

2019 Jane's Walks in Sidney BC

Sidney Community Association

sidneycommunityassociation.ca



What are Jane's Walks?

Around the first weekend of May every year, Jane's Walk festivals take place in hundreds of cities around the world. Inspired by the work of Jane Jacobs, Jane's Walks are free, walking conversations that encourage people to share stories about their neighbourhoods, discover unseen aspects of their communities, and use walking as a way to connect with their neighbours. For more information, go to Janeswalk.org. All Jane's Walks are free and open to all.

The Sidney Community Association is delighted to be the official Jane's Walk city organizer for Sidney. We organized 3 Jane's Walks in 2019.

What Makes a Great Street? April 27

Saturday April 27th, about 20 SCA members walked and talked together with special guest Brent Molnar, Director of Development Services from the City of Colwood. Brent was a wealth of



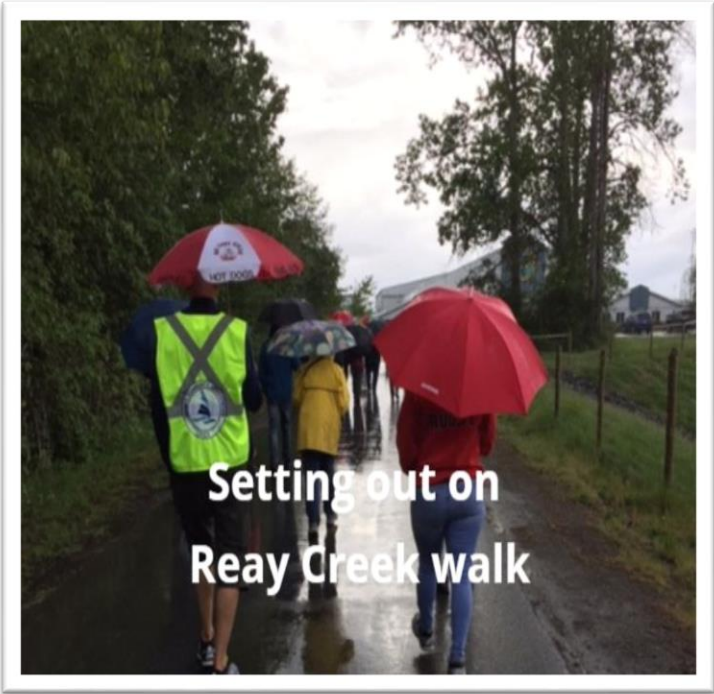
information and spoke about different aspects of street design depending on what you are trying to achieve and how walking is affected positively or negatively by various elements which are influenced by development and road design standards. He explained the considerations and components that make up street design. The wider streets are, the more cars tend to speed. He discussed why more signage isn't always effective and how natural cues to road users can be used instead of signs because their conformance rate is usually higher. He also helped us consider good cycling infrastructure and how to best manage

conflicts between cars and cyclists, cyclists/scooters and folks on foot. It was a fun and informative walk around some of Sidney's streets, from Resthaven and James White to Henry, Fifth, Fourth, Mount Baker and back to James White. We learned about elements of safety, cost, standards, walkability and how design influences the speed of autos. Kudos to the Town of Sidney for nailing many of these aspects.

The big takeaways? Needs and expectations for our streets change with time. Every policy and standard has unintended consequences and good design is critical to minimizing them. However, laws and standards, with the best of intentions, will always have unintended consequences that won't always sit well with future generations. This walk was organized by Eric Diller and the SCA Transportation Committee. Photo credits to Eric!



Reay Creek May 14, 2019



Despite the sudden showers, 20 walkers joined Bill Collins for the tour of Reay Creek. Bill thoughtfully supplied extra umbrellas and was accompanied by Reg Kirkham and Councillor Peter



Wainwright to provide a thorough and fascinating walking discussion on the history and current issues facing Reay Creek. He asked us to consider 2 things: What is the role and value of natural spaces in urban areas? What does the community want for the future of the park and at what cost? Transport Canada plans to remove the cadmium contaminated sediments in 2020. The Town will have to decide on the future of the pond, the dam and the surrounding habitat. Several walkers had never before visited Reay Creek or Peter Grant parks, and all were most impressed with the wildlife and environment as well as the work already done and future challenges. About half the group continued the conversation over a drink and supper at historic Mary's Bleue Moon Cafe afterwards.

[Click here for Bill's very informative handout on the history of Reay Creek.](#)

May 19 Cycling Without Age

Unfortunately, we inadvertently scheduled this walk in the middle of the Victoria Day Weekend. Attendance was so low that the walk was cancelled.

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