

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 9/26/2023 11:55:26 AM
Subject: Upcoming news release: City pledges full commitment to provincial housing targets (September 26, 2023)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below news release on September 26 regarding the City's commitment to the provincial housing targets, which will be announced today by Minister Kahlon at 2 PM. Please keep this news release embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account at around 3 PM.

Maria will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links, once these are live.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City of Vancouver
News Release
September 26, 2023

City pledges full commitment to provincial housing targets

The City of Vancouver is dedicated to aligning with [the Province's housing targets](#) [LINK to NR], as announced today in Saanich by Minister of Housing Ravi Kahlon, and remains steadfast in its commitment to improving housing availability in Vancouver.

"Vancouver is ready to take the lead on building new housing. We have said getting homes built requires an all hands on deck approach, and we are pleased to see clear support from the Province to build the homes that we need to tackle the housing crisis head on," said Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim. "The City of Vancouver is fully committed to do what it takes to make sure we have attainable housing for everyone who calls our city home."

Over the next five years, the City will be working diligently to meet or exceed the provincial target of 28,900 new completed units of housing.

"Targets involving completion will require the joint effort of the City and the Province to manage factors that are outside many municipalities' control," says City Manager Paul Mochrie. "These include access to funding and financing for market and non-market developers, high interest rates, increased cost of construction and availability of labour. While municipal governments, including Vancouver, cannot control many of the factors affecting completion of housing projects, we can control approvals and we are focused intensely on simplifying and expediting that process."

The City has already taken substantial steps to improve housing approvals, including by introducing new

technologies and simplifying regulations to [streamline permitting](#) [LINK TO NR]. Recently, Council also approved a proposal to evolve low-density zones to allow multiplexes and [enable missing middle housing](#) [LINK TO NR]. Together, these initiatives will make it easier to build new housing with simpler rules and processes.

The City looks forward to collaborating with the Province to meet or exceed the provincial housing targets and make meaningful progress on the housing crisis.

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