

DATE OF MEETING | MARCH 11, 2020 |

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SUBJECT | CITY OF NANAIMO ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORK |

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Environment Committee with a draft environmental framework on the City's environmental policies, programs and initiatives within the City of Nanaimo.

BACKGROUND

During the Environment Committee meeting held on 2020-JAN-22, staff presented the draft Committee work plan and the terms of reference for the Climate Action Plan Update for the City. During the meeting, the Committee discussed that a framework could be helpful in communicating the City's progress on a number of environmental initiatives. This report introduces a draft Environment Framework for discussion. |

DISCUSSION

Developing an Environmental Framework offers a way to understand and assess the City's progress across a core set of principles that can be and monitored and adjusted over time. Staff have prepared an initial draft framework for committee review and comment. The core principles center on:

- **Climate Action:** Meeting our GHG emissions reduction targets as a community and showing climate leadership corporately.
- **Protection and Restoration of Natural Spaces:** Protecting and enhancing the ecological diversity found within the City through the purchase and restoration of our parks, through the development process on private land, and by working with the community to provide opportunities to learn about these spaces.
- **Zero Waste and Energy Management:** In coordination with the Regional District of Nanaimo, providing services to work towards a zero waste future for the City, and demonstrate corporate leadership through energy and waste management practice.
- **Community Health:** Community health covers the role the City plays in protecting the public from potential environmental harm, in addition, the opportunity to provide healthier options for getting out and enjoying the environment.
- **Community Resiliency:** All previous four principles contribute to the City's ability to be more resilient to change and prepare for the environmental impacts of a changing climate. |

CONCLUSION

The attached draft environmental framework is intended to stimulate discussion and develop more effective methods to communicate the City of Nanaimo environmental policies, programs, and initiatives for both Council and the public. |

SUMMARY POINTS

- Developing an Environmental Framework offers a way to understand and assess the City's progress across a core set of principles that can be more easily monitored over time.
- Staff have prepared an initial draft framework for committee review and comment.

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