

2021 Priorities and Work Plan

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Sean Galloway

DIRECTOR, REGIONAL PLANNING & ELECTORAL
AREA SERVICES

Regional Planning Committee Meeting – January 14, 2021

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Regional Planning Committee



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Committee Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Regional Planning Committee is the standing committee that provides advice and recommendations to the MVRD Board on policies, bylaws, plans, programs, budgets and issues related to:

- Metro 2040
- Shaping Growth
- Industrial and Employment Lands
- Complete Communities
- Agriculture
- Environment

Regional Planning

- Provide a strategic, long-range, cross-boundary, interdisciplinary lens
- Responsible for developing, implementing and stewarding *Metro 2040*, the regional growth strategy

Core Services

- Data and monitoring
- Policy research
- Convene on planning issues of regional interest
- Advocacy
- Provide a planning resource
- Leadership and Innovation

Regional Planning Portfolios & Reporting

Growth Management and Transportation

Metro 2040

Shaping Growth (UCB, Urban Centres and Corridors)

Complete Communities (Housing, Transportation, Health, Services)

Job Lands (Industrial, Office and Employment)

Electoral Area and Environment

Agriculture (Land and Food Systems)

Environment (Ecological Health and Connectivity)

Electoral Area A

Planning Analytics

Data and Projections

Regional Planning Committee (L)

Liquid Waste (I)

Housing (I)

Climate Action Committee (L)

Electoral Area Committee (L)

Service to all functions

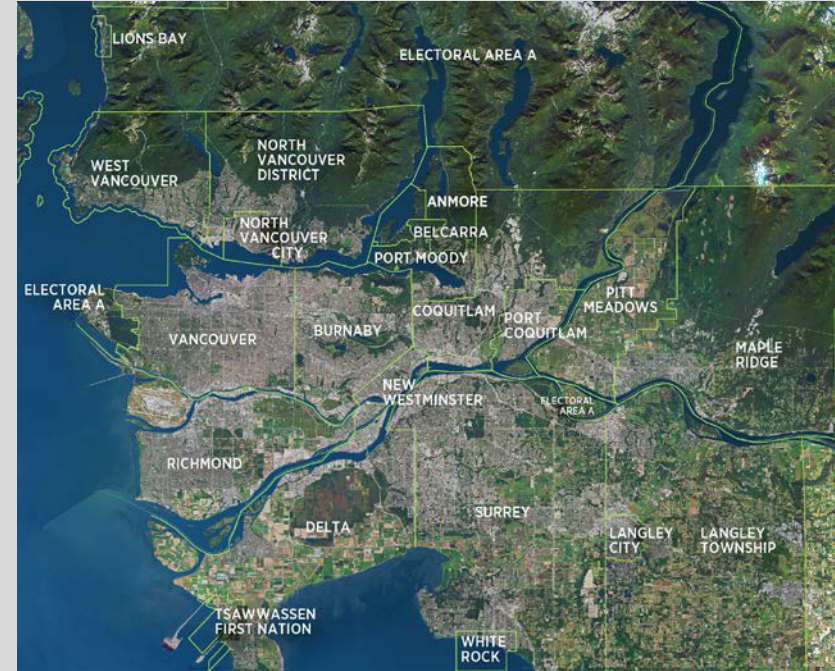
2020 Highlights

- *Metro 2050* = Completed 8 policy reviews, significant engagement
- Regional Industrial Lands Strategy
- Covid-19 Task Force data presentations
- Comments on BC's Future of Food Report
- Urban Declaration



2021 Work Plan Priorities

- *Metro 2050* = continued focal point
- Develop Metro 2050 policy
- Circulate draft for comment / significant engagement with signatories in Q4
- Concurrent projects
 - Land Use Model Development
 - Housing and Transportation Cost Burden Study Update
 - Regional Industrial Lands Strategy implementation
 - 2021 Regional Agricultural Land Use Inventory





Thank you



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Climate Change and Natural Hazards

METRO 2040 POLICY REVIEW - RECOMMENDATIONS

Edward Nichol

Regional Planner, Regional Planning and Housing Services

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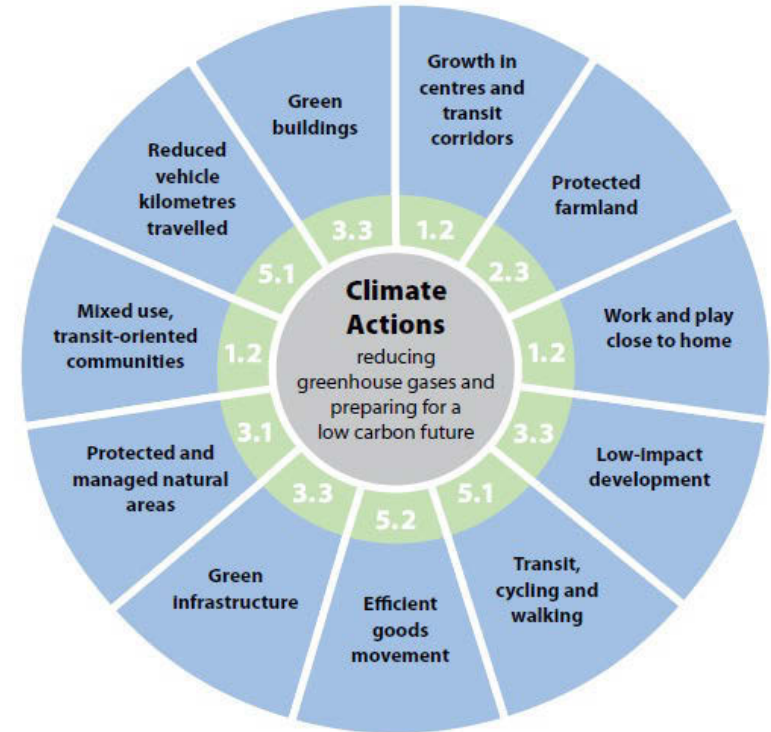
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CURRENT POLICIES

- GHG Emissions Reduction
 - Strategy 3.3
 - GHG emissions reduction target in 3.3.1
- Adaptation/Natural Hazards
 - Strategy 3.4
- Connections to the rest of the plan

FIGURE 3

How Land Use and Transportation Actions Address Climate Change



Note: Figure for reference only, see section 6.13.2
The numbers relate to the applicable strategy in the Regional Growth Strategy

SINCE ADOPTION OF *METRO 2040* (2011)

- Better understanding of climate change impacts and natural hazards in the region
- Heightened awareness related to GHG emissions
- *Climate 2050* and other strategies



KEY POLICY ISSUES

1. Climate change integration throughout the regional growth strategy
2. Meeting the new GHG emissions reduction target
3. Addressing climate change adaptation and natural hazards

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Apply a climate lens
2. **Member jurisdictions to specify how they will meet the regional GHG emissions reduction target**
3. Quantify the influence of land use and carbon storage on regional GHG emissions
4. Ensure policies aim to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions based on current standards and best practices

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. **Identify and map regional-scale natural hazards, risks and vulnerabilities, and clarify the Strategy 3.4 policy framework**
6. Support regional growth patterns that incorporate emergency management, utility planning, and climate change adaptation considerations
7. Support regional flood management

2. MEMBER JURISDICTIONS ARE TO SPECIFY HOW THEY WILL MEET THE CURRENT REGIONAL GHG EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGET

Benefit:

Will help to unify the region's collective commitment to reach carbon neutrality by 2050

5. IDENTIFY AND MAP REGIONAL-SCALE NATURAL HAZARDS, RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES, AND CLARIFY THE STRATEGY 3.4 POLICY FRAMEWORK

Benefit:

Collaboratively fill data gap to inform future policies, encourage collaboration, clarify intent of existing policies

NEXT STEPS

1. Policy Review
Recommendations
 - Regional Planning Committee (today)
 - MVRD Board (February 2021)
2. Drafting Policy Language
for *Metro 2050* (early 2021)





Thank you

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Together we make our region strong

An aerial photograph of Vancouver, British Columbia, showing the city's dense urban core, the harbor with several large red container cranes, and the surrounding mountains under a clear blue sky.

Metro 2040 Implementation Section Policy Review: Ideas for Exploration

Sean Galloway

DIRECTOR, REGIONAL PLANNING AND ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES

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Policy Reviews

- Urban Centres and FTDA
- Agriculture
- Rural
- Industrial & Mixed Employment
- Housing
- Environment
- Transportation
- Complete Communities
- Climate Change & Natural Hazards
- **Implementation**
- Projections



Implementation Section

6.1 - Implementation Framework

6.2 - Regional Context Statements

6.3 - Categories of Amendments (Types 1, 2, 3)

6.4 - Procedures for Amendments (including notifications)

6.5, 6.6, 6.7 - Coordination with Other Governments / Agencies

6.8 - Coordination with Greater Vancouver Boards

6.9 - Sewerage Area Extensions

6.10 - Special Study Areas

6.11 - Jurisdiction

6.12, 6.13 - Maps, Tables / Figures, Performance Measures

6.14, 6.15 - Interpretation, Guidelines

Policy Review Objectives

- Improve administrative process
- Provide clarity re: regional context statement and minor amendment processes
- Provide greater protection and/or reasonable flexibility for some types of regional land use amendments
- Balance and clarify regional and local roles

Possible Policy Changes

- 1) Explore the effectiveness of a regional public hearing as a means for engagement for Type 2 minor amendments
- 2) Change the type of minor amendment from a Type 3 to a Type 2 for the conversion of Industrial to General Urban.
- 3) Increase MVRD Board weighted voting thresholds for minor amendment types
- 4) Review the provision for municipal flexibility clause

Review types of amendments

- Type 1 (major) – change a goal (same process as adopting a new regional growth strategy)
- Type 2 (minor) – move the UCB or convert Agricultural, Rural or Conservation lands (2/3rds weighted vote of the Board and regional public hearing)
- Type 3 (minor) – convert Industrial lands, map changes as a result of accepted RCSs (50%+1 vote at the Board; no regional public hearing)
- ‘Municipal Flexibility’ Clause’

1. Regional Public Hearings

- Part of Type 2 minor amendments – more regionally significant
- Difficult to engage regional audience on local issue
- Concern about duplication of local process
- Most effective means to engage public?

Discussion Question 1

What are your thoughts regarding the importance, efficacy and need for a regional public hearing as a means for public engagement for Type 2 minor amendments?

2. Improving Protection of Industrial Lands

- RILS 10 priority actions – enhancing regional protection through the amendment process identified as the most **effective** and **feasible** action through both stakeholder engagement and Task Force)
- Comparison was consistent local zoning (municipal) or provincial Industrial Land Reserve (Province)
- Other components include consideration of no net loss and limiting stratification on Trade oriented lands

Discussion Question 2

What are your thoughts about changing the type of minor amendment from a Type 3 to a Type 2 for Industrial lands?

3. Strengthening minor amendment voting thresholds

- Concern expressed about ‘ease’ of achieving regionally significant amendments
- Recognition of the voting ‘power’ of larger municipalities that can drive the process
- Possible solution – make Type 3 amendments a 60% weighted vote and Type Type 2 amendments a 3/4 weighted vote

Discussion Question 3

What are your thoughts about increasing the voting thresholds for Type 2 and Type 3 minor amendments?

4. Municipal Flexibility

- Flexibility in when a municipality must request a minor amendment for land use changes
- Applicable for up to 2% of a regional land use designation within a municipality
- Minimally used
- Request from one municipality to increase flexibility or 'reset' the tool

Discussion Question 4

What are your thoughts about increasing municipal flexibility for minor amendments?

Next Steps

- IAC engagement will also inform enhancements for the Implementation Section
- Will bring forward recommendations for Implementation section later in Q1 for Committee and Board consideration
- Results will be used in Metro 2050 policy language – draft for comment in June / July 2021; comment period Q4 2021.



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