

# Report to Council



**Date:** October 3, 2016  
**File:** 1200-40  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Michelle Kam, Sustainability Coordinator and Laura Bentley, Planner II  
**Subject:** Healthy City Strategy Update

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Sustainability Coordinator and Planner II dated October 3, 2016 with respect to the Healthy City Strategy update;

AND THAT Council endorse Healthy Housing as the next Healthy City Strategy theme area.

## **Purpose:**

To provide Council with an update on the Healthy City Strategy including the first theme area Community for All Ages, and to obtain Council support for the next theme area.

## **Background:**

As per Council's resolution in early 2016, staff were directed to report back on the vision, principles, long term goals and targets as a next step to guide the future work of the Healthy City Strategy.

### *Healthy City Strategy*

How communities are planned and built, and the services and resources provided within them, directly impacts people's physical and social health. Policies, infrastructure design and programs influence, and have the opportunity to positively impact, many aspects of our daily lives.

When strategically designed, the built environment, including homes, neighbourhoods, schools, streets, workplaces and parks, can reduce obesity and chronic diseases, like asthma heart disease and diabetes, by affecting air quality, activity levels of residents and access to healthy food. The built environment can also improve the well-being and social connection of residents.

The Healthy City Strategy is a long-term, integrative plan that focuses on healthy places and spaces, community health, and quality of life for all Kelowna residents. The City of Kelowna and Interior Health have partnered in a Healthy City Strategy Steering Committee with an overall vision of: *“Working together to create built environments in which people and places thrive”*.

Five guiding principles are being used to guide the development of the Healthy City Strategy:

1. Prioritize the built environment
2. Integrate health in policies
3. Maximize partnerships for impact
4. Engage broadly and communicate simply
5. Lead and catalyse innovation

The Healthy City Strategy Steering Committee is working on long-term goals and targets and will report to Council when appropriate.

In order to guide the partnership development between the City of Kelowna and Interior Health, a Healthy Communities Capacity Building grant was applied for and received. This grant included a two-day PlanH Applied Learning Workshop, held on September 8 and 9. PlanH, implemented by BC Healthy Communities Society, facilitates local government learning, partnership development and planning for healthier communities. Working together with health authorities, UBCM and the Ministry of Health, PlanH supports Healthy Families BC, the Province’s health promotion strategy.

### *Community for All Ages*

In 2016, the Strategy has focused on the first of six themes areas: Community for All Ages. This theme area has a vision of *“creating a city that is healthy, safe, active and inclusive for seniors, children and those with diverse abilities”*.

As part of the Community for All Ages project, community consultation took place in May and June. Five demographic groups were targeted for this engagement: seniors, caregivers of seniors, people with diverse abilities, caregivers of those with diverse abilities and parents or caregivers of children under 12. The consultation included a public survey, four community conversation events and one stakeholder event. Through the community events and online engagement, 420 survey responses were completed which are being summarized for the final Community for All Ages Action Plan.

Policy & Planning staff is currently reviewing the report from the project’s consultant, Barefoot Planning, regarding draft recommendations. Meetings have been held with City staff as well as external stakeholders to refine the recommendations, to determine which actions can be implemented, and to identify the resources required.

The next steps for the project include a draft Community for All Ages Action Plan, additional stakeholder and public engagement the week of October 24 and a final plan for Council consideration and endorsement by mid-December.

## *Healthy Housing*

The Healthy City Strategy Steering Committee has reviewed the remaining theme areas:

- Healthy Housing;
- Healthy Transportation Networks;
- Healthy Neighbourhood Design;
- Healthy Natural Environment; and
- Healthy Food Systems.

Recognizing the increasing constraints and demand for affordable, secure and suitable housing options in Kelowna, staff and the Steering Committee support housing as the next theme area for the Healthy City Strategy.

The goal of the Healthy Housing Strategy will be to identify and to prioritize housing needs, and to determine the most appropriate and effective strategies to address those needs. Focus areas may include affordability and supply, the rental housing market, and changing demographics. The outcome will be a Healthy Housing Strategy that will build on the existing Housing Strategy and the Community for All Ages Plan, and become part of the Healthy City Strategy.

Input from not-for-profit organizations, housing providers, the development industry, senior government agencies and coordination with the City's Social Development Manager will be critical to delivering a meaningful and successful outcome. Staff will prepare an engagement strategy, informed by the Council endorsed Public Engagement Guiding Principles, Engage Policy and IAP2 framework. The Healthy City Strategy Steering Committee will continue to provide project oversight to ensure continuity between theme areas and the overall vision.

### **Internal Circulation:**

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate  
Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture  
Department Manager, Infrastructure Delivery  
Department Manager, Integrated Transportation  
Communications Advisor, Communications

### **Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Legal/Statutory Authority:  
Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:  
Existing Policy:  
Financial/Budgetary Considerations:  
Personnel Implications:  
Communications Comments:  
External Agency/Public Comments:  
Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:

M. Kam, Sustainability Coordinator and L. Bentley, Planner II

Approved for inclusion:



James Moore, Acting Policy & Planning Department Manager

cc:

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate  
Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture  
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