

NO: **R220**

COUNCIL DATE: **November 18, 2019**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **November 13, 2019**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Acting General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Planning & Development**

FILE: **0512-02**

SUBJECT: **Newton Sustainability in Action Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department, Engineering Department, and Planning & Development Department recommend that Council approve the following:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan (attached as Appendix “I”) as generally described in this report.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval of the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan (“NSIA Plan”) that has been developed in collaboration with community stakeholders to fulfill the requirements of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (“FCM”) Green Municipal Fund (“GMF”) funding agreement. Council approval of this plan is a requirement of the GMF Grant program application criteria.

BACKGROUND

On May 30, 2016, Council endorsed Corporate Report No. R112; 2016 titled “Sustainability Charter 2.0 for A Thriving, Green Inclusive City” (attached as Appendix “II”) where the updated Sustainability Charter 2.0 was adopted as the overarching policy document for the City. Organized into eight interconnected themes, the Sustainability Charter 2.0 includes a long-term vision of a thriving, green, inclusive city, as well as more ambitious goals and desired outcomes for Surrey.

One of the implementation actions from this report was to prepare an application to the FCM GMF for Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (“SNAP”) funding to support a neighbourhood-level sustainability engagement and planning pilot process. The GMF finances municipal plans that support sustainable community development, including SNAPs. A SNAP is meant to build on an existing municipal sustainable community plan or strategy, such as an integrated community sustainability plan or official municipal plan that includes sustainability goals. FCM GMF funding requires Council approval of the final NSIA Plan.

On December 5, 2016, Council received Corporate Report No. R261; 2016 titled “Application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for Green Municipal Funds – Newton: Sustainability in Action Plan” (attached as Appendix “III”) and approved proceeding with a GMF application in support of this planning process. The City applied for, and successfully confirmed funding in the amount of \$40,000 from FCM in 2017. The Newton neighbourhood was identified as a strong potential area for this project because of its existing active community organizations and leaders, as well as City planning initiatives that aligned with implementation of the Sustainability Charter 2.0. The NSIA project is the second FCM SNAP project to receive funding of this kind in British Columbia and will be the first example of sustainable neighbourhood action planning that focuses a citywide sustainability plan on a specific community contained within.

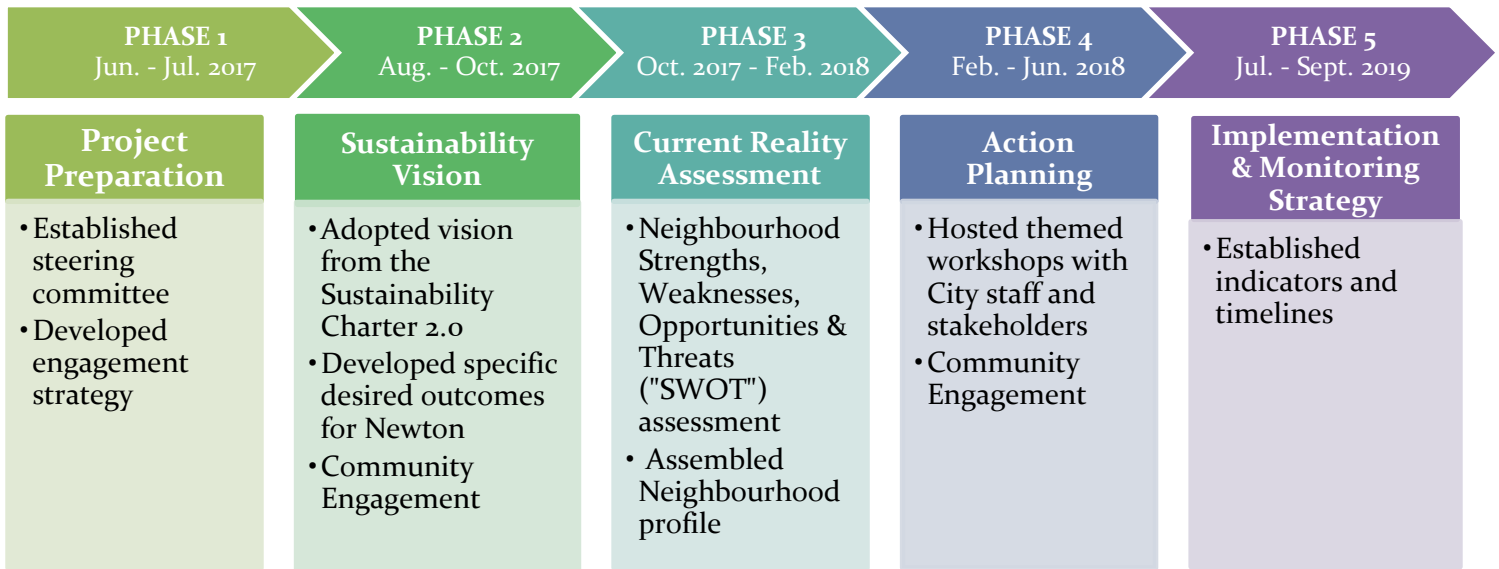
Following confirmation of FCM funding, the NSIA planning process was kicked off in the summer of 2017. A steering committee of community partners and broader stakeholders was brought together with members including: Newton Business Improvement Association (“BIA”), Fraser Health, Surrey Schools, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society, Friends of the Grove, Surrey Environmental Partners, Newton Community Association, Seeds of Change Surrey, and Kwantlen Polytechnic University (“KPU”). There was minor participation from the South Asian Business Association (“SABA”) and efforts were made to include the Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (“FRAFCA”). Broader stakeholders included Translink, Vancity, Value Group, and Options Community Services. The steering committee and stakeholders were engaged throughout the process, with meetings held 3-4 times each year. The NSIA plan was led by the City’s Sustainability Office, with additional support from many other City Departments. Also, a consultant, the Whistler Centre for Sustainability, supported the City throughout this process.

The specific boundaries of the defined ‘neighbourhood’ in this planning process were determined in conjunction with the steering committee. The initial focus was on the Newton Town Centre area surrounding the Newton Recreation Centre, but the steering committee suggested that a broader view encompassing the full extent of Newton was most appropriate. A benefit of this approach is that specific sustainability actions could be identified for different geographic sub-areas (e.g., industrial, commercial core, residential, etc.).

The goals of the NSIA planning process were to:

- Raise awareness of Surrey’s Sustainability Charter 2.0;
- Engage the Newton community in identifying the Sustainability Charter 2.0 desired outcomes and strategic directions that they felt were most important for their neighbourhood;
- Identify the strengths (including neighbourhood assets), weaknesses, opportunities and threats to create a neighbourhood profile and description of the current situation;
- Increase community social connections and social capital; and
- Identify individual and collaborative actions and projects that would engage households as well as the neighbourhood and help to meet the Charter’s goals and desired outcomes as well as FCM’s criteria noted above.

There were five phases to the NSIA planning process, as noted in Figure 1 below:



The draft NSIA Plan was then compiled and developed over the spring and summer of 2019. To achieve this, individual meetings were held with all those identified as a “lead” partner, including community stakeholders and City staff, to confirm the actions under their purview and to confirm timing and the status of resources. The NSIA Plan was finalized in fall 2019.

DISCUSSION

The NSIA Plan reflects a collaborative planning process involving the City as well as key community partners such as Fraser Health, KPU, Surrey Schools, NGOs and Newton BIA. The actions identified in the Plan bring the high-level Sustainability Charter vision and desired outcomes to a meaningful level of neighbourhood values and interests that engages residents in practical opportunities to positively impact their community.

Draft actions were gathered in the Fall of 2018 and refined over the following months; these actions are found in the NSIA Plan put forward in this report to Council. The 49 actions are organized under the Charter’s eight themes of Inclusion (7 actions), Built Environment and Neighbourhoods (6 actions), Public Safety (2 actions), Economic Prosperity and Livelihoods (4 actions), Ecosystems (8 actions), Education and Culture (6 actions), Health and Wellness (7 actions), and Infrastructure (9 actions). Actions are intended to support the community in meeting the Newton-specific Desired Outcomes that were defined under each theme during Phase 2 of the planning process.

While some of the actions developed are unique to the needs and desires of the Newton community and have been developed ‘from scratch’ (e.g. create a Nosh Out Newton event), other actions seek to apply an emphasis in Newton on activities and programs already underway in the City (e.g. promote the Live 5-2-1-0 program in Newton).

Examples of actions found under various themes in the NSIA Plan include:

- Build upon placemaking initiatives in parks, the public realm, and streetscapes;
- Develop a Newton Food Hub;
- Expand Block Watch program;

- Develop a tree planting and maintenance communications program (for both public and private trees);
- Develop and host Reconciliation events; and
- Develop a plan to address active transportation connections to transit

In addition to the NSIA Plan an implementation tracking document has been developed that includes supplementary action details on timeline, costs, FCM priority alignment, and environmental, economic and social impacts. This documented will be reviewed and updated by staff on an annual basis.

Implementation & Monitoring

NSIA Plan actions are a mix of those that will be implemented by the City and those to be implemented by community partners such as KPU, Fraser Health, Newton BIA, and Surrey Schools (SD36). Thirty-eight (38) actions position a City division taking a lead role in implementing the action, while community organizations will lead on executing 10 actions. “Support” partners are seen to play a role in the implementation of the given action, though it is anticipated that these partners may evolve over time as different organizations’ capacity and ability to participate changes.

As a result of the NSIA planning process, a new group of Newton-based community organizations called the greater Newton Action Team (“gNAT”) has formed as a means to provide a platform for collaboration on community impact by bringing together representatives of the various neighbourhoods throughout Newton and to support action implementation.

An implementation timeline has been developed where seven actions are scheduled to be begin in Q3 and Q4 of 2019, the majority of the actions (34) are anticipated to be initiated throughout 2020, with a handful remaining to launch in 2021 or later. As the NSIA planning process has spanned more than a year, it is worth noting that six actions identified in the Plan are already in progress.

The implementation tracking document, which staff will use for monitoring and tracking progress of actions, also reflects which FCM area(s) of interest intersect with each NSIA action (e.g. energy, transportation, etc.) and descriptions of the associated benefits. This will satisfy the FCM review and related requirements of the SNAP funding. Indicators have been specified for each theme of the NSIA Plan to track progress of the actions. Many of these indicators overlap and align with existing indicators found on the City’s Sustainability Dashboard (www.surrey.ca/dashboard) that are monitored and updated regularly. For some actions, new Newton-specific indicators have been suggested and incorporated into the NSIA Plan and will involve collaboration with community stakeholders to ensure appropriate evaluation methods are employed and baseline data is established. It is anticipated that additional indicators may emerge as action projects commence and desired impacts can be better articulated. Monitoring and reporting of the NSIA Plan indicators will be completed by the Sustainability Office in conjunction with future planned updates to the Sustainability Dashboard indicators.

The NSIA Plan is the first neighbourhood-level sustainability plan completed in Surrey and, as a pilot, it will be important for staff to debrief and evaluate the application and utility of this neighbourhood sustainability planning model to other areas in Surrey. Advice and input from all stakeholders who were part of this process will also be sought in this review.

It is characteristic of plans such as the NSIA Plan that addresses the needs and priorities of a large and diverse neighbourhood to expect a wide range of actions to be identified with varying timelines and availability of resources. The majority of actions in the NSIA Plan have arisen from immediate needs that are 'front and centre' for community members and can be implemented with little lead time using readily available resources. Some of the actions will require additional time to develop project plans, build relationships and confirm resources, and others are aspirational with longer time frames and subject to the availability of future resources.

FUNDING

Staff have reviewed all City-led actions to assess the potential budget implications for implementing the NSIA Plan. Of the 38 City-led actions, 23 are within planned future budgets, five are potentially eligible for external funding currently being explored and 10 will require new funding sources in the future.

Successful implementation of the NSIA Plan will require ongoing support from staff and community partners and an exploration of new funding sources to move all actions forward as the plan is implemented over time.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The work of the NSIA Plan supports the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0 by directly addressing the Charter goals and relates to all Charter themes. Specifically, this plan supports the following Desired Outcomes ("DO") and Strategic Directions ("SD"):

- Community Pride and Engagement - SD15: Work at the neighbourhood level to empower local clubs, groups, individuals and agencies to contribute to a vibrant community;
- Neighbourhoods and Urban Design – SD 4: Continue to plan and develop a transportation and mobility network (including active transportation) that supports safety, placemaking and integration of neighbourhoods;
- Community Safety and Emergency Services - DO 4: Local residents and businesses are connected and engaged with their neighbourhoods and with the broader community – including police, public safety partners and social service agencies - to enhance safety;
- Innovation - DO 16: Surrey's businesses are active participants in the community and create economic value in a way that generates value for society;
- Natural Areas, Biodiversity and Urban Forest - DO 4: Surrey residents support biodiversity conservation and are stewards of natural areas and urban forests on both public and private lands;
- Wellness and Recreation - DO 8: Residents feel a sense of belonging and connectedness, and have opportunities for social interaction in their neighbourhoods and community;
- Energy and Climate – SD 5: Work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders to lower greenhouse gases and to improve air quality; and
- Water - DO 15: All water is used efficiently, and per capita water use is decreasing year over year.

CONCLUSION

The NSIA Plan marks the conclusion of a pilot project to develop a collaborative neighbourhood-level sustainability plan in Surrey. Using an extensive range of engagement tools, the planning process allowed for the collaborative development of desired outcomes and meaningful actions at the neighborhood level. The NSIA Plan will help the City work with community partners to build a thriving, green, inclusive city. It is recommended that Council approve the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan as generally described in this report.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation & Culture

Scott Neuman, P.Eng.
Acting General Manager
Engineering

Jean Lamontagne
General Manager
Planning & Development

Appendix "I": NSIA Plan
Appendix "II": Corporate Report No. R112; 2016
Appendix "III": Corporate Report No. R261; 2016

NEWTON: SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION



Action Plan

Contents

Acknowledgements	3
Introduction	4
Engagement	6
Action Plan	8
Built Environment and Neighbourhoods	9
Economic Prosperity and Livelihoods	12
Ecosystems	14
Education and Culture	17
Health and Wellness	20
Inclusion	23
Infrastructure	26
Public Safety	29
Appendix A: Engagement Summary	31
Appendix B: City of Surrey List of Departments	32
Appendix C: Glossary of terms	33



Acknowledgements

The City of Surrey wishes to thank the following individuals for their contribution to the Newton: Sustainability in Action project:

Steering Committee members:

- Philip Aguirre
 - Korine Deol
 - Deirdre Goudriaan
 - Deb Jack
 - Ellen Pond
 - Fiona Stevenson
 - Liz Walker
 - Steve Webster
 - Tracy Blagdon
-
- Cheeying Ho, Whistler Centre for Sustainability, for designing and facilitating the process

The City gratefully thanks the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund (GMF) Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) funding for the Newton: Sustainability in Action project.



© 2019, City of Surrey. All Rights Reserved.

The preparation of this plan was carried out with assistance from the Green Municipal Fund, a Fund financed by the Government of Canada and administered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Notwithstanding this support, the views expressed are the personal views of the authors, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Government of Canada accept no responsibility for them.



Photo Credits: Newton BIA

Sustainability 2.0 CHARTER



Introduction

The City of Surrey adopted its Sustainability Charter 2.0 in 2016. This updated Charter includes an updated vision for the City that aligns with the vision in the Official Community Plan, goals and desired outcomes for each of eight community systems, and strategic directions that will guide priority actions for focus.

As the Sustainability Charter 2.0 represents a vision for the community, the City wished to more deeply engage residents to identify and implement initiatives that would meet the goals and desired outcomes articulated in the Charter. The City applied for, and received, funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) program to undertake a neighbourhood engagement project that would result in a sustainable neighbourhood action plan. The Newton neighbourhood was identified as a strong neighbourhood for this project because of its existing active community organizations and leaders, as well as current City planning initiatives that would align with implementation of the Charter. Newton: Sustainability in Action (NSIA) was selected as the neighbourhood project.

This plan addresses the FCM requirements of delivering social, environmental and economic impacts, and addressing FCM's priorities of land use, transportation, planning, waste and water management, and energy use. The plan includes indicators for each of the actions, and targets where appropriate.

The NSIA action plan aligns with other higher level City plans, including the Sustainability Charter (structured by the same themes and goals, but describes Newton-specific desired outcomes). It supports goals and policies of the City's Official Community Plan, the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, and the Community Climate Action Plan, and integrates a number of the actions identified in the EcoNewton process, a project led by Kwantlen Polytechnic University to identify actions to support greater environmental sustainability in a Newton business area.

While the NSIA action plan was created by stakeholders, the community and the Steering Committee over the course of two years, it is the intent that the plan is iterative, and all residents and community organizations are invited to participate in one of the identified actions, or to identify a new action to implement.

PROJECT GOALS

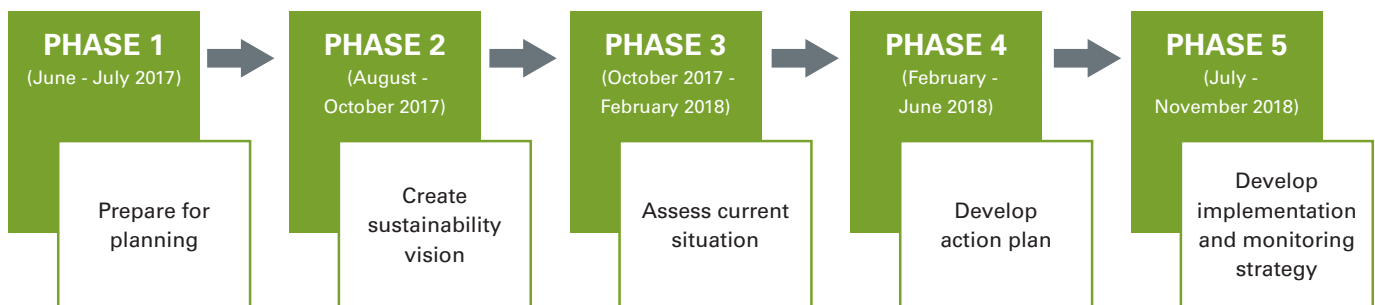
The goals of the Newton: Sustainability in Action project were to:

- Raise awareness of Surrey's Sustainability Charter 2.0
- Engage Surrey's residents, in Newton and beyond, in identifying and implementing actions that help meet the Charter's goals and desired outcomes
- Increase community social connections and social capital

PROCESS

Newton: Sustainability in Action was organized into five phases:

1. Prepare for planning
2. Create sustainability vision (goals and desired outcomes)
3. Assess current situation
4. Develop action plan
5. Develop implementation and monitoring strategy



Engagement

The development of the action plan involved engagement with stakeholders and the Newton community. A Steering Committee guided the development and delivery of the project over two years. Community engagement activities took place in Phase 2 (creation of the sustainability vision) and Phase 4 (development of action plan), and included:

- ✓ Community event at a Newton Day celebration at The Grove
- ✓ City Speaks online survey
- ✓ I Love Newton walls
- ✓ Pop-up conversation stations
- ✓ Stakeholder action planning meetings
- ✓ Kwantlen Polytechnic University student engagement
- ✓ City Transportation Forum
- ✓ City staff implementation meetings

The action ideas generated from the public and stakeholders were provided to City staff and other stakeholder led organizations, who reviewed, refined and confirmed the actions.

The Engagement Summary report is attached as Appendix A.



KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY (KPU) ENGAGEMENT, STRAWBERRY HILL LIBRARY

We worked with one of the Steering Committee members, a Policy Studies instructor at KPU, to engage her students in this project. Five of the students participated as part of their class project assignment by hosting an I Love Newton Wall at two locations on the KPU campus and hosting a pop-up station at Strawberry Hill library. Participants were asked to indicate their favourite places in Newton with a sticker and add comments on what they love and what they would like to see in the neighbourhood. 85 comments and 41 stickers were filled out at the student lounge wall, 24 comments and 25 stickers were filled out at the campus library, and 33 comments were collected at the Strawberry Hill Library.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Steering Committee members represented key organizations in the Newton community and provided guidance and advice over the course of the project. Steering Committee members were:

Philip Aguirre	Newton BIA
Korine Deol	Fraser Health Authority
Deirdre Goudriaan	Seeds of Change Surrey
Deb Jack	Surrey Environmental Partners
Ellen Pond	Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Fiona Stevenson	DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society
Liz Walker	Newton Community Association
Steve Webster	The PLOT Community Garden
Tracy Blagdon	Surrey Schools

CITY OF SURREY STAFF

The Steering Committee was coordinated by the City's Sustainability Office: Anna Mathewson (Manager, Sustainability), Erin Desautels (Sustainability Planner) and Tjasa Demsar (Project Management Assistant).

City staff from Engineering, Parks, Recreation and Culture, and Planning and Development also participated on the Steering Committee to provide ongoing direction and support. Many of the actions were recommended to City of Surrey departments, and the relevant departments and divisions are listed in the Action Plan. The City's list of departments is provided in Appendix B for reference.

Appendix C is a glossary of terms used in this document.





How the Action Plan is Organized

The NSIA action plan is organized by the eight themes of the Surrey Sustainability Charter. Each theme includes:

- the community goal from the Sustainability Charter;
- desired outcomes specific to Newton;
- a description of the current reality related to that theme (strengths and weaknesses and a brief neighbourhood summary – compiled from Census 2016 data and input from the online CitySpeaks survey);
- the list of identified actions and responsibilities that will further Newton's progress as part of a thriving, green and inclusive Surrey; and
- the relevant indicators to measure progress. Indicators marked with a " *" are ones that are currently being monitored on the **Surrey Sustainability Dashboard** (surrey.ca/dashboard).



BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

GOAL

A beautiful, accessible and well-connected city of distinct and complete neighbourhoods that are walkable, engaging and resilient.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Newton is a walkable community with a complete bicycle path network, making access and proximity to important amenities easy and enjoyable for people to get around without cars.
- Plenty of parks and trees are found throughout all neighbourhoods.
- A clean, safe, and fun town square creates an important gathering place for the community.
- Neighbourhoods within Newton are unique and diverse.
- Buildings are more energy efficient and sustainable.
- The Newton Town Centre supports a higher density of residents.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- A higher proportion of Newton residents (74%) live in a more land-efficient style of housing such as a row-house or low-rise apartment than residents in the city of Surrey as a whole or in the Vancouver CMA (Census Metropolitan Area).
- Like residents of the rest of Surrey, about 63% of Newton residents feel they have amenities within walking distance; however, only 48% of Newton residents feel they see a lot of people walking or biking.
- While there are hubs of walkability in Newton such as Newton Town Centre (according to local walk scores), there is little consistency across the community.
- Surrey residents' greenhouse gas emissions totaled 2.5 million tonnes in 2012, with 30% of those emissions from buildings and 65% from transportation and getting around.
- Modelling estimates show that the greatest source of building emissions are from buildings to the west of King George Boulevard.

Strengths: There is a diversity of housing in Newton. The Town Centre is well-defined, and there is available land for revitalization.

Challenges: Residents feel there is a lack of connectedness within the community, including a lack of spaces for social connections, sidewalks and accessibility to transit. There are abandoned/vacant industrial buildings that could be re-purposed or re-developed.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1a	Build upon placemaking initiatives – in parks	Implement and build upon current City of Surrey PRC (Parks, Recreation & Culture) placemaking initiatives, planning and design of spaces/ amenities, and public art in parks in Newton.	PRC: Parks (Parks Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Parks Development Services) • PRC: Culture (Public Art and Heritage Services) • Fraser Health • Newton BIA • KPU
1b	Build upon placemaking initiatives - in public realm and streetscape	Identify areas for expanding and building upon existing placemaking initiatives in Newton.	PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Culture (Cultural Services) • Newton BIA • KPU
2a	Increase the total number and area of public green spaces and maintain, enhance, or steward public green assets	Identify spaces to increase green assets such as pocket parks, more trees, beautification, rain gardens, raised gardens, planting events. Consider “green keeping” to ensure maintenance of green assets (e.g. “The Plot”).	PRC: Parks (Parks Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Parks Development Services) • PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry) • PRC: Parks (Park Partnerships) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment) • Fraser Health • Surrey Schools • Newton BIA
2b	Encourage an increase and maintenance of private green spaces and assets	Work with property owners to identify spaces to increase green assets such as outdoor amenity space, trees and rain gardens.	P&D: Buildings (Trees & Landscape)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Area Planning (South) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment)
3	Increase greening in Newton Town Centre development	Develop a plan to include the enhancement of greenspace, parks and green infrastructure in Newton Town Centre. Plan Newton Town Centre public open space to highest level of ecological standards.	PRC: Parks (Parks Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Community Planning, and Buildings (Trees & Landscape) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment) • PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)
4	Reduce building energy use and GHG emissions	Explore opportunities to reduce GHG emissions in buildings. This will primarily be achieved through new building design (e.g. citywide application of the BC Energy Step Code including consideration of onsite renewables, future district energy opportunities, etc.) and for existing buildings through retrofits and behavior change programs. Promote energy efficiency programs such as through utilities.	Sustainability Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (District Energy) • P&D: Building • BC Hydro • Fortis BC



INDICATORS

- Number of Neighbourhood Enhancement Grants*
- Number of Community Event and Grant Applications*
- Number of City Cultural Grants*
- Number of shade trees planted on public property*
- Hectares of parkland by type*
- Number of city volunteers*
- Tree canopy coverage*
- Community greenhouse gas emissions*
- Please add to each Indicators page:

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND LIVELIHOODS

GOAL

Continued prosperity and thriving livelihoods and a strong, equitable and diverse economy.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Newton provides many opportunities for employment, including for those residents certified in other countries.
- Many businesses choose to locate in Newton.
- Everyone is able to earn a living wage.
- Diverse and integrated food production opportunities exist within the community.
- Newton is known for fostering clean-tech innovation and businesses that integrate sustainable practices.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- Newton hosts 46,500 jobs or just over 25% of all the jobs in Surrey, and 32% of the industrial jobs in the city; industrial land area is an essential land base for these jobs.
- While median household (all types) incomes are about the same as other regions in the Lower Mainland, median family (those related by blood or marriage) incomes tend to trail the incomes in other areas of Surrey and Vancouver CMA.
- Despite higher educational attainment level, a higher proportion of immigrants and recent immigrants compared to Canadian-born residents (2011) were unemployed, earning less income and were more likely in a low income category.
- Within Newton 26% of the land base is in food production but missing from the area are farmers' markets and u-pick farm areas.

Strengths: The Newton Business Improvement Association is widely perceived to be a major asset for the neighbourhood. Other assets include good transportation access to major highway corridors, the large number of businesses, employers, retail stores and services, and South Asian cultural shopping area.

Challenges: A lack of positive Newton branding is a challenge for the community, as is the existing poverty and the perception of both crime and a lack of safety. There are currently no major hotels in the community, and few restaurants and retail within a comfortable active transportation (walking/cycling) distance.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Promote vacant business space in Newton	Promote and utilize Invest Surrey Site Selector Tool to promote vacant space in Newton.	Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Marketing • Newton BIA
2	Enhance the identity of Newton through the creation of placemaking themes	Engage residents and local businesses to define Newton characteristics that will influence placemaking projects to draw community together, and attract visitors, customers and investors.	PRC: Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development • P&D: Community Planning • PRC: Culture • PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement) • Newton BIA • Surrey Libraries
3	Develop educational materials and support for greener business practices	Develop resources for businesses on how to reduce waste, water and energy use. Materials could include how-to guides, templates and tools on corporate sustainability and self-audit tool, case studies, green building retrofit and energy audit guide and self-audit checklist or tool.	Sustainability Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (Water) • Engineering: Operations (Solid Waste) • Newton BIA
4	Further develop and support an Industrial Symbiosis Program	An industrial symbiosis program helps businesses identify value-added opportunities for their waste products, whether as feedstocks for existing businesses or as part of a new product. A NISP (National Industrial Symbiosis Program) program has launched in Canada via Lighthouse; workshop was held in Surrey in early 2018 and second workshop held January 2019.	Engineering: Operations (Solid Waste)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Office • Economic Development • Newton BIA

INDICATORS

- Businesses by sector*
- Availability of employment*
- Community greenhouse gas emissions*
- Community waste*

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



ECOSYSTEMS

GOAL

Healthy, protected and well-maintained ecosystems and biodiversity.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Urban forests and wildlife corridors, including riparian areas, rivers, and watercourses, are lush and healthy.
- Stewardship programs and activities educate residents, and get them outdoors more.
- Public and private lands contribute to the urban forest, and the tree canopy is restored.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- Compared to other neighbourhoods in Surrey and Lower Mainland jurisdictions, residents of Newton are less likely to say they have “many attractive natural sites around.”
- Mapping visualizations show that despite 60 parks in the Newton community, there are very few in the Newton Town Centre.
- There is very little ‘high quality’ habitat with large continuous landmasses in the area, especially in the Newton Town Centre.
- One quarter of Newton is in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

Strengths: Newton residents value the natural assets in the area, including the variety of natural spaces and park areas such as The Grove and the Newton Pond.

Challenges: Challenges in the neighbourhood include protection of the agricultural lands, the increasing footprint of new homes and paving-over of existing private yards, and subsequent increased impermeability of the land, and the need for greater connectivity between parks, as well as more parks in general.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Fully implement Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BCS)	Review the BCS and identify the needs for action in Newton.	PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Realty Services • PRC: Parks (Parks Development Services) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment) • PRC: Parks (Parks Planning) • P&D: Area Planning
2	Enhance SNAP (Surrey's Natural Areas Partnership) Program	Increase SNAP's presence in Newton by prioritizing tree care and outreach teams' initiatives.	PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry) & Green Timbers Heritage Society	
3	Develop inventory of ecosystem services (pilot projects)	In conjunction with the inventory, investigate options to evaluate natural capital value of green infrastructure; promote greening of infrastructure to maximize biodiversity over time; educate the public and elected officials on ecosystem value.	Engineering: Utilities (Environment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (Drainage) • P&D: Community Planning (GIS) • PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)
4a	Develop a tree planting and maintenance communications program (public land)	Develop a communication plan related to care of public trees (watering, pruning). Pursue opportunities to remove impervious surfaces (e.g. on boulevards) and plant more trees.	PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Buildings (Trees and Landscapes) • KPU • PICS • SEP
4b	Develop a tree planting and maintenance incentive program (private land)	Expand incentive program for residents to plant trees on private property. Create private property tree maintenance resources.	P&D Buildings (Trees and Landscapes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry) • KPU • PICS • SEP
5	Create a Watershed and Stream Awareness Education Campaign	Adapt the SaM program for Newton and educate businesses about the area's Integrated Stormwater Management Plan (ISMP), Surrey's bylaws, and best practices. Develop and distribute educational materials. Partner with clean tech businesses to implement.	Engineering: Utilities (Environment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (Drainage) • Newton BIA
6	Develop a Parks Stewardship Program for Schools	Develop programs to involve schools in environmental stewardship of nearby parks in Newton.	PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD 36



7	Reclaim public boulevards with plantings and trees	<p>Identify areas/streets for projects. Provide space to plant trees. Involve residents in reclaiming boulevard space for pocket rain gardens, tree plantings, edible landscaping, etc., including an education and awareness campaign to change attitudes. The City can consider implementing a utility fee adjustment for those who have paved a boulevard. Create a fun street-by-street program and implement a pilot program as a competition.</p>	<p>PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Landscape Operations and Park Partnerships) • P&D: Building (Trees and Landscapes) • Engineering: Utilities (Drainage) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment) • Engineering: Transportation (Transportation Planning) • Newton BIA • Friends of the Grove • Fraser Health • KPU • Seeds of Change Surrey
---	---	---	--

INDICATORS

- Green Infrastructure Network parkland protected*
- Participation in environmental programs*
- Tree canopy coverage*
- Shade trees planted on private property
- Water quality in streams*
- Number of schools participating in environmental stewardship programs

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



EDUCATION AND CULTURE

GOAL

Access to diverse, high quality learning opportunities, and vibrant arts, heritage and cultural experiences for all Surrey residents.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Expanded learning infrastructure and programs are available in Newton including multi-language courses, extra-curricular activities, schools, libraries, and life-long learning opportunities.
- Arts and culture experiences, including multi-cultural, inter-cultural, and Indigenous events, are widely accessible.
- Public art, community spaces, and festivals are abundant throughout the community.
- Newton has a distinct identity and brand.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- Newton residents (excluding Panorama Ridge residents) are less likely to have attained a higher education level compared to other areas of Surrey and the Vancouver CMA.
- The Surrey School District has approximately 68,000 students in 125 schools and is in great need of additional schools to match the student-aged population and expected growth.
- A total of eleven public art pieces are located in Newton in parks, facilities and along streets.
- There are a number of prime heritage sites in Newton as well as a number of neighbourhood projects where neighbours and family create interesting, fun and beautiful outdoor spaces and streets, and host block parties, street celebrations or local events.

Strengths: Newton is home to early years through to post-secondary educational institutions, including Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU), which offers a tremendous amount of open access learning. School leadership groups, strong faith communities, and two community libraries are also strengths for Newton.

Challenges: A growing younger population is creating a shortage of school space, and there is a need for a greater number and variety of activities for youth and kids. There is a lack of integration of cultural diversity. There is a need for more education about Newton's heritage.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Create a World Literature Hub	Develop and implement a strategy to raise awareness about Newton Library's existing multicultural collections, programs and services and explore new ideas to increase uptake.	Surrey Libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Culture • Sustainability Office • MOSAIC • Options • DIVERSEcity • KPU • SFU • Surrey International Writers' Conference • Arts Council of Surrey
2	Review City's existing integrated sustainability education opportunities	Working with the program delivery contractor, review and enhance sustainability educational programs (elementary, high school, ELL) to improve environmental awareness and action about natural resources, including information on water, waste, energy. Assess the need for additional educational outreach within Newton.	Sustainability Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (Water) • Engineering: Operations (Solid Waste) • SD 36 • Settlement services organizations
3	Develop collaborative community arts and heritage programming	Working with local community stakeholders and partners, envision, develop and implement collaborative arts and heritage programs in Newton. This may include arts outreach activities, pop-up art projects, place-naming initiatives, public art, heritage and community enhancement features.	PRC: Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement)
4	Create a Newton event series	Create and deliver a series of branded cultural events at various places, in various forms, connecting people and places in Newton, highlighting its uniqueness and character. Start with alley activations.	Newton BIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement) • Fraser Health (Healthier Communities Partnership) • SD36 • Post-secondary institutions • Arts Council of Surrey • Youth Arts Council of Surrey
5	Develop a strategic plan for enhanced arts and culture infrastructure	Develop a strategic plan to enhance existing and provide additional arts and culture infrastructure. This can be done by, for example, reviewing City's density bonus program; conducting a cultural inventory study; creating terms of reference for granting amenity space and contribution agreements/terms of reference.	PRC: Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Community Planning • Surrey Libraries
6	Create opportunities for lifelong learning	Work with educators and administrators to achieve mutually beneficial goals of creating opportunities for access to lifelong learning for local residents.	KPU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrey Libraries • SD 36



INDICATORS

- Number of City Cultural Grants*
- Number of arts and culture groups*
- Participation in City programs*
- Number of new arts, culture and heritage programs
- Number of Community Enhancement grants in Newton*
- Number of community events and grant applications*
- Facilities that offer City Programs*
- Post-secondary certification*

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

GOAL

A community in which all residents are healthy, active and connected.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Newton offers a variety of activities, events, and programs that connect people.
- Sports programs, facilities, and events are affordable to all.
- Healthy local food and community gardens are available throughout the community.
- All residents have access to mental health support and health care providers.
- Convenient access to parks and nature promotes health and well-being.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

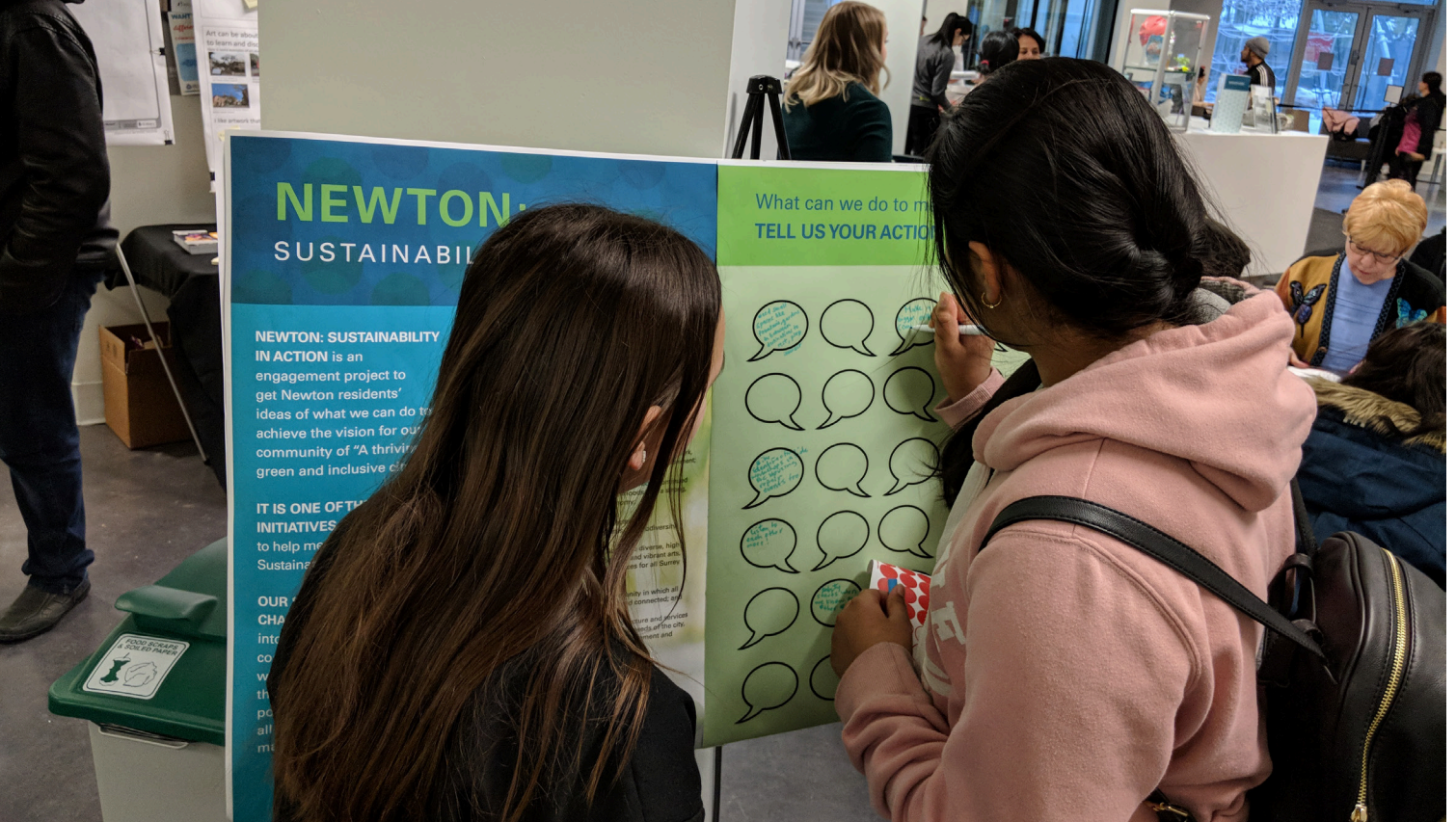
- The Surrey School District population is ranked 22nd out of 57 in the province on a social wellbeing index rating system. The ranking placement was driven by higher economic hardship and crime results (2012 BC Stats report).
- Newton residents' healthy behaviours around 'fruit and vegetable consumption' and 'smoking' are worse off than the Metro area average. Residents also rate their overall health as lower than the region average.
- 91% of Newton residents feel they have adequate access to healthy and safe food, but they generally feel less food secure than other neighbourhoods in Surrey due to financial constraints.
- The Fraser Health Region, Surrey and specifically Newton have proportionally higher rates of the population identifying as South Asian when compared to the rest of the province. South Asian seniors (65 years of age and over) were significantly less likely to report excellent or very good health and mental health.
- Newton recreation facilities include two outdoor pools, one major indoor recreation facility, a seniors' centre and an aging ice arena.

Strengths: Newton has a number of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and services such as the Recreation Centre and Wave Pool, sports fields/courts, playgrounds/trails, and the stand-alone Seniors' Centre, that are closely co-located and accessible by everyone. There are also great outreach programs and services. Newton is home to more than 60 parks.

Challenges: There remain challenges in accepting and dealing with, as well as providing adequate support services for, people with mental health issues, addictions and homelessness.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Create an outdoor park in Newton Town Centre	Identify location for new park and include in Newton Town Centre Plan.	PRC: Parks (Parks Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Community Planning • Fraser Health
2	Develop a Newton Food Hub	Establish a Food Hub in Newton that will provide food-related employment and job skills opportunities and services for low-income and vulnerable residents.	Seeds of Change Surrey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Community and Recreation (Healthy Communities) • Sustainability Office • DIVERSEcity • Sources
3	Create a Recipe Share program	Develop a program or mechanism for trading community recipes to promote healthy cooking and eating, fostering cultural exchanges, raising awareness of environmental impact of food, exploring alternatives to meat.	Fraser Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Community Planning • South Asian Health Institute • DIVERSEcity
4	Develop a physical activity event days calendar	Develop a calendar of physical activity event days, organize and promote. Event days could include inviting the community to a local park, school or recreation centre and encourage biking, walking; relay races; quick easy sports; use of play boxes; multicultural playbook; incorporation of games/ activities that reflect the community.	PRC: Community and Recreation (Newton Recreation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Community and Recreation (Healthy Communities) • PRC: Parks (Landscape Operations & Park Partnerships) • Fraser Health (Healthier Communities Partnership) • SD36
5	Enhance the Leisure Access Pass Program	Promote awareness and reduce barriers to participation for the Leisure Access Pass Program. Work with the Newton community, City staff and partner organizations to streamline access and ensure all low-income Surrey families have the opportunity to participate in PRC programs.	PRC: Community and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Marketing • PRC: Community and Recreation (Healthy Communities) • PRC: Community and Recreation (Newton Recreation) • Settlement services organizations
6	Promote Live 5-2-1-0 in Newton	Promote program resources and information by exploring options for reaching more Newton residents (e.g. translation of offline materials into other languages, development of a multicultural games playbook to add to play boxes).	PRC: Community and Recreation (Healthy Communities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Landscape Operations & Park Partnerships) • PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement) • MOSAIC • Options • DIVERSEcity • FRAFCA



7	<p>Increase greening of industrial and commercial lands through beautification</p>	<p>Create information package to let manufacturing/ industrial businesses know of resources available that can be used for beautification projects that increase greenery. Build interest and capacity of the industrial community of Newton to beautify and green their lands for the benefit of employees and the community.</p>	<p>PRC: Parks (Community Enhancement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Office • Newton BIA
---	---	--	---	---

INDICATORS

- Total parkland area*
- Businesses by sector*
- Median income for immigrants*
- Number of residents engaged in program*
- Participation in City programs*
- Number of clients in programs
- Number of community enhancement grants*

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



INCLUSION

GOAL

A caring community that encourages a sense of belonging and access to opportunity for all Surrey residents to realize their full potential.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Newton is a welcoming place, and is felt by residents and visitors to be safe and clean.
- More safe, accessible, and communal places are available for people to grow close to family and friends.
- More diverse festivals, arts, events, and food choices are available and accessible to everyone.
- Newton welcomes people of all cultures and religions.
- There is a better understanding of Indigenous cultures through Indigenous-focused art and activities, and through Reconciliation.
- There is equal opportunity for everyone to access the programs, support, and information they need.
- Everyone has access to affordable housing, and there is less homelessness.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- There is a higher prevalence of low incomes impacting children/youth than in Vancouver CMA.
- Low income and housing needs impact the Indigenous and recent immigrant communities at a greater rate than others.
- Housing affordability for Newton residents who own their property is generally worse than in the regional average, but slightly better than average for those residents who rent.
- Of Newton households, 6,300, or 19%, are in core housing need. A core housing need is based on a definition from the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and means that the current home requires major repairs, is unaffordable, unsuitable or inadequate, and that the household income levels do not allow for alternative suitable or adequate housing in the community..
- Measures of community connections and socio-economic indicators (such as income and education levels) in Newton score less favourably than all of Surrey and Metro Vancouver.
- Central and northern Newton indicators of social, economic and community wellbeing tend to score less favourably than the Panorama Ridge area.

Strengths: Newton is a diverse, multicultural neighbourhood, with a strong South Asian community and urban Indigenous population. Neighbourhood assets such as the Plot, the Grove, community gardens, the Seniors' Centre and the Vaisakhi Parade help to make the community unique.

Challenges: Despite the diversity, there is a lack of integration and interaction between different community and cultural groups. Some members of the community such as single parents and senior women experience social isolation, and youth find that there is a lack of appropriate opportunities for them to gather, recreate or entertain in evening hours.

A new group—the gNAT (greater Newton Action Team)—has been created as a result of the NSIA process. The gNAT is a coalition of representatives from community associations in Newton, with a purpose of providing an outlet for coordinating community impact and a voice for Newton residents. The Newton BIA will play a facilitating role to get this new group up and running.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Promote use and access to Newton-specific information	Look for opportunities to include more Newton-specific content on the MySurrey app and City of Surrey website to increase awareness of community services and events; determine mechanisms to increase Newton resident use of the app and website.	PRC: Marketing (Web Team)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT PRC: Community and Recreation (Newton Recreation)
2	Create a Nosh Out Newton event	Create an educational food and cultural exchange experience at a local neighbourhood or promote to local restaurants and community groups to lead. Open to all. Could tie into self-employment programming.	DIVERSEcity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability Office Newton BIA Seeds of Change Surrey
3	Develop and host Reconciliation events	Develop an event or events to raise awareness of Reconciliation in Newton, for example, Orange Shirt Day, film fest, speakers, public art by Indigenous artists, National Indigenous Peoples Day. Explore alignment with KPU Pow Wow.	DIVERSEcity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRC: Culture P&D: Community Planning (Social Planning) PRC: Community and Recreation (Healthy Communities) KPU SD 36 FRAFCA
4	Develop a Community Space Inventory and booking system	Develop an online inventory for community partners to itemize, identify and book spaces for programming (e.g. schools, amenity rooms, church, temple, stores, BIA, strata management).	PRC: Community and Recreation	
5	Better connect youth with community	Organize a meeting between youth services providers to identify better ways to coordinate services and events and centralize their promotions. Develop a shared calendar. This may be more appropriate at a City-wide level given the number of meetings that social service organizations participate in.	Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&D: Community Planning PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry) PRC: Community and Recreation Surrey Leadership Youth Council Surrey Libraries SD 36 Surrey Youth Sustainability Network
6	Offer language programs	Offer programming and a space to learn Punjabi, Hindi and Indigenous languages. Highlight Surrey Libraries' existing language-learning resources, such as dual-language books, newspapers, databases and computer classes.	Not yet confirmed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRC: Culture Surrey Libraries
7	Organize an annual meeting of Newton-serving organizations	Organize an annual meeting that invites all Newton-serving organizations to determine how to share information about activities to better serve Newton's needs. Use this meeting as a check-in opportunity for the NSIA Steering Committee.	Newton BIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> P&D: Community Planning (Social Planning) DIVERSEcity KPU



INDICATORS

- Online registration for City programs*
- Participation in City programs*
- MySurrey app usage
- Number of people engaged at events
- Number of arts and culture groups*
- Number of events held

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL

Effective infrastructure and services that meet the current and future needs of the city, while protecting the natural environment and supporting urban growth.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Consistent, connected, frequent, and affordable transit encourages and enables Newton residents to use public transportation more readily.
- Accessible transportation options exist and are utilized by those who experience barriers to mobility.
- Safer sidewalks and bicycle infrastructure throughout the community encourage more active transportation.
- Water is clean and abundant, and is used efficiently by residents and organizations.
- Newton residents consciously reduce their waste and dispose of it responsibly.
- Natural areas have priority for protection.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- Like residents of the rest of Surrey, about 63% of Newton residents feel they have amenities within walking distance; however only 48% of Newton residents feel they see a lot of people walking or biking.
- A greater percentage of Newton residents, compared to residents of other Surrey neighbourhoods, live within a 5 minute walk to transit.
- Newton residents are more likely than regional residents to commute by car to work and for errands.
- Of Newton commuters, 30% commute longer than 45 minutes to work.
- Surrey residents' greenhouse gas emissions (including from transportation) amount to 5.36 tonnes/person for a total of 2.5 million tonnes in 2012. Of those emissions about 30% are from buildings and 65% are from transportation and getting around.
- As of 2016, Surrey residents are diverting 75% of solid waste from the landfill.

Strengths: Access to major transportation corridors, public transit routes and bus loops is good in Newton. Surrey has been recognized with awards for its green buildings and district energy system.

Challenges: Major arterial roads through the community create a physical division between neighbourhoods, as well as challenges for walking and cycling. There is a high reliance on cars for transportation.

ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Reduce parking minimums in Newton developments	Reduce parking minimums in multi-unit residential buildings in areas adjacent to frequent transit in the Newton Town Centre planning area.	Engineering: Transportation (Parking Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P&D: Area Planning (South)
2	Implement real-time bus information with rapid transit	Explore infrastructure upgrades to the 96 B-Line when upgraded to Rapid Bus status.	Translink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Transportation (Transportation Planning)
3	Develop and implement multi-functional street and parking design guidelines	Review existing street and engineering design criteria to ensure they include green features and all ages and abilities multi-modal elements – applied through development applications. Develop street design guidelines that include multi-modal connectivity and green infrastructure for Newton Town Centre (NTC). Develop custom cross-sections for the NTC plan.	Engineering: Transportation (Transportation Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Utilities (Drainage) • P&D: Community Planning • Fraser Health
4	Develop strategic walking and cycling network	<p>Determine most common routes and destinations for walking and cycling around Newton in order to prioritize routes for better infrastructure.</p> <p>Identify cycling routes as part of the Newton Town Centre Plan Update.</p> <p>Develop Strategic All Ages and Abilities Cycling Network as part of Transportation Strategic Plan Update.</p>	Engineering: Transportation (Transportation Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SD 36 • BEST
5	Explore a heritage rail connection in Newton	Staff will help to facilitate discussions between Southern Rail and Fraser Valley Heritage Rail as they work towards the opportunity of connecting the heritage rail with rapid transit at Newton/King George Boulevard, identifying a location for a potential future station, and ensuring the option for implementation can be protected through future development.	Engineering: Transportation (Transportation Planning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Culture • Fraser Valley Heritage Rail • Southern Railway of BC
6	Expand car share in Newton	Expand the current carshare program into Newton and promote.	Modo and other car share providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering: Transportation (Parking Services)
7	Increase pervious surfaces to improve stormwater management	Implement green infrastructure, source controls, and best management practices for stormwater management of new and re-development areas according to local watershed ISMP or NCP stormwater management strategy.	Engineering: Utilities (Drainage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC: Parks (Urban Forestry) • Engineering: Utilities (Environment)
8	Develop a 'Water, A Valuable and Scarce Resource' program	As part of city-wide initiatives, engage major City facilities in Newton to work together to reduce water consumption. Include water conservation awareness materials and highlight the City's conservation actions as an inspiration for community actions.	Engineering: Utilities (Water)	



INDICATORS

- Mode of travel to work*
- Community greenhouse gas emissions*
- Kilometers of active transportation infrastructure*
- Proximity to amenities*
- Green Infrastructure Network parkland protected*
- Hectares of Parkland*
- Water quality in streams*
- Number of users engaged in water education programs
- Number of buildings engaged in water programs

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).



PUBLIC SAFETY

GOAL

A city in which all people live, work, learn and play in a safe and engaging environment.

DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR NEWTON

- Newton is a vibrant, clean, safe, and friendly community.
- Ample police services, community programs, and people on the street help to create a welcoming neighbourhood.
- Public perception of Newton is improved.
- Supports and services are in place to mitigate and reduce gang and drug problems.
- Newton's green infrastructure help promote feelings of safety and well-being.
- Newton is well-prepared for climate change and is resilient to major disasters and emergencies.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT REALITY

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUMMARY:

- All categories of crime (violent, property and other) in Newton decreased from 2013-2017, especially property crime, which fell from a high in 2014 of 10,111 reported offences to 6,657 in 2017. Crime rates per 1,000 community members are generally slightly lower than the average Surrey rates and are as follows: violent crime 11, property crime 47, other 12. (Crime data for District 3 - Newton)
- Residents of Newton (excluding Panorama Ridge residents) feel less safe walking after dark compared to residents living in Surrey as a whole and the Metro Vancouver area.
- Newton residents indicated a low preparedness for emergency situations with only 25% having emergency supplies for 3 or more days.

Strengths: City of Surrey has made great efforts at improving public safety, and the community is engaged in improving safety. There are increased numbers of patrols and police officers.

Challenges: There is still a perception of significant crime and a lack of safety and security in the community, especially after dark. Frequent turnover of RCMP staff is a concern for residents, as is the need for a better connection between residents and the RCMP.



ACTIONS

#	Name	Description	Lead	Support
1	Expand BlockWatch	Translate BlockWatch materials into different languages to make participation accessible to more residents of Newton.	RCMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social service agencies
2	Increase safety and security in parks during the day	Increase safety and security in parks through various park design features, without compromising the integrity of the ecosystems and natural habitats within the parks.	PRC: Parks (Parks Planning and Design)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRC: Parks (Park Development Services) Fraser Health Surrey Crime Prevention

INDICATORS

- Residential break and enter rate*
- Crime rate*
- Number of bike thefts
- Percentage of stolen bikes returned to owners

* refers to indicators that are currently being monitored on the Surrey Sustainability Dashboard (surrey.ca/dashboard).

Appendix A: Engagement Summary

Appendix B: City of Surrey List of Departments

CITY DEPARTMENTS:

- City Manager's Office
- Engineering (includes Design and Construction; Land Development; Operations; Realty; Transportation; Utilities)
- Finance
- Fire Service
- Corporate Services (includes Information Technology (IT), Bylaws)
- Planning and Development (P&D; includes Area Planning and Development; Building; Civic Facilities; Community Planning)
- Public Safety
- Parks, Recreation and Culture (PRC; includes Parks, Community and Recreation Services; Culture; Marketing, Communications, and Web Team). Sustainability Office is currently embedded within this department.
- Investment and Intergovernmental Relations (includes Economic Development)

The City also governs and is responsible for these two public entities:

- Surrey RCMP
- Surrey Libraries

Appendix C: Glossary of terms

BEST: Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting more sustainable transportation and alternatives to the private automobile.

BCS: Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, adopted in 2014, recognizes Surrey's biodiversity as a key foundation of a healthy, livable and sustainable City. The goal of the Strategy is to preserve, protect and enhance Surrey's biodiversity in the long-term.

CMA: Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a core; must have a total population of at least 100,000, of which 50,000 or more live in the core.

DIVERSEcity: DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society is a registered not-for-profit agency offering a wide range of services and programs, with a focus on supporting refugees and new immigrants.

DCC: Development Cost Charges are used to fund the costs to provide road, drainage, water and sewer services for the projected growth in population that's expected to occur within the next 10 years, as outlined in the City's 10-Year Servicing Plan.

EcoNewton: An initiative established in 2015 to transform the West Newton Industrial Area into a hub for clean technology.

FRAFCA: Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association.

GHG: Greenhouse gases.

GIS: Geographic Information Systems.

The Grove: A forested area in Newton that hosts a number of community events. The Friends of the Grove is a group of Newton neighbours that has animated the area and advocates for its protection.

KPU: Kwantlen Polytechnic University, offering a range of degree, diploma, certificate and citation programs.

MOSAIC: A registered charity serving immigrant, newcomer and refugee communities in Greater Vancouver for the past 40 years.

Newton BIA: The Newton Business Improvement Association, a group of property and business owners who are passionate about improving the opportunities for businesses in the Newton Town Centre by taking leadership and revitalizing the area.

NTC: Newton Town Centre is a neighbourhood shopping centre located in the heart of Newton at 72nd Avenue and 138th Street.

OCP: Official Community Plan - A statement of objectives and policies to guide decisions on planning and land use management, within the area covered by the plan, respecting the purposes of local government.

Options: Options Community Services is a non-profit society and registered charity dedicated to making a difference. Options is committed to empowering individuals, supporting families and promoting community health

PICS: Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) Society is a registered non-profit organization. PICS Society provides a broad spectrum of programs and services that includes Employment Programs, Settlement Services, Language Services, Social Programs and Housing Services. Services assist new immigrants, seniors, farm workers, women and youth.

The Plot: A community sharing garden near the Newton bus loop.

SaM: Surrey's Salmon Marshall program.

SD 36: School District 36, of which Surrey is a part.

Seeds of Change Surrey: Seeds of Change Surrey is a collaborative, community-based leadership team that works together to increase food security across Surrey specifically in the Guildford, South Surrey and Newton Town Centre areas.

SEP: Surrey Environmental Partners.

SFU: Simon Fraser University.

Sustainability Charter: The City of Surrey's overarching policy document containing a vision and goals for sustainability, strategies for meeting the vision and goals, and indicators for measuring performance.



The vision and goals of the Charter provided high-level guidance toward becoming a more sustainable City. Part 3 of the Charter, "The Scope of Sustainability", identified actions required to implement the sustainability Vision, Goals and Action Framework in the Charter. With respect to this section, the 2008 Charter noted that: "*The Scope of the Sustainability Charter will be maintained as a living document that summarizes specific actions the City intends to take to achieve sustainability. Council will amend the Scope of the Charter as proposed actions and priorities evolve over time*".

In partnership with a broad array of community stakeholders, the City has made considerable progress over the past seven years since the adoption of the Charter. On July 27, 2015, Council received Corporate Report No. R151;2015, titled "Sustainability Charter Progress Report for 2014", which highlighted accomplishments to date; this report included a status report based on the Sustainability Dashboard that showed progress on 77 sustainability indicators and targets as shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Status of Sustainability Indicators and Targets - 2014

Pillar	Indicators on target	Indicators Stable	Indicators off target	No target	Insufficient Data	Total
Economic	8	3	2	11	3	27
Environmental	9	1	1	5	0	16
Socio-Cultural	10	5	7	11	1	34
TOTAL	27	9	10	27	4	77

Some examples of the measurable progress made during the past few years include the following:

- Surrey residents have better access to greenways, park paths and cycling trails;
- More cultural spaces are available within the City;
- Residents have reduced their per capita water consumption;
- Residents are diverting more garbage from the landfill;
- More social housing units have been created; and
- Enrolment continues to rise at Surrey's post-secondary schools.

On February 24, 2014, Council received Corporate Report No. R022, titled "Sustainability Charter Update", and approved plans to update the Sustainability Charter to ensure that the City maintains a leadership position in the area of sustainability.

On February 23, 2015, Council received Corporate Report No. R026, titled "Sustainability Charter Update", which provided information on consultations undertaken to that point to refresh the Charter.

On March 7, 2016, Council received Corporate Report No. R022, titled "Draft Sustainability Charter 2.0", which provided the draft updated Sustainability Charter 2.0 for information, and approved the final consultation period.

DISCUSSION

Internal Engagement

Following Council's approval of the Charter update process, a period of internal engagement with City staff was undertaken in 2014. Led by the Sustainability Office staff, this engagement process was overseen by the Senior Management Team with input from the interdepartmental Sustainability Team and a smaller staff steering committee.

A survey of over 700 City staff showed that staff support for sustainability is very high. Internal engagement also included interviews with Council, the City's senior management team, and a number of staff involved in related initiatives. The interviews and additional workshops resulted in recommendations which were presented to Council in February 2015:

- Refocus the Sustainability Charter at a higher level with a more succinct vision, outcome-oriented goals, and possibly strategic directions (3-5 year strategies);
- Keep Actions (if any) separate from Charter, for example in an annual work plan;
- Simplify and ensure consistency of language;
- Reorganize the document into systems or themes, possibly aligning with those of the Sustainability Dashboard and Official Community Plan (OCP); and
- Integrate indicators and targets into the updated Charter, and continue to use these metrics to report on progress toward or away from goals.

While it was initially anticipated that the vision and goals would remain unchanged along with the Action Framework of the Charter (the three pillars, timeframes, and spheres of influence), internal engagement identified that refinement of the existing vision and goals was needed to provide clearer direction.

More broadly, it was recommended that the City deepen its integration and decision-making by embedding Charter goals into planning processes (e.g., structure departmental work plans and processes to achieve Charter goals); creating a decision framework or screening tool that more effectively encourages consideration of goals and trade-offs; and engaging and communicating more effectively with staff (e.g., training opportunities, staff meetings). This longer term work is ongoing and is being led by the Sustainability Office.

Community Engagement

The majority of community input for the Charter update was obtained in 2015 and into 2016. The focus of the engagement was on the eight proposed organizing themes and under each theme, the overarching goals, desired outcomes (what we want for Surrey) and strategic directions (how we will move towards those outcomes, in priority focus areas).

Stakeholder and community engagement began with a series of stakeholder workshops held in April and May 2015 for key community groups, businesses, and non-profit organizations. To kick off this engagement, all City Advisory Committees members were invited to attend a workshop on April 20, 2015, with the following committees represented:

- Diversity Advisory Committee, chaired by Councillor Martin;
- Parks, Recreation and Sports Tourism Committee, chaired by Councillor Hayne;

- Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, chaired by Councillor Gill;
- Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee, chaired by Councillor Starchuk;
- Surrey Heritage Advisory Commission, chaired by Councillor Woods;
- Social Policy Advisory Committee, chaired by Councillor Villeneuve; and
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, chaired by Councillor Starchuk

Seven other theme-based stakeholder workshops were also held in April and May 2015, attended by over 160 stakeholders and City staff. Public engagement took place at the April 2015 Party for the Planet event and through City Speaks and social media. A subsequent stakeholder workshop was held in October 2015, followed by a public Open House at City Hall in November 2015 to present draft Charter 2.0 goals, outcomes and strategic directions. In addition to a November 2015 panel event featuring the Ecofiscal Commission, a public event with SFU in November 2015 brought together 125 Surrey citizens in a "residents' lab" to discuss what the City could look like in 2030; this event was organized around the draft outcomes for the new Charter. A final stakeholder workshop was held in February 2016 to seek input on the refined strategic directions and the revised indicators to monitor progress.

Final Consultations

Following the March 7, 2016 Council meeting, the draft Sustainability Charter 2.0 was shared with all stakeholders who have participated in the community engagement process. The draft document was also posted on the City's sustainability website for public comment, with social media support to direct attention to the final consultation period during March and April. Broad public input was sought in a survey from the City Speaks panel. City staff provided their comments through various staff committees, the Intranet and a staff survey. Presentations were also made to a number of City Advisory Committees to seek their feedback. Finally, individual meetings were held with stakeholders who had more detailed feedback.

Sustainability Charter 2.0 - Overview

In summary, the updated Sustainability Charter is a high level policy document that outlines long-term goals for Surrey in eight community theme areas. As the City's overarching policy document, the Charter outlines an overarching sustainability vision for Surrey, with a number of desired outcomes, strategic directions, indicators and targets provided under each theme. It should be noted that more granular plans, such as the City's Poverty Reduction Plan and Transportation Strategic Plan, provide detailed actions for implementation that align with the Charter outcomes.

The Sustainability Charter 2.0 includes a refined vision statement. Taken from the new Official Community Plan, the vision of a sustainable and resilient Surrey looking ahead to the next 40 years is: ***a thriving, green, inclusive city.***

While the three pillars of sustainability remain at the heart of the Charter – with a focus on balanced decision making and a view to future generations - the updated Charter is organized around eight overlapping community systems or themes:



- **Built Environment and Neighbourhoods:** The connectivity, accessibility and resilience of our neighbourhoods, buildings, and sites.
- **Inclusion:** The social and economic inclusion of all people regardless of ability or circumstances.
- **Health and Wellness:** The health and wellness of residents through health services and programs, access to recreation, and food accessibility.
- **Public Safety:** A safe and engaging community through community safety and emergency services, emergency preparedness and prevention, and transportation safety.
- **Economic Prosperity and Livelihoods:** A strong local economy focused on jobs and skills training, economic diversity, and innovation.
- **Ecosystems:** The health and protection of Surrey's natural areas, biodiversity and urban forest as well as water and air quality and green infrastructure.
- **Infrastructure:** The provision of effective infrastructure and services, focused on energy and climate, transportation, water, materials and waste, and telecommunications.
- **Education and Culture:** The access of all residents to high quality learning opportunities and vibrant arts and heritage experiences.

The intent of the eight themes is to provide a more intuitive and holistic picture of sustainability goals for the City, and to better connect issues across themes; for example, food security is an issue related to health and wellness (healthy eating), inclusion (access to healthy foods) and built environment and neighbourhoods (community gardening space). These themes will be used to refine the City Dashboard once the updated Charter is approved by Council.

Each theme has an overall goal followed by desired outcomes. The "goals" are long-term goals, and the "desired outcomes" outline **what** we want to see in these areas, looking ahead to the year 2058 (which remains the target year for these outcomes). "Strategic directions" then identify **how** the City and its partners will move towards the desired outcomes over the shorter term. Indicators and targets are presented under each theme, drawn from the Sustainability Dashboard but updated and refreshed to reflect new directions and knowledge based on several years of reporting.

Corporate Sustainability

In addition to making progress on sustainability outcomes at a community level, the City itself has made great strides in integrating sustainability into its corporate decisions, projects and plans. The City as a corporation demonstrates that sustainability must be an integral part of an organization. By embedding sustainability into corporate operations, the City provides leadership and tests out ideas that can be implemented more widely by residents and businesses in Surrey. Some examples of corporate successes and high impact projects since 2008 include the following:

- Establishing a Sustainability Office to act as a catalyst for sustainability throughout the corporation and maintain a strong focus on sustainability within the City;
- Building new City Hall modelled on LEED Gold with many social and environmental sustainability features, that forms part of a revitalization effort for the City Centre area;
- Holding staff diversity events at City Hall to raise awareness of different cultures and traditions;
- Building a new geo-exchange system District Energy which provides heating and cooling to new City Hall and surrounding buildings; and

- Increasing waste diversion in City facilities and ensuring staff support and training for waste reduction efforts.

The City of Surrey will continue to embed sustainability into City operations in a number of ways and through the work of all departments and staff. Drawing from the corporate sustainability actions outlined in the original Sustainability Charter and aligned with the City's values and the eight community themes, the updated Charter identifies several corporate sustainability objectives and strategies. City staff awareness and training on the new Charter will form part of this work in 2016 and beyond.

Implementation

Following Council approval, implementation of the new Charter will involve a number of short and longer-term tasks:

Stakeholder Engagement

The vision for sustainability presented in Sustainability Charter 2.0 is for the community and the City. Successful implementation of this ambitious vision goes beyond the City of Surrey - it needs the support and involvement of all partners in the community, including local businesses, residents and community groups. Collaborative actions for sustainability include conserving resources, protecting local ecosystems, enhancing food security, maintaining a robust economy, reducing inequality, ensuring community safety, preparing for emergencies, and celebrating community together.

Stakeholders involved in the Charter update process have expressed a clear desire to continue to be involved in implementation. Early discussions have taken place on how they will support the desired outcomes and common goals through their own work, and these conversations will continue through a number of avenues. Presentations will be made over the coming months to stakeholder groups and a workshop is planned for the fall. City Advisory Committees, with membership representing many groups across Surrey, will remain a key part of Charter implementation.

Dashboard Update

Early in 2017, the Sustainability Dashboard (www.surrey.ca/dashboard) will be updated based on the new Charter themes and including the revised indicators and targets. In collaboration with the Finance and IT Department, the Sustainability Office will develop a broader City Dashboard using a new technology that will also meet other City objectives, including ISO 37120 reporting and data-driven decision making. The revised Dashboard will report on Charter 2.0 progress and outcomes, with regular updates provided to Council and the community.

Internal Work Planning

To guide implementation within the City, by the end of 2016 all City departments will identify objectives tied to the updated Charter goals and outcomes. Discussions facilitated by the City Manager and the Sustainability Office will identify how departments intend to deliver on Charter goals in their 2017 work plans and beyond, focusing on short and long-term objectives and deliverables that will advance Charter goals and outcomes. These discussions will identify related City and departmental priorities, and how these can be leveraged to advance Charter goals.

Charter Implementation Fund

By the end of 2016, the concept of a Sustainability Charter Implementation Fund will be explored, including criteria for projects and funding sources. This project will be delivered through the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). The Fund could align with other grants provided by the City, such as the Neighbourhood Enhancement Fund, and thereby support neighbourhood-level implementation of the City's sustainability and climate change objectives.

Communication Materials

Given that a large print run of the Charter 2.0 will not be undertaken, staff will instead develop a short, plain language summary of the Charter that can be translated into other main languages for Surrey residents. This will allow, at a glance, a useful summary of the Charter vision and outcomes. An interactive web presence will also be explored, along with other communication materials.

FCM Green Municipal Funds

Implementation of the Charter 2.0 outcomes will take place at both a broad level (in City policy and programs, and collaborative work led by stakeholder groups) and at a neighbourhood level. To move forward on neighbourhood-level realization of sustainability outcomes, staff will prepare an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund towards the preparation of a Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP). Discussions are underway with Planning and Development staff on upcoming key planning initiatives with which this work could align. An application and Council resolution in support of this FCM funding application will be prepared for Council consideration in fall 2016.

Corporate Reports – Decision Tools

Currently, sustainability considerations are summarized for Council in both Corporate Reports and Planning Reports. Another City decision tool is the Sustainability Development Checklist, which has been in place since 2011. As noted in the consultant review of the original Charter, revised decision tools are needed within the City to more effectively identify sustainability goals and outcomes. These tools may include revised content in the Corporate Reports, better tools for upstream staff planning discussions, and a revised process for the Sustainable Development Checklist. As the development of these decision tools is a longer term task, interim guidance is being provided to City staff to help them reflect the new Charter outcomes in the Corporate Report "Sustainability Considerations" section.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The Sustainability Charter 2.0 outlined in this Report provides an effective, high level policy document that will guide the community and the City over the coming years. The Sustainability Charter will be updated from time to time to ensure that the document remains current and that the City remains a leader in the area of sustainability.

CONCLUSION

The Sustainability Charter is the overarching policy document for Surrey, providing a comprehensive lens to guide all initiatives, programs and plans. A process to update the Charter has been completed, with significant stakeholder consultation and input.

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

- Receive this Report as information;
- Approve the Surrey Sustainability Charter 2.0, a copy of which is attached to this Report as Appendix "I"; and
- Direct staff to complete implementation activities as outlined in this Report.



Anna Mathewson, MCIP RPP
Manager,
Sustainability



Vincent Lalonde, P. Eng.
City Manager

Appendix "I" – Sustainability Charter 2.0

AM:ss

NO: **R261**

COUNCIL DATE: **December 5, 2016**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **November 23, 2016**
FROM: **General Manager, Planning & Development
Manager, Sustainability** FILE: **0512-02**
SUBJECT: **Application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for
Green Municipal Funds - Newton Sustainability in Action Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning & Development Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information;
2. Approve staff proceeding with actions toward development of a Newton Sustainability in Action Plan, as generally described in this report;
3. Approve an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for funding in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the Green Municipal Fund to support the preparation of the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan; and
4. Adopt the following resolution in support of that application:

"Be it therefore resolved that the City of Surrey develop a sustainable neighbourhood action plan that will include sustainability goals, specific targets, actions, and an implementation and monitoring strategy.

Be it further resolved that the City of Surrey commit \$40,000.00 from its budget, and in-kind contributions valued at \$7,400.00, toward the costs of this initiative."

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the preparation of a Newton Sustainability in Action Plan, and Council endorsement of an application by the City for funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Green Municipal Fund.

BACKGROUND

On May 30, 2016, Council received Corporate Report No. R112; 2016 titled "Sustainability Charter 2.0 for a Thriving, Green, Inclusive City" and approved the updated Sustainability Charter 2.0 as the overarching policy document for the City. Organized into eight interconnected themes,

the new Charter includes a refreshed long-term vision of a thriving, green, inclusive city, as well as more ambitious goals and desired outcomes for the community.

DISCUSSION

The Green Municipal Fund (GMF) finances municipal plans that support sustainable community development, including sustainable neighbourhood action plans. A sustainable neighbourhood action plan is meant to build on an existing municipal sustainable community plan or strategy, such as an integrated community sustainability plan (ICSP), or official municipal plan that includes sustainability goals. To be eligible for GMF funding, a sustainable neighbourhood action plan must include the following elements:

- A vision, as well as environmental, social, and economic goals and targets. These may be drawn from the existing municipal sustainable community plan.
- Actions to achieve the goals and targets in all areas of municipal activity, including:
 - energy, waste and water management;
 - sustainable transportation;
 - land use; and
 - brownfield remediation (if applicable).

The actions must identify specific tasks, with details on who will accomplish them, a timeline for implementation, and estimated costs. A sustainable neighbourhood action plan may target a specific area within municipal borders, or apply to an entire municipality. The City intends to apply to the GMF to support a sustainable neighbourhood action plan in Newton.

The development of the “Newton Sustainability in Action Plan” will provide an opportunity to work closely with a neighbourhood and its residents to develop an action plan that will implement the Charter on the ground, at a local level. The Plan will engage the Newton community in identifying the Sustainability Charter 2.0 desired outcomes and strategic directions that they feel are most important for their neighbourhood, and then building a detailed action plan on how to achieve those goals. The purpose of this initiative is to engage the community in identifying actions that can be undertaken by community partners as well as individuals. Beyond creating an action plan, this process will also create an engaged and educated population around sustainability, and help the community to incorporate sustainability planning in all of their initiatives.

The planning process will address some of the unique sustainability-related challenges and opportunities for Newton, including:

- Future light rail plans along King George Boulevard to Newton, and the influence of transit on this neighbourhood as it evolves.
- A neighbourhood that is suburban in nature and organized around the car, but with opportunity for sensitive infill and densification over time, as well as place-making activities to make it more conducive to walking.

- Water and energy cost savings that will resonate in an area where median household income was about \$60,000.00 annually in 2011.
- Highly active community organizations and individuals that are passionate and have some understanding about sustainability issues, and are seeking greater engagement with the City.

The Newton Sustainability in Action Plan will also complement the City's Official Community Plan (OCP) and the Community Climate Action Strategy. The Sustainability Charter's desired outcome statements and the OCP's objectives and policies will form the basis for actions more specific to the Newton neighbourhood. Similarly, the policies and actions from the Community Climate Action Strategy will be used to inform the actions in Newton. Other City plans and strategies will also be referenced, including the draft Newton Town Centre Plan update, the Strategic Transportation Plan, and the Walking and Cycling Plans. The geographic overlap between this initiative and EcoNewton (which focuses on the light industrial West Newton area) will be limited, but EcoNewton businesses may be able to provide goods and services linked to community solutions, for example energy efficiency products.

The Newton Sustainability in Action Plan will be developed through collaboration between the City of Surrey, Village Surrey, the Newton-Business Improvement Association, other community organizations, and neighbourhood residents. Initial outreach to some of these organizations and individuals has been very positive. The specific boundaries of the defined "neighbourhood" in this planning process will be determined in conjunction with these partners.

The Newton project will be led by the Sustainability Office, with additional staff support from the City's neighbourhood enhancement and engagement team. Linkages will be made with other Planning & Development Department staff (Community Planning and Social Planning), Engineering Department staff (Transportation, Water, and Waste issues), Economic Development staff, and the Parks, Recreation & Culture Department, including Healthy Communities; the Neighbourhood Enhancement and Engagement team; and Parks Operations staff, as actions relate to landscape, tree canopy, and the City's Partners in Parks program.

Regular updates will be provided to the General Managers, Planning & Development, Parks, Recreation & Culture, and Engineering. Updates on the planning process will also be provided to Mayor and Council, the Senior Management Team, and to relevant City Advisory Committees, such as the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee.

In tandem with pursuing the GMF for this Newton planning process, City staff is exploring the establishment of a Sustainability Implementation Fund as a small grant fund to support community implementation of sustainability. Ultimately, this Fund could provide a vehicle to support small-scale projects arising from the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan. More information on this Fund proposal will come to Council for consideration in 2017.

Following completion of the pilot planning process in Newton, staff will evaluate the application of this neighbourhood sustainability planning model to other areas in Surrey.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The Newton Sustainability in Action Plan will pilot the identification of local actions to achieve the Sustainability Charter 2.0 goals and desired outcomes. In doing so, the project will help to achieve the following Charter desired outcomes (DO):

- Inclusion
 - DO 21: All residents have opportunities to be meaningfully engaged in civic issues and to contribute to community life.
- Built Environment & Neighbourhoods
 - DO 1: Surrey is comprised of distinct, diverse and compact neighbourhoods and Town Centres, with an engaging public realm.
 - DO 4: Surrey's neighbourhoods are safe, accessible, well connected, walkable and bike friendly.
- Public Safety
 - DO 4: Local residents and businesses are connected and engaged with their neighbourhoods and with the broader community to enhance safety.
- Health & Wellness
 - DO 8: Residents feel a sense of belonging and connectedness, and have opportunities for social interaction in their neighbourhoods and community.
- Infrastructure
 - DO 7: Per capita emissions are low, and align with global, national and provincial GHG reduction targets.
 - DO 15: All water is used efficiently and per capita water use is decreasing year over year.

CONCLUSION

The Newton Sustainability in Action Plan will be the first time that a collaborative plan focused on sustainability has been developed in the City. The process will allow local-level implementation of the Sustainability Charter 2.0 goals and desired outcomes, and allow better community involvement in achieving the Charter's vision of a thriving, green, inclusive city.

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

1. Receive this report as information;
2. Approve staff proceeding with actions toward development of a Newton Sustainability in Action plan, as generally described in this report;
3. Approve an application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for funding in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the Green Municipal Fund to support the preparation of the Newton Sustainability in Action Plan; and

4. Adopt the following resolution in support of that application:

“Be it therefore resolved that the City of Surrey develop a sustainable neighbourhood action plan that will include sustainability goals, specific targets, actions, and an implementation and monitoring strategy.

Be it further resolved that the City of Surrey commit \$40,000.00 from its budget, and in-kind contributions valued at \$7,400.00, toward the costs of this initiative.”



Jean Lamontagne
General Manager,
Planning & Development



Anna Mathewson, MCIP, RPP
Manager, Sustainability

AM/ss

\\\\file-server1\plandev\wp-docs\sustainability\16\data\oet-dec\11231032am.docx
01/12/2016 8:43 AM ss