

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>

To: "[Direct to Mayor and Council - DL](#)"

Date: 3/1/2024 11:21:20 AM

Subject: CM: Council Memo - Improving Climate Resilience and Reducing Emissions in Existing Multi-Family Buildings - RTS#015713

Attachments: Memo to Mayor & Council - Memo - Improving Climate Resilience and Reducing Emissions in Existing Multi-Family Buildings.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Doug Smith, in response to an April 2023 Council motion to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve resilience in multi-family buildings ([see here](#)).

In summary:

- The City is collaborating with the Province and BC Hydro to deliver incentives for installation of heat pumps in multi-family buildings.
- The City is collaborating with the Province, BC Hydro, Metro Vancouver, and the Zero Emission Innovation Centre to design a province-wide multi-family retrofit support program, aimed for Spring 2024 launch.
- Conversations are ongoing to create a design competition focusing on innovative retrofit solutions to reduce emissions and enhance resilience in multi-family buildings.

Should you have any questions, please contact Doug Smith (doug.smith@vancouver.ca).

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)

City Manager

City of Vancouver

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

February 27, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Andrea Law, General Manager, Development, Buildings & Licensing
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Doug Smith
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Improving Climate Resilience and Reducing Emissions in Existing Multi-Family Buildings

RTS #: 015713

In April 2023, Council approved a motion to reduce green house gas emissions ([see here](#)) that directed staff to:

1. explore the establishment of an incentive-based pilot program for condos, rental apartments and care homes;
2. explore innovative retrofit solutions through a design competition; and
3. partner with other levels of government and BC Hydro to scale-up the incentives offered to multifamily building owners in Vancouver.

This memo provides an update on the progress made by staff and the next steps before bringing recommendations to Council later in 2024.

Following the Council motion City staff initiated a working group with counterparts in the BC Government and BC Hydro. A summary of progress made through the end of 2023 and next steps is provided below.

Heat Pump and Complementary Retrofit Incentives

The Province, through the CleanBC Better Buildings program, will be offering several incentives for installation of heat pumps in multi-family buildings. The incentives will allow for municipalities to offer top-up funding in their respective jurisdictions. The program details will be announced by the Province this March for the fiscal year starting April 2024. In advance, City staff are working

with their counterparts at BC Hydro and the Province to determine appropriate top-up amounts from the City and will bring this back to Council for direction.

Multifamily Retrofit Support Programs

Through a collaboration involving CleanBC, BC Hydro, Metro Vancouver, City of Vancouver and the Zero Emission Innovation Centre (ZEIC), a province-wide multifamily retrofit support program is being designed and will be launched in Spring 2024. The partners will also develop a condo-focused support program. More details will be shared with Council as this work progresses.

Design Competition for Innovative Retrofit Solutions

City staff have been in discussion with experts and stakeholders since Spring 2023 to develop a design competition aimed at catalyzing innovative solutions to retrofitting multi-family buildings and overcoming challenges faced by these buildings when looking to install heat pumps. A framework for this competition is being finalized before bringing it to Council for consideration.

Next Steps

Based on the March 2024 timing of the Provincial government approval of funding and program details and the additional work required to refine the design competition and identify potential partners, City staff are planning to bring a report to Council for consideration in Q3 2024.

Please forward any questions to me at doug.smith@vancouver.ca.



Doug Smith
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

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