

**Project Title: Regional Growth Strategy Interim Update**

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**Project Manager:** Mark Hornell, Senior Manager - Regional Planning

**Purpose:**

A revised and updated regional growth strategy bylaw (RGS) that incorporates amendments stemming from regional context statements, RUCSPA, and other changes in legislation and senior government programs and other amendments.

**Justification:**

RGS implementation action I-6 requires the adoption, to define the regional urban contact in the District of Sooke, and to incorporate transportation, housing affordability, and economic

As well, Memoranda of Understanding with the District of Oak Bay (regarding ground oriented development), and the Town of View Royal (regarding the Town of View Royal sub-region), require text amendments to the RGS in the interim update. The RGS acceptance of regional context statements for municipalities, and the update of official community plan updates in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area may require corresponding amendments to the RGS.

The former Regional Planning Division is being replaced by the Regional Planning Division. This interim update for the Regional Planning Division is being provided on July 5, 2006.

**Background:**

The CRD RGS was adopted in 2003. A number of outstanding initiatives and activities were in progress at the time of adoption, and the RGS provides specific direction on how to proceed with these through an interim update. Work has proceeded on three main initiatives, the development of regional context statements by municipalities, the update of official community plans and program plans by the municipalities and other partners. Since adoption, some senior government programs have been eliminated (most notably the Forest Land Reserve) or have changed scope and focus, thereby requiring amendment to the RGS.

The following chart summarizes the status of key implementation actions relevant to the interim update:

Initiative/Action	Status
Transportation Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TravelChoices Strategy adopted by the CRD on April 13, 2005.</li> <li>• CRD/BC Transit Implementation Agreement signed on October 28, 2005.</li> <li>• CRD/Ministry of Transportation Implementation Agreement prepared in Q4 2005, scheduled for completion in Q1 2006.</li> <li>• Development of TravelChoices Implementation Investment Plan (TIIP) scheduled for completion in Q1 2006.</li> </ul>
Housing Affordability Strategy (RHAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Housing Strategy (RHAS) adopted by participating areas. Saltspring Island and Sidney anticipated to join in May 2006.</li> <li>• Expansion of municipal Housing Trust Fund to include Esquimalt, Sidney and Saanich and Sidney anticipated in Q1 2006.</li> <li>• Revised RHAS adopted for further review and adoption in Q3 2006.</li> </ul>
Economic Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised Economic Strategy adopted and reviewed by member municipalities.</li> <li>• Board resolution to include regional economic strategy in the interim update.</li> </ul>
Electoral Area OCP Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCP's for Point/Shirley, Jordan River and Malahat prepared, reviewed and approved. Malahat completed incorporating regional statements and RGS related policies, including the settlement containment areas.</li> <li>• OCP's for other areas expected in 2006.</li> </ul>
Regional Council Servicing Area (RCS) Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCS's for Oak Bay, Victoria, Saanich, Sidney, Central Saanich, and Langford by Q4 2005.</li> <li>• The Highlands RCS was accepted by the board in Q1 2006.</li> <li>• Board resolution directs staff to include RUCSPA amendment for Highlands Servicing Area in interim update.</li> <li>• Colwood and View Royal RCS's accepted by board in Q1 2006.</li> <li>• RCS's for Sooke, Esquimalt, Metchosin and North Saanich are in process.</li> </ul>
Regional Parks Master Plan Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is underway including work to revise regional parks and trails maps.</li> </ul>

**Scope:**

The interim update will be limited in scope and not equivalent to a comprehensive update of the RGS. It will focus on capturing the key strategic level elements from TravelChoices, the RHAS and the economic strategy initiative, updating text and maps where changes are required due to completion of actions, and changes to senior government or local programs.

Specific issues to consider addressing in the interim update include:

1. Inclusion of a regional transportation vision and plan derived from TravelChoices, including revised transportation strategies;
  2. Inclusion of a regional housing strategy, including the RHAS, including establishment of housing targets;
  3. Inclusion of a regional economic strategy;
  4. Map revisions to the RUCSPA, including from regional area OCP updates and municipal RCS updates;
  5. Map revision to the Regional Area designations stemming from the Regional Area and Reserve, electoral OCP updates and municipal OCP updates;
  6. Inclusion of a regional strategy, amendment and periodic update of the RUCSPA to replace the current RUCSPA proposed in RGS
- and other related matters, including the Oak Bay and View Royal MOU's; and, other related matters where necessary.

Completion of the interim update will focus on stakeholder participation through establishing the Development and Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC), the Regional Table on the Environment (RTE), with targeted regional forums and other key milestones in the process. The project will proceed under the oversight of the Planning & Protective Services Committee.

Three outcomes of the interim update will include:

1. Agreement on issues to address;
2. A draft RGS amending bylaw; and,
3. A final amending bylaw introduced for reading, public hearing, municipal referral and acceptance and finally adoption.

Following adoption of the amending bylaw, follow-up actions will include possible revisions to electoral area and municipal RCS's in the subsequent two years.

**Stakeholders:**

- Board, Planning & Protective Committee and member councils
- Capital Region First Nations Chiefs and Councils
- Chief Administrative Officer, CRD Environmental Services, CRD Parks, CRD Water, advisory committees (DPAC representatives, Round Table on the Environment)
- Member municipalities and electoral areas (DPAC representatives)
- Provincial ministries and agencies (DPAC representatives)
- Federal ministries and agencies (DPAC representatives)
- Neighbouring jurisdictions (CVRD, Islands Trust, City of Toronto)
- Community organizations & citizens at large

**Key Tasks/Timeline:**

Task	Timeline
Phase 1 – work plan and consultation program development	Q3 2006
Phase 2 – stakeholder consultation on issues to address in the update	Q4 2006
Phase 3 – preparation of draft bylaw amendments	Q1 2007
Phase 4 – stakeholder consultation on draft amendments	Q2 2007
Phase 5 – preparation and acceptance of RCS amending bylaw	Q3 2007

**Deliverable**

Deliverable	Completion
Project work plan and consultation program	Q3 2006
Draft bylaw amendments for discussion	Q4 2006
Amending bylaw and acceptance	Q2 2007
Adopted bylaw	Q3 2007

**Project Team:**

Team Member	Role & Responsibilities
Development & Planning Committee Task Group	Inter-municipal and inter-agency project oversight and coordination, advice to Planning & Protective Services Committee
Senior Manager – Regional Planning	Project manager
Planning Analyst	Technical support, data analysis, GIS, web support
Senior Transportation Planner	Transportation analysis, transportation
Senior Manager of Corporate Communications	Media relations and communications

**Costs/Resources:**

Resource	FTE	Budget
Senior Manager – Regional Planning	.25 FTE	
Planning Analyst	.30 FTE	
Senior Transportation Planner	.10 FTE	
Corporate Communications		
Consultants/ Contractors		the supplementary budget GIS budget for incidental

**Assumptions:**



to undertake a focused update at this  
of further amendments and review of the RGS will follow the  
consideration of a *State of the Region Report*, scheduled for  
support of the statutory five-year RGS review.  
engagement with Capital Region First Nations regarding  
the CRD's growth management program will follow political  
discussions to enhance the government to government relationship between the  
CRD and Capital Region First Nations.

**Constraints:**

1. Staff time and budget resources are limited by other project commitments to the level outlined above.
2. Completion and acceptance of the regional housing affordability strategy may extend the project timeline further into 2007.
3. Completion and acceptance of outstanding RCS's may extend the project timeline further into 2007.
4. Process to establish proposed CRD corporate policy on First Nations consultation may have an unknown impact the

**Approvals:**

This project charter has been initiated by the Planning & Protective Services Department to expend department resources to develop a Growth Strategy Interim Update.

<p>Development and Planning Advisory Committee (DPAC) reviewed drafts of the project charter on November 25, 2005 and February 24, 2006. DPAC took no motion either oppose or support the proposed project charter</p> <p>Date:</p>	
<p>Robert [Name] Manager, Planning &amp; Protective Services</p> <p>Date:</p>	
<p>Planning &amp; Protective Services</p> <p>Date:</p>	
<p>Board of Supervisors</p> <p>Date:</p>	