

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

Staff Report to the Regional Planning Committee
Meeting of Wednesday, February 21, 2001

SUBJECT:

Proposed Regional Growth Strategy for BCs Capital Region - Review of Draft and Next Steps

BACKGROUND:

Oct. 11, 2000: Committee-of-the-Whole reviews the findings of Capital Summit 2 and recommends to the Board that staff be authorized to prepare a draft Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) on the basis of the findings.

Nov 8, 2000: The Board authorizes Regional Planning Services (RPS) to prepare a draft RGS and to circulate it to member councils for review and comment prior to the introduction of the RGS bylaw for 1st and 2nd reading.

Feb. 5, 2001: Draft RGS reviewed by members of the Inter-Municipal Planning Advisory Committee (IMPAC) RGS Working Group, along with senior staff from BC Transit, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Ministry of Transportation and Highways, CRD Environmental Services and CRD Water.

Feb. 12, 2001: Revised draft RGS presented to meeting of municipal administrators.

DISCUSSION:

Attachment A - *A Proposed Regional Growth Strategy for B.C.'s Capital Region - Draft*, expresses in specific terms, the general direction for managing growth in the Capital Region identified at Capital Summit 2 and confirmed by the Board in November 2000. The report presents eight strategic initiatives including more than 30 specific actions. It is organized to show clearly the commitments each participating jurisdiction is being asked to make, and identifies a range of targets in different areas toward which collective efforts to implement the RGS should strive.

The draft RGS before the Committee has been reviewed internally by RPS staff, by the IMPAC RGS Working Group, by senior staff of participating provincial agencies, and by CRD departments. The draft has been revised following each of these reviews. RPS staff will provide an overview of the draft RGS at the meeting. At the present time meetings to review the draft RGS have been arranged with IMPAC and the Advisory Regional Transportation Planning Committee (ARTPC) on February 23rd, and with the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC) on March 2nd. RPS intends to refer the draft RGS to the Regional Solicitor for review from a legal perspective.

In keeping with the Board's direction of November 8, 2000 to refer the draft RGS to member councils for review and comment prior to its introduction as a bylaw, the following general timeline would follow:

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Step	Tasks	Start	Finish
Committee of the Whole and Board review/approval	Resolution to publish the proposed RGS and refer to member councils participating agencies and others.	February 28	February 28
Publication & distribution	Desktop publishing the report, web-posting, printing and distribution.	March 1	March 16
Draft RGS Review Period	Review by member councils and others including through the IAC. Presentations to councils, participating agencies and others by RPS. Legal review by Regional solicitor. Collation of comments received and preparation of report to RPC and Board on comments and proposed changes.	March 19	May 23
Introduction of RGS Bylaw	Revise RGS and prepare bylaw for 1 st and 2 nd reading and public hearing. Give 1 st and 2 nd reading and hold public hearing.	May 24	June 22
Statutory Referral	Following public hearing, 120 day referral to member councils, neighbouring jurisdictions and the Minister of Municipal Affairs for review and sign-off.	July 4	October 30
Final RGS approval/ Adoption	Collate comments received from member councils and others and take back report to RPC and the Board with either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. recommendation to adopt; 2. recommendations to hold second public hearing on proposed changes to RGS; 3. recommendation to proceed to dispute resolution. 	October 29	November 28

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Regional Planning Committee recommend to the Board that the report, *A Proposed Growth Strategy for B.C.'s Capital Region*, be approved for publication and formal referral to member councils, participating agencies, First Nations councils, and neighbouring jurisdictions for discussion, review and comment.

Mark Hornell, Acting Manager
Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director
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The Proposed Regional Growth Strategy for BCs Capital Region report is located at:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/regplan/RGS/Reports/draftrgs.htm>