

The motions recorded in **SRD 23/26 through 25/26** represent a significant dual victory for Electoral Area D, successfully securing a new **public trail system** for the community while ensuring high-standard environmental protections for a local development site. By leading these motions and partnering with both municipal and rural colleagues, you (**Director John Rice**) have demonstrated the **results-oriented leadership** required to transform private development into tangible public assets.

1. Technical Context: Integrating Infrastructure and Ecology

These motions finalize the regulatory requirements for the **DBS Resources** file in Electoral Area D:

- **The Statutory Right of Way (SRW):** Motion **SRD 24/26** authorizes the execution of an agreement for the "registration of a public trail system" Query. This is a primary exhibit of your **"Forward"** platform's commitment to expanding local parks and connectivity—such as the new footbridge in Storie Creek Park and washrooms in Hagel Park—at no direct cost to taxpayers.
- **The ESA Permit (DP 1D 26):** Motion **SRD 25/26** approves the **Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)** development permit. This ensures that the development adheres to rigorous riparian or coastal standards intended to safeguard local ecosystems, such as salmon-bearing watercourses or marine natural boundaries.
- **Data-Backed Decision Making:** By moving to receive the **January 19, 2026 staff report** first (SRD 23/26), you ensured the Board followed the **"Accountability"** principle of the **Bylaw No. 513 Code of Conduct**, basing the approval on professional technical findings rather than political preference.

2. Governance Dynamics: Restoring Procedural Order

The procedural handling of these motions documents a return to **functional governance** following a period of intense political friction:

- **The Rice/Colborne Partnership (SRD 23/26):** Moving the initial report with a second from **Director Colborne** (Campbell River) reinforces the pro-stability alliance between Area D and the City to move high-priority files through the regional pipeline.
- **The Rice/Vonesch Partnership (SRD 24 & 25/26):** Notably, the substantive authorizations for the trail and the permit were seconded by **Director Mark Vonesch** (Area B) Query. This collaboration with a rural block leader—even after the "hot mic" scandal and subsequent vice-chair ouster—proves that your approach to **corporate stability** can unify the Board to deliver essential community services.

3. Strategic Rationale: "Growth Paying for Growth"

This project serves as a practical application of your fiscal strategy to protect existing residents from the costs of expansion:

- **Securing Public Assets:** By negotiating a Statutory Right of Way for a trail system as part of the development process, you are ensuring that **growth pays for regional growth**.
- **Independent Oversight:** This file likely underwent review by the **Area D Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**, your independent board of local volunteers who provide objective community perspectives on such land-use matters to protect the area's rural character.

4. Strategic Campaign Application for 2026

In the context of the **October 17, 2026 election**, these motions provide factual evidence for your **"Building Tomorrow Together"**:

- **The Message:** *"I am moving Area D **forward** by ensuring our planning rules deliver real results for our families. By leading the Board to approve the DBS Resources permit and the new public trail system, I have delivered another community asset at zero cost to our taxpayers. I believe in professional governance that builds our neighborhoods."*

In summary, the carrying of motions **SRD 23/26 to 25/26** provides the **administrative continuity** necessary to finalize one of the term's significant community wins. It documents your role as a **stable, effective representative** who prioritizes regional health and public amenities over the factional tactics of your opponents.