



## CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting – Wednesday, April 9, 2025  
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm District Operations Centre  
In-Person

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**Members:** Ken Ashley, Keegan Casidy, Eleanor Gill, Diana Leung, Mariko Michasiw, Lorna Pelly

**Regrets:** Jennifer Johnson, Oliver Ng, Irwin Oostindie, Councillor Jordan Back, Caroline Jackson, General Manager, Climate Action & Parks

**Staff:** Jason Smith, Senior Community Planner; Jon Maselli, Community Planner; Bo Ocampo, Environmental Sustainability Specialist; Adam Wright, Sustainability Planner; Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

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### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

Adam Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

#### Territorial Acknowledgement

Adam Wright provided the land acknowledgement.

#### Adoption of the Agenda

Moved, seconded and resolved  
To adopt the agenda.

**CARRIED**

#### Adoption of the Minutes

Moved, seconded and resolved  
To adopt the October 9, 2024 minutes.

**CARRIED**

### 2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Committee members were requested to indicate if they wished to serve as the Chair of the committee. Lorna Pelly put her name forward and as there were no further nominations, Lorna Pelly was acclaimed as the Chair.

Committee members were requested to indicate if they wished to serve as the Vice Chair of the committee. Irwin Oostindie previously put his name forward and as there were no further nominations, Irwin Oostindie was acclaimed as the Vice Chair.

### 3. Climate Action Advisory Committee 2025 Workplan and Meeting Schedule

Bo Ocampo provided a brief review of the committee's 2025 workplan and meeting schedule.

### 4. Official Community Plan (OCP) Update: Land Use Scenarios

The District's Official Community Plan (OCP) sets the direction for future growth and change in the District through 2030, as guided by the community's vision.

In 2023 and 2024, the Provincial Government passed legislation to increase housing supply in all municipalities in British Columbia. The legislation changes how municipalities plan, evaluate, and approve new development and residential growth. As part of that legislation, the Province now

requires the District to update the Official Community Plan to provide for 22,369 new homes by 2041, also referred to as the District's 20-year housing needs.

Work on this project began in 2024 and three conceptual scenarios were prepared as potential strategies for how the District can accommodate growth and meet the 20-year housing need:

**Scenario 1: Concentrate Growth**

- Focusing 90% of new residential growth within the current boundaries of the existing four key centres;
- Taller, denser building forms near existing or planned transit;

**Scenario 2: Expand Centres**

- Focusing 90% of new residential growth within expanded boundaries of some key centres in a less concentrated, yet still centralized, way;
- Broader range of building types including low and mid-rise forms such as multiplexes, townhouses, and apartments within and adjacent to existing centres;

**Scenario 3: Distribute Growth**

- Focusing 75% of new residential growth within existing key centres and spreading remaining density across other areas of the District, such as along corridors, and within single-family areas and smaller centres.
- Lower density building forms such as duplexes, triplexes, and multiplexes distributed outside of key centres.

Committee members asked questions that reflected the following themes:

**Collaboration with Local and First Nations Governments**

A question was asked regarding whether there has been ongoing collaboration with the City of North Vancouver. Staff confirmed that there are ongoing conversations with both the City of North Vancouver, District of West Vancouver, and the səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) and Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish) Nations. Staff also clarified that both Nations are not subject to the new Provincial housing targets.

**Housing Growth, Affordability, and Zoning**

Additional questions were asked about the need for additional funds to support housing growth, the potential for one scenario to result in more affordable housing, the possibility of stratifying single-family homes, and the risk of overbuilding due to population shifts. Staff noted that Provincial investment will be important in supporting population growth, acknowledged housing affordability remains a complex issue beyond the scope of this project, stratifying existing single-family homes is more challenging than trying to stratify new builds, and that there continues to be a demand for housing in the District. Staff also confirmed the District retains influence over land use, density, and form of new developments through zoning.

**Environment and Green Infrastructure Considerations**

Questions were also asked about how environmental regulations, green infrastructure, storm water management, and climate risks were being applied to each proposed scenario. Staff indicated that the District is mainly developing existing land, which is already subject to environmental regulations. Staff also noted that the last OCP was a three-year process with sufficient time to consider a holistic approach. However, due to the short time frame imposed by the Province for this process, the District had to narrow the project scope. The scope is primarily focussed on accommodating housing; however, the District recognizes the need for green infrastructure and the importance of considering

the potential climate impacts of new residential growth, including effects on greenhouse gas emissions.

Committee members also provided the following comments:

- Higher density building forms can offer benefits such as improved public spaces and permeability on site. It is also important that these high-density sites are easily accessible by transit.
- A committee member reflected on a pedestrian safety issue on Mountain Highway and expressed concern about whether there is infrastructure in place to safely accommodate anticipated growth in a way that promotes active transportation and sustainability.
- A committee member indicated that the OCP presentation was mainly focussed on housing, the committee would like to further understand how this connects with other policy and planning pieces such as transportation.

Staff noted that next steps for the Official Community Plan update include public engagement in April, including presentations at District committees, public events, a survey, open houses, and webinars. Additional information is posted to the Official Community Plan Update 2025 website. Staff will continue to assess and consider the climate impacts of the proposed scenarios. A summary of the public input will be taken to Council in early summer.

## **5. Break**

## **6. Biodiversity Strategy Update**

Bo Ocampo provided an update on the Biodiversity Strategy noting that the consultant has completed a review of the existing data and has started ecosystem mapping and associated analysis to determine high value areas for biodiversity and ecosystem corridors. Next steps include completing mapping and field work this spring and summer. Public engagement will begin in the spring and summer with the formal public engagement taking place in the fall.

## **7. Committee Member Updates**

Committee Members provided the following updates:

- A committee member proposed that the committee co-present at a public event taking place between October 6-10 featuring Chris and Melissa Bruntlett - authors on municipal leadership and cycling. Staff will connect with the District departments currently involved with the event organization to discuss how the Committee can best support the initiative.
- Pedestrian safety along Mountain Highway continues to be a challenge. Approximately 1,000 drivers recently signed a petition opposing the bike lane at Mountain Highway.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.