

April 20, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
ON
DRAFT COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) to the Committee of the Whole (COTW) and obtain feedback on the plan's goals, targets, and implementation actions.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports Council's strategic priorities and areas of focus regarding:

- **Livability**
 - Healthy Community: We foster an environment that supports and promotes healthy living through recreation, community, and social connection.
 - Housing: We focus on improving diversity and access throughout the housing continuum.
- **Vibrant Economy**
 - Business Health: We cultivate a positive business environment and maintain a framework that facilitates jobs, economic sustainability, and growth.
 - Economic Strength: We support initiatives that increase our competitive advantage, cultivate growth, and support our residents.
 - Partnerships: We continue to nurture partnerships with key agencies and organizations.
- **Environmental Leadership**
 - Climate Action: We enhance the City's resiliency and capacity for mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change.
 - Sustainability: We implement strategies that reduce our impact on the environment.
 - Transportation: We facilitate sustainable transportation options and create community connectivity.

SUMMARY

The CCAP aims to guide, motivate, and inspire our community to work together to reduce fossil fuel use and transition to a low-carbon future. It outlines a set of strategies and bold actions that have the potential to reduce community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 30% by 2030 and up to 80% by 2050 (compared to the 2007 baseline), which is in line with international efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Implementing the CCAP will also benefit our community's health, economy, environment, and quality of life while increasing our resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Staff have completed the first draft of the CCAP and are seeking the COTW's feedback. The plan has been prepared following an engagement process, which started in early 2019 and

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involved the public, stakeholders, youth, the CCAP Advisory Group, the Development and Sustainability Committee, the COTW, Council, and City staff.

The following are the next steps in the process:

- obtain the COTW's input and make revisions where necessary
- present the draft plan to the public and stakeholders, including the CCAP Advisory Group, for review and feedback in late April and early May 2021 and make revisions where necessary
- present final CCAP to Council for adoption in June 2021

A copy of the draft CCAP is provided as Attachment "A".

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee of the Whole direct staff to:

- a) engage with the public and stakeholders on the draft Community Climate Action Plan**
- b) bring the Community Climate Action Plan to Council for final review and adoption**

SUPPORTING COUNCIL AND CORPORATE DIRECTION

- 2019–2022 Council Strategic Plan
- KAMPLAN: City of Kamloops Official Community Plan
- Sustainable Kamloops Plan
- July 7, 2017, Regular Council Meeting - Council authorized support for the development of a Community Climate Action Plan.
- June 18, 2019, Regular Council Meeting - Notice of Motion from Councillor Singh regarding the strategic goal for reducing GHG emissions.
- June 25, 2019, Regular Council Meeting - Council resolved to:
 - set a strategic goal for reducing community GHG emissions that is in line with Kamloops' portion of global efforts to keep global temperature rise to 1.5°C
 - mandate staff, through the work on the CCAP, to outline a series of actions that would reduce GHG emissions in Kamloops to align with global efforts to keep global temperature rise to 1.5°C

DISCUSSION

The following provides a brief overview of the planning process used to develop the draft plan and what is included in the document.

Overview of the Process

The CCAP was developed over four phases through a community engagement process that involved the public, stakeholders, the CCAP Advisory Group, and Council.

- Phase 1 consisted of background research and collecting baseline information to understand Kamloops' community energy and emissions profile and to explore opportunities for action.
- Phase 2 involved developing preliminary emissions reductions strategies and actions in collaboration with internal stakeholders. As per Council's June 25, 2019, resolution, this evolved into developing bolder options to enable Kamloops to contribute to international efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C.
- Phase 3 saw further development of the Big Moves strategy options, after which community and stakeholder input was sought through a series of engagement activities.
- Phase 4 consisted of refining the Big Moves and developing a draft plan based on internal staff, public, stakeholder, and Council feedback along with detailed emissions modelling of proposed strategies. See Attachment "B" for a summary of revisions made in response to engagement. Further public engagement will occur in May 2021 before presenting the plan to Council for adoption in June 2021.

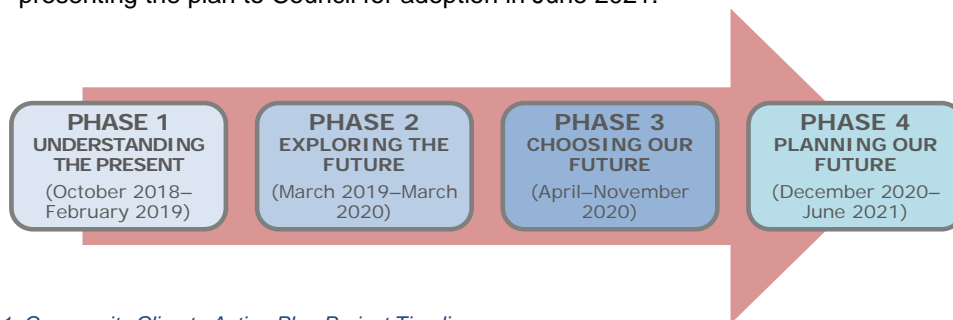


Figure 1: Community Climate Action Plan Project Timeline

More details on the CCAP engagement process and results are available at LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca/ClimateAction.

Plan Content

The draft CCAP includes the following sections and appendices.

- Section 1: Background - provides context for the plan including a brief overview of climate change science, the local impacts of climate change and the imperative to act. A visual timeline of related City commitments and actions to date shows the foundations for climate action that are in place.
- Section 2: Objectives, Targets, and Process - summarizes the plan's strategic objectives, GHG emissions reduction targets, and the process used to develop the CCAP.
- Section 3: Current and Projected Emissions - identifies the key GHG emissions sources in Kamloops today and outlines their drivers and status. Projected emissions reductions modelled through to 2050 based on existing plans, policies, and regulations as well as the potential GHG emissions reductions resulting from the Big Moves.
- Section 4: Big Moves - describes the eight Big Moves in detail, including how their strategies and actions can drive ambitious GHG emissions reductions in the short, medium, and long term. Co-benefits, economic, and equity considerations of the Big Moves are also outlined.

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- Section 5: Implementation and Monitoring - assigns a priority level and timeline for implementing each strategy based on GHG reductions, ease of implementation, municipal authority, and City and stakeholder costs. Recommendations for measuring and reporting CCAP implementation progress are provided.
- Appendices: a glossary to assist the reader with key terms used in the plan and further detail on the methodology and analysis used to generate implementation priorities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A brief overview of the economics of climate change is included in the introduction to the Big Moves. Economic considerations have been included for all strategies within the Big Moves, with estimated amounts included only for the most current-day approximations. Some investments are easier to predict in the short term (e.g. the current price premium to purchase an electric vehicle). However, rapid technological advancements, changes in energy prices, and evolving legislation and funding from other levels of government mean that even the simplest current estimates are very difficult to project out to 2050.

A preliminary five-year budget for implementing the CCAP's short-term actions is provided in Attachment "C". These are high-level cost estimates that do not identify funding sources or personnel implications (i.e. staff resources to support implementation). Through the municipal budget process, business cases will be prepared for specific actions at the time of implementation, which will provide an opportunity to evaluate these with the most up-to-date costs, resource requirements, available grants, and other identified funding sources.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Detailed modelling of projected annual emissions reductions from the 2007 baseline (612,000 tCO₂e) was undertaken. By 2050, existing City policies and plans and commitments from other levels of government are projected to result in annual emissions reductions of 222,000 tCO₂e (36.3% reduction from baseline). Therefore, significant additional actions from the CCAP's Big Moves are required, which has the potential to further reduce emissions by 208,750 tCO₂e (34.1% reduction). Figure 2 illustrates the relative annual emissions reductions potential of the Big Moves by 2050.

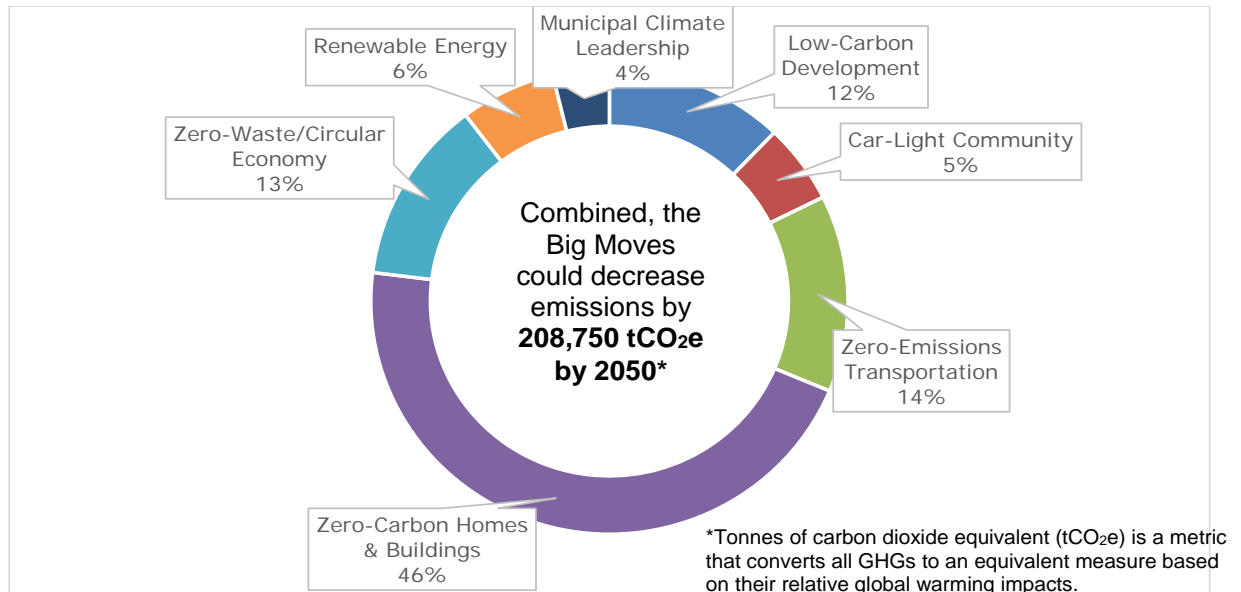


Figure 2: Projected Annual Emissions Reductions by 2050, per Big Move

Total reductions of 70% are projected. This leaves a 10% gap to meet the 80% reduction by 2050 target, which could be accounted for by future solutions for medium- and heavy-duty transportation emissions or government legislation requiring fuel switching and retrofits of existing building stock.

Further sustainability benefits of climate action include the following:

- enhancing urban ecosystems (e.g. grasslands and wildlife habitats) and preserving them by promoting development in existing neighbourhoods
- improved air quality due to less vehicle tailpipe emissions and combustion of natural gas
- improved water quality by reducing runoff to the rivers by using green infrastructure and trees that absorb rainfall
- greening the economy and innovation through creating local jobs in construction and retrofits, waste upcycling, renewable energy generation, and research and development

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

While the root causes of inequality and poverty must be tackled by all levels of governments, actions to mitigate emissions locally can contribute to addressing social issues in our community, including the following:

- creating a compact, complete community with access to daily lifestyle needs by providing active transportation infrastructure for all ages and abilities, and improving transit service
- supporting community renewable energy projects such as solar panels on social housing units, which reduces energy bills and generate local employment

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- developing social enterprises that create jobs for people with a variety of skills and abilities

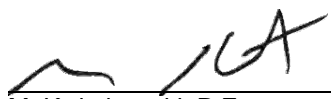
Key challenges where extra attention will be needed to enhance equitable outcomes include the following:

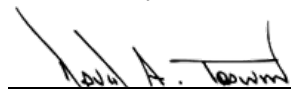
- Ensuring affordable housing options are available as redevelopment and infill projects coupled with population growth may contribute to increasing rent and property prices. Actions to increase rental housing availability and some affordability provisions have been included in the CCAP, but further work will be necessary to determine and mitigate potential impacts on housing affordability.
- Transitioning to electric vehicles, which have a cost premium. Even when cost parity is reached, buying a new or used vehicle may not be attainable for many; therefore, additional support for income-qualifying households should be advocated for. The primary goal should remain on increasing access to amenities and employment through transit and active transportation networks that are accessible to all.
- Retrofits may be cost prohibitive for low-income homeowners and tenants can have little control over energy efficiency improvements that would benefit their health and reduce energy bills. Current programs that provide resources and incentives to low-income households to improve energy efficiency will need to be promoted and expanded upon.

The City's Social Plan, Housing Affordability Strategy, and Accessibility and Inclusion Plan will provide guidance for addressing social considerations through the implementation of CCAP actions. Furthermore, the City will work with community partners to ensure information about climate action and incentive programs is available to people of all ages, abilities, and income levels.

IMPLEMENTATION

An implementation strategy that outlines short-, medium-, and long-term actions is provided in Section 5 of the draft CCAP for the COTW's consideration. These actions will be revised as needed prior to adopting the plan based on the COTW's feedback.


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Approved for Committee of the
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Attachments

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