



## COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: December 12, 2023

From: Paul Gipps, CAO

File No: P 21-20

Subject: **P 21-20; Corporate Climate Action Plan – Endorsement**

Report Prepared by: Holden Blue, Planner II (Long Range)

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**RECOMMENDATION** to Consider and Resolve:

**THAT** Council endorse the City of West Kelowna Corporate Climate Action Plan.

### **STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS**

**Invest in Infrastructure** – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

**Foster Safety and Well-Being** – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and collaboration with local and regional service providers, investments in community health, needs-based housing, emergency preparedness, policing, and other services that foster safety and well-being in West Kelowna.

### **BACKGROUND**

Development of the City's Corporate Climate Action Plan began in the Spring of 2023, guided by Council's Strategic priorities and in collaboration with the Community Energy Association and City staff representatives forming a Technical Committee. The draft Plan was introduced to Council at the Committee of the Whole on November 21, 2023 for initial consideration and discussion. Additional background information can be found in the previous Council report from November 21, 2023. No changes to the Plan have been introduced since this meeting.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### Implementation

The Plan and Technical Committee emphasized the need for dedicated staff to implement the actions in the plan more efficiently. Without dedicated staff to implement the plan, the

actions will be implemented by staff from various departments as outlined in the plan. The Plan will be circulated to all departments, following Council adoption, for their review and consideration when developing future work plans.

Corporate emissions are currently reported annually to the Province as part of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP). Annual reporting to the Province acts as an annual check in on progress toward meeting reduction targets. This reporting only provides high level insights on emissions and would not highlight any climate action in detail that was taken in a given year.

Other options for reporting emissions on an ongoing basis will be considered operationally and may include additional language within Council report templates on Climate Action Implications, and/or inclusion of climate action implications in the budgeting process. Both recommendations have been outlined in the Plan for consideration.

Should the City choose to dedicate full time staff to the implementation of this plan, incentive programs such as BC Hydro's Energy Manager Program offers an opportunity to cover 50% of the salary (to a maximum of \$60,000) of a new hire who could develop a strategic energy management plan, secure budgets and business cases, monitor progress of the plan and identify other opportunities for grants/incentives to implement actions.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Corporate Climate Action Plan does not outline detailed costs of the plans implementation as costing would need to be determined on a case-by-case basis. It is anticipated that future budget asks will be brought forward related to the implementation of this plan, outlining implementation costs for a specific action. A number of grants and incentives related to implementation may be available to the City and are outlined in the Plan. The Plan indicates that approximately \$700,000 annually in energy costs could be saved through implementation of all actions in the Plan. This does not include costs to implement actions, however, savings could be realized long term should actions be implemented.

## **COUNCIL REPORT / RESOLUTION HISTORY**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Report Topic / Resolution</b>	<b>Resolution No.</b>
April 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	<b>Corporate Climate Action Kick Off</b>	<b>Information Only</b>
July 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	<b>Corporate Climate Action Plan Council Workshop</b>	<b>Information and Discussion</b>
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2023	<b>Corporate Climate Action Plan Draft Plan</b>	<b>Information and Discussion</b>

**Alternate Recommendation** to Consider and Resolve:

**THAT** Council postpone the endorsement of the City of West Kelowna Corporate Climate Action Plan.

Should Council postpone endorsement, direction to staff on next steps will be required.

**REVIEWED BY**

Chris Oliver, Planning Manager

Brent Magnan, Director of Development Approvals

Corinne Boback, Legislative Services Manager / Corporate Officer

Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO

**APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY**

Paul Gipps, CAO

Powerpoint: Yes  No

Attachments:

1. City of West Kelowna Corporate Climate Action Plan