



Regional Housing Needs Reports Project Project Description

Identification of Opportunity

In 2018, the Provincial Government passed *Bill 18 – 2018: Local Government Statutes (Housing Needs Reports) Amendment Act, 2018* which requires local governments to develop housing needs reports on a regular basis. The reports are intended to strengthen the ability of local governments to understand what kinds of housing are most needed in their communities, and help inform the development and implementation of official community plans and regional growth strategies.

To support municipalities and electoral areas in creating reports that meet the provincial requirements, funding is being made available as grants through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBMC) Housing Needs Reports Program. Funding is scaled based on the net population of the planning area and regional projects are possible where municipalities and electoral areas agree to work together.

One of the Development Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) purposes is “to facilitate coordination of Provincial ... actions, policies and programs as they relate to the development and implementation of the regional growth strategy” and through DPAC the CRD has identified 11 local government entities that want to collaborate on a regional project in 2020. Further, all local government entities in the capital region have indicated the desire to collaborate on the ongoing updating of these reports and develop a sustainable and accessible data reporting approach to housing information in the region.

Participating Municipalities, Electoral Areas and Islands Trust Areas

Central Saanich	Colwood	Esquimalt
Highlands	Islands Trust (SGI and SSI)	Juan de Fuca EA
Langford	Metchosin	North Saanich
Saanich	Victoria	

Alignment with CRD Plans and Strategies

Plan/Strategy	Direction
Corporate Plan	Measure housing affordability and engage with municipalities on affordability
	Support municipalities in their affordable housing objectives
	Lead and participate in regional, provincial and federal affordable housing ... planning initiatives
Regional Growth Strategy	Work across the housing spectrum when identifying the current and anticipated future issues concerning market and non-market housing affordability for no, low and middle income and special needs households
	Analyze the extent of present (housing) issues and forecast future issues

Proposed Timeline

Activity	Date
1. CRD Approval of UBCM Grant application	September 2019
2. Municipal/Electoral Area/Local Trust Area Approval of CRD Role	September/October 2019
3. Draft Scope of Work	September 2019
4. Approve Scope to Work to Support RFP	October 2019
5. Draft UBCM Application	October/November 2019
6. UBCM Grant Application Due	November 29, 2019
7. Issue RFP	January 2020
8. Proposal Review and Consultant Selection	February 2020
9. Data Compilation and Collection	March-May 2020
10. Stakeholder Engagement	May-September 2020
11. Draft Reports Submitted to DPAC	September 2020
12. Local Government Review of Draft Housing Needs Reports	October 2020
13. Final Housing Needs Reports Submitted to DPAC	November 2020
14. Reports Submitted to Local Government Councils for Approval	December 2020

Budget

Project costs are expected to be approximately \$150,000 and a grant in this amount will be sought from UBCM.

Project Sponsor

CRD Regional Housing is sponsoring this project with the support of CRD Regional and Strategic Planning and DPAC.