

Proposed Text Amendments to the Official Community Plan

1. Delete section 13.3:

Mineral Development

~~13.3—Any mineral development, including to maintain existing mineral claims in good standing, or for remediation or reclamation activities, is subject to all applicable legislation, regulatory requirements, and City bylaws.~~

And replace with:

Mineral Development

13.3 Mineral exploration and mine development within the City of Whitehorse is prohibited. This applies to all classes of exploration activities, as well as the development of a mine, but does not apply to remediation activities being undertaken to address environmental impacts from past mining activities.

2. Modify Section 15.12 as follows:

15.12 NATURAL RESOURCE EXTRACTION

The Natural Resource Extraction designation is intended to support local and regional economic activity and construction through accommodating the extraction and management of raw materials.

Gravel extraction is fundamental to Whitehorse's local economy as it supplies the foundation for new construction such as buildings and roadways. Having a stable supply of gravel will be required to keep up with housing demand as the population grows.

Notable areas of ~~mineral and~~ gravel potential include the Whitehorse Copper Belt, Sleeping Giant Hill, and McLean Lake. Gravel can supply pit run, crushed base course, sub-base, asphalt and concrete aggregate, concrete, bedding sand, and drain rock. These materials are typically used for road and highway development, building foundations, and other forms of construction. It is an essential asset for any community to have significant gravel reserves rather than importing them from other communities or rural areas at great expense.