



**Committee of the Whole Report  
For the Meeting of November 19, 2020**

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** November 19, 2020  
**From:** Philip Bellefontaine, Director of Engineering & Public Works  
**Subject:** Climate Leadership Plan (CLP) Progress Update and 2020 Climate Action Strategy

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**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Receive the 2020 CLP Progress Report for information and direct staff to provide updated Progress Reports every 2 years.
2. Direct staff to continue implementing climate action initiatives with an emphasis on priority actions as identified in the 2020 Climate Action Strategy development section of this report.
3. Support the application of a grant through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Green Infrastructure – Climate Change Mitigation – CleanBC Communities Fund for the HVAC Replacement Project at Oaklands Community Centre and commits the City's share of \$63,500 for the project.
4. If any of the grants identified within the financial impacts section of the report are awarded, authorize the City entering into a shared cost agreement with the funder (either the Province of British Columbia or Government of Canada), generally described in this report, on the terms acceptable to the Chief Financial Officer and the Director of Engineering and Public Works and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor.

And that Council continue to advocate:

5. To the Province, CRD, BC Hydro, and other key stakeholders to designate *Building Energy and Efficiency Retrofits* as a regional infrastructure priority.
6. To the Province to amend the Community Charter to give BC municipalities independent authority to manage issues of climate change, reflecting the importance and reality that these complex issues share environmental, social, and economic dimensions that affect community well-being in an increasingly important and severe manner.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Since the adoption of the Climate Leadership Plan (CLP) in July 2018 and the subsequent declaration of the Climate Emergency in March 2019, the City of Victoria has taken important steps to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the changing climate. As the City's Climate Action Program continues to implement the actions outlined in the CLP and address the High Impact Initiatives identified in response to the Climate Emergency, the purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council and the community on the progress to date.

This report highlights initial successes of the Climate Action Program over the past two years including the adoption of the BC Building Step Code, the launch of the City's sustainable mobility strategy – [GoVictoria](#), and the 650 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> saved through energy improvements to municipal operations. It also highlights other noteworthy accomplishments and communicates these climate leadership achievements as an infographic in **Attachment A**.

Progress towards the City's climate action goals have also been measured. A CLP Progress Report has been developed and included in **Attachment B**, which provides an update on each target and action identified in the CLP. This progress report shows that the City has reduced its community GHG emissions by 11% since 2007. Although this is trending in the right direction, increasingly bold action will be required to achieve the City's goal of reducing GHGs by 80% by 2050. Of the 85 actions identified in the CLP, 74 percent are either underway or in early stages, 18 percent have been completed, and 8 percent will be initiated in future years. The report also identifies how the City has been developing plans and pathways towards achieving the CLP's more specific sector targets.

The report also identifies recommendations for continued Climate Action Strategy Development through 2021. Continuing with previous staff recommendations, the goal of the Climate Action Program is to accelerate climate action by focusing efforts and resources on the six high impact initiatives and over a dozen other priority actions where either continuing efforts, or initiating new work would result in the most effective use of resources and provide potential to accelerate climate action.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council and the community with an update on the Climate Action Program. The Climate Action Program has been continually evolving, guided by the goals, targets and actions defined in the City's Climate Leadership Plan and Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in 2019. This report highlights successes and achievements to date, including implementation progress, and a strategy to continue the Climate Action Program's efforts through 2021.

## BACKGROUND

The City of Victoria's Climate Action Program is guided by the 2018 Climate Leadership Plan and continues to evolve each year. The following is a brief summary of the key elements that have shaped the direction of the Climate Action Program since the adoption of the CLP in 2018:

**2018 Climate Leadership Plan:** the City's first comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the changing climate. The CLP aims to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent below 2007 levels and transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050.

**2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report on 1.5°C:** found that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would reduce challenging impacts on ecosystems, and human health and well-being. To reach the 1.5°C target, "global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) would need to drop by 45 percent by 2030 (compared to 2010 levels), reaching 'net zero' carbon emissions by mid-century".

**2019 Council Declaration of a Climate Emergency:** Council's Climate Emergency Declaration in March 2019 committed to achieving carbon neutrality in the community by 2030 and initiated a series of planning and policy workshops and town halls with the aim to accelerate climate action beyond the steps identified in the CLP.

**2019 IPCC Report and Considerations:** laid out a global pathway to limit global warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot. The scope of emissions reductions envisaged in the IPCC report also included embodied emissions.

**2019 Climate Action Strategy:** identified six high impact initiatives (HIIIs) in response to Council's Climate Emergency Declaration to accelerate climate action:

- Oil to Heat Pump Incentive Program
- Building Retrofit Program
- Low Carbon Step Code
- Active Transportation Investments through GoVictoria
- Zero Emissions Mobility Incentives through GoVictoria & EV infrastructure
- Support for Rapid and Frequent Transit through GoVictoria

**2019 Climate Lens:** Council directed staff to integrate climate action into City decision making through the development and application of a Climate Lens Framework. This planning requirement will ensure that the potential climate impacts of a policy, program, or project are available, assessed and considered. The Climate Lens will also align and integrate with other planning lenses such as the accessibility impact statement currently included in all Council reports as well as the equity lens.

**2020 COVID-19:** The pandemic has had a significant impact on City operations, which includes budget constraints placed on the Climate Action Program:

- one new FTE for the Climate Action Program (a Building Energy Specialist to help accelerate Step Code changes) was deferred from the 2020 budget to the draft 2021 Financial Plan;
- \$300,000 in funding for heat pump incentives for the 'Oil to Heat Pump' initiative targeting households still heating with fuel oil was deferred from the 2020 budget; and will be brought back to Council for consideration as part of the 2021 budget discussions at the direction of Council.

## ISSUES & ANALYSIS

### **Climate Action Program Successes:**

The Climate Leadership Plan called for a transformation of how the city uses and manages energy, from heating and powering homes and buildings, to how people move throughout the city, and dispose of waste. This transformation involves a lot of planning, coordinating, and inspiring others to act. Actions are often incremental, and the systematic changes required to achieve large emissions reductions can take time. Therefore, it is important to highlight successes, big and small, to communicate the City's progress to date.

Over the past two years, the City achieved the following:

- One of the first municipalities in the region to adopt the British Columbia 'Building Step Code', advancing to Steps 2 and 3 in January 2020 and targeting achievement of the top steps by 2025.
- Launched the 'Oil to Heat Pump Program' providing information and incentives to assist the City's most carbon intensive homeowners in making the switch from heating oil to a renewably powered heat pump.
- Supported and participated in various building retrofit acceleration programs including: 'Transition 2050', 'Bring it Home for the Climate', 'BOMA Resilient 2030 District', and the 'Market Rental Revitalization Study'.
- Developed and launched the Sustainable Mobility Strategy: Go Victoria.

- Continued investment in transportation infrastructure including expansion of the all ages and abilities cycling network, crosswalks, sidewalks and pathways.
- Launched the Youth Bus Pass Program, to promote life-long transit riders by providing accessible fare-free transit to youth.
- Expanded the City's EV charging network in all City parkades, added the first on-street EV chargers, and updated parking bylaws to include new charging fees and fines.
- Implemented the new 'EV Readiness Bylaws' requiring all new residential and commercial developments to be designed and built with sufficient electrical capacity and outlets to be 'EV ready' and currently providing incentives to support existing apartment and condo buildings to install EV charging stations.
- Hired on contract, a Corporate Energy Specialist with funding from BC Hydro, completed facility energy audits, and implemented multiple energy saving building retrofits for City-owned buildings. These initiatives reduced the City's emissions by 650 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e, which is the equivalent of taking 140 cars off the road.
- Continued procurement of hybrid and electric vehicles and equipment for City fleet and operations where economically and technically feasible. The City now has 11 EVs, 17 hybrid vehicles and 20% of small equipment, such as chainsaws and leaf blowers, are now battery powered.
- Applied and received \$15.3 million in grant funding for Seismic and Coastal Flooding Underground Infrastructure Upgrades.
- Currently developing strategies and plans to further climate action as follows:
  - Corporate Energy and Emissions Management Plan
  - Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan
  - Electric Vehicle Strategy
  - Zero Waste Strategy

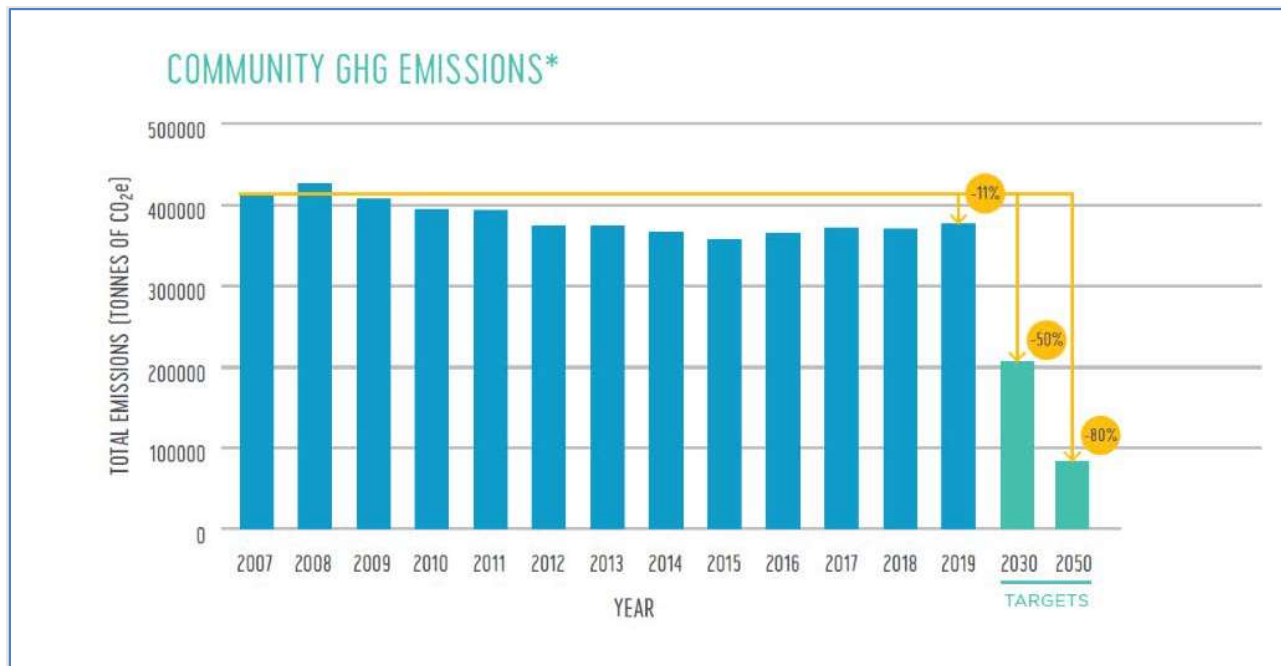
Corporately, the City has reduced energy use by 5,000 MWh and carbon emissions by 973 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e since 2007. This is a 24% reduction in GHGs since 2007. **Appendix A** illustrates the City's Climate Leadership Achievements since the adoption of the CLP as an infographic.

### **2020 Climate Leadership Plan Progress Update**

The CLP is the result of two years of planning, modelling, mapping, and consulting with subject matter experts and the community to establish a set of goals, targets, and actions to advance emissions reductions and adaptation initiatives. In order to provide transparency and an update to both City Council and the community, a CLP Progress Report (**Appendix B**) has been developed to illustrate how the City has taken steps to implement and reach the goals, targets, and actions defined in the CLP. This progress report provides a comprehensive update on all of the 26 sector specific targets and 85 actions identified in the CLP and is intended to compliment the regular updates provided through the Triannual Accountability Reporting, and the annual Climate Action Program Update. Staff are recommending that this more comprehensive CLP Progress Report be provided every two years as updating every action is arduous and the majority of actions are long term initiatives which require time to advance. A comprehensive update with meaningful data every two years, would optimize staff resources and allow Council to regularly evaluate how best to support continued climate action in Victoria.

The main target of the CLP is **to reduce community greenhouse gases (GHGs) by 80 percent below 2007 levels and transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050**. Although the City has made some good progress reducing corporate emissions by 24%, municipal operations only account for approximately one percent of total community GHG emissions. Therefore, achieving this ambitious community-wide target of 80% reduction in GHGs will be a shared responsibility between the City, our partners in the capital region, the Province, as well as the federal government. Success will also depend on the ability of residents and local businesses to take action. The City is

leading by example and is continuing to encourage the community and our partners to make the necessary changes required to achieve these targets. The figure below shows that the City's community emissions were 367,228 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2019 and illustrates the progress towards our 2050 target of 80% below 2007 levels.

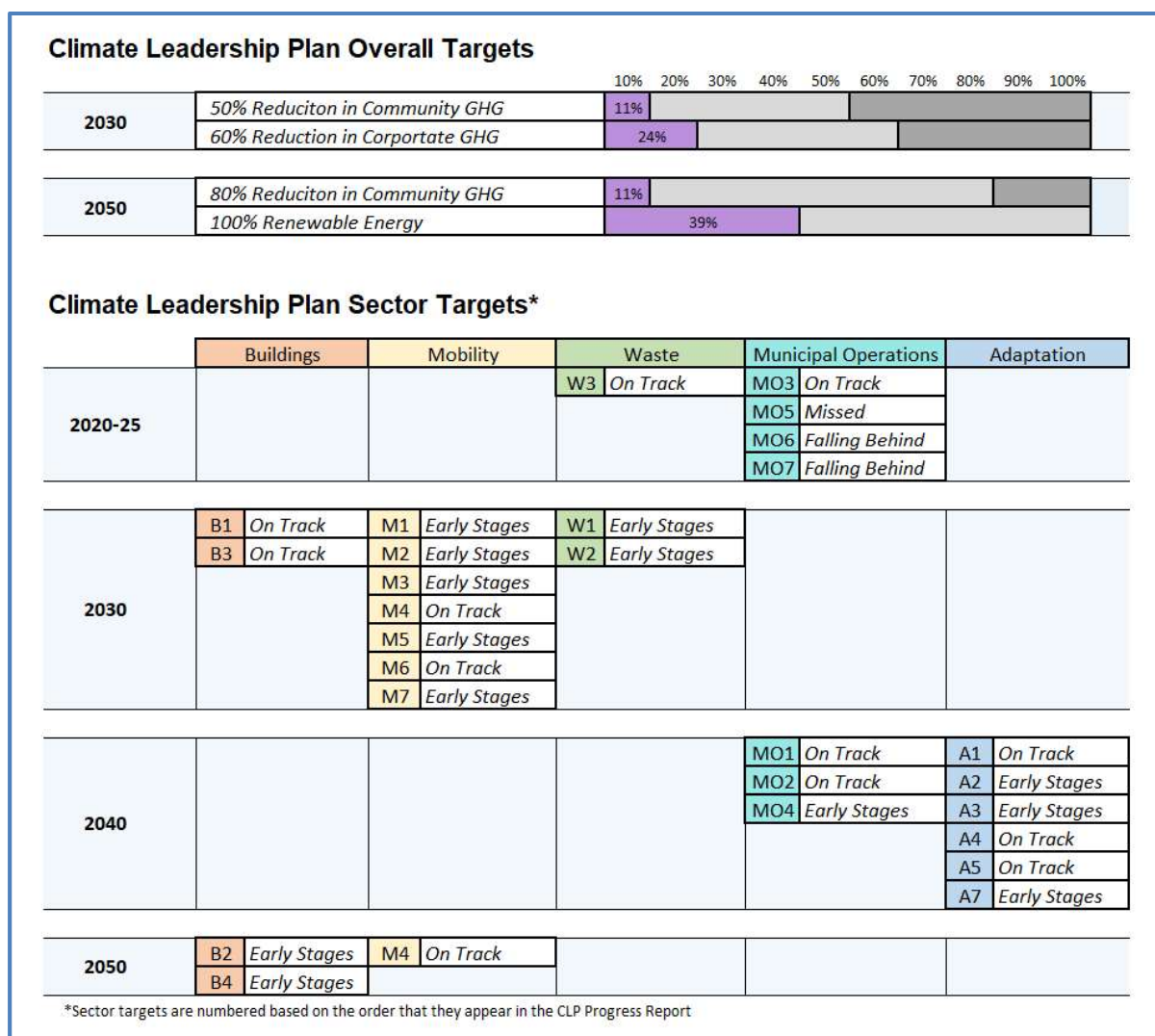


**Figure 1: Total Community Emissions**

As of 2019, the City has reduced total community GHG emissions by 11% compared to 2007 levels. As depicted in Figure 1, community emissions are trending in the right direction, which is notable considering that the city's population has grown by 16% since 2007 (approximately 13,000 people) and continues to grow. However, the data also shows there is still further work to be done to reduce GHGs if we are to achieve the targets outlined in the CLP. Increasingly bold action will be required in the coming years in the form of new regulations, bylaws, and controls in order to overcome barriers and unlock opportunities to achieve our 2050 targets. It will also be important to continue to prioritize investment in climate action, recognizing that the costs of inaction will be higher.

#### Progress of CLP Targets

The CLP includes sector targets to guide the City's progress towards the overall 80% reduction in GHGs. The sector targets are identified at varying time intervals, with some targeted for as early as 2020 and others as far out as 2050. Figure 2 illustrates the City's progress towards all the Targets identified in the CLP.



**Figure 2: Progress Towards CLP Targets**

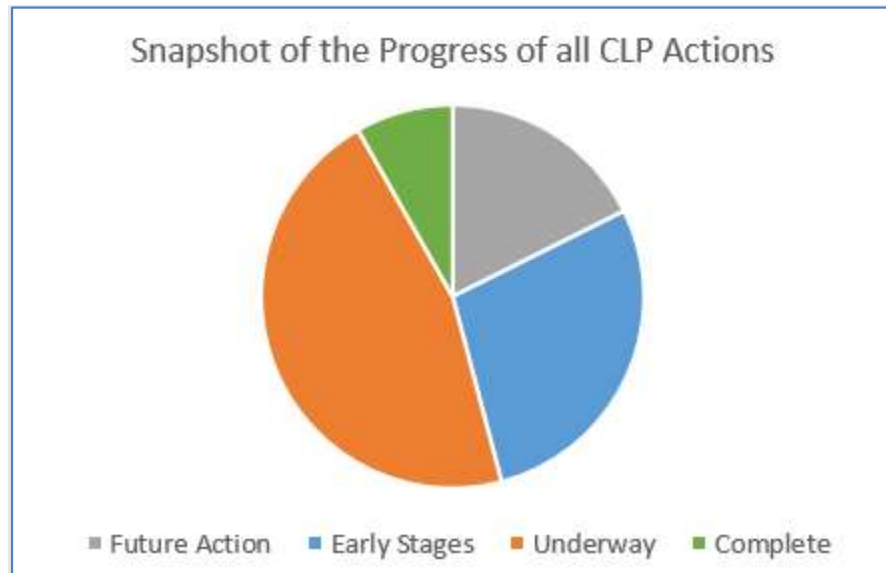
The majority of the CLP sector targets are currently identified as Early Stages, this is to be expected as it is only two years into the implementation of the Plan. The City has launched several new strategies to serve as a guide for achieving many of the CLP's 2030 targets including, the Go Victoria mobility strategy, the Zero Waste Strategy, as well as the adoption of the BC building Step Code. Additionally, the City's Electric Vehicle Strategy is currently under development and is an important component to supporting electrification goals identified in Go Victoria. Successful implementation of these strategies will be critical to achieving the 2030 targets and will be a major focus for the City's Climate Action Program over the next 10 years. Staff have also been developing two corporate plans that will serve to guide the City's municipal operations towards achieving its corporate climate targets including, the 'Corporate Energy and Emissions Management Plan (CEEMP)' and the 'Corporate Climate Change Adaptation Plan (CCCAP)'. It is anticipated that these plans will be completed by the end of 2020 and launched in early 2021. The implementation of the CEEMP will enable the City to achieve the 2020-25 targets that are currently identified as missed and falling behind and will also serve as a guide for achieving the 2040 municipal operations targets.

The 2020 CLP Progress Report (**Appendix B**) provides further information on each of the 26 sector targets and identifies whether the City is 'on track' to meet the target or whether it is too early to tell i.e. in the 'early stages'. As this is a 30-year plan, the targets are yet to be achieved. Next steps will

be to identify the long-term funding requirements to enable the successful implementation of the strategies mentioned above as well as to communicate the costs of inaction.

### Progress of CLP Actions

The CLP also contains 85 actions across the 5 sectors: Buildings, Mobility, Waste, Municipal Operations, and Adapting Early. The 2020 CLP Progress Report includes a status update for each action identifying whether the action is: Complete, Underway, in the Early Stages, or a Future Action. Figure 3 below provides a snapshot of the progress of all CLP actions across the sectors.



**Figure 3: Status of Actions Identified in the CLP**

To date, 74 percent of the actions identified in the CLP are either underway or in early stages, eight percent are complete, and 18 percent will be initiated in future years. This is to be expected as many of the actions are multi-year actions and the first two years of implementation of the CLP have focused on planning and developing strategies and pathways towards achieving the various targets. For the majority of the actions, the early groundwork has begun, and the bulk of the actions are actively underway.

Over the next couple of years, the Climate Action Program will transition from a planning focused into more implementation focused. As the focus shifts to implementation, the key to accelerating action will be to focus efforts and resources on the most impactful actions.

### Monitor, Measure & Adjust:

The CLP is a living document designed to evolve with scientific understanding and improved climate response strategies. City staff continues to monitor and measure its progress and adjust targets and actions as necessary based on changing conditions and learning. Following this first comprehensive Progress Report, staff are planning an update to the CLP in 2021 for the following to achieve the following:



- Re-align existing targets to the GPC Basic+<sup>1</sup> carbon accounting method which is an emerging international standard in community GHG reporting (targets are currently based off the CEEI<sup>2</sup> carbon accounting method).
- Update the 'Pathways to 2050 GHG Reductions' wedge diagram.
- Update the Low Carbon High Performance Building targets to include the new target added in 2019 – "All new and replacement building heating and hot water systems are zero emissions."
- Include new targets for embodied emissions and urban forest expansion as per Council direction in 2019.
- Undertake housekeeping of existing actions by combining, expanding, or revising the actions to incorporate emerging best practices and streamline reporting, while keeping aligned with the CLP targets and goals.

It is important to note that the update to the CLP would be relatively minor and is intended to harmonize latest practices and update actions identified in the CLP and not intended to substantially change the plan or any of the existing targets.

### **2020 Climate Action Strategy Development - 2021 Priorities**

Following Council's declaration of the Climate Emergency in 2019, the City committed to accelerating GHG reductions by focusing resources on high impact initiatives. This year's climate action strategy recommendations identify 18 priority actions across the sectors where either continuing efforts or initiating new work would result in the most effective use of resources and provide the most potential to accelerate climate action. This strategy is a continuation of the climate action strategy recommendations from November 2019 Climate Action Update Report.

#### **Climate Action Priority Initiatives**

The following have been identified as priority initiatives for 2021 based on the following broad criteria:

- The climate emergency six high impact initiatives (HIIIs),
- The potential of the action to result in significant GHG reductions,
- The potential of the action to contribute to achievement of a sector target, and
- The current feasibility of the action.

#### **Low Carbon High Performance Buildings:**

- Accelerate Step Code & Low Carbon Pathway (climate emergency HII)
  - Contingent on hiring a Building Energy Specialist within SPCD (position was deferred in 2020, is currently included in the 2021 Financial Plan).
- Oil to Heat Pump Program (climate emergency HII)
  - Contingent on receiving funds (\$300,000 deferred in 2020, will be brought back for consideration as part of the 2021 budget discussions).

<sup>1</sup> The GPC Basic+ inventory is an emerging international standard in community GHG reporting which the City uses for its voluntary reporting to the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). The CDP is a not-for-profit charity that runs a global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states, and regions to manage their environmental impacts including carbon emissions.

<sup>2</sup> The CEEI inventory has not been updated by the British Columbia Provincial Government since 2012. To address the need for up to date community GHG emissions information, the City hires a third-party consultant to complete two different GHG inventories annually. The first is an updated version of the CEEI inventory, the second is a Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC Basic+) compliant inventory. The updated version of the CEEI is currently used for tracking the City's progress towards the targets identified in the CLP.



- Development of a Regional Retrofit Service (climate emergency HII)

#### Low Carbon Mobility:

- Continue implementation of Go Victoria:
  - Expand walking, rolling and cycling infrastructure (climate emergency HII)
  - Expand EV policies and incentives (climate emergency HII)
  - Advance bus rapid transit (climate emergency HII)
  - Expand public EV infrastructure
  - Expand shared mobility options
- Promote and incentivize transportation demand-management (TDM) within new development:
  - Contingent on hiring a TDM coordinator within SPCD (position was deferred in 2020, is currently included in the 2021 Financial Plan).

#### Low Carbon Waste Management:

- Review City solid waste collection programs to identify opportunities to improve organics diversion.
- Engage with CRD on treatment of organic waste.
- Develop policies/programs to divert 'other' organics from the landfill such as wood from construction waste.

#### Municipal Operations:

- Implement the Corporate Energy and Emissions Management System (CEEMS)
  - Develop an annual carbon budget for all departments
  - Develop a capital financing strategy for the electrification of fleet
- Initiate the Fleet Master Plan process
- Develop the Climate Lens Framework
  - Coordinate with Planning/Legal to update OCP to align with CLP

#### Adapting Early:

- Implement Corporate Adaptation Strategy
  - Develop the business case for adaptation
  - Initiate the implementation of a Flood Construction Level
- Develop a community chapter of the Corporate Adaptation Strategy

#### Policy Directions

Staff continue to be guided by the following policy directions as outlined in the 2019 Climate Action Strategy Report to Council on November 14, 2019.

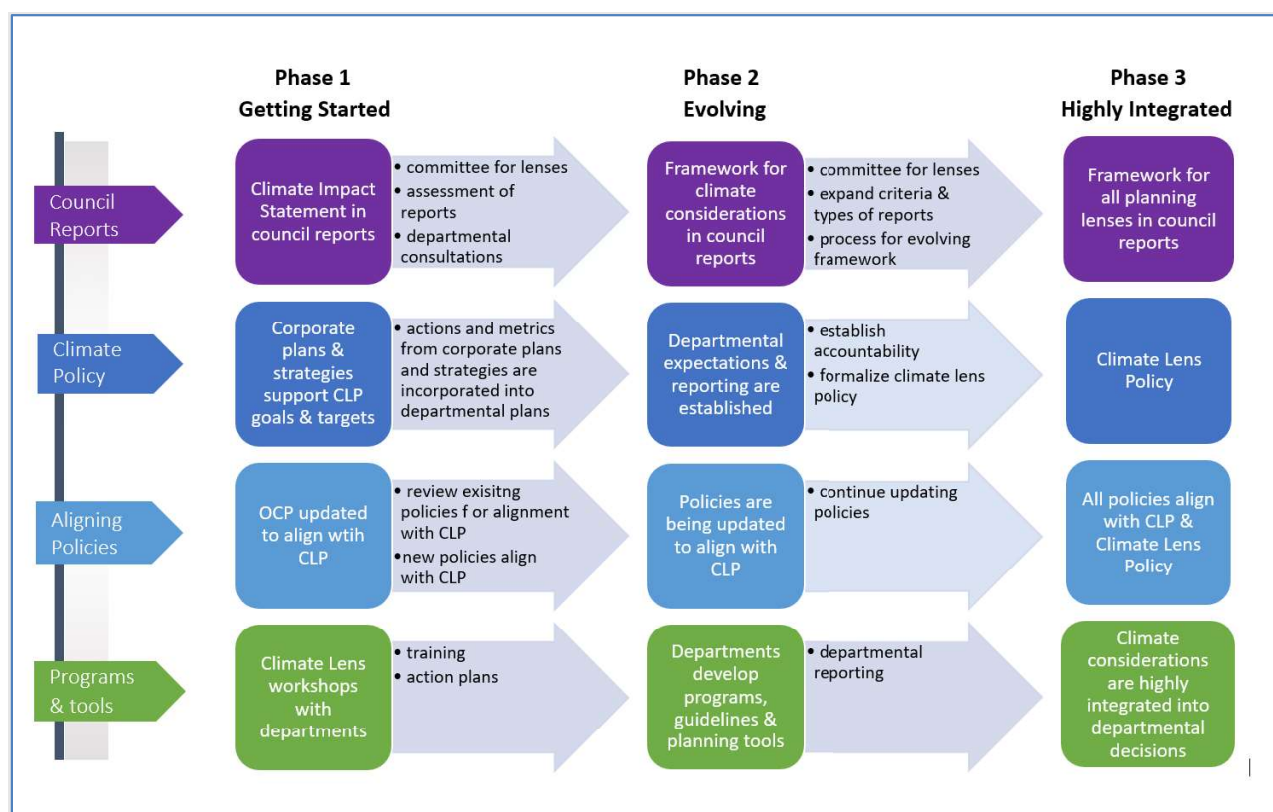
No.	Policy Directions	Goal	Approach
1	Complete, Compact, Low Carbon Communities	Residents are able to meet their daily needs within a 15-minute walk of their homes (existing OCP and CLP target).	Continue to introduce new, complementary set of targets to support compact communities and proximity to essential amenities.
2	Safe and convenient Active Transportation and Transit	By 2030, 80% of all trips in Victoria will be walking, biking, and transit (CLP; Go Victoria).	Continue to invest in all ages and abilities cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.
3	Pollution Free Cars, trucks and buses	By 2030, 30% of passenger vehicles on Victoria's roads are renewably powered (CLP)	Provide incentives for electric vehicles through allocation of the right of way, charging infrastructure and price-signals.
4	Zero Emissions Building and Water Heating	All new and retrofitted heating and hot water systems are zero	Develop programs and incentives to shift away from fossil fuel

		emissions after 2025 (exceeds current CLP target).	heating, via retrofit improvement programs.
5	Low Carbon Materials	By 2030, Victorian's use items and materials with substantially less embodied emissions than 2015. Target to be established.	Initiate planning and set new targets to help understand and mitigate embodied emissions.
6	Climate Resilient Ecosystems	Establish targets for urban forest and ecosystem management to reflect City emissions and adaptation requirements.	Review and set initial targets and begin integrating into program, planning and service delivery.

### Development of the Climate Lens

In late 2019, Council directed the development of a Climate Lens Framework to guide all city decision making. The intent of the Climate Lens Framework is to ensure the consideration of GHG mitigation and adaptation requirements in decision making, including trade-offs and cost implications. Work is underway and is being coordinated with staff organizing the implementation of a new Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. An early roadmap for implementation of the climate lens, which is illustrated in Figure 4 is a multi-year, iterative process that is broken out into three phases:

- 1) Getting Started
- 2) Evolving
- 3) Highly Integrated



**Figure 4: Roadmap for the Implementation of the Climate Lens**

The aim over the next 3-5 years is to transition through to the highly integrated phase where the City is routinely integrating climate change into decision-making processes, awareness, and collaboration across departments and functions is high. Additionally, the highly integrated phase

would be similar to a triple bottom line methodology, integrating climate, equity and financial impacts into City decisions.

The Climate Lens Roadmap has been broken further down into four main aspects:

1. Integration of a Climate Impact Statement into Council reports in the short term.
2. Development of an overarching Climate Lens Framework.
3. Alignment of all existing policies with the CLP.
4. Integration of climate programs and tools at the department level.

Staff will continue working on Phase 1 implementation with an emphasis on the following enabling actions:

- Updating the Official Community Plan to align with the CLP.
- Establishing an internal staff committee to coordinate how all planning lenses and impact statements will be successfully integrated into Council reports.
- Incorporating a Climate Impact Statement into Council reports.

Developing the City's Climate Lens Framework will rely on adopting tools and guidelines to integrate complex climate considerations across a broad suite of sustainability objectives which requires careful analysis, considerations, and trade-offs. Staff are also planning to engage an external consultant in 2021 to help develop the complex framework and policy work required to progress to Phase 2 of the Climate Lens Roadmap.

## **OPTIONS AND IMPACTS**

### *Accessibility Impact Statement*

The current report provides a high-level overview of community wide measures to achieve policy goals of the Climate Leadership Plan. As work new initiatives and projects evolve to support the six policy directions, accessibility, as defined in the City's Accessibility Framework will be assessed through an enhanced accessibility impact statement starting in 2021.

### *2019-2022 Strategic Plan*

This report and its directions are directly aligned with to the Strategic Objective 6: Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewardship.

### *Impacts to the Financial Plan*

The Climate Action Program budget for 2021 has been submitted as part of the 2021 Financial Plan. The proposed budget includes a request that the following items be funded through the Climate Action Reserve Fund (CARF):

- Support the extension of the BC Hydro Funded position: Community Energy Specialist within the Sustainable Planning Division of SPCD
- Support the extension of the BC Hydro Funded position: Corporate Energy Specialist within Facilities Division of Parks, Recreation and Facilities
- Develop the Climate Lens Framework
- Initiate the Fleet Master Plan
- Climate Action planning and pursuing additional grant matching funds

### Grant Opportunities

In 2020, a Climate Action Grant Writer and Project Coordinator was hired to support the Climate Action Program in pursuing opportunities for external funding to leverage existing City's investments

in climate action. The Climate Action Program is currently exploring the following grant opportunities:

- Natural Resources Canada's Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (workplaces and light duty fleet) – application has been submitted in partnership with BC Hydro.
- Natural Resources Canada's Zero Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative – application has been submitted in partnership with the District of Saanich.
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities' program design study funding (regional retrofit service program) – a joint application is planned in partnership with the CRD and the District of Saanich.
- BC Hydro Community Energy Specialist position funding – an application is planned to extend funding for the existing position when current funding expires in March 2021.
- BC Hydro Corporate Energy Specialist position funding – an application is planned to extend funding for the existing position when current funding expires in August 2021.
- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - British Columbia - Green Infrastructure - Climate Change Mitigation - CleanBC Communities Fund – an application has been submitted for the HVAC and control system replacement at Oaklands Community Center with an updated total cost of \$235,100. Application of this grant was previously approved by Council on [April 25, 2019](#).

Should any of the above grant requests be successful, the City would be required to enter into a shared cost agreement with the Grant Funder (either the Province of British Columbia or the Government of Canada). The agreements are typically standard form agreements provided by senior levels of government and include indemnity and release in favour of the Provincial and Federal Governments.

#### Long Term Funding Requirements

As competition for the City's limited resources grows in the aftermath of COVID-19, it will be important for City Council to understand the level of investment required to successfully implement the plans and strategies that have been developed to achieve the CLP interim targets for 2030. The Climate Action Program has been primarily funded through a combination of Climate Action Reserve funding, grant funding and surplus funding. To understand how this will need to evolve going forward, additional financial planning/strategy development is underway and further information to define the long-term reserve funding levels needed for the Climate Action Reserve Fund and to support the overall Climate Action Program will be brought forward for further Council consideration .

#### *Official Community Plan Consistency Statement*

*"Victoria is an urban sustainability leader inspiring innovation, pride and progress towards greater ecological integrity, livability, economic vitality, and community resiliency confronting the changes facing society and the planet today and for generations to come, while building on Victoria's strengths as a harbour-centred, historic, capital city that provides exceptional quality of life through a beautiful natural setting, walkable neighbourhoods of unique character, and a thriving Downtown that is the heart of the region."*

#### *Section 12 – Climate Change and Energy Objectives:*

- 12(a) - That climate change is mitigated through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, transportation, and solid waste.
- 12(b) - New and existing buildings are energy efficient and produce few greenhouse gas emissions.

- 12(c) - That community energy consumption and generation are managed to give priority to conservation and efficiency, diversification of supply, renewable energy, and low carbon fuels.

## CONCLUSION

The CLP released in 2018 set the goals, targets, and initial action plans to get the community to an 80% GHG reduction and 100% renewable power, by 2050. The City's first CLP Progress Report shows that a most of the initial planning work has been completed and the bulk of the actions are actively underway. However, there is still much work to be done to achieve the CLP targets. Although the City has made some good progress reducing corporate emissions by 24%, municipal operations only accounts for approximately one percent of total community GHG emissions. Achieving this ambitious community wide target of 80% reduction in GHGs will be a shared responsibility. Following Council's declaration of the Climate Emergency in 2019, the City has committed to accelerating GHG reductions by focusing resources on the identified High Impact Initiatives. This year's climate action strategy recommendations identify 18 priority actions, where either continuing efforts or initiating new work would provide the most potential to accelerate climate action and make the most impactful reductions in GHGs across both corporate and community emissions.

Respectfully submitted,



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Laura Berndt  
Manager, Energy and Climate  
Action



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Philip Bellefontaine  
Director, Engineering and Public Works



**Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:**

**Date:** November 12, 2020

### List of attachments:

Appendix A: 2020 Climate Leadership Achievements  
Appendix B: 2020 CLP Progress Report