

Report to Council



Date: July 16, 2018
File: 1250-20
To: City Manager
From: Tracy Guidi, Sustainability Coordinator
Subject: Updating the Official Community Plan's GHG Targets, OCP18-0016

Recommendation:

THAT Official Community Plan Text Amendment Application No. OCP18-0016 to amend Kelowna 2030 – Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 15000 as outlined in Schedule A attached to the report from the Sustainability Coordinator, dated July 16, 2018, be considered by Council;

AND THAT Council considers the public process outlined in the report from the Sustainability Coordinator, dated July 16, 2018, to be appropriate consultation for the purpose of Section 475(1) and (3) of the Local Government Act;

AND FURTHER THAT the Official Community Plan Text Amending Bylaw be forwarded to a Public Hearing for further consideration.

Purpose:

To amend the Official Community Plan to update the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target policy to be consistent with the targets in the recently endorsed *Our Kelowna as We Take Action: Kelowna's Community Climate Action Plan*.

Background:

On June 25, 2018, Council endorsed an updated plan to mitigate community greenhouse gas emissions. *Our Kelowna as We Take Action: Kelowna's Community Climate Action Plan* puts Kelowna on the path to celebrate successes and build momentum by presenting 51 actions that when implemented will help achieve an absolute reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The Community Climate Action Plan recommends three GHG reduction targets to replace the 2020 target currently in the Official Community Plan as outlined in Schedule A. The three targets work towards reducing absolute community GHG emissions by:

1. **4 per cent below 2007 levels by 2023 (equivalent to 27 per cent per capita reduction).** This pragmatic target is based on the results of the Community Energy Association's QuickStart model, that assessed the emission reductions that can be achieved by implementing the Plan's actions over the next five years.
2. **25 per cent below 2007 levels by 2033 (equivalent to 50 per cent per capita reduction).** This target is based on the incremental progress needed to achieve the long term target. It is anticipated that significant technological advances will help to accelerate progress.
3. **80 per cent below 2007 levels by 2050 (equivalent to 90 per cent per capita reduction).** This target shows bold leadership and is aligned with the Provincial Climate Leadership Plan target

The Community Climate Action Plan identifies actions to help the community achieve the 2023 target. Beyond that, the Plan provides the foundation to shift how the community lives, works and moves, so that continual incremental progress can be achieved as the Plan is revisited and new actions are identified every five years to reach the 2050 target.

Climate change affects everyone and everyone must do their part. To achieve the targets, everyone needs to work together: senior governments; local residents; businesses; non-government organizations; external agencies and utility providers. Achieving the targets requires both City leadership and community commitment to ensure Kelowna works towards becoming an energy efficient, livable, responsible and sustainable community.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Local Government Act, Part 14, Division 4 – Official Community Plans, section 473 (3) requires that "An official community plan must include targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the area covered by the plan, and policies and actions of the local government proposed with respect to achieving those targets."

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Local Government Act Part 14, Division 4, Section 475 specifies that a local government must, during the development, repeal or amendment of an official community plan, provide one or more opportunities it considers appropriate for consultation with persons, organizations and authorities it considers will be affected. This consultation is in addition to a required public hearing.

Existing Policy:

OCP Objective 6.2 Improve energy efficiency and reduce community greenhouse gas emissions.

OCP Policy 6.2.1 **GHG Reduction Target and Actions.** The City of Kelowna will, in partnership with: senior governments; local residents and businesses; NGOs; external agencies; and utility providers, work towards reducing community greenhouse gas emissions by 33% (from 2007 levels) by 2020.

The City of Kelowna's efforts will be focussed on creating more mixeduse neighbourhoods (as identified on the OCP Future Land Use map) and on ensuring that residents can conveniently and safely travel by bus or by foot, bicycle and other forms of active transportation to get to major community destinations while ensuring the efficient movement of goods and services.

The City will support the reduced use of fossil fuels in buildings by encouraging renewable energy supplies, district energy systems and energy efficient

technologies in new and existing buildings. By working with senior government partners, regulated utilities and others, the City will lead through example and strive to meet the BC Climate Action Charter targets for the reduction of GHG emissions from municipal infrastructure.

External Agency/Public Comments:

Engagement for *Our Kelowna as We Take Action: Kelowna's Community Climate Action Plan*, was based on input from the Imagine Kelowna process, stakeholder engagement, staff and best practices. Consultation on the targets identified in the Plan happened during:

- **Stakeholder Workshop** – November 30, 2017:
Fourteen people representing 13 organizations attended a stakeholder workshop to discuss the draft target and actions. Organizations included Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Canadian Homebuilders Association, Urban Development Institute, Total Home Solutions, UBC Okanagan, Interior Health, Okanagan College, Nido Design, Flip Side Sustainability, Okanagan Basin Water Board, Ogo Car Share, and Urban Systems. There were mixed reviews on the short term target, as some participants felt it was realistic, while others felt bolder moves should be undertaken. Participants felt that the community should be working to achieve the 2050 target, even if the longer actions to get there are unpopular.
- **Online Engagement** – February 6 – 22, 2018:
Citizens' opinions were gathered relating to the actions and proposed targets for the Community Climate Action Plan. The Get Involved project page was promoted through many channels including City of Kelowna website, Facebook and Twitter. There were a total of 440 unique visits to the project page, 38 engaged visitors, 137 informed visitors and 359 aware visitors. As with the stakeholder workshop, the targets were met with mixed reviews, particularly for the short-term target. Some felt the short-term target was achievable goal, and others felt that the target should be more progressive and massive change is needed in the short-term.

Submitted by:

T. Guidi, Sustainability Coordinator

Approved for inclusion:



Danielle Noble-Brandt, Policy and Planning Dept. Manager

cc:

Acting Divisional Director, Community Planning and Strategic Investments
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