



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: December 19, 2022
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division
Subject: Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy

Purpose

To present an implementation strategy for phase two (year 3 - 2023 and year 4 - 2024) of climate action implementation.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy be endorsed as recommended in the report dated December 19, 2022 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy.

Executive Summary

Beginning in 2018 and completing in the summer of 2020, Port Moody developed its first Climate Action Plan (CAP). The CAP is an integrated community-wide plan that provides direction and a set of actions that will put the community on track to becoming carbon neutral, along with preparing for future climate impacts.

In July of 2020, Council adopted the Climate Action Plan and directed staff to report back with an implementation plan for the first phase of actions in 2021 and 2022. Since 2021, staff have been working to implement twenty-three actions from the CAP. Phase one implementation closed at the end of 2022 and staff have prepared an implementation strategy for phase two. The purpose of this report is to present a strategy for phase two climate action implementation in years 3 and 4 (2023 and 2024). This report outlines the following:

- phase one implementation highlights;
- phase two implementation summary;
- overview of implementation phases;
- investing in climate action;
- annual reporting and tracking progress; and
- future phases of implementation.

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.

At the Regular Council Meeting of April 27, 2021, Council passed the following resolutions regarding outstanding phase one implementation funding requests:

RC21/238

\$150,000 for undertaking a review of the Master Transportation Plan be funded from the Master Transportation Plan Reserve as recommended in the report dated February 10, 2021 from the Community Development Department – Policy Planning Division regarding Outstanding Funding Requests for Phase One Climate Action Plan Implementation;

AND THAT \$80,000 for development of requirements for Transportation Demand Management strategies in new developments be funded from the Development Processing Reserve;

AND THAT \$98,000 per year for a Policy Planning position to support ongoing climate action implementation be funded from the Carbon Offset Reserve;

AND THAT staff be directed to establish a Climate Action Implementation Reserve to fund future implementation phases of the Climate Action Plan;

AND THAT going forward, funding received from climate action related grants be transferred into the Climate Action Implementation Reserve;

AND THAT staff be directed to explore other opportunities to fund the Climate Action Implementation Reserve as they emerge, such as, but not limited to: cost savings gained directly from climate action initiatives (e.g. energy cost savings) and density bonus proceeds.

At the December 6, 2022 Finance Committee meeting, funding requests to support the phase two actions for 2023 were approved and ratified by Council.

Discussion

Phase One Implementation ended in 2022 and staff have prepared a new implementation strategy for phase two. The Phase Two Climate Action Implementation outlines implementation for climate related plans over the years of 2023 and 2024.

Phase One Implementation Highlights

In February of 2021, Council endorsed the Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy, which recommends that 23 actions be initiated in 2021-2022. Phase One Implementation has ended, with 23 actions being initiated in 2021 and 2022. As of the end of 2022, implementation of the Phase One Actions is 59%, with five complete and eighteen actions still being implemented by various city teams.

Attachment 1 provides an update on all the phase one actions status as of December 2022 and overall progress.

Phase Two Implementation Summary

For Port Moody to achieve the Climate Action Plan vision, action needs to start now. The phase two actions will build upon the momentum and foundation from the phase one implementation strategy to continue working towards the Plan's vision by tackling deep GHG emissions reductions and setting the stage to prepare our community for future climate impacts. Staff are confident that based on the information and technology available today, that the actions in the Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy are a major step towards success in a changing climate. During phase two, actions not yet completed from phase one will continue to be implemented.

Highlights from phase two implementation include:

- staff to initiate 45 new actions throughout 2023 and 2024;
- 69% (31) of actions to be initiated in 2023 and 31% (14) in 2024;
- 58% (26) of actions will require funding;
 - 42% (13) of actions initiated in 2023 will require funding in 2023;
 - 93% (13) of actions initiated in 2024 will require funding in 2024;
 - 7% (3) of actions do not require funding currently but are anticipated to require funding in future phases;
- 42% (19) of actions do not require funding currently or are previously funded;
- 100% of the 2023 budget requests to support actions have been included in the 2023 municipal budget;
- 9% (4) projects will require project management support to undertake and costs for this support are already incorporated into project budget requests.

Through summer to fall of 2022, the staff climate action working group met several times to review information and compile key actions from the 2020 Climate Action Plan, 2022 Climate Ready Homes and Buildings Plan, and 2022 Extreme Weather Resilience Plan for implementation in years 2023 and 2024. Many of the actions emerging in phase two are those coming out of newly developed plans completed in phase one, and those remaining to be initiated from the 2020 Climate Action Plan. Forty-five phase two actions have been identified for initiation in 2023 and 2024 and represent a mix of quick wins, best bets, and major projects that will provide the greatest potential to achieve climate action targets and goals.

Phase two actions include those that have a major impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, contribute to enhancing community climate resilience, integrate well with City and community priorities, and provide other co-benefits such as job creation and better air quality. The phase one actions address sectors with the most GHG emissions output, such as transportation and buildings, and areas where the vulnerabilities to climate impacts are highest, such as health concerns from extreme weather and infrastructure impacted by current and future climate scenarios.

Attachments 2 and 3 contain detailed information on the phase two actions, their classifications, funding implications, impact on emissions reduction and climate resilience, and the process undertaken to select them. Staff have worked to ensure that initiating these actions is realistic and aligns with the urgency around bold climate action and other municipal priorities.

To make progress on all 45 actions being initiated in phase two, additional staff capacity is required. Staff have outlined cost effective opportunities to meet the need for additional capacity in the table below:

Capacity	Approach
<p>The Community Development Assistant position is proposed to support climate action work equivalent to one day a week. Climate action support includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and enforcement of the Sustainability Report Card; and • Management of action and KPI status and progress reporting through Envisio. 	<p>\$16,000 was previously approved by Council in January 2022 from the Development Process Reserve to support the role of this position in climate action and has been incorporated into the 2023 budget.</p>
<p>Invest in project management through the Project Delivery Services group to lead several climate action projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase One Action – Develop a Coastal Flood Management Strategy (funding previously confirmed); • Phase Two Action 20 – Explore Creating Pedestrian Priority Zones in Key Areas; • Phase Two Action 24 – Review and Update Design Guidelines with a Climate Lens; and • Phase Two Action 40 – Develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy. 	<p>Project management costs are built into project funding requests.</p>

Investing in Climate Action

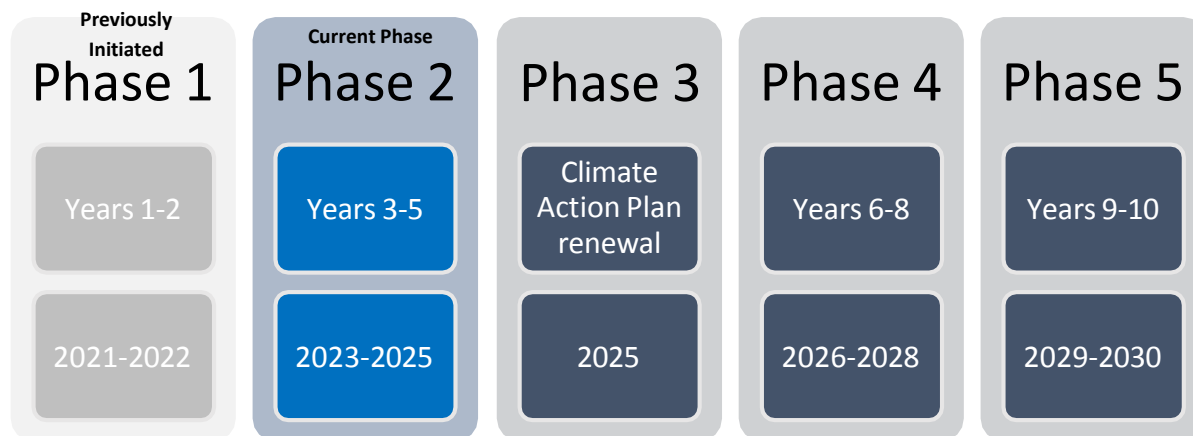
The United Nations considers climate change the defining issue of our time. Climate change impacts are being experienced around the world, and communities especially, are grappling with issues firsthand such as flooding, wildfires, air quality issues, and effects on human health that are straining municipal resources and services and reducing the liveability of our community. Solutions to the climate crisis require considerable collective action and must reflect the unique values and challenges of each community. Municipalities are responsible for ensuring that those who live, work, and play in their communities have access to the services they need. With climate change, municipalities will face greater challenges in the continued delivery of high-quality services in addition to preserving the health and safety of residents.

Attachment 4 outlines benefits of investing in climate action and how this investment overlaps with other strategic priorities such as economic prosperity and community health.

There is a need to equally move forward with adapting to the quickly changing climate at the same time as swiftly and effectively cutting emissions. To do this, staff have and will continue to work with the Simon Fraser University (SFU) [Action on Climate Team \(ACT\)](#)¹ to use a low carbon resilience lens and ensure that Port Moody identifies where these opportunities overlap.

Overview of Implementation Phases

Climate action implementation will be completed through a phased approach determined by time horizons of approximately two or three years. Actions brought forward in each phase will be initiated during the phase time period, however, completion of the actions may extend into future years. The phases of implementation are as follows:



Prior to each phase, staff will bring forward an implementation strategy detailing similar information as presented in **Attachment 2**.

Annual Reporting and Tracking Climate Action Progress

Each year, staff will revisit the scope and status of their responsible actions to determine next steps to complete the action(s). This provides an opportunity to integrate action needs in the municipal budgeting process and allows sufficient time to plan for implementation of actions in the upcoming year.

Each year staff will provide an annual update to Council on climate action implementation that will include a review of the year ending and any new information and expectations for the upcoming year. In early 2022, Council received for information the first [2021 climate action implementation update](#)² report that provided a status update of all phase one actions, key performance indicators and progress towards community GHG emissions reduction targets.

¹ Simon Fraser University Action on Climate Change Team (SFU ACT):

<https://www.sfu.ca/research/departments/act-action-climate-team#:~:text=ACT%20%E2%80%93%20Action%20on%20Climate%20Team,%20and%20nature%2Dbased%20solutions>.

² 2021 Climate Action Implementation Update report: [https://www.portmoody.ca/en/recreation-parks-and-environment/resources/Documents/Climate%20Action/Climate Action Plan Implementation 2021 Annual Report - Phase One.pdf](https://www.portmoody.ca/en/recreation-parks-and-environment/resources/Documents/Climate%20Action/Climate%20Action%20Plan%20Implementation%202021%20Annual%20Report%20-%20Phase%20One.pdf)

Monitoring of implementation is crucial in determining the success of actions and measuring progress towards meeting climate action commitments. Tracking progress will be carried out by the staff climate action working group using Envisio project management software. Pending Council endorsement of the draft Phase Two Implementation Strategy, lead staff will begin providing monthly updates on their respective actions to Policy Planning staff. Key performance indicators will be integrated with Envisio for tracking phase one and two action implementation success and compared against targets and inventories of climate data. Information captured through Envisio will be communicated to Council and the community during annual updates on climate action implementation.

Future Phases of Implementation

Approaching the final year of phase two (2024), staff will bring forward a plan for phase three of climate action implementation. As outlined in the implementation phases, phase three falls at the critical 2025 halfway point from the start of the Climate Action Plan in 2020 to climate action targets maturing in 2030. Therefore, 2025 presents an opportunity to revisit the carbon neutral scenario, update community emissions inventories, and ensure that the City is on track to meeting climate action goals and targets. This work will involve updating the carbon neutral scenario modelling with the latest federal and provincial commitments, climate science and commitments, and best practices in community action to close the gap of emissions reductions.

To achieve the timelines committed to in the climate emergency declaration and in the Climate Action Plan, Climate Ready Homes and Buildings Plan, and Extreme Weather Resilience Plan, bold action will need to begin as soon as possible to avoid significant effort and cost in future years. The sooner actions are under way, the better prepared our community will be for responding to climate change.

Other Option(s)

THAT staff be directed to amend the Phase 2 Climate Action Implementation Strategy as directed by Council.

Financial Implications

The staff climate action working group have estimated the financial impacts and staff resources required to implement the 45 phase two actions. The draft Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy is anticipated to result in financial implications of \$1,117,300 over a two-year period from 2023 to 2024. The funding requests outlined below for 2023 were approved on December 6, 2022 through the 2023 budget process. The table below depicts the financial implications based on year and related number of actions per climate action focus area, not including possible grant funding.

Climate Action Focus Area	Count of Actions	Summary Budget Requests	
		2023	2024
Buildings	15	\$101,500	\$23,000
Emergency Response and Human Health	10	\$43,500	\$42,300

Transportation and Mobility	5	\$0	\$145,000
Infrastructure	5	\$275,000	\$20,000
Land Use and Growth Management	4	\$43,000	\$18,000
Waste Reduction and Management	3	\$75,000	\$43,000
Natural Environment	3	\$238,000	\$50,000
Total \$ Per Year	45	\$776,000	\$341,300
Total Funding Requested for Phase Two	\$1,117,300		

Staff are actively pursuing grants to offset costs where opportunities exist; for example, staff have identified combined \$803,995 in grants in 2023 to support five phase two actions.

The City currently funds climate action projects mainly through the following methods with no impact on taxation:

- provincial funding through the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP);
- the Climate Action Reserve funded from general revenue and any grant monies received; and
- grants.

While this method has been successful in supporting Phase One and Phase Two implementation, there are several ongoing challenges with the current method of funding climate action initiatives, such as:

- provincial LGCAP funding is only committed until 2024. Beyond 2024, it is uncertain if the province will continue to provide direct funding to local governments and what the funding amount will be;
- grants are highly competitive, are not guaranteed, require a significant amount of staff time, and can lead to project delays due to granting requirements; and
- grants are often geared towards specific projects. To meet grant requirements the city may need to expand scope, match funds, and meet project requirements above the intended nature of the original project in order to have a successful application. This can extend project timelines and impact key performance indicator measurements.

To support future years of climate action implementation, the city should consider additional climate action funding mechanisms to ensure sustainable, dedicated climate action funding which leads to progress towards committed goals and targets.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

Progress of phase one and phase two action implementation will be communicated to Council annually. The annual report will be available to the public, and highlights from this report will be posted to the City's dedicated [Climate Action Plan web page](https://www.portmoody.ca/en/city-hall/climate-action-plan.aspx)³. As the phase two actions are initiated by the lead divisions, appropriate communication and engagement strategies will be developed to connect with those affected by the actions and seek their input as applicable.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

³ City of Port Moody Climate Action web page: <https://www.portmoody.ca/en/city-hall/climate-action-plan.aspx>

Implementation of the Climate Action Plan was ranked as a Level 1 priority and considered a “must do” by the previous Council. Several actions from the Phase One Climate Action Implementation Strategy were ranked as a Level 1 priority and have been integrated into the Council Strategic Plan project tracking and reporting process.

Funding phase two climate action implementation is consistent with the current Council Strategic Plan (2019-2022) objectives in the following areas:

Environmental Leadership	
Council Strategic Plan Objectives	Council Strategic Plan Actions
Maintain and enhance Port Moody's natural and built assets while reducing the impact on our planet.	Educate the public about the importance of Port Moody's natural assets
	Inspire environmental actions and advocacy
	Reduce the City's impact on the planet
Expand and enhance policies to guide environmental goals and sustainability programs.	Review and update existing environmental policies on a regular basis to find leadership opportunities
	Broaden the City's sustainability programs
Expand and make the most of our parks and green spaces and design them to create positive and diverse experiences throughout the community	Create diverse, natural, open-space experiences throughout the community
Provide leadership in climate change by thinking globally and acting locally.	Respond and adapt to climate change through planning and policy development
	Address global climate change with local actions

With the current Council Strategic Plan reaching maturity at the end of 2022, several phase two climate actions will be recommended to be integrated with the new Council Strategic Plan.

Attachment(s)

1. Phase One Climate Action Implementation Progress Update
2. Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy
3. Phase Two Climate Action Impact and Alignment Details
4. Benefits of Investing in Climate Action

Report Author

Laura Sampliner, BES
Senior Sustainability and Energy Coordinator

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attachment 1 - Phase One Climate Action Implementation Update.pdf- Attachment 2 - Phase Two Climate Action Implementation Strategy.pdf- Attachment 3 - Phase Two Climate Action Impact and Alignment Details.pdf- Attachment 4 - Benefits of Investing in Climate Action.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Dec 23, 2022

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

Mary De Paoli, Manager of Policy Planning - Dec 20, 2022 - 9:56 AM

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Dec 20, 2022 - 9:56 AM

Stephanie Lam, City Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services - Dec 20, 2022 - 1:30 PM

Lindsay Todd, Acting Manager of Communications and Engagement - Dec 21, 2022 - 3:42 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Dec 21, 2022 - 9:32 PM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Dec 23, 2022 - 10:49 AM