

Regional Growth Strategy Implementation Update

Committee of the Whole
April 11, 2024

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Purpose

- To provide an update on RGS implementation and projects identified in the existing Priority Projects Plan

Regional Growth Strategy

- Long range planning tool
- Collective vision
- Broad range of region-wide and inter-jurisdictional issues



OUR LAND



OUR ECONOMY



OUR WATER RESOURCES



OUR HEALTH



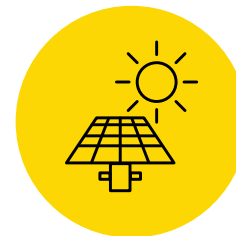
OUR FOOD



OUR HOUSING



OUR GOVERNANCE



OUR CLIMATE



OUR ECOSYSTEM



OUR TRANSPORTATION

RGS Steering Committee

- Commitment to implementation
- Forum for senior representatives
- Coordinate strategic priorities and align with goals and policies of the RGS



Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy

"Our Home, Our Future"



Schedule 'A'

Bylaw No.1336, 2013

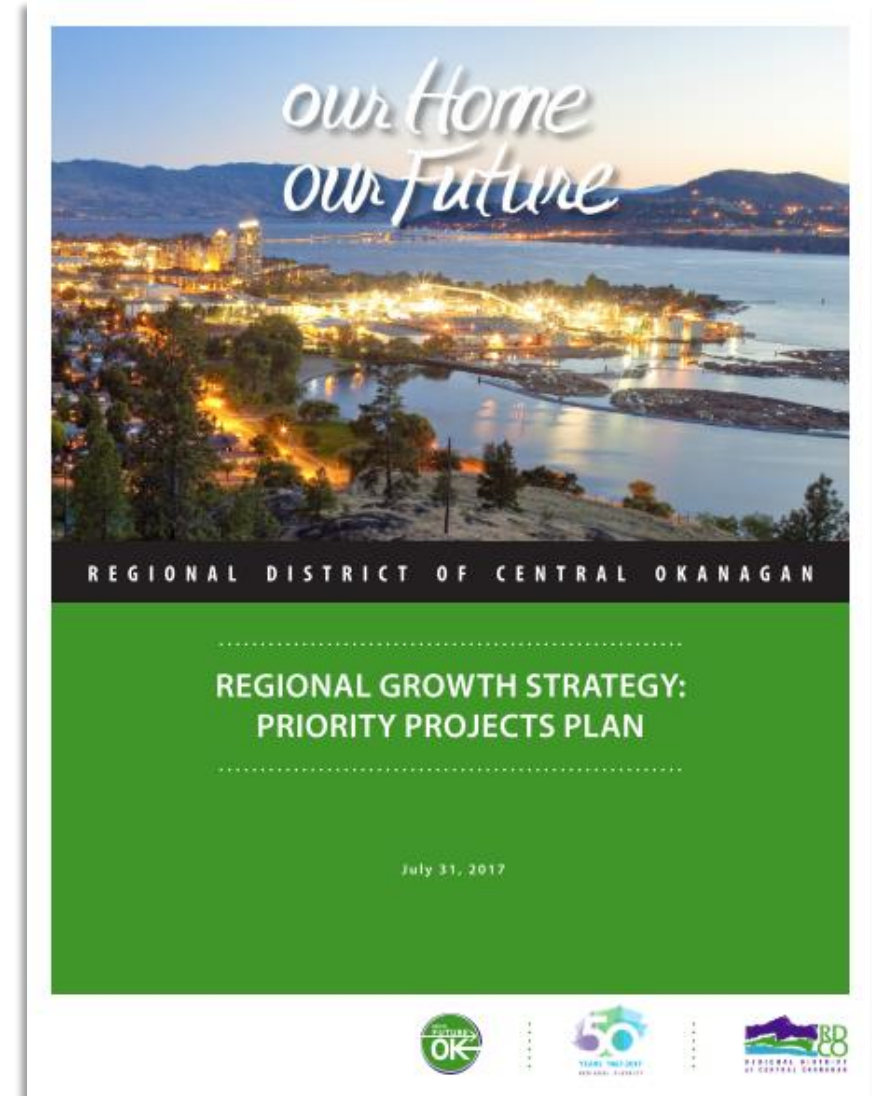


Source: Pictures BC



2017 Priority Projects Plan

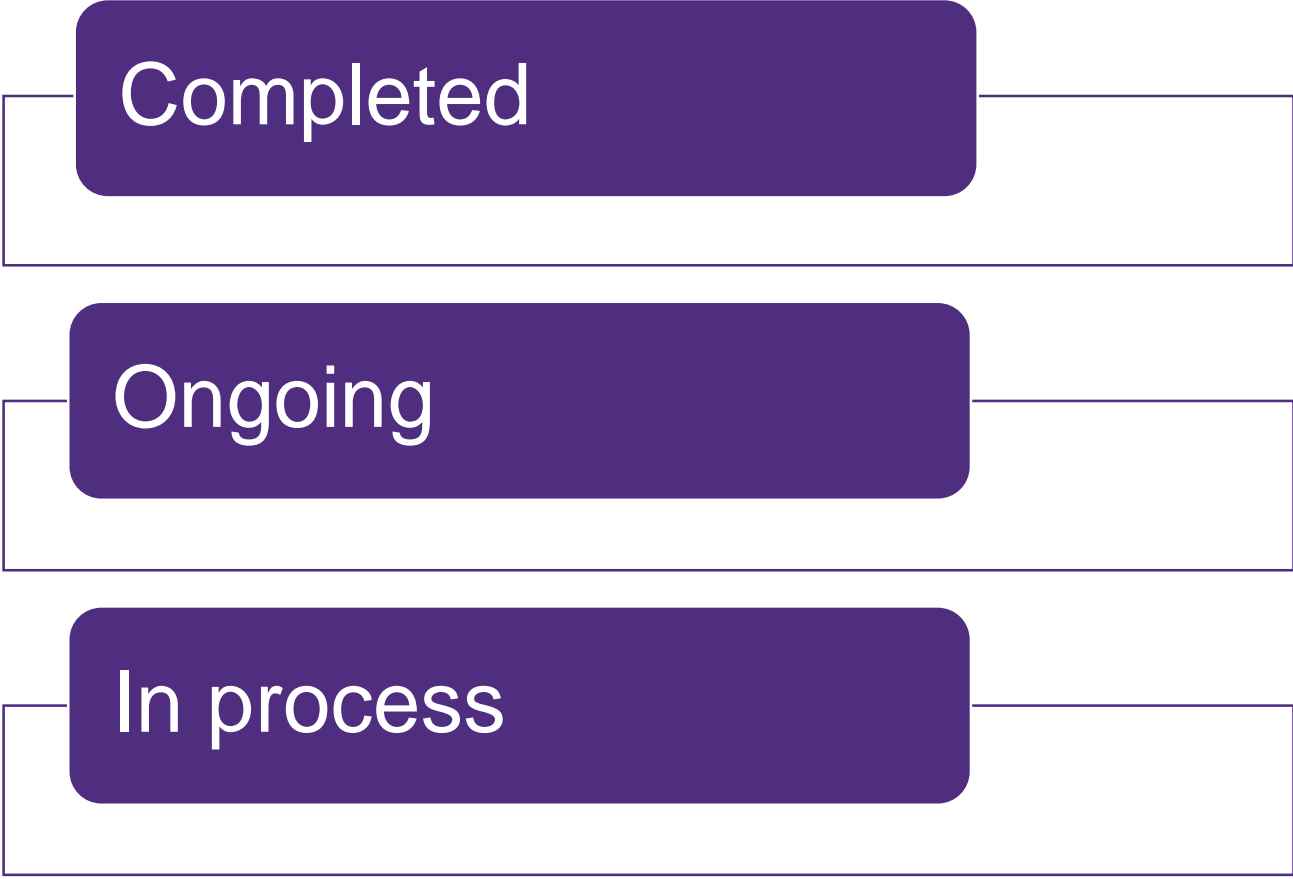
- Priority Projects Plan endorsed on July 24, 2017
- Projects that work to fulfill RGS Goals
- Projects accepted in principle
- Projects reviewed annually through the budget approval process



Five Year Action Plan

#	Project	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Regional Flood Management Plan: Phases 2 and 3	█	█	█		
2	Regional Planning Lab	█	█	█	█	█
3	Regional Housing Needs Assessment		█			
4	Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring Program		█	█	█	█
5	Regional Citizen Survey		█			
6	Regional Housing Strategy			█		
7	Regional Growth Strategy Five-year Review			█		
8	Regional Agricultural Strategy				█	
9	Regional Employment Lands Inventory					█

Projects Status Update



Completed

- Regional Floodplain Management Plan – Phase 2 and 3 (2017-2021)
- Regional Housing Needs Assessment (2019)
- Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring Program (2019)
- Regional Citizen Survey (2022)
- Regional Housing Strategy (2022)
- RGS 5 Year Review (2021)
- Central Okanagan Agricultural Background Report (2022)

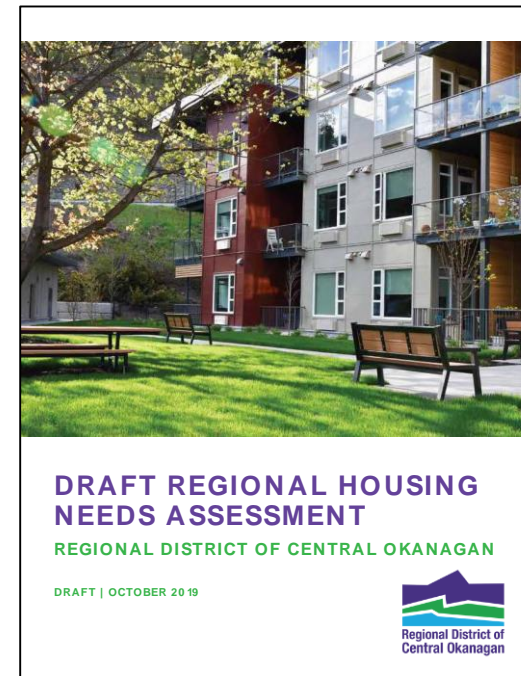
Regional Floodplain Management Plan

- Phase 1 identified flood hazards within the Central Okanagan
- Phase 2 focused on delineation and confirmation of the flood-prone streams and floodplains
- Phase 3 used the information collected to create mitigation strategies and included an extensive outreach component



Regional Housing Needs Assessment

- Baseline report that demonstrates the housing situation and anticipated housing needs across the housing continuum and throughout the region



RGS Monitoring Program

- A framework for monitoring impact on RGS goals consisting of 22 measures across; and
- A process for tracking Implementation



Regional Citizen Survey

- Invaluable resource for staff and elected officials
- Assist in determining
 - services our citizens' value,
 - where citizens would like to see future investments,
 - the level of awareness of RDCO services and programs, and
 - issues that may be occurring in the community.
- Part of monitoring narrative



OUR GOVERNANCE

Regional Housing Strategy

- A continuation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- Regional approach to direct how to move forward to address challenges around affordability, supply, supporting housing across the continuum
- Established objectives and identified recommendations



RGS Five-Year Review

- *Local Government Act*

- At least once every five years the Regional District must consider whether the RGS should be reviewed for possible amendment, and
- Provide opportunity for input on whether the RGS should be reviewed



- In 2021 the Board determined a review was not required and supported staff to continue actively engaging with partners on implementation initiatives

Central Okanagan Agricultural Background Report

- Foundation to support knowledge sharing, data collection, and joint investments
- Contains an agricultural profile for the region, findings of a policy review and information gathered from engagement activities with the agricultural community, partners and stakeholders



Ongoing

- Planning Labs
- RGS Outcome Monitoring Report
 - Intermediate Report (2-3 years)
 - Comprehensive Report (5 years)
- Regional Citizen Survey (every 2 years)
- RGS 5 Year Review Consideration
 - Regional Board must consider whether the RGS will be reviewed for possible amendments and provide opportunity for input on the need for review by 2026

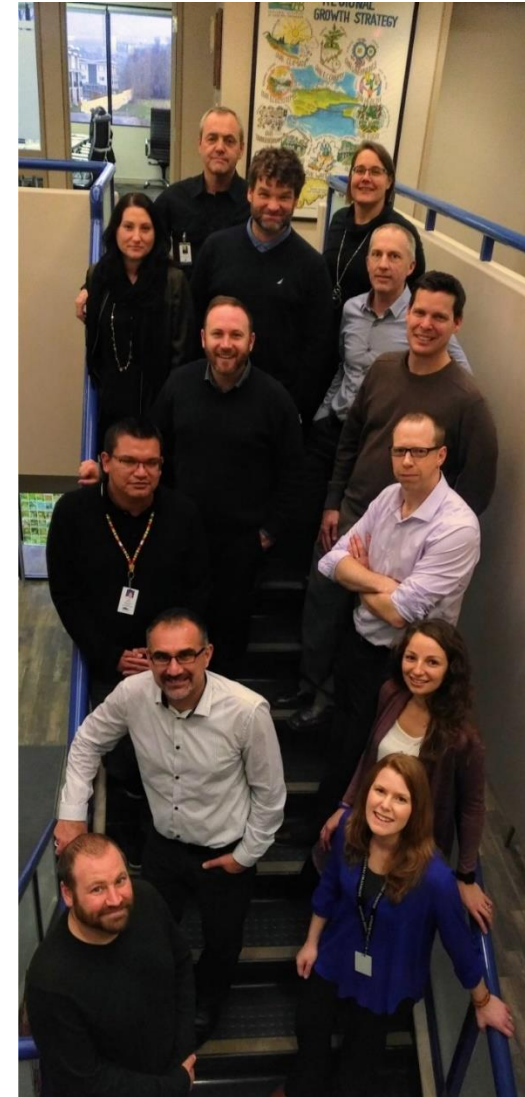
Regional Planning Labs

- Forum to work through difficult challenges faced across region
- Strengthen the foundation of the regional knowledge sharing and consistency
- Begin with exploration of challenges, knowledge gaps and end with action



Regional Planning Labs

- Since 2018, RDCO has hosted 9 Planning Labs



In Process

- Regional Employment Lands Inventory

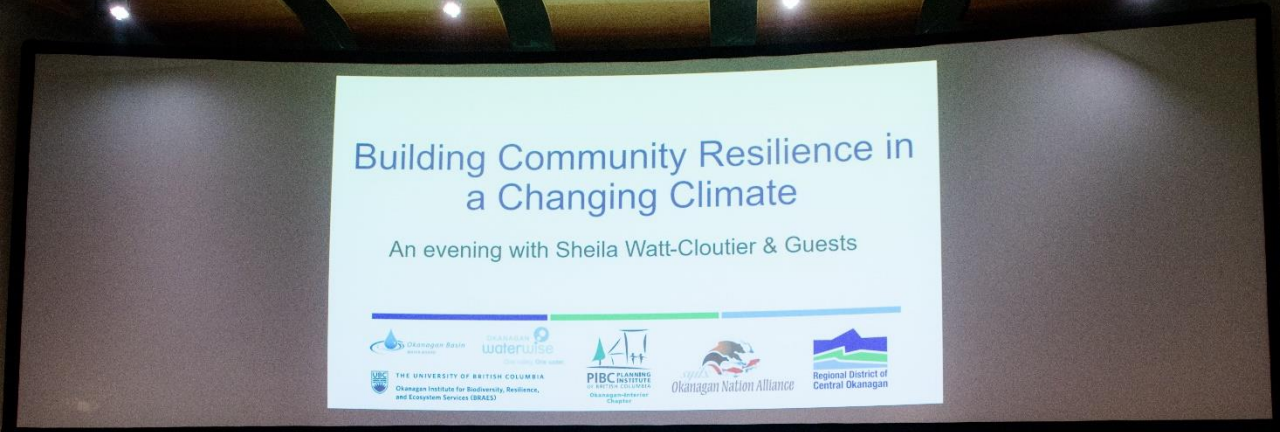


Priority Projects Summary

Project	Status
Regional Floodplain Management Plan – phase 2 and 3	Complete
Regional Planning Labs	Ongoing
Regional Housing Needs Assessment	Complete 2019
Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring Program	Complete 2019
Regional Citizen Survey	Complete 2022
Regional Housing Strategy	Complete 2022
RGS 5 Year Review*	Complete 2021
Regional Agriculture Strategy: Central Okanagan Agricultural Background Report	Complete 2022
Regional Employment Lands Inventory	In process

Other Projects and Initiatives

- Climate Projections for the Okanagan Region (2020)
- Exploration of Central Okanagan Rent Bank (2020)
- Public Event “Planning for Climate Resilience” (2020)
- Central Okanagan Poverty and Wellness Strategy (2022)
- Okanagan Lake Responsibility Planning Initiative (ongoing)
- Housing Symposium (2022)



Five Year Action Plan 2024-2028

- Goals of the RGS require a commitment to implementation
- Existing RGS framework provides flexibility
- Opportunity to develop a new work plan to ensure continued momentum



Summary

- Update on RGS implementation
- Many successful initiatives and projects have been completed
- Ongoing projects
- Opportunity to assess priorities within the existing RGS framework through the development of a new action plan
- A regional approach makes sense

Recommendation

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the Regional Growth Strategy Implementation Update report, from the Manager of Development Services, dated April 11, 2024, for information.