

To: Regional Planning Committee

From: Diana Jeliaskova, Senior Policy and Planning Analyst, Regional Planning and Housing Services

Date: January 23, 2023 Meeting Date: February 10, 2023

Subject: **Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future – 2021 Annual Performance Monitoring Report**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated January 23, 2023, titled “*Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future - 2021 Annual Performance Monitoring Report*”, and direct staff to forward a copy to the Province of BC’s Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Local Government Division.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act* and *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future (Metro 2040)* require the preparation of an annual report on the regional growth strategy’s progress. The 2021 Annual Performance Monitoring Report provides a summary update on the performance measures with relevant annual change and available data. A complete profile of *Metro 2040*’s performance measures with a detailed data breakdown is available in the *Metro 2040* Performance Monitoring Dashboard on the Metro Vancouver website (Reference 1).

PURPOSE

To provide the Regional Planning Committee and MVRD Board the 2021 annual performance monitoring report of the region’s performance toward the goals of *Metro 2040*. This is based on the key summary and context measures in Section G of the regional growth strategy, from plan adoption in 2011 to 2021, and the policy and land use designation amendments to date.

BACKGROUND

Metro 2040 is the regional federation’s shared vision to guide urban growth among the 23 member jurisdictions comprising the Metro Vancouver Regional District. Annual reporting on the regional growth strategy’s progress is required by both Subsection 452(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act* and Section 6.13.3 of *Metro 2040*. The preparation of an annual report is also essential to ensure that the regional growth strategy, its indicators and policies, are actively monitored and assessed as the region continues to grow and change.

METRO 2040 PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Metro Vancouver recognizes the important role that performance monitoring plays in the implementation of *Metro 2040* and collective decision-making. The *Progress Toward Shaping Our Future* monitoring program provides a framework for discussing *Metro 2040* implementation among Metro Vancouver Board members, member jurisdictions, TransLink, other regional agencies, and the general public. With this process, the MVRD Board is able to review and evaluate the state of growth management in the region, progress being made, and any issues that may need further attention.

Performance Monitoring Dashboard

To better convey the status of *Metro 2040*'s performance measures and associated information in a clear and easy to understand way, the *Metro 2040* Performance Monitoring Dashboard on the Metro Vancouver website was created and launched in May 2017 (Reference 1). The webpage replaces the previous large, static *Metro 2040 Progress Toward Shaping Our Future* hard copy annual report, and provides a complete profile of *Metro 2040* performance measures that are updated regularly as data becomes available.

To date, 42,512 unique users have accessed the Dashboard locally and internationally. Over the past year, 10,779 users have accessed the Dashboard, which is up by 9% compared to the same period in the previous year (see Table 1). The overall utilization of the Dashboard continues to remain strong and consistent.

Table 1. Web Analytics of the Metro 2040 Dashboard




	Launch date to Sep 30, 2022	Oct 1, 2021 to Sep 30, 2022
Dashboard Users	42,512	10,779
National Users Percentage	71%	69%
International Users Percentage	29%	31%
Returning User Percentage	14%	15%
User Session Totals	64,554	15,584

Metro 2040 Performance Monitoring Program

The *Metro 2040* performance monitoring program consists of 38 performance measures in total. There are 15 Key Summary Measures, 11 Strategy Performance Measures and a range of context and participation measures where the role of monitoring is simply to observe, not meet targets. Detailed information on data source and methodology for each performance measure can be found in the *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future Performance Monitoring Guideline* (Reference 2).

Tables 2 to 7 below provide a status highlight of some of the *Metro 2040* performance measures. More detailed information on each performance measure's vision, intent, performance, and data files are available for viewing and download through the Performance Monitoring Dashboard.

In terms of the status column:

- for context measures, the status is observing 
- for directional measures with a target, the status will either be on track  or may not be on track / area of concern 

It is important to note that most of these performance measures are in response to long range objectives, and one year's information can be misleading. Many of the performance measures can only be assessed every 5 years because of the release of new Census data or because inventories are undertaken every 5 years.

Table 2. Performance Measures for Regional Land Use Designations







Measure	Performance	Status
Total and cumulative change in land by regional land use designation	1,716 ha of land, 0.6% of the regional area changed regional land use designation since 2011. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural: 54,964 ha (net loss of 186 ha) • Conservation & Recreation: 137,891 ha (net gain of 917 ha) • Industrial: 10,271 ha (net gain of 68 ha) • Mixed Employment: 3,517 ha (net gain of 146 ha) • Rural: 8,323 ha (net loss of 115 ha) • General Urban: 69,342 ha (net loss of 824 ha) Note: the land totals are calculated based on available GIS data, and may differ from other previously published totals given adjustments and improvements to digital mapping.	
Total and cumulative change in land within Urban Containment Boundary (UCB)	The land area within the UCB has slightly increased. 2011: 90,400 ha, 31.80% of regional area 2021: 90,539 ha, 31.85% of regional area There were 2 amendments to the UCB in 2021.	
Total and cumulative change in number and hectares of Urban Centre (UC)	There were no changes to Urban Centres in 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Metro Core, Downtown Vancouver & Central Broadway (1,907 ha) • 1 Surrey Metro Centre (473 ha) • 5 Regional City Centres (2,981 ha in total) • 19 Municipal Town Centres (2,199 ha in total) The 26 Urban Centres in the region have a total area of 7,560 ha, or 2.7% of the region’s land area.	
Total and cumulative change in number and hectares of Frequent Transit Development Areas (FTDA)	There were no changes to Frequent Transit Development Areas in 2021. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 FTDAs (967 ha in total) 	

Table 3. Performance Measures for Metro 2040 Goal 1: Create a Compact Urban Area

Measure	Performance	Status
Percentage of regional dwelling units growth within UCB	98% of growth occurred within the UCB between 2011 and 2021.	
Percentage of regional dwelling units growth in Urban Centres	From 2006 to 2016, 40% of the regional dwelling unit growth was within the region’s 26 Urban Centres. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	








Annual regional population growth	Metro Vancouver’s population in 2021 was 2,642,825 according to the 2021 Census of Population (this figure does not include census undercounts, which will be estimated in 2023). This represented an average growth of 35,879 people per year since 2016. Detailed data on population growth by municipality is available on the <i>Metro 2040</i> Dashboard.	
Annual regional dwelling unit growth	Metro Vancouver’s total dwelling unit count in 2021 was 1,104,532 according to the 2021 Census of Population (this figure does not include census undercounts, which will be estimated in 2023). This represented an average growth of 15,384 units per year since 2016. Detailed data on dwelling unit growth by municipality is available on the <i>Metro 2040</i> Dashboard.	
Annual regional employment growth	In 2021, there were 1,341,570 employed individuals in Metro Vancouver, which was lower than the employment estimate of 1,438,416 for 2021. The average growth per year was 12,934 jobs, which was also lower than the estimated annual growth of 19,247 jobs. Detailed data on employment growth by municipality is available on the <i>Metro 2040</i> Dashboard.	
Average number of dwelling units per ha within Urban Centres	In 2016, there were an average of 36.7 dwelling units per hectare within Urban Centres. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	
Average number of dwelling units per ha within FTDA	In 2016, there was an average of 15.8 dwelling units per hectare within FTDA. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	
Number and status of regional sewerage service connection application	In 2021, MVRD Board received two requests to extend sanitary service connection beyond the UCB in the City of Maple Ridge. Both requests were approved and deemed consistent with the provisions of <i>Metro 2040</i> .	

Table 4. Performance Measures for *Metro 2040* Goal 2: Support a Sustainable Economy

Measure	Performance	Status
Percentage of regional employment growth in Urban Centres	33% of the regional employment growth was within the region’s Urban Centres from 2006 to 2016. This growth trend is not on track with the regional target of 50%. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	









Employed labour force in retail trade sector in UCs & FTDA's	In 2016, 48% of employment in the retail trade sector is located in UCs and FTDA's. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	
Average number of kilometre travelled to commute region-wide	The region-wide average trip length to work / post secondary school is 13.1km according to the 2017 TransLink Trip Diary. TransLink conducts a regional trip diary approximately every 5 years; the next survey will likely be in 2023 with results available in late 2024 or early 2025.	
Average number of mins travelled for commute region-wide	In 2021, 56% of the regional employed labour force travelled less than 30 mins for work. 36% travelled for 30 to 59 mins, and 8% travelled for an hour or longer.	
Percentage of residents living and working in the same subregion	In 2021, 46% of the regional employed labour force with a usual place of work lived and worked within the same municipality, while 52% worked at a different municipality within Metro Vancouver.	

Table 5. Performance Measures for Metro 2040 Goal 3: Protect the Environment and Respond to Climate Change Impacts

Measure	Performance	Status
Hectares of land inventoried as sensitive ecosystem or modified ecosystem	The 2018 Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory (SEI) reported a loss of 1,640 hectares of sensitive and modified ecosystems for region from 2009 to 2014. 1,190 ha of the loss was within the regional core area (mostly aligned with UCB). The SEI is updated every 6 years; the next update is underway and will be completed in early 2023.	
Percentage of inventoried sensitive ecosystem and modified ecosystem rated high quality	The 2018 SEI found that 84.7% of the identified sensitive / modified ecosystems in the region are rated higher quality, but the percentage drops significantly when looking at just the regional core (39.1%). The SEI is updated every 6 years; the next update is underway and will be completed in early 2023.	
Track the number of pollutant exceedances of regional and national objectives and standards	Using data from the Lower Fraser Valley Air Quality Monitoring Network, Metro Vancouver continues to track air quality trends annually and report out on the number of exceedances of regional air quality objectives.	
Tonnes and percentage of regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced by building and on-road transportation sources	Regional GHG emissions were 14.8 million tonnes in 2020, less than a 1% reduction from the 2010 baseline. 65% of the region's GHG emissions were from on-road transportation and buildings. Significant action by all levels of government is needed for Metro Vancouver to achieve	 additional policies being


	its 2030 target, and become a carbon neutral region by 2050.	developed as part of <i>Climate 2050</i>
Regional baseline and change projections for relevant climate variables	The 2016 Climate Change Projections for Metro Vancouver study anticipates that Metro Vancouver will have warmer temperatures in all seasons, wetter winters, drier summers, and a significant decrease in snowpack year-round.	

Table 6. Performance Measures for Metro 2040 Goal 4: Develop Complete Communities








Measure	Performance	Status
Status of municipal Housing Action Plans	As of September 2022, 16 municipalities have adopted housing action plans or strategies.	
Composition of housing stock by type, tenure and cost	New dwelling unit completion by type in 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single detached: 3,298 • Semi-detached (duplex): 598 • Row house: 2,946 • Apartment: 18,387 New dwelling unit completion by tenure in 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freehold ownership: 3,144 • Condominium ownership: 14,851 • Co-op: 27 • Rental: 7,207 Total of 25,229 new dwelling units in 2021.	
Percentage of hours with Air Quality Health Index in high and low health risk categories	In 2020, air quality was in the low health risk category over 97% of the time. While the region did experience impacts from wildfire smoke from outside the region, there were more hours in the low health risk category than in other years affected by wildfires (e.g. 2017, 2018).	
Walkability	The Walkability Index was updated in 2020 to allow for cross comparison between the three-research periods, 2006, 2011, and 2016. The five indicators that contribute to the Walkability Index are residential density, intersection density, land use mix, commercial floor area ratio, and sidewalk completeness.	

Table 7. Performance Measures for Metro 2040 Goal 5: Support Sustainable Transportation Options

Measure	Performance	Status
Percentage of total trips that are private vehicle based	In comparison to the 2011 Trip Diary, the 2017 Trip Diary shows a clear shift from motorized trips to walking. Trips	

	by automobile driver decreased from 59% to 55%, while walking trips increased from 10% to 14%. TransLink conducts a regional trip diary approximately every 5 years; the next survey will likely be in 2023 with results available in late 2024 or early 2025.	
Percentage of population living within walking distance of the Frequent Transit Network	50.2% of the Metro Vancouver population live within a 5-minute walk to the Frequent Transit Network or a 10-minute walk to a rapid transit station, according to 2016 Census data. New custom data from 2021 Census will be available in 2023 to update this performance measure.	
Number of actively insured vehicles	Metro Vancouver had approximately 1,323,340 actively insured passenger vehicles in 2021. The number of actively insured passenger vehicles decreased by 44,330 compared to 2020 data. The decrease in vehicle count is likely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.	

METRO 2040 AMENDMENTS JANUARY 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 2022

From January 2021 to September 2022, there were four approved amendments to *Metro 2040*:

- *Bylaw No. 1310, 2020* – Land use designation amendment for 60 parcels of Regional Parkland to amend 26.1 hectares of land designated General Urban and 102.2 hectares of land designated Rural, to the Conservation and Recreation land use designation
- *Bylaw No. 1326, 2021* - Land Use Designation Amendment (228 175A Street, Surrey): Mixed Employment to General Urban (2.5 ha)
- *Bylaw No. 1327, 2021* - Land Use Designation Amendment (Cloverdale Hospital Site, 5510 180 Street, Surrey): Industrial to Mixed Employment (9 ha)
- *Bylaw No. 1328, 2021* - Land use designation amendment for 71 parcels (South Campbell Heights, Surrey): Rural to Mixed Employment (160.7 ha), Rural to Conservation and Recreation (66.6 ha), and Rural to Agricultural (12.1 ha) outside the UCB and within the Special Study Area; Mixed Employment to Conservation and Recreation within the UCB (14 ha); extension of UCB by 223.7 ha; removal of the entire South Campbell Heights Special Study Area (247 ha).

ALTERNATIVES

This is an informational report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Data acquisition and development for performance monitoring is a regular component of the annual Regional Planning budget. As required under Metro Vancouver’s *Regional Growth Strategy Procedures Bylaw No. 1148, 2011*, addressing staffing and other costs related to *Metro 2040* implementation, is being provided in a separate report.

SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

The *Local Government Act* and *Metro 2040* require the preparation of an annual report on the regional growth strategy’s progress. The 2021 Annual Performance Monitoring Report provides a

summary update on the performance measures with relevant annual change and available data for the year 2021. A complete profile of *Metro 2040* performance measures with a detailed data breakdown is available in the *Metro 2040* Performance Monitoring Dashboard on the Metro Vancouver website. Recognizing the important role that performance monitoring plays in the implementation of the regional growth strategy and collective decision-making, Metro Vancouver continues to provide regular updates on the Dashboard as data becomes available.

References

1. [Metro 2040 Performance Monitoring Dashboard](#)
2. [Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping our Future Performance Monitoring Guideline](#)

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