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**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
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Greetings Mayor and Council

Here is another question and answer from staff:

If we move to wooden buildings, what does this mean for deforestation? Isn't that bad? Also although concrete has a high carbon foot print, doesn't it last longer??

8% of worldwide emissions are due to concrete production and mass timber is one of the alternatives. BC has good sustainable forest practices that will ensure we don't overharvest our forests. Mass timber used for larger buildings uses scrap wood materials mixed with other wood products and therefore is quite sustainable, plus it actually sequesters GHG emissions. Wood can last as long as concrete and typically buildings are torn down to change their use, not because they wear out. Mass timber can also be designed to be as fire resistant as concrete and will lead to more local jobs. The BC gov't is aligned in this work and has committed many gov't buildings, including St Paul's hospital to be constructed of mass timber. It is also important to note that mass timber isn't the only way to reduce embodied emissions. We would also want to explore lower carbon blends of concrete, reduced parking, and lower carbon forms of insulation as ways of reducing embodied emissions.

Best

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