

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TO: *MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: **OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN PROJECT – 2022 SUMMER PHASE 1
“SURFACING” ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive this report for information.

REPORT

The Planning and Development Committee, at its meeting held on February 8, 2023, received and adopted the attached report providing information on the summer 2022 outreach and engagement for Phase 1 of the Official Community Plan project.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor P. Calendino
Chair

Councillor J. Keithley
Vice Chair

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

DATE: 2023 January 30

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

FILE: 70500

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN PROJECT – 2022 SUMMER PHASE 1
“SURFACING” ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

PURPOSE: To inform Committee and Council on the summer 2022 outreach and engagement for Phase 1 of the Official Community Plan project.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be forwarded to Council for information.

REPORT**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The Official Community Plan (OCP) Project was introduced to the Committee at its 2022 February 2 meeting. On 2022 June 1, Council received a report for information on the OCP Project Initiation and process, which outlined a preliminary schedule and phasing for the project.

As outlined in the preliminary project initiation report, Phase 1 engagement took place over the summer of 2022. This phase of engagement was primarily intended to raise awareness about the OCP Project. Engagement activities included the City hosting pop-up events in the community, showcasing the project and providing information to the community. Engagement materials provided background on the requirements for an OCP, as well as interesting information on how the city has changed since the current OCP was first adopted in 1998. The *attached* What We Heard report (see *Appendix A*) summarizes the engagement activities and input from the community.

2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

The purpose of an OCP, as established under the *Local Government Act*, is to establish a long range growth management framework that spatially directs where, when and how future growth will occur in the city. It must also include housing planning policies for affordable, rental and special needs housing, as well as community greenhouse gas reduction targets and policies and actions for how those targets will be achieved. An OCP broadly connects with all policies established in a community, including the *Corporate Strategic Plan* (2022) and standalone policy documents. The primary set of existing policy documents that relate to and build on the current OCP are the *Burnaby Economic Development Strategy* (2007), the *Burnaby Social Sustainability Strategy* (2011), and the *Environmental Sustainability Strategy* (2016), and more recently, the *Climate Action Framework*

(2020), *HOME: Burnaby's Housing and Homelessness Strategy* (2021), and *Connecting Burnaby: Burnaby's Transportation Plan* (2021); all provide new paths and foundations for a renewed OCP.

3.0 BACKGROUND

The OCP project is being undertaken in four phases.



Phase 1: Raise awareness and invite the community to learn more about the project.

Phase 2: Prepare a vision for the future of the City and prepare growth scenario options.

Phase 3: Set the strategic direction and policies to achieve the draft vision, goals and objectives.

Phase 4: Engage and confirm that the draft OCP reflects the values and priorities of the community.

Phase 1: Surfacing is focused on raising awareness about the OCP Project, and inviting the community to learn more and become engaged.

This phase began in June 2022, with a series of pop-up events throughout the city concluding with a final event at World Rivers Day in late September, as well as regular messaging through the City's social media channels.

Pop-up events included a variety of materials and activities designed to invite people to learn more about the project and share their thoughts on what is important to them and what they love about the city. Engagement materials and discussions with staff were centered on providing information about the purpose of the OCP, and how Burnaby is expected to increase in population and jobs by 2050. Display boards provided information about the OCP Project and why we are embarking on it; engaging graphics and data speaking to how the city has changed since the mid-1990s and how it is expected to grow to 2050; as well as an outline of the multi-phased project timeline.

Activities included a drawing contest inviting children under 12 to share what they love about Burnaby, or what they imagine the city will look like in 2050. People were encouraged to post sticky notes on a large display board indicating what they love about the city, or take a photo in front of an Instagram wall while holding a sign stating "I love Burnaby because...". Other activities included a memory/matching game and a "name your neighbourhood" map board.

A series of Insights Reports were produced to inform the community about how the city has changed since the current OCP was first adopted in 1998, and to inspire interest and excitement about the project. To date, six reports have been published on a variety of subjects:

- Why we need a new OCP;
- Population Growth Trends;

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- Housing Trends;
- Immigration and Language;
- Jobs, Labour Force and Education; and
- Climate Action.

Additional Insights Reports will continue to be rolled out throughout the project in order to promote and sustain interest in the OCP Project, and to provide background information on emerging topics as we develop the OCP.

4.0 PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Staff engaged with over 3,500 people at thirteen community events between June and September.

Event	Date	No. of People Engaged
Hats Off Day (Hastings Street)	18-Jun-22	82
Indigenous Day (Edmonds Park)	21-Jun-22	53
Cameron Library – Outdoor Family Time Event	28-Jun-22	35
Canada Day (Edmonds Park)	1-Jul-22	750
Symphony in the Park (Deer Lake)	16-Jul-22	194
Opera in the Park (Deer Lake)	17-Jul-22	170
Edmonds City Fair and Classic Car Show	23-Jul-22	458
Burnaby Pride Event (City Square)	23-Jul-22	280
Brentwood Block Party (Grosvenor Brentwood Farmers Market)	6-Aug-22	287
City Hall Farmers Market	13-Aug-22	82
Willingdon Heights Community Fair (Brentwood)	31-Aug-22	370
McGill Library – Pop-up Booth	14-Sep-22	30
World Rivers Day (Burnaby Village Museum)	25-Sep-22	744
TOTAL People Engaged	13 Events	3,535

Overall, people who engaged with staff at the various events were interested in learning about the OCP project. Frequent topics of discussion included:

- The importance of planning for the future, particularly the accommodation of the additional population and employment expected by 2050;
- The need for more housing in the city, and that the housing being provided needs to meet the diverse needs of the residents and those who wish to settle in Burnaby;
- Concern about the built environment, particularly the rapid development in some areas of the city;
- Erosion of a sense of community; and
- The need for increased infrastructure and service capacity, including public transit, cycling facilities, childcare, schools, and community centre programming.

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The community also cited many reasons they love living, working and playing in Burnaby. There were over 600 sticky notes placed on the "I love Burnaby because..." wall at the summer's events. The top reason the community gave for why they love their city was the sense of community. People appreciate the city's welcoming atmosphere and cultural diversity, and the feeling of acceptance of that diversity within the community. Many cited the city's social infrastructure as the reason they love Burnaby. People appreciate their community centres, the schools and the diversity of public events held throughout the city.

The community also values its parks, access to nature and green spaces, ranging from the access to playgrounds and city parks where people can gather and play to the availability of nature trails and forested areas in all quadrants of the city. Many community members also find Burnaby's neighbourhoods convenient, allowing them to meet their daily needs without leaving their neighbourhoods or travelling far.

The *attached* What We Heard report (see *Appendix A*) outlines Phase 1 engagement in more detail.

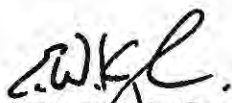
5.0 NEXT STEPS

This report and the *attached* "What We Heard" report summarise the OCP Project's Phase 1 engagement with the community over the summer of 2022. The City has secured an engagement consultant to support the remaining phases of the OCP Project. The next step in the process comprises updating the OCP Engagement Strategy and developing a Strategic Plan for Indigenous Engagement before launching **Phase 2: Visioning** in spring of 2023. This next phase in the process will establish the community's vision and values, which will be used to draft a series of growth scenario options for review in late 2023.

6.0 CONCLUSION

This report summarizes the outcome of the 2022 Summer Engagement as part of Phase 1 of the OCP Project. Regular update reports to Committee and Council will also be provided as the project progresses.

It is recommended that a copy of this report be forwarded to Council for information.



E.W. Kozak, General Manager
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

DB/sa
Attachment

Copied to: Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Financial Officer
General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture
General Manager Engineering
Director Legislative Services

General Manager Community Safety
General Manager Corporate Services
City Solicitor