

A Need for New Direction – Staff are presently moving forward based on directions from the previous Council. This continues to breed lack of confidence and trust in the Community's relationship with the City which undermines neighbourhood planning and engagement to implement green city initiatives. Therefore, the following actions are required in order to move positively forward:

1) CityPlan Community Visions

a) Suspend the existing Vision Implementation Review as it is a poor use of time and resources, seems to be designed to justify the marginalization of Vision Implementation Committees and does not include the Neighbourhood Centres Program. Half of the six staff allocated to CityPlan Vision Implementation have been reallocated to a program review over the following year.

b) Suspend the Neighbourhood Centres Program and engage the community in a review to integrate neighborhood centres into an improved CityPlan Vision Implementation Process - Engage the neighbourhoods to improve Vision Implementation by addressing our Discussion Paper. In particular, the emphasis should be on integrating neighbourhood centres planning with CityPlan Vision Implementation processes. "Large sites" and "special sites" should be included in this process. The link to the Council report for the NCP is:

<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/020709/RR2.htm>

http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/documents/pe4_003.pdf

http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20060629/documents/pe4_000.pdf

c) Discontinue the Norquay Neighbourhood Centre Plan and reengage the community in a new planning process. The restarted neighbourhood centre planning initiative for Norquay appears to be taking an approach that is not substantially different from the one that was broadly rejected by the community last year. Indeed, the process is more severely flawed because it would discontinue resident surveys, impeding Council's ability to assess levels of support. With Main Street and East Hastings to follow, it is essential that public confidence be restored through a credible process that actually implements Community Vision Directions.

<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20051129/documents/a11.pdf>

2) EcoDensity Charter and Initial Actions. Staff have recently brought forward EcoDensity Initial Actions that were passed by the previous Council without due consideration of issues raised by the neighbourhoods. Not only is EcoDensity being used to affect existing policy, it is undermining public planning processes that were developed through CityPlan. This is creating public backlash and lack of confidence. Research conducted under the EcoDensity Initiative will of course remain a valuable resource for information, not policy. **Therefore, the policy report brought to Council in June 2008 could be changed to a Council Report for Information only.** The report is linked as follows:

<http://vancouver.ca/ctyclerk/cclerk/20080610/documents/rr1.pdf>

EcoDensity is not required for Laneway Housing, Green Building initiatives, or other proposed changes. Decisions relating to if, where and how new initiatives proceed should be considered on their own merits and implemented through local area planning and the CityPlan Community Vision process. Genuine individual neighbourhood involvement and support must be achieved before directions are given to staff to revise local zoning and development bylaws. The existing Community Climate Change Action Plan is existing policy that outlines green city initiatives such as district energy and smart growth as well as many others. The CCCAP can be improved and expanded as necessary.

3) Laneway Housing – Under direction from the previous Council, Planning staff are moving ahead with rezoning of all RS zones. This could be replaced with a pilot program to approve demonstration projects without rezoning until after the pilot program is completed.