

Chapter 9. Governance and Implementation

INTRODUCTION HRM seeks to engage citizens in an ongoing dialogue through education, promotion and public debate on regional and local issues. Participation should be inclusive and accessible to all. Effective communication among Council, staff, residents, businesses, public agencies and other levels of government is key to achieving the regional vision.

Strategic planning is a process of defining a strategy or direction, and taking actions and allocating resources to pursue this Plan. In order to determine the direction of the organization, it is necessary to understand its current position and the possible avenues through which it can pursue a particular course of action. Monitoring and periodic reviews are needed to evaluate the success of actions taken and changes of direction warranted by new or evolving circumstances.

The success of this Plan will also depend on aligning all policies and programs throughout HRM to achieve the vision and objectives of this Plan.

OBJECTIVES

1. Engage citizens in the development of policies, programs and services as the basis for building healthy, strong and inclusive communities;
2. Monitor the effectiveness of policies and programs of this Plan;
3. Undertake periodic reviews of this Plan to assess whether changes are needed; and
4. Ensure that HRM policies and programs are aligned to achieve the vision and objectives of this Plan.

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK	STAFF RESPONSE (Where no response indicated means Staff believe the proposed Regional Plan addresses this adequately or previously answered)	CDAC Direction
Measuring Success	Defined targets and timelines for initiatives (Greenbelting, BMBCL Regional Park)		
	Implement RMPS and abide by it for decision-making		
	Objectives need specific targets and outcomes	Plan measurements are being aligned with objectives in Appendix A.	
	What is the business case for the Regional Plan? Cost?		
	Can we afford what's proposed?		
	Lack of timelines/no timeframes established	Priority Plans will include deliverables, timelines and targets.	

	Keep targets of 25/50/25, but don't get fixed on them. People will choose where to live; you can't force them.		
	Tie building permits to 25/50/25 target up to 10 years. Benefit: met target – save \$670 million		
	No development in urban reserves at all in the life of this plan. Benefit: clarity, help us reach 25/50/25 target.		
	evaluation – don't wait 5 yrs – SMART		
	get rid our by-right development	Public consultation should occur at the time the plan is being developed so that development roles are clear and predictable.	
	don't measure km of road, measure active transportation use		
	have robust, reliable measurement parameter that indicate quality of like not just direct \$\$		
	New 9.1 Objective: Define RP deliverables and create an implementation timeline/road map.		
	include community enviro. targets not just corporate HRM targets		
	HRM will conduct/do storm water treatment		
	More money for resources		
	More planning staff		
	More trail staff		
	Ground water testing		
	Remove By right		
	More targets that are measureable		
	Measure progress in 5 year targets		
Discretionary Approvals	Policy G-16 (former IM-18) enabling Urban Settlement Designation to extend into Urban Reserve Designation not desired. Should be limited to Policy G-16(d) condition only.	Policy G-16 enables flexibility and accounts for GFLUM developments that are large in scale. Specific properties boundary isolated assessed on a case by case basis Removal of Policy G-16 would result in site specific amendments to the Regional Plan. Staff propose to add text clarifying the use of Policy G-16 only where any amendment proposed is small in scale.	

	Down with wiggle room		
Community Engagement	How do we measure public engagement?		
	Good measurement not mushy		
	Timelines and deliverables, hard targets		
	On-line so public can see daily		
	Have more effective planning process – by planners NOT by developers		