



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: January 5, 2022
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division
Subject: 2021 Phase One Climate Action Implementation Update

Purpose

To provide an update on Phase One Climate Action Implementation projects after the first year of implementation.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the report dated January 5, 2022 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding 2021 Phase One Climate Action Implementation Update be received for information.

Background

At the February 2, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Council passed the following resolution:

CW21/014

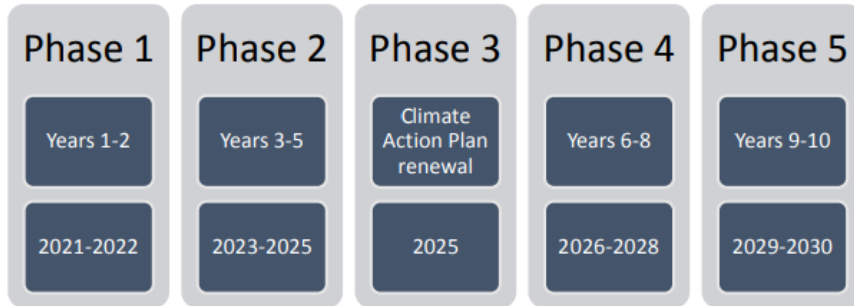
THAT the Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy be endorsed as recommended in the report dated December 2, 2020 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy;

AND THAT action items and positions identified in the Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy without approved funding be referred to a future Finance Committee.

Discussion

On July 21, 2020, City Council adopted the Climate Action Plan (CAP), an integrated strategy outlining how the City and the community will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and prepare for future climate changes. Since adoption of the Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy in February 2021, staff have been working to initiate implementation of twenty-three out of fifty-four actions in the Climate Action Plan before the end of 2022. This report marks the end of the first year of implementation and summarizes progress to date.

Implementation of the Climate Action Plan is completed through a phased approach determined by years of action initiation. These phases are intended to mobilize bold climate action within the next decade, with implementation continuing until all actions in the Plan are executed. The phases are indicated by time horizons of approximately two or three years and consistent with the municipal budgeting process, staff work planning, funding opportunities and new information that may inform decision-making, and action updates. Action initiation is heavy in phase one and two to maximize the possibility of realizing emissions reductions and increasing resiliency by 2030. The phases may evolve as implementation occurs and new information informs updates to the process. The anticipated implementation phases are as follows:



Phase One Climate Action Implementation Overview

The Climate Action Plan identifies fifty-four actions to be implemented over the coming years, of which twenty-three actions will be initiated before the end of 2022. A summary of the first year of phase one implementation and progress on commitments can be found in **Attachment 1**.

The twenty-three actions span all eight focus areas and work towards thirteen goals of the Climate Action Plan. Progress of phase one actions includes:

- implementation of phase one actions is 25% complete;
- eighteen actions are on track;
- one action has been completed;
- one action is experiencing some disruption; and
- three actions will be initiated in 2022.

Overall, implementation of the Phase One Climate Actions is on track, however, measurable progress on achieving climate targets is not evident at this early stage. The first several years of implementation are expected to lag in producing GHG emissions reductions as staff are working on foundational and enabling actions such as advocacy and strategy development. Once implementation of strategies, policy, programs, and infrastructure is underway, GHG emissions reductions are expected.

Progress on Climate Action Commitments

Port Moody's community emissions inventory comes from the [Provincial Community Emissions Inventory \(CEEI\)](#)¹ which provides utility information for building energy consumption, and tonnage and emissions of solid waste sent to the landfill. In prior years, the inventory included emissions from transportation, however, as this information is no longer available to communities, transportation emissions are estimated based on supplemented information in the [Metro Vancouver 2015 Lower Fraser Valley Air Emissions Inventory and Forecast](#)², ICBC registration data, and population growth. A variety of data constraints mean that caution should be applied when drawing conclusions from changes in emissions inventory years, particularly related to transportation. Delay in the release of community emissions inventory information also proves challenging in consistently tracking progress over time. Staff will continue to work with regional partners, the Province, ICBC, BC Hydro, and FortisBC to acquire more frequent, reliable data at the local level to assist with reporting on progress.

Port Moody has committed to reducing GHG emissions by 40% from 2007 levels by 2030 and to carbon neutrality by 2050. According to the latest update from 2018, community emissions in Port Moody were reduced by 4% between 2007 and 2018. While a 4% reduction is a step in the right direction, it is nowhere near the level of sustained GHG reductions that will be necessary to achieve current targets.

It is important to recognize that the latest community emissions inventory spans a time before implementation of many local and province-wide initiatives such as the 2020 Climate Action Plan, local enforcement of the Energy Step Code, and increased provincial incentives for fuel switching of home heating systems and the purchase of electric vehicles. There has also been enhanced commitment of action at higher levels of government that will have trickle down effects on reducing Port Moody's GHG emissions. Staff anticipate greater GHG reductions in future updates of the community emissions inventory as the CAP and other Province-wide initiatives are implemented.

A decoupling of the relationship between population growth and emissions is starting to occur. While Port Moody's population has grown, total community emissions have declined slightly since the baseline of 2007. This can be attributed to:

- efficiencies in the construction and operation of homes and buildings, and the equipment that heats and cools them;
- increased fuel efficiencies of newer vehicles and the uptake of zero emission vehicles;
- approval of higher density housing near transit and active transportation networks; and
- approval of higher density housing in complete communities or near many services.

¹ Provincial CEEI: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/data/ceei>

² 2015 Lower Fraser Valley Air Emissions Inventory and Forecast : <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/air-quality/AirQualityPublications/2015LowerFraserValleyAirEmissionsInventory.pdf>

Between 2007 and 2018:

- GHG emissions from buildings decreased by 11%;
- GHG emissions from transportation increased by 1%; and
- GHG emissions from solid waste increased by 40%.

Staff continue to focus resources and initiate actions that have a high potential to reduce GHG emissions and increase climate resilience. **Attachment 2** includes information on the relative potential of each phase one action and their co-benefits. Transportation and Buildings continue to be the largest source of GHG emissions in Port Moody, and half of the phase one actions directly relate to emissions reductions in these sectors. With the events of 2021, ranging from an intense wildfire season, extreme heat, atmospheric rivers, to closing the year with extreme cold, climate resilience is essential for communities. These events, compounded with a global pandemic, have been particularly challenging for those most vulnerable in communities. Equity considerations in the design and implementation of actions along with low carbon resilience will continue to be critical in Port Moody's efforts to reduce GHG emissions and increase climate resilience.

Future Progress Updates and Next Steps

Staff will continue to track and monitor implementation of climate actions, trends in key performance indicators, and progress towards achieving climate goals and targets. This information, along with other related updates, will continue to be presented to Council annually. Key information from the annual updates will be shared through the City's dedicated climate action web page and the City's Climate Action Committee will continue to receive quarterly implementation updates.

In Q4 of 2022, staff will prepare a Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy outlining climate actions to be initiated between 2023 and 2025 for Council consideration, similar to the information presented in the [Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy](#)³.

Other Option(s)

This report is provided for information only. No other options are being presented at this time.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with receipt of the 2021 Phase One Climate Action Implementation Update.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

Staff share progress on the Climate Action Plan implementation on an annual basis at Council meetings. Key information from these updates will be shared with the community through the City's dedicated climate action web page.

³ Port Moody Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy: <https://www.portmoody.ca/en/city-hall/climate-action-plan.aspx#2021-Phase-One-Implementation-Strategy>

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

Implementation of the Climate Action Plan is consistent with the Environmental Leadership priority in the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan, which outlines a vision for the City to provide leadership in climate change by thinking globally and acting locally. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan was ranked as a Level 1 priority in the Council Strategic Plan and is considered a “must do” by Council.

Attachment(s)

1. Climate Action Plan Implementation 2021 Annual Report – Phase One.
2. Phase One Climate Action Implementation Detailed Table.

Report Author

Laura Sampliner, BES, LEED GA
Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2021 Climate Action Plan Implementation Update.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Climate Action Plan Implementation 2021 Annual Report - Phase One.pdf - Attachment 2 - Phase One Climate Action Implementation - Detailed Table.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jan 24, 2022

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

Mary De Paoli, Manager of Policy Planning - Jan 19, 2022 - 11:00 AM

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Jan 19, 2022 - 12:00 PM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Jan 21, 2022 - 1:49 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Jan 21, 2022 - 4:54 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Jan 22, 2022 - 8:54 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Jan 24, 2022 - 9:08 AM