















Regional Context Statement









In accordance with Section 446 of the *Local Government Act*, an OCP must include a Regional Context Statement where a Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) applies to the same area as the OCP. Kelowna is within the jurisdictional boundary of the Regional District of Central Okanagan (see map 2.2). The Regional District of Central Okanagan Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1336, 2013 was adopted on June 23, 2014. The RGS establishes a vision for the region to grow in a manner that promotes economic, environmental and social health. The policy direction of the City of Kelowna OCP is consistent with the intent of the RGS. Figure 2.9 below demonstrates the connection between the RGS issue areas and goals and relevant OCP objectives and policies.

Table 2.9: Relationship between Regional Issue Areas and the OCP

Regional Growth Strategy Issue Area & Goal	Related OCP Section	
	Pillars	Key Objective
<p>Our Land To manage the land base effectively to protect natural resources and limit urban sprawl</p>	  	<p>Objective 4.1. Strengthen the Urban Centres as Kelowna’s primary hubs of activity.</p> <p>Objectives 4.3. and 5.5. Protect and increase greenery in Urban Centres and the Core Area.</p> <p>Objective 5.1. Encourage Village Centres as Kelowna’s secondary hubs of activity.</p> <p>Objective 5.2. Focus residential density along Transit Supportive Corridors to improve Core Area Neighbourhood livability.</p> <p>Objective 7.2. Design Suburban Neighbourhoods to be low impact, context sensitive and adaptable.</p> <p>Objective 8.4. Stop urban sprawl into Rural Lands.</p> <p>Objective 13.1. Prioritize infrastructure investment targeting high growth areas.</p>
<p>Our Economy To develop and enhance a positive business environment in the region to achieve a dynamic, resilient and sustainable economy</p>	  	<p>Objective 4.1. Strengthen the Urban Centres as Kelowna’s primary hubs of activity.</p> <p>Objective 5.6. Focus large format commercial along the Highway 97 corridor.</p> <p>Objective 5.8. Encourage employment-intensive industrial uses in the Core Area.</p> <p>Objective 6.1. Support the evolution of the University of British Columbia – Okanagan into a more complete community.</p> <p>Objective 6.3. Support the strategic and planned growth of Kelowna International Airport as a regional economic generator.</p> <p>Objective 6.4. Support the continued development of industrial lands.</p> <p>Objectives 6.7. and 8.1. Protect and preserve agricultural land and its capacity.</p>

<p>Our Water Resources To manage and protect water resources</p>	 	<p>Objective 12.10. Adapt to a changing water supply.</p> <p>Objective 13.3. Design stormwater infrastructure to mitigate flooding and pollution to our neighbourhoods, streams and Okanagan Lake.</p> <p>Objective 13.4. Provide a secure supply of water.</p> <p>Objective 13.5. Protect the supply of high-quality drinking water.</p> <p>Objective 14.3. Preserve Okanagan Lake for its environmental, traditional, cultural, spiritual, and recreational values.</p>
<p>Our Health To contribute to the improvement of community health, safety, and social wellbeing</p>	 	<p>Objective 4.2. Foster more inclusive and socially connected Urban Centres.</p> <p>Objective 5.4. Strategically locate community services to foster greater inclusion and social connections in the Core Area.</p> <p>Objective 5.7. Support the strategic and planned growth of the Kelowna General Hospital campus as the region’s most critical health facility.</p> <p>Objective 9.1. Incorporate equity into planning decisions and resource allocation in our community.</p> <p>Objective 9.2. Strengthen the relationship with the syilx/Okanagan people through initiatives and processes to advance and support reconciliation in Kelowna.</p> <p>Objective 9.3. Develop diverse partnerships to advance complex social planning issues and increase community wellbeing.</p> <p>Objective 10.1. Acquire new parks to enhance livability throughout the City.</p> <p>Objective 14.1. Promote strategies that reduce local air pollution and people’s exposure to air pollutants.</p>
<p>Our Food To support a regional food system that is healthy, resilient and sustainable</p>	 	<p>Objectives 4.10., 5.9., 6.5. and 7.5. Supplement the local food system to increase food security, equitable access to healthy food and social connections.</p> <p>Objectives 4.11., 5.10., 6.8., 7.4. and 8.2. Ensure a compatible urban-rural interface that protects agricultural uses.</p> <p>Objectives 6.7. and 8.1. Protect and preserve agricultural land and its capacity.</p> <p>Objective 6.15. Maintain safe roads that support agricultural uses.</p> <p>Objective 8.3. Supplement the local food system to increase food security and social connections.</p> <p>Objective 8.4. Stop urban sprawl into Rural Lands.</p>

<p>Our Housing To improve the range of housing opportunities to meet the social and economic needs of the region</p>		<p>Objective 4.1. Strengthen the Urban Centres as Kelowna’s primary hubs of activity.</p> <p>Objectives 4.12. and 5.11. Increase the diversity of housing types and tenures to create inclusive, affordable and complete Urban Centres and Core Area.</p> <p>Objectives 4.13. and 5.12. Protect citizens from displacement due to Urban Centre and Urban Core development.</p> <p>Objectives 4.14. and 5.13. Protect the rental housing stock.</p> <p>Objective 5.2. Focus residential density along Transit Supportive Corridors to improve Core Area Neighbourhood livability.</p> <p>Objective 5.3. Design residential infill to be sensitive to neighbourhood context.</p> <p>Objective 6.10. and 7.7. Prioritize the construction of purpose-built rental housing.</p> <p>Objective 7.6. Support a variety of low-density housing.</p>
<p>Our Climate To minimize regional greenhouse gas emissions and respond to the impacts of climate change</p>		<p>Objective 4.1. Strengthen the Urban Centres as Kelowna’s primary hubs of activity.</p> <p>Objective 8.4. Stop urban sprawl into Rural Lands.</p> <p>Objective 12.1. Design the community to be more resilient to a changing climate.</p> <p>Objective 12.2. Prioritize climate resiliency in City operations.</p> <p>Objective 12.3. Encourage the community to take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change.</p> <p>Objective 12.4. Improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions of new buildings.</p> <p>Objective 12.5. Improve energy efficiency and reduce operational greenhouse gas emissions of existing buildings.</p> <p>Objective 12.6. Transition toward 100 per cent renewable energy by 2050.</p> <p>Objective 12.7. Support the transition to emerging low and zero-emission transportation technologies.</p> <p>Objective 12.8. Invest in ecosystem services and green infrastructure to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate.</p> <p>Objective 12.9. Support the community to prepare for and become resilient to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Objective 12.11. Increase resilience to extreme weather events.</p>

<p>Our Ecosystems Be responsible stewards of natural ecosystems to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity in the region</p>	 	<p>Objective 12.12. Reduce risk to public health, the local economy and the environment related to invasive species.</p> <p>Objective 14.2. Protect and expand a healthy and viable urban forest.</p> <p>Objective 14.4. Preserve and enhance biodiversity and landscape diversity, integrating and connecting ecological networks through the City.</p> <p>Objective 14.5. Protect and restore environmentally sensitive areas from development impacts.</p> <p>Objective 14.6. Provide compensation for unavoidable habitat losses.</p>
<p>Our Transportation To enhance the regional transportation system to ensure that it is accessible, affordable, and efficient</p>	   	<p>Objective 4.15. Make Urban Centres safe and enjoyable for walking, biking, transit and shared mobility.</p> <p>Objective 4.16. Develop a well-connected grid network of streets to shorten walking distances and improve traffic circulation.</p> <p>Objectives 4.20., 5.20. and 6.17. Adapt and respond to emerging transportation technologies.</p> <p>Objective 5.2. Focus residential density along Transit Supportive Corridors to improve Core Area Neighbourhood livability.</p> <p>Objective 5.15. Create major streets that are walkable, support local retail and connect neighbourhoods to Urban Centres by car, bike and transit.</p> <p>Objectives 5.17., 6.14. and 13.8. Protect and enhance the Okanagan Rail Trail as a vital transportation corridor linking communities in the Okanagan Valley.</p> <p>Objective 6.12. Develop a well-connected supporting street network to facilitate travel by alternate modes and reduce reliance on Highway 97.</p> <p>Objective 7.8. Reduce dependence on the automobile where possible.</p>
<p>Our Governance To respond to the needs of the region with an effective and efficient governance service model</p>	 	<p>Objective 16.3. Strategically deliver on implementation actions.</p>