

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>

"Smith, Doug \ (Sustainability)" <doug.smith@vancouver.ca>

Date: 1/31/2020 2:14:18 PM

Subject: Memo - Update on Climate Emergency Public Engagement

Attachments: Memo to Mayor & Council - Update on Climate Emergency Public Engagement....pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a memo from the Gil Kelley, GM of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, on the current status of the Climate Emergency Response work, which is an action while planning initiative under the Vancouver Plan, including an invitation to the February 3 launch event at the Orpheum.

In summary:

- The Climate emergency response and engagement strategies are being closely aligned with and are a key component of the Vancouver Plan.
- Vancouver residents are very concerned about the climate crisis and want to see greater government action in response. At the same time, only a small minority accurately identify the use of natural gas in buildings, and gasoline and diesel in transportation as the primary contributors to climate change in Vancouver.
- Staff are launching the public engagement phase of the Climate Emergency Action Plan to test draft actions designed to put the City on track for our 2030 targets. The public engagement launches on February 3rd with an event at the Orpheum, and the process runs through April 22 (Earth Day's 50th anniversary).
- While the draft actions are designed as a package, staff consider four to have the greatest potential impact on carbon pollution and the most likely to be challenging for residents and businesses. They are:
 - carbon regulations for existing buildings,
 - requirements for low carbon construction materials in new buildings,
 - transport pricing that supports a shift to active transportation and transit (a Council briefing on this is planned for Feb 10 2020), and
 - parking pricing that accelerates the transition to electric vehicles.
- Staff continue to advance the Accelerated Actions from the Climate Emergency Response report in April 2019. These include updated carbon emission limits for new buildings, and the implementation of transit priority on 41st Avenue.

Should you have any questions, please contact Gil Kelley at 604.873.7456/ Gil.Kelley@vancouver.ca or Doug Smith, Sustainability Director at 604.829.4308/ Doug.Smith@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



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

MEMORANDUM

January 30, 2020

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office

FROM: Gil Kelley
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Update on Climate Emergency Public Engagement – Action While Planning Initiative under the Vancouver Plan

Summary

- The Climate Emergency Response is an Action while Planning under the Vancouver Plan.
- Vancouver residents are very concerned about the climate crisis and want to see greater government action in response. At the same time, only a small minority accurately identify the use of natural gas in buildings, and gasoline and diesel in transportation as the primary contributors to climate change in Vancouver.
- Staff are launching the public engagement phase of the Climate Emergency Action Plan to test draft actions designed to put the City on track for our 2030 targets. The public engagement launches on February 3rd with an event at the Orpheum, and the process runs through April 22 (Earth Day's 50th anniversary).
- While the draft actions are designed as a package, staff consider four to have the greatest potential impact on carbon pollution and the most likely to be challenging for residents and businesses. They are: carbon regulations for existing buildings, requirements for low carbon construction materials in new buildings, transport pricing that supports a shift to active transportation and transit, and parking pricing that accelerates the transition to electric vehicles.
- Staff continue to advance the Accelerated Actions from the Climate Emergency Response report in April 2019. These include updated carbon emission limits for new buildings, and the implementation of transit priority on 41st Avenue.

State of Public Knowledge

- Last fall, staff commissioned some baseline public opinion research on the climate crisis and potential solutions. The main findings were:
 - 92% of Vancouver residents are concerned or deeply concerned about climate change.
 - Nearly 60% of Vancouver's carbon pollution comes from using natural gas for space and hot water heating, and almost 40% comes from gasoline and diesel vehicles. However, only 7% of residents accurately identified building heat and hot water as the largest contributor to climate change in Vancouver.
- Based on these findings, an ongoing objective of our public communications and engagement will be to educate Vancouver residents on the main local sources of carbon pollution and the opportunities to reduce them.

Public Engagement Process

- Staff in the Vancouver Plan and Climate Emergency teams are consulting in a coordinated way, working closely to collaborate on public engagement. They will be cross-promoting engagement events and are exploring opportunities to jointly host events.
- Staff are running the public engagement phase of the Climate Emergency Action Plan from February 3rd at a launch at the Orpheum through April 22 (the 50th anniversary of Earth Day).
- The main purpose of the public engagement will be to test draft actions that have been designed to put the City on track for the 2030 climate emergency targets.
- Dialogue kits will be at the core of the engagement process. These kits, which will be available on our website and through libraries starting February 14th, can be used by various groups (e.g. families, co-workers, club members, businesses, organizations, students, religious congregation members, etc.) to host their own conversations and provide online feedback. The kits will provide instructions to allow anyone to host a dialogue and submit results to the City in a consistent format, and optional training on how to host a dialogue will also be available.
- During the engagement period, the City will host seven public workshops (four in person and three online) using the dialogue kits. We will work with partners to deliver dialogues in Mandarin, Cantonese, and Punjabi, and to reach youth audiences and the business community. An online survey will also be available for individuals wanting to provide feedback without attending a dialogue.
- In parallel to the public engagement process, we have initiated a Climate and Equity Working Group as one of the ways we're focusing more on equity in the Climate Emergency Action Plan. The first of 6 workshops was January 23rd.

Key Actions Being Tested Through Engagement

- The draft actions being tested through the engagement are designed to get on track for the City's 2030 targets. They fit within a 5-year time horizon and are intended to complement the longer term ideas explored through Vancouver Plan. In parallel, staff continue to advance the Accelerated Actions from the Climate Emergency Response report in April 2019. These include updated carbon emission limits for new buildings designed to achieve zero emissions space and hot water heating, and the implementation of transit priority on 41st Avenue.

- While the draft actions are designed as a package, staff consider four to have the greatest potential impact on carbon pollution and the most likely to be challenging for residents and businesses. They are:
 - a. *Regulate Carbon Emissions from Existing Buildings*: Set a series of carbon emission limits for buildings that owners and managers will need to meet. The limits will be modest, and apply to the largest buildings, when they start in 2025, with all building types covered by 2030 and limits decreasing every five years. The limits will encourage owners and managers to better understand their building's emissions, and create a plan to reduce them. By providing clarity on requirements over a longer time frame, it will be easier to coordinate with other planned work, and in many cases meet the requirements ahead of schedule.
 - b. *Low Carbon Building Material Requirements*: Implement new rules that reduce the carbon pollution from the materials in new buildings. These policy and building code requirements will apply to both private and public developments. They'll require developers to conduct a whole-building life-cycle assessment, and demonstrate how their materials and construction practices are lowering emissions
 - c. *Transport Pricing in the Metro Core*: Many cities around the world use, or are working toward, a form of transport pricing to improve air quality, reduce pollution, reduce noise, manage congestion, and provide more space for sustainable modes of transportation. Over the next three years, we will develop a Transport Pricing model that includes a charge for vehicle trips into the metro core area that will help shift people from driving to transit or active transportation. Transport Pricing would be implemented by 2025, and would be supported by faster and more reliable bus service, the Broadway subway, and an expanded active transportation network.
 - d. *Increase the Cost of Parking for Gas and Diesel Vehicles*: Setting the cost of parking for gas and diesel vehicles higher than zero emissions vehicles is a common approach to encourage the transition to zero emissions vehicles. We are initially proposing doing this in two ways. First, by adding a surcharge to parking meter rates for gas and diesel vehicles. Second, by adding a more significant surcharge to street parking permits that would apply to the city-wide residential permit parking system.
- The full list of draft actions being tested through the engagement process is included as Appendix A.
- The four key actions and the full list in Appendix A map on to Big Moves 2, 3, 4 and 5 from the April 2019 Climate Emergency Response report. Staff will not be testing actions for Big Move 1 (complete communities) because that work is better positioned within the Vancouver Plan. Staff will not be testing actions for Big Move 6 (restored forests and coasts) because the work is at a more preliminary stage and actions will not be ready by October 2020.

- The engagement process will also provide information on the carbon pollution associated with food and consumption. While these are outside the scope of the draft actions being tested, they are material sources of carbon pollution and provide a useful entry point to conversations about the full range of ways people can take meaningful climate action.

Opportunities for Mayor and Council to Support the Engagement

If Mayor and Council are interested in supporting the public engagement process, here are some opportunities:

- *Attend events.* The launch event will be at the Orpheum on February 3 and the closing event will be April 22 (location tbd). A full schedule of City-led dialogues will be available at vancouver.ca/climateemergency as of February 3 and community-led dialogues will be added as they emerge throughout the engagement window.
- *Promote the engagement process.* The more people are able to participate in the process, the more effective it will be. The best way to do this is to encourage visits to vancouver.ca/climateemergency to learn how to attend or host a dialogue, and to sign up for the Greenest City email list to be notified of opportunities.
- *Keep an eye open* for upcoming notifications about the Vancouver Plan, of which the Climate Emergency Response is an Action While Planning initiative.
- *Get further informed.* If you have any follow-up questions about the process or the draft actions, please reach out to Doug Smith, Sustainability Director (doug.smith@vancouver.ca | 604.829.4308).



Gil Kelley, FAICP
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

604.873.7456 | gil.kelley@vancouver.ca

Appendix – Draft Actions Included in Public Engagement Process

Target	Draft Actions
Big Move 1 – Walkable, complete communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will not be testing actions for Big Move 1 because that work is better positioned within the Vancouver Plan.
Big Move 2 – Safe and convenient active transportation and transit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand and Improve our Walking/Rolling, Biking Network • Reduce Reliance Motor Vehicle in the Broadway Plan Area and the Jericho Lands • Improve Bus Speed and Reliability • Provide city-wide education, awareness and promotion to encourage more walking, biking and transit use, especially for employees and students. • Implement Transport Pricing in the Metro Core • Reduce parking and support sustainable transportation choices in new developments • Develop a Neighbourhood Transportation ‘Green Block’ Strategy
Big Move 3 – Zero emission cars, trucks, and buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the Public Charging Network • Regulate and Incentivize Zero-Emission Vehicle Charging in Buildings • Incentivize and Regulate Zero-Emission Vehicles in Car Share, Taxi, and Ride-Hail Vehicles • Develop a Curb Space Management Strategy • Increase the Cost of Parking for Gas and Diesel Vehicles
Big Move 4 – Zero emissions space and hot water heating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate Carbon Emissions from Existing Buildings • Increase Ability for Building Owners and Managers, Trades and Suppliers to Support Zero Emissions Buildings • Remove Barriers and Provide Incentives for Zero Emissions Buildings • Work with Public and Private Utilities to Increase Supply of Near Zero Emissions Energy • Develop Strategy for Transitioning the Neighbourhood Energy Utility to 100% Renewable Energy • Expand Service Area for Vancouver’s Neighbourhood Energy Utility
Big Move 5 – Low carbon construction materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require Low Carbon Building Materials in New Construction • Remove Barriers and Provide Incentives for Buildings with Lower Carbon Materials • Support Professional Networks Advancing New Buildings with Low Carbon Materials • Support Low Carbon Construction Planning and Strategies
Big Move 6 – Restored forests and coasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will not be testing actions for Big Move 6 because the work is at a more preliminary stage and actions will not be ready by October 2020.