

# APPROVED AND EMERGING POLICIES

**Several existing city-wide and regional policies, initiatives or charters that have been approved by Vancouver City Council will play a role in guiding the community planning process in the West End.**

## APPROVED POLICIES

### Greenest City Action Plan (2011)

The Greenest City 2020 Action Plan provides a path towards a greener future for our community and planet. It's our road map to becoming the greenest city in the world by 2020. The plan is divided into 10 smaller plans, each with a long-term (year 2050) goal and medium-term (year 2020) targets. Together, these 10 plans address three overarching areas of focus: reducing carbon, reducing waste, and supporting healthy ecosystems.

### Housing and Homelessness Strategy (2011)

The strategy guides the City's overall direction for housing over the next 10 years. It identifies the different kinds of housing necessary to meet the needs of our citizens, as well as ways to improve and better preserve the housing we currently have. The City faces significant challenges at all points along the housing continuum, from the provision of emergency shelters to home ownership. The strategy includes directions to improve overall housing affordability and diversity.

### Vancouver Economic Action Strategy (2012)

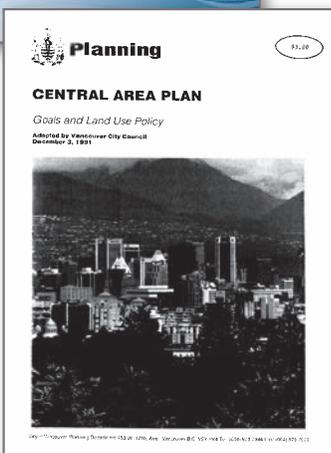
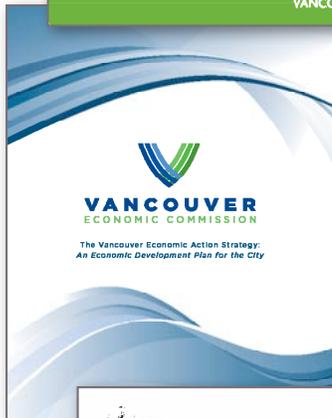
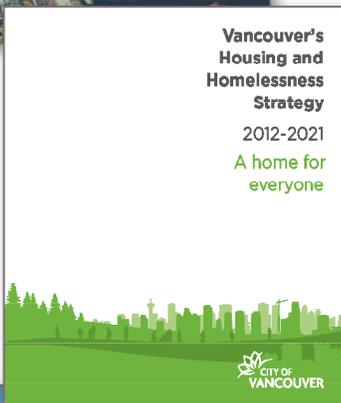
This strategy has three major areas of focus, each containing a series of actions and outcomes that will be measured over the next three to five years:

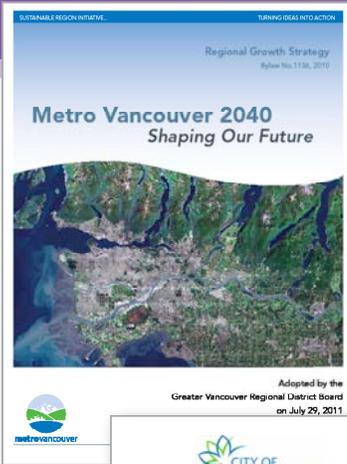
1. Create a healthy climate for growth and prosperity.
2. Provide support for local business, new investment and global trade.
3. Focus on people - attract and retain human capital.

The strategy focuses on changes that will continually improve Vancouver's business climate, support existing local businesses, facilitate new investment, and attract the human capital essential to the future. It highlights a number of major commitments that will help transform how business growth is fostered and articulates how program development is guided by opportunities to support and work closely with key partners who share responsibility in influencing economic prosperity.

### Central Area Plan (1991)

This plan balanced employment growth and transportation capacity by putting more residents close to jobs and concentrating more jobs in areas well-served by transit. This helped create demand for new residential development opportunities in the Metro Core to accommodate long-term residential growth near jobs and amenities.





**Regional Growth Strategy (2011)**

This “Regional Growth” strategy looks forward to 2040 and provides the land use framework for utilities planning (water, liquid waste and solid waste), transportation, housing and air quality.

It addresses how the region will accommodate the more than one million people and 600,000 new jobs that are expected to come to Metro Vancouver in the next 30 years. The five goals of the plan address how to manage this growth in a way that enhances the livability and sustainability of the region.



**Culture Plan (2008)**

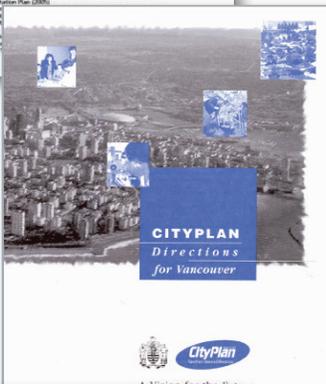
The central vision of this 10-year plan is to promote and enhance the culture and creative diversity of Vancouver to the benefit of our citizens, creative community and visitors. The plan will build upon Vancouver’s current diverse and plentiful artistic and entertainment offerings to create a new dynamism and pride in our cultural life.



**Metro Core Jobs and Economy Land Use Plan (2009)**

This long-term land use policy plan aims to accommodate the future economy and jobs in the core of Vancouver. In 2009, Council adopted a Downtown Official Development Plan Rezoning Policy, the Office Conversion Policy and a series of zoning changes affecting the Central Business District (CBD), CBD Shoulder and other areas of Downtown.

A portion of the Central Business District falls within the West End Community Plan boundary. With this work recently approved by Council, staff recommend that the West End Community Plan not contemplate land use changes within the Central Business District. However, public realm improvements in this area will be considered.



**CityPlan (1995)**

Through the CityPlan process, Vancouver residents created a plan for a city of neighbourhoods where there is a sense of community for all ages and cultures; a healthy economy and environment; and opportunities for people to have a say in the decisions that affect their neighbourhoods and their lives. To realize this overall shared vision, the CityPlan process identified directions on a range of issues facing Vancouver in the years and decades following adoption of the plan. Themes include neighbourhood character, transportation, arts, housing and community services.



**Heritage Conservation Program (1983)**

The Heritage Conservation Program, initiated by City Council in April 1983, created a comprehensive management program to identify the city’s heritage resources (Vancouver Heritage Register), develop incentives to assist in the conservation of those resources and create a greater awareness and understanding of our built heritage.

## EMERGING POLICIES

### Mayor's Task Force on Housing Affordability (ongoing)

The Mayor's Task Force is examining conditions in Vancouver which may act as barriers to the creation of affordable housing and looking at how to protect and increase affordable housing. Recommendations outlined in their interim report "Bold Ideas Towards an Affordable City" are:

- Increase the supply and diversity of affordable housing.
- Enhance the City's and the community's capacity to deliver affordable rental and social housing.
- Protect existing social and affordable rental housing and explore opportunities to renew and expand the stock.
- Streamline and create more certainty and clarity in the regulatory process and improve public engagement.

### Transportation 2040 (ongoing)

The City is developing Transportation 2040, a plan that supports an inclusive, healthy, prosperous, and livable future for Vancouver. The plan will guide transportation decisions for how people and goods will move in and around Vancouver over the next 30 years. It's our road map for a future where walking, cycling, and transit are attractive options for getting around.

### Social Sustainability and Social Amenities Planning (ongoing)

The City's social sustainability effort focuses on quality of life issues with the goal of doing the very best we can within our mandated responsibility to ensure the well-being of the city's residents. The three key areas of work include: quality of life research, social development, and the formulation of a broad social sustainability "lens" through which to engage in municipal activities.

### Healthy City Strategy (ongoing)

Along with its key partner Vancouver Coastal Health, the City is developing a long-term strategy for healthier people, healthier places and a healthier planet, building on previous and current efforts to address urban health issues through prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and regulation/enforcement. The Healthy City Strategy focuses on three key areas:

- Towards Healthy People: Taking care of the basics.
- Towards Healthy Communities: Promoting inclusion, belonging and connectedness.
- Towards Healthy Environments: Ensuring livability now and into the future.

### Food Strategy (ongoing)

The Vancouver Food Charter, adopted in 2007, presents a vision for a food system that benefits our community and the environment. It sets out the city's commitment to develop a just and sustainable food system in which production, processing, distribution, consumption and disposal are integrated to enhance environmental health, economic vitality, and human health and social equity.

The Food Strategy, which is an action plan that will implement the Food Charter's vision, is currently under development. The strategy has five key goals:

1. Create food-friendly neighbourhoods.
2. Empower residents to take action.
3. Use food to create a healthy and equitable city.
4. Make food a centrepiece of Vancouver's green economy.
5. Advocate for a just and sustainable food system with partners and all levels of government.