

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

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

SUBJECT:

Process for the Review of the Draft Regional Growth Strategy

BACKGROUND:

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.

Feb. 21, 2001: Regional Planning Committee reviews the draft RGS and recommends it's publication and release for comment to the Board.

Feb. 23, 2001: Draft RGS reviewed by joint meeting of IMPAC and the Advisory Regional Transportation Planning Committee (ARTPC) and recommends to the Board the extension of the draft RGS referral period from 2 months to 4 months (See minutes under Agenda Item 12).

Feb. 28, 2001: The Board authorizes publication and distribution of the *Proposed Regional Growth Strategy for B.C.'s Capital Region* for pre-bylaw review and comment to the end of July, 2001.

Mar. 2, 2001: Draft RGS presented to the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (IAC). Idea of holding a Council of Councils to discuss the Draft RGS proposed.

DISCUSSION:

Attachment A outlines the revised process to review the draft RGS. Key tasks scheduled for the draft review period running from mid-March to the end of July include:

- Staff presentations to councils, municipal advisory committees, participating agencies and others on the Draft RGS;

- Publication of *Foundations 10* bulletin summarizing main points of the Draft RGS along with parallel media releases;
- Review of the Draft RGS by members of the IAC;
- Legal review of the Draft RGS by the Regional Solicitor; and,
- Staff collation of comments received and preparation of reports to RPC and Board (meetings of September 19th and 26th respectively).

At the March 2nd IAC meeting Metchosin's representative suggested that as an alternative to individual council presentations, one presentation to representatives of all member councils at a Council of Councils could be made. This would have the advantage of everyone hearing the same message at the same time, and would allow councillors to share views from across the region. Comments received from the Council of Councils would not replace formal comments from each member council, but would enrich debate and discussion at the local level. Council of Councils have been used successfully in the GVRD's Liveable Region Strategic Plan process.

If the Committee and the Board endorse holding a Council of Councils, staff recommend that it take place mid-way through the draft RGS review period. This will allow sufficient time before the Council of Councils for member councils to become familiar with the draft, and permit time following to prepare final formal comments back to the Board by the end of July.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Regional Planning Committee:

1. Receive this report for information; and,
2. Direct RPS staff on whether to proceed with a Council of Councils meeting to discuss the Draft Regional Growth Strategy.

Mark Hornell, Acting Manager
Regional Planning Services

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

W.M. Jordan, Executive Director
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ATTACHMENT A

Step	Tasks	Start	Finish
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	July 20
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.	July 21	Oct. 12
Statutory Referral	Following public hearing, 120-day referral to member councils, neighbouring jurisdictions and the Minister of Municipal Affairs for review and sign-off.	Oct 15	Feb. 15, 2002
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. 	Feb. 18/02	Mar 27/02