

August 25<sup>th</sup> 2021

## **Energy Benchmarking Regulation - FAQ**

City staff are currently researching and consulting stakeholders to develop recommendations for a building energy benchmarking regulation that will be brought to City Council for consideration in May 2022. This list of questions and answers reflects City staff's current working draft assumptions regarding the potential future benchmarking regulation.

### **Will this be a monthly or annual compliance requirement?**

Building owners would be required to report their building's monthly energy and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions information for the entire calendar year once per year.

### **How will I know that my building is covered by the regulation?**

City of Vancouver (City) will send communication to all building owners that are covered under the regulation. Owners will be encouraged to check if their building is included in the covered building list that may be available on the program webpage at a later date.

### **Will the regulation require mandatory audits and retrofits?**

No. The regulation will be meant to foster a standardized benchmarking practice by building owners and managers. It will be the owner's choice whether to invest in energy efficiency or not.

### **Will there be exemptions to compliance?**

Exemptions will exist for some major use types such as industrial and agricultural processes, where the carbon intensity is not determined by space and hot water heating needs. Buildings with less than a year's occupancy will also be exempted. The City will consult stakeholders on the list of exemptions as a part of the engagement process.

### **How would I know if my building is in compliance?**

The City will send communication confirming compliance or non-compliance. It will be the owner's responsibility to correct the errors and bring their buildings under compliance.

### **What information will be publicly disclosed and how?**

Individual building level energy or GHG emissions data will not be publicly disclosed. Any data disclosed by the City will be consolidated by property type or groups. Summary data disclosed will be on the program webpage, council reports and any other program reports.

### **How much will it cost the building owner to comply?**

City staff are conducting research to determine if buildings covered by the future regulation will need to pay an annual program management fee associated with submitting their data to the City. Some building may choose to hire a consultant or other professional to enter and submit the required data to the City, which would entail additional costs to the owner.

**Will there be penalties for non-compliance?**

Buildings that do not comply after multiple reminders and adequate time extension may receive a notice of violation with assessed monetary fines as determined by the City.

**How can I share feedback and find out more about this?**

To send feedback to City staff and to sign up to receive updates on energy benchmarking requirements and future engagement events, you can send an email to [energybenchmarking@vancouver.ca](mailto:energybenchmarking@vancouver.ca).