



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## District of Summerland – April 14, 2026

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**Delegation – Regional District of the Okanagan Similkameen – Regional Growth Strategy** – Council received a presentation from the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) providing an update on the proposed review and amendments to the South Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy. The update outlined key changes since the last presentation in 2022, including new climate change policies, updated population data, revised growth management areas, and the introduction of urban containment concepts. Council was informed that formal municipal acceptance of major amendments will be required later in 2026 under the *Local Government Act following public consultation and RDOS Board consideration*.

**Delegation – Summerland District Market** – Council received a presentation from the Summerland District Market organizers requesting Council’s endorsement to continue the Tuesday market at Peach Orchard Beach Park as its long-term location beginning in 2026. The presenters highlighted strong results from the 2025 season, noting increased attendance, tourism draw, and economic benefits for local businesses, along with operational measures to manage parking, safety, and shared park use..

**Summerland District Market Tuesday Market Location Request** – In an effort to support the continued vibrancy of Summerland’s Downtown, Council has directed the return of the Summerland District Market Tuesday market to Memorial Park. With the Wharton Street Revitalization project complete, the new space provides an ideal setting and venue for market-goers to enjoy the park, Veteran’s memorial square, and other businesses downtown.

**Fire Department – 2025 Year End Update and Q1 2026 Update** – Council received a Fire Department update highlighting 2025 year-end results and first-quarter 2026 activity, noting consistent emergency response volumes, strong training participation, and continued public safety outreach. In 2025, the department responded to 329 incidents, completed extensive inspections and training, and maintained steady response times, while Q1 2026 saw 70 incidents, over 100 training events, and increased inspections and FireSmart education efforts. Council also recognized service milestones, including 40 years of service by Fire Captain Martin Austin.

**Bylaw Enforcement and Business Licensing – Q1 2026 Update** – Council received a first-quarter update from Bylaw Enforcement and Business Licencing outlining enforcement activity levels, staffing changes, and upcoming priorities. Bylaw file volumes remained consistent with recent averages, a second full-time bylaw officer was added to increase capacity, and reduced animal control services resulted in increased park patrols for off-leash dogs. Council was advised that 38 new business licences and six short-term rental licences were processed in Q1, and that summer enforcement will focus on parks, beaches, parking compliance and monitoring of the downtown core.

**Capital Projects Update** – Council received an update on major capital projects underway in the community, including the Victoria Road and Watermain Upgrades and the Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier project. Council was advised that both projects are progressing as planned, remain within approved budget parameters, and are being actively managed to mitigate construction impacts on residents and businesses. The Victoria Road project is targeted for completion by June 30, 2026, while the Primary Clarifier project is approximately 68% complete and expected to be finished by August 2026, supporting long-term infrastructure reliability and service delivery.

**ALC Exclusion Application – 7207 Kirk Avenue** – Council recommended that an Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) exclusion application for a portion of 7207 Kirk Avenue proceed to the next stage of public consultation, in accordance with the Provincial *Agricultural Land Commission Act*. The application proposes excluding a small residentially used portion of the property while consolidating adjacent actively farmed parcels to help maintain agricultural viability and support long-term housing needs. The next steps for public consultation include holding a public hearing to gather community input before deciding whether to forward the application to the Agricultural Land Commission for consideration.

**Rise and Report – March 25, 2026 Committee of the Whole – DCC Bylaw Project Information** – Council passed a resolution confirming direction given at a March 25 Committee of the Whole meeting to begin public engagement on a proposed Development Cost Charges (DCC) Bylaw. Council directed staff to consult the community on proposed DCC project lists, including options for phasing in assist factors and potential Amenity Cost Charges (ACCs), to help plan for future growth-related infrastructure needs. Public feedback will inform Council's future decisions on how growth-related costs are shared between developers and the broader community.

**Rise and Report – April 1, 2026 Committee of the Whole – Drought Update** - Council approved measures to respond to ongoing dry conditions by moving the District of Summerland to Drought Level 3 (Very Dry Conditions) under the Drought Response Plan. Council also implemented Water Use Stage 1 (three-times-per-week outdoor watering) and approved reduced water allocations for agricultural, greenhouse, parks, and other high-volume users, with targeted 20% reductions. Staff were directed to continue monitoring water conditions through the 2026 freshet and report back with further recommendations if conditions change.

**Note:** These highlights are intended to provide a brief summary of recent Council proceedings. The summary is not inclusive of all, agenda items. For a detailed account of the full agenda, including staff reports, other supporting documents and official meeting minutes, please consult the District of Summerland website at <https://www.summerland.ca> or contact Corporate Services at 250-404-4037



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