

Proposed Policy "BF A6": Support neighbourhood and multi-family retrofit projects intended to reduce community GHG emissions; and other community-based environmental initiatives to sequester carbon, beautify public spaces and make the built environment greener and healthier.

- Explore the creation and diversification of community energy systems (e.g. heat recovery, wind, tidal, solar, micro-hydro, geothermal); as well as alternative funding mechanisms and business models (e.g. neighbourhood or district energy utility).

Amended Policy "T 2": Pursue comprehensive approaches to local transportation planning, including support of sustainability principles.

- Strive to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions resulting from vehicle trips through the development of policies and programs that:
 - encourage the use of alternative forms of transportation; and
 - provide increased transportation-related non-vehicular facilities and services throughout the community

Amended Policy "U 4": Upgrade water supply, treatment and distribution, and promote conservation.

- Encourage water conservation through community-wide education programs. Emphasize benefits of the residential water metering program

Amended Policy "U 5": Upgrade and manage the storm water and sanitary sewerage collection system to reduce environmental impacts and optimize municipal costs.

- Work with Metro Vancouver to explore innovative, low carbon solutions for the upcoming replacement of the Capilano sewage treatment plant.

Amended Policy "U 8": Minimize the amount of refuse generated and promote the reuse and recycling of waste.

- Collaborate with Metro Vancouver in the effort to meet the "Zero Waste Challenge".

Amended Policy "BF A2": Demonstrate municipal leadership by providing a commitment to the environment and sustainability practices.

- Continue to encourage full life cycle cost assessments for all municipal building energy-related decisions (e.g. heating, cooling or water energy systems).

Amended OCP Section: Implementation / Future Reviews (Page 31 of "Framework for Action")

- Review development-related bylaws, and other policy tools made available by the Local Government Act, to identify ways to improve the environmental and energy performance of all new and existing buildings.
- Create a Community Energy Plan, as recommended in the Community Climate Action Plan.

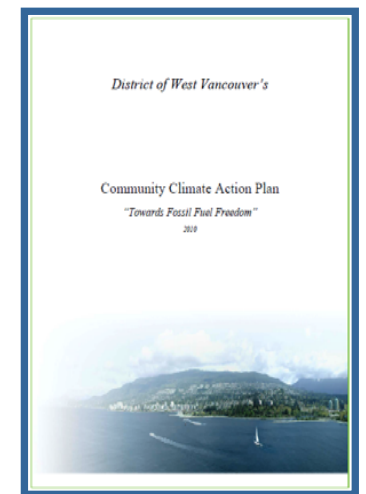
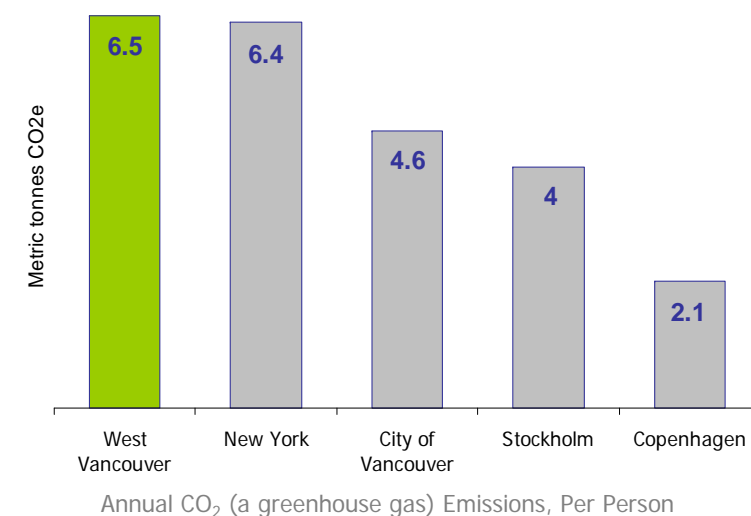
GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION IN WEST VANCOUVER

Climate change initiatives are already underway in West Vancouver and are supported by existing policies in the Official Community Plan (OCP). Council has led by example on energy initiatives such as the geo-exchange systems at both of the West Vancouver Community Centers. Staff has been involved as well, with initiatives such as: bio-diesel for vehicles, the water metering program, Rodgers Creek development and our foreshore adaptation and enhancement projects.

Provincial legislation requires all local governments to identify greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets and policies in Official Community Plans. District staff and the Climate Action Working Group collaborated to produce the 2010 Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) which outlines baseline (2007) GHG emissions, and recommended actions that will help us achieve our targets. The CCAP helped staff to frame the proposed OCP amendment.

What is a "Greenhouse Gas"?

Greenhouse gases (GHGs) naturally occur in our atmosphere. They help to keep the sun's heat on the Earth's surface, creating a liveable environment. But human activity (e.g. fossil fuel combustion) causes atmospheric GHG concentrations to rise. This expands the "greenhouse effect", raises the Earth's temperature; and leads to climate change.



Community Climate Action Plan

While the proposed GHG reduction targets may seem like a challenge, in West Vancouver, we will meet this challenge through collaboration, motivation and by sharing our successes. Once West Vancouver residents get behind this commitment, the GHG reduction targets will be seen as milestones on the path to even greater community achievements.

West Vancouver will inspire excellence and lead by example. Collaborative government and a spirit of personal civic commitment will power the innovations that shape our shared future. The strength of this relationship will secure our treasured quality of life and will be the measure of our success as a community.

~ West Vancouver's Vision (2010 Strategic Plan)

West Vancouver's GHG Reduction Targets & Proposed Policies:



Achieve carbon neutral municipal operations (buildings, facilities, fleets, and purchasing).



Reduce community GHG emissions by at least 33% below 2007 levels.



Reduce community GHG emissions by at least 80% below 2007 levels.

Total GHG emissions from West Vancouver in 2007: 287,000 t CO₂e

- 98.7% from community sources: homes and vehicles
- 1.3% comes from municipal operations
- More than 53% is from heating homes with natural gas
- More than 80% of the homes that will be here in 2050 are already built.

While we currently have progressive green building policies for *new developments* in our OCP, the Community Climate Action Plan explains that we need to concentrate our climate action efforts on *existing* and *renovated* homes.

The District is committed to doing as much as possible to educate and empower property owners to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. At the present time education and awareness are the strongest tools available to the District, because the Provincial Building Code establishes the standards for building construction.



Proposed Policy "H 12": Encourage more energy efficient buildings that help to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions.

- Support and encourage West Vancouver home owners to evaluate their homes' energy consumption (e.g. conduct a "Home Energy Audit"), and to investigate ways in which consumption (and home heating costs) can be reduced (e.g. "Home Energy Retrofits").
- While minimum home energy performance requirements are set by the BC Building Code, Council will consider home energy performance when considering development applications (development permits, re-zonings, and development variance permits).
- In the spirit of innovation and leadership, the District will collaborate with other levels of government, utilities, and non-government organizations to:
 - Raise awareness of the importance of energy to all aspects of West Vancouver's social, economic, and environmental well-being;
 - Explore policy tools to affect energy performance requirements of residential buildings;
 - Demonstrate sustainable community planning techniques; renewable energy tools and technologies; and building energy efficiency best practices, all of which contribute to conserving energy and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions; and
 - Continue to participate in programs and projects that enable municipalities to advance energy efficiency, energy conservation and emissions reduction measures such as: Fraser Basin Council's Community Action on Energy & Emissions Program; Pembina Institute's Municipal Green Building Leaders Project; and Canadian Home Builders Association's BuiltGreen Municipal Toolkit Project
- Work with residents to build community-wide appreciation and support for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Work with utilities and green building specialists to support educational opportunities for the local building industry.
- Monitor the effects of home energy audits and home energy retrofits on our community GHGs, and evaluate the need for mandatory requirements if GHG reduction targets are not being met.
- Explore alternative funding models so as to support home energy retrofits in the community.
- Articulate the link between transportation and land use planning and their collective impact on a community's energy consumption and GHG emissions. Use neighbourhood design and land use planning approaches that reduce costs and environmental impacts, while maintaining community liveability. Examples include: creating a range of housing opportunities and choices; supporting walkable neighbourhoods; mixing land uses; preserving the natural environment and open spaces; providing a variety of transportation alternatives; directing controlled development in existing commercial centres; taking advantage of compact building design.
- Continue to include, in the disposition of surplus municipal lands, green building and energy efficiency requirements as a condition of sale.

