



Targeted Official Community Plan Review: Actions

What We Heard :
Virtual Open Houses

May 2021

TARGETED OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW

SUMMARY OF VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSES

1 OVERVIEW

The District of North Vancouver (District) is undertaking a targeted review of its Official Community Plan (OCP) to continue to work toward implementing the District's vision and goals in four topic areas: transportation, housing, economy and employment lands, and climate emergency. The goal of this targeted review is to develop an Action Plan that will guide District policies and decisions through 2030.

In May, 2021, the District hosted five virtual open houses to seek input from the community on the broad set of actions being considered for the Action Plan. Four of the open houses were available to the public, and one was hosted with non-profit organizations that are based or operate in the District.

Overall, 132 participants attended the five virtual open houses, outlined below:

- **May 4, 2021 (7 :00 pm to 8:30 pm):** 23 participants - Public
- **May 5, 2021 (10 :00 am to 11:30 am):** 24 participants - Public
- **May 6, 2021 (1:30 pm to 3:00 pm):** 25 participants - Non-profit organizations
- **May 6, 2021 (7 :00 pm to 8:30 pm):** 29 participants - Public
- **May 10, 2021 (1:30 pm to 3:25 pm):** 31 participants - Public

2 FORMAT

The virtual open houses took place on the Zoom meeting platform. There was an overview PowerPoint presentation that summarized the purpose of the project, the process to date, and introduced the four topic areas and the broad range of actions being considered for the action plan. The presentation is available online at www.DNV.org/OCP-review.

After each topic area was presented, there was time for discussion. Participants were encouraged to share their thoughts, comments, and ask questions. Participants were also encouraged to take the online survey to share their thoughts on each action, and to follow the project along by checking the webpage for updates.

An optional poll was administered at the beginning of each workshop to better understand the interests of the participants and their relationship to the District of North Vancouver. The results show that most participants live in the District, and most interest was in the topic areas of transportation and housing. However, there was interest in all four topic areas. The results of the poll are provided below.

3 SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

The following list summarizes question and comment themes from participants at the five virtual open houses in no particular order, grouped by topic area.

Starred items (★) indicate key items that were also identified by participants from non-profit organizations at the May 6 (1:30 - 3:00 pm) open house.

TRANSPORTATION

- ★ **Trail Upgrades:**
 - Interest in further recognizing the value of parks, outdoor recreation facilities, and trails in the District, while also supporting their use, development, and management to meet growing demand.
 - Concern about the impact that high levels of trail use are having on neighbours, including parking at local trailheads.
- ★ **Upgrading Cycling and Electric Vehicle Charging Facilities:**
 - Support for expanding secure storage facilities (e.g. bike lockers), particularly due to increasing popularity of electric bikes.
 - Concern about the speed of electric bikes, and interest in seeing more multi-use pathways that separate cyclists and pedestrians to encourage their use.
 - Support for increasing charging facilities for electric vehicles in the District.
 - Interest in having the District further explore opportunities for bike share on the North Shore.
- **Improving Connections between Municipalities :**
 - Concerns about the continued traffic volumes experienced at key bottlenecks, such as the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge.
 - Support for the District increasing efforts to establish more rapid bus routes, in partnership with regional agencies and TransLink.
 - Support for planning and upgrading District streets with consideration for all modes, including vehicles, transit, bicycles, as well as walking and rolling.

HOUSING

- ★ **Housing Security for Renters:**
 - Support for actions that protect renters in the District from “demovictions” and displacement, particularly those in existing purpose-built rental buildings.
- ★ **More Diverse Housing Options:**
 - Interest in actions that allow gentle densification on single-family lots, such as the introduction of townhouses and duplexes, an expansion of the coach house program, and acquiring more data on existing secondary suites.

- Concerns the about availability and diversity of rental housing in the District.
- ★ **Missing Middle Housing:**
 - Need to engage more young people (e.g. missing middle demographic) about housing needs and affordable rental and homeownership options available to them (e.g. missing middle housing forms).

ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

- **Expediting Development Review Processes :**
 - Concern that development review processes are too slow, which limits options for businesses, impedes the development of Town and Village Centres, and slows progress towards the District's planning goals.
- **Industrial Space Needs:**
 - Concern about encroachment on lands zoned light industrial by other uses, and a need to address parking needs for service vehicles and heavy equipment.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

- **Green Building Incentives:**
 - Support for expanding incentives and rebates for green buildings, including sustainable fuel choices and green retrofits for older buildings, as well as stricter environmental regulations on new buildings.
- ★ **Improved Reporting Practices:**
 - Interest for more regular and detailed reporting on carbon emissions, including improved data collection on impacts from traffic and other activities.
- ★ **Stormwater Integration and Creekside Management:**
 - Support for expanding efforts to protect natural resources in the District.
- **Stricter regulations on single-use plastics.**
 - Support for more stringent regulations to protect the environment.

4 CONCLUSION

The feedback collected at the virtual open houses will be used to inform the development of the Action Plan, along with community feedback collected throughout the Targeted OCP Review process, research, and analysis.