



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: March 17, 2021
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division
Subject: Port Moody 2050 Official Community Plan Update – Community Survey No. 2 – Key Themes and Topics

Purpose

To present key themes identified in the first phase of the Port Moody 2050 OCP Update Communications and Engagement Strategy and discuss topics to be further explored in the survey to be included in the 2021 property tax mail out.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT staff be directed to develop questions for the Port Moody 2050 OCP Update Community Survey No. 2 based on key themes and topics identified by Council, in addition to the themes from the Community Survey No. 1 results as outlined in the report dated March 17, 2021 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Port Moody 2050 Official Community Plan Update – Community Survey No. 2 – Key Themes and Topics.

Background

At the October 20, 2020 Special Council Meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

CW20/099

THAT the Official Community Plan Update - Communications and Engagement Strategy be endorsed as recommended in the report dated September 17, 2020 from the Community Development Department - Policy Planning Division regarding Official Community Plan Update - Communications and Engagement Strategy;

AND THAT verified and statistically projectable surveys be conducted, and physical survey cards be distributed with tax notices as part of the Official Community Plan Update - Communications and Engagement Strategy.

At the January 12, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

RC21/012

THAT a budget of up to \$15,000 be approved to cover the costs of including a paper survey for the Official Community Plan Update with the 2021 property tax mail out as recommended in the report dated December 14, 2020 from the Community Development Department - Policy Planning Division regarding Costs Related to Property Tax Mail Out Survey for the Official Community Plan Update;

AND THAT the budget of up to \$15,000 be referred to the Finance Committee for identification of a funding source.

At the March 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

RC21/122

THAT the updated OCP Project and consultation timeline be approved as outlined in the memo dated February 23, 2021 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding OCP Update Project Public Engagement and Project Timeline Update.

Discussion

An Updated Port Moody 2050 OCP Update Project and Consultation Timeline was approved by Council on March 9, 2021 (**Attachment 1**). This updated timeline now includes an additional survey focused on an exploration of key themes and topics based on the results of Community Survey #1 and other themes and topics identified by Council.

The objectives of this additional survey are:

- to obtain community feedback on key topics on which Council would like more community input;
- to have the survey prepared in both print and electronic formats with the property tax notice being the primary medium for the print survey;
- to increase the number of touch points with the community; and
- to provide an informed transition between the first survey on the 2014 vision and goals and the third survey focused on land use options for the designated neighbourhood study areas.

The following chart summarizes the three community surveys in the updated Port Moody 2050 OCP Update Communications and Engagement Strategy.

Community Surveys	Consultation Focus	Timeline	Status
Community Survey No. 1	Community feedback on 2014 OCP Vision and Goals	January-February 2021	Complete
Community Survey No. 2	Community feedback on key topics and themes identified by Council and the community in Community Survey No. 1	May-June 2021	Survey design in progress
Community Survey No. 3	Community feedback on land use options for neighbourhood study areas previously approved by Council Feedback from Community Survey No. 1 and Community Survey No. 2 will be used to prepare the land use options	September-October 2021	Background analysis in progress

After the draft Port Moody 2050 OCP Update is prepared and presented to Council, additional consultation can be initiated. Recommendations will be presented to Council early 2022 with the draft Port Moody 2050 OCP Update.

Community Survey No. 1 – Community Review of 2014 OCP Vision and Goals

The first Community Survey on the 2014 OCP Vision and Goals was held in January – February 2021. A total of 365 people participated in this survey. An Executive Summary of the results of Community Survey #1 is included as **Attachment 2**.

Community Survey No. 1 Key Findings

When respondents were asked what three things they valued about Port Moody today, the greatest number of responses were related to:

- a strong sense of community;
- nature; and
- access to outdoor greenspace/recreation.

When respondents were asked what three things they would like to see improved or changed in Port Moody, the greatest number of responses were related to:

- road and traffic planning;
- community amenities;
- environment and green space; and
- the economy.

When respondents were asked what three things they think are important for Port Moody 30 years from now, the greatest number of responses were related to:

- community planning;
- more parks and green spaces; and
- a strong sense of community.

Comments on the 2014 OCP Vision Statements

The survey presented the 2014 OCP vision statements verbatim and asked respondents to comment on whether they should be kept as is, changed, or removed.

The following statements received the most support (85% or higher) to remain unchanged:

- Supporting community involvement and input when determining future directions for the City;
- Protecting, remediating, and enhancing the community's environmentally sensitive resources, recreation areas, and heritage assets for public use and enjoyment;
- Encouraging and maintaining a strong and diversified economy and tax base;
- Seeking a balance between environmental, economic, social, and cultural sustainability in all decision-making;
- Encouraging physical development and cultural activities that enhance the sense of community in the City distinguishing Port Moody from its neighbours.

The following statements received the most support (25% or higher) for change or removal:

- Maintaining the 'small town' character of the community; and
- Port Moody, City of the Arts, is a unique, safe, vibrant waterfront city of strong neighbourhoods; a complete community that is sustainable and values its natural environment and heritage character.

The most common suggested changes related to replacing "small town" in the first statement with terms such as vibrant, connected, neighbourhood oriented, modern, and forward thinking and removing "City of the Arts" and "heritage" from the second statement.

The statement that received the most support (14%) for removal related to maintaining the small town character of the community.

Respondents were also asked to suggest new vision statements if they felt something was missing. The most common themes identified by respondents for additional OCP vision statements were related to:

- clarifying the desired scale and type of development desired;
- a focus on innovation and growth;
- a commitment to protecting environment, parks, and greenspace;
- planning for economic development, climate adaptation, and emergency management; and
- dedication to equity, diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation.

Comments on the 2014 OCP Goals

Respondents were asked to prioritize the 25 goal statements in the 2014 OCP that fall under the following nine categories: Sustainability; Environment; Housing; Appropriate Development; Parks, Open Space, and Recreation Facilities; Heritage Conservation; Transportation; Economic Development; and Arts and Culture.

The goal statements in each category were generally identified as still being high priorities by respondents. Of the 25 goal statements, 18 were identified as high priorities by more than 50% of participants. These results are shown on pages 5-7 of the Executive Summary in **Attachment 2**. The statements under the goals for *Arts and Culture* and *Heritage Conservation* were ranked as the lowest priorities (see pages 6 and 8 of **Attachment 2**).

When asked if something was missing from the list of goals, respondents suggested the following new goals:

- Planning and Design
 - less emphasis on City of the Arts;
 - Moody Centre upgrades;
 - stay aligned with OCP for new development; and
 - follow population targets to minimize overpopulation and congestion.
- Development
 - do not build too many high rises that destroy views;
 - develop at a smart and thoughtful pace; and
 - focus density around transit corridors.
- Economy
 - support economic growth and small businesses; and
 - attract high skill based businesses and revitalize industry.
- Environmental Sustainability
 - better use of existing parks;
 - new parks and green spaces in Moody Centre; and
 - focus on clean/green technology and reducing emissions.
- Services and Amenities
 - invest in more recreation amenities;
 - add a grocery store to Moody Centre; and
 - increase access medical facilities, schools, and libraries.
- Transportation
 - traffic management;
 - better, safer road infrastructure; and
 - parking accessibility.
- Active Transportation
 - increase walkability on St. Johns Street and Suterbrook; and
 - more cycling lanes and skate parks.

Community Survey No. 2 – Community Feedback on Key Themes and Topics for Further Exploration

Staff recommend that the following topics identified in Community Survey No. 1 be explored further in Community Survey No. 2:

- Moody Centre revitalization and provision of local services;
- how people feel about high rises and why;
- identifying where and how Port Moody should grow;
- preserving Port Moody's sense of community and character;
- defining what transit-oriented development in Port Moody looks like;
- how people feel about population growth and why;
- traffic management and safe and accessible transportation options;
- economic development (e.g. support for small businesses, innovation, attracting highly skilled jobs, revitalizing industry);
- investment and planning for recreation amenities;
- access to parks and green space; and
- equity, diversity, inclusion, and reconciliation.

In addition to the topics identified in the responses to Community Survey No. 1, Council has also expressed their wish to explore a number of topics with Port Moody residents and business owners as part of the Port Moody 2050 OCP Update. Community Survey No. 2 provides an opportunity to include these additional topics for further exploration and clarification.

Some additional topics staff have noted Council may wish to further explore include:

- incorporating good urban design and healthy built environments principles that encourage social connectedness, accessibility, livability, and affordability;
- balancing economic growth with residential growth; and
- planning for replacing and providing new community amenities such as Kyle Centre.

Staff would like to hear more about the priority topics of interest that Council would like to receive community feedback on in Community Survey No. 2. The March 30, 2021 meeting will provide an opportunity for Council to identify, discuss, and prioritize topics to explore in this next survey. Based on this input, the consultant, with the support of staff, will generate questions that will help the City learn more about the public's perspective. A draft of the survey will be presented to Council on April 20, 2021.

Other Option(s)

THAT the report dated March 17, 2021 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Port Moody 2050 Official Community Plan Update – Community Survey No. 2 – Key Themes and Topics be received for information.

Financial Implications

A budget of up to \$15,000 was approved to cover the costs associated with inserting a paper survey in the 2021 property tax mail out.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

The Communications and Engagement Strategy for the OCP Update was approved by Council on October 20, 2020. In accordance with the Strategy, from December 2020 to January 2021, staff held visioning workshops and launched a community survey to gather feedback on the vision and goals outlined in the current 2014 OCP. In response to further Council direction, the engagement phases and associated timelines were recently revised to include an additional engagement with the 2021 property tax mail out to be included as a communication medium. Additional engagement opportunities outlined in the Strategy, including a community survey on potential land use scenarios, remain unchanged.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

The OCP Update project is consistent with the following components of the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan:

- Strategic Priority: Community Evolution;
- Objective: Ensure future community growth is carefully considered and strategically managed; and
- Action: Review the Official Community Plan regularly to ensure it aligns with the community vision.

Attachment(s)

1. Updated Port Moody 2050 Project and Consultation Timeline approved on March 9, 2021.
2. Executive Summary of the results of Community Survey No. 1.

Report Author

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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	OCP Update - Community Survey No. 2 - Key Themes and Topics.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Updated Port Moody 2050 Project and Consultation Timeline.pdf - Attachment 2 - Executive Summary of Community Survey No. 1 Results.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Mar 23, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Mar 22, 2021 - 11:21 AM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Mar 22, 2021 - 12:19 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Mar 22, 2021 - 12:40 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 22, 2021 - 3:31 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Mar 23, 2021 - 9:02 AM