

NOV 28 2019

Acting Mayor Hunter Madsen and Council  
City of Port Moody  
100 Newport Drive PO Box 36  
Port Moody, BC V3H 5C3

Dear Acting Mayor Madsen and Council:

**Re: Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw No. 1295, 2019**

At its November 1, 2019 regular meeting, the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver) adopted the following resolution:

*That the MVRD Board:*

- a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;*
- b) give first, second, and third readings to “Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”; and*
- c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*.*

In accordance with Section 437 of the *Local Government Act*, and Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future (Metro 2040)*, the regional growth strategy, this letter provides an opportunity for affected local governments to provide written comment on the proposed Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro 2040*. The proposed amendment requires the adoption of an amendment bylaw with an affirmative 50%+1 weighted vote of the MVRD Board.

You are invited to provide comments on the proposed amendment to *Metro 2040*. Please provide comments in the form of a Council or Board resolution, as applicable, and submit to Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer/Director of Board and Information Services, by email at [Chris.Plagnol@metrovancover.org](mailto:Chris.Plagnol@metrovancover.org) by January 17, 2020.

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The proposed *Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019* would replace the existing greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in *Metro 2040* in accordance with the table below:

<b>Current GHG Reduction Targets in Metro 2040</b>	<b>Proposed GHG Reduction Targets</b> (Aligned with <i>Climate 2050 Strategic Framework</i> and the <i>IPCC 2019 Special Report</i> )
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 33% below 2007 levels by 2020</li><li>• 80% below 2007 levels by 2050</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 45% reduction from 2010 levels by 2030</li><li>• Carbon neutral by 2050</li></ul>

Updating the targets in *Metro 2040* is consistent with recent MVRD Board direction, the 2019-2022 Board Strategic Plan and the *Climate 2050 Strategic Framework*.

*Metro 2040* represents the regional federation’s collective vision and commitment on how to manage anticipated growth to the region in a way that: supports the development of complete, connected and resilient communities, protects important lands (i.e. agricultural, conservation, and industrial), and supports the efficient provision of urban infrastructure (i.e. transit and utilities). Centred around 5 goals, *Metro 2040* contains a set of policy actions for Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions to collaboratively work together to meet that vision.

Under Strategy 3.3, ‘Encourage land use and transportation infrastructure that reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and improve air quality’, the role of member jurisdictions is to adopt regional context statements that identify how they will use their land development and transportation strategies to meet their greenhouse gas reduction targets and consider how these targets will contribute to the regional targets.

The proposed Metro 2040 amendment would not trigger a requirement to immediately update regional context statements, however, if the amendment bylaw is adopted, member jurisdictions would be requested to update their regional context statements to reflect actions toward the updated targets as feasible, either concurrent with updates to their Official Community Plans, Community Energy and Emissions Plans, or other strategic planning documents. Meeting the regional commitment to carbon neutrality for the region will require significant cooperation, collaboration, and commitment from Metro Vancouver, member jurisdictions, other orders of government, partner organizations, stakeholders, and the public.

Enclosed is a copy of the staff report that summarizes the proposed changes to *Metro 2040* that will result from *Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1285, 2019*. If you have any questions with respect to the proposed amendment please contact Heather McNell, Director of Regional Planning and Electoral Area Services by phone at 604-436-6813 or by email at Heather.McNell@metrovancouver.org.

Yours sincerely,



Sav Dhaliwal  
Chair, Metro Vancouver Board

SD/NC/st

cc: Andre Boel, General Manager, Planning and Development, City of Port Moody

Encl: Report dated October 31, 2019, titled "Amending Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019" (Doc# 33424692)

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To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Sean Tynan, Acting Senior Planner, Regional Planning

Date: October 31, 2019 Meeting Date: October 11, 2019

Subject: **Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the MVRD Board:

- a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;
  - b) give first, second, and third readings to “Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”; and
  - c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*.
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#### **PURPOSE**

This report recommends a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* (*Metro 2040*), the regional growth strategy, for consideration by the Regional Planning Committee and MVRD Board.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Per Subsection 429 (d) of the *Local Government Act*, *Metro 2040* includes the region’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction target. The current reduction target in *Metro 2040* is 33% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 as compared to 2007 levels.

*Climate 2050* is Metro Vancouver’s overarching long-term strategy guiding the region’s policies and collective actions to transition to a carbon neutral and climate resilient region over the next 30 years. As part of *Climate 2050*, at its meeting on July 26, 2019, the MVRD Board adopted the following resolution:

*That the MVRD Board:*

- a) *endorse the proposed amendments to the Climate 2050 Strategic Framework to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;*
- b) *direct staff to bring forward a proposed amendment to Metro 2040, the regional growth strategy, to the Metro Vancouver Board for consideration, to incorporate revised greenhouse gas reduction targets (including interim targets).*

In addition, the Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan (2019-2022) direction for Regional Planning contains the following statement on climate change:

- 1.2 *Undertake a comprehensive update to Metro 2040 to prioritize climate change, align with the update to the Regional Transportation Strategy, and extend the timeframe to 2050.*

This report responds to the direction of the MVRD Board and the Metro Vancouver Board Strategic Plan by bringing forward a proposed amendment to *Metro 2040* to update the region's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target to align with the October 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.

### **METRO 2040 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS**

#### **Current Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets and Policies in Metro 2040**

*Metro 2040* is the region's collective vision for managing growth in the region. Under Section 3.3.1 of *Metro 2040*, Metro Vancouver commits to:

*Implement the strategies and actions of the Regional Growth Strategy which contribute to regional targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 33 percent below 2007 levels by 2020 and 80 percent below 2007 levels by 2050...*

Under Section 3.3.4, the role of municipalities is to:

*Adopt Regional Context Statements which:*

- a) *identify how municipalities will use their land development and transportation strategies to meet their greenhouse gas reduction targets and consider how these targets will contribute to the regional targets;*
- b) *identify policies and/or programs that reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and improve air quality from land use and transportation infrastructure, such as:*
  - *existing building retrofits and construction of new buildings to green performance guidelines or standards, district energy systems, and energy recovery and renewable energy generation technologies, such as solar panels and geexchange systems, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure;*
  - *community design and facility provision that encourages transit, cycling and walking (e.g. direct and safe pedestrian and cycling linkages to the transit system);*
- c) *focus infrastructure and amenity investments in Urban Centres and Frequent Transit Development Areas, and at appropriate locations along TransLink's Frequent Transit Network;*

In addition, there are other actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions included in other sections of *Metro 2040*.

#### **Proposed Amendment to Metro 2040 and Implications for Member Jurisdictions**

The proposed change would replace the existing greenhouse gas emission reduction target in *Metro 2040* in accordance with the table below.

<b>Current Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target in <i>Metro 2040</i></b>	<b>Proposed Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target (Reflected in Climate 2050 Strategic Framework and aligned with the IPCC Special Report)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33% below 2007 levels by 2020</li> <li>• 80% below 2007 levels by 2050</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 45% reduction from 2010 levels by 2030</li> <li>• Carbon neutral by 2050</li> </ul>

The proposed amendment would not require a need for immediate updates to regional context statements. However, municipalities that are currently developing or updating their respective Official Community Plans, Community Energy and Emissions Plans or other strategic planning documents should consider aligning their greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and actions with the regional targets. The next time regional context statements are developed or updated, each member jurisdiction will need to identify how the respective Official Community Plans are consistent with, or are working towards, the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets in *Metro 2040*.

Section 6.3.4 of *Metro 2040* allows for some amendments to the regional growth strategy to be undertaken through a Type 3 Minor Amendment. A Type 3 amendment requires the adoption of an amendment bylaw passed by an affirmative 50%+1 weighted vote of the MVRD Board, and does not require a public hearing. Once initiated, affected local governments would receive written notice and be provided a minimum of 30 days to respond. Type 3 minor amendments have been used in the past as a means to amend *Metro 2040*. The proposed amendment bylaw is attached.

The proposed amendment was presented on September 20, 2019, to the Regional Planning Advisory Committee for comment. No comments were received.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the MVRD Board:
  - a) initiate a Type 3 minor amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to reflect a commitment to a carbon neutral region by 2050, and an interim target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2010 levels by 2030;
  - b) give first, second, and third readings to “Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”; and
  - c) direct staff to notify affected local governments and agencies as per Section 6.4.2 of *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future*.
  
2. That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated September 16, 2019, titled “Amending *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future* to Align with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C – Bylaw 1295, 2019” and direct staff to explore updating the regional growth strategy greenhouse gas emission reduction targets as part of the comprehensive update to *Metro 2040*.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If the MVRD Board chooses Alternative 1, the proposed amendment bylaw will be initiated and given first, second, and third readings, and staff will notify affected local governments and agencies to provide an opportunity to offer comment. The proposed amendment bylaw would then be brought back to the MVRD Board with any comments from the notification period for consideration of final reading. The notification period will be a minimum of 30 days and the amendment notice will be posted on the Metro Vancouver website.

If the MVRD Board chooses Alternative 2, the process for updating the greenhouse gas emission reduction target in *Metro 2040* will not be initiated at this time. *Metro 2040* would not be aligned with the recent IPCC Special Report and will be inconsistent with MVRD Board direction to update the *Climate 2050 Strategic Framework*. Staff would then consider the updated greenhouse gas reduction target as part of the development of *Metro 2050*. This would delay updating the target until mid-2022.

## SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

This report brings forward a recommendation to update the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets contained in *Metro 2040* to pursue a carbon neutral region by 2050, with an interim target of 45% reduction by 2030. Including this target in *Metro 2040* at this time is consistent with recent MVRD Board direction as well as the 2019-2022 Board Strategic Plan and the *Climate 2050 Strategic Framework*. Alternatively, with the update to *Metro 2040* underway, updating the greenhouse gas emissions target in the regional growth strategy can also be implemented as part of the development of *Metro 2050*, the updated growth strategy, which is anticipated to be finalized and adopted in mid-2022.

Metro Vancouver can set the path towards carbon neutrality for the region, but it will not be able to achieve the targets on its own. To obtain the necessary reductions in regional emissions, significant cooperation, collaboration, and commitment will be required from member jurisdictions, other orders of government, partner organizations, stakeholders, and the public. The new greenhouse gas emissions reduction target would need to be considered by member jurisdictions the next time their respective regional context statements are updated. In the interim, municipalities currently updating their Official Community Plans, Community Energy and Emissions Plans or other strategic planning documents may wish to consider aligning their greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets with Metro Vancouver and the IPCC Special Report. Staff recommend Alternative 1.

## Attachment

Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019

## References

1. [IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C](#)
2. [Aligning \*Climate 2050\* with the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C](#)

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 1295, 2019  
A Bylaw to Amend "Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy  
Bylaw Number 1136, 2010"**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Metro Vancouver Regional District’s board of directors (the “Board”) adopted the “Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010” on July 29, 2011 (the “Regional Growth Strategy”);
- B. The Board wishes to revise the greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets included in the Regional Growth Strategy;
- C. In accordance with Regional Growth Strategy Section 6.3.4(j), all amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy that are not identified in Sections 6.3.1 or 6.3.3 are considered Type 3 minor amendments; and
- D. Metro Vancouver Regional District wishes to amend “Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010”.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of Metro Vancouver Regional District enacts as follows:

- 1. “Greater Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw Number 1136, 2010” is hereby amended as follows:

Regional Growth Strategy Section 3.3.1 is deleted and the following is substituted in its place:

3.3.1 Implement the strategies and actions of the Regional Growth Strategy that contribute to regional targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent below 2010 levels by 2030 and to achieve a carbon neutral region by 2050. Figure 3 identifies examples of strategies and actions contained in the Regional Growth Strategy to address climate change.

- 2. The official citation of this bylaw is “Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”. This bylaw may be cited as “Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Bylaw No. 1295, 2019”.

Read a first time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Read a second time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Read a third time this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Passed and finally adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Sav Dhaliwal, Chair

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Chris Plagnol, Corporate Officer