




# Areas of Focus for Greenest City Action Team Quick Start Implementation



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City of Vancouver Council  
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# Overview

## Greenest City Action Team (GCAT) Milestones:

- Feb 2009: GCAT formed
- May 2009: GCAT Quick Start Report received
- Fall 2009: GCAT 10 Year Plan to be delivered

## The purpose of this presentation is to:

- Identify actions already underway
- Identify priority actions for 2009-2011
- Highlight 6 critical Quick Start actions

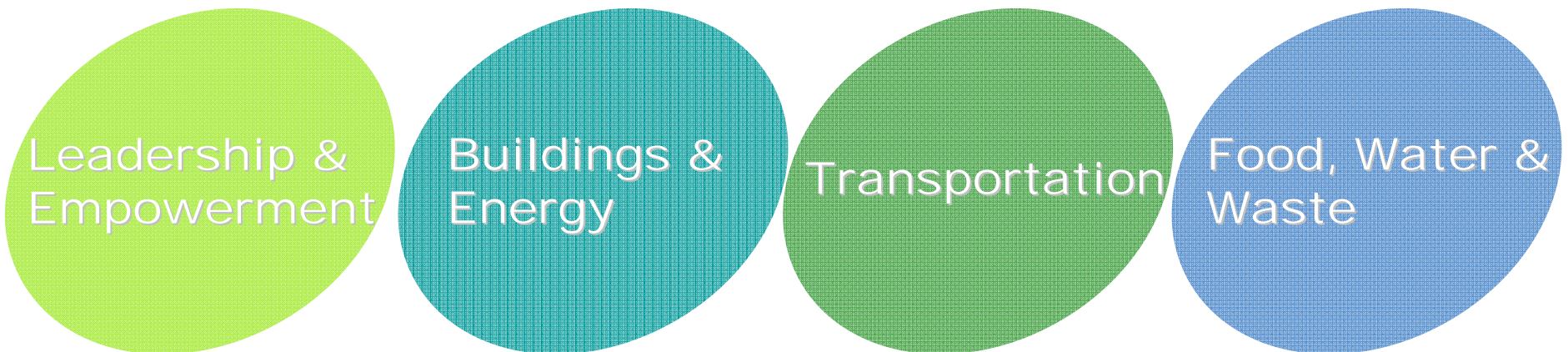


# The Greenest City Imperative

## A Bold and Ambitious Goal

To become the greenest city by 2020

### Focus Areas for Implementation of Quick Start Action



# Criteria for Prioritizing Implementation of Quick Start Actions

1

Reduce carbon dependency

2

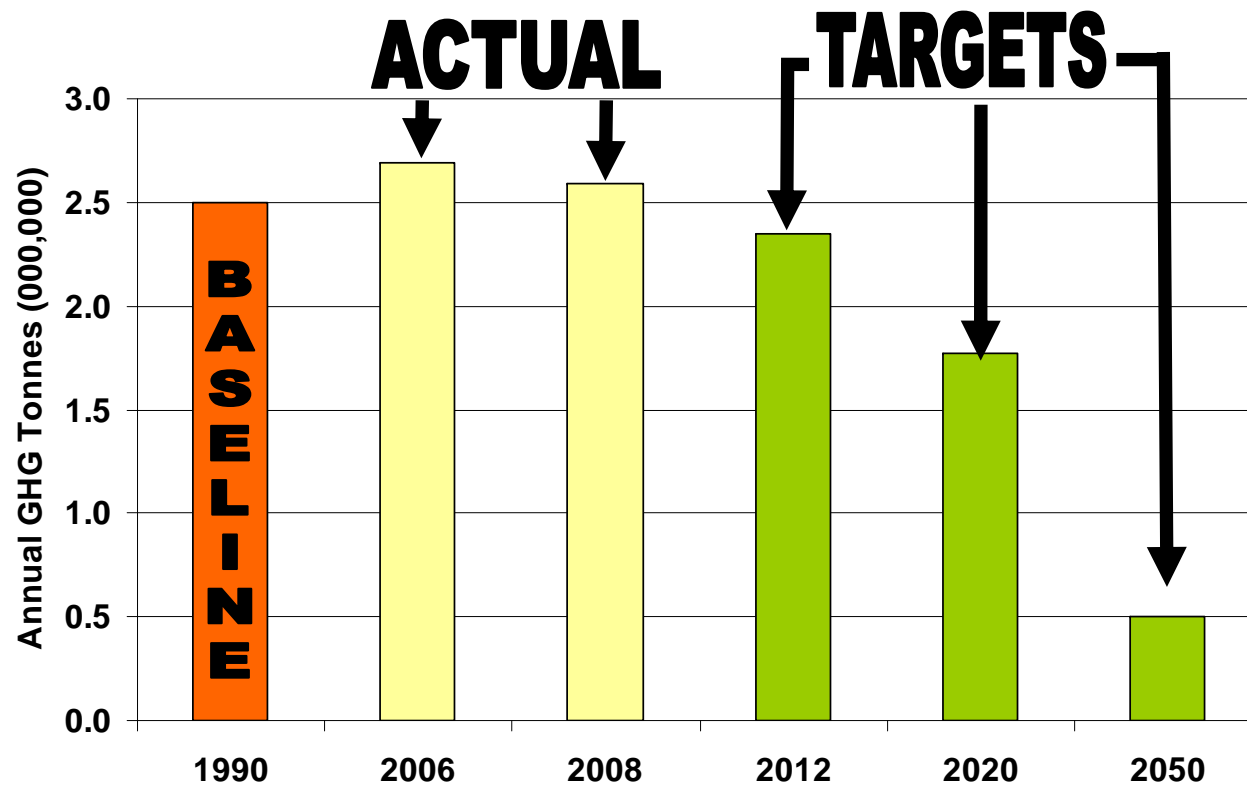
Create green jobs

3

Leverage the City's areas of influence and authority

- Reducing carbon dependency is single most critical 'green' issue for the resilience & sustainability of our community, ecosystems, and economy.
- Actions that stimulate green jobs will help catalyze Vancouver's green economy.

# Vancouver's GHG Imperative: Annual Community GHG Emissions and Targets



## Vancouver Council GHG Targets

6% below 1990 by 2012

33% below 2007 by 2020

80% below 1990 by 2050

Carbon neutral new  
buildings by 2030

# Status of 44 GCAT Quick Start Actions



# Overview of Implementation Priorities

The following slides show actions underway and implementation priorities



**Actions Underway**



**Priorities for 2009-2011**



**More Planning Required**

# Leadership and Empowerment



= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ



Green Economic Development Strategy (Action 1)

Commission a Green Tape Review (Action 3)

Adopt & Leverage a Green Procurement Strategy (Action 4)

Implement a Green Jobs Pilot Project (Action 6)

Advocate for Fed & Prov. Govt. Stimulus for Green Economy (Action 9)

Provide Priority Permitting for Green Buildings (Action 13)

Take Leadership Role on Climate Policy Advocacy (Action 14)

# Leadership and Empowerment



= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ



Increase Public Access to Green Space (Action 21)



Promote Tap Water and Discourage Use of Bottled Water (Action 36)



Plant City Hall Garden (Action 38)



Map Toxic Hotspots (Action 42)



Establish Greenest City Action Fund (Action 2)



Offer Greenest City Neighborhood Grants (Action 15)

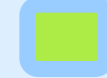


Re-invigorate OneDay Social Marketing Program (Action 19)

# Energy and Green Buildings



= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ



Require Green Building Retrofits (Action 7)



Solar Thermal Hot Water Pilot Project (Action 8)



Engage Large Emitters in GHG Reduction (Action 10)






Develop an Integrated Energy Strategy (Action 11)



Pursue an adaptive LED street light project (Action 12)

# Transportation

-  = ACTION UNDERWAY
-  = PRIORITY 2009-2011
-  = MORE PLANNING REQ

-  Make Streets Safer for Pedestrians and Cyclists (Action 24)
-  Enable Electric Mobility (Action 26)
-  Build on Olympic Transportation Initiatives (Action 27)
-  Conduct Car-Free Vancouver Trials (Action 28)
-  Advocate for Immediate Investment in Public Transit (Action 29)
-  Create a Public Bike Sharing System (Action 25)

# Food Security, Water and Waste



= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ

-  Landscaping with Native Plants (Action 20)
-  Advocate Waste Reduction Laws and Policies (Action 34)
-  Expand the Distribution of Water Saver Kits (Action 35)
-  Advocate Integrated Wastewater Treatment (Action 37)
-  Allocate Additional Land for Community Gardens and Orchards (Action 39)
-  Support Farmers Markets (Action 40)

# Food Security, Water and Waste










= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ

-  Restore Shoreline and Inter-tidal Zones (Action 22)
-  Advocate for a Healthy Pacific Ocean (Action 23)
-  Implement City Wide Composting (Action 30)
-  Shift to Bi-weekly Garbage Collection (Action 31)
-  Tackle Packaging Waste (Action 32)
-  Create an Edible Landscape Policy (Action 41)
-  Strengthen Protection from Pesticides (Action 44)

## More Planning Required



= ACTION UNDERWAY



= PRIORITY 2009-2011



= MORE PLANNING REQ

-  Revitalize Comprehensive Planning for False Creek Flats Sustainability Precinct (Action 5)
-  Sponsor a Greenest Neighbourhood Vision Contest (Action 16)
-  Co-sponsor a Children's Greenest City Art Contest (Action 17)
-  Re-establish the Mayor's Greenest City Awards (Action 18)
-  "Keep Vancouver Spectacular" All Year Round (Action 33)
-  Enact a toxics "Right to Know" Bylaw (Action 43)

# Top 6 GCAT Quick Start Actions

The following actions are critical. Without them, Vancouver is unlikely to be the “greenest city” or meet its GHG targets:

Buildings & Energy

- 1 Require Green Building Retrofits (Action 7)
- 2 Engage Large Emitters in GHG Reduction (Action 39)
- 3 Develop an Integrated Energy Strategy (Action 11)

Transportation

- 4 Advocate for Immediate Investment in Public Transit (Action 29)

Leadership & Empowerment

- 5 Develop a Green Economic Development Strategy (Action 1)

Food, Water & Waste

- 6 Implement City-wide Composting (Action 30)

# 1

## Require Green Building Retrofits

Buildings &  
Energy

### Approach:

- Harmonize regulation with incentives and financing tools
- Create Green Jobs
- Target:
  - 30% ↓ in GHG's from existing building stock by 2020



# 1

## Require Green Building Retrofits Cont'd

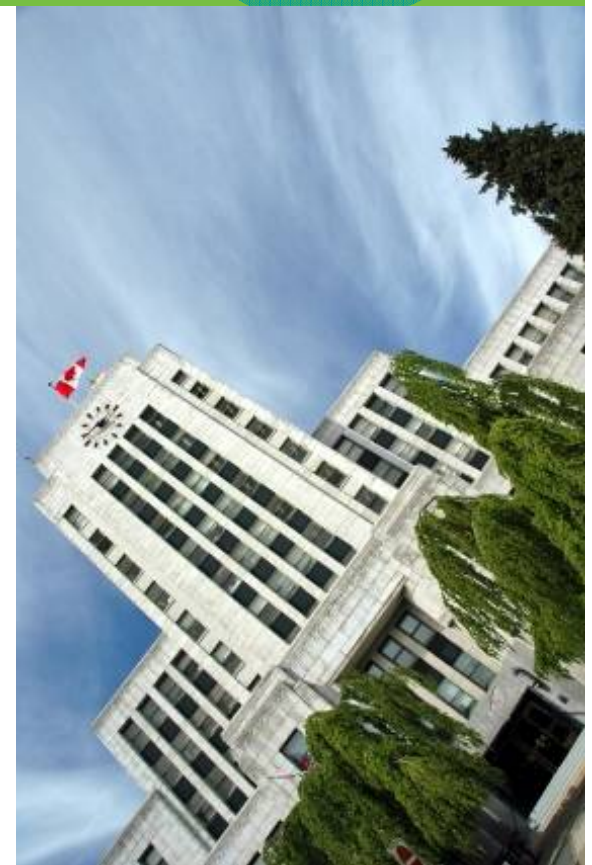
Buildings &  
Energy

### Actions Underway:

- Real-time energy monitoring in civic facilities
- Staff are developing a strategy for 1 & 2 family dwellings in consultation with:
  - Renovators
  - Builders
  - Energy modelers
  - Architects
  - Engineers
  - Utilities

### Partnership opportunities:

- BC Hydro (\$80k partner funding)
- GVHBA
- City of Seattle (policy exchange grant, \$250k value)
- Lighthouse Sustainable Building Centre



## 2

# Engage Large Emitters Around GHG Reductions

Buildings & Energy

## Approach:

- Work with 6 largest Emitters to assess opportunities to:
  - improve efficiencies
  - switch to renewable energy

## Partnership opportunities:

- 3 largest industrial emitters  
*(Rogers Sugar, Westcoast Reduction, Molson)*
- 3 large district steam system operators  
*(Central Heat (\$5k partner funding), Children's and Women's Hospital, VGH)*
- BC Hydro interested in Combined Heat and Power  
*(\$55k partner funding)*



## 2

# Engage Large Emitters Around GHG Reductions Cont'd

Buildings & Energy

### Actions Underway:

- Feasibility study of renewable energy systems for Central Heat Plant- **Due Dec '09**
- Study of energy efficiency opportunities with 3 largest industrial emitters **Due Sept '09**
  - Preliminary results suggest significant cost- effective GHG reduction opportunities



### Notes:

Industry may require political "encouragement" to catalyze action

# 3

## Develop an Integrated Energy Strategy

Buildings & Energy

### Approach:

- Systematically ↓ energy demand and ↑ use of renewable sources
- Create green jobs & attract green investment



### Partnership opportunities:

- BC Hydro (\$50k partner funding), private utilities, BC Gov't
- Development community around major redevelopments & other private sector organizations (\$15k partner funding)

# 3

## Develop an Integrated Energy Strategy Cont'd

Buildings & Energy

### Actions Underway:

- Staff Developing Carbon Neutral Building Strategy
  - low density developments → renewable energy on-site
  - high density developments → district energy systems
- Staff are mapping opportunities for district energy
- Staff exploring district energy opportunities with land owners of large sites (>2 acres)



# 4

## Advocate for Immediate Investment in Public Transit

Transportation

### Approach:

- Work with partners to invest in critical public transit infrastructure and operational improvements

### Action Underway:

- Mayor and Council supported TransLink's proposed 2010 \$450M 10-Year Plan
- Participation in UBC Line - Broadway Corridor Study with TransLink & Province



# 4

## Advocate for Immediate Investment in Public Transit Cont'd

Transportation

### Action Underway:

- Support Canadian Urban Transit Association & TransLink in seeking federal investment in public transit
- Transit priority measures (Hastings bus lanes, Signal Priority on Main St. and Broadway)



# 5

## Develop Green Economic Development Strategy

Leadership & Empowerment

### Approach:

- Create green jobs & business opportunities via City-driven initiatives on clean energy & retrofiting
- Facilitate and provide incentives for projects that demonstrate Vancouver's clean technology & green buildings
- Create start-up and organizational support for emerging business clusters like green tech
- Build City's business brand around its green credentials



# 5

## Develop Green Economic Development Strategy Cont'd

Leadership & Empowerment

### Partnership Opportunities

- Develop False Creek Flats area as a 'green tech hub', with a centre of municipal excellence in green buildings and technology.



### Actions Underway

- Business attraction & retention programs targeting organizations whose products/operations address climate change
- Green Economic Development Strategy (Due Oct 2009)
- Green Economic Development Theme for 'Vancouver House' during the Olympics

# 6

## Implement City-wide Composting

Food, Water  
& Waste

### Approach

- Develop convenient options to divert food waste from disposal (garbage)



### Partnership Opportunities

- Staff + Metro Vancouver developing a residential food waste diversion program & coordinating available composting capacity and implementation timelines.

# 6

## Implement City-wide Composting Cont'd

Food, Water  
& Waste

### Actions Underway

- Phase 1 - Staff mapping options for expanded organics collection program for the single family sector.
- Preferred option: implementation in early 2010. Report to Council is being prepared.
- Phase 2 - Develop food waste diversion options for multi-family and commercial sectors as part of Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Challenge.



# Summary and Next Steps

- Climate Change is the 'green issue of our time'. Priority actions are focused on reducing carbon dependency
- City is pursuing opportunities to do this while creating green jobs and stimulating local economy
- 3/4 of actions have work underway or are a priority for implementation in 2009-2011.
  - More planning work required on remaining actions
- Staff & City Manager assessing high level scope and resource requirements for actions.
- The GCAT 10 Year Plan is expected in October.
  - Staff to report back to Council on integration of priorities and resources for Quick Start and 10 Year Plan actions

Thank you