

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 4/12/2023 8:37:53 AM  
**Subject:** Motion B2 - Improving Climate Resilience and Reducing Emissions in Existing Multi-Family Buildings

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Good morning Mayor and Council,

Yesterday staff received a few questions about today's upcoming motion B2 Improving Climate Resilience and Reducing Emissions in Existing Multi-Family Buildings. Please see questions and answers below.

1. What work have staff already been doing on retrofits on existing multi-family buildings? (Maybe there is a past memo or report that can be re-circulated so all of Council better understands what's already happening?)

The City has done a few GHG projects related to multi-family buildings, or MURBs. Some recent examples are listed below.

- Completed preliminary research and consultation on MURB retrofit opportunities and barriers in 2022.
- Clarified CoV regulations to ensure exterior insulation would not be counted as additional floor area to simplify permitting when energy retrofits are done.
- Granted \$1.5M (with \$1.5M match from Province) to Landlord BC (LLBC) to support heat pump retrofits in existing purpose built rental buildings. LLBC, with CoV and Province input, is on-track to launch Resilient Rental Retrofit Program this fall.
- Granted \$2M to BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA) to provide enhanced incentives and owner supports for heat pump retrofits. The Identification/recruitment of interested buildings in Vancouver began in March.
- Partnered with FortisBC, BC Housing, & BCNPHA on a deep emissions retrofit pilot (currently expecting 78% GHG reduction) for a seniors non-market housing complex downtown. Work to start in Q3 2023.

2. Specifically can you provide an update on work underway with the Condominium association around making the installation of heat pumps easier?

The City of Vancouver partnered with Metro Vancouver to develop and run the initial Strata Energy Advisor program, which ended a few years ago. CoV staff are currently working with Metro staff and others to plan an improved program to support stratas which could be leveraged once we have established the tools and process to prioritize opportunities and incentives to support meaningful action.

The City has also begun to improve heat pump permitting clarity to simplify retrofit permitting for Condominium Association members and for City of Vancouver staff.

3. Also can you provide an update or short summary of the pilot project(s) that the city is helping fund with the BCNPHA and Landlord BC around retrofitting rental and non-market housing?

See 1) above.

4. Finally, if a new incentive-based pilot project and design challenge were to come from the existing climate action budget, what would need to be cut or delayed?

Wait times for federal [Greener Homes](#) heat pump incentives have improved enabling Vancouver to reduce incentives for heat pump retrofits in detached homes; allowing staff to redirect these funds to higher impact opportunities, like MURBs. As well, funding for MURB retrofits is earmarked in the 2023-2026 Capital Plan.

Lastly, there is strong preliminary interest from BC Hydro and Province on MURB heat pump incentives, which creates potential for an integrated incentive /support offering that would allow City investment to be leveraged and multiplied. Therefore it is not anticipated that this new program would result in cuts or delays.

Best,  
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷmək̕wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Snw̓x̓w̓č̓w̓mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.