter. The regulations around the bylaw would need to be specific, such as the height of any grass or weed that would trigger enforcement. If Council wishes to consider a bylaw amendment, the City of Port Alberni should try and consult with more citizens about the proposal. If a bylaw was approved, a service level increase would be required for the City to maintain the large areas that would be our responsibility. Given the resources of the Cities bylaw enforcement, the enforcement of this issue would not be a top priority.

The second option would be to maintain the status quo and rely on property owners to voluntarily maintain the sidewalk area.

The third option would be for the City of Port Alberni to increase our service level, by having a higher level of maintenance of sidewalks, curb and gutter to keep the grass and weeds to a minimum. The City Engineer would need to determine a work plan and a likely increase in the operations budget.

Conclusions

Both Options 1 and 3 would result in a higher level of maintenance to keep sidewalks, curb and gutter areas free of grass and weeds that would improve the look of the streets. These two options will likely mean an increase cost to the City for the works department to provide this service.

Although Option 2 would keep the status quo, the City could consider providing public information to encourage residents to keep the sidewalk, curb and gutter in front of their property grass and weed free. This could be part of a wider keep the City of Port Alberni clean initiative.

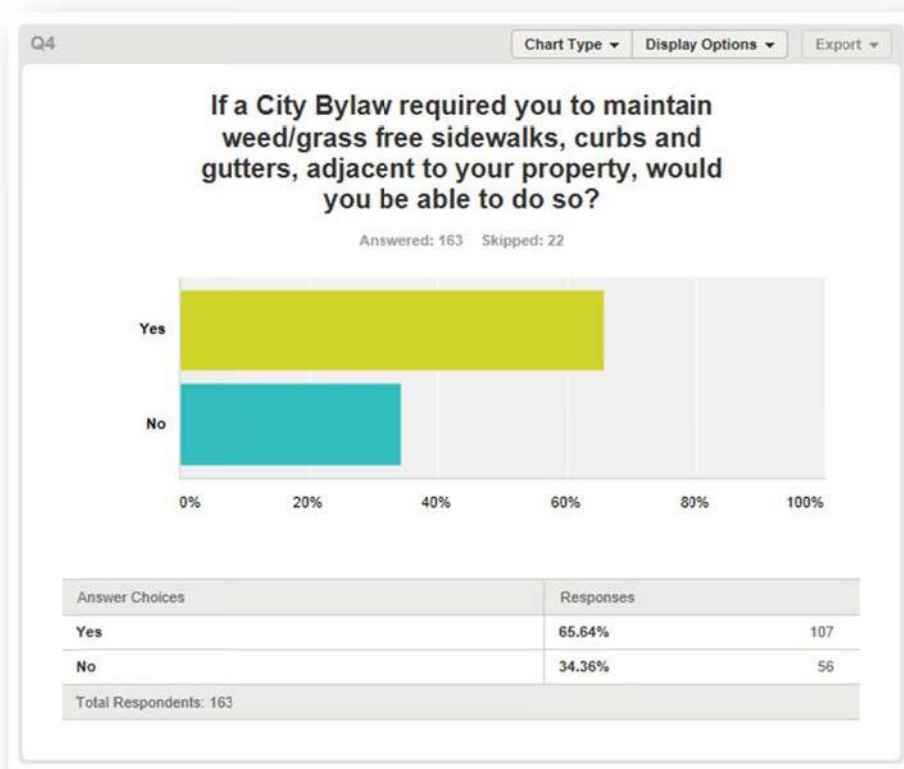
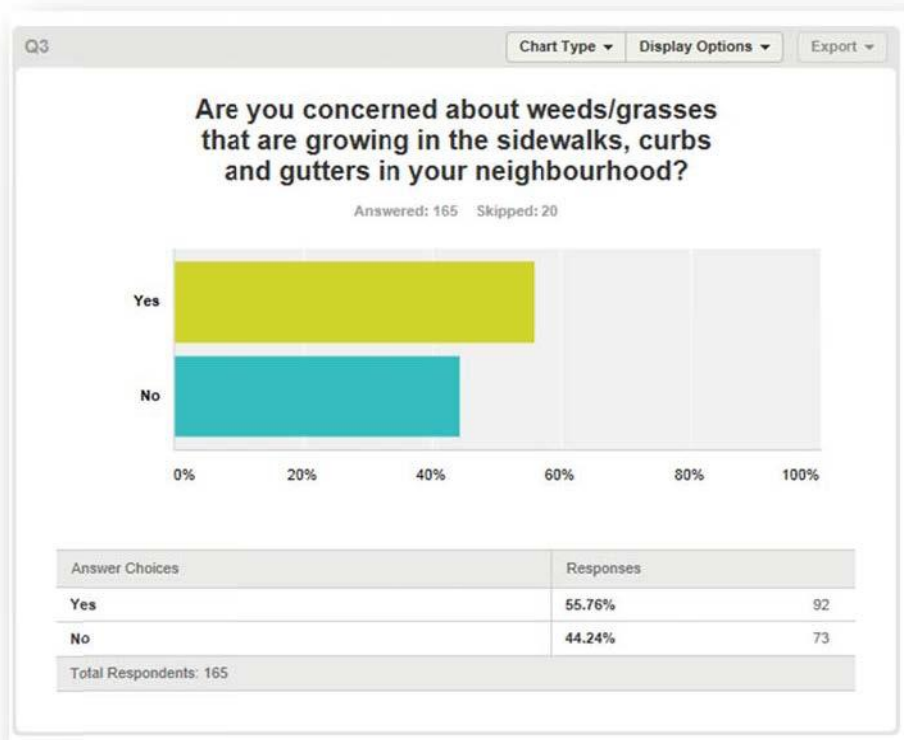
Recommendation

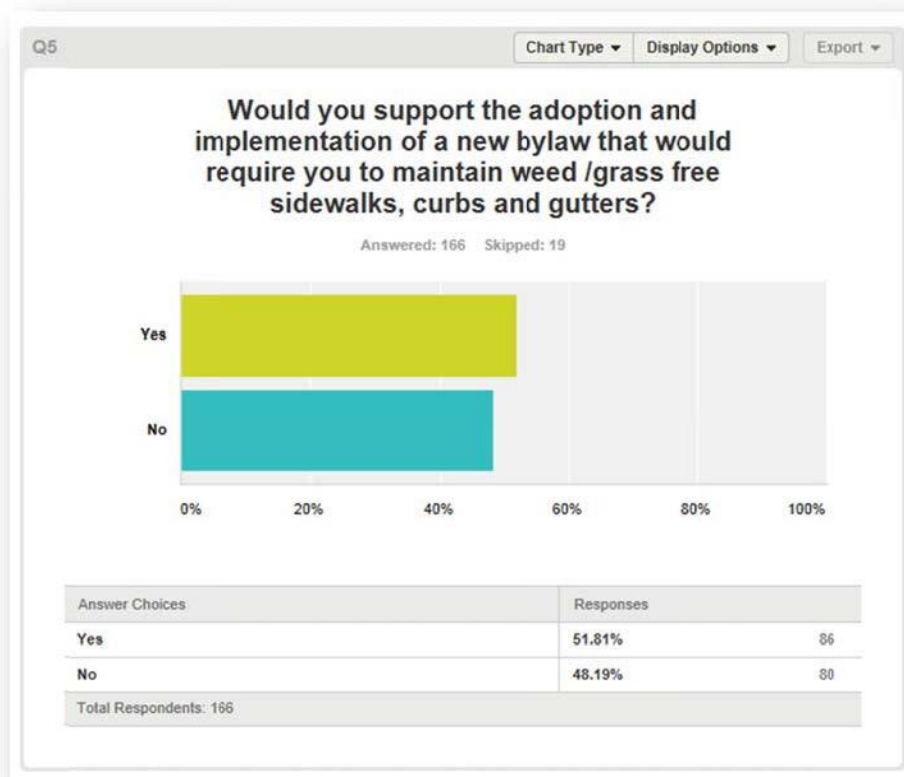
Option 2 is recommended.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Smith, MCIP
City Planner





Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
1	Weeds such as Dock are well embedded in cracks. Without a systemic herbicide impossible to remove without breaking pavement. Council passed the pesticide bylaw. Remember it was city council who passed the pesticide ban. Sidewalks, curbs, and gutters are public land. The city is responsible for public land. Must property owners fix potholes in pavement because it is adjacent to their property. [Comments]	May 24, 2013 2:09 PM
2	Our property is on the downside of three corners that have no sidewalks. All the run-off cuts diagonally across the intersection and down the hill (Strathern & 6th Ave) bringing all the weeds and dirt from the upside with it. The poor drainage situation has resulted in total deterioration of the sidewalk and curbs in front of our property. While I would love it if the city would maintain the sidewalk and cut back the grass/weeds that grow, I in no way believe we are responsible for maintaining it ourselves. The problem is flowing down from properties above us. You can drive by and see the situation for yourself - it is clearly not a problem of our making. Thank you [Comments]	May 24, 2013 1:54 PM
3	We do not have any sidewalks, curbs, or gutters in our neighbourhood. [Comments]	May 24, 2013 8:31 AM
4	we do not have any curbs , gutters or sidewalks on our street. [Comments]	May 24, 2013 8:30 AM
5	Residents should be required to sweep the curbs in front of their property. [Comments]	May 23, 2013 4:18 PM
6	We do NOT want any round up or other unhealthy products used in our yard or in neighborhood yards.. If you do the research you will find that there are very many adverse health risks associated with using such products. To put a mandatory bylaw out that makes people buy and use these products in their yards is absolutely absurd, and we hope that it does not come to fruition! At least give people the right to say NO... especially something that is just for cosmetic reasons!!! There are enough cancers in this town we do not need to add to them!! [Comments]	May 22, 2013 11:31 AM
7	Question regarding "would I be able to maintain weed/grass free sidewalks....." is TOTALLY IRRELEVANT. Maintenance of City property is a CITY RESPONSIBILITY. Failure by the City, at times, to keep up with such maintenance is UNDERSTANDABLE. Action by local residents to VOLUNTARILY help out is commendable. "REQUIRING" property owners to maintain City property under threat of punishment is TYRANNICAL!! [Comments]	May 21, 2013 2:25 PM
8	I would be able to maintain sidewalks, curbs and gutter "SO FAR" [Comments]	May 21, 2013 11:05 AM
9	It would be nice if people would cut their lawns in their front yard also store their junk in the back such as a structure of poles with boat inside it. It does not serve any purpose - it does not keep the boat dry - there is no roof or walls. Also how many vehicles is a householder allowed to keep on the street? [Comments]	May 21, 2013 11:04 AM
10	We do not own the property the sidewalk sits on. Why should we be responsible for it's maintenance? As seniors in a few years we will need to pay someone to help with yard maintenance. Does this by-law mean we would need to pay someone to look after the City of Port Alberni's property? We sincerely think our taxes should cover this expense. [Comments]	May 20, 2013 3:01 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
11	Elderly cannot do this [Comments]	May 19, 2013 8:51 AM
12	We don't have gutters or curbs on my block of Elizabeth St. so it's not a concern. In places where I have lived previously with gutter and curbs, I have always made sure things were clean anyway. I just feel it's part of being a responsible home owner. [Comments]	May 18, 2013 10:50 PM
13	I fear my neighbours may use pesticides without proper signage which would endanger my children and myself we have an autoimmune disorder [Comments]	May 18, 2013 9:31 PM
14	How about keep up with your current bylaw on property management, regarding weeds, refuse, graffiti, etc. around town first before you want residents to maintain areas adjacent to their own. [Comments]	May 18, 2013 8:19 PM
15	I don't like the idea of a job for someone being taken away [Comments]	May 18, 2013 7:58 PM
16	When I see 5 city works crew standing around staring at a hole in the ground...time after time...when i read about it costing the city 20K to possibly change blue fairy lights uptown to white ones...when i see that yet again the city is thinking of mixing up the plan...tourist or city growth...lets put up a lovely quay for tourists to watch bears but lets approve an automotive upholstery shop and a electric car charging station in the area and now lets take whats turning into a kitchy little corner at johnston and allow a multi bay car wash to go in. ugh... i live on a main road...I get drunks, screamers, fights, my car/yard gets damaged on a regular enough basis that i cant put anything nice out because it WILL get stolen or vandalized. i constantly pick up peoples GARBAGE from my yard and just filled three grocery bags AND MY GARBAGE can with all the crap that the street sweepers miss in front of my house and around the power pole and sweep up the broken glass from the jerks that throw glass bottles at power poles for FUN and to watch it go boom...my taxes are STUPID high and i see city hall spending money like its the glory days...and now you want to put in a bylaw to try to get me to CLEAN UP MY AREA. screw that...give me a discount on my garbage..because between the back of my property and the front...i should be billing YOU for all the garbage i pick up off the street and out of my yard. [Comments]	May 18, 2013 7:58 PM
17	I believe the City would make far better head-way on this subject by offering an incentive rather a punishment , people get pissed off if they are forced to do anything . Possible something around property tax reductionI think you get the idea , you would just have to come up with the right incentive . I for one keep my curb absolutely weed free and clean . The weed thing looks shabby to any outsiders for sure and is an issue the city needs to tackle . It is nice to see the city starting to care a little , very little ...baby steps I guess . [Comments]	May 17, 2013 12:47 PM
18	Great bylaw to implement. Also consider a by-law that forces property owners to cut their own grass! [Comments]	May 17, 2013 10:27 AM
19	I answered yes to support the adoption of this new bylaw but that would be only if we can use something like Round Up. I have tried to dig out the weeds from the cracks in front of my house and it is impossible to get them out. I have also tried vinegar and it didn't work either. the only way you are going to take care of the weed problem in Port Alberni is to get rid of the ban on herbicides/pestisides which I would be all for. One other thing to think about is if you allow people to	May 17, 2013 9:59 AM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	have chickens in their yards you are going to have more weeds as well as rats. Look at any chicken coop and you will see weeds. If this is a city lets keep it a city. Keep "want to be hobby farms" outside city limits. [Comments]	
20	I find many places on the sidewalks (within the city side streets) that have overgrown bushes, and/or hedges that take up to 2/3 of the sidewalk path. Some even have sharp thorns or other prickly-type foliage. Very frustrating and dangerous to pedestrians also. [Comments]	May 17, 2013 8:53 AM
21	I would love this to also include cleanup of yards (sofa's, old nonfunctioning cars etc) [Comments]	May 17, 2013 6:37 AM
22	maybe the city should think before they act. like buying multi-thousand dollar garbage trucks, new pickups, new admin vehicles, etc. That way, the city would have the proper resources laid out to carry on with the required jobs, like the weeding and gutters, lawn cutting, street cleaning, alley maintenance. If the citizens of Port Alberni are going to be required to maintain sidewalks and gutters and obviously alley ways, then the city will have to reduce taxes accordingly to cover the wages of the people who would actually be doing the work. Or even better, the people doing the work can claim contractor rates and have the city pay them at the applicable rate. [Comments]	May 16, 2013 10:39 PM
23	Another silly bylaw! I think council needs to find more important business to take than to create more needless bylaws! I feel like city council is trying to make common criminals of the tax paying citizens in Port Alberni, with all the petty bylaws. One that needs to be reviewed is the RV/trailer parking issue. Maybe we should consider a complete new Mayor and city council. Thanks for giving me, at least a little notice of the poor representation, we are receiving. [Comments]	May 16, 2013 7:27 PM
24	I just edged my lawn at the sidewalk and was shocked to see how the grass had pushed right out on the sidewalk. I like the clean look of it for people walking by and I weedeat the greenspace beside me so the dumpers don't do it right at the side walk but now walk in a ways and are more thoughtful of the composting. There are some areas that I am amazed the sidewalk hasn't been tidied or the hedges (or holy trees) growing onto the sidewalk area trimmed but then I go by the houses that are so thoughtful of making the walking by experience enjoyable with a lovely edge and managed greenery and it brings a smile to my face and starts many a conversation with someone working in the yard or someone else passing by. Port Alberni is such a lovely town to walk in and it should be encouraged by keeping the walkways safe and tidy. In the winter with the snow it is more difficult as I am almost 60 and still working full time and sometimes the snow gets ahead of me but I shovel as best I can and get the safe for animals salt out for the sturdy winter walkers. [Comments]	May 16, 2013 1:30 PM
25	First, if you must submit a postal code, this is not a truly 'anonymous' survey as it shows a person is likely 1 of about 6 residents on a particular street. I do not live in the city, my parents who are in their 80s do. They strive to remove weeds in front of their house (unlike many younger people) and this is far too hard on them and definitely not good for their hearts, hips, etc.. We help where we can but it is even hard for us. I realize budget restraints limit what city workers can do, but if they removed weeds (and broom) and trees growing along curbs and in drains on a regular basis, it would be much faster and easier to do rather than waiting until vegetation has grown so large that it takes a HUGE amount of time	May 16, 2013 12:58 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	to remove due to the development of lengthy root systems. This is my opinion, as well as many other people who I have spoken with. Thank you and I sincerely hope something is done (even if it's public service court sentences) to remove weeds, etc. growing along curbs and at the sides of roads also. [Comments]	
26	Are you for real? give your heads a shake.....somebody up there has too much time on their hands, who is it that's actually getting paid with my tax dollars to come up with this? give your heads a shake!!!!!! I am becoming embarrassed (and angry!) just when I thought I had seen and heard it all, enough already, at the rate you are charging me my taxes don't you think I should be well covered? I don't even have sidewalks outside my house! get those rose colored glasses off your faces and join the rest of us mere mortals. [Comments]	May 16, 2013 12:36 PM
27	It would force you to clean up. 5078 tebo has blackberries 12 feet high and broom growing in the yard. Also you can't get in the carport for crap loaded in there. He does not clean up and we live in a nice area where everyone but him cleans their yard and house. We would not want rats in the tall grass he is nurturing. Maybe you can suggest he clean up his act. Help.... [Comments]	May 16, 2013 12:00 PM
28	I try to keep up with the weeds but there weeds you can only do so much and I feel that by passing this bylaw it will only increase the number of people spraying herbicides on there yards which I most defiantly do not agree with. [Comments]	May 16, 2013 10:39 AM
29	I'm opposed to spending money on a team to enforce such a trivial bylaw. [Comments]	May 14, 2013 4:59 PM
30	I believe that this action would need to be a joint effort between the home owner and the city public works department. Some areas between the roadway and curb, and along the sidewalks have large open gaps from deteriorated pavement or concrete that easily allow weeds and grass to grow which I feel is the maintenance responsibility of the city roads department. It is only fair that the City get involved and apply a tar patch to cover the area of missing asphalt in the street areas and/or sealant for gaps in the concrete sidewalks. The City could send out a schedule when they will be in the local neighbourhood to do the patchwork (on a 1 time only basis per year) and the homeowner would need to have things cleaned out just prior. If not cleaned out in time, then the homeowner misses out and must make the effort to keep the area cleaned regularly going forward. Once these steps are completed, then the responsibility is solely on the shoulders of the homeowner. This bylaw should also include moss removal at least once per year and snow removal once more than 3" accumulates during snow fall events and within 10 hours once the snow has stopped. If the snow is not removed, a company contracted by the city will provide snow removal services and invoice the city. The City in turn will apply it to the annual taxes on the property. This particular issue is a big one in Port Alberni and needs to certainly be addressed, however I strongly feel that it needs to be a team effort to bring under control and that the City needs to be part of the process to get this ugly matter under control going forward. [Comments]	May 14, 2013 4:03 PM
31	I don't feel there would be uniform maintenance throughout the city. I have an open ditch outside my property on Josephine Street. I don't think that should be my responsibility. [Comments]	May 13, 2013 1:46 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
32	Would the city fix my sunken sidewalk, it is causing major holes and weeds growing out of the big holes. It would take too much work for me to do it and I did not wreck the sidewalk in the first place. [Comments]	May 10, 2013 2:24 PM
33	I don't need a bylaw to direct me to do something that I would do as a matter of course in a residential neighbourhood. [Comments]	May 9, 2013 2:33 PM
34	The opposite side of the street to our place has new sidewalk, curb and gutter, and as a result the grass and weed problem on that side has been, to a large extent, cleaned up. In contrast, our side of the street has not been renewed for many years and has an ongoing problem because of widening cracks in the sidewalk, curb and gutter breaking down to gravel, and weeds and grasses growing healthily. As I assume the people on the renewed side of the street pay the same taxes, and as a senior, I would not think it fair to have to maintain the sidewalk/curb/gutter condition unless first the sidewalk/curb/gutter were renewed and the gravel part of the road were first newly paved. In general, I would find it extremely hard physically to keep it maintained if this work were not first done. I also feel that there should be mention of the issue of liability. Does the proposed new bylaw (the requirement the owner/tenant to potentially maintain weed/grass-free sidewalk/curb/gutter) become the responsibility of the owner or the tenant, and is there any liability issue involved as with snow-removal on the property? [Comments]	May 8, 2013 4:52 PM
35	We have weeds and grasses growing right into the road, so where does one jurisdiction begin and the other end? Our sidewalk has huge gaps between the slabs and is very difficult to shovel snow. Gutters impede proper drainage and seems to me part of the run off system that should be maintained by the city. Maintaining sidewalks in the city down town is easy as there are no cracks etc to allow weeds to grow, but out here on our gravel road we have a large problem. Seniors are not all mobile enough to keep up the work proposed. What about the issue of liability? Am I going to now have to pay for household insurance to cover Municipal property? Very bad idea, also unfair as all conditions cannot be considered equal. ie downtown compared to gravel roads. Athol is bad enough without now asking us for upkeep! [Comments]	May 8, 2013 4:40 PM
36	areas that should be included with gutters, curbs, & sidewalks should be : Fences, & Hedges, as well as Alleys that are adjacent or conjoined to property. Should also be specific that the property or road allowance between the sidewalk and a property line are the property owners responsibility. Please be broadly specific as to what is a weed. eg. Broom, small trees, invasive species, dandelions, hackweed, buttercup etc. as it seems that most property owners are unaware of their responsibilities. Please note that this should also include enforcement for property owners with vacant or abandoned lots [Comments]	May 8, 2013 12:54 PM
37	I would like the city to look after their own sidewalks and also the back lanes ever since garbage was moved from the alley to the front the alleys never get graded anymore but I suppose you will want us to fill in the holes as the garbage trucks don't have to drive on them now. Instead of trying to get the public to do your jobs why don't you figure how to do it yourself like all the other municipalities [Comments]	May 7, 2013 8:36 PM
38	Quit worrying about the petty stuff get on with some serious city business [Comments]	May 4, 2013 8:09 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
39	I would not support having city paid employees do this [Comments]	May 3, 2013 4:36 PM
40	I think it should be up to the home owner if they want to maintain weed/grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters and if they choose not to, then the city should be responsible for this. We are paying more taxes and should not be asked to complete tasks on city property. [Comments]	May 3, 2013 3:12 PM
41	A bylaw wouldn't make any difference for me since I already maintain my curbs and gutters in front of my property as part of pride of ownership. But, I do understand there are neighbourhoods and particular properties where owners don't have the same pride. I don't believe you can enforce pride in your home or neighbourhood. I see this bylaw as the continuing natural diminution of city services as a result of tight budgets and rising costs. Maintenance of sidewalks and curbs used to be a service provided by the City in the past. I don't see this as any different than cleaning the street in front of my house. Eventually, the city won't be able to afford the street sweeper. Should we then have a bylaw that compels people to clean the street in front of their property? Having said the above, any initiative to address this issue might consider the following. For some owners such as the elderly and infirm, landscape maintenance isn't physically possible. I would suggest that the city could create a program whereby a letter is sent to the owner of an offending property outlining the benefits of maintaining sidewalks and curbs and offer the services of city staff to do the work for a reasonable fee. Either that or partner with local landscaping companies and recommend their services to the offending owner. Absentee landlords may take advantage of this service since they likely don't even realize the sidewalks and curbs need to be maintained. You could appeal to their desire to maximize the value of their property offering a service that improves its curb appeal. [Comments]	May 3, 2013 12:35 PM
42	I own several rental properties in this town and support efforts to enhance the beauty of Port Alberni. [Comments]	May 2, 2013 9:25 PM
43	look after your own sidewalks we already look after are yards are you willing to cut taxes if we do your job! I don't ask you to cut my lawn don't ask me to look after your side walks! [Comments]	May 2, 2013 8:28 PM
44	I have noticed that very few businesses shovel their portion of sidewalk in the winter and I suspect they would ignore any bylaw regarding grass and weeds in the summer. Does Port Alberni even have a bylaw enforcement officer? Is he so terribly busy we need to inform him of blatant infractions? Does he actually take any action against the offending businesses? [Comments]	May 2, 2013 5:06 PM
45	i dont think it can be legally enforced because its not my property and im not responsible for my neighbors property also..i also think that more rules would have an adverse affect...some people are oppositional (by nature) to more government rules....having more press about the week long clean up and getting neighborhoods together for positive clean and maintaining would be a way of getting the same results...also if it aint broke dont fix it [Comments]	May 2, 2013 3:53 PM
46	Personally, I think this proposal is ludicrous because it is asking us, the taxpayers, to do a job that the city is SUPPOSED to do but never does. I have lived here for 57 years and the only time I have seen a city worker removing grass or weeds from a gutter was when it was interfering with a storm drain. I	May 2, 2013 2:00 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:

	have often thought, while driving through town (especially along 10th & Stamp avenues) how unkempt the streets looked with weeds growing a foot tall. Several years ago I owned & operated a handyman service here, in Port Alberni & I approached the city with a proposal in which I would hire a couple summer students & we would clean up the gutters of weeds... make the city more attractive for residents & tourists alike. I was told, rather rudely actually, that it couldn't be done because I'd be taking work away from city workers. I was told that it was a job they did if they finished up their required work early on any given day..... I had a hard time keeping a straight face. So rather than implement a bylaw so the city can add to their coffers with fines, maybe they should get their employees to actually DO their jobs rather than skulking in back alleys till it's time to go back to the works yard. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my thoughts. Ron Receveur [Comments]	
47	I already maintain the sidewalks and curbs along my property line 12 months of the year because I believe it is my responsibility as the owner to keep the property looking good. In the summer I cut grass and pull weeds. In the winter I shovel snow and put salt down. All year round I pick up garbage. If we all took the same pride in our town it would show. A few suggestions: Direct the bylaw to the property owners, not the tenants. Limit the bylaw to non-residential property. Encourage 3rd party entrepreneurs to offer sidewalk/curb maintenance service at a fee. I believe we need a bylaw in the Commercial sector especially to encourage absentee owners. I am not so convinced we need a bylaw in the Residential sector as many are not able to do the work and do not have the money to hire someone to do the work. Residential could simply be handled through a good neighbour policy. My two cents. Thank you City for giving us the opportunity to "speak" on this issue. [Comments]	May 2, 2013 10:44 AM
48	We need this by-law so bad. Not very many people do this maintenance and it shows in the terrible look of our streets. Let's bring Port Alberni back and show all that we can clean up after ourselves. C'mon people we have to live here! [Comments]	May 2, 2013 10:19 AM
49	f This action should be extended to include backyards as well. Many residents would believe out of sight, out of mind is quite okay. [Comments]	May 2, 2013 8:31 AM
50	I feel this is the responsibility of the city. In front of my house there are cracks in the road and weeds pushing up through there. Should I be responsible for the poorly maintained roads as well? What are my tax dollars supporting? Precious little it would seem. We pay extra for garbage pick up, recycling, hospital and arena etc the list goes on while the taxes go higher. If city council wants to beautify this city (and God knows it needs it), they need to look at the big picture. Downtown is a mess, lower Third Ave is a mess. There's now a duck pond where the old Chevron station used to be and its been that way for 10 years, lower North Port smells so bad in the summer, the tourists keep driving. Come on city council make some real lasting improvements and quit focusing on weeds in the poorly maintained streets! [Comments]	May 2, 2013 7:57 AM
51	I have been under the assumption that this should be done by the City now with the taxes we pay. This appears to be another underhanded method of increasing our taxes. Typical City of Port Alberni mis-management! [Comments]	May 2, 2013 7:21 AM
52	Yes! We moved here from Calgary 16 years ago, and was very surprised that	May 2, 2013 6:33 AM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	people did not weed the sidewalks and curbs. We have kept our front yard and roadway free of weeds, stones and debris since we moved here. The City should also look at some of these back lanes with blackberries growing wild and lots of weeds. People also throw other garbage at the back and inbetween fences, like wood, grass shavings, plastic pipes etc. This could be a hazard if someone decided to light a match. There are probably only 3 people in our back lane that keep their property lines very clean at all times. This new bylaw should also include not only the fronts of homes, but also the back areas. Once they keep it up, would be easy to look after in future years. [Comments]	
53	I spent today doing my and neighbours curbs and gutters. I find a mixture of 4 cups Vinegar, 1/4 cup salt and 1 tbsp. liquid dish soap in a spray bottle does the job. I do this probably twice a year. I am 70 years old. Yes I am feeling the aches tonight. Noting the weeds growing along Redford St. by Salvation Army, perhaps some of the needy young able bodied people could donate some time cleaning that up before getting their hand outs. It is disgusting the appearance of the weeds and grass growing in the gutters and curbs in this town. And it will only get worse as the seeds mature and spread. [Comments]	May 1, 2013 9:54 PM
54	More of a concern to me is a lack of maintenance done to the city owned trees in the boulevard in front of my house. I have two 50+ year old chestnut trees that haven't seen a trim in the 7.5 yrs I have owned my house. They are pushing up the sidewalk, destroying my car, breaking into my sewer, dropping chestnuts [Comments]	May 1, 2013 9:32 PM
55	such a by-law would have a very negative effect on seniors and others on fixed incomes who are unable to comply due to health issues and would have to hire someone to do the necessary work. We already have one of the highest residential tax rates in B.C. and this would be just another example of loading more expenses onto the homeowners in Port Alberni. The City should maintain their own property as other communities do. [Comments]	May 1, 2013 7:52 PM
56	I don't think that telling people when they have to do their yardwork is right. It should be a show of goodwill and faith. I am a renter and the owner of the property that I live in is an older gentleman who lives out of town. I do all of my own yardwork but some I am unable to do and why should I have to deal with City officials knocking on my door and harassing me about something that I am unable to do myself. This has already happened to me as my landlord's friend likes to do things on his own time so I get harassed. I think this is very wrong and it is extremely upsetting because I do the best that I can. [Comments]	May 1, 2013 4:25 PM
57	I would support this if clear guidelines were given as to what is expected, and what is acceptable as far as clearing and the timelines to do it. If there is a savings to the city from implementing this bylaw, that savings should go directly back to the taxpayers and not into another project or general city budget. We pay very high taxes for what services we get from the City. [Comments]	May 1, 2013 3:36 PM
58	My spouse works full-time, and I work out of town during the week so I'm only in PA on weekends (and not 100% of those). We are kept pretty busy maintaining our property as it is, especially as we live on a corner lot and have the boulevard to mow as well. We make sure that our yard is mowed, the flower beds are weeded, the house is presentable and there isn't garbage or clutter left lying around outside. It's more than some residents of this city do. I think that's	May 1, 2013 1:43 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	<p>enough, I'm not interested in cleaning up city property as well. Why not hire some summer students to go out in crews? They need the work, and I do not. That probably goes double for the seniors who live on two of the corner properties across from me. [Comments]</p>	
59	<p>I would support it only if the City of Port Alberni would maintain weed/grass free sidewalks and curbs on public property and city owned property i.e. the islands and cubs between north and south port. Last summer the weeds growing 3 feet tall in the medians were an embarrassment to everyone. [Comments]</p>	May 1, 2013 11:58 AM
60	<p>this proposed bylaw could be included in the property maintenance bylaw 4712 as in most communities this is already a property owners responsibility. It should be noted that invasive species such as Broom, etc should be included. A provision to include abandoned properties as well. [Comments]</p>	May 1, 2013 10:01 AM
61	<p>I care as well as I can. My concern is that some people may resort to using herbicides instead of manually removing the greens. I would recommend putting out the greenery in clear bags on recycle days for composting. [Comments]</p>	Apr 30, 2013 7:28 PM
62	<p>considering the city as yet to maintain weed/grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters in the 5 years we have lived here and considering there is a 4 ft high tree growing in the gutter at the corner of 10th and Cedarwood, which proves my point, that the city is negligent. Reduce our taxes and we shall continue to remove weeds etc ourselves. [Comments]</p>	Apr 30, 2013 3:00 PM
63	<p>In the five years I have lived here I have never had the city come and clean the weeds on my sidewalk and curbs. Reduce the taxes and I will continue to maintain the sidewalks and gutter in a clean fashion. [Comments]</p>	Apr 30, 2013 2:54 PM
64	<p>I believe that this bylaw is long overdue...the city sidewalks, curbs and gutters look terrible. The city could help the home owner by running the city street sweeper more regularly. Dirt, leafs and other debris accumulate at the curbs, and in the gutters, providing an exallant medium for weed and grass growth. My only concern with a bylaw is....how much is it going to cost to enforce it?....and what are the ramifications if people violate the bylaw? [Comments]</p>	Apr 30, 2013 6:35 AM
65	<p>I am a long time supporter of the city of port alberni. I have lived on the same corner on a highly traveled lined street for over 30 years. I always got on my knees and kept the gutters cleaned and free of grass and weeds. I have neighbors that have never made any attempt to do so. this takes away from the whole are and community. Many seniors cannot do this chore any longer and many cannot afford to pay to have it done. I think this is a useless survey and if council pass,s it I have my doubts that you would be able to enforce it. How tall do the grass and weeds have to be before city hall approachs the resident or homeowner?? Look at that guy over there, his weeds are a lot longer than mine!! Council, I would support this however good luck in making it work. [Comments]</p>	Apr 29, 2013 5:09 PM
66	<p>I live in a condo, so the sidewalks and front/back landscape are taken care of by a hired company through our condo fees. I am less concerned about the weeds (which are natural), and more concerned about the amount of garbage on our city streets. Some streets are so disgusting, and you really don't get a feel of how much garbage is on them until you walk them. You cannot get a grasp of the litter from driving in a car, so most city employees/residents have no clue</p>	Apr 29, 2013 1:18 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	about the amount of trash on the streets. LITTER is THE biggest problem, not WEEDS!!!!!! [Comments]	
67	Regarding #5. I thought we were already were required to do this! [Comments]	Apr 28, 2013 5:42 PM
68	Property owners should also be responsible for maintaining hedges that they plant adjacent to the sidewalks. [Comments]	Apr 28, 2013 10:19 AM
69	I have never had my sidewalk cleaned of weeds by the city in the last 50 years that I have lived in the city, why start now? We are already overtaxed for what we have. Get people to clean the mess themselves, I do not want to pay out anymore money to the city! Have never seen a sweeper in my area, although I am being taxed for it. [Comments]	Apr 28, 2013 9:58 AM
70	Wonder where the responsiblity would lay should some property owners not tend to the weeds/grasses? [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 5:09 PM
71	The use of the herbicide round-up to control nuisance weeds and grass on side walks and curbs is the least labour intensive method to do so and should be a permitted method for people to use to control weeds and grass if they so choose. [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 1:33 PM
72	We [my wife and I] believe that with the tax increases we have endured over the years we think it's the cities responsibility to keep up with city property and if there is a bylaw for sidewalks it should be for snow removal as it's quite difficult to get around this town when it does snow. People are just too lazy in this day and age to shovel the snow and now the city wants the people to do the job we are paying for, tax payers to do their job.....INSANE!! [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 1:26 PM
73	I am concerned that there will be too much chemical weedkillers used in our valley. It should be only non-toxic methods used. I know that these don't work as well as the nasty stuff. It will all end up in our valley's beautiful creeks, rivers, lakes and our canal. Please think about this before it is implemented. I also do not want toxic stuff strayed on our fields and our parks that our children and citizens play on. It is breathed in and tracked into our homes from our clothes and shoes I also concerned about residents who are physically unable to do this extra yardwork. Such as senior citizens and the physically disabled. Thank you. [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 9:14 AM
74	When I hear Ken Watson on radio saying that if the city cleans sidewalks my taxes will go up AGAIN like every other year then you hear that they are going to use my tax dollars to buy a commercial garbage truck for dumpsters. We have spent enough \$\$\$ on garbage not to mention that there is usually 2 people in that truck which picks up dumpsters using hydraulics. How much of my tax \$\$\$ pays for someone to go for a ride in the truck? [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 8:36 AM
75	Nope [Comments]	Apr 27, 2013 6:54 AM
76	First how about creating a bylaw requiring landlords to maintain rental properties. We live in 2nd avenue, I pay a lot of money for rent and am a good tenant. Our deck is so deteriorated it is falling apart, we had rats for 2 months and the landlords are so concerned about the profit that they have no care for their tenants quality of life. I think this would be a more important area to focus	Apr 26, 2013 3:19 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	attention than on grass and weeds in sidewalks. [Comments]	
77	I currently weed wack the grass and weeds growing in the cracked and fractured concrete and blacktop along the roads and sidewalks by my house. Perhaps it is time to seal these cracks with hot tar in the same manner that the road surfaces are sealed thus eliminating an environment for the weeds and grasses to grow in. Presently I am still capable of removing the weeds and grasses but as a retired 67 year old I may not be as capable in 10 to 15 years. The city needs to take the more senior persons into consideration if it is going to enact this bylaw. If the city wishes to present a cleaner face to residents and visitors alike it should be willing to contract out the work of weed removal etc. in the event that the bylaw fails. I am sure with Catylst having paid it's taxes and the increased revenues obtained from the increased property taxes that this should not be too difficult. It is time to start cleaning up the grundgy image of this city. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 2:15 PM
78	Even if this is made a bylaw I really don't think it will me enforced like many of the bylaws in this city. I have never seen a city where there are so many homes with weeds growing from the sidewalks and infront of homes. Don't people have any sence of pride in keeping their property tidy looking. I have never seen the city cleaning up these weed. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 12:21 PM
79	As a former homowner, we did this by choice. As a current renter, I feel the landlord should be required to do this maintenance. In light of chemical concerns, the new bylaw should also include any and/or all products residents may use. For those homeowners not able to do this maintenance, would there be alternatives in place to have it done for them? [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 11:37 AM
80	In the neighbourhood I live in there are virtually no sidewalks. People must walk on the side of the road or on the roadway - yes this area is within the city limits! I find it appalling that this survey is taking place and that the City is indicating a desire not to maintain these areas as a "cost saving measure." And to add insult to injury, the City in its media release this morning, used the tactic of increased residential tax to persuade its residents to deal with the curb situation on their own. In all the communities I have ever lived, I have never heard of anything so stupid. You put in the sidewalks and gutters and then tell the people to maintain them even though you have used their money to build them. Disrespectful and shortsitedness on the City's part. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 10:51 AM
81	This is what city workers should be doing, excavation can be done by outside businesses that is their livelihood, we don't need to spend hundreds off thousands of dollars on another piece of equipment. Dumpster/bins is another operation of the city that can be done by people who own bin businesses. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 10:12 AM
82	I WALK MANY STREETS IN THIS TOWN EVERY WEEK,SOME OF THE MOST PATHETIC LOOKING STREETS IN TERMS OF CURB WEED GROWTH ARE THE MAJOR ONES.SOME EXAMPLES,STAMP, ROGER, GERTRUDE, TENTH, AND MANY MORE.CITY CREWS ONLY SEEM TO FOCUS ON THE DOWNTOWN SOUTHPORT AREA.WE HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF STAFF WHO SEEM TO BE POORLY DIRECTED,THE CITY LEADS BY POOR EXAMPLE.YOU HAVE IRATED THE CITIZENS OF THIS TOWN ENOUGH, TALK OF INCREASED TAXES IS LAUGHABLE. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 9:44 AM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
83	how about the "j" walkers in htis city [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 9:14 AM
84	I can keep our place clear of weeds but I'm unsure that we could count on residents using safe enviro friendly products. (Not that the city is necessarily) Also I can't imagine how many residents just wouldn't comply and then you have the issue of addressing those residents and possibly charging a fine. This would be especially frustrating for those that aren't able to pull weeds and can't afford to hire someone else to. It could end up being a bigger headache in the end. I guess I'm unsure about the whole thing. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 9:06 AM
85	While I'm in favour of the Bylaw and believe the City's intention is valid, I feel the bylaw would be just another unenforced City ordinance. Serious, does the City have the means to enforce this trivial bylaw when there appears to be minimal or no enforcement of existing bylaws? For example, I firmly believe that the current bylaw regarding RV parking should be enforced by the City Bylaw office without the need for one neighbor to complain about the eyesore next door. Is this how the enforcement of the 'weeds' bylaw will take place? Would the City assume that the weeds, like RV parking, isn't a problem with the neighbourhood if nobody complains? If so, the then the City & council should spend their time on more productive matters. [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 8:16 AM
86	My answers would be different if I knew how this should be accomplished. The survey does not mention the use of pesticides or how else to get rid of the weeds. So I am definitely opposed to dumping more pesticides into our sewer system! [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 8:06 AM
87	I have answered "yes" to questions #4 and #5 because I am currently capable of performing this task. However, many people may NOT be capable and may NOT have the financial means of paying someone to perform this service for them, particularly the elderly and disabled. So, as much as I support the concept in principle, any actual by-law must recognize these limits. I would also suggest that the City begin with clearing weeds from areas under their own jurisdiction! [Comments]	Apr 26, 2013 7:55 AM
88	I maintain the area in front of my home as best I can. I'm pretty sure the weeds (dandelions) are coming from neighbours and City Park (across the street), but I just pluck the weeds in my lawn and call it a day. [Comments]	Apr 25, 2013 3:56 PM
89	The streets and sidewalks are not my property. Is the City prepared to support people in this maintenance with information/assistance in keeping these weeds away? Has anyone considered how this will likely increase pressure for people to use pesticides, which will be especially mobile on impermeable asphalt and concrete surfaces? What about the people, dogs and children that frequent our sidewalks? I'd prefer my child, my dog and myself be exposed to dandelions and buttercups rather than 2,4-D and glyphosate. [Comments]	Apr 25, 2013 3:35 PM
90	This is a ridiculous idea. I do weed and clean now, but residents should not be "forced" to do so. Quit spending money on those stupid banners and send someone out to weed your own sidewalks. [Comments]	Apr 25, 2013 1:29 PM
91	Unkempt grass and weeds growing along sidewalks and against curbs are a huge eyesore in Port and I would fully support any bylaw that tackled it. The City is unfortunately an offender here as well, and by Mid-July the stands of weeds	Apr 25, 2013 10:26 AM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	growing between the cracks in interesection "islands" is downright embarrassing! Getting rid of it would be an immediate improvement to the visual appeal of our town. [Comments]	
92	We pay way enough taxes to cover the cost of the city work crew doing the job that they do so very well. Most of us are overburdened with costs enough. Having to go out and buy more equipment to maintain more than our own properties is cruel. I have noticed that many sidewalks are riddled with ants! The city should be dealing with them but so many home owners are already trying to control the ants themselves. In the snow and in the fall, homeowners are already clearing the gutters so why should they be forced by the city to do so when they have already been volunteering. It's a slap in the face! That's enough City Hall!!!! [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 11:35 PM
93	City owned property should not be mandated to others to look after. Keep it voluntary, and make sure City works crews work diligently throughout the year to look after this sort of stuff. Thats what we pay high taxes for, isnt it. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 11:32 PM
94	When sidewalks are falling apart and nothing is done, of course not! For many of my neighbours it is all they can do to keep their front yards presentable. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 11:03 PM
95	A lot of people dont do this but it's a good idea. Would it raise my taxes? It would be a costly item to have city employees have to clean up properties. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 7:26 PM
96	I do not feel that I should be maintaining city property for any reason. The city needs to stop offloading their responsibilities onto homeowners and direct their city staff to take on these responsibilities. If we do not have enough employees, then it is time to cut wages at the top and open up more money for city employees. The homeowner is taxed enough, and to expect them to take on the responsibility of maintaining city property is an insult to the taxpayer. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 7:11 PM
97	What about the people who cannot? How would it be enforced? What would be the fine for said crime? If it's owned by the city, shouldn't they maintain it? [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 6:36 PM
98	Is the sidewalk in front of my house within the boundary lines of my property? [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 6:21 PM
99	Maybe the city can fix the side walks in front of my home Then I would keep them grass and weed free [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 6:14 PM
100	Waste of time ... As does the city really plan to put by law enforcement time towards such an infraction? Furthermore, as some sidewalks are in need of repair, weeds & grass are a lesser concern! [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 5:55 PM
101	This is an excellent idea - I hope it is passed. I think grass/weeds growing on sidewalks along curbs looks messy and unkempt. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 5:44 PM
102	The City should be responsible for maintaining their sidewalks as well as their gutters and boulevards. We pay the highest city taxes, and we don't really see any maintenance being done on Roads, or sidewalks etc. This what we pay our	Apr 24, 2013 4:51 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	taxes for. Our city taxes used to cover our garbage fees as well as sewer, now we're paying for those separately as well as new taxes for Recycling, and big tax grabs like WATER!! Don't be trying to make us do the city's job, this has really gone on long enough. Learn how to balance your budget and stop cutting frivolous costs! [Comments]	
103	Would failure to maintain result in a fine? If so then if i comply will i get a tax break? [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 4:38 PM
104	if implemented it has to be pesticide free [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 3:45 PM
105	Enacting a bylaw forcing citizens to do the work of the municipal works department while raising taxes to a outstanding rate is going to be the last straw that sends me out of this town. I like Port Alberni but the taxes, lack of services, and lack of reliable income s making it harder and harder to stay here. When is Enough Enough? Our Taxes and fees keep climbing but the services keep dropping. Give your heads a shake. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 3:09 PM
106	by laws are great for sure but enforcement is lacking [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 2:49 PM
107	I feel VERY strongly about this ! It's disgusting to see weeds growing out of every crack , other towns that have smaller tax bases still seem to be able to employ workers to keep the roads tidy . It is the city's responsibility to maintain the infrastructure not mine !! That's what i pay my taxes for !! I work full time plus , if this comes into effect , one more reason to sell up and get the h%*# out of dodge ! Oh and as a foot note , i see city workers weeding that triangle of plants at the bottom of Redford heights practically every week ! Must have some councilors living up there ?!! My responsibility to keep my house and my yard neat and tidy , city's responsibility to keep the roadways and walkways neat and tidy... Bottom line ! [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 2:47 PM
108	I have a corner lot with 200' of sidewalk. I try to be responsible, but should not be held accountable for the city's property. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 2:32 PM
109	We already do this. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 1:58 PM
110	Gutters are a bit excessive as plenty of other debris get in there from people littering. Otherwise I totally agree. Snow removal from sidewalks in front of homes should be required by homeowners too!! [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 1:48 PM
111	Although I have no problem with continuing with my own curbside maintenance. I do feel that we are already paying for garbage pick-up/removal and recycling fees. When we clean these things from the curbside which is city property we end up paying to dispose of your things. A curbside compost pickup as a free service would compliment this initiative. If this town wants to be more green a city composting system would be a great addition. [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 1:12 PM
112	We have far bigger issues to be concerned about!!!! [Comments]	Apr 24, 2013 1:02 PM
113	Your questions are too wide based and open ended!! I answered NO to question 4 primarily because maintaining the City owned property is something that I want to do, and not something that you tell me I have to do!! I cannot afford to purchase the equipment that the City has for doing this type of work. Could I	Apr 24, 2013 1:00 PM

Page 2, Q1. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:		
	<p>borrow this equipment from the City. ie pressure washer? Better to encourage citizens than to force them. Adopt neighborhood programs for this type of thing. What will be the reference points for judgement and assessments. Everyone has a varying level of opinion as to what is acceptable and what is not. What happens if I have an ugly unmaintained fire hydrant in front of my house. Can I wire brush the exterior of the hydrant and then paint it up to a shiny red and white color? Will there be a fine for not maintaining City property. I can see your own property, but not the City owned property. [Comments]</p>	
114	<p>This City has a large population of retiree's and elderly. How are the elderly supposed to do this? And hiring someone to do it for them is not always an option as most of the elderly are on a fixed income and gardeners / handymen do not come cheap. If they are unable remove the weeds etc physically they will have no choice but to use who knows what to remove the weeds chemically which opens up a whole new set of problems. So no, I am not in favor of this bylaw. [Comments]</p>	Apr 24, 2013 12:28 PM
115	<p>Most homeowners maintain a groomed yard and pull out the weeds their curb side. However, there are a few who do not and I feel a bylaw would be very appropriate in helping maintain beautiful neighbourhoods throughout Port Alberni. [Comments]</p>	Apr 24, 2013 12:13 PM
116	<p>I already do this, plus others when i see it. I hope this extends to business also as there are a number of problems on 3rd and redford streets [Comments]</p>	Apr 24, 2013 11:53 AM
117	<p>My concern is that many of our sidewalks and gutters are in such bad repair that maintaining them to be free of all growth would be next to impossible because of their condition. If people are required to maintain weed free walks then the city should be required to maintain the concrete in good condition and replace a lot of the older sidewalks. [Comments]</p>	Apr 24, 2013 11:43 AM
118	<p>I don't think it would make much of a difference. [Comments]</p>	Apr 24, 2013 9:36 AM

SIDEWALK CURB AND GUTTER BYLAW: COMMENTS FROM FB page

1. **Jessica Bleasdale** - Gutters are a bit excessive. Otherwise I totally agree. Snow removal from sidewalks in front of homes should be required by homeowners too!!
2. **Craig Erickson** - I do not feel that a bylaw will help. Most residents already show pride in ownership and maintain their curb/gutter space. Those who do not maintain may be incapable of doing so. If someone did not comply with the proposed bylaw would there be fines implimented?
3. **Dennis J Dalla-Vicenza** How the heck will it be enforced. If I don't own the property then there is no legal way the city could make me do anything with it. It is kind of like the bogus snow removal by law that everyone thinks is in place. If you don't own it there's no way you have to maintain it.
4. **Carolyn Jasken** I do this and do my neighbors sometimes. I enjoy pulling weeds lol. I did a few sidewalks on redford st too in front of business's because some of the business's didn't seem to care what customers saw. I like making the front of my home look nice. My neighbors maintain the sidewalks in front of their homes too by pulling weeds etc. As for sidewalks with snow. Here's the thing. If you dont shovel snow in front of your business, i won't be coming in. I always shoveled snow in front of my business. Never thought twice about it and wanted that lunch time crowd to come in. Which they did. It's called customer service during a snow storm.
5. **Animal Ark** I don't like the proposed by-law. I have participated in the survey. In good faith I already maintain the curbside of my personal and business properties...that being said ; I don't think I should be forced to comply. (It is still city property) And in the rare circumstance if I am unable to ...I would be very upset to be penalized !!?
6. **Chris Susan Massop** There are vacant lots visually polluting our city's landscape all over this friggin' town . Completely asinine to demolish a asset like Harbour Quay in the name of revenue , if the city is loosing money at the Quay raise the rents and push hard to expand development on the eye-sore left by shell Canada or the old Nicklin fuel siteor that now useless piece of property behind the quay . Make far more sense to build condo/retail there , thus expanding the Quay towards the lighthouse museum.

SIDEWALK CURB AND GUTTER BYLAW: COMMENTS FROM EMAIL

7. **Carole Walker** - bouvsrock@shaw.ca
 Comment: page for curb and gutter won't open. Not aware that the our taxes pay for debriding curbs and sidewalks of weeds, note this is different than street cleaning. I can guarantee we have cleaned the weeds from our front for the past 5 years we have been here as the weeds are unsightly and noxious. As there is a 4ft high apple tree growing out of the curb at the corner of 10th and Cedarwood Rayner's corner, I think that we have been paying taxes for nothing. Our suggestion is to lower the taxes and we the residents continue to remove the weeds as we and our neighbours do. And if they don't, fine them. But the bottom line is lower the taxes for which we are not getting any service.

Proposed Sidewalk Curb and Gutter Bylaw - Opinion Survey

Page 1 of 2 - Proposed Sidewalk Curb and Gutter Bylaw - Opinion Survey

***1. Are you a resident of the City of Port Alberni - OR - an owner of property within the City of Port Alberni, BC?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Page 2 of 2 - Proposed Sidewalk Curb and Gutter Bylaw - Opinion Survey

***2. Please enter your 6 digit Postal Code (for example V9Y 1V8):**

Postal Code:

3. Are you concerned about weeds/grasses that are growing in the sidewalks, curbs and gutters in your neighbourhood?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. If a City Bylaw required you to maintain weed/grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters, adjacent to your property, would you be able to do so?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. Would you support the adoption and implementation of a new bylaw that would require you to maintain weed /grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters?

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. Do you have other comments or concerns about the proposed bylaw?:

Attach separate sheet or write comments on back of this sheet.

End of Survey

Thank You! Your survey is complete. If you are not a resident or an owner of property within the City of Port Alberni we appreciate your time and interest.

MEDIA RELEASE



Thursday, April 25, 2013

CITY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING A BYLAW REQUIRING PROPERTY OWNERS TO MAINTAIN WEED/GRASS FREE SIDEWALKS, CURBS AND GUTTER

City Council is exploring the possible creation of a City of Port Alberni bylaw that would require property owners to maintain weed and grass free sidewalks, curbs and gutters adjacent to their property.

Prior to Council considering the adoption of such a bylaw they wish to obtain input from the public to assist in determining community opinion about the initiative. The City of Port Alberni webpage (<https://www.portalberni.ca>) and the Facebook Page - "Port Alberni Zoning Bylaw Review" at <https://www.facebook.com/CPAPlanningZoningReview> will contain links to a very brief, anonymous survey which can be completed by residents and owners of property within the City. The survey may also be accessed and completed by typing the following URL into the search bar of your internet browser:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NJJJS5Y>

The short survey can be completed quickly and it is hoped that many will respond to the invitation to provide input online. Paper copies of the survey questions will also be available at City Hall. If you prefer to submit a paper copy of your survey please drop it off or mail to Scott Smith, City Planner, 4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 1V8. You may also email your survey to Scott_Smith@portalberni.ca.

The deadline for completion of the short survey is May 24, 2013. A report to Council will follow, summarizing the survey results.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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