Climate Plan Targeted Update

Terms of Reference

Sustainability Division

5 September 2024

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1.0 Background & Rationale

1.1 Context

The District of Saanich has a long history of climate action, with its first climate plan and adaptation strategy adopted in 2010 and 2011 respectively. In a context of worsening extreme weather events and Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency, the District of Saanich adopted its second Climate Plan (100% Renewable and Resilient Saanich) in January 2020. The Climate Plan outlines a commitment to the following goals and targets (Figure 1):

FIGURE 1: Climate Plan Goals & Targets

These targets were considered the emissions limits we shall not exceed as a community in order to help stabilize global temperatures at 1.5ºC above pre-industrial levels, informed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2018 Special Report and aligned with the BC Provincial commitment in CleanBC and many cities and countries globally, with several having adopted more ambitious global fair share targets since that time.

While the global standard for measuring city-wide climate impact is the territorial GHG emissions inventory (using the Global Protocol for Community-Scale GHG Emissions Inventories), this does not provide a complete picture of our community's impact on global climate change. It assigns the climate impacts from producing the food and goods we consume to the producer community instead of Saanich.

Most of the goods we consume in Saanich are produced in other regions and countries. So, while our GHG emissions targets noted in Figure 1 above are based upon a territorial emissions inventory, in order to better understand the climate impact of our consumption, the 2020 Climate Plan also includes a Consumption Based Emissions Inventory (CBEI) and actions to reduce it. However, it does not contain CBEI targets or embodied emissions targets that are being used by several other North American cities.

The Plan includes 131 actions across 6 focus areas:

1. Mobility
2. Buildings & Infrastructure
3. Food and Materials
4. Ecosystems
5. Community Well-Being
6. Leadership in District Operations

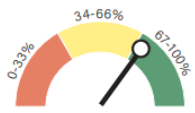
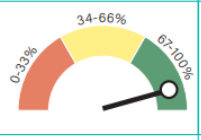
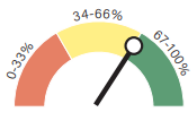
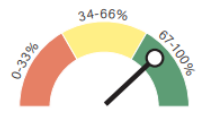
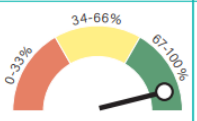
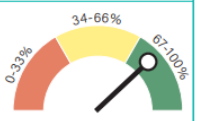
Council and staff have committed to updating the climate risk assessment in response to changing conditions and using this to inform an update to the Climate Plan by 2025.

1.2 Progress to Date

Saanich is measuring progress towards the Climate Plan goals through annual Climate Plan Report Cards. These reports measure progress on our climate targets, our objectives (sub-targets), and our actions. It is important to track each of these to ensure the actions identified are sufficient to meet our climate targets and to identify gaps in funding or other barriers to achieving our goals. The reports also measure progress on the targets and actions within other key strategies that sit underneath the Climate Plan, including at this stage the Saanich Electric Mobility Strategy (2020) and the Saanich Building Retrofit Strategy (2023).

The Climate Plan identifies a total of 131 actions to be implemented over the coming years, all of which should be initiated by or before 2024. A considerable number of those actions have been implemented to date; of the 99 actions due to be initiated by 2023, 80 (81%) are Ongoing, Achieved, or On Track, with an additional four actions from future years Ahead of Schedule. Nineteen (19%) of the actions are currently Behind Schedule or On Hold (Figure 2).

FIGURE 2: Progress on 2020-2023 Climate Plan Actions

Mobility	Buildings and Infrastructure	Food and Materials	Ecosystems	Community Well-being	Leadership in District Operations
					
68% of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track	**91%** of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track	**67%** of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track	**75%** of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track	**93%** of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track	**75%** of actions are Ongoing / Achieved / On track

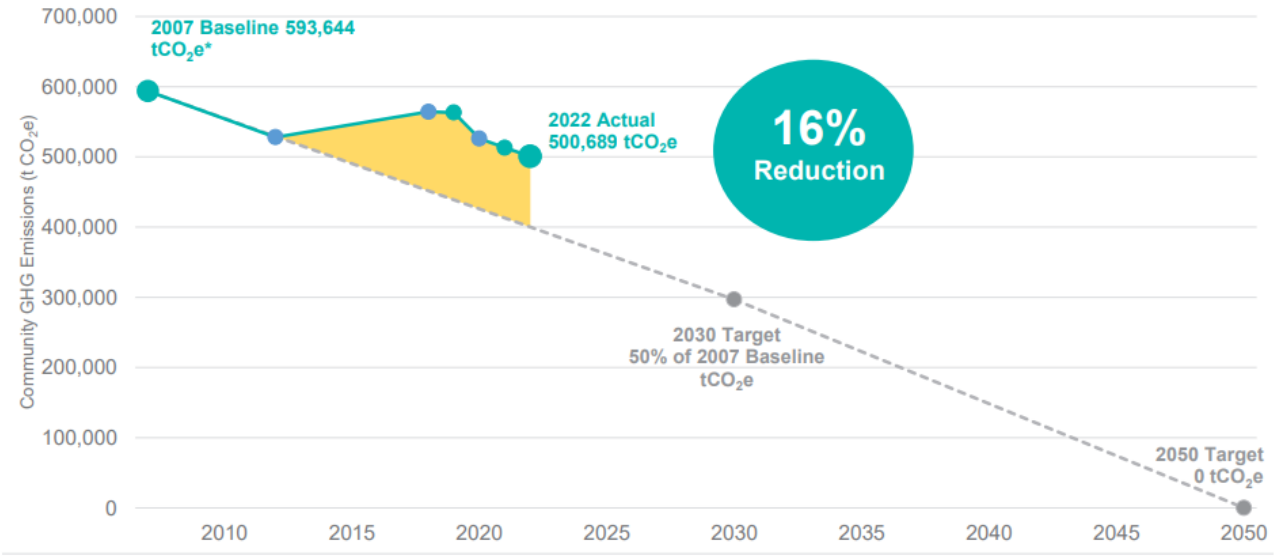
Some highlights include[1]:

- 2019 – Adopted the BC Energy Step Code and accelerated requirements for new buildings
- 2020 – Adopted the Saanich E-Mobility Strategy
- 2020 – Implemented Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Bylaw Requirements
- 2020 – Launched One Planet Saanich
- 2020 – Launched District 2030, Building Benchmark BC, and Bring it Home4 Climate (now the Home Energy Navigator)
- 2020 – Joined the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
- 2020 – Joined the Love Food Hate Waste campaign
- 2021 – Launched the first of its kind in BC E-Bike Incentive Pilot Program
- 2021 – Launched top-up incentives for the CleanBC EV Ready Rebate Program
- 2021 – Completed Regional Flood Inundation and Sea Level Rise Mapping (and updates)
- 2021 – Joined the Cities Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaign
- 2021 – Launched the corporate fleet e-bike program
- 2022 – Launched the first of its kind in BC Home Energy Financing Program (Property Assessed Clean Energy [PACE] financing)
- 2022 – Adopted a Vision Zero policy for transportation safety
- 2022 – Initiated a Food Hub feasibility study
- 2022 – Launched the Neighbour to Neighbour (N2N) Resilience Initiative and Incentive Program
- 2023 – Adopted the Saanich Building Retrofit Strategy
- 2023 – Adopted the BC Zero Carbon Step Code, EL 4 (Zero Carbon) for new development
- 2024 – Adopted the updated Saanich Active Transportation Plan
- 2024 – Launched the first of its kind in BC Climate Action Tax Exemption program
- Ongoing – Considerable expansion of the Saanich owned public EV charging network
- Ongoing – Considerable expansion of the EV fleet
- Ongoing – Build-out of the AAA active transportation network
- Ongoing – Tree planting and natural area restoration
- Ongoing – Saanich owned building upgrades (100% renewable + resiliency e.g. cooling)
- Ongoing – Completion of models for Cordova Bay and Douglas Creek Integrated Stormwater Management Plans with modelling for Colquitz underway.
- Ongoing – Achieved A Grade City status for CDP (Climate Disclosure Program) reporting
- Ongoing – Funded BCSEA CoolIt! Climate Champions and Safe Routes to School programs

Saanich has made considerable progress towards our GHG emissions reduction targets. However, alongside many other Canadian cities, Saanich is not yet on track to meet these targets (Figure 3).

[1] Many of the actions have received funding or in-kind support from multiple organizations or have been completed in collaboration with these other organizations, including the Federal and Provincial governments, the Capital Regional District, other local governments, the Federation of Municipalities (FCM), academic institutions, utilities, and non-profit organizations amongst others.

FIGURE 3: Saanich Community-Wide Territorial GHG Emissions and Targets



This progress is comparable to many other local communities, as outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of GHG Emissions for other CRD Local Governments, 2022

Local Government	2007 GHG Emissions (tCO_2e)	2022 GHG Emissions (tCO_2e)	Change (%)
District of Central Saanich	100,771	111,246	+10%
City of Colwood	84,132	84,570	+1%
Township of Esquimalt	96,206	74,246	-23%
District of Highlands	11,901	15,019	+26%
City of Langford	137,319	202,749	+48%
District of Metchosin	28,165	26,425	-6%
District of North Saanich	65,819	63,971	-3%
District of Oak Bay	90,308	74,984	-17%
Town of Sidney	64,104	55,426	-14%
District of Sooke	52,539	64,405	+23%
City of Victoria	483,269	407,082	-16%
Town of View Royal	51,087	51,486	+1%

Some local communities have seen an increase in their emissions, which can sometimes be the result of development and population growth. As such, Saanich also measures emissions per capita, which were 4.0 tCO_2e per person as of 2022. This is comparable to many reporting cities for the same year such as the City of Victoria (4.4 tCO_2e), Aukland (4.33 tCO_2e per person), San Francisco (4.19 tCO_2e per person), Berlin (4.13 tCO_2e per person) and Vancouver (3.77 tCO_2e per person), considerably lower than many cities such as Sydney (16.4 tCO_2e per person), Dubai (14.96 tCO_2e per person), and Houston

(13.06 tCO_2e per person), but also considerably greater than many reporting cities in Europe and the global south e.g. Nairobi (0.55 tCO_2e per person), Sao Paulo (1.2 tCO_2e per person), Bogota (1.32 tCO_2e per person), Stockholm (1.24 tCO_2e per person), Oslo (1.63 tCO_2e per person), and Copenhagen (2.39 tCO_2e per person).

1.3 The Need for an Updated Climate Plan

Globally, it is essential that swift progress is made to reduce emissions in this decade in order to have a greater chance of avoiding runaway feedback loops, which will cause even more extreme weather events with impacts on ecosystems, human health, food, water, infrastructure, and economies. Doing our part, Saanich has made considerable progress since our 2007 baseline. However, ambitious action on emissions must continue if we are to reach our climate targets and a greater focus is now required on actions that help us to adapt to the extreme weather events and climate hazards that are being experienced now and are projected to worsen in coming years.

Most of our Climate Plan actions are either completed or underway and there are a number of actions that were very general in nature and required additional work and data to be further developed. Many of these less developed actions are related to climate adaptation and consumption-based or embodied emissions.

In addition, there has been significant and accelerated change over the last five years since the 2020 Climate Plan was developed, including:

- Extreme Weather Events and Climate Adaptation Data
    - We have experienced increasing numbers and severity of extreme weather events since the Climate Plan was approved, including multiple extreme heat events and a heat dome in 2021 that resulted in the loss of over 600 lives across BC, with 24 of those in the Greater Victoria area. 2023 was the hottest year on record globally and the latest climate projections for our region show that heat waves will be on average 8 times more frequent and 4 degrees hotter by the 2050's and 15 times more frequent and up to 7 degrees hotter by the 2080's, compared with the base historical reference period (using data from 1981-2010). Other events include major storms and flooding that not only impact Saanich directly, but also indirectly, for example the November 2021 atmospheric river event that caused flooding and road washouts throughout BC, resulted in fuel supply shortages and impacts to distribution networks in Greater Victoria as supply routes were interrupted and delayed.
    - The Province has released multiple resources to address extreme weather events and climate change, including the BC Provincial Heat Alert and Response System, the BC Flood Strategy and funding through such programs as the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) administered Disaster Risk and Reduction - Climate Adaptation grant. There has also been considerable data developed regionally with updated Climate Projections for the region (2024), the Capital Region Extreme Heat Information Portal and Map (2024),

and Sea Level Rise and Flood Inundation mapping (updated 2022), each intended to support future policy and program development.

- Utility Context and Energy Generation
    - There have been significant changes in the utility context since the Climate Plan was approved, with considerable uptake of electrification, which is particularly beneficial in BC given the 98% renewable electrical grid and a commitment for this to be 100% renewable by 2030.
    - BC Hydro has submitted a call for renewable power by 2030, with an expectation this will come from wind and solar generation and include partnerships with First Nations. Costs for wind and solar continue to decrease and there has been progress made on battery storage, with pilot projects and incentive programs underway and greater opportunities for localized generation.
    - There is a better understanding of the limited capacity of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) and the need for this limited valuable resource to be reserved for hard to electrify sectors.
    - The Provincial Climate Aligned Energy Framework has been released, ensuring oil and gas sector projects align with BC's climate goals and targets, committing to regulatory emissions caps and investment in clean energy and technology, alongside the acceleration of electrification.
    - Programs have been established that support local governments' ability to sell carbon credits from renewable projects such as EV charging infrastructure.
- Affordability & Cost of Living
    - Across the province, inflation has driven unaffordable rents and high food costs, with many BC workers earning less than is necessary to purchase basic necessities.
    - Saanich is experiencing gaps in housing supply, diversity, and affordability that have made housing a major concern for many residents. Recent local and global trends have resulted in increasing housing costs beyond anything Saanich has experienced before. At the same time, development economics and complex approval processes make financing and building new housing challenging.
    - This then impacts other areas of community wellbeing, including increasing pressures on the health care system and the ability to house health care and other workers.
    - Much work is underway by all levels of government to address these challenges, in particular housing, with provincial housing targets established for many BC cities, including Saanich.
    - Inflation and affordability also impact District operations, with considerable increases to project budgets, contractor work, operational costs and desire to limit tax increases. With the increased pressure from multiple additional initiatives and changing policies (e.g. new provincial housing regulations), this results in greater demands for limited resources and constrained staff capacity.
- New Policy
    - Significant changes in local and provincial policies and key strategies have occurred since those used for the 2020 Climate Plan with implications for climate action.

- Notably, given the affordability challenges highlighted above, these include the updated Saanich Official Community Plan (OCP), Housing Needs Report, Housing Strategy and provincial housing legislation.
- Other policies include the updated Active Transportation Plan, Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, updated Urban Forest Strategy, Asset Management Strategy, Natural Assets Inventory, and the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Strategy amongst others.

This changing context, alongside the completion of most of the existing Climate Plan actions, demonstrates the need for an updated Climate Plan. Specifically, this will deliver on two key initiatives within the 2023-2027 Council Saanich Strategic Plan:

- "Initiative 1.3.1 - Review and update the Climate Plan and associated targets by 2025, based upon the latest climate science and best practice, that addresses consumption-based emissions and that considers our global fair share."
- "Initiative 1.3.2 - Complete an updated Climate Risk assessment using the latest regional climate projections and use this to inform individual Risk Registers, Asset Management Plans, and a new Climate Adaptation Strategy. The Climate Adaptation Strategy should identify the actions, timelines and costs necessary to mitigate and become resilient to projected climate changes and innovative approaches to financing."

1.3.1 A Streamlined and Targeted Approach

Given the integrated nature of climate change and interdependencies with other disciplines, there are many actions and policies that will help deliver on the climate goals and targets that are already adopted in recently updated plans and strategies. These include, in particular, the OCP, the updated Active Transportation Plan, the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, the updated Urban Forest Strategy, the E-Mobility Strategy, the Building Retrofit Strategy and the upcoming Zero Emission Fleet Strategy and Zero Waste Strategy.

The approved (and, where required, funded or implemented) policies and actions within these plans will be used to inform the modelling towards our emissions targets and climate adaptation risk assessment scoring. The updated Climate Plan will not duplicate these policies and actions, but instead reference them and be informed by them. The updated Climate Plan will focus on the specific actions necessary to meet our goals and targets that do not already exist in other plans and will outline their contribution (alongside the contribution of existing plans) to our climate targets.

As such, the updated Climate Plan will be a more streamlined document, outlining the key objectives, metrics and strategies to achieve the goals and targets, with an accompanying five-year targeted action plan. Given current fiscal constraints, the action plan will be designed to consider resource limitations and identify innovative funding and resourcing opportunities for delivering actions where funding is required.

1.4 Purpose

The Plan will tackle the twin challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation in our community and global context. The key objectives of the plan update include:

1. Complete an updated community and corporate Climate Risk Assessment, specifically utilizing the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) green protocol methodology to ensure that the assessment has sufficient detail to inform suitable climate adaptation actions necessary to prepare for our future climate projections;
2. Establish a global fair share territorial GHG emissions stretch target;
3. Establish renewable energy supply, use and equitable access targets;
4. Establish community-wide and sectoral Consumption-Based Emissions targets;
5. Establish metrics for the Ecosystems and Community Well-Being sections, informed by/based upon the updated Urban Forest Strategy and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy;
6. Address the changing context and challenges, particularly related to affordability and the integration of land use and transportation with climate change;
7. Include water supply/use, air quality and embodied emissions;
8. Identify the SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound) actions necessary to achieve the updated targets and prepare for projected future climate changes – referencing but not duplicating those already approved in other plans and strategies and designed to consider fiscal and human resource capacity and constraints, and identify innovative funding and resourcing opportunities;
9. Model the proposed strategies and actions to ensure they are sufficiently robust to meet our climate targets (baseline, existing reach targets, and stretch global fair share target) and goals; and
10. Enhance public awareness and address misinformation about climate change through a targeted engagement strategy.

The updated targets will deliver on our 2020 Council Commitment to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and are required to meet our global climate reporting through CDP (previously the Carbon Disclosure Program).

This Terms of Reference provides the background, approach, scope and timeline for updating the Climate Plan to ensure it adequately responds to the changing contexts and challenges of our time. The updated Climate Plan will be referred to as ‘The Plan’ throughout this report.

2.0 Approach

2.1 A Systems Approach

Climate change is only one of the challenges facing our community and is only one of the aspects of planetary overshoot the world is facing. Therefore, the Plan will recognize the interrelated nature of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies and their impact on, or influence by these other challenges.

The 2020 Climate Plan included ten Guiding Principles that were used to inform the development of the actions and to guide implementation:

1. Be Bold
2. Be Evidence-Based
3. Share the Benefits
4. Improve Wellbeing
5. Be Collaborative
6. Prioritize Efficiency
7. Value Nature
8. Work Towards Reconciliation
9. Act Globally
10. Consider Future Generations

These ten Guiding Principles are still relevant in the current context and align with our OCP. However, they will be reviewed for any needed amendments to ensure they can continue to be used and effective in the development and implementation of the updated Plan, including the consideration of affordability and working with Island Health Authority on their Planetary Health framework.

2.2 Links with Land Use & Transportation Planning

Land use and transportation planning are two of the most significant policy areas impacting the ability of the District to meet its climate and sustainability goals and targets. Transportation is the largest source of GHG emissions in Saanich, followed closely by buildings. Sustainable land use, delivered through compact, complete communities means individuals are able to travel shorter distances to meet their needs; this is a core principle behind Saanich's transition to a 15-minute community as outlined in the updated OCP.

Compact communities greatly increase the ability to use active transportation (walking, cycling) and transit and reduce car dependence, which is the District's largest source of transportation emissions. It makes the construction and maintenance of cycling and transit infrastructure more affordable by serving a greater population with a more compact system that requires less resources.

It also means that a higher level of service and quality (e.g. transit frequency and priority and all ages and abilities bike lanes) can be provided with the same resources, further supporting sustainable transportation choices and ensuring tax-payers dollars are used most efficiently.

Further, building more attached housing forms like apartments, duplexes, and townhouses improves building energy efficiency by reducing heat loss by sharing walls. It also reduces the amount of building materials used for each unit, and the amount of paved surface per person for vehicles, compared with a

single detached home. In addition, compact, complete community development (when well designed) yields significant sustainability co-benefits, such as improved social networks and community health outcomes, and protection and enhancements of our ecosystems.

The District's creeks and watercourses, urban forests, natural areas, agricultural and rural areas play an important role in climate adaptation and mitigation through the provision of ecosystem services such as shade, air purification, drainage, carbon sequestration and pollination. The protection and enhancement of these areas relies upon a sustainable approach to development that directs growth to key nodes and corridors but which also retains, enhances and integrates natural areas, trees and green infrastructure within development and protects and enhances important areas of biodiversity. This approach is critical to ensure that people living in urban areas have access to nature and services are provided to mitigate the urban heat island effect, natural areas are connected, and our urban ecology and biodiversity is resilient and continues to thrive.

As a coastal community, it is important to ensure growth and development is directed away from areas that will be subject to future sea level rise, flooding and permanent inundation, as well as inland flooding. New infrastructure must be 'future-proofed' for climate changes and existing infrastructure upgraded to be resilient to extreme weather events and future projections.

The updated Climate Plan will reference this strong connection with land use planning and transportation, and the policies and actions within the OCP and updated Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The associated land capacity spatial analysis work, future growth projections, proposed active transportation network and rapid and frequent transit network will be used to inform the GHG emissions pathway modelling. The updated Climate Plan will not duplicate policies or actions within the OCP and other key plans, but will be a streamlined document outlining the additional strategies and actions necessary to meet the climate goals and targets.

2.2.1 Relationship to Other Initiatives

A key consideration will be to ensure the Plan both informs, and is informed by other Saanich, regional, provincial and federal plans, policies, bylaws, legislation and guidelines as well as programs and data sources that span all six key focus areas. The updated Climate Plan will not duplicate policies or actions from other Plans, but will be a streamlined document outlining the additional strategies and actions necessary to meet the climate goals and targets. Each plan will be measured to ensure their progress is captured and informs the monitoring of the overall climate targets.

2.3 Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Building respectful relationships between the District of Saanich and local First Nations is a priority for the District and essential for effective climate action.

The District of Saanich operates on the territories of the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the W̱SÁNEĆ peoples represented by the Tsartlip, Pauquachin, Tsawout, Tseycum and Malahat Nations. Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Metis, and Inuit) from other places also call Saanich home. Saanich is part of the colonial government operating on the territories of these First Nations who have inherent, collective rights, title, and responsibilities to the lands they have occupied since time immemorial.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) acknowledges colonialism as a driver of climate change (IPCC 2022 p. 12). Climate change is one manifestation of historic and ongoing settler colonialism activities that are cumulatively impacting Indigenous Peoples and their abilities to exercise their rights on their territories. The IPCC and Canada's Climate Science 2050 report specifically recognize the importance of Indigenous Peoples' involvement in climate research and action.

Indigenous Peoples have a deep connection to the land, water, and ecosystems that are central to their cultures, languages, and livelihoods. Indigenous knowledge is critical for navigating and adapting to climate change. In BC, First Nations have been leaders in climate action through ecosystem monitoring projects, developing renewable energy projects, whole-community building electrification projects, and supporting ecosystem health and biodiversity, among many other initiatives. Internationally, Indigenous-managed lands have equal-or-higher biodiversity than protected areas (Schuster et al 2019).

In recognizing this strong connection between reconciliation and our climate work, the updated Climate Plan will centre respect for Indigenous rights and knowledge and tangible support for Indigenous priorities and leadership as they relate to climate action. The updated Climate Plan will consider how the District can explore new decolonizing approaches as they relate to climate action, and work towards corporate and community cultural change, fostering values of respect, gratitude, and interrelatedness with the natural world.

2.4 The District's Role in Climate Action

The Plan will recognize the District's role in the strategies and actions identified including where we have:

- **Control**
  - **Direct** – e.g. leading by example through our municipal infrastructure and operations, policy and regulations etc.
  - **Indirect** – e.g. through land use and transportation planning and policy, building standards, waste diversion and participation on regional decision-making boards etc.
- **Influence**
  - **Direct** – e.g. policies, programs, incentives and partnerships with stakeholders, institutions, agencies and other levels of government etc.
  - **Indirect** – e.g. through advocacy, information sharing, municipally supported education programs etc.

While the Plan will focus on actions under the control or influence of the District, it will not be limited to those actions alone. The identification and engagement of key stakeholders and public members and the recognition of their contributions to achieving the GHG emissions reduction targets and resiliency goals will be a critical factor for the success of the Plan. The Plan will identify synergies between groups and identify opportunities for collaboration to address climate issues.

3.0 Project Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 District of Saanich: Project Management & Internal Staff Input

The Manager of Sustainability will lead the development of the updated Plan with key support from the Sustainability Specialist and Sustainability Planner and then the broader Sustainability Division. Given the targeted nature of this Climate Plan Update, engagement with internal stakeholders will be focused on the updated strategic corporate climate risk assessment and identification of climate adaptation measures; work that is underway and that aligns with and supports the development of asset management plans and the departmental risk registers and is being completed in collaboration with the Asset Management Program Manager and Manager of Risk Services. It is anticipated that this would include two meetings per asset class over the period of the Plan development, with some asset classes combined e.g. parks & trails and natural assets together; drainage, water and wastewater together.

The draft Plan will be shared with the Internal Climate Action Working Group with a minimum 3-week window for review and feedback, expected Summer 2025.

3.2 Consultants

Consultants will be hired to support several aspects of the updated Climate Plan, including:

- Inputting to climate mitigation action identification, considering but not duplicating the actions within other plans.
- Modelling the associated territorial GHG emission reductions from the actions identified against updated targets. This includes:
    - Embedding land use and transportation using spatial growth projections and policies to inform GHG modelling;
    - Creating two territorial emissions reduction projections (Business as Usual, updated 2030 and net zero emissions targets); and
    - Development of a pathway wedge diagram to net zero emissions for territorial emissions.
- High level assessment of measures to reduce embodied emissions, including at least four product/activity comparisons (buildings, vehicle-based travel, food & waste, consumable goods). This includes:
    - Information to support the development of embodied emissions sub-targets within the above activity areas.
- Modelling the consumption-based emission reductions from the actions identified. This includes:
    - Creating three consumption-based emissions reduction projections (Business as Usual, Current 2030 and 2050 emissions targets as Consumption Based Emissions targets, and Net Zero as soon as possible).

    - Establishing a target timeline for net zero consumption-based emissions; and
    - Development of a pathway wedge diagram to net zero for consumption-based emissions.
- Support key stakeholder and public engagement.
- Updating the Saanich Carbon Calculator - adding embodied building and transportation impacts.

3.3 Regional Collaboration

The updated Climate Plan will be developed in collaboration with the City of Victoria and the Capital Regional District (CRD), with the City of Victoria undertaking an update to their Climate Leadership Plan in a similar timefame. This will allow us to continue rapidly advancing climate work in the region through collaboration on target setting, engagement, procurement of consultants, joint initiatives, pooled funding applications, and aligned workplans.

4.0 External Engagement

A considerable amount of comprehensive engagement was undertaken with key stakeholders and the community to develop the 2020 Climate Plan and this was responsible for much of the Plan's success. This rigorous process was necessary given the length of time since the first Saanich climate plan had been developed (10 years) and to address the extensive scope of the Climate Plan; incorporating both climate mitigation and adaptation and addressing both territorial and consumption-based emissions inventories. It was also essential for developing actions with the community that had commitment and buy-in.

However, since the last Climate Plan was approved, there has been continued and extensive engagement undertaken with the community and key stakeholders through the plan's implementation. This engagement has been varied and detailed, from engagement with industry on the implementation of the BC Energy and Zero Carbon Step Code, to engagement with residents on home energy financing programs, landlord organizations and renters on tax exemption programs for apartment buildings, and social service providers on equity-based e-bike incentive programs etc.

Therefore, the Plan will build upon that considerable engagement and only undertake very targeted engagement, focused specifically on the following:

- Engagement with marginalized communities and service providers to better understand their needs, the interrelationship with climate change and to ensure that the benefits of climate action are shared equitably;
- Engagement with First Nations and Indigenous populations;
- Engagement with certain key stakeholders where required, to identify or confirm key barriers and opportunities and input to the updated Plan actions; and
- General public engagement to understand current climate change awareness, to inform development of actions and to receive input and feedback on the draft updated Plan.

4.1 Engagement Phases and Approach

Based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of public participation, Table 2 identifies several strategies of public and stakeholder engagement expected to be used to develop the updated Plan. These strategies may be adapted or supplemented as required throughout the process. Effective communication tools will be used to garner interest and participation in engagement events and to let stakeholders and community know their input has been heard and is valued.

Table 2: Engagement Strategies

	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate
Public Participation Goal	To provide balanced and objective information that will keep key stakeholders and public up to date and assist them in understanding the issues, problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain key stakeholder and public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with key stakeholders and the public throughout the process to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered as part of the decision making process.	To partner with key stakeholders and the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.
Proposed Engagement Strategies	• Project website • Newsletters, email updates • Background research papers • Presentations to stakeholder groups	• Surveys • Open houses • Attendance at events	• Stakeholder workshops • Focus topic workshops/ meetings • One-on-one interviews/ meetings	• Stakeholder workshops • Stakeholder review of documents via email • Open houses • Attendance at events

Phase 1 – Fall / Winter 2024/25

- Project Website – is established and directs interested individuals and organizations to the Hello Saanich page for engagement.
- Backgrounders – are developed to provide information, dispel myths and demonstrate progress on each of the key focus areas. The tone will be one of hope and opportunity, demonstrating the impact of multiple small global actions. Videos may be utilized.
- Survey - developed and distributed via multiple channels e.g. online, at festivals, climate ENewsletter, utility bill inserts, school/college/university workshops, riding transit etc.
- Public Open Houses
- Stakeholder Engagement – focussed on marginalized groups, working with service organizations.

Phase 2 – Summer-Fall 2025

- Draft plan – provided for review.
- Survey – including key questions to probe for feedback on the draft actions.
- Key Stakeholders – review and input to the draft plan.
- Video of the proposed updated Climate Plan

- Virtual Open Houses/Webinars
    - Focussed on engaging a diverse audience through the inclusion of tours, workshops, open house boards, surveys, the provision of food and childcare.

4.2 Key Stakeholders

A draft list of key stakeholders is outlined in Appendix A and will be supplemented as engagement is initiated if required. The stakeholder group was categorized as follows:

- **Other Governments**
- **Education Institutions**
- **Health Institutions & Social Agencies**
- **Environmental Agencies**
- **Economic Development Agencies**
- **Energy Industry**
- **Development Industry**
- **Transportation Agencies**
- **Food Agencies**
- **Waste & Recycling Industry**
- **Community Members**
- **Community Service Providers or Advocacy Groups for Marginalized populations**

It is recognized that each stakeholder group has different priorities and the diversity of these priorities is reflected in the core principles related to climate change. In addition, each group will have a different role to play in the identification of actions. The engagement will reflect those differing priorities and the Plan will aim to identify synergies between groups to assist with mobilizing action.

Please see Section 2.3 for the approach taken to working with and engaging the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples represented by the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations and the W̱SÁNEĆ peoples represented by the W̱JOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), BOḴEĆEN (Pauquachin), STŦÁUTW̱ (Tsawout), W̱SIḴEM (Tseycum) and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nations.

5.0 Scope of Works

Table 3 provides details of the scope of works with project phases, activities and key deliverables.

Table 3: Updated Climate Plan Scope of Works

Phase	Activities	Key Deliverables	Date
Council Check-in – Terms of Reference			

Phase 1: Project Initiation and Baseline	• Finalize Terms of Reference and present to Council.
	• Submit grant application.
	• Initiate discussions with the Songhees, Esquimalt, W̱JOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), BOḰEĆEN (Pauquachin), STÁUTW̱ (Tsawout), W̱SIḴEM (Tseycum) and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) Nations.
	• GHG Modelling
	  ○ Hire GHG modelling consultants.
	  ○ Establish baseline and assumptions for GHG emission reduction and energy analysis/modelling.
	• Definitions & Targets
	  ○ Establish definitions & assumptions.
	  ○ Establish Global Fair Share and Scope 1, 2 and 3 Territorial GHG Emissions targets.
	  ○ Establish energy efficiency/use/affordability/access targets.
	  ○ Establish Consumption Based Emissions targets.
	• Corporate Climate Risk Assessment
	  ○ Establish corporate climate risk assessment PIEVC methodology.
	• Community Climate Risk Assessment
	  ○ Establish methodology and conduct gap analysis.
		• Consultant contracts
		• Energy and emissions pathway model methodologies and associated assumptions, definitions and targets
		• Amended Guiding Principles
		• Engagement materials including project webpage, backgrounders and survey
		• Draft Corporate Climate Risk Assessment – Strategic for all assets
		• Community Climate Risk Assessment gap analysis
			Summer – Fall 2024

Phase	Activities	Key Deliverables	Date
Public & Key Stakeholder Engagement – Identify/confirm constraints and opportunities to inform potential actions			

Phase 2: Analysis, Modelling & Assessments	• Continue discussions with First Nations.
	• GHG Modelling
	  ○ Additional climate mitigation action identification (consumption & territorial).
	  ○ Modelling for achieving GHG reductions and energy targets.
	• Corporate Climate Risk Assessment
	  ○ Complete strategic corporate climate risk assessment
	  ○ Identify corporate climate adaptation actions.
	• Community Climate Risk Assessment Update
	  ○ Risk and action workshops.
		• Phase 1 Engagement Report
		• Summary of draft mitigation and adaptation actions
		• Draft Modelled Pathway for GHG and Energy targets
			Fall 2024 – Summer 2025

Council Check-in – Baseline, Phase 1 Engagement Report, Climate Risk Assessment Summary, Updated Principles			
Phase 3: Draft Plan	• Continue discussions with First Nations. • Technical review of GHG emissions and action amendments. • Community Climate Risk Assessment Update ○ Identify community climate adaptation actions. • Populate Plan Framework with draft actions → draft Action Plan. • Review of Draft Plan.	• Draft updated Climate Plan • Corporate Climate Risk Assessment – by Asset Class (for some asset classes) • Draft Community Climate Risk Assessment	Spring - Fall 2025
Public & Key Stakeholder Review – Review of Draft Plan			
Phase 4: Plan Adoption	• Update Plan based upon public and key stakeholder feedback. • Develop staff report. • Council meeting and presentation for approval.	• Proposed Climate Plan • Council cover report • Corporate & Community Climate Risk Assessments	Fall 2025-January 2026

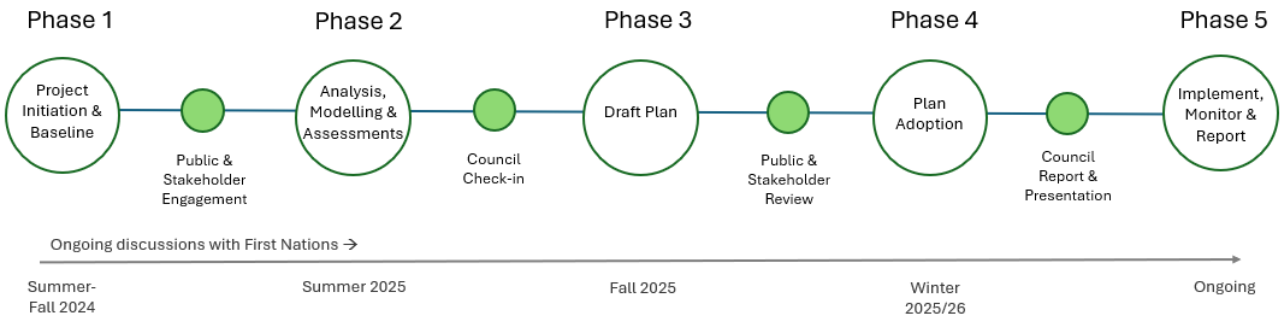
Phase	Activities	Key Deliverables	Date
Council Report – Proposed updated Climate Plan			
Phase 5: Implement, Monitor & Report	• Implementation of the updated Climate Plan.	• Annual Climate Plan Report Card	Ongoing

6.0 Timeline & Budget

6.1 Timeline

Development of the updated Climate Plan is anticipated to take approximately 18 months to complete as outlined in Figure 4.

FIGURE 4: Saanich Updated Climate Plan Project Timeline



6.2 Budget

The budget for the updated Plan is $180,000, the majority of which relates to consultant support for the consumption based and territorial GHG emissions modelling, peer review and support for the corporate PIEVC climate risk assessment and analysis to support the community wide climate risk assessment. Other costs within this budget include engagement, honoraria and indigenous art.

Appendix A: Key Stakeholders and Other Governments & Agencies

The following table provides a draft list of key stakeholders. This list may be expanded or refined as the Plan scope is finalized and engagement is initiated.

Key Stakeholders	
Saanich Council, Committees & Corporation	
• District of Saanich Council • Sustainability & Climate Action Advisory Committee • Accessibility & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Committee • Arts, Culture & Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee	• Natural Areas, Parks & Trails Advisory Committee • Transportation Advisory Committee • Interdepartmental Climate Working Group and departmental staff as required
Other Governments & First Nations	
• CRD – Climate Action Program and Inter-Municipal Working Group & Regional Planning • Esquimalt First Nation • MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) First Nation • BOḰEĆEN (Pauquachin) First Nation	• Songhees First Nation • W̱JOŁEŁP (Tsartlip) First Nation • STÁUTW̱ (Tsawout) First Nation • W̱SIḴEM (Tseycum) First Nation
Educational Institutions & Youth	
• Camosun College • One Planet Saanich Schools • Royal Roads University • School District 61 and 63	• Saanich Youth Council • University of Victoria • Youth Climate Corps BC
Health Institutions & Social Agencies	
• Vancouver Island Health Authority	• Victoria Foundation
Environmental Agencies	
• Coastal Invasive Plant Committee • Friends of Bowker Creek Society	• Mt. Tolmie Conservancy Association • Peninsula Streams Society

Key Stakeholders

• Friends of Glencoe Cove • Friends of Knockan Hill Park Society • Friends of Mt Doug • Friends of Swan Creek • Friends of the Gorge • Friends of Tod Creek Watershed • Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team • Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society • Goward Springs Watershed Stewards • Habitat Acquisition Trust	• Portage Inlet Sanctuary Colquitz Estuary • Prospect Lake Preservation Society • Pulling Together Volunteer Group • Rithets Bog Conservation Society • Saanich Inlet Protection Society • SeaChange Marine Conservation Society • Sierra Club BC • Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary • The Land Conservancy • Victoria Natural History Society
Economic Development Agencies & Business	
• Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce • Tourism Victoria (Greater Victoria Visitors and Convention Bureau)	• Vancouver Island Economic Alliance • Vancouver Island Technology Park • Synergy Foundation
Climate and Energy Agencies	
• BC Hydro • BC Sustainable Energy Association • City Green Solutions • Clean Energy BC	• Community Energy Association • Fortis BC • Pacific Institute of Climate Solutions (PICS) • Pembina Institute
Building Development Industry	
• BC Housing • Canadian Home Builders Association (CHBA) • Capital Region Housing Corporation • Greater Victoria Housing Society • Passive House Institute	• Real Estate Foundation British Columbia • Urban Development Institute (UDI) • Vancouver Island Strata Association • Victoria Residential Builders Association (VRBA)
Transportation Agencies	
• BC Transit • Better Transit Alliance of Greater Victoria	• Capital Bikes • ICBC
Food Agencies	
• Capital Region Food & Agriculture Initiative Roundtable	• Lifecycles

Key Stakeholders

• Haliburton Farm	• Saanich Agriculture and Food Security Plan Task Force
Waste & Recycling Industry	
• CRD – waste team and Solid Waste working group	• Victoria Compost Education Centre
Community Members and Organizations	
• Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria • Faith organizations • General Public and Residents • Greater Victoria Acting Together for the Common Good (GVAT) • Intercultural Association of Greater Victoria	• One Planet Saanich • Saanich Community Associations • Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN) • Together Against Poverty Society • Victoria Tenant Action Group • Victoria Disability Resource Centre
Networks	
• British Columbia Institute of Technology • Canadian Urban Sustainability Practitioners (CUSP) Network	• ICLEI Canada • Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN)