

Burnaby Community Assembly – Overview of Process

The 7 sessions of the Assembly were curated to follow an arc from learning and visioning on a range of associated topics through a deliberative dialogue process to arrive at its recommendations. COB and CIL staff have supported the work of the Assembly throughout the sessions by providing technical background information and reviewing prepared materials. A high-level overview of the process followed by the Assembly, including focus activities for each session, is provided below. Details about the two public engagement periods are also included.

- **Assembly Session #1: Burnaby Yesterday and Today
February 24, 2024**
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Mayor Hurley invited to provide opening remarks, following a welcome from Simon Fraser University Indigenous Elder-in-Residence Jackie Gonzales (Skwxwú7mesh/Musqueam matriarch).
 - Overview of what an Official Community Plan (OCP) is, and progress to-date on the Burnaby 2050 development process, including goals and trade-offs.
 - Overview of Burnaby's historical and current context.
 - Surfacing of Assembly member knowledge of Burnaby, including history and contemporary experience.
 - Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of local government as defined by legislation.
- **Assembly Session #2: Burnaby, Looking to 2050
March 2, 2024**
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Learning about the impacts of the climate emergency on Burnaby including heat and other extreme weather events.
 - Discussion of Burnaby's existing Climate Action Framework and how Official Community Plans intersect with the achievement of climate action goals.
 - Investigation of anticipated trends, challenges and opportunities for Burnaby in looking forward to 2050, via a technical experts panel (e.g. the climate emergency, population growth).

- Discussion and activities to develop Assembly's vision for 2050.
- **Assembly Session #3: Exploring Growth, Change and Livability**
March 16, 2024
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Overview of Provincial legislation (Bills 44, 46, 47) mandating minimum residential densities within different areas of Burnaby.
 - Discussion of existing land use patterns in Burnaby, and anticipated population/job growth leading up to 2050.
 - Inquiry into concepts of community livability and belonging.
 - Discussion of the types of community amenities (e.g. child care, community centre, parks and greenspace), and their contributions to community livability.
 - Finalize emerging priorities for Assembly deliberation for period of wider community feedback.
- **First Public Engagement Window: “Big Ideas” Workshop**
April 9, 2024
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Public two-hour event inviting the broader Burnaby community to engage with Assembly members.
 - Attended by 16 Assembly members and 50 members of the broader community.
 - Acting Mayor Maita Santiago invited to provide opening remarks.
 - Overview of the Assembly process and its integration into Burnaby 2050 OCP planning.
 - Overview of emerging priorities for Assembly deliberation and panel of Assembly member sharing takeaways from their experience.
 - Discussion of attendees' vision for their ideal neighbourhood and collection of one “Big Idea” for the future of Burnaby from attendees.
- **Assembly Session #4: From Vision to Ideas**
April 20, 2024
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Investigation into the concept of ‘complete communities’ and how neighbourhood features and design impacts community resilience, cohesion and achievement of climate change related goals (e.g. reduced greenhouse gas emissions).

- Discussion of City-presented growth scenarios (Baseline Growth Scenario and Corridor Growth Scenario)¹.
 - Discussion of the “Big Ideas” collected from the public workshop, and development of actions for the future of Burnaby.
 - Bus tour of Burnaby to explore existing neighbourhoods, housing forms, and amenities.
- **Assembly Session #5: From Ideas to Emerging Directions**
May 4, 2024
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Discussion groups with Community Experience Reference Group, or representatives from community groups not represented among Assembly members (e.g. unsheltered community members).
 - Discussion groups with Multilingual Ambassadors, or community members working with the Assembly to engage with Burnaby residents in multiple languages (Mandarin, Cantonese, Tagalog, Korean, Spanish, Farsi, Arabic, Kiswahili, and Somali).
 - Panel on ‘Issues in Development and Housing’ to explore the local housing landscape in more detail, including both challenges and opportunities.
 - Overview of municipal financial structures, including revenue generation options and the suite of associated financial responsibilities and expenses.
 - Begin to refine and shape emerging recommendations.
 - Finalize emerging actions for wider community engagement period.
- **Second Public Engagement Window: Public Survey & Multilingual Engagements**
May 18 – May 28, 2024
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Public Survey
 - Survey shared the Assembly’s “Emerging Actions” with the public for feedback.
 - Survey translated into Arabic, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Kiswahili, Korean, Farsi, Somali, Spanish and Tagalog. 202 responses were received.
 - Multilingual Engagements

¹ For more information, please visit: <https://yourvoice.burnaby.ca/burnaby-2050-planning-our-city-together/burnaby-2050-policy-guide-share-your-feedback/growth-scenarios>

- 8 two-hour dialogues with small groups of 5-8 hosted by Multilingual Ambassadors in Arabic, Chinese, Kiswahili, Korean, Farsi, Somali, Spanish and Tagalog.
 - Overview of Assembly process and integration into Burnaby 2050 OCP planning.
 - Discussion of what is working well and not working well for respective language communities in Burnaby, and how the city should grow and change so everyone can thrive.
- **Assembly Session #6: Feedback and Recommendations Development
June 1, 2024**
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Engage in amenities budgeting activity, based upon previous municipal finance learnings.
 - Presentation from multilingual ambassadors to receive the learnings gathered through the language-specific small-group community dialogues.
 - Feedback from City Planning department on Assembly's emerging actions.
 - Further refine and shape emerging recommendations.
 - Burnaby City Council invited to attend afternoon portion of the Assembly to hear the multilingual ambassadors presentation, and to engage in small-group discussions exploring emerging recommendations.
- **Assembly Session #7: Optimizing, Consensus Building and Ratification
June 15, 2024**
 - *Focus Activities*
 - Finalize recommendations for submission to Burnaby City Council.
 - Burnaby City Council invited during the afternoon portion of the Assembly to receive a presentation from members outlining recommendations.
 - Blanketing Ceremony led by Squamish Nation.
 - Evaluation, thank you and wind-up.

The Assembly's final recommendations will be presented to Burnaby City Council by Assembly members at its July 22, 2024 meeting.