



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 6, 2016

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUPPORTED BY TOWNSHIP AND THROUGHOUT METRO VANCOUVER REGION

A new strategy to create more affordable housing throughout the region has been endorsed by the Township of Langley, which is already working at the municipal level to provide greater housing options to meet a variety of needs.

Last May, Metro Vancouver adopted the Regional Affordable Housing Strategy (RAHS) and asked its member municipalities to endorse the Strategy in a collaborative approach to addressing regional housing issues.

On November 21, Township Council endorsed the RAHS, following a staff presentation that demonstrated how the regional Strategy is well aligned with policy framework and local initiatives being undertaken by the Township.

The RAHS builds on a previous strategy adopted by Metro Vancouver in 2007 and presents a new vision to provide “a diverse and affordable housing supply that meets the needs of current and future regional residents.” It identifies three strategic areas to address: rental housing, housing for very low and low income households, and affordable housing near transit routes.

“Many of these regional goals support the Township’s Housing Action Plan and Age-Friendly Strategy, our secondary suite licencing, and the Township’s Manufactured Home Park Relocation Policy,” said Township of Langley Mayor Jack Froese. “They are also reflected in our Official Community Plan.”

“The need to provide residents with quality, affordable housing choices and give those facing housing issues a sense of security is being experienced throughout Metro Vancouver,” Froese said. “Supporting affordable housing at the municipal level, as well as collectively throughout the region, is a very positive, proactive move forward that will make a difference to those with low-incomes, the elderly on fixed incomes, and youth at risk.”

Other recommended actions featured in the RAHS that are not already covered by Township policy will be considered during ongoing community and neighbourhood planning processes, said Long Range Planning Manager Jason Chu.

Chu noted that the RAHS presents an opportunity for the Township to work with the development industry and agencies such as Metro Vancouver and TransLink to focus on providing affordable housing and better transit services to the Langley area, particularly near the Carvolth Transit Exchange and the proposed Willowbrook Transit Exchange.

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