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# INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## Abbotsforward New Concepts Report Provides Focus for the Future

**ABBOTSFORD May 13, 2015** – Abbotsford City Council received a New Concepts Report, completing the second stage of Abbotsforward, the Official Community Plan (OCP) update project. The report summarizes the stage two community engagement results, highlighting the extensive community consultation that took place, with more than 4,000 interactions with residents.

“Resident participation was very broad, representing all areas and demographics of the City, which gives a great sense of where people want us to focus,” said Abbotsford Mayor, Henry Braun. “One of the key features of this report is that it begins to paint a picture of the city that Abbotsford could become, and provides seven key ideas for the future of Abbotsford that the new OCP will focus on.”

The report outlines seven “Big Ideas” for the new OCP:

- Create a City Centre
- Establish Distinct Neighbourhoods
- Make Walking, Cycling, and Transit Delightful
- Design Places for People
- Foster Natural Beauty
- Enhance Agricultural Integrity
- Make it Work

The New Concepts Report also provides results from the online survey that asked residents to identify their priorities for Abbotsford’s future. Residents’ top priorities include Parks & Environment, Jobs, Transportation & Infrastructure and Housing.

The next step of Abbotsforward is the start of stage three, which will use the “Big Ideas” to develop approaches to how Abbotsford grows and uses land. Abbotsforward staff will be out in the community over the summer to share the “Big Ideas” through a summer fair and neighbourhood walks, and in the fall to receive input for developing growth scenarios through more road shows, citizen circles, and stakeholder workshops.

The New Concepts Report can be viewed at [www.abbotsforward.ca/stage2report](http://www.abbotsforward.ca/stage2report) .

More information about the Abbotsforward OCP update project, including the speaker event videos, can be accessed at [www.abbotsforward.ca](http://www.abbotsforward.ca). Latest updates are available via Twitter: @abbotsforward.

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