

Report to Council



Date: February 29, 2016
File: 1250-20
To: City Manager
From: Laura Bentley, Planner II, Policy & Planning
Subject: Regional Context Statement

Recommendation:

THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw Text Amendment Application No. OCP16-0002 to amend Kelowna 2030 - Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 10500 by replacing the Regional Context Statement as outlined in the Report from the Planner II dated February 29, 2016, be considered by Council;

AND THAT Council direct staff to submit the Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw to the Regional District of Central Okanagan for acceptance by the Regional Board;

AND THAT Council considers the public hearing process to be appropriate consultation for the purpose of Section 475 of the *Local Government Act*, as outlined in the Report from the Planner II dated February 29, 2016;

AND FURTHER THAT the Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw be forwarded to a Public Hearing for further consideration once the Regional Board accepts the Regional Context Statement.

Purpose:

To amend the Official Community Plan to incorporate a new Regional Context Statement.

Background:

The City of Kelowna Official Community Plan (OCP) must include a Regional Context Statement that reflects the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). The Regional Context Statement must demonstrate the relationship between the OCP and the required content of the RGS, including:

- A comprehensive statement on the future of the region;
- Population and employment projections;

- Regional matters to provide for the projected population, including housing, transportation, services, parks and natural areas, and economic development;
- Targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Other regional matters.

The City of Kelowna OCP currently includes a Regional Context Statement that refers to the now rescinded Regional District of Central Okanagan Growth Management Strategy Bylaw No. 851. The RGS has since been updated and Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336 was adopted on June 23, 2014. The new Regional Context Statement will replace the existing one in the OCP to reflect the relationship with the new RGS.

The RDCO RGS establishes a vision for the region to grow in a manner that promotes economic, environmental and social health. It was developed in consultation with the area municipalities to direct and manage growth in a coordinated manner. The RGS discusses the following key issue areas with corresponding policies to support the regional vision: land, economy, water resources, health, food, housing, climate, ecosystems, transportation and governance.

The Regional Context Statement demonstrates how the policy direction of the OCP is consistent with the intent of the RGS. Several OCP objectives and policies are aligned with and support the goals for the RGS issue areas. Population and employment projections in the OCP are generally consistent with those in the RGS, recognizing the estimates in each document are based on data from different years. The OCP includes several policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet the targets identified in the OCP and the RGS.

The Regional Context Statement meets the requirements of Section 446 and 447 of the *Local Government Act*, outlining how the OCP is consistent with the content of the RGS.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Local Government Act Part 13 - Regional Growth Strategies, Division 2 - Application and Content of Regional Growth Strategy, Sections 429-430

Local Government Act Part 13 - Regional Growth Strategies, Division 5 - Regional Context Statements, Sections 446-448

Local Government Act Part 14 - Planning and Land Use Management, Division 3 - Public Hearings on Planning and Land Use Bylaws

Local Government Act Part 14 - Planning and Land Use Management, Division 4 - Official Community Plans

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

In accordance with Section 446 of the *Local Government Act*, an OCP must include a Regional Context Statement where a RGS applies to the same area as the OCP. The Regional Context Statement is to identify the relationship between the OCP and the required content of the RGS.

Should Council give the Official Community Plan Amending Bylaw first reading, it will be

submitted to the RDCO Regional Board for acceptance, as per Section 448 of the *Local Government Act*. Once accepted by the Regional Board, Council will consider the OCP Amending Bylaw at a Public Hearing.

Notice of the Public Hearing will be placed in the newspaper in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act*.

Staff have reviewed the amendment, and it may move forward without affecting either the City's Financial Plan or Waste Management Plan.

In accordance with Section 448 of the *Local Government Act*, staff will review the Regional Context Statement and either recommend that Council forward the Statement to the Regional Board for continued acceptance or propose amendments to ensure its ongoing consistency with the RGS.

Existing Policy:

Kelowna 2030 - Official Community Plan Chapter 2: Regional Context

External Agency/Public Comments:

The draft Regional Context Statement was referred to RDCO staff for preliminary review. The Regional Context Statement will be submitted to the RDCO for consideration and acceptance by the Regional Board.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Internal Circulation:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

L. Bentley, Planner II, Policy & Planning

Approved for inclusion:



D. Noble-Brandt, Policy & Planning Department Manager

cc:

Stephen Fleming, City Clerk

Doug Gilchrist, Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate

James Moore, Long Range Policy Planning Manager, Policy & Planning

Janelle Taylor, Planner, Community Services, Regional District of Central Okanagan