

## Metro Vancouver Regional Planning Bulletin

**Note:** The Regional Planning Bulletin you received earlier today had an error for the 'Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Study Phase 2' story. This error has been fixed in the bulletin below. We apologize for the error, and thank you for reading.



# Regional Planning **Bulletin**

### **Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Study Phase 2**

Phase 2 of the Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing (TOAH) study is now complete. TOAH explores specific tools and approaches that municipalities can use to improve the financial viability of affordable rental housing in transit locations. The tools include: a regional revolving loan fund, rental tenure zoning, inclusionary zoning, upzoning, and the strategic acquisition and deployment of lands under public or non-profit ownership. TOAH will help decision and policy makers rethink how plans are made at the corridor, neighbourhood, and station area scales and generate a better understanding of the land development market and challenges of providing affordable rental housing in transit locations. A link to TOAH's background reports and presentations can be [found here](#).



### **Managing Invasive Species in our Region**

In recent years, local governments in our region have collectively spent over \$2 million per year controlling invasive species. Invasives are non-native plants and animals that spread rapidly and are challenging to control. Some species damage infrastructure, affect property values, impact local food production, or threaten local ecosystems by out-competing native species, while others can harm human health.

To support our member jurisdictions and other land managers, Metro Vancouver has collaborated with the [Invasive Species Council of BC](#) and other local experts to create region-specific best practice guides for 11 priority invasive species: [Knotweeds](#); [Giant Hogweed](#); [European Fire Ants](#); [European Chafer Beetle](#); [Himalayan Blackberry](#); [Scotch Broom](#); [English Holly](#); [English and Irish Ivies](#); [Himalayan Balsam](#); [Yellow Archangel](#); and [Parrot's Feather](#). These resources also include a list of facilities that accept invasive plant material and soil infested with invasive species. Please share this information widely!



## The All New Urban Centre and FTDA Data Profile Dashboard



Attention data-lovers! The new Urban Centre and Frequent Transit Development Area (FTDA) Dashboard is now live. Here you'll find a wealth of 2016 custom Census data about every Urban Centre and FTDA in the region. Urban Centres and FTDAs have been critical tools for successfully directing and focusing regional growth through Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future. Check out the [Dashboard here](#) to learn more and view or download data and charts for use in reports, presentations, or research.

## Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Initiative Update



The urban forest helps communities cope with climate change impacts and contributes to overall health and well-being. The urban forest must be healthy to provide the most benefit. However trees are susceptible to the drought, heat and extreme weather events that we are seeing due to a changing climate in this region. Metro Vancouver developed its [Urban Forest Climate Adaptation Initiative](#) to assess the risks and predicted changes to the region's urban forest. Several project outputs have been completed including a Tree Species Selection Database. In 2018, the Database was updated to include species from other western North American cities with conditions similar to the predicted future climate here in Metro Vancouver. As a result of this work, Metro Vancouver, with the project consultant Diamond Head Consulting Ltd., was recently awarded the Canadian Institute of Planners' [Award for Planning Excellence 2019](#), under the Climate Change Planning category.

### **New Blog Articles on Grow Green**

Visit the [Grow Green blog](#) for tips to create pollinator-friendly gardens and make the switch from turf to lawn alternatives. [Grow Green](#) is Metro Vancouver's guide to creating eco-friendly lawns and gardens, created in collaboration with [UBC Botanical Garden](#).



### **Rail~Volution Conference**

The pre-eminent land use and transportation conference in the world is coming to Metro Vancouver September 8-11, 2019. Join policymakers, advocates, and practitioners from around Canada, the United States, and elsewhere to learn about ways to build vibrant and equitable communities with transit and transportation.





TransLink and IBI Group are the conference hosts and Metro Vancouver is a sponsor. The conference will include panel sessions and 27 exciting and diverse [mobile workshops](#).

Metro Vancouver and TransLink are also leading Regional Day on the afternoon of September 11, which will provide an opportunity to explore, discuss, and debate the pressing issues of the region around housing, transport, climate and equity.

### **Housing Agreements Workshop**

On April 11, 2019, a Housing Agreements Workshop was hosted by the Regional Planning Advisory Committee – Housing Subcommittee and coordinated by Regional Planning. The Workshop brought together municipal housing planners and other key partners to share and discuss issues and emerging best practices for entering into, administering and enforcing Housing Agreements (S.483 of the *Local Government Act*). [Presentation materials](#) and summaries of the [workshop proceedings and key learnings](#) are available for viewing.



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### Thanks for Sharing

Thanks for joining us. Have an idea? If you have a topic you're looking for an update on, and we can provide it, we will. Email your thoughts to [regionalplanning@metrovancover.org](mailto:regionalplanning@metrovancover.org).

Feel free to share. Encourage your colleagues to subscribe to the [Regional Planning Bulletin here](#).



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