Public Engagement Summary

Port Moody Climate Action Plan

Lead Division: Planning | **May – November 2020** | **portmoody.ca/climateaction**

Public engagement methodology

Community Brainstorming Session

- **Date:** May 25
- **Venue:** Civic Centre Galleria
- **# of attendees:** approx **200**
- **Sticky wall:** **238** actions written on index cards

Idea form

- 55 online
- 12 paper
- **Response period:** May 13 – Jun 9
- **# of surveys completed:** **67**

Climate Action Plan Open House

- **Date:** Nov 14
- **Venue:** Civic Centre Galleria
- **# of attendees:** approx **55**
- **Dot-voting:** **1,061** dot stickers placed by attendees

Feedback form

- 36 online
- 6 paper
- **Response period:** Nov 4 – Dec 1
- **# of surveys completed:** **42**

Scope of the Engagement:

On January 22, 2019, Council endorsed a public engagement plan that focused on the following objectives:

1. educate the public and assist them in understanding why Port Moody needs a Climate Action Plan (CAP), and what roles the municipality and the public can play in helping to achieve the goals that will be set out in the CAP;
2. gather suggestions from the public for actions that can be taken (by the City and the public) to help the community adapt to climate change and mitigate its effects;
3. obtain feedback from the public on a list of proposed actions to be included in the City's CAP (after submitted suggestions have been evaluated and prioritized by the Climate Action Committee); and
4. identify potential challenges related to the proposed actions and any barriers to participation.

Survey respondents (idea form and feedback form combined)

Connection to the consultation:
(Note: respondents could select more than one category.)

- **69** are Port Moody residents
- **3** are Port Moody business owner/operators
- **8** are "other"
- **33** did not answer

Respondents by age:

under 18	**3**
18 – 34	**18**
35 – 44	**11**
45 – 54	**8**
55+	**32**
"I do not wish to give my age"	**2**
did not answer	**35**

Additional consultation notes

While public consultation and survey results provide the City with valuable information, please note the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of all Port Moody residents.

Community Brainstorming Session – Key Findings

Community members suggested 547 actions, in seven categories, via a "sticky wall" at the session (attendees wrote their ideas on index cards and then displayed them for others to see), an idea form (online and paper), and Instagram. All actions, sorted by category, are presented verbatim in a separate document.

Number of actions suggested in each category:

Transportation and mobility	109
Waste reduction and management	105
Natural environment	97
Buildings	74
Infrastructure	58
Land use and growth management	56
Emergency response and human health	48
Total	**547**

For each category, we sorted the actions by theme.

The three strongest themes overall were:

1. **stronger regulations**
2. **increase use of public transportation**
3. **increase active transportation**

The three strongest themes in each category were:

Transportation and mobility

1. increase use of public transportation **2. increase active transportation*** **3. increase zero emissions vehicles**

*(active transportation is human-powered travel such as walking, cycling, rollerblading, and kayaking)

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "Transportation must be transit focused. More cars, even EVs won't make for resilient communities. Designing infrastructure to connect people to places via transit is imperative. Technology utilization for more user pay activities will help get people out of cars."
2. "Each new road built should have a greenway nearby with walking and bike path."
3. "In 2050 we should all be using electric vehicles or bikes and no gas powered vehicles."

Waste reduction and management

1. stronger regulations **2. education** **3. expand materials collection**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "Businesses should have to provide proof of recycling and organics collection as part of business license renewals."
2. "Work with SD43, nearby municipalities, TransLink and private businesses to make the material list consistent. People want to do the right thing, but the current system is too confusing. Better promote that BC Recycling Hotline (604)RECYCLE."
3. "Have more public sorting bins (compost, recycling, garbage, metal)."

Natural environment

1. conservation and restoration **2. stronger regulations** **3. education**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "Replace plain grass areas/urban wastelands with native species that promote pollination. Constant monitoring of invasive species in trails/forest walks, city should have volunteer activity of removing invasive species on a regular basis."
2. "Mandate more green be used when establishing new residential and commercial areas, we need more shade!"
3. "Communication campaign on water conservation and reduction especially in the warm summer months and when we are receiving less snowmelt."

Buildings

1. increase use of renewable energy **2. incentives for builders/developers/homeowners** **3. stronger regulations**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "New construction should have solar panels, ability to collect rain water for use in toilet systems and watering plants."
2. "Incentives to consider green measures in renovations, particularly for embodied energy in materials e.g. choice of flooring etc."
3. "Make LEED certification building standards a requisite for new development or incentivize LEED certification."

Infrastructure

1. climate resilient infrastructure **2. stronger regulations** **3. increase green infrastructure**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "…Allow for the disconnection of the rainwater leader and treatment through a raingarden. Look for opportunities to treat rain at a community level in street level using rain gardens (similar to that at College Park way and Cecile Drive, or at Rockypoint Park, parking lot…"
2. "Mandate that new developments have a certain percentage of space which can absorb stormwater; add taxes to properties without an adequate stormwater management system to pay for city stormwater drains so that the burden doesn't fall on everyone."
3. "Decrease the use of concrete and asphalt pavement, and increase permeable ground covers."

Land use and growth management

1. planning for complete, compact communities **2. preserve green space** **3. smart growth planning**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "Walkable, mixed use, compact close to transit. Make it easy and enjoyable to walk and bike."
2. "Lots of green parks in walking distance."
3. "Land use planning that focuses on Smart Growth principles."

Emergency response and human health

1. extreme heat preparedness **2. emergency preparedness planning** **3. education**

Samples of submitted actions:

1. "More trees planted in paved areas to shield people and cars from extreme heat and more green roofs on flat surfaces. Especially reduce our carbon footprint by reducing traffic, tax industrial wastes sent air-born, and have control burning to reduce forest fires."
2. "Develop emergency plan for each PoMo area i.e. mountain meadows school as site for emergency shelter with resources for food/water in place."
3. "Offer public courses to prepare for emergencies."

Climate Action Plan Open House – Key Findings

The 547 actions suggested by the community were combined with actions proposed by City staff. After duplicates and any actions considered to be outside the scope of the Climate Action Plan were removed, the Climate Action Committee evaluated and prioritized the proposed actions.

We went back to the community with 79 proposed actions. For each action, we asked participants to select "yes," "maybe," or "no" in response to the question "Do you think this action should be a priority in Port Moody's Climate Action Plan?"

Responses were gathered via dot-voting at the open house (attendees used coloured dot stickers to indicate "yes," "maybe," and "no") and a feedback form (online and paper). Results for each of the 79 actions are presented in a separate document.

Actions in the Transportation and Mobility, Buildings, and Land Use and Growth Management categories received the most "yes" votes.

Category	Yes	Maybe	No
Transportation and mobility	435	111	63
Buildings	403	125	55
Land use and growth management	401	97	39
Natural environment	334	79	36
Infrastructure	264	69	30
Waste reduction and management	240	38	11
Emergency response and human health	238	111	62

Top three actions that received the most "yes" votes overall:

1. **Develop landscaping strategies for public lands in Port Moody's neighbourhoods that prioritize:**
   - the consideration of climate change risks in the design of parks and sidewalk/boulevard landscaping;
   - planting of native species that are resistant to drought/heat/wind/flooding; and
   - planting of native species and plants that create pollinator habitat in local parks.

2. **Encourage or require developers to include comprehensive transportation demand management (TDM) strategies in proposals for new development projects.** (TDM is the application of strategies and policies to reduce travel by automobile and/or shift travel away from peak hours or the busiest routes – examples include pay parking, mobility pricing, road usage charges, subsidized transit passes, construction of bike lanes and multi-use paths, and installation of bike racks at key locations.)

3. **Initiate/continue discussions with Metro Vancouver to advocate for:**
   - a circular economy within the region (a circular economy is an economic system aimed at eliminating waste, reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and continually using and reusing resources through sharing, repairing, refurbishing, recycling, and remanufacturing);
   - increased methane capture at regional landfills (methane is a powerful greenhouse gas that traps energy from the sun and contributes to climate change – but when captured it can be an important fuel source, one that produces fewer greenhouse gases when burned than coal or oil);
   - a regional approach to the elimination of single-items such as beverage cups, straws, utensils, and food containers; and
   - regional requirements for commercial businesses to report on waste generation and how much is diverted from the landfill.

Top three actions that received the most "yes" votes in each category:

Transportation and mobility

1. **Consider creating zero-emission zones** (i.e. no cars allowed, only pedestrians, bicycles, public transit, etc.) **in key areas** (e.g. Brewers Row, Rocky Point Park, Clarke Street, Queens Street Plaza).

2. **Encourage investment in infrastructure and amenities** (e.g. bicycle parking, electric vehicle parking, electric bicycle charging stations) **that would make it easier for people to choose zero-emission transportation options.**

   Tied with:

   Assess the City's fleet to improve our understanding of how vehicles are used, and explore ways to increase the efficiency of the fleet such as:

   - adjust routes to reduce number of trips/distance travelled;
   - select the right size vehicle for the job;
   - switch to zero-emission fuel sources and consider investing in on-site, zero-emission refueling infrastructure;
   - prioritize the purchase of zero-emission vehicles when replacements are needed;
   - encourage City staff to use electric bikes and zero-emission vehicles instead of combustion engine fleet vehicles when possible; and
   - create a small motor pool of zero-emission vehicles to be used by City staff performing administrative duties or as loaners when fleet vehicles are out of service for repair.

3. **Prioritize Master Transportation Plan projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions:**
   - develop an active transportation strategy that focuses on annual investment in the design and construction of new walking and cycling infrastructure, and develop accompanying policies or procedures to prioritize active transportation infrastructure over single-occupant vehicle infrastructure (active transportation is human-powered travel such as walking, cycling, rollerblading, and kayaking);
   - work with TransLink to improve transit network efficiency, level of service, and accessibility;
   - reduce requirements for off-street parking in new developments located in transit-oriented development areas, and require developers to contribute to zero-emission car-share programs; and
   - develop a trail strategy to improve Port Moody's off-road trail network.

Buildings

1. **Adopt the BC Energy Step Code in advance of the provincial timeline.** What is the BC Energy Step Code? The provincial government has set a goal to make buildings net-zero-energy ready by 2032. The Step Code has been introduced to help British Columbia achieve this goal by increasing energy-efficiency requirements in the BC Building Code. The Step Code sets performance targets for new construction and groups them into steps that apply across various building types and regions of the province.

2. **Develop and implement a green buildings rezoning policy that would encourage developers to:**
   - propose buildings that produce low emissions and meet high standards for energy efficiency (e.g. buildings that make use of passive design, a method of design/construction where a comfortable interior environment is achieved using very little energy for heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting);
   - determine the feasibility of creating district energy systems (which use a central energy plant to provide efficient heating, cooling, and hot water to a group of buildings or an entire neighbourhood) for large sites;
   - address risks associated with climate change (e.g. severe storms, sea level rise, flooding, wildfires); and
   - propose innovative solutions for energy and water conservation, as well as storm water and solid waste management.

3. **Develop a zero-emissions plan for all new buildings (to be phased-in by building type) that includes encouraging energy efficiency and addresses indoor air quality and risks associated with climate change (e.g. severe storms, sea level rise, flooding, wildfires).**

Land use and growth management

1. **Encourage or require developers to include comprehensive transportation demand management strategies in proposals for new development projects.**

2. **Encourage density and mixed-use neighborhoods around transportation hubs (e.g. SkyTrain stations and frequent-service transit routes).**

3. **Assess changes in shoreline erosion, and develop a shoreline protection strategy that focuses on the use of green infrastructure (i.e. water management systems and technologies – such as rain gardens, bioswales, green walls/roofs, and porous pavement – that mimic natural processes to absorb and filter storm water at its source) solutions instead of traditional ones such as dikes and other hard infrastructure.**

Natural environment

1. **Develop landscaping strategies for public lands in Port Moody's neighbourhoods that prioritize:**
   - the consideration of climate change risks in the design of parks and sidewalk/boulevard landscaping;
   - planting of native species that are resistant to drought/heat/wind/flooding; and
   - planting of native species and plants that create pollinator habitat in local parks.

2. **Develop and implement an urban forest management strategy.**

3. **Update strategies for Environmentally Sensitive Areas and parkland acquisition to incorporate:**
   - ways to reduce the impact of climate change risks;
   - area-specific guidelines for the acquisition of sensitive areas;
   - guidelines for habitat restoration; and
   - strategies to restore/strengthen connections between areas with high levels of species diversity (connections promote even greater diversity, which reduces vulnerability to climate change risks).

Infrastructure

1. **Design and implement a program to ensure that all new and existing buildings are metered for water usage.**

2. **Increase public awareness of the need to:**
   - reduce our water consumption;
   - reduce our water footprint (i.e. the amount of water used to produce goods and services – cars, smart phones, leather shoes, meat, milk, coffee, wheat, and cotton products like jeans and bed sheets are all examples of products that are made using large amounts of water);
   - collect storm water; and
   - prepare for a flood.

3. **Encourage property owners to collect storm water runoff on their property** (e.g. rain or melting snow that falls on a roof, deck/patio, driveway, etc.) **and re-use it** (e.g. to water plants/lawns, clean decks/patios, wash vehicles) **or allow it to soak into soil** (i.e. infiltration) **– this helps to conserve water and reduce the load on our storm sewer system.**

Waste reduction and management

1. **Initiate/continue discussions with Metro Vancouver to advocate for:**
   - a circular economy within the region (a circular economy is an economic system aimed at eliminating waste, reducing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, and continually using and reusing resources through sharing, repairing, refurbishing, recycling, and remanufacturing);
   - increased methane capture at regional landfills (methane is a powerful greenhouse gas that traps energy from the sun and contributes to climate change. But when captured it can be an important fuel source, one that produces fewer greenhouse gases when burned than coal or oil);
   - a regional approach to the elimination of single-items such as beverage cups, straws, utensils, and food containers; and
   - regional requirements for commercial businesses to report on waste generation and how much is diverted from the landfill.

2. **Develop a strategy to ensure organic waste produced at City events is diverted from the landfill.**

3. **Work with partner organizations on public education campaigns to increase awareness of:**
   - where waste and recyclables end up;
   - Metro Vancouver's "Love Food Hate Waste" campaign aimed at reducing food waste in the region;
   - Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge, which asks people to reduce waste at home and at work, reuse/recycle/compost as much as possible, and start a Zero Waste Community Challenge; and
   - life-cycle assessment tools that can help consumers determine the environmental impact of specific products/services.

Emergency response and human health

1. **Increase public awareness of:**
   - what individuals, families, and neighbours can do to prepare for emergencies;
   - how to prepare for, and stay safe during, periods of extreme heat and poor air quality; and
   - how to keep homes/buildings cool during periods of extreme heat (e.g. install solar shade screens, add house plants, improve window insulation).

2. **Ensure neighbourhoods have emergency preparedness/management plans and programs in place:**
   - develop neighborhood-level emergency preparedness and management plans;
   - develop programs and events that create a sense of community and connection in neighborhoods;
   - establish an emergency preparedness and management volunteer program so that volunteers can train to assist with disaster relief;
   - identify and map emergency escape routes for neighborhoods, encourage and support local/regional organizations to establish inclement weather shelters for people in need and develop maps showing the locations of shelters;
   - partner with local/regional organizations to identify populations that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and help them prepare for emergencies; and
   - review and update the City's Disaster Response Plan to incorporate climate change risks and ensure the needs of people of all ages and abilities are considered.

3. **Review and update the City's Disaster Response Plan to incorporate climate change risks and ensure the needs of people of all ages and abilities are considered.**

We also asked participants to share their thoughts on any barriers or obstacles that may prevent the City or the community from taking any of the proposed actions, and any important actions they felt were missing from our list. Respondents also had the opportunity to provide general comments. All comments and suggestions are presented verbatim in a separate document.