



Regional Board Report

Request for Decision

To: Regional Board
From: Director of Community Services
Date: November 16, 2023

Subject: City of West Kelowna – Regional Context Statement (6430-20)
Official Community Plan 2020-2040

Voting Entitlement: All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)

Purpose: To consider a Regional Context Statement in the City of West Kelowna's 2020-2040 Official Community Plan to reflect the Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336, 2013.

Executive Summary:

The City of West Kelowna recently adopted their Official Community Plan (OCP) after a three-year community visioning and OCP update initiative. The OCP update includes an updated Regional Context Statement. Regional Context Statements demonstrate how municipal Official Community Plans support and align with the Regional Growth Strategies. When a Regional Context Statement is forwarded to the Regional Board for consideration, the Board must respond by resolution indicating whether it accepts the Regional Context Statement.

Member municipalities and RDCO have indicated there are no concerns with the Regional Context Statement.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Regional Board, accept the City of West Kelowna's Regional Context Statement as attached to the report from the Director of Community Services dated November 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by: Danika LeBlanc, Senior Planner

Report Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Cashin".

Todd Cashin, Director of Community Services

Approved for Agenda:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sally Ginter".

Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

Strategic Plan Alignment:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Truth and reconciliation |
| ✓ Health and wellness | ✓ Environment and climate – Regional priority only |
| ✓ Regional transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth and development – Electoral Area priority only |
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Background:**Regional Growth Strategy**

The Regional District of Central Okanagan adopted Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336 (RGS) on June 23, 2014. A regional growth strategy is a long-range planning tool governed by Part 13 of the *Local Government Act* that assists local governments to plan a coordinated future for their communities while dealing with regional issues and decisions that cross local political boundaries. The RGS is also a collective vision from the regional partners for the future to create a region that promotes growth that is economically, environmentally, and socially sustainable over a twenty (20) year time horizon.

Regional Context Statements

Regional Context Statements link municipal Official Community Plans (OCPs) to the RGS by demonstrating how the OCP supports and aligns with the goals and strategies set out in the RGS.

The *Local Government Act* outlines there are three instances in which board acceptance of proposed Regional Context Statements is required:

- After a regional growth strategy is adopted, a council must submit a proposed Regional Context Statement to the board within two years after the adoption.
- Should a Regional Context Statement be amended, the amendment must be submitted for acceptance by the board.
- The Regional Context Statement is to be reviewed by each municipality at least once every five years after its latest acceptance by the board and, if no amendment is proposed, submit the statement to the board for its continued acceptance.

When a municipal council submits a proposed Regional Context Statement for acceptance, the Board must respond by resolution within 120 days after receipt of the Regional Context Statement indicating whether it accepts the Regional Context Statement. If the Board refuses to accept the Regional Context Statement, the Board must indicate each provision to which it objects and the reasons for its objection. If the Board fails to pass a resolution within the 120-day period, the Board is deemed to have accepted the Regional Context Statement.

After the RGS' adoption in 2014, the Regional Board has accepted a Regional Context Statement for each municipality within the Central Okanagan along with subsequent amendments.

City of West Kelowna

The City of West Kelowna's Regional Context Statement was originally accepted by the Regional Board on March 12, 2015.

After a three-year community visioning and OCP update initiative, West Kelowna Council adopted Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw No. 300 at on September 12, 2023. Regional District staff and member municipalities were involved as key stakeholders throughout the process.

The updated OCP sets growth objectives for the community and identifies how more than 12,000 new residents will be welcomed and accommodated within the next 20 years. It also establishes a growth

boundary and aims to create a more complete, compact, and connected community by focusing on infill housing and concentrating most development within two urban and five neighbourhood centres. The OCP also supports economic opportunities in the West Kelowna Business Park as well as corporate and community climate action planning objectives.

REFERRAL COMMENTS:

Regional District staff and member municipalities had an opportunity to review the City of West Kelowna's Official Community Plan and Regional Context Statement.

As it pertains to the Regional Context Statement, member municipalities and RDCO staff had indicated no concerns. Comments received from member municipalities indicated that the revised Regional Context Statement is consistent in format with other member municipalities within the RDCO and demonstrates linkages/relationships between the Regional Growth Strategy and West Kelowna's Official Community Plan.

Further, accepting the Regional Context Statement complies with Regional Growth Strategy No. 1336.

Considerations:

Organizational: As the City of West Kelowna has amended their Regional Context Statement in the 2020-2040 OCP, the amendment has been submitted for acceptance by the Regional Board.

External: The Regional Context Statement was reviewed by staff from member municipalities for comment.

Legal/Statutory Authority: *Local Government Act - Section 448*

Considerations not applicable:

- Financial
- Alternate Recommendation

Attachment: 1. City of West Kelowna's Regional Context Statement
2. PowerPoint Presentation from City of West Kelowna
