



What We Heard Major Bylaw Review Engagement

Governance and Priorities Committee

June 6, 2023

Purpose of Today's Review

- Follow up on activity since January 17 report to GPC
- Provide GPC with an overview of what we heard during the Major Bylaw Review engagement and survey
- Receive feedback from Council regarding specific bylaw potential changes
- Note: we have not highlighted small changes today because they remain consistent with what GPC heard in January

Bylaws and Topics Considered

Bylaw or Topic	Comment
Animal Control	
Community Standards	
Fire	Specific engagement question – fireworks
Off Highway Vehicles	Specific engagement question – minimum age
Parks	
Traffic Control and Regulation	Specific engagement question – school zone hours
Unauthorized use of County Land	New bylaw
Cats	Engagement topic, no bylaw

Engagement Process

- Four in-person engagement sessions held
- One virtual engagement session held
- County SMEs were present at all engagement sessions
- Surveys administered on all proposed bylaws
- General consistency between proposed bylaw changes and sentiment from engagement sessions and surveys

Relative Interest Levels

Bylaw or Topic	Number of Survey Responses
Animal Control	57
Community Standards	20
Fire Services	22
Parks	13
Traffic Control and Regulation	6
Off-Highway Vehicle Use	38
Unauthorized Use of County Land	26
Cats	25



Review by Bylaw

Animal Control Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Regulate and control wild, household pets, animals and birds and activities relating to them
- Ensure the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property

- **Identified Through Engagement**

- Having a plan in place for animals that are strays or have been hit on the highway is important
- Overall, but not universally, the availability of chicken husbandry seem to be viewed as a positive
- Dogs barking at night is identified as an issue
- Concerns were raised about noise generated by roosters in subdivisions

Community Standards Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Ensure the safety, health and welfare of people and protection of people and property
- Address nuisances, including unsightly property
- Provide regulations affecting neighborhood livability

- **Identified Through Engagement**

- There are concerns around noise and light from neighbouring properties, specifically at night
- Comments around privacy fences leaned towards allowing fence height to change
- Unsightly properties are an issue

Fire Services Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Promote safe and viable communities
- Significant expansion of existing bylaws

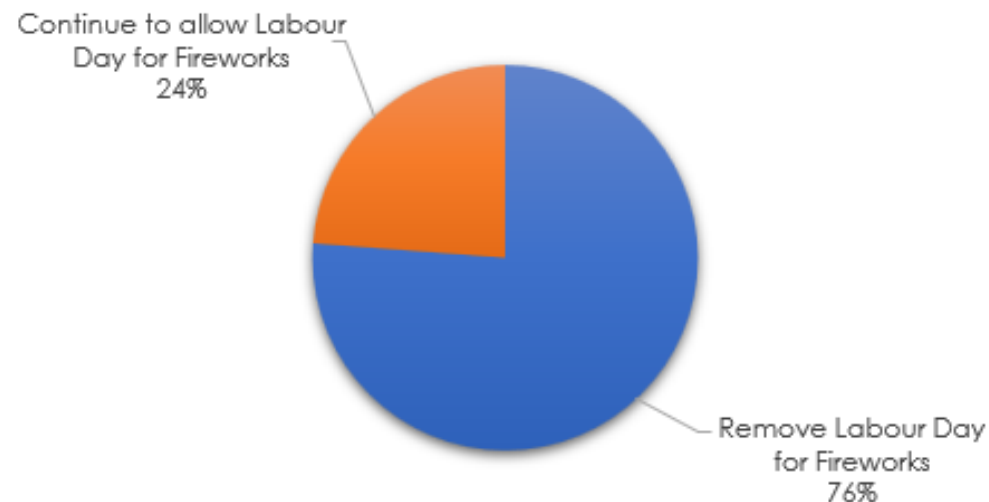
- **Identified Through Engagement**

- Fireworks comments leaned in favour of more control over firework sale and discharge
- Burning garbage may not be an issue right now, but it may become an air quality issue in the future

Fire Services Bylaw – Focused Engagement

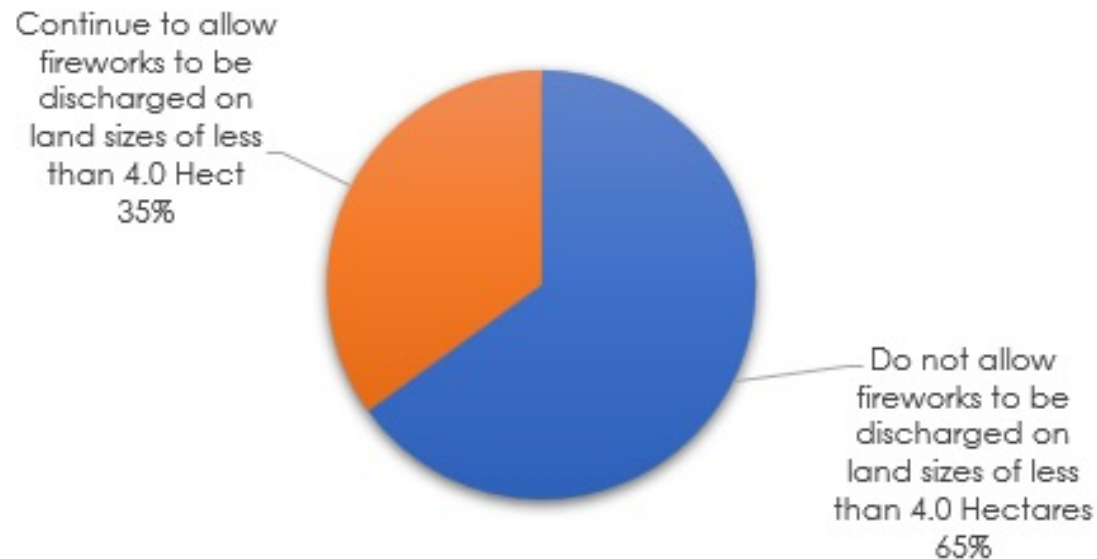
- Fireworks Use on Labour Day

- Wildfire safety concerns around fireworks use on Labour Day
- Review Committee recommends not permitting firework use on Labour Day due to increased wildfire risk
- Note: this recommendation is consistent with insights expressed during engagement



Fire Services Bylaw – Focused Engagement

- Fireworks Use on Lots Less than 4 Hectares in Size
 - Review Committee recommends not permitting firework use on lots less than 4 ha.
 - Note: this recommendation is consistent with insights expressed during engagement



Parks Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Ensure the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property

- **Identified Through Engagement**

- Off-leash dogs in parks are an issue
- There is some confusion around what is and is not allowed in County parks
- Enforcement of the bylaw is important to people's enjoyment of parks
- The topic of consumption of liquor in parks came up, generally in the negative
- People's enjoyment of various types of activities in parks can come into conflict if the types of activities conflict

Traffic Control and Regulation Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Regulate pedestrian and vehicle traffic with the County

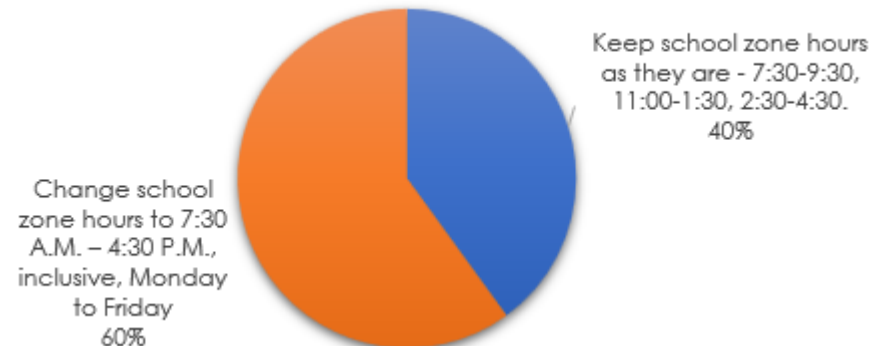
- **Identified Through Engagement**

- Note: Traffic Control received the fewest comments of any of the bylaws.
- Traffic has gotten louder and there should still be a way to enforce unnecessary noise levels
- There should be more enforcement related to speeding

Traffic Control - Focused Engagement

- School Zone Hours

- During the bylaw research phase, the topic of consistent school zone hours for the three schools adjacent to County-owned roads was raised
- An issue related to confusion around school zone times
- The Major Bylaw Review Committee recommends that relevant school zones in Parkland County being moved to an all-day model
 - 7:30 – 4:30 Monday to Friday
- Note: this is consistent with the results of the public engagement process



Off-Highway Vehicle Bylaw

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Regulate and control the operation of Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) on public land subject to the direction, control and management of the municipality

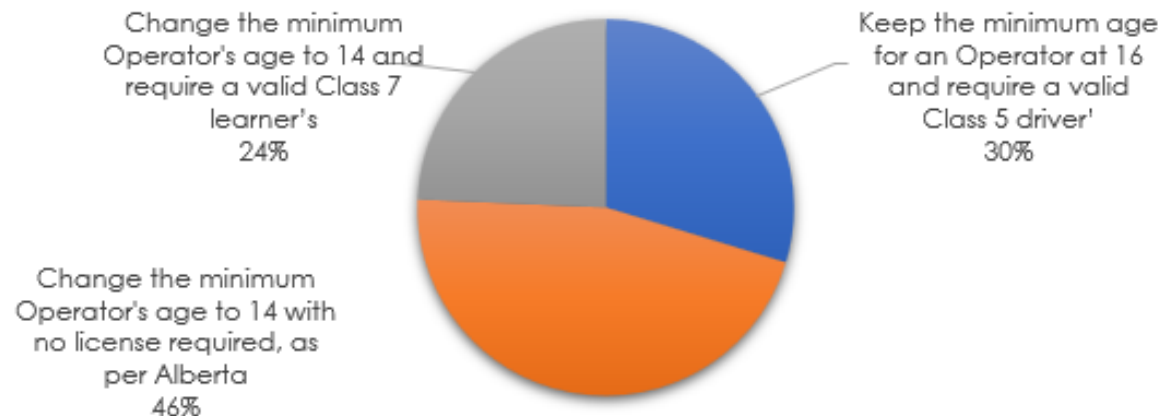
- **Identified Through Engagement**

- Comments are split – both in favour and against OHV oversight
- Concerns about environmental damage caused by OHVs
- Noise of OHVs, even on private property, interferes with others' enjoyment of their own land
- Enforcement of the bylaw is desired

Off-Highway Vehicles - Focused Engagement

- Minimum Age of Operator

- Bylaw enforcement officers can properly identify OHV users with government-issued identification (i.e. driver's license)
- The Major Bylaw Review Committee recommends requiring OHV users to be at least 14 years of age and be in possession of a Class 7 Driver's License (learner's permit) when using an OHV on public land in the County
- Note: this is not in alignment with the plurality of results of the survey question on this topic



Unauthorized Use of County Land Bylaw (New)

- **Bylaw Purpose**

- Ensure safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property
- Respect people, activities and things in, on or near County land
- Identify County land use rights, exclusive or otherwise, which may be granted by the municipality
- Provide regulations affecting the public use of County land

- **Identified Through Engagement**

- There is confusion around the different designations of land, and there may need to be more public education on this
- Regulate camping, fires, vehicle use on County Land

Cats

- **Purpose**

- To test public sentiment on the topic of cats in Parkland County
- Note: this is not a bylaw

- **Identified Through Engagement**

- There is no consistent opinion about whether and how the County should approach regulation of cats
- Topics ran the continuum from licensing, to management of stray/feral cats, to sheltering abandoned or seized cats



Next Steps

Next Steps

- Review and revisions of draft bylaws based on What we Heard outcomes and GPC insights
- Legal review
- Bylaw consideration by Council
 - Seven draft bylaws will be provided for Council consideration through the fall
 - Should they be approved, bylaw changes would likely become effective January 2024
 - Some effective dates will be concurrent because changes in one bylaw sometimes have effects on other bylaws

Next Steps

- As per County policy
 - Inform public of proposed changes
 - Inform public of bylaw reading schedule
 - Inform public of opportunities to address Council
 - Advertise any changes approved by Council



GPC Questions and Insights