



**To:** Mayor and Councillors  
**From:** Terry Crowe  
Manager, Policy Planning

**Date:** April 22, 2010  
**File:**

**Re: Recommended Changes To the OCP GHG Management Bylaw 8599**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to recommend additional changes to the proposed OCP GHG Management Bylaw 8599, in order to add into the Bylaw itself, all the requests being made to the Province in part (5) of the Committee's recommendation.

The reason for staff's recommendation is that with the higher GHG reduction targets, it is important to emphasize that Council has high expectations for the Province to assist in achieving them by establishing a wide range of effective and long term GHG reduction initiatives, programs and funding. Incorporating Council's requests into the OCP establishes an official, transparent and ongoing policy to indicate to the Province and community how important Provincial assistance is to the City in achieving its GHG reduction targets.

**Comments**

The attached revised proposed Bylaw 8599 includes:

1. the OCP GHG Bylaw changes which were agreed upon at Planning Committee, on April 21, 2010, and
2. additional sections to reflect all the requests being made to the Province in part (5) of the Committee's recommendation (see below):

**ADDITIONAL STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

*That the draft Richmond Official Community Plan bylaw 7100, Amendment Bylaw No. 8599, "Greenhouse Gas Management" be revised at Section c) Actions to add:*

*"- Substantially increase its policy and funding support for transportation improvements in Richmond, including extending the Canada Line and/or providing ground level light rail transit (LRT), improving bus services and improving cycling infrastructure;*

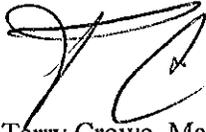
*- Establish a grant, rebate and/or low interest loan program to assist property owners to retrofit their buildings to reduce GHG emissions;*

*- Establish a grant, rebate and/or low interest loan program to help with the initial extra owner capital cost incurred to reduce GHG emissions in their new buildings;*

*- Increase commercial recycling;"*

April 22, 2010

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Terry Crowe, Manager, Policy Planning

TTC:ttc

Att. 1

pc: TAG  
David Weber, Director, City Clerk's Office  
May K. Leung, Staff Solicitor





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## Richmond Official Community Plan Bylaw 7100, Amendment Bylaw 8599, “Greenhouse Gas Management”

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Richmond Official Community Plan Bylaw 7100, as amended, is further amended at Schedule 1 by adding the following “Greenhouse Gas Management” policy after section 5.5:

### 5.6 GREENHOUSE GAS MANAGEMENT

#### ISSUE:

According to the United Nations, “climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time”, and it is caused by increased concentrations of greenhouse gases (or GHG) in the Earth’s atmosphere, which lead to an increase in the Earth’s surface temperature. Impacts may include sea level rise, increased storm events, heat waves, drought, decreases in global food production and severe weather conditions. The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Richmond is an important step in the transition to a more sustainable and livable community. As well, the Province requires all local governments in BC to include greenhouse gas reduction targets, and supporting policies and actions, in their official community plans by May 31, 2010.

To address this issue, the following objective and policies are established.

#### OBJECTIVE:

To reduce community greenhouse gas emissions within the City’s ability (e.g., authority, affordability).

#### POLICIES:

The City will be guided by the following policies with respect to GHG reduction:

##### a) Principles

The City will be guided by the following GHG reduction principles:

- Partnerships (e.g., jurisdictional collaboration, cost sharing, information),
- Scientific (e.g., actions will be based on science, analysis),
- Effectiveness (e.g., help achieve community-wide GHG reductions),
- Efficiency (e.g., based on triple bottom line [i.e., social, economic, environmental] considerations),
- Phasing (e.g., City policies and actions are to be incremental to reflect the evolution of GHG reduction best practice, science, models, studies, related supportive investments by senior levels of government and the City’s ability to pay);

b) GHG Reduction Targets

The community-wide targets will be to reduce GHG emissions by:

(1) 33% below 2007 levels by 2020, and

(2) 80% below 2007 levels by 2050,

subject to the understanding that the Province and other jurisdictions will undertake necessary GHG reduction improvements within their jurisdictions, and the City will receive the necessary assistance from the Province and other jurisdictions to achieve these targets.

c) Actions

## – Implement Existing GHG Reduction Related Policies

The City will continue to implement its existing GHG related policies (e.g., the City's Sustainability Framework, Official Community Plan [e.g. compact land use patterns, complete communities]; City Centre Area Plan [e.g., densification, high density urban villages, Transit Oriented Development, district energy initiatives]; and transportation demand management policies);

## – Establish New GHG Reduction Related Policies

The City will undertake and prepare, where triple bottom line (i.e., social, economic, environmental) analyses shows positive benefits, new, appropriate and effective GHG reduction related policies (e.g., incentives for improved energy performance levels within existing [retrofit] and new buildings; the increased use of transit; a greater diversion of solid waste through increased recycling and material reuse; improved waste energy capture). One such action is that the City intends to complete its already initiated, comprehensive Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) in 2011;

## – Request Increased Provincial Assistance

- As many of the Richmond community's GHG reduction targets and actions (e.g., improved building energy efficiencies, reduced emissions from vehicles, the increased reliance on walking, cycling and transit), require Provincial legislation, policy, program and funding assistance, the City will request the Province to:

- Improve its studies, inventories, legislation, policies, programs and funding to assist Richmond and BC local governments, to maximize GHG reductions;

- Substantially increase its policy and funding support for transportation improvements in Richmond, including extending the Canada Line and/or, providing ground level light rail transit (LRT), improving bus service, and improving cycling infrastructure;

- Establish a grant, rebate and/or low interest loan program to assist property owners to retrofit their buildings to reduce GHG emissions;

- Establish a grant, rebate and/or low interest loan program to help with the initial extra owner capital cost incurred to reduce GHG emissions in their new buildings;

- Increase commercial recycling;

- Also, the City will request the Province to evaluate, after May 31, 2010, all approved (and any not approved) OCP GHG targets, actions and policies established by local governments in BC, with the objectives of assessing progress, sharing the results with local governments and others, seeking their feedback and identifying areas for improved and additional Provincial GHG programming and funding in 2011 and beyond;
  - Request Increased Federal and Other Assistance
    - To achieve the Richmond community's GHG reduction targets, the City will request improved Federal government and other assistance (e.g., studies, inventories, legislation, policies, programs, funding), as necessary;
2. Richmond Official Community Plan Bylaw 7100, as amended, is further amended at Schedule 1 by adding the following definition in Appendix 1, in alphabetical order:

*Greenhouse Gas (or GHG)*      *any atmospheric gas that contributes to the "greenhouse effect" (i.e. the warming of the Earth's atmosphere by reflecting radiation from the Earth's surface) and includes carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and water vapour*

3. This Bylaw is cited as "**Richmond Official Community Plan Bylaw 7100, Amendment Bylaw 8599**".

FIRST READING

PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD ON:

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

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MAYOR

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CORPORATE OFFICER

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| CITY OF<br>RICHMOND   |
| APPROVED<br>for content by<br>originating<br>dept.<br> |
| APPROVED<br>for legality<br>by Solicitor<br>           |