
To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Parks Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks

Date: June 13, 2025 Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

Subject: **Natural Resource Management Restoration Program Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated June 13, 2025, titled “Natural Resource Management Restoration Program Update”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2025, 42 restoration projects are planned across the regional parks system. These planned restoration projects include stream daylighting and maintaining wetland habitats, removal of invasive species, improving forest resilience, improving habitat diversity, restoring disturbed areas, buffer plantings, creating wildflower meadows, as well as restoring forested and riparian areas. This report highlights selected projects for 2025. This work improves the health of regional parks ecosystems contributing to improved regional resilience and provides opportunities for residents to engage in environmental stewardship, deepening their connection with nature.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to share information on the Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Restoration Program.

BACKGROUND

The 2025 Regional Parks Committee work plan identified an update on this program as part of its annual reporting.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Program works throughout the year to protect and conserve ecosystem health. The work is guided by the Natural Resource Management Framework (Reference 1) which identifies three goals:

1. Ensure ecosystem health and long-term resiliency to conserve diverse biological communities and their associated habitats.
2. Provide opportunities for the public to connect with natural areas while conserving the integrity and resilience of ecosystems.
3. Provide opportunities for public involvement in natural resource management through partnerships and stewardship activities.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

In 2024, 32 restoration projects in 17 regional parks were completed by staff, contractors, and volunteers. Collectively they removed 19,099 kg of invasive species and added 11,745 native plants to regional parks. 3,991 volunteer instances supported 388 environmental stewardship work parties in regional parks, contributing 11,533 volunteer hours.

UPCOMING 2025 PROJECTS

In 2025, 42 projects are planned across the regional parks system. These planned projects include stream daylighting and maintaining wetland habitats, removal of invasive species, improving forest resilience, improving habitat diversity, restoring disturbed areas, buffer plantings, creating wildflower meadows, as well as restoring forested and riparian areas.

Some highlights include:

1. Canyon Trails Restoration at Capilano River Regional Park
This project targets an area of Capilano River Regional Park that has become degraded due to a high incidence of off-trail activities. An area of forest with a small stream running through it has become denuded of understory vegetation and is suffering from soil compaction and erosion. The restoration work will include closing down unsanctioned areas using education, engineering and enforcement. Permanent fencing and signage will be added and volunteers will restore the understory with native plants during the annual EcoBlitz in fall 2025.

2. Reforestation at Lynn Headwaters Regional Park
In 2019-2022, a significant outbreak of western hemlock looper (*Lambdina fiscellaria*) occurred in several areas on the north shore of Metro Vancouver. The outbreak resulted in a significant concentration of dead western hemlock trees in Lynn Headwaters Regional Park, in close proximity to park infrastructure, roads, trails, power lines and private residences. In late 2024, an area of the park near Kirkford Trail which is connected to established District of North Vancouver trails, was identified as also having many looper damaged trees.

The project aims to restore ecological processes and provide resiliency to future outbreaks by replanting in hemlock looper damaged areas of the park. Trees will be established in the Kirkford Trail area with funds from the 2024 Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation "Seek the Peak" initiative.

3. Acadia Forest Underplanting at Pacific Spirit Regional Park
The aging red alder forest in the northern part of Pacific Spirit Regional Park were identified as being in poor health and needing attention in recent forest health studies. Work to restore and enhance this area has been ongoing since 2017 and has included invasives removal, forest underplanting, and treatment of large English holly and laurel trees. In the last eight years about 6000 trees have been planted and over 2000 invasive English Holly and laurel trees have been treated across 50 hectares of parkland.

In 2025, the remaining area north of Chancellor Blvd will have trees added and invasive species treated treatment. The Pacific Spirit Park Society are also continuing with their management of invasive species and replanting efforts in this area through George Ross grant funds.

4. **Blackberry Management at the Nature House in Burnaby Lake Regional Park**
This project will involve the strategic removal of invasive Himalayan blackberry and replanting the area with native species to promote biodiversity and improve ecosystem resilience. Volunteers with the Burnaby Lake Park Association will partner with Regional Parks staff using funds from the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Real Green initiative for the work. This project will also include adding mulch and split rail fencing to protect the planted area.

5. **Pine Seedling Removal at Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area**
After the 2016 fire burned approximately 40 hectares of the conservancy area, surveys indicated that the area was on track to develop yet another dense stand of pine trees. In the early stages of growth these new seedlings are easier to remove by hand to prevent the dense pine stand from re-establishing, thereby contributing to conditions that may support a healthy raised bog community.

This will be the fourth year of clearing and will include work with contractors in cooperation with the City of Delta as a part of their interface fire management plan as well as with volunteers working with Regional Parks staff.

6. **Yellow Flag Iris Management at Widgeon Regional Park**
In summer 2024, a drone survey mapped the current extent of invasive yellow flag iris and found over 22,000 individual plants. These plants have the ability to release nearly 2 million seeds annually. Analysis on the spatial distribution of yellow flag iris indicated that the population seems to be relatively early in its colonization of the site and its treatment is still manageable. If this species is not managed soon it has the potential to degrade sensitive wetland habitat, interfere with navigable water ways and outcompete culturally significant food plant resources.

A multi-year systematic plan to manage the iris is starting this year with flowerhead removal to prevent seed spreading. Contractors, volunteers and staff have been working on the flowerhead removal part of the plan already this spring.

7. **Round Field Restoration at Campbell Valley Regional Park**
This project targets a four-hectare hay field just east of McLean Pond. The hay field has been infested with wild chervil, an invasive plant, for more than a decade. In 2019, the field was tilled and reseeded with a forage seed mix in an effort to reduce the wild chervil. Since then, it has gradually increased again.

Next year a new trail will be built around the perimeter of this field as part of the implementation of the park management plan. In anticipation, the field will be renovated again with the addition of some planted islands of trees, shrubs and wildflowers to increase biodiversity, provide raptor perching habitat and create visual interest for trail users.

8. **Riparian Restoration at Derby Reach Regional Park**
2025 will bring phase four of this project at Muench Bar, located along the Fraser River. A small field is being restored to a riparian forest which will help protect against future river erosion as well as add habitat diversity.

9. Trailside Buffer Planting at Tynehead Regional Park

This will be the fifth year of buffer planting along Perimeter Trail on the east side of the park. These plantings help filter noise from the nearby busy highway. What was once a large mowed grassy area is now a thriving area of trees, shrubs and wildflowers that attract a multitude of wildlife and pollinators. The highway is now barely visible from the trail in this area.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This work is supported by the 2025 Regional Parks restoration budget of \$375,000 and supplemented by grant funding from the Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation and other donations.

CONCLUSION

The Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Program works throughout the year to protect and conserve ecosystem health. This report shares some highlights of the 2024 program and outlines upcoming work in 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation re: Natural Resource Management Restoration Program Update.

REFERENCES

1. Metro Vancouver. (2020). *Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Framework*. <https://metrovancover.org/services/regional-parks/Documents/regional-parks-natural-resource-management-framework-2020.pdf>.



Ecological Restoration Projects in Regional Parks

2025 SELECTED PROJECTS

Robyn Worcester

Natural Resource Management Specialist

Regional Parks Committee Meeting

Sept 10, 2024

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1

MANAGING NATURAL ASSETS IN REGIONAL PARKS

Natural Resource Management Program

Ecological restoration contributes to maintaining the ecological health and resiliency of regional parks



Sundew in Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area

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Lynn Headwaters – Reforestation

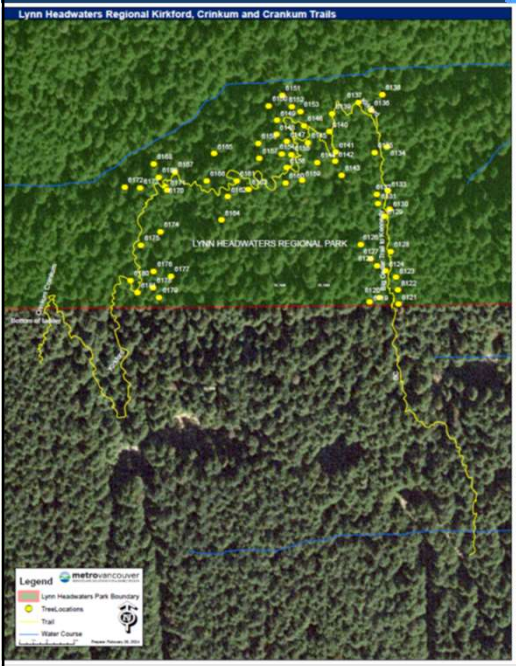


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Lynn Headwaters – Reforestation



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Pacific Spirit – Acadia Forest Underplanting



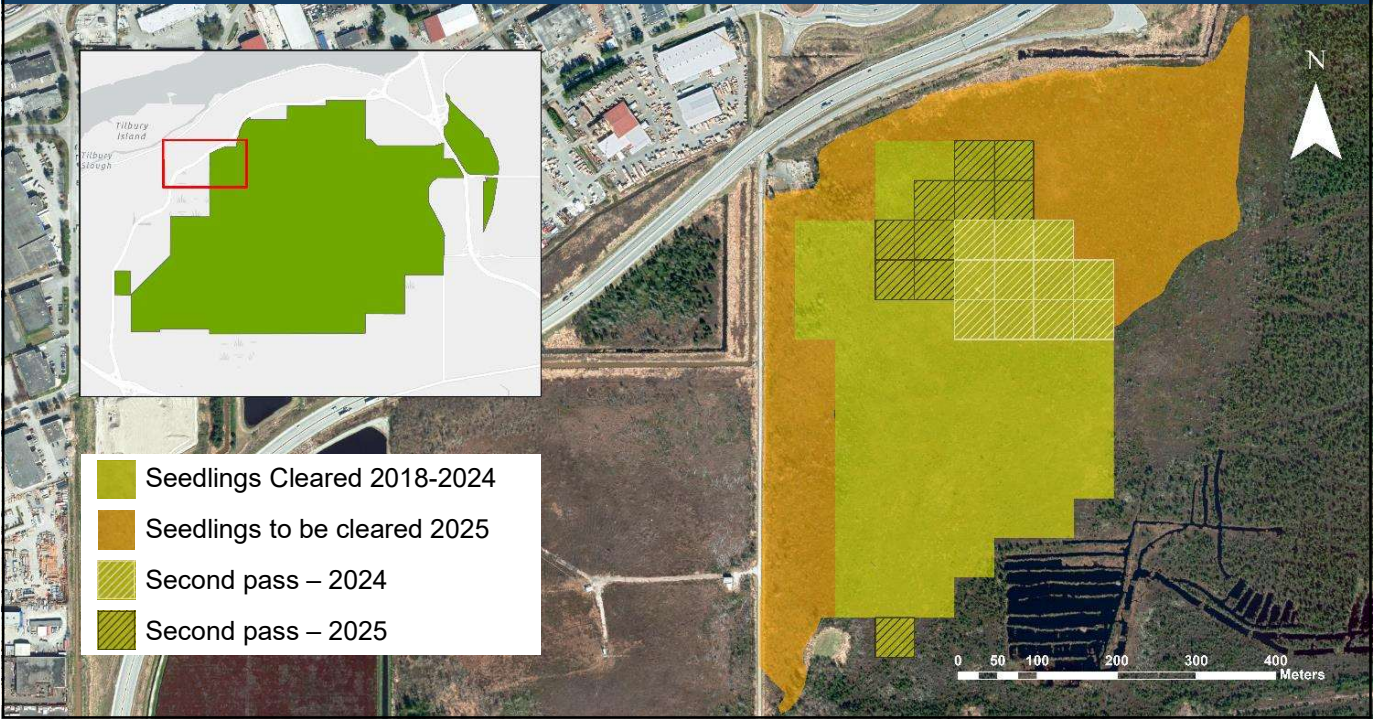
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Burnaby Lake Regional Park - Blackberry Management at the Nature House



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Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area – Pine Seedling removal



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Burns Bog Ecological Conservancy Area – Pine Seedling removal



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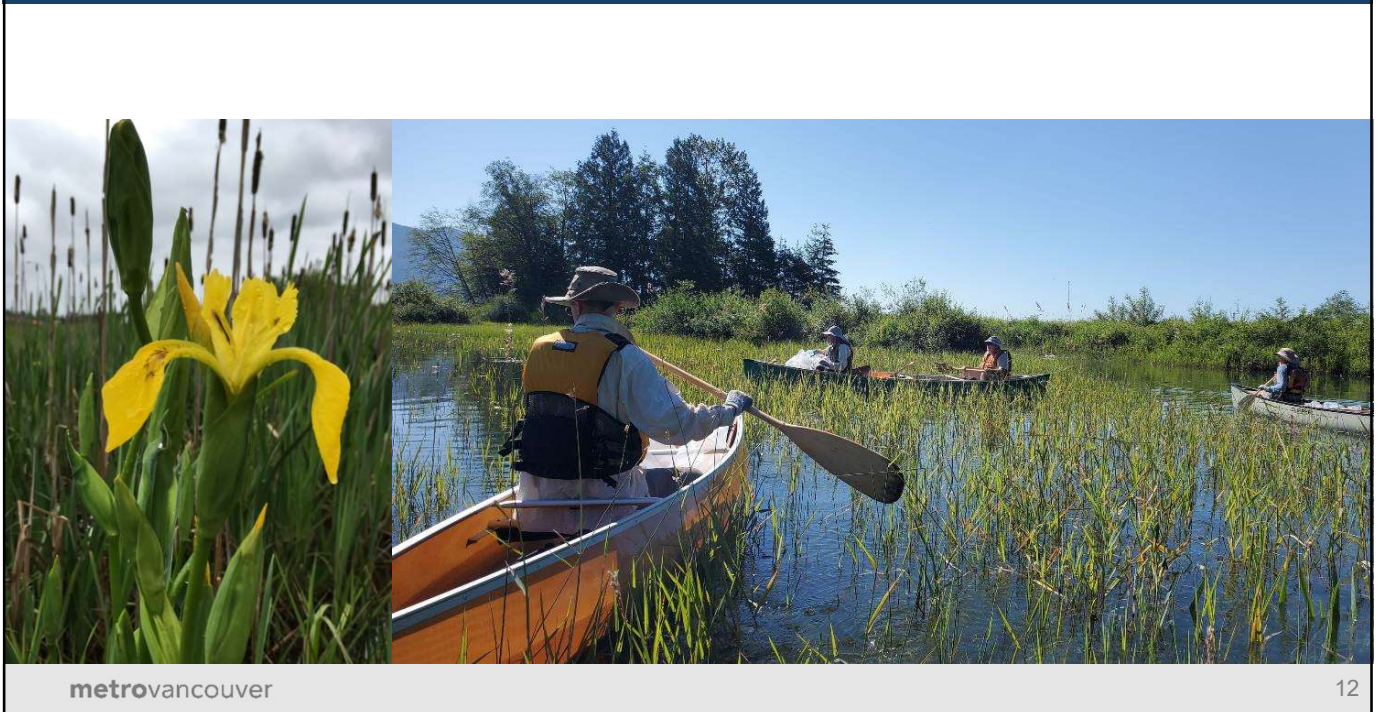
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Widgeon Marsh Regional Park – Yellow Flag Iris Management



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Widgeon Marsh Regional Park – Yellow Flag Iris Management



12

Campbell Valley - Round Field Restoration



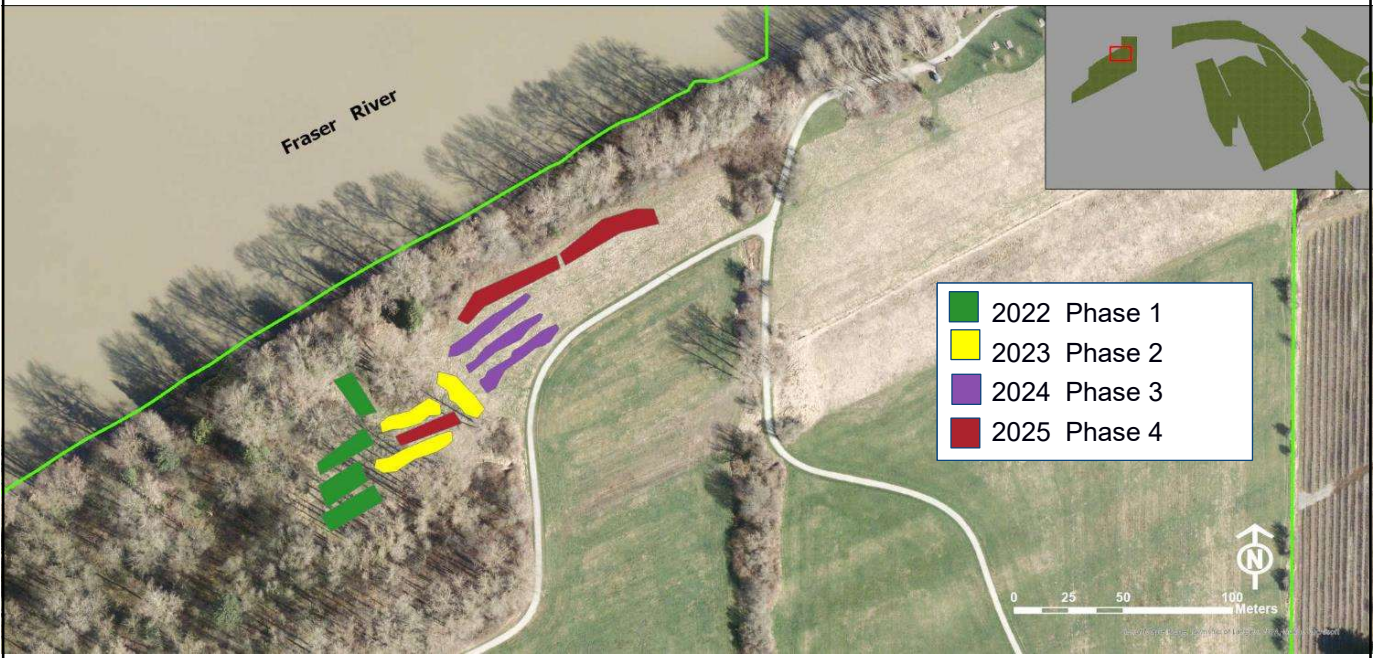
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Campbell Valley - Round Field Restoration



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Derby Reach - Riparian Restoration



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Derby Reach - Riparian Restoration



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Tynehead - Trailside Buffer Planting



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Tynehead - Trailside Buffer Planting



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Boardwalked Trail – Pacific Spirit Regional Park

Thank-you – Questions?

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To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Sandy Young, Senior Engagement Specialist, External Relations
Marina Jozipovic, Senior Planner, Regional Planning and Housing Services

Date: August 15, 2025 Meeting Date: September 11, 2025

Subject: **Housing 2050 Engagement Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Planning Committee receive for information the report dated August 15, 2025, titled "Housing 2050 Engagement Update".

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the engagement for *Housing 2050* from January to August 2025. Engagement was focused on individuals and organizations directly involved in non-market housing policy, planning, and delivery, including municipalities, First Nations, senior governments, housing providers, and sectoral organizations. Engagement included 16 facilitated meetings, one workshop, and an online questionnaire with 79 participants. Over 750 comments were received. Participants shared insights on regional priorities, opportunities for alignment, and strategies to advance affordable housing outcomes.

Key themes included:

- Advocacy and funding: Calls for increased senior government investment, flexible financing, and access to land and supports;
- Collaboration and coordination: Emphasis on cross-sector partnerships and regional alignment;
- Policy and implementation: Input on optimizing delivery, protecting tenants, and addressing homelessness;
- Data and engagement: Interest in shared research tools and ongoing, responsive engagement; and
- First Nations priorities: Desire for continued dialogue and stronger relationships around housing policy.

This input will be used in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies that will be presented to engagement audiences at the next stage.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Regional Planning Committee with an update on the engagement process for *Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal*.

BACKGROUND

At its April 3, 2025, meeting, the Regional Planning Committee received the proposed engagement approach for *Housing 2050* in a report titled, “Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050’s Housing Goal – Engagement Approach” (Reference 1). Staff have been delivering this engagement program to support the development of key project tasks for *Housing 2050*. *Housing 2050* is intended to be an action-oriented roadmap and to support collective advocacy for the implementation of Goal 4 of *Metro 2050* — to provide diverse and affordable housing choices. It is part of the Board-approved Housing Policy and Planning budget and work plan.

UPDATE ON THE ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The engagement for *Housing 2050* focuses on hearing from those who have a role in advancing affordable housing in the region and on collecting input to inform recommendations in *Housing 2050*. Engagement to date has involved municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations working in the affordable housing sector. Participants have had opportunities to provide input into the development of *Housing 2050* and discuss opportunities for regional alignment, collaboration, and advocacy around affordable housing. An interim summary of the engagement from January to August 2025 is provided as Attachment 1. A full summary report issued at the end of engagement will describe participation and how the input was applied in developing *Housing 2050*.

Engagement Promotion

Engagement opportunities were promoted through a variety of channels, including direct outreach to key audiences. BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA) was engaged to promote an online questionnaire to their network. A dedicated project webpage was used to highlight information about the process and engagement to develop *Housing 2050*. Promotions were targeted to audiences who have a role in affordable housing policy and planning, and not to a broad public audience.

Engagement Participation

From May to August 2025, staff held seven one-on-one meetings with five local First Nations to introduce the project, hear about level of interest, and discuss priorities and engagement preferences around this work. First Nations expressed an interest in continuing these conversations with the project team and their respective staff teams. A workshop with 17 members of the Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) Housing Subcommittee on May 15, 2025, focused on opportunities for coordination, advocacy, and research and data to increase affordable housing supply, maintain existing supply, and protect tenants. Representatives from provincial and federal governments, government advocacy organizations, government services agencies (i.e., health authorities, TransLink, school districts), and housing umbrella organizations were engaged through nine individual or group meetings from May to July 2025. Discussions focused on priorities, areas of alignment, opportunities and barriers, advocacy, and engagement preferences regarding *Housing 2050*. An online questionnaire promoted by BCNPHA to their network and open from May 22 to June 13, 2025, resulted in 79 completions.

Engagement Input

Over 750 comments were received across all audiences and methods. The following areas of interest emerged throughout the engagement.

- Advocacy – advocating to senior government to highlight opportunities around funding, access to land, programs, and social supports
- Collaboration – working together across sectors to advance innovative tools and initiatives
- Data and research – filling data gaps and examining programs to develop shared resources and inform best practices
- First Nations priorities – engaging to learn about affordable housing priorities and strengthen relationships around regional housing policy
- Funding – improving the coordination and allocation of funds to ensure reliable and flexible funding and financing programs
- Infrastructure – ensuring community amenities and services to support growing communities
- Ongoing engagement – responding to audience preferences to encourage ongoing participation
- Policy design and implementation – understanding challenges and expanding on successes to optimize delivery
- Protecting tenants – increasing resources, capacity, and coordination to advance renter protections
- Regional coordination – coordinating efforts and aligning approaches to address shared challenges
- Supportive housing and homelessness – coordinating approaches and supports to address an increasing need

The detailed input will help to inform the development of potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies that will be presented to engagement audiences for discussion in fall 2025.

ALTERNATIVES

As this is an information report, no alternatives are provided.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The engagement program is resourced through project funding allocated to *Housing 2050* under the Board-approved 2025 Housing Policy and Planning budget.

CONCLUSION

The engagement to date has focused on collecting input from key audiences to inform the recommendations in *Housing 2050*. Ongoing engagement with municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations working in affordable housing will continue to respond to their engagement preferences. Further opportunities to engage on *Housing 2050* will be provided as the project transitions to the next task to discuss potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies. Staff intend to return to the Regional Planning Committee in early 2026 with a proposed draft of *Housing 2050*, including a full summary of engagement.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal.

REFERENCES

1. Young, S. & Jozipovic, M. (2025). *Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal – Engagement Approach* [Staff report to Regional Planning Committee meeting on 2025, April 3]. <https://metrovancover.org/boards/RegionalPlanning/RPL-2025-04-03-AGE.pdf#page=118>

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Housing 2050:

A Roadmap to Implement
Metro 2050's Housing Goal

INTERIM ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

JANUARY TO AUGUST 2025

HOUSING
2050



Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the engagement process to date for *Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal*. Metro Vancouver embraces collaboration and innovation to provide sustainable regional services, contributing to a livable and resilient region and a healthy natural environment for current and future generations. The purpose of this engagement is to hear from those who have a role in advancing the region's affordable housing and collect input to inform the recommendations in *Housing 2050*. We appreciate your time as well as the insights and comments that you have shared with us so far. We invite you to stay involved in the engagement on *Housing 2050*.

About Metro Vancouver

Metro Vancouver is a diverse organization that plans for and delivers regional services, including water, sewers and wastewater treatment, and solid waste management. It also regulates air quality, plans for urban growth, manages a regional parks system, provides affordable housing, and serves as a regional federation. The organization is a federation of 21 municipalities, one electoral area, and one treaty First Nation located in the region of the same name. The organization is governed by four Boards of Directors of elected officials, one for each legal entity making up Metro Vancouver with representation from member jurisdictions.

Metro Vancouver acknowledges that the region's residents live, work, and learn on the shared territories of many Indigenous peoples, including 10 local First Nations: ǰǰǰǰ (Katzie), ǰǰǰǰ (Kwantlen), ǰǰǰǰ (Kwikwetlem), ǰǰǰǰ (Matsqui), ǰǰǰǰ (Musqueam), ǰǰǰǰ (Qayqayt), Semiahmoo, Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), scǰǰǰǰ mǰǰǰǰ (Tsawwassen), and sǰǰǰǰ (Tsleil-Waututh).

Metro Vancouver respects the diverse and distinct histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, which collectively enrich our lives and the region.

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August 2025



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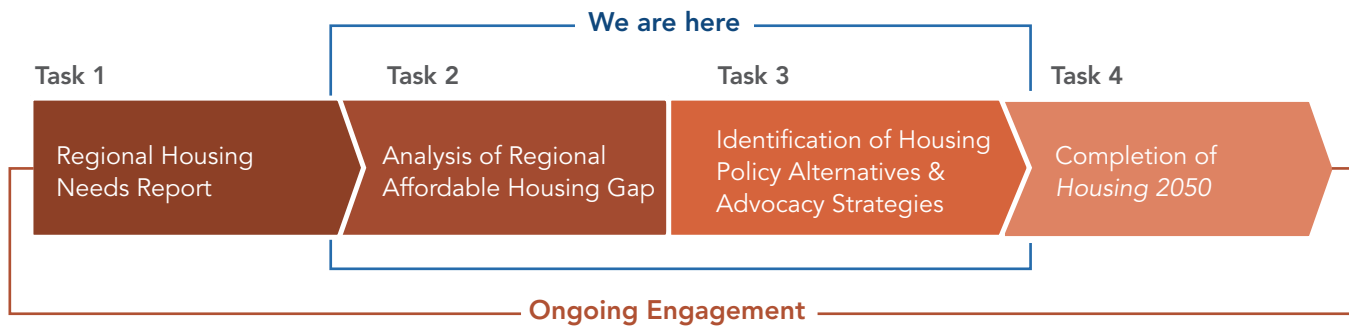
This report provides an interim summary of engagement from January to August 2025. It is provided to support a progress report prepared for decision makers. A full summary report will be issued at the end of engagement.

1. About Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal

Metro Vancouver is developing *Housing 2050: A Roadmap to Implement Metro 2050's Housing Goal*. Housing 2050 will be an action-oriented roadmap to support the implementation of Goal 4 in *Metro 2050*, the regional growth strategy. There are four milestones that will contribute to the development of *Housing 2050*: a *Regional Housing Needs Report*, an *Affordable Housing Gap Analysis*, *Policy Alternatives and Advocacy Strategies*, and the confirmation of *Housing 2050* roadmap actions. *Housing 2050* will leverage Metro Vancouver's role in supporting affordable housing in this region, with an emphasis on regional policy, advocacy, and Metro Vancouver's role as a convener. The engagement program focuses on hearing input from municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations working in the affordable housing sector. *Housing 2050* is expected to be completed by early 2026, with the intention to seek adoption by the Metro Vancouver Regional District Board (MVRD Board).

2. Executive Summary

Housing 2050 is intended to be an action-oriented roadmap to support diverse and affordable housing choices — Goal 4 in *Metro 2050*, the regional growth strategy. This interim engagement summary details engagement from January to August 2025 and is provided to support a progress report prepared for decision makers. The graphic below reflects the four milestones in developing *Housing 2050* and the ongoing engagement with key audiences throughout its development.



Engagement to date has focused on hearing from municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations working in the affordable housing sector. Participants have been offered opportunities to provide input into the development of *Housing 2050* and discuss approaches to regional alignment, collaboration, and advocacy around affordable housing. Engagement methods have included 16 individual or group meetings, one workshop with Regional Planning Advisory Committee (RPAC) Housing Subcommittee, and an online questionnaire with 79 participants.

The following areas of interest have emerged throughout the engagement:

- Advocacy – advocating to senior government to highlight opportunities around funding, access to land, programs, and social supports
- Collaboration – working together across sectors to advance innovative tools and initiatives
- Data and research – filling data gaps and examining programs to develop shared resources and inform best practices
- First Nations priorities – engaging to learn about affordable housing priorities and strengthen relationships around regional housing policy
- Funding – improving the coordination and allocation of funds to ensure reliable and flexible funding and financing programs
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- Protecting tenants – increasing resources, capacity, and coordination to advance renter protections
- Regional coordination – coordinating efforts and aligning approaches to address shared challenges
- Supportive housing and homelessness – coordinating approaches and supports to address an increasing need

Input will be used in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies that will be presented to engagement audiences for discussion in fall 2025. An engagement summary report issued at the end of engagement will identify where input from key audiences is reflected in *Housing 2050*. *Housing 2050* is expected to be completed by early 2026, with the intention to seek adoption by the MVRD Board.

3. About the Engagement Process

Engagement for *Housing 2050* focuses on hearing from those who have a role in advancing affordable housing in the region and on collecting input to inform recommendations in *Housing 2050*.

Engagement to date, from January to August 2025, has involved municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations working in the affordable housing sector. The engagement has provided participants with opportunities to contribute input into the development of *Housing 2050* and to discuss opportunities for regional alignment, collaboration, and advocacy around affordable housing.

The table below provides a summary of engagement activities including intended audience(s).

AUDIENCE	ENGAGEMENT METHOD/DESCRIPTION
Municipalities	Presentations, a workshop, and updates at key milestones for Regional Planning Committee, Housing Committee, RPAC, and RPAC Housing Subcommittee
First Nations	Project introduction letters and one-on-one meetings to introduce the project, understand level of interest, and discuss priorities and engagement preferences, as part of a separate, government-to-government process
Federal and provincial governments (i.e., Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and BC Housing)	Project introduction letters and emails and individual engagement meetings to discuss priorities, areas of alignment, leveraging opportunities, and engagement preferences
Government advocacy organizations (i.e., Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Union of BC Municipalities)	Project introduction emails and a group engagement meeting to discuss priorities, areas of alignment, advocacy, and engagement preferences
Government service agencies (i.e., health authorities, TransLink, school districts)	Project introduction emails and a group engagement meeting to discuss priorities, areas of alignment, opportunities and barriers, and engagement preferences
Housing umbrella organizations (i.e., BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA), Urban Development Institute, Aboriginal Housing Management Association)	Project introduction emails and a group engagement meeting and follow-up meeting to discuss priorities, areas of alignment, opportunities and barriers, and engagement preferences
BC Non-Profit Housing Association network	Online questionnaire promoted to the BCNPHA network at a sector conference (Lower Mainland RENT) and in an e-blast to their subscribers, open for three weeks
Metro Vancouver staff	Cross-departmental coordination meeting with internal staff whose work relates to affordable housing policy and planning



4. Engagement Promotion

The *Housing 2050* engagement was promoted through a variety of channels, including direct outreach to key audiences. Promotions were targeted to audiences who have a role in affordable housing policy and planning, and not to a broad public. The following section provides an overview of promotional activities.

Correspondence

The engagement opportunities were highlighted to key audiences through an initial correspondence with a supporting project fact sheet.

Website

A dedicated project web page was used to highlight information about the process and engagement to develop *Housing 2050*.

Online Questionnaire

ZenCity, an online engagement platform, was used to host an online questionnaire targeted to the BCNPHA network. The questionnaire was open from May 22 to June 13, 2025.

E-Blast

The online questionnaire was promoted by BCNPHA in an e-blast to their subscribers on May 30, 2025.

Sector Conference

A QR code to the online questionnaire was promoted on screen at a sector conference, Lower Mainland RENT, on May 22, 2025.



5. Engagement Participation

The infographic below and the table on the next page outline the level of participation in each of the engagement opportunities offered.



ENGAGEMENT METHOD	PARTICIPANTS			DATE
Individual meetings (seven) with First Nations	ǫʷɑ:ńłəń (Kwantlen First Nation) kʷikʷəłəm (Kwikwetlem First Nation) Sƙwƙwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation) səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation)			May–August 2025
Workshop with RPAC Housing Subcommittee (and follow-up meeting or correspondence with four members)	City of Burnaby City of Delta City of Langley Township of Langley City of Maple Ridge City of New Westminster	City of Pitt Meadows City of Port Coquitlam City of Port Moody City of Richmond City of Surrey scəwəθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation)	City of Vancouver City of White Rock TransLink Urban Development Institute Vancouver Coastal Health	May 15, 2025
Individual meetings with federal and provincial governments	Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation BC Housing	May–June 2025	
Group meeting with government advocacy organizations	Federation of Canadian Municipalities Union of BC Municipalities			June 23, 2025
Group meeting with government service agencies	First Nations Health Authority Fraser Health Authority Richmond School District No. 38 Surrey Schools	TransLink Vancouver Coastal Health Authority Vancouver School Board	June 24, 2025	
Group meeting with housing umbrella organizations	BC Non-Profit Housing Association Urban Development Institute Aboriginal Housing Management Association (follow-up meeting)			June 25, 2025 July 7, 2025
Online questionnaire	79 participants			May 22–June 13, 2025



First Nations Meetings

Metro Vancouver has been engaging with First Nations in a separate, government-to-government process. In April 2025, staff sent letters to 10 local First Nations with an invitation to meet to introduce the project, hear about level of interest, and discuss priorities and engagement preferences around this work. From May to August 2025, the project team had seven one-on-one meetings with five First Nations: ą̄ʷɑ:ńłəń (Kwantlen First Nation), kʷikʷəłəm (Kwikwetlem First Nation), S̄kw̄xwú7mesh ʰxwumixw (Squamish Nation), scəwaθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation). Meetings were either dedicated project meetings or part of Metro Vancouver's Technical Working Group meetings with individual First Nations. Input from these meetings is described in the What We Heard and How We're Responding table (p.13). Metro Vancouver is committed to engaging with First Nations on Housing 2050 throughout its development.

RPAC Housing Subcommittee Workshop

At the RPAC Housing Subcommittee meeting on May 15, 2025, staff facilitated a workshop with 17 participants to identify potential directions for *Housing 2050* in three topic areas: increasing affordable housing supply, maintaining existing affordable housing supply, and protecting tenants. The discussion focused on what we can do together that we cannot do alone when it comes to advancing these topics and what needs to be done at the regional or sub-regional level or through collective action.

Facilitated Meetings

Representatives from federal and provincial government, government advocacy organizations, government service agencies (i.e., health authorities, TransLink, school districts), and housing umbrella organizations joined nine individual and group meetings scheduled from May to July 2025, to learn about *Housing 2050* and provide input. Meetings included discussion on priorities, areas of alignment, opportunities and barriers, advocacy, and engagement preferences around this work.

Online Questionnaire

Staff used ZenCity, an online engagement platform, to host a questionnaire that BC Non-Profit Housing Association promoted to their network. The questionnaire was open from May 22 to June 13, 2025, and a total of 79 questionnaires were received. Over three quarters of the questionnaire participants were from non-profit housing providers and non-profit service providers. Participants identified, from a list of choices, the top barriers they face as an organization in delivering the level of affordable housing they aspire to. The top barriers were: lack of capital funding (e.g., grants, equity, pre-development), access to land at reasonable cost, uncertainty in government policy or funding programs, high construction costs, limited operating subsidies/viability gap, and delays in municipal approvals and permitting. The questionnaire aimed to explore the highest impact initiatives to address the barriers and what a roadmap to affordable housing should consider when it comes to the capacity and constraints of non-profit housing providers.

6. What We Heard and How We're Responding

Below, in alphabetical order, are key interests that we heard throughout the engagement from all methods and audiences, along with Metro Vancouver's response to each area of interest, describing how the input will be considered in developing *Housing 2050*.

INTEREST: ADVOCACY	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>Input consistently highlighted the need for advocacy to senior governments for funding. This included advocacy for long-term funding for social infrastructure. Participants suggested advocacy around leveraging public land and for more resources for land acquisition, as well as increasing financing flexibility and low-interest options for market development. There was an interest in advocacy for funding for rental protection and grants for improving existing buildings. A comment related to advocating for first-right-of-refusal for non-profits and BC Housing to purchase older rental stock. Input called for advocating for expanding government programs to suit First Nations communities.</p> <p>Participants suggested testing and advocating for prefabrication and modular methods, as well as promoting innovation, for example, mass timber, tiny homes, and infill development of existing rental properties. Input asserted value in cross-sectoral advocacy to address homelessness and unmet need for supportive services, as well as around deeply affordable housing. Comments highlighted a need for advocacy around supportive housing targets and requirements and enforcement of standards of maintenance bylaws. Input also suggested advocacy around measures for protecting tenants, for example, social supports and renter subsidies. Input called for advocacy around grounding policy in the needs of community members (i.e., family-size units, supportive services, etc.), rather than trying to maximize the number of units built. There was an interest in advocacy around considering administration and enforcement when designing programs.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver is committed to advocating to federal and provincial governments for affordable housing, including for supportive and transitional housing. Better advocating for increased affordable housing funding and support for the region is a key objective of <i>Housing 2050</i>. Metro Vancouver is considering advocacy strategies to include in the draft <i>Housing 2050</i> roadmap, with inspiration from the insights and ideas provided through the engagement.</p>



INTEREST: COLLABORATION

WHAT WE HEARD

Input included suggestions for continuing and strengthening collaboration around Digitally Accelerated Standardized Housing (DASH) between government and organizations with land. An interest in local governments collaborating with non-profit housing providers on best practices for inclusionary housing was shared, as was a desire for non-profits and First Nations to work together around acquiring land. Senior governments also highlighted their own programs that promote cross-sectoral collaboration and capacity building.

HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Metro Vancouver is uniquely positioned as a regional government to support cross-sector collaboration. As one example, Metro Vancouver has been collaborating on opportunities to integrate the DASH approach into pilot projects at two Metro Vancouver Housing sites. Metro Vancouver will apply this input in developing recommendations for the draft *Housing 2050* roadmap, including around enhancing opportunities for regional collaboration.

INTEREST: DATA AND RESEARCH

WHAT WE HEARD

Participants emphasized their own initiatives for this interest, for example, cross-sectoral research on social infrastructure to accompany housing and a lands mapping project for public land to identify DASH-friendly sites and readiness for redevelopment. Another participant indicated their research focus on cost structure. There was interest in sharing and discussing data related to senior government programs to understand which programs achieve the best outcomes, as well as health outcomes of affordable housing, as two examples. Participants suggested Metro Vancouver survey member jurisdictions to understand which policy tools are working and develop an affordable housing best practice guide. There was interest in simplifying design standards and creating standardized design guidelines. Input called for regional databases showing affordable housing supply and projections, which could help others, like schools, with planning. There were suggestions for identifying best practices around extending the life of older rental stock and for local governments supporting the use of the Rental Protection Fund, as well as looking into the impact of permissive tax exemptions. Comments called for tracking demolition and studying environmental impact of demolition. Input also included interest in studying secondary suites, addressing data gaps on congregate and informal housing, and evaluating policies around protecting tenants.

HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Metro Vancouver is committed to supporting member jurisdictions to develop and implement housing plans and policies by providing data and research. This is a key objective of *Housing 2050*. For example, Metro Vancouver produces What Works guides on affordable housing topics of regional interest, which may be expanded and updated through this process. Additionally, staff have met with both provincial staff and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation representatives to start the conversation on data gaps and challenges around affordable housing data and monitoring. Metro Vancouver will apply input from this engagement in developing recommendations for the draft *Housing 2050* roadmap, including around data and research.

INTEREST: FIRST NATIONS PRIORITIES

WHAT WE HEARD

Input emphasized the need for community amenities and support services to be expanded to match increased housing development and for advocacy to other levels of government to provide funding for amenities and support services. Input emphasized persistent housing need on reserve and an interest in bringing individuals home to connect with culture and community. Input called for ensuring options for Elders housing and safe housing in community. There was interest in discussing housing need and housing development and questions about how First Nations are included in Metro Vancouver's Regional Housing Needs Report. Input called for advocacy around expanding provincial and federal programs to suit First Nations communities. Input emphasized the uniqueness of each First Nation community with respect to their programs and policies for increasing housing, maintaining existing supply, and protecting rental options. Input described challenges with building affordable housing on leaseholder land. There was an interest in exploring strategies that other First Nations are using to deliver affordable housing as land runs out. Input called for making permitting easier and faster and for incentivizing First Nations developers and owners whose off-reserve housing also serves the public. Participants stressed that this work should reflect the diversity of housing needs in the community, including accessible housing and family-sized housing, and housing for those with low income or who are experiencing homelessness. Input emphasized the importance of a holistic, regional approach when considering homelessness, tenant displacement, and affordability of rents and its effects on people in the broader community, including urban Indigenous people. A comment stated that much of the Indigenous population in the region are not connected to a First Nation, creating challenges with a distinctions-based approach to providing support. Many First Nations expressed an interest in continuing the conversation between Metro Vancouver and their respective staff teams around this work.

HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Metro Vancouver is committed to meaningful engagement with First Nations and applying this input in the development of *Housing 2050*, where possible. As an example, Metro Vancouver has aimed to understand through the engagement how First Nations would like to have their housing needs reflected in future work to understand regional housing context. Engagement will continue to focus on strengthening relationships with First Nations and engaging according to their preferences. Input from First Nations will help to shape potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft *Housing 2050* roadmap.

Comments were also received about Metro Vancouver Housing development and operations, which are outside of the regional policy and advocacy scope of *Housing 2050*. These comments were shared with the appropriate staff team at Metro Vancouver.



INTEREST: FUNDING	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>Funding was mentioned frequently across engagement discussions. Participants stressed the importance of funding being reliable and funding programs being flexible and not too prescriptive. Input emphasized advocating to the Province for funding, ensuring long-term funding for infrastructure and amenities, and moving quickly on projects through the DASH method to attract federal funding. Participants expressed an interest in supporting coordination to align and layer funding streams and in examining how effective funding programs are at addressing need, which some described as oversubscribed. There was a suggestion for Metro Vancouver and member jurisdictions to examine underutilized areas of funding. Some participants expressed that application processes for specific programs are, for some, not worth the work, while others find benefit. A comment related to challenges with the level of green building standards that some funding programs require. There was an interest in expanding information sharing around funding programs. Input also called for increasing funding for affordable rental and rental protection and more grants for improving existing buildings. One comment suggested tracking government funding and expressed concern with per capita distribution compared to immigration levels. Participants emphasized ensuring a funding model for supportive housing.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver will apply this input in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft <i>Housing 2050</i> roadmap, including around allocation and coordination of funding.</p>

INTEREST: INFRASTRUCTURE	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>Input emphasized a need for social infrastructure, like community amenities and support services, to keep pace with housing development, including in First Nations communities. Input stressed the importance of ensuring other services and public infrastructure, such as schools, can accommodate increased density and development. Overall, school districts indicated intentions to dedicate land to schools, with few examples and minimal desire of co-locating affordable housing. There was a strong call for long-term solutions for funding infrastructure related to growth. One comment expressed concern with per capita funding related to immigration levels. Comments described ensuring active transportation and green infrastructure with affordable housing, with some municipalities having updated their Official Community Plans. Input called for protecting the environment while planning for density.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver updates regional and municipal population projections on a regular basis to guide land use and infrastructure planning. The need for social infrastructure (e.g., schools, healthcare, childcare) to keep up with housing development has been expressed throughout this engagement and at Metro Vancouver member advisory committee tables. Staff have taken direction on work to estimate the social infrastructure need in relation to regional housing needs. Metro Vancouver will apply this input in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft <i>Housing 2050</i> roadmap, including around social infrastructure.</p>

INTEREST: ONGOING ENGAGEMENT	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>Under this interest, many participants highlighted their own strategies and initiatives underway and desire for engagement and alignment with key organizations, like Metro Vancouver and municipalities. There was interest from participants in hearing about the outcomes of engagement on <i>Housing 2050</i> to help inform their own work, and Metro Vancouver was encouraged to stay connected with senior government for this purpose. Participants largely expressed an interest in ongoing engagement and information sharing through dedicated engagement meetings and, for some participants, through Metro Vancouver advisory committees. The five First Nations engaged to date have all indicated an interest in continuing the conversation, depending on capacity.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver is committed to ongoing engagement with municipalities, First Nations, other governments, and organizations with a role in housing, and incorporating input into project decisions. Staff will design and implement future engagement opportunities based on the engagement preferences shared by participants. Input received through this engagement under these key interest areas will be applied in the development of preliminary direction for <i>Housing 2050</i>.</p>



INTEREST: POLICY DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

WHAT WE HEARD

This interest included discussion about the effectiveness of current and impending senior government programs for unlocking affordable housing and filling gaps. There were suggestions for eliminating barriers for construction time, cost, and certainty by avoiding rezoning, encouraging municipalities to contribute land and pre-zone sites, and streamlining approval process. There was interest in the housing targets of municipalities. Participants were supportive of piloting DASH as one solution to challenges with cost and speed of delivery. Input called for more government support to offset development cost charges (DCCs) or waive them. Input suggested that there should be incentives for developers to alleviate prohibitive costs and that reducing fees for inclusionary zoning and affordable units would help. Participants also indicated that rising pricing and tariffs have created challenges around construction. Input called for considering how to address the labour shortage so that units that are funded get built. There was a suggestion to reduce or eliminate property taxes for affordable rental housing. Input described an effort to align design guidelines more closely with BC Building Code standards to reduce the burden on non-profits trying to meet multiple disparate requirements. There was discussion on programs like Housing Accelerator Fund, and on how programs like the Moderate Income Rental Program, Rental Protection Fund, and tax incentives are effective. Input suggested that sustainability requirements can create operational savings, making buildings viable for longer, while other input indicated that the requirements should be cost effective for operations, or funded. Input called for a guaranteed agreement for Metro Vancouver Housing to purchase inclusionary units (or advocate to BC Housing).

HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Metro Vancouver will apply this input in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft *Housing 2050* roadmap, including around housing delivery. Additionally, Metro Vancouver is committed to reviewing regional development fees and is currently revising its Development Cost Charges (DCC) and DCC waiver program to ensure it is responsive to social, political, and economic circumstances.

Maple Ridge



INTEREST: PROTECTING TENANTS

WHAT WE HEARD

Input suggested advocacy for social supports and renter subsidies and to explore the creation of a regional rent bank or regional funding of rent banks to ensure all communities have an adequately funded rent bank. Comments indicated a desire for supporting more capacity and resources at the Residential Tenancy Branch, training and capacity for regional tenant coordination, and less rigid application of the National Occupancy Standard. Input called for evaluating policies intended to protect tenants and reviewing the outcomes. Comments supported creating model standards of maintenance and tenant protection bylaws. There was a suggestion to create a database to enable swapping right-of-first-refusal entitlements with other eligible tenants. Input emphasized coordination around regional homelessness support and prevention services, for example, with health authorities, and coordination of transitional housing. Comments expressed concerns with gentrification and the displacement of tenants through redevelopment. Input suggested learning from lived experience data and knowledge around this topic.

HOW WE'RE RESPONDING

Metro Vancouver will apply this input in developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft *Housing 2050* roadmap, including around protecting tenants. This is an area of focus for *Housing 2050*. On June 23, 2025, Metro Vancouver hosted a workshop to share best practices for tenant protection bylaws, with the potential for more workshops depending on participant interest.



INTEREST: REGIONAL COORDINATION	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>There was interest in regional coordination and alignment across discussions. Input suggested coordinating response to provincial legislation and pushing for consistency from municipalities around plans, permitting, incentives, fees, and regulations. There was discussion on access to land, unlocking public land, and ensuring land use planning works for housing policy objectives. A comment expressed interest in requesting priority application processing for non-profit developers. There were suggestions for coordination on zoning tools to protect existing rental housing and on providing tax exemptions for older buildings providing affordable housing. Input emphasized regional approaches to homelessness, recognizing some municipalities see themselves as taking on too much, while others feel they need more. Comments related to coordination on future actions as public land stock declines and for tax measures to disincentivize holding land. Comments encouraged Metro Vancouver to explore buying existing rentals and to consider overseeing tenant placement in affordable rental housing stock. Input included coordination for establishing rental replacement policies in appropriate markets and exploring standardized approaches to legal agreements. Input called for coordination around enforcing income requirements in new affordable units and creating a Tenant Rent Contribution certification program and centralized reporting. Participants suggested coordination measures around protection of tenants, for example, creating model bylaws. There was strong interest in having a consistent definition of "affordable". Participants confirmed the value of Metro Vancouver's role in regional coordination.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver is committed to increasing regional policy coordination on affordable housing as one key objective of <i>Housing 2050</i>, for example, through member advisory committees, topical workshops, and best practice research. Metro Vancouver is developing potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft <i>Housing 2050</i> roadmap, drawing ideas and inspiration from the engagement input.</p>

INTEREST: SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS	
WHAT WE HEARD	HOW WE'RE RESPONDING
<p>Input for this theme described the growing need for supportive housing observed by housing providers and a desire for advocacy around the challenge of ensuring funding for supportive housing. Participants raised obstacles with respect to moving people through the supportive housing ecosystem and best allocating resources. Suggestions were made for identifying supportive housing targets and for coordination on a regional supportive housing strategy with, for example, a dedicated working group. There was a suggestion that expiring operating agreements for subsidized housing can be renewed to protect affordable housing. Homelessness emerged as a shared concern and focus across many of the discussions. Comments expressed value in a holistic, regional approach and cross-sectoral advocacy to address homelessness and unmet need for supportive services, including with municipalities, and concern with overrepresentation of Indigenous people in homelessness. Participants expressed a desire for coordination on regional homelessness support and prevention services, including amongst health authorities.</p>	<p>Metro Vancouver has a role of convener in regional discussions with its member jurisdictions on supportive housing and homelessness. On June 19, 2025, staff delivered a workshop held jointly with the RPAC Housing Subcommittee and RPAC Social Issues Subcommittee to discuss challenges, successes, and areas for collective action around supportive housing. Metro Vancouver is considering potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies for the draft <i>Housing 2050</i> roadmap around supportive housing, taking inspiration from the engagement discussions.</p>

7. How Input Will Be Used

This input will help to inform the development of potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies that will be presented to Metro Vancouver member advisory committees and other engagement audiences for discussion in fall 2025. Staff have considered participants' comments and will incorporate them in the draft directions for *Housing 2050*, where possible.

8. Next Steps

This interim engagement summary report will be presented to the Regional Planning Committee in fall 2025. Further opportunities to engage on *Housing 2050* will be available as the project transitions to the next task to discuss potential policy alternatives and advocacy strategies.



To: Governance Committee

From: Jean Lawson, Program Manager, Intergovernmental Relations
Victoria Freinhofer, Intergovernmental Relations Specialist

Date: August 21, 2025 Meeting Date: September 12, 2025

Subject: **2026 Board Calendar: Annual Flow of Information to the Boards**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Governance Committee receive for information the report dated August 21, 2025, titled “2026 Board Calendar: Annual Flow of Information to the Boards”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governance Committee requested that the development of a Board Calendar be part of the committee’s 2025 Work Plan. The draft 2026 Board Calendar is being shared with the Governance Committee for input and consideration. Once finalized, it will be provided to the Boards for information at a future meeting. The intent is to offer the MVRD, MVHC, GVWD, and GVS&DD Boards (the Boards) a calendar that identifies expected regular reporting cycles through the year for efficient tracking and clarity. This is best practice for many boards. The calendar includes financial reporting such as the annual budget process, audit, and capital program reviews, in addition to reporting on the capital program, utilities, communication / intergovernment relations and management plans. The draft 2026 Board Calendar reflects a structured cadence with an outline of the flow of information and engagement that the Boards can expect. As recommendations in the report dated May 20, 2025 from Deloitte Canada are implemented, the calendar will evolve to incorporate additional items, such as the annual use of a Board Self-Evaluation Tool.

PURPOSE

To inform the Governance Committee of key events and updates to support a structured and predictable engagement of the MVRD, MVHC, GVWD, and GVS&DD Boards.

BACKGROUND

Throughout a 4-year cycle and on a yearly basis, the MVRD, MVHC, GVWD, and GVS&DD Boards receive and engage in regular flows of information and approvals. This includes financial oversight, strategic planning, review of the capital program and oversight of the Sustainability Innovation Funds. There is a regular and planned cadence to these processes to meaningful involvement by board members. Establishing a regular schedule for these engagements fosters transparency, continuity, and a shared sense of direction across leadership.

2026 CALENDAR OVERVIEW

The draft 2026 Board Calendar (Attachment 1) outlines a structured flow of information to support the Boards' engagement in key governance and financial processes, including budget development and a workshop focused on the long-range financial plan, capital project updates, and key events. Other periodic additions such as Board orientation, Strategic Plan development, and Strategic Plan updates, will be scheduled as appropriate rather than annually. As the implementation of recommendations from Deloitte Canada's Metro Vancouver Board Governance Review report progresses, additional items will be incorporated into the annual schedule, including a regular schedule for the Board Self-Evaluation Tool. Staff are seeking feedback on any additional information or processes that could be added to the 2026 Board Calendar.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

CONCLUSION

The 2026 Board Calendar serves to provide an understanding of the flow of information and engagement Board Members can expect over the calendar year.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft 2026 Metro Vancouver Board Calendar: Cadence of Regular Reporting.

REFERENCES

1. Deloitte Canada. (2025, May). *Metro Vancouver Board Governance Review*.
<https://metrovancouver.org/boards/GVRD/RD-2025-05-23-AGE.pdf#page=31>.



DRAFT 2026 Board Calendar: Cadence of Regular Reporting

REPORTING AREAS	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Boards and Committees	Committee orientations & work plans External agency appointments	Board Strategic Plan Review*	Annual Board Self-Evaluation	Council of Councils	CAO Performance Review			No Committee or Board Meetings		Council of Councils 2026 Municipal Elections	Inaugural Board meeting Election of Chair and Vice Chair	Chair sets Committees and membership for upcoming year
Financial Reporting		Budget Engagement Survey	Budget Engagement Survey Results	Board Budget Workshop Year End Audit for Previous Year	Financial Performance Report	Statement of Financial Information Budget Engagement	Budget Engagement	PNE Budget Engagement	DCC Update	Board Budget Workshop Annual Budget and Five-Year Financial Plan	Financial Performance Report	
Capital Program Updates			Major Projects Update		Capital Program Update (Water, Liquid Waste, Solid Waste, Parks, Housing)		Capital Program Five Year Outlook (Water, Liquid Waste, Solid Waste, Parks, Housing)		Major Projects Update	Capital Program Update (Water, Liquid Waste, Solid Waste, Parks, Housing)		
Utilities Reporting		Solid Waste Management Plan Biennial Report							GVS&DD Environmental Management & Quality Control Report	Tipping Fee Bylaw Update		
MVRD Reporting		Sustainability Innovation Fund Applications Approvals	Invest Vancouver Annual Plan		Regional Parks Annual Report	Metro Vancouver Regional Fund Application from TransLink	Sustainability Innovation Fund Projects Update Corporate Climate and Energy Report		Metro 2050 Annual Report Population Projections Update Invest Vancouver KPTs	Metro Vancouver Regional Fund Annual Report from TransLink Regional Parks Fees and Charges		
Communications and IGR Reporting		IGR Update	Communications/Engagement Update			IGR Update	Communications/Engagement Update	PNE Installation		IGR Update	Communications/Engagement Update	

* Board Strategic Plan is adopted in first year of term and then reviewed at the beginning of the third year of term. The 2025 review was postponed because of other Board reviews underway.