



# Regional Board Report

**TO:** Regional Board

**FROM:** Todd Cashin  
Director of Community Services

**DATE:** September 27, 2021

**SUBJECT:** City of Kelowna – Regional Context Statement (RDCO File: 6430-02)  
2040 Official Community Plan

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

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

## **Executive Summary:**

The City of Kelowna has been in the process of updating their Official Community Plan (OCP) over the last several years and is now in the final phase of the project. 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 proposed 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.

To date, member municipalities and RDCO have indicated either that their interests are unaffected by the proposed Regional Context Statement or that there are no concerns with the proposal.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** the Regional Board, receives for information, the report from the Director of Community Services dated September 27, 2021 with respect to the City of Kelowna's proposed Regional Context Statement within their 2040 Official Community Plan;

**AND THAT** the Regional Board accept the City of Kelowna's proposed Regional Context Statement.

Respectfully Submitted:



Todd Cashin,  
Director of Community Services

Approved for Board's Consideration



Brian Reardon, CAO

*Prepared by: Danika Dudzik, Senior Planner*

Attachment(s):

- Regional Context Statement - 2040 Official Community Plan

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### Implications of Recommendation:

<b>Strategic Plan:</b>	Accepting the Regional Context Statement achieves the Regional Board Strategic Priorities 2019-2022 with respect to each of the four priority areas.
<b>Policy:</b>	Accepting the Regional Context Statement complies with Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336.
<b>Legal/Statutory Authority:</b>	<i>Local Government Act</i> , Section 448, requires any amendment to a Regional Context Statement be accepted by the Board.

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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 in order to create a region that promotes growth that is economically, environmentally and socially healthy 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 Kelowna**

The City of Kelowna's Regional Context Statement was accepted by the Regional Board on April 14, 2016.

The City of Kelowna has been in the process of updating their OCP following extensive community engagement. The OCP update primarily focused on updating land uses, mapping and policies to reflect the community's vision and includes an updated Regional Context Statement. Section 448 of the *Local Government Act* states that any amendments to the Regional Context Statement must be accepted by the Regional Board.

### **External Implications & Organizational Issues:**

Upon receipt of the proposed 2040 Official Community Plan, Regional District staff forwarded a copy of the proposal to all member municipalities' staff and affected Regional District departments for review and comment.

To date, all member municipalities and departments have indicated either that their interests are unaffected by the proposed Regional Context Statement or that there are no concerns with the proposal. Comments received from member municipalities indicated that the proposed Regional Context Statement is consistent in format with other member municipalities within the RDCO, it demonstrates linkages/relationships between the Regional Growth Strategy and Kelowna's proposed Official Community Plan and adheres to legislative requirements.

### **Alternative Recommendation:**

Should the Board choose not to support the staff position, the following alternate recommendation is provided:

THAT the Regional Board not accept the City of Kelowna's proposed Regional Context Statement.

### **Considerations not applicable to this report:**

- *General*
- *Organizational*
- *Financial*