

DATE OF MEETING October 7, 2020

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**SUBJECT REIMAGINE NANAIMO: CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL
TECHNICAL BACKGROUNDS**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

This report is to provide committee members with the Draft REIMAGINE NANAIMO technical backgrounders on climate and hazard adaptation, GHG Mitigation, and Green Infrastructure / Nature.

Recommendation

That the Committee provide comment and input on the draft technical background documents on climate and hazard adaptation, GHG Mitigation, and Green Infrastructure/Nature.

BACKGROUND

On 2019-APR-29, Council declared a Climate Emergency. Declaring the climate emergency challenges the City to lower Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) to between 50% and 58% below 2010 levels by 2030, and between 94% and 107% below 2010 levels by 2050. Part of the motion included completing a review and update to the City's current climate mitigation plan (the "Sustainability Action Plan").

At the 2020-JUN-03 Environment Committee meeting, the Committee received a presentation from Lanarc Consulting on how climate action was going to be integrated into the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process.

At the time, the Environment Committee expressed a desire to provide comment and feedback on public engagement and survey design for the Climate Action Plan update, as well as, other relevant components in the REIMAGINE NANAIMO process.

The REIMAGINE NANAIMO process involves a comprehensive planning policy review and update of key strategic planning policy documents for the City. Central to this is an update of Nanaimo's 2008 Official Community Plan (OCP), the 2005 Parks Recreation and Culture Plan and the creation of the City's first Active Transportation Plan.

The process also includes a public engagement process for these plans as part of a broader process that involves coordinated engagement and review of other key strategic plans, including the Economic Development Strategy, Water Supply Strategic Plan, and the Sustainability Action Plan (Climate Action Plan).

By combining the review and update of these policy documents, the City can maximize community participation and engage the community on these interrelated policy documents. This approach ensures consistency between the plans and efficient resource use, and prevents public confusion and potential engagement fatigue from multiple overlapping planning processes. The process also provides an opportunity to consider combining several plans into one document.

The Climate Action Plan will be coordinated through a sub-consultant, specializing in climate modeling (C2MP), who will develop an emissions profile and climate action scenarios, which will help evaluate what mix of options are best for Nanaimo to help meet its targets.

The climate action update will include a review and update of the City's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions profile. The profile will be used to develop a set of projections that will be based on anticipated fossil fuel use between 2010, 2030 and 2050; showing how the City can best meet its GHG reduction targets. |

DISCUSSION

The following draft technical backgrounders have been attached to this report for the committee's review and comment:

- Climate and Hazard Adaptation
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Mitigation
- Green Infrastructure / Nature.

These 'Technical Backgrounders' build on the more general 'Public Backgrounders' that are on the ReImagine Nanaimo website. The Technical Backgrounders are aimed at a professional staff and technical stakeholder audience. Their main purpose is to summarize Nanaimo's recent progress and compare that to what other leading jurisdictions have done, with a focus on the Pacific Northwest and jurisdictions with similar goals and objectives.

The backgrounders have lists of 'potential next steps' that fall into the Phase 1 'Gathering Ideas' stage of the REIMAGINE Nanaimo public engagement strategy. Not all of these topics or potential next steps may become priorities for Nanaimo.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The Climate Action Plan will be coordinated through a sub-consultant, specializing in climate modeling (C2MP), who will develop an emissions profile and climate action scenarios, which will help evaluate what mix of options are best for Nanaimo to help meet its targets.
- The Technical Backgrounders are aimed at professional staff and a technical stakeholder audience.
- The main purpose of the Technical Backgrounders is to summarize Nanaimo's recent progress and compare that to what other leading jurisdictions have done, with a focus on the Pacific Northwest and jurisdictions with similar goals and objectives.

ATTACHMENTS |

ATTACHMENT A: DRAFT Climate and Hazard Adaptation Technical Backgrounder

ATTACHMENT B: DRAFT GHG Mitigation Technical Backgrounder

ATTACHMENT C: DRAFT Green Infrastructure / Natural Restoration Technical Backgrounder

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