

COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

DATE: 2015 September 23

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

FILE: 17000 00

SUBJECT: SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY – PHASE 1 PROGRESS
REPORT ON ACTIONS

PURPOSE: To provide Council with a progress report on the Phase 1 implementation of the Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** this report be received for information purposes.
2. **THAT** copies of the Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategic Progress Report on Actions be forwarded to:
 - the Public Safety Committee;
 - the Traffic Safety Committee;
 - the Transportation Committee;
 - the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission;
 - the Public Library Board;
 - the Simon Fraser Liaison Committee;
 - the Burnaby Board of Education;
 - the Burnaby Board of Trade;
 - the Fraser Health Authority;
 - Burnaby Members of Parliament;
 - Burnaby Members of the Legislative Assembly; and
 - the Urban Development Institute.

REPORT**1.0 BACKGROUND**

At its meeting of 2011 July 11, Council endorsed the Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy, a bold, visionary and inspiring plan that is intended to guide the City's plans and resource allocations in the social realm over the next decade. The Strategy was developed by a Steering Committee – chaired by Mayor Corrigan, and composed of twenty-four Burnaby residents including four members of City Council – following an extensive public consultation process.

To: Chair and Members
Social Planning Committee
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: Social Sustainability Strategy – Phase 1 Progress Report on Actions
2015 September 23Page 2

On 2013 March 4, Council approved the Phase 1 Implementation Plan for the Strategy.¹ Two years on, it is appropriate to reflect on what has been possible to achieve and what remains to focus on in the years ahead as part of Phase 1 implementation. To that end, a progress report (*provided under separate cover*)² has been prepared to provide an update on the progress of actions contained in the Phase I Implementation Plan. It also highlights Phase 1 initiatives the City and its partners will pursue in the coming years.

2.0 OVERVIEW OF PHASE ONE OF THE BURNABY SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

The Strategy articulates seven Strategic Priorities and 127 associated actions for the City and others, acting within their respective mandates or in collaboration, to move Burnaby towards its social sustainability vision and goals.

In developing the Strategy's Phase 1 Implementation Plan, staff consulted with external partners (e.g., Burnaby Board of Trade, Burnaby School District, Fraser Health Authority, non-profit community service providers) to determine their interest and availability in working with the City on specific actions, and their timeline for advancing such work. Staff also liaised with all relevant City departments regarding the alignment of the Strategy's actions with their respective work programs. Those discussions, combined with an assessment of the feasibility of the Strategy's actions resulted in the identification of actions that could be focused on in Phase 1.

The Phase 1 Implementation Plan sets directions for the City to take on various social topics over a five year period. A total of 44 actions, from all seven of the Strategy's seven Strategic Priorities, were identified for attention in Phase 1. It was recognized that some of the actions would be accomplished in the near term, while others would involve work into the medium – and long – term, or simply become the way the City does business on an ongoing basis.

3.0 PROGRESS ON SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY ACTIONS

Substantial progress has been made on 35 out of the 44 actions identified in the Phase 1 Implementation Plan, while many of the Strategy's actions identified as *ongoing* or *enacted as opportunities arise* have continued to be advanced. In addition, opportunities have arisen to make progress on a number of actions identified for Phase 2 implementation. In total, significant progress has been made on 81 out of the Strategy's 127 actions. Highlights of this work are noted in the progress report, and highlighted in Appendix 1 *attached*.

¹ To view the Phase I Implementation Plan, visit <https://www.burnaby.ca/Assets/city+services/policies+projects+and+initiatives/social+initiatives/Implementation+to+SSS.pdf>.

² Upon Council approval, the progress report would also be posted on the City's Website at www.burnaby.ca/socialsustainability.

To: *Chair and Members*
Social Planning Committee
From: *Director Planning and Building*
Re: *Social Sustainability Strategy – Phase 1 Progress Report on Actions*
2015 September 23.....Page 3

The progress report also identifies remaining Phase 1 actions that will be addressed over the next one to two years. As noted in the 2013 March 4 Council report on Phase 1 implementation, most of the actions identified can be accomplished without the infusion of additional City resources. Any actions requiring additional resources would be reviewed and advanced for committee and Council review prior to being included for consideration in the City's regular budgeting cycle.

4.0 COMMUNICATING THE STRATEGY

The inspirational and practical nature of the Strategy's vision, goals and strategic priorities has helped the City and its partners focus their efforts in the social realm. Many partners report that they have used the Strategy's goals to further their respective work programs. To maintain momentum and further assist the implementation of the Strategy, a number of partners have suggested that a summary version of the Strategy would help them further concentrate their efforts.

In response, staff propose to develop a short, user-friendly social sustainability guidebook. Such a guidebook would be a synthesis of the Strategy's key elements, organized by its seven strategic priorities. The guidebook would be used to help communicate the Strategy to staff, residents, community agencies, developers and other levels of government and would assist them in identifying, highlighting and advancing projects and initiatives that further support Burnaby's social sustainability. Committee and Council approval of the guidebook would be sought prior to promoting it in the community.

5.0 NEXT STEPS

It is anticipated that the remaining actions in Phase 1 will be addressed over the next one to two years. As outlined in the overall implementation plan for the Strategy, once Phase 1 reaches completion, it is proposed that the Implementation Plan be revisited through a public consultation process. The purpose of the consultation would be to engage City departments, external partners and the public in assessing progress, refreshing the actions and approach to implementation to reflect new learning, experience and developments, and identifying areas of focus for Phase 2 implementation.

As noted in the Strategy, after 10 years, a more thorough review of the Strategy would take place for the purposes of updating the vision, and identifying new goals and strategic priorities to inform the City's efforts in the social realm.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The City and its partners have made significant progress on 35 of the 44 actions contained in the Phase 1 implementation plan of the Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy. Indeed, conditions have been favourable for progress on 81 out of a total of 127 actions in the Strategy. Key highlights of this progress are provided in Appendix 1.

To: Chair and Members
Social Planning Committee
From: Director Planning and Building
Re: Social Sustainability Strategy – Phase 1 Progress Report on Actions
2015 September 23.....Page 4

The progress report, ***provided under separate cover*** and to be posted on the City Website at www.burnaby.ca/socialsustainability provides an update on various actions undertaken in each of the Strategy's seven Strategic Priorities. It also highlights Phase 1 initiatives the City and its partners will pursue in the coming years.

It is recommended this report and the Progress Report on Actions be received for the information of the Committee and Council.

It is also recommended that copies of the progress report be forwarded to:

- the Public Safety Committee;
- the Traffic Safety Committee;
- the Transportation Committee;
- the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission;
- the Public Library Board;
- the Simon Fraser Liaison Committee;
- the Burnaby Board of Education;
- the Burnaby Board of Trade;
- the Fraser Health Authority;
- Burnaby Members of Parliament;
- Burnaby Members of the Legislative Assembly; and
- the Urban Development Institute


Lou Pelletier, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM:sa

Attachment

cc: City Manager
Deputy City Managers
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
OIC – Burnaby RCMP
Chief Librarian

Director Engineering
Director Finance
Fire Chief
City Clerk

Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy

Summary table of Phase 1 Implementation Actions 2013-2015

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Meeting Basic Needs | <p><i>Ensuring everyone has a foundation to live a life of dignity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for up to 500 new child care spaces as a result of a new Child Care agreement between the City and School District • 100+ post-secondary students mentored through the Burnaby Board of Trade • 8,600 residents access Burnaby's recreation credit program in 2014 • New restrictions for payday loan lending • \$1.32 million allocated from the Burnaby Housing Fund to support affordable housing • 433 adaptable housing units secured since 2013 • 154 new secondary suites, more under review • New Healthier Community Partnership between the City, School District, and Fraser Health, working together on mental health and physical literacy • 500+ Burnaby residents attend free food preservation and gardening workshops hosted by Burnaby Food First, with support from the City of Burnaby |
| Celebrating Diversity and Culture | <p><i>Recognizing the role diversity and culture play in supporting a cohesive, creative and engaged community</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 newcomers trained as storytellers – captured in Burnaby Digital Storytelling Project • 10 Inter-Faith community gatherings attended by 100s of Burnaby residents • Member of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism since 2012 • 27,000 hours contributed by volunteers to support isolated seniors in 2014 • 43,500 visits to Burnaby Youth Centres in 2014 • Local artists featured in Burnaby Art Gallery exhibitions |
| Getting Involved | <p><i>Nurturing an involved community where individuals, groups and organizations actively participate in, contribute to, and help share community life</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New one-stop guide to civic participation: www.burnaby.ca/beinvolved • 5.6% increase in voter turnout in 2014 municipal election • 50 City Hall tours engage 1,000+ residents • New Volunteering portal promotes volunteer opportunities • Burnaby Board of Trade launches award-winning Pledge for a Sustainable Community |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Learning for Life | <p><i>Continuous building of skills and knowledge through people's lives from birth to late adulthood</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New directory of learning services produced by Literacy Now Burnaby • 74,975+ visits to Burnaby Public Library's free computers in 2014 • Community Adult Literacy Program launched through Literacy Now Burnaby with Burnaby Neighbourhood House, SFU and Burnaby Public Library • Byrne Creek Secondary becomes Burnaby's 8th community school in 2015 • Free Wi-Fi to a further 17 City locations, available now at all community centres, libraries and City Hall |
| Enhancing Neighbourhoods | <p><i>Recognizing the importance people place on vibrant neighbourhoods and opportunities for neighbours to interact</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete communities –more opportunities for people to live close to transit, employment, services, shopping and recreation • Priority community amenities identified in each town centre – new development will contribute • 3 new community resource centres opened – 22,000 square feet of program and meeting space for Burnaby-based non-profits • 12 celebrations at new Edmonds outdoor plaza, more plazas on the way • 3 public art pieces installed so far on the Beresford Art Walk – Burnaby's new outdoor art gallery • 28 Festivals Burnaby grants each year • 107 neighbourhood small grants awarded through Burnaby Neighbourhood House and the Vancouver Foundation |
| Getting Around | <p><i>Envisioning a future in which transportation services, infrastructure and information combine to ensure travel is not a barrier to participation in society</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Town Centre public realm standards - wider sidewalks, bike lanes and rain gardens • Pedestrian improvements – 18 kilometres of new sidewalks and urban trails in 2013-14 • Accessibility improvements – 63% of Burnaby bus stops are now accessible for people who use mobility aids, annual program to continue improvements • 40 kilometres added to Burnaby's bike network over the past 5 years |
| Protecting Our Community | <p><i>Fostering an atmosphere of security where all people are able to participate in community life</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 emergency preparedness presentations in 2014 • RCMP deliver 8 crime prevention presentations reaching 100s of residents in 2014 • Volunteers contribute 5,363 hours with community policing programs • Auxiliary constables contribute 2,900 volunteer hours in 2014 • New web-based Business Watch program launched Sept. 17, 2015 |