

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
"Kelley, Gil" <Gil.Kelley@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 4/28/2020 8:28:52 PM  
**Subject:** Climate Emergency Requirements for Housing 3-storeys and Under

Good Evening Mayor and Members of the City Council,

In response to a question by a Councillor seeking clarification regarding application of the proposed energy efficiency standards to character and heritage homes, proposed in item 3 on tomorrow's Standing Committee agenda, Council should know that modest home renovations of Heritage and Character homes are already excluded from the recommended changes in this report. Further, staff plan to update City guidelines in collaboration with the Vancouver Heritage Foundation to ensure that people planning small renovations are aware and able to apply relaxations to encourage building retention.

With regard to additions (new construction adding to an existing home) and infill (a fully new building on a lot with an existing physically separate home) projects, these projects are not presently excluded from meeting the Vancouver Building Bylaw, and staff DO NOT recommend excluding these forms of new construction from the requirements in this report.

In these cases, this new construction work does not undermine the character nor create hardships for the existing homes. Excluding these construction projects would only undermine our climate emergency objectives. Included below is an example of a character home which is adding an additional storey and an addition at the rear. The current VBBL treats this home as new, and staff recommend that practice continue.





If you have questions regarding this clarification, please direct them to Gil Kelley, General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.

Thank you.

Sadhu

**Sadhu Aufochs Johnston** | City Manager  
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver  
[sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca](mailto:sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca)  
604.873.7627



*The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*