



**REQUEST FOR DECISION**  
SLRD RGS Review 2024  
(Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024)  
– Second Reading, Third Reading & Adoption

**Meeting date:** January 29, 2025

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**To:** SLRD Board

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

THAT Bylaw 1872-2024, cited as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024” be read a second time as amended.

THAT Bylaw 1872-2024, cited as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024” be read a third time.

THAT Bylaw 1872-2024, cited as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024”, be adopted.

**KEY ISSUES/CONCEPTS:**

As per the *Local Government Act* (LGA), the SLRD is required to consider a review of the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) in 2024. The LGA and SLRD RGS include a minor amendment criteria and process. The SLRD Board resolved to proceed with the RGS Review as a minor amendment, gave written notice to affected local governments, and considered representations and written comments provided by the affected local governments prior to giving first reading of the proposed amendment bylaw at the November 27, 2024 SLRD Board meeting. Staff incorporated feedback received from the SLRD Board at first reading, and Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024 (Appendix A) is being presented for consideration of second/third reading and adoption. The RGS Review 2024 Project Outline illustrates the process to date and next steps (Appendix B).

**RELEVANT POLICIES & LEGISLATION:**

[Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008](#)

[Local Government Act Part 13 – Regional Growth Strategies](#)

**BACKGROUND:**

The RGS was adopted by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) Board in June, 2010 by acceptance of all member municipalities and participating electoral areas (excluding Electoral Area A, which is not a party to the RGS) as well as all seven adjacent regional districts (affected local governments). The RGS provides a “*broad policy framework describing the common direction that the regional district and member municipalities will follow in promoting development and services which are sustainable, recognizing a long term responsibility for the quality of life for future generations*”.

### Local Government Act

Section 452 of the LGA sets requirements for regular reports and review of regional growth strategies. Specifically, under Section 452(2) *At least once every 5 years, a regional district that has adopted a regional growth strategy must consider whether the regional growth strategy must be reviewed for possible amendment.* Section 437 of the LGA provides guidance for minor amendments to regional growth strategies. Specifically, under Section 437(2) *a regional growth strategy may include provisions that establish a process for minor amendments to the regional growth strategy.* The SLRD RGS includes a minor amendment criteria and process.

### RGS Review 2024

As the last RGS Review was adopted in 2019, consideration of another review is required in 2024. At the February 2024 SLRD Board meeting, staff were directed to undertake a review to address outstanding Board resolutions to update greenhouse gas targets and input received at the Regional Affordable Housing Forum. The proposed policy updates include revisions to strategic directions under Goal 3 (Affordable Housing), Goal 11 (Climate Action) and Indicators (where necessary to reflect policy updates). Proposed policy updates strengthen alignment and opportunities for regional collaboration, advocacy and action around Goal 3 and Goal 11 – reflecting Board direction to update greenhouse gas targets, input received at the Regional Affordable Housing Forum (April 2024), and best practices from existing member municipality OCP and Climate Action Plans.

### Previous Board Reports

- [SLRD RGS Review 2024 \(Amendment Bylaw 1872-2024\) – First Reading – November 27, 2024](#)
- [SLRD RGS Review 2024 – DRAFT Policy & Indicator Updates – September 26, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)
- [SLRD RGS Review 2024 – Minor Amendment Initiation – July 24, 2024](#)
- [Regional Affordable Housing Forum Summary & Next Steps – May 22, 2024 SLRD Board](#)
- [RGS Annual Report & RGS Review Consideration – February 28, 2024 SLRD Board](#)
- [Climate Action Part 1 – January 25, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)
- [Climate Action Part 2 – February 29, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting](#)

### Previous Board Resolutions

At the November 27, 2024 SLRD Board meeting it was resolved:

*THAT the SLRD Board consider the written comments submitted by affected local governments as per Appendix C and summary provided within the subject staff report.*

*THAT Bylaw 1872-2024, cited as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024” be read a first time.*

*THAT staff incorporate the feedback provided by the Board into the proposed bylaw prior to the Board considering second reading.*

At the July 24, 2024 SLRD Board meeting it was resolved:

*THAT the SLRD Board initiate a review of the “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008” pursuant to Section 452(2) of the Local Government Act to address policy updates to Goal 3, Goal 11, and Indicators (RGS Review 2024).*

*(2/3 majority vote)*

*THAT the SLRD Board proceed with the RGS Review 2024 as a minor amendment, as per Section 437 of the Local Government Act and the minor amendment process outlined in the “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008”.*

*THAT the SLRD Board give 30 days written notice to each affected local government, including notice that the proposed amendment has been determined to be a minor amendment.*

At the February 28, 2024 SLRD Board meeting it was resolved:

*THAT pursuant to Section 452(2) of the Local Government Act, the Board consider whether to review the “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008” for possible amendment, and given the following outstanding resolutions:*

*THAT the Board direct SLRD staff to prepare greenhouse gas targets based on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for inclusion in the Regional Growth Strategy as part of a future Regional Growth Strategy amendment.*

*THAT at a future Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board discuss additional monitoring indicators that could be incorporated into the Regional Growth Strategy, such as: access to child care; food production; alignment of greenhouse gas emissions indicators/monitoring approach used by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and its member municipalities; and capacity of recreation amenities*

*Direct staff to 1) undertake a review of the RGS in 2024; 2) refer the RGS review consideration to the RGS Steering Committee for input as to whether the proposed amendment would be considered a major or minor amendment; and 3) bring back a report regarding the amendment type, proposed approach, and formal RGS Review initiation.*

#### RGS Review 2024 Project Outline

The RGS Review 2024 reflects Board direction, with the project including a scoping period and the formal minor amendment process. The project outline also highlights how the RGS Review 2024 connects into prioritization and implementation strategy work to follow. See Appendix B.

**ANALYSIS:**

The following section highlights feedback received from the Board at first reading and the resulting revisions to Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024. For process and notification input analysis, see previous staff reports linked above.

SLRD Board Feedback	Proposed Revisions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLRD Board feedback suggested adding emissions to the “net zero” term to help clarify intent of the policies.</li> <li>• SLRD Board feedback suggested adding IPCC in front of “best science” to help clarify intent of the policies.</li> <li>• SLRD Board feedback suggested adding language to strengthen the policies to ensure climate action centres on net zero emissions rather than carbon offsets.</li> </ul>	<p>“emissions” and “IPCC” were added to Strategic Direction 11.1 a) to clarify intent.</p> <p>“emissions”, “IPCC”, “and prioritize net zero emissions” were added to Strategic Direction 11.2 a) to clarify intent.</p> <p>The following note was added to 11.3 a) to emphasize the preference for net zero emissions rather than carbon offsets:</p> <p>“Note: carbon offsets are not a preferred route forward. If carbon offsets are pursued then it should take place at a local or regional level, so that the revenues (and co-benefits) remain within the community.”</p> <p>(This carbon offset language was pulled from the District of Squamish Climate Action Plan.)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLRD Board feedback suggested adding a definition of Net Zero Emissions to help clarify intent of the policies.</li> <li>• Staff are also proposing that IPCC be defined now that is included as a term in the Strategic Directions.</li> </ul>	<p>Adding the following definitions to the Glossary of Terms section:</p> <p><b>Net Zero Emissions</b> (net zero carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions) is achieved when anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are balanced globally by anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> removals over a specified period.</p> <p><b>IPCC</b> means the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.</p> <p>(These definitions are from the IPCC website, 2025)</p>

### Process & Next Steps

- 1) Receive input from RGS Steering Committee on type and scope of review, Member Municipality staff on climate action policy, and Regional Affordable Housing Forum participants on affordable housing ideas (February – June 2024 Scoping Period) – **Complete**
- 2) Initiate RGS Review, including written notice to affected local governments (July 24, 2024 SLRD Board) – **Complete**
- 3) Receive input from the SLRD Board on DRAFT policy and indicator updates (September 26, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting) – **Complete**
- 4) Present RGS Amendment Bylaw for consideration of first reading – **November 27, 2024 SLRD Board Meeting**
- 5) Present RGS Amendment Bylaw for consideration of second reading, third reading and adoption.

### Indicator Monitoring

Indicator Monitoring is planned for 2025, following the RGS Review, and will also help inform a potential Indicator review process by highlighting data gaps/opportunities.

### Prioritization & Implementation Strategy

Following completion of the RGS Review 2024 project, SLRD staff intend to present a process to prioritize the Goal 11 Climate Action Strategic Directions and Goal 3 Affordable Housing Strategic Directions, as the basis for preparing implementation strategies and funding action (see Appendix B Project Outline highlighting “Next Up” phase). Formal approach and timelines will be as per Board direction and staff capacities.

### **REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY ALIGNMENT/IMPACTS:**

The SLRD RGS is an initiative of and applies to the four member municipalities and Electoral Areas B, C and D. It is a tool to support collaboration and achievement of smart growth. The RGS Review 2024 strengthens alignment and opportunities for regional collaboration, advocacy and action around Goal 3 and Goal 11.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT/IMPACTS:**

#### Climate Action & Sustainability

Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024 addresses policy gaps and best science in support of the SLRD Board’s Climate Action and Sustainability Strategic Priority Area, and in particular the environmental sustainability priority.

#### Community Wellbeing and Livability

Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024 addresses policy gaps and community input in support of the SLRD Board’s Community Wellbeing and Livability Strategic Priority Area, and in particular the affordable housing priority.

**OPTIONS:**

**Option 1 (PREFERRED OPTION)**

Give second reading as amended to Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024.

Give third reading and adopt Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024.

**Option 2**

As per Board discretion.

**FOLLOW UP ACTION:**

Consolidate the RGS Bylaw and share with member municipalities.

**APPENDICES:**

Appendix A: Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024 and tracked changes version of Schedule 2.

Appendix B: RGS Review 2024 Project Outline

Submitted by: C. Dewar, Senior Planner

Reviewed by: K. Needham, Director of Planning and Development Services

Approved by: H. Paul, Chief Administrative Officer

## Appendix A

### SQUAMISH-LILLOOET REGIONAL DISTRICT

#### BYLAW NO. 1872-2024

A bylaw to amend the Regional Growth Strategy for the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

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**WHEREAS** the *Local Government Act* provides for a regional district to undertake the development, adoption, implementation, monitoring and review of a regional growth strategy under Part 13,

**AND WHEREAS** the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District adopted a regional growth strategy on June 28, 2010,

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008, Amendment Bylaw No. 1872-2024”.
2. The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1062, 2008 is amended as follows:
  - (a) By replacing the Strategic Directions section under Goal 3 Generate a Range of Quality Affordable Housing with a new Strategic Directions section, as per Schedule 1.
  - (b) By replacing the Strategic Directions section under Goal 11 Take Action on Climate Change with a new Strategic Directions section, as per Schedule 2.
  - (c) By replacing the Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3 and Goal 11 sections of Table 8, Appendix A Integrated SLRD RGS and ISP Goals and Indicators, as per Schedule 3.
  - (d) By adding the following definitions to the Glossary of Terms section:

**Net Zero Emissions** (net zero carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions) is achieved when anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are balanced globally by anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> removals over a specified period.

**IPCC** means the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change.

WRITTEN NOTICE GIVEN TO AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2024.

READ A FIRST TIME this 27<sup>th</sup> day of NOVEMBER, 2024.

READ A SECOND TIME as amended this day of , 2025.

READ A THIRD TIME this day of , 2025.

ADOPTED this day of , 2025.

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Jen Ford  
Chair

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Angela Belsham  
Corporate Officer

### **GOAL 3 Generate a Range of Quality Affordable Housing**

Strategic Directions:

3.1 The SLRD and member municipalities agree to:

a) Establish collaborative and consistent affordable housing policies, targets and tools to generate an adequate supply of quality affordable housing and a diversity of housing types for employees, seniors and people in need in the region.

This will be pursued by requiring a description of affordable housing policies, targets and tools within member municipality Regional Context Statements and SLRD Official Community Plans. Specifically, statements/descriptions should include the following:

- Inclusionary zoning requirements with aggressive targets, preferably at a minimum of 15 % affordable housing in perpetuity (e.g. purpose built rental, cooperative housing, etc.);
- Tools to secure affordable housing in perpetuity through deed/title restrictions and price controls;
- Strategies for the acquisition of community land banks for housing;
- Incentives and/or targets for affordable rental housing.

b) Adopt policies and regulations that support live-work studio space, mixed-use neighbourhoods, and a variety of residential intensification strategies such as allowing secondary suites, providing for 'flexhousing' encouraging infill housing and small lot development, density bonusing and other tools that will support housing affordability.

This will be pursued in the review and updating of Official Community Plans and the overall development of collaborative approaches on affordable housing within the region.

c) Encourage community-led affordable housing initiatives to maintain and/or increase the supply of affordable housing (e.g., community housing land trusts, non-profit, locally controlled entities that acquire and hold land in perpetuity so that it can be used for affordable housing).

This will be pursued in discussions with these organizations and in the review and updating of Official Community Plans to identify affordable housing land supply options, and by maximizing the use of existing provincial and federal government housing programs and advocating for increased funding for affordable housing.

d) Adopt financial tools that will assist in the delivery of accessible family housing and seniors housing, such as cash-in-lieu of social housing contributions, waiving development cost charges, property tax exemptions, and lands grants.

This will be pursued as part of decision making by the Regional Board and Member Municipality Councils in regard to social housing proposals.

e) Adopt, as appropriate, deed-restricted price, resale control, rent geared to income and other options to increase the supply of affordable housing and create housing that remains affordable in perpetuity.

This will be pursued as a region through the implementation of Official Community Plans and the collaborative, consistent affordable housing approaches committed to therein, and through the sharing

of best practices learned by the Whistler Housing Authority and the affordable housing experiences in Squamish and Pemberton.

f) Encourage cooperation with community service groups and private developers to supply low-cost housing options for seniors with the aim of maximizing independence and self-reliance and promoting continued socialization and the ability to age in place.

This will be pursued in the review of residential and commercial development proposals and in the review and updating of Official Community Plans in regard to congregate care and independent living developments for seniors.

g) Encourage housing models that provide security of tenure and support infill priorities, such as cooperative housing, cohousing, pocket neighbourhoods, etc.

This will be pursued in the review of residential and commercial development proposals, in the review and updating of Official Community Plans, and through sub-area/neighbourhood level planning.

h) Work collaboratively to address impacts of short-term nightly rentals and home "sharing" on housing supply.

This will be pursued through bylaw enforcement, business licences, exploring the use of property rental programs matching business owners with property owners for workforce housing and targeted communications and outreach efforts.

i) Work together as a region on initiatives with the Province to deliver affordable resident housing, such as: acquisition of community land banks for housing; authority to levy employee housing works and services charges; and project funding and financing.

This will be pursued through collaborative lobbying efforts with the Province.

j) Seek to connect, coordinate, and collaborate where appropriate on housing needs assessments as a region.

This will be pursued by exploring potential for coordinating consulting services on RFPs, timing, and findings and creating opportunities for cross-community sharing (data, tools/approaches, regional housing forums), where feasible.

k) Explore ways that established housing authorities and societies can support each other and share expertise and resources across jurisdictions and organizations where able. Consider the establishment of a Regional Housing Authority, should there be a need or benefit for a more formal, regional approach to non-market housing.

This will be pursued by working with existing housing authorities, societies and member municipalities where potential may exist to support and coordinate housing delivery and unit management in areas where capacity is still emerging.

## **GOAL 11 Take Action on Climate Change**

### Strategic Directions:

#### 11.1 The SLRD will:

a) Adopt targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and to reach a net zero emissions region by 2050, or targets as per IPCC best science.

This will be pursued by incorporating targets into SLRD OCPs.

b) Prioritize and implement existing SLRD RGS Climate Action Strategic Directions.

This will be pursued by prioritizing SLRD Regional Growth Strategy strategic directions, with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

#### 11.2 The member municipalities will:

a) Adopt Regional Context Statements that identify how local land use, transportation and solid waste policies will contribute to meeting the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and reaching a net zero emissions region by the year 2050, or targets as per IPCC best science.

This will be pursued by submitting regional context statements as required and working to implement local plans, policies and programs that contribute to regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and prioritize net zero emissions.

b) Explore the development and implementation of climate action plans.

This will be pursued at a community level with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

#### 11.3 The SLRD and member municipalities agree to:

a) Maintain status as BC Climate Action Charter signatories.

The SLRD and member municipalities are signatories to the BC Climate Action Charter. Signatory Local Governments agree to develop strategies and take actions to achieve the following goals: (i) being carbon neutral in respect of their operations by 2012; (ii) measuring and reporting on their community's GHG emissions profile; and (iii) creating complete, compact, more energy efficient rural and urban communities.

This will be pursued by maintaining climate action monitoring and reporting programs, and by advocating to the province to continue the Community Energy and Emissions (CEEI) Inventory in support of community-level monitoring and meeting Climate Action Charter commitments. Note: carbon offsets

are not a preferred route forward. If carbon offsets are pursued then it should take place at a local or regional level, so that the revenues (and co-benefits) remain within the community.

b) Monitor energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to land use, buildings, industry, agriculture, waste, transportation, and other emission sources, and consider lifecycle energy and emissions and embodied emissions.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, BC Transit, non-governmental organizations, energy utilities, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

c) Monitor and pursue opportunities to increase carbon storage in natural areas.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

d) Substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

i. from mobile sources

This will be pursued by limiting growth outside of established urban areas and prioritizing infrastructure development and policies that support preferred modes of transportation for inter and intra community travel.

ii. from stationary sources

This will be pursued through collective prioritization of energy efficient development, including high-performance heating and cooling systems, and may include establishing Green Building Policies, creating incentive structures or requirements for the electrification of buildings, encouraging retrofit programs, exploring development controls, and exploring incentives or requirements for smaller-scale residential buildings. Additionally, the SLRD and member municipalities agree to explore the BC Energy Step Code and Zero Carbon Step Code.

iii. associated with solid waste management

This will be pursued by continuing to develop and implement policies, practices and targets toward achieving Zero Waste Goals.

e) Increase integration of lower-impact technologies for community, institutional and commercial mobility.

This will be pursued by including targets and strategies/actions in Official Community Plans to reduce 'vehicle-kilometres-travelled' within communities, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions per kilometre travelled. This will also be pursued by expanding and enhancing the electric vehicle infrastructure network across the region for residents and visitors as well as commercial and institutional fleets.

f) Work with the Provincial Government to deliver, support and encourage preferred modes of transportation in the Highway 99 corridor, with an emphasis on regional transit and connecting to regional hubs/destinations beyond the SLRD boundaries.

This will be pursued by engaging with the Provincial Government and continuing to collaborate with neighbouring communities on regional transit.

g) Promote active transportation options including e-bikes and other zero-emission options.

This will be pursued by Official Community Plans and Active Transportation Plans identifying gaps in the active transportation network, minimizing the distance people must travel to access essential needs and services, building safe routes and including end-of-trip facilities at community and regional nodes/hubs.

h) Ensure regional/municipal decision-making is structured to achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets and energy goals.

This will be pursued by supporting compact, complete, efficient land use patterns and using an integrated asset management approach in which consideration is given to the full costs throughout an asset's life cycle (lifecycle costs), prioritizing opportunities for greenhouse gas and energy reduction. This may also involve expanding/updating corporate purchasing policies.

j) Protect the carbon sequestration value of natural systems, including forested lands, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems and explore opportunities to strategically protect areas that contribute to climate change mitigation.

This will be pursued by protecting forested lands, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems, expanding protected areas where possible, and considering carbon sequestration values in intergovernmental referral responses.

k) Consider impacts to local and global greenhouse gas emissions in decision-making around greenhouse gas-intensive industries and utilities, and commercial recreation and leisure operators.

This will be pursued through land use planning, development approval/permitting, environmental assessment processes and advocacy efforts with provincial and federal government.

l) Encourage the development and use of renewable energy across the region.

This will be pursued through partnerships and in consultation with communities, exploring options at both the building-level and grid or system level. It may include advancing opportunities to incent small-scale, renewable energy production and use, exploring new technologies through pilot projects, and other tools to facilitate renewable energy systems in local development and construction.

m) Build climate resilience.

This will be pursued through efforts to adapt to current and future climate impacts by expanding the capacity of citizens, institutions and infrastructure to respond to a changing climate. Special consideration must be made for those in our communities who are most vulnerable.

n) Plan for climate change.

This will be pursued by ensuring new land use, buildings and infrastructure are planned and designed with tomorrow's climate in mind.

o) Prepare for extreme weather events, natural hazards and other large-scale emergencies that may increase in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change.

This will be pursued by expanding on emergency preparedness and management plans/strategies and enhancing community resiliency and self sufficiency – both human and physical infrastructure.

p) Pursue community engagement and consultation opportunities around climate change – with a focus on mitigation and adaptation and prioritizing younger generations.

This will be pursued by collaborating with local organizations, agencies, and stakeholders to build awareness, empowerment and commitment to take local action on climate change.

q) Support climate equity by prioritizing the needs of vulnerable populations who may be unduly affected by climate policies and actions.

This will be pursued by ensuring local government decision-making processes consider climate equity and by working with community organizations, local governments and provincial agencies/authorities.

r) Ensure Climate Action is evidence-based.

This will be pursued by using data and modeling to inform climate action planning and decision-making.

**APPENDIX A Integrated SLRD RGS and ISP Goals & Indicators**

Table 8 outlines a series of indicators developed for the purposes of tracking and evaluating trends in community growth and development. Each indicator has an accompanying description in order to obtain data. The indicators are based not only on Smart Growth Principles but align with the indicators of the SLRD Integrated Sustainability Plan (ISP), thereby allowing collection of data to serve two monitoring programs within the SLRD. An important outcome of the RGS will be to monitor these indicators over time to evaluate the progress made, or changes occurring within these key parameters, as a measure of how well the region is managing the overall quality of life of present and future generations.

**Table 8: Integrated RGS and ISP Monitoring**

<b>RGS &amp; ISP GOAL</b>	<b>INDICATORS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>GOAL 1 FOCUS DEVELOPMENT INTO COMPACT, COMPLETE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES</b>	Population Density	Population per ha of developed land
	Non-settlement Areas	Total ha of Non-settlement areas
<b>GOAL 2 IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES AND OPTIONS</b>	Highway Safety	Fatalities on certain highways
	Transit Commutes	Percent commuting to work via transit
	Visitor Transportation	Percent of visitors commuting via high-occupancy modes (bus, shuttle, rail, etc.)
	Active Transportation Commutes	Percent commuting to work via active transportation
	EV Charging Stations	Number of electric vehicle charging stations
	Number of Vehicles	ICBC vehicle ownership data
	Number of Electric Vehicles	Registered Electric Vehicles
<b>GOAL 3 GENERATE A RANGE OF QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b>	Housing Affordability	Ratio of median income to median assessed residential property value
	Housing Diversity	Diversity of housing stock in settlement areas, including mixed use where possible for new areas
	Non-Market Housing	Number of Non-Market Dwelling Units built (rental or ownership) and covenanted in perpetuity.
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<b>GOAL 11 TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE</b>	Energy Use	Total energy used
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
	Buildings	The amount of electricity and natural gas used by residential, commercial and some industrial buildings
	Transportation	Community-level data on greenhouse gas emissions from on-road transportation
	Waste	Estimates of community greenhouse gas emissions based on historic annual tonnes of waste disposed at regional district landfills

## GOAL 11 Take Action on Climate Change

### Strategic Directions:

#### 11.1 The SLRD will:

a) Adopt targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and to reach a net zero emissions region by 2050, or targets as per IPCC best science.

This will be pursued by incorporating targets into SLRD OCPs.

b) Prioritize and implement existing SLRD RGS Climate Action Strategic Directions.

This will be pursued by prioritizing SLRD Regional Growth Strategy strategic directions, with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

#### 11.2 The member municipalities will:

a) Adopt Regional Context Statements that identify how local land use, transportation and solid waste policies will contribute to meeting the regional greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 45% below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and reaching a net zero emissions region by the year 2050, or targets as per IPCC best science.

This will be pursued by submitting regional context statements as required and working to implement local plans, policies and programs that contribute to regional greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and prioritize net zero emissions.

b) Explore the development and implementation of climate action plans.

This will be pursued at a community level with implementation actions taken in collaboration with member municipalities, federal and provincial agencies, community organizations and subject to funding.

#### 11.3 The SLRD and member municipalities agree to:

a) Maintain status as BC Climate Action Charter signatories.

The SLRD and member municipalities are signatories to the BC Climate Action Charter. Signatory Local Governments agree to develop strategies and take actions to achieve the following goals: (i) being carbon neutral in respect of their operations by 2012; (ii) measuring and reporting on their community's GHG emissions profile; and (iii) creating complete, compact, more energy efficient rural and urban communities.

This will be pursued by maintaining climate action monitoring and reporting programs, and by advocating to the province to continue the Community Energy and Emissions (CEEI) Inventory in support of community-level monitoring and meeting Climate Action Charter commitments. Note: carbon offsets

are not a preferred route forward. If carbon offsets are pursued then it should take place at a local or regional level, so that the revenues (and co-benefits) remain within the community.

**Commented [CD1]:** This is language pulled from the DOS Climate Action Plan

b) Monitor energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to land use, buildings, industry, agriculture, waste, transportation, and other emission sources, and consider lifecycle energy and emissions and embodied emissions.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, BC Transit, non-governmental organizations, energy utilities, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

c) Monitor and pursue opportunities to increase carbon storage in natural areas.

This will be pursued by working with the Federal Government, the Province, First Nations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and other stakeholders, as appropriate.

d) Substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

i. from mobile sources

This will be pursued by limiting growth outside of established urban areas and prioritizing infrastructure development and policies that support preferred modes of transportation for inter and intra community travel.

ii. from stationary sources

This will be pursued through collective prioritization of energy efficient development, including high-performance heating and cooling systems, and may include establishing Green Building Policies, creating incentive structures or requirements for the electrification of buildings, encouraging retrofit programs, exploring development controls, and exploring incentives or requirements for smaller-scale residential buildings. Additionally, the SLRD and member municipalities agree to explore the BC Energy Step Code and Zero Carbon Step Code.

iii. associated with solid waste management

This will be pursued by continuing to develop and implement policies, practices and targets toward achieving Zero Waste Goals.

e) Increase integration of lower-impact technologies for community, institutional and commercial mobility.

This will be pursued by including targets and strategies/actions in Official Community Plans to reduce 'vehicle-kilometres-travelled' within communities, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions per kilometre travelled. This will also be pursued by expanding and enhancing the electric vehicle infrastructure network across the region for residents and visitors as well as commercial and institutional fleets.

f) Work with the Provincial Government to deliver, support and encourage preferred modes of transportation in the Highway 99 corridor, with an emphasis on regional transit and connecting to regional hubs/destinations beyond the SLRD boundaries.

This will be pursued by engaging with the Provincial Government and continuing to collaborate with neighbouring communities on regional transit.

g) Promote active transportation options including e-bikes and other zero-emission options.

This will be pursued by Official Community Plans and Active Transportation Plans identifying gaps in the active transportation network, minimizing the distance people must travel to access essential needs and services, building safe routes and including end-of-trip facilities at community and regional nodes/hubs.

h) Ensure regional/municipal decision-making is structured to achieve greenhouse gas reduction targets and energy goals.

This will be pursued by supporting compact, complete, efficient land use patterns and using an integrated asset management approach in which consideration is given to the full costs throughout an asset's life cycle (lifecycle costs), prioritizing opportunities for greenhouse gas and energy reduction. This may also involve expanding/updating corporate purchasing policies.

j) Protect the carbon sequestration value of natural systems, including forested lands, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems and explore opportunities to strategically protect areas that contribute to climate change mitigation.

This will be pursued by protecting forested lands, wetlands, and coastal ecosystems, expanding protected areas where possible, and considering carbon sequestration values in intergovernmental referral responses.

k) Consider impacts to local and global greenhouse gas emissions in decision-making around greenhouse gas-intensive industries and utilities, and commercial recreation and leisure operators.

This will be pursued through land use planning, development approval/permitting, environmental assessment processes and advocacy efforts with provincial and federal government.

l) Encourage the development and use of renewable energy across the region.

This will be pursued through partnerships and in consultation with communities, exploring options at both the building-level and grid or system level. It may include advancing opportunities to incent small-scale, renewable energy production and use, exploring new technologies through pilot projects, and other tools to facilitate renewable energy systems in local development and construction.

m) Build climate resilience.

This will be pursued through efforts to adapt to current and future climate impacts by expanding the capacity of citizens, institutions and infrastructure to respond to a changing climate. Special consideration must be made for those in our communities who are most vulnerable.

n) Plan for climate change.

This will be pursued by ensuring new land use, buildings and infrastructure are planned and designed with tomorrow's climate in mind.

o) Prepare for extreme weather events, natural hazards and other large-scale emergencies that may increase in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change.

This will be pursued by expanding on emergency preparedness and management plans/strategies and enhancing community resiliency and self sufficiency – both human and physical infrastructure.

p) Pursue community engagement and consultation opportunities around climate change – with a focus on mitigation and adaptation and prioritizing younger generations.

This will be pursued by collaborating with local organizations, agencies, and stakeholders to build awareness, empowerment and commitment to take local action on climate change.

q) Support climate equity by prioritizing the needs of vulnerable populations who may be unduly affected by climate policies and actions.

This will be pursued by ensuring local government decision-making processes consider climate equity and by working with community organizations, local governments and provincial agencies/authorities.

r) Ensure Climate Action is evidence-based.

This will be pursued by using data and modeling to inform climate action planning and decision-making.

Tracked Changes

# RGS Review 2024 – Project Outline

# Next Up

## Appendix B

