

NORTH END PLAN

VISION & OBJECTIVES

POLICY & PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Table of Contents

North End Neighbourhood Vision	3
North End Neighbourhood Objectives	4
Housing.....	4
Employment & Commercial Uses.....	4
Parks & Recreation.....	5
Arts, Culture & Heritage.....	5
Transportation.....	6
Environmental Protection & Climate Resiliency.....	6
Equity & Inclusion.....	6
Servicing & Public Utilities.....	7
Mill Site Design & Integration.....	7

We acknowledge that our community is located on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the syilx/Okanagan people.



NORTH END NEIGHBOURHOOD VISION

Set at the intersection of mountain, lake and city, the North End is an inclusive urban neighbourhood with an eclectic mix of uses and a distinct sense of identity. Residents of all life stages and incomes choose from a variety of housing options that have expanded and diversified over time. Daily needs are met with a quick walk or roll to a wide range of local shops, restaurants, and community services, while destinations outside the North End are easily accessible by transit. Industrial businesses have continued to adapt to the neighbourhood’s changing dynamics and support growing employment and services, while craft industries continue to thrive. A comprehensive parks and public space network—anchored by a continuous waterfront pathway—gives people an opportunity to connect with one another and with nature. Expanding the green space and restoring natural habitat has not only added to the enjoyment of the neighbourhood but has also made it more resilient to climate change. Arts and culture thrive—inspired by rich layers of local history—strengthening the neighbourhood’s unique sense of place and identity.

NORTH END NEIGHBOURHOOD OBJECTIVES

Housing

- Expand the supply and variety of housing types in the North End to help address housing availability, and to ensure residents in the neighbourhood can meet their housing needs at all life stages and circumstances
- Increase housing options across the Housing Wheelhouse to provide opportunities for residents of all income levels
- Provide appropriate supports to people experiencing homelessness and housing instability through all housing transitions
- Concentrate new housing where residents will have convenient access to transit, shops, services, and amenities

Employment & Commercial Uses

- Support the growth of neighbourhood-scale, local retail and commercial uses that serve the everyday needs of North End residents
- Identify a high street or hub(s) where commercial uses are to be concentrated to facilitate access and help ensure viability
- Support office uses in commercial areas to diversify the range of employment opportunities in the neighbourhood
- Explore opportunities for year-round and seasonal public markets and food sales
- Retain a core of industrial lands to preserve employment opportunities and much-needed services that support businesses and households
- Support the evolution of industrial businesses to meet changing market demands and to capitalize on the North End's proximity to Downtown
- Minimize conflicts and nuisance effects between industrial and residential uses

Parks & Recreation

- Provide more parks and green space to serve growing neighbourhood, core area, and city-wide populations
- Increase access to the waterfront through expanded parks and public spaces and connect them with a continuous waterfront pathway
- Expand park and recreation amenities and facilities that serve all life stages, abilities and household types (including those with dogs)
- Design and program parks and public spaces to be inclusive and to increase activity year-round
- Connect parks and green spaces through green corridors to increase access
- Explore opportunities for local food production and sales in public spaces
- Prioritize active recreation in the lake, including swimming and non-motorized boats

Arts, Culture & Heritage

- Honour the importance and share the history and culture of indigenous people with a focus on the local syilx/Okanagan People
- Support and advance arts, culture and community gathering
- Design civic facilities and spaces to be flexible and allow diverse uses
- Identify, conserve and protect historic places and assets
- Encourage preservation and adaptive re-use of buildings



Transportation

- Reduce the need for daily travel outside the North End by creating more opportunities for residents to work, shop and play within the neighbourhood
- Increase the overall connectivity in the street grid network in the North End to facilitate travel for all modes
- Improve the quality of the active transportation network within the North End, to Downtown, and to other Urban Centres
- Strengthen transit connections between the North End and other Urban Centres and employment nodes
- Support shared mobility and e-mobility devices to accommodate medium and longer trips—including trips to and from transit stops
- Manage vehicle travel demand to reduce congestion, improve air quality, reduce GHG emissions, and improve resident health
- Design streets that are safe and enjoyable for pedestrians, cyclists, and people with diverse abilities, while accommodating emerging mobility options
- Facilitate goods movement to, from and within industrial lands, while limiting impacts on adjacent residential areas

Environmental Protection & Climate Resiliency

- Maintain and enhance critical ecological features to preserve ecosystems and ecosystem connectivity, wildlife habitat, and to build resilience to climate change impacts
- Expand the urban tree canopy and prioritize the inclusion of green and permeable spaces on both public and private lands to improve air quality, mitigate the urban heat island effect, provide wildlife habitat, and contribute to the sustainable management of stormwater
- Encourage and incentivize green buildings, landscape design, neighbourhood design and emerging technologies to minimize pollution and climate change
- Incorporate green infrastructure to improve the environmental, economic and social performance of the neighbourhood and to mitigate extreme climate events and other natural hazards

Equity & Inclusion

- Incorporate calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) at the local government scale
- Provide neighbourhood-scale community services that meet the needs of all North End residents today and into the future—including housing, health and wellness services, childcare, education, community gathering space, food, retail, financial services
- Address and mitigate gentrification and resident displacement through the promotion and inclusion of affordable housing and accommodation



Servicing & Public Utilities

- Provide a sufficient, safe and reliable water supply in a way that is efficient, cost-effective and that emphasizes water conservation
- Manage stormwater in a way that is resilient to potential flooding events, and that prioritizes the water quality and ecological health of Okanagan Lake and Brandt's Creek
- Manage wastewater in a way that is safe, efficient, cost-effective and sustainable
- Adopt best practices in sustainable infrastructure to maximize environmental stewardship

Mill Site Design & Integration

- Work with the ownership groups included in the Mill Site Area Redevelopment Plan to ensure the site is planned and designed in a way that meets both neighbourhood and city-wide objectives including:
 - Integrate the site into the existing neighbourhood to create a complete and well-connected neighbourhood
 - Incorporate a range of public amenities and community needs to support a high quality of life for a diverse array of residents
 - Design for human scale and pedestrian comfort, safety, and enjoyment in buildings and uses as well as within the public realm
 - Foster health, wellness and livability
 - Ensure the site reflects leading research and best practices in brownfield redevelopment and sustainable neighbourhood design
 - Consider the preservation of views to mountains, lake and downtown skyline
 - Incorporate elements that highlight and commemorate the site's multiple layers of history
 - Encourage innovative and iconic features and design