

City of Port Moody

Minutes

Climate Action Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Action Committee held on Monday, March 28, 2022 via Zoom.

Present

Councillor Amy Lubik, Chair
Aline Bennett
Tugce Conger
Eric Hedekar
Helen Howes
Adam Janis
Poopeh Morakkabati
Derek Wilson

Absent

Councillor Diana Dilworth, Vice-Chair

In Attendance

Arzan Balsara – Sustainability and Energy Coordinator
Jennifer Mills – Committee Coordinator
Laura Sampliner – Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

1.1 The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes

2.1 CAC22/005

Moved, seconded, and CARRIED

THAT the minutes of the Climate Action Committee meeting held Monday, February 28, 2022 be adopted.

3. Unfinished Business

4. New Business

Port Moody Extreme Weather Response Plan

4.1 Presentation: Arzan Balsara, Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

The Sustainability and Energy Coordinator gave a presentation on Extreme Weather Response Plan (EWRP), and the following was noted:

- the City has prioritized the EWRP to address the increase in climate change and the associated increases in frequency and intensity of extreme weather events;
- an external consultant specializing in disaster response and mitigation has been retained to assist in developing the EWRP;
- the EWRP will provide a strategy with short-, medium- and long-term actions to help reduce the risks and vulnerabilities associated with extreme weather events on City facilities and infrastructure while not increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;
- the EWRP incorporates vulnerable populations in the city through an inclusivity and equity lens to ensure that any recommended actions have a way of reaching all members of the population and reduce barriers to those identified as most vulnerable;
- the EWRP has five focus areas, including:
 - supporting people in Port Moody during extreme weather events;
 - adapting infrastructure to minimize the impacts of extreme weather;
 - increasing community education about extreme weather events preparation and adapting to a changing climate;
 - reducing risk from extreme weather events and ensuring actions do not increase GHG emissions; and
 - building community resiliency in responding to extreme weather; and
- the EWRP has four phases, including:
 - Phase 1 – Data Gathering and Analysis: data and information from GIS maps qualitative knowledge of problem areas in Port Moody, vulnerability, and census data will be reviewed and a vulnerability score will be assigned to each community lifeline;
 - Phase 2 – Communication and Engagement: stakeholder workshops will be undertaken to gather information about hazards, demographic variables, and community lifelines, and learn about the vulnerabilities, risks, and abilities in

- responding to extreme weather events;
 - Phase 3 – Recommendation of Actions: a list of recommended actions will be presented to staff and stakeholders to discuss and modify as needed to achieve the goals of the five focus areas of the EWRP; and
 - Phase 4 – Draft EWRP: a draft EWRP will be presented to Council for consideration; and
- the EWRP will use future climate model predictions for analysis rather than historical data;
- some of the City's community lifelines include, civic facilities, secondary schools, third party external sites, electrical substations, and natural gas distribution sites;
- the City's community lifelines will be reviewed and their vulnerability to extreme weather events will be assessed based on factors, including location, construction type, use in extreme weather events, and current adaptive capacity; and
- the review of the City's community lifelines will determine how vulnerable a facility or piece of infrastructure is to extreme weather events and provide an opportunity to create actions and initiatives to increase their adaptive capacity and reduce risk.

Staff noted the following in response to Committee members' questions:

- the demographic variables used were selected based on the vulnerability of each group to extreme weather events, the prevalence of these groups in the community, and the availability of data;
- the city's pump stations and pressure relief valves are critical infrastructure but are not included in this iteration of the EWRP;
- the consultant, Tetra Tech, will be providing the methodology for the EWRP so that staff can repeatedly perform the exercise when more demographic variables, community lifelines, or critical infrastructure are added;
- the household unsuitability index refers to the number of persons living in a household compared to the number of bedrooms, providing an indication of overcrowding that could be more sensitive to some weather events;
- the risks associated with sea level rise and coastal flooding will be addressed through the Coastal Flood Management Strategy (CFMS);
- the stakeholder engagement sessions will include neighbourhood associations and Tri-Cities help groups;
- there are many privacy restrictions with obtaining demographic variable data from both BC Hydro and FortisBC;

- the Port Moody Fire Department and Police Departments will be consulted to obtain their community knowledge for incorporation into the EWRP;
- the EWRP focusses on the City's critical infrastructure and the Climate Ready Homes and Building Plan focusses on commercial, industrial and residential buildings;
- the name of the EWRP may be revised to an adaption or resiliency plan;
- the EWRP assessment includes urban island heat effect and tree canopy cover data;
- an EWRP stakeholder survey will provide an opportunity for participants to suggest new data sets or hazards; and
- the City will be engaging with First Nations during the development of the EWRP and the CFMS and hopes to partner with First Nations for the CFMS.

**Climate Resilient
Landscaping
Working Group**

- 4.2 The Chair provided information about the Environmental Protection Committee Green Infrastructure Working Group, noting that the Working Group is seeking a member from the Climate Action Committee to join, and encouraged any interested member to volunteer for the Working Group.

**Sustainable Building
Practice
Subcommittee
Research**

- 4.3 Attachment: Report, Councillor Meghan Lahti, dated November 22, 2021

The Chair advised that the Sustainable Building Practice Subcommittee recommendations were endorsed by Council and thanked the Subcommittee for their work.

The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator noted the following in response to Committee discussion:

- the City's authority related to embodied emissions targets for new construction is limited by the British Columbia Building Code and a legal review will need to be undertaken to determine the City's authority;
- a target of reducing embodied emissions by 40% from baseline is being considered by staff;
- the updated Sustainability Report Card includes options and encouragement for builders to consider achieving a reduction in embodied emissions;
- a lifecycle assessment report is requested for all new construction and provides an opportunity to compare baseline information and commit to a reduction in embodied emission; and
- the City is currently assessing the funds and resources required to undertake the work and will be reporting to Council to determine the next steps.

**Q1 2022 Climate
Action
Implementation
Update**

4.4 Presentation: Laura Sampliner, Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator gave a presentation on Climate Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Update, and the following was noted:

- the CAP implementation is currently on track and is in Phase 1 with 23 of the 54 actions underway;
- the focus for Q1 2022 has been on project management and implementation to ensure the projects are successful and that the data being monitored is appropriate for determining if the projects are successful;
- there are numerous City departments leading different projects related to the CAP and the work is reported through an online project management tool;
- the actions for Phase 2 implementation are being planned and will focus on actions with the greatest impact to GHG reductions and resiliency to achieve emissions reductions and adaptive capacity before 2030;
- the following updates were provided for each focus area:
 - Focus Area 1 – Buildings:
 - the updated Sustainability Report Card was endorsed by Council in February 2022 and comes into effect for new development application on April 1, 2022;
 - the updated Report Card includes an updated perspective on climate action mitigation and adaptation and more accountable and quantifiable performance measures;
 - through the Facility Climate Audits, staff is assessing opportunities in civic facilities to reduce emissions, increase resilience and adaption, and capitalize on potential synergies as part of envelope upgrades;
 - the City has applied for a grant to assist with the Facility Climate Audits and should receive more information by the end of March 2022;
 - the Climate Ready Homes and Building Plan stakeholder engagement sessions have concluded and staff is developing a draft policy and implementation plan that is scheduled for presentation to Council in June 2022; and
 - the provincial government has committed to three policy tools to help achieve zero emissions buildings: mandatory home energy labelling for new homes, property

- assessed clean energy (PACE) financing, and regulating climate pollution for new construction; and
- Focus Areas 2 – Transportation and Mobility:
 - the City's fleet is currently being assessed to review right sizing and opportunities for electrifying vehicles and using fuel sources or blends that reduce GHG emissions;
 - the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) is being updated with a climate perspective and staff will be reviewing critical actions that can help reach GHG reduction goals; and
 - the Tri-Cities share an interconnected geography and shared mobility landscape and have partnered to find opportunities to decarbonize transportation modes through the Climate Mobility Strategy, and feedback generated through the Strategy will be considered for a MTP update; and
- Focus Area 3 – Waste Management and Reduction:
 - the City's waste is collected locally and disposed of through Metro Vancouver's solid waste program; and
 - the City is part of the Metro Vancouver Zero Waste Committee where regional solid waste management issues are addressed; and
- Focus Area 4 – Land Use and Growth Management:
 - the Transportation Assessment for New Developments is under way and staff are working with a consultant to develop recommendations;
 - the Fraser Basin Council Flood Collaboration work has been paused to assess the work to-date and ensure that First Nations' consultation and collaboration is undertaken; and
 - the CFMS is in under way and staff are currently exploring opportunities for partnerships with First Nations, Port of Vancouver, utilities, and neighbourhood associations; and
- Focus Area 5 – Emergency Response and Human Health:
 - the EWRP will be included in the Emergency Preparedness Education and key messages for the community and

channels to distribute the messaging will be explored once the education is initiated later in the year; and

- Focus Area 6 – Organization Wide:
 - any new financial requests that align with the CAP are highlighted and the Sustainability and Finance teams review the entries annually; and
 - the Low Carbon Resilience Policy will be an overarching policy with customized climate mitigation and adaption considerations developed for each City Division; and
- Focus Area 7 – Infrastructure:
 - the Engineering Division is actively targeting climate action considerations and work is under way on the North Shore Integrated Stormwater Management Plan and updating the intensity duration frequency curves; and
- Focus Area 8 – Natural Environment:
 - a draft Climate Resilient Landscaping policy has been developed which incorporates innovative landscaping strategies that considers both adaptation and mitigation;
 - a policy to improve erosion and sediment control and protect the natural environment is being created; and
 - the Finance Division will be leading the Natural Asset Management Plan Strategy.

The Committee noted that Port Moody's storm sewer system is discharged into the Burrard Inlet and research indicates that stormwater may be extremely polluted and hazardous to the environment and wildlife.

The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator noted the following in response to Committee discussion:

- BC Hydro will share the information gathered from the Climate Ready Homes and Building Plan engagement sessions through the Sustainable Communities Community Energy Manager program;
- most existing Climate Ready Homes and Building Plans only address mitigation strategies and Port Moody's Climate Ready Homes and Building Plan includes adaptation and resiliency strategies;
- more information about the City's storm sewer system and the monitoring of the discharge could be provided by the Engineering Division; and

- CAP Implementation reports are annually provided to Council and include updates about key performance indicators, community emissions, and progress towards targets.

5. Information

Staff Updates


- 5.1 The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator advised that the Tri-Cities are collaborating on the CleanBC Better Homes program and information about rebates and codes will be available in the near future.

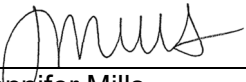
The Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator also advised that a webinar about heat pumps is scheduled for April 28, 2022 at noon and information about the webinar will be distributed once ready.

The Chair noted that the CleanBC rebates are only available to single-family homes and the advocacy for other home types could be undertaken.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:39pm.


Councillor Amy Lubik,
Chair


Jennifer Mills,
Committee Coordinator