

# Report to Council



**Date:** October 16, 2023  
**To:** Council  
**From:** City Manager  
**Subject:** Progress report on Council priorities 2023 – 2026  
**Department:** Corporate Strategy & Performance Dept

---

## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receive for information the six-month progress report on Council priorities as attached to the report of the City Manager dated October 16, 2023;

AND THAT Council direct staff to provide a 12-month progress on Council Priorities in March 2024.

## **Purpose:**

To update Council on the progress of 22 Council priority actions identified in the 2023 – 2026 Council priorities document.

## **Background:**

Council adopted priorities for 2023 – 2026 on March 6, 2023 and directed staff to report on progress at six, twelve and eighteen months. The priorities and actions reflect Council's response to what Kelowna's citizens have said is important, and the priorities are expected to be regularly evaluated throughout Council's term.

The Council Priorities 2023 - 2026 document identifies the following six priority areas and 22 Council Priority Actions distributed across the priorities:

### **1. Crime & Safety**

- Strategy to address property crime; including break and enters and theft
- Provide local Business Improvement Areas support for urban center safety issues (e.g. 'Red Shirts' program)
- Establish a safety task force with stakeholders
- Partner with Provincial ministries responsible for mental health and problematic substance use on initiatives (i.e. Community Safety Plan) that improve local conditions

## 2. Affordable Housing

- Acquire city owned land to build affordable housing
- Increase number of rental units with below market rents
- Partner on the creation of a low-cost affordable housing pilot project

## 3. Homelessness

- Advocate for additional Complex Care Centre (e.g. Red Fish Healing Center)
- Explore partnership opportunities for alternative forms of sheltering
- Advocate for purpose-built permanent shelter with ‘wrap-around’ supports and graduated housing options
- Develop an emergency winter shelter program

## 4. Transportation

- Explore alternative modes of transportation between UBCO/YLW and downtown.
- Improve transit service including expanding the transit pass program.
- Improve traffic flow and capacity on major road networks (e.g. Lakeshore Road)
- Complete the functional design of the Hwy 33 multi-modal traffic corridor
- Enhance traffic safety presence

## 5. Agriculture

- Facilitate the creation of a permanent home for the farmer's market
- Review the Agriculture Plan with respect to secondary uses
- Expand Enforcement/Bylaw Officers

## 6. Climate & Environment

- Include ‘Climate Lens’ in decision making to assess mitigation and adaptation
- Increase urban tree canopy (e.g. tree-lined medians)
- Pilot energy concierge program to enable retrofits in buildings

Resolution	Date
THAT COUNCIL direct staff to report back on the progress of the 2023 - 2026 Council Priorities in six, twelve and eighteen months.	March 6, 2023

### Discussion:

The purpose of the six-month report is to provide Council with a holistic view of initial progress on its priorities, and to support Council decision making. As most Council priority actions require long-term focus the report is structured to show significant projects and milestones to advance the actions. The report contains the most current information as of end of September 2023, acknowledging that many areas are rapidly evolving.

The following section identifies a subset of significant actions and milestones from the full report. The full report is attached and also available at [www.kelowna.ca/councilpriorities](http://www.kelowna.ca/councilpriorities)

### Crime And Safety

- 1% Community Safety Levy
- Advocacy on repeat property and violent offenders
- Mayor’s Taskforce on Crime Reduction

### **Affordable Housing**

- \$1.5M surplus allocated to land acquisition
- Housing Needs Assessment completed
- 68 new affordable housing units opened

### **Homelessness**

- 8 new complex care beds operating with 12 more beds in-stream
- Offered Province a municipal land contribution for an additional purpose-built complex care facility
- Offered land contribution to support future transitional housing options
- Advocacy on complex care, mental health & substance use and treatment and housing
- City to assume role of backbone organization for Journey Home Strategy

### **Transportation**

- Highway 33 functional design planning
- Transit operations centre planning
- Advocacy for permanent, consistent and predictable infrastructure funding
- Commonwealth Road planning
- Transit service hours are at highest level ever

### **Agriculture**

- New home for Kelowna Farmers' market
- Agricultural Advisory Committee
- Bylaw update to rules for housing in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

### **Climate & Environment**

- Climate Action and Resilience Strategy
- Energy concierge program for retrofits
- Over 1,000 trees planted

### **Conclusion:**

The twelve-month progress report will be delivered to Council in late March 2024. The report will focus on presenting data and analysis in response to the "How we measure progress on this priority" and the "The results we want to see" sections within each of the six Council priority areas. The interactive online report is expected to be consistent with the City's broader approach to enterprise performance management and regular reporting that can be viewed on the City's open data website: [www.opendata.kelowna.ca/pages/progress-reports](http://www.opendata.kelowna.ca/pages/progress-reports)

### **Considerations applicable to this report:**

***Legal/Statutory Authority:***

***Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:***

***Existing Policy:***

***Financial/Budgetary Considerations:***

***Consultation and Engagement:***

Submitted by: M. McGreer, Dept Manager Corporate Strategy & Performance

Approved for inclusion: C. Weaden, Divisional Director Corporate Strategic Services

cc: SLT