

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

TO: *MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS*

SUBJECT: CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK PROGRESS REPORT 2023-2024

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report titled “Climate Action Framework Progress Report 2023-2024” and accompanying Attachment 1, dated November 6, 2024, of the Environment Committee meeting, be received for information.

REPORT

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on November 6, 2024, received and adopted the attached report informing Council of the progress made in 2023-2024 to advance the Climate Action Framework.

On behalf of the Environment
Committee,

Councillor J. Keithley
Chair

Councillor M. Santiago
Vice Chair

TO: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (EC)
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
SUBJECT: **CLIMATE ACTION FRAMEWORK PROGRESS REPORT 2023-2024**
PURPOSE: To inform Environment Committee and Council of the progress made in 2023-2024 to advance the Climate Action Framework.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report titled “Climate Action Framework Progress Report 2023-2024” and accompanying Attachment 1, dated November 6, 2024, be received for information.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The Climate Action Framework Progress Report 2023–2024 builds upon and aligns with the following policies:

- Climate Action Framework (2020);
- City Energy Strategy (2020);
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy (2016);
- Community Energy and Emissions Plan (2016);
- Corporate Strategic Plan (2022); and,
- Official Community Plan (1998).

2.0 BACKGROUND

In September 2019, Council adopted the declaration of a Climate Emergency. This declaration sets ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets for the City. Arising from this declaration, staff developed the Climate Action Framework (CAF). Adopted in June 2020, the CAF identifies the Big Moves and Quick Starts needed to strategically reduce city-wide greenhouse gas emissions.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the recent work to advance the Big Moves and Quick Starts of the Climate Action Framework. The Climate Action Framework Progress Report 2023-2024 is enclosed as Attachment 1.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of Burnaby’s Climate Action Framework is a strategic roadmap to carbon neutrality by mid-century. The CAF is designed to target the City’s largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions, with a particular focus on emissions from new and existing buildings and from transportation.

Since the adoption of the Climate Action Framework, the city has implemented or begun all of the Quick Starts in the CAF. This includes setting foundational policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and advancing specific climate actions. Highlights for 2023-2024 include:

- Supporting the Urban Resilient Futures Climate Action Fellowship, which enabled 17 dedicated, climate-conscious residents to champion a climate-resilient, community-led future for Burnaby
- Reaching significant milestone on the development of the Royal Oak and Cascade Heights Urban Village Community Plan, which set the stage for a low carbon, climate-resilient future in these neighborhoods
- Publishing the State of the Urban Forest Report, the foundation of the forthcoming Urban Forest Strategy, which advances the City’s commitment to healthy ecosystems
- Advancing implementation work from the Burnaby Transportation Plan that supports accelerated mode shift and reduce reliance on vehicle
- Adopting new EV charging requirements for new non-residential developments, providing residents with more charging opportunities to support a shift to electric vehicles
- Adopting greenhouse gas emission standards through the Zero Carbon Step Code, which significantly reduces operational GHG emissions for new buildings
- Completing the Zero Emissions Building Retrofit Strategy, which sets out a series of actions to help residents retrofit their homes to provide more comfort, with fewer emissions.

The enclosed report highlights the progress and achievements made across all Big Moves in the Framework.

3.1.1 NEXT STEPS

The Climate Action Framework adopted in 2020 set out a first suite of priority actions to advance GHG emission reductions in the City. These actions have set the foundation for further climate action work across Burnaby.

Staff are working to identify new quick starts to advance the Big Moves of the Climate Action Framework for 2024-2027 and beyond. The primary sources of GHG emissions currently remain similar to when the CAF was developed. Additional avenues of climate action that are emerging include climate risk management and adaptation, embodied emissions and renewed commitment to biodiversity and ecosystem health.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Marketing and Communications Department are involved in the development of this Progress Report and various projects highlighted in the Progress Report.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The financial considerations associated with the delivery of the Climate Action Framework are addressed through the budget process and individual project approval processes.

Respectfully submitted,

E.W. Kozak, General Manager Planning and Development

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Climate Action Framework Progress Report 2023–2024

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Joanna Cheng, Climate Action and Energy Officer, and reviewed by Erica Lay, Manager Climate Action and Energy; Johannes Schumann, Director Community Planning; and Lee-Ann Garnett, Deputy General Manager Planning and Development.