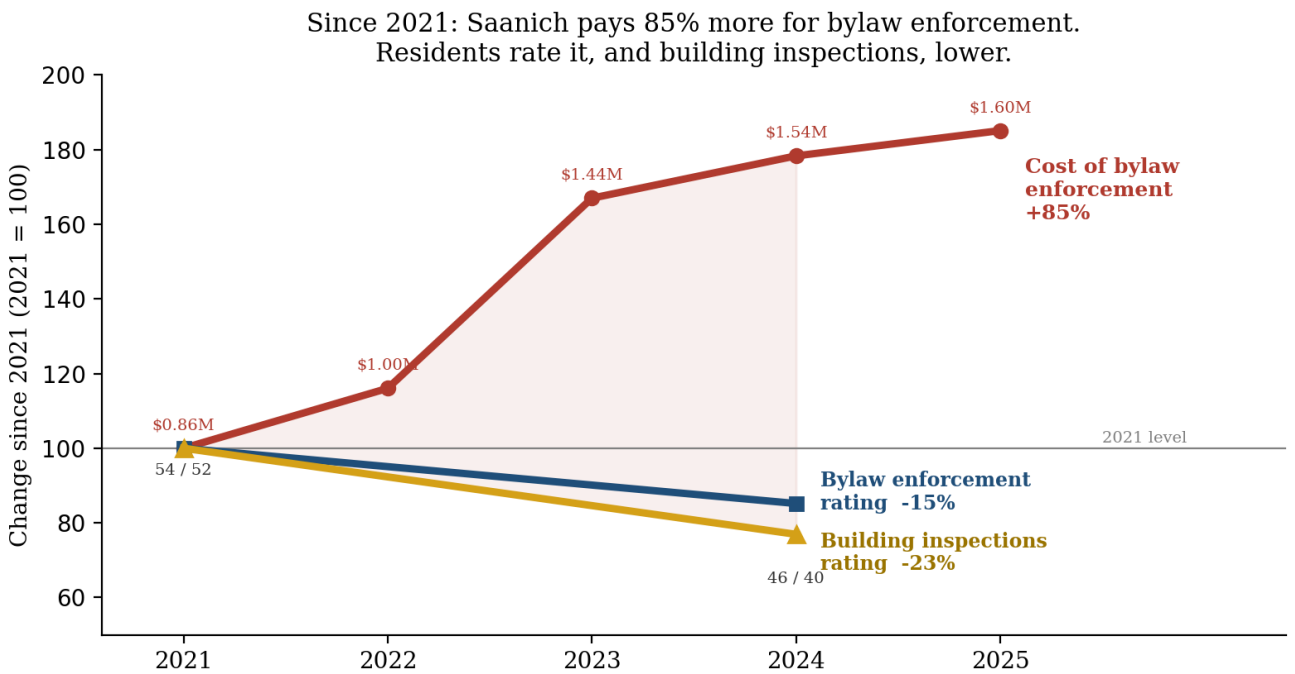


Saanich Bylaw Enforcement: Costs Have More Than Tripled. Fewer Than Half of Residents Are Satisfied.

Saanich Bylaw Reform, October 2026. Every figure is from the District's own financial plans and BC Stats surveys.

The net cost of Saanich's bylaw and parking enforcement rose from \$470,300 in 2018 to \$1,598,600 in 2025, and is budgeted at \$1,748,100 for 2026 [1]. Brent Reems became Director of Building, Bylaw, Licensing and Legal Services in October 2017 and Chief Administrative Officer in December 2021. In February 2021 Council approved his new enforcement model: a dedicated manager, three bylaw enforcement officers and a clerk, with parking moved from the Police. Animal control was added in mid-2022 [1].



Survey (BC Stats)	Bylaw enforcement	Building inspections and permits
2021 Citizen Survey (percent positive)	42%	35%
2022 Citizen Survey (percent satisfied)	45%	32%
2024 Resident Pulse Survey (mean score out of 100)	46 (54 in 2021)	40 (52 in 2021)

In 2021 bylaw enforcement, land use planning and building inspections were the three lowest-rated services in Saanich [2]. In 2022, building inspections and permits drew one of the largest dissatisfaction proportions of any service [3]. In 2024, building inspections and permits scored 40 out of 100, down 12 points from 2021; only land use planning scored lower [4].

Over the same period Council registered twenty Section 57 notices on residents' homes, from 2020 to 2025 [5]. Removing one is described to Council as a \$500 fee. The cost to the owner is hundreds of thousands of dollars.

[1] District of Saanich Financial Plans 2019 to 2026, Building, Bylaw, Licensing and Legal Services (Legislative and Protective Services), Net Budget by Function, Bylaw and Parking Enforcement, actuals 2017 to 2025 and 2026 budget. Figures from 2021 include parking enforcement and, from mid-2022, animal control. [2] BC Stats, Saanich Citizen Satisfaction Survey Report, June 2021. [3] BC Stats, Saanich 2022 Citizen and Business Satisfaction Survey Report, statistically valid citizen survey. [4] BC Stats, 2024 Saanich Resident Pulse Survey, April 2025, which reports 2021 and 2024 mean scores on the same scale. Chart: cost and ratings indexed to 2021 = 100; cost uses net actuals 2021 to 2025 (\$863,600 to \$1,598,600); ratings use the 2021 and 2024 mean scores (bylaw 54 to 46; building 52 to 40). The 2021 survey moved to a five-point scale; earlier results are not directly comparable and are not shown. [5] District of Saanich Council minutes, 2020 to 2025.