Council priorities update
February 2017
renewed

focus

City of Kelowna
Housing diversity
Completed over the last two years:
• Applied tax and development incentives to spur multiple rental housing projects, which totaled 850 rental housing units over the past two years
• Lead a strategy to encourage the development of more family-friendly affordable housing through revisions to the Rental Housing Grants program and zoning bylaw changes:
  • Increased the Rental Housing Grants by $100,000 for 2016 and 2017
  • In 2016, approved $320,000 in Rental Housing Grants for 30 units at Mount Baldy and 46 units at Dickson/Bedford Avenues
  • In 2015, six rental buildings with a total of 329 eligible units were approved for a total of $285,895 in grant funding. This marks the first year since the development of the 2012 Housing Strategy that the goal of 300 new rental units per year is being achieved.
• Central Green housing development:
  • Karis Support Society – 30 unit supportive housing project; completed
  • K-Low-Na – 86 rental unit affordable housing; completed/occupancy November 2016
• Continuing the Revitalization Tax Exemption for purpose-built rental housing
• Infill Challenge to develop new forms of housing for select areas of Kelowna’s urban core
Housing diversity
Underway or future plans:

• Central Green development, including 9 market townhomes (under construction, scheduled for 2017 occupancy), 84 unit condominium project (development permit approved, scheduled for 2018 occupancy), 83 unit condominium project; (development permit submitted, scheduled for 2018 occupancy), 80 unit for sale condominium project (expected development permit submission 2017/2018) and multiple residential rental buildings/units (approximately 300) with expected first development permit submission in 2017
• BC Housing Partnership projects (i.e. Drysdale Site, approximately 20 units)
• The Shore (3441 Lakeshore Road) - The City is participating with a sale of a portion of the lands required for this proposed development. Proposed mixed use development to include 90 rental units; development permit submitted 2016
• Healthy Housing Theme area of the Healthy City Strategy (includes an update the Housing Strategy)
• OCP Review will include housing inventory analysis and supply update
• Continue with rental housing incentive program
• Zoning bylaw changes to allow developers to take advantage of BC Building Code changes that allow six-storey wood frame buildings
Homelessness
Completed over the last two years:
• Hired a Social Development Manager in 2016 – initial focus is on the development of a multi-sector strategy
• Worked with BC Housing and Gospel Mission to establish and evaluate a pilot transitional storage program designed to support and connect homeless street-entrenched individuals to services
  • 7 people who got involved in the temporary storage program were moved into housing within the first three months of the storage program. Another 17 people who had otherwise not been involved in the emergency shelter network became involved as a result of participation in the temporary storage program at the Gospel Mission.
Homelessness
Underway or future plans:
• Development of a three pronged approach:
  • Homelessness strategy (long-term)
  • Housing partnership, shelter and programming initiatives (short-term)
  • Enforcement strategy
• Researching best practices related to building community capacity and homeless-serving system planning to address homelessness and related social issues, in order to determine relevant local applications
• Exploring potential partnership and funding opportunities to contribute to a community systems strategy development and implementation
Public safety
Completed over the last two years:
• Attended to 551 transient camp files in 2016
• As the result of a Provincial court order and through a collaboration between Bylaw Services and the RCMP, 12 of Kelowna’s most chronic offenders were given conditions to restrict their activity, reducing the likelihood they would repeat their civil disobedience. Part of the Downtown Enforcement Strategy
• In 2015, there were 97.97 crimes reported per 1,000 people - a minor decrease from the baseline year of 2011 when the crime rate was 98.8. However, in looking at the trend over the last four years there has been very little overall change with some years above and some years below the baseline. In other areas of BC and Canada the general trend has been declining crime rates. Some of the increase in crime rates in Kelowna is associated with the additional staffing in downtown Kelowna.
Public safety
Underway or future plans:
• Continue implementing the 2016-2019 Crime Reduction Strategy
• Actively engage with the RCMP for targeted policing
• Continued work on the Police Services building
• ICBC traffic safety partnerships through investments in road improvements
• Increased security presence in the vicinity of transit exchanges
Preserve agricultural land
Completed over the last two years:
• Continued to coordinate the Benvoulin Corridor Agricultural Compliance & Enforcement Strategy
• Co-lead a regional partnership to develop a unified approach to the accommodation of Temporary Farm Workers
Preserve agricultural land
Underway or future plans:
• Updating the Agricultural Plan (underway)
• Complete the Benvoulin Corridor enforcement strategy
• Phase II of the Agriculture Enforcement Strategy (Arab/Appaloosa area)
priorities
STATUS
update

City of Kelowna
Clean drinking water
Completed over the past two years:
• Value planning:
  • The City is pleased with the outcome of the Value Planning exercise that reviewed existing water plans and will inform a comprehensive, long-term water supply plan for Kelowna.
  • Strategic Value Solutions’ six person highly specialized team of water planning experts brought a fresh and objective lens
  • The Value Planning exercise was a requirement to apply for funding
  • The report will be finalized over the coming weeks and shared at a future date
• City of Kelowna water utility delivered quality water to residents and businesses within our utility boundaries, with no water quality advisories
• Began developing a plan that would see South Okanagan Mission Irrigation District (SOMID) and the Cedar Creek Water User Group hook up to the City water utility
• Applied for $76 million in grant funding from senior levels of government for projects that will work towards providing clean drinking water for South East Kelowna and sanitary sewer service for Hall Road, and to provide a sustainable supply and distribution of agricultural water to the South Okanagan Mission Irrigation District ratepayers
Clean drinking water
Underway or future plans:
• Renewal of aging City of Kelowna water infrastructure assets
Building vibrant urban centres
Completed:
• Planning & Policy such as Urban Centres Roadmap & Civic Block (My Downtown)
• Hosted 120 outdoor events
• Through the Event Development Fund (includes the City Services Offset Grant with total funding available of $25,000, and the Strategic Event Fund with total funding available of $25,000), the following events were financially supported by the City in 2016: Across the lake Swim, OK College Half Marathon, Caribbean Festival, Dragon Boat Festival, Tri Kids Triathlon, Father’s Day Car Show, May Days Parade, Cherry Blossom Triathlon, Play On! Hockey, Knox Mountain Hill Climb, Wine Country Half Marathon, Kelowna Apple Triathlon, BMO Okanagan Marathon and the Great Okanagan Beer Festival
• Ten events were hosted by the City including Park and Play events (July-August), Dancing in the Park, Retro Roller Night, Monster Bash, Family Fun Day, Family Day, Holiday Skate and Santa Swim
• Expansion of the patio program
• Laneway program
Building vibrant urban centres
Underway or future plans:
• Rutland Centennial Park redevelopment
• Shepherd Road extension
• Implement Parking Strategies in downtown & hospital area
• New Memorial & expanded Library Parkades
• Landmark Town Center Plan (2017) - one town center each year or so
• North End Area Plan (possibly 2018)
• Zoning and sign bylaw updates (2016 – 2017)
• Leon/Lawrence Avenue urban design and cycle track evaluation
Ensuring a healthy, safe, active & inclusive community

Completed:

- Strong Neighbourhoods Program, which supported 31 neighbourhood enhancing initiatives, engaged more than 3,300 residents. To date, the Neighbourhood Grant has provided just under $12,000 to support 15 grant projects and $2,000 for two Youth Development and Engagement projects.
Ensuring a healthy, safe, active & inclusive community
Underway or future plans:
• Community Plan and Official Community Plan update
• Healthy City Strategy
• Update Cultural Plan (2018)
• Update Community Fire Protection Plan
• Reduce high fire hazard in forested public lands
• Begin implementation of the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan recommendations
• Continue to expand the Active By Nature program through the addition of more interactive elements and recreation programs
• Act as a catalyst to help address community issues that have a direct impact on overall wellbeing
• Collaborate with Tourism Kelowna on the development of an event strategy
• Review major sport and community facilities
• Development of a Community Sport Plan that provides the framework for the local sport system to guide decision making and provide direction for strategic leadership
• Target pre 2019 55+ BC Games event hosting opportunities and commence Games planning
• Celebrate Canada’s Sesquicentennial through community events, volunteer engagement and citizen-led projects
Delivering a balanced transportation network

Completed over the last two years:
• Pedestrian & Cycle Master Plan
• Completed major transit exchange facilities at Queensway and Pandosy Village, fulfilling City commitments to BC Transit and Build Canada funding partners
• Ethel Street Phase 2 Active Transportation Corridor Hwy 97 to Cawston), Bulman Road – UBCO Bike Connection, KLO Road (Pandosy to Richter) bike lanes and crosswalk, and Rose Avenue (Gordon to Pandosy) bike lanes
• Joint local government & the Province of BC acquisition of Okanagan Rail Corridor between Kelowna and Coldstream (49.5kms)
• Awarded detailed design assignment for John Hindle Drive
• Council supported the accelerated design and construction for South Perimeter Road
Delivering a balanced transportation network

Underway or future plans:
• Strategic Transit Plan
• Continued expansion of bike paths & sidewalks
• Okanagan Rail Trail planning and development (possibly 2018-2019) **Contingent on fundraising
• John Hindle Drive
• South Perimeter Road
• Extension of active transportation networks on Ethel Street and on Sutherland Avenue
• Roads resurfacing on Glenmore Road, Ellis Street, Richter Street and Water Street
• Structural integrity evaluation of all 70 bridges within Kelowna
• Increased ease of ridership for transit patrons with accessible pads, shelters and benches along with increased service hours
• Enhanced sidewalk snow removal pilot to encourage walking, cycling and transit
Catalyst for business
Completed over last two years:

- Continued expansion of the Dark Fibre network – 13 km completed and plans to expand to 33 km. Has created location incentive for Bardel, actively marketed to clients in office centres such as Landmark and the Okanagan Centre for Innovation. Seven paid clients to date, expected to grow to twelve next year.
  - In 2016, four new customers produce a monthly revenue of $7,000 and monthly cost-savings of $2,400
- Kelowna International Airport (YLW) traffic in 2016 was approximately 1,732,113 passengers, an increase of 8.7 per cent since last year, which is on track with airport’s medium-range Master Plan forecast
  - Kelowna International Airport expansion – Air access is a driving force in the decision process for entrepreneurs. The estimated 1.7 million passengers for a service area population of over 300,000 speaks volumes – most of tourist arrive by car not plane. The airport allows entrepreneurs and the workforce alike to live here and earn abroad. With 54 per cent of our business license holders as Solopreneurs, sole operators, the airport provides a key link to competing globally yet enjoying the quality of life in living in the City.
- Continued implementation of the Business Development Policy - Ensuring that the City listens to business through both formal and informal channels.
  - The 60 site visits completed this year, meeting directly with business owners to see what we can be doing better to create the best environment for business to grow.
  - The Mayor’s visits with major employers, visiting the largest employers in the City once a month have provided feedback.
  - Participating with many business organizations (Canadian Homebuilders, Chamber of Commerce, Community Futures, Accelerate Okanagan, etc.) and through the Local Issues Committee of the Kelowna Chamber has resulted in action taken to solve challenges from sidewalk signs to servicing issues.
  - Bringing to the discussion internally with departments, a business lens from wide ranging areas such as Agricultural Policy to Parking Development.
Catalyst for business

Underway or future plans:
• Implementation of the Kelowna International Airport Master Plan, approved by Council Nov. 21, 2016
• Tourism Center
• Continue to implement Dark Fibre Strategy
• Develop a business friendly framework
Proving strong financial management

Completed over the last two years:

• Generated more than $1M in revenue from the sale of surplus City lands
• Successfully received $7,750,000 in funding including $7.2 million from the Province for the acquisition of the Okanagan Rail Trail
• Updated project costs and amended the DCC bylaw so that Development Cost Charges generate the revenue required to construct infrastructure projects to keep up with growth in our community
• Developed a Sponsorship and Advertising Program that has the potential to create an additional $800,000 in revenue in addition to the $700,000 already generated today
• Kelowna International Airport’s Head Lease with the Government of Canada was extended for an additional 20 years at $1 per year up to Dec. 31, 2054
• Completed the second year of the national artsVest program in Kelowna. The program generated 65 business sponsorships valued at $234,478 for 17 cultural organizations, and was matched by $71,635 in incentive grants, providing a total benefit to the local cultural community of $306,113
• Endorsed the City of Kelowna’s Principles & Strategies for Financial Strength and Stability
• Revised and updated the City of Kelowna’s Investment Policy
• Oversaw the redevelopment of the Central Green lands including the LEED neighbourhood certification process
Proving strong financial management

Underway or future plans:
• Conversion to LED street lights will show a $13 million savings over the lifetime of the LED lights
• Update/development of financial policies, as part of the Financial Principles & Strategies
• Explore and expand alternative revenue generation opportunities, i.e. Dark Fibre, dispatch, sponsorship & advertising, patio seating & concession
• Partnership strategy
• Complete & implement Asset Management Program
• Implementation of a corporate wide Maintenance Management System
• Internal audit priority setting and deployment of value for money and compliance audits
• Continue to implement energy conservation measures in facilities
• Review and where necessary implement utility and landfill fee changes
• Explore compressed natural gas (CNG) opportunities
Underpinned by a framework to be:

- Open for opportunity
- Build on momentum
- Fair but firm
- Pragmatic leadership
- Transparency in decision making
- Balanced infrastructure investments
- Responsive customer service
- Planning excellence

City of Kelowna

Underpinned by a framework to be open for opportunity, build on momentum, fair but firm, pragmatic leadership, transparency in decision making, balanced infrastructure investments, responsive customer service and planning excellence...

Completed over the past two years:

- Healthy City Strategy (HCS), Civic Precinct Plan that rethinks the future development of Kelowna’s civic and cultural heart
- Urban Centers Roadmap setting out clear targets and priorities to make Kelowna’s urban centres engines of creativity and economic growth
- Hospital Area Plan Phase 2 working closely with the Interior Healthy Authority
- Launched the first phase of the city-wide conversation for the Imagine Kelowna initiative
- 2030 Infrastructure Plan – the City’s long-term infrastructure plan that details all of the City’s infrastructure needs from now until 2030
Questions?
For more information, visit kelowna.ca.