



## Memorandum to Council

**To:** Mayor and Council File No: 0530-05  
**Date:** July 14, 2025  
**From:** Terry Barton, Director of Planning & Community Services  
**Subject:** Prioritization of Council Strategic Plan 2023-2026

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### **Purpose:**

To identify priority projects and initiatives within the Council Strategic Plan for the remainder of 2023-2026 Council term.

### **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receive the memorandum Prioritization of Council Strategic Plan 2023-2026, dated July 14, 2025.

### **Background:**

At the Special Meeting of Council on June 5, 2025, an update was provided on all Strategic Planning projects and initiatives, including the detailed Action Plan [Council Strategic Plan – 2025 Progress Update](#). The documents including the 2025 Progress Report (Attachment 1) as well as the updated Action Plan (Attachment 2) have now been posted to the City's website and can be referenced: [Council Strategic Plan | City of Vernon](#).

Of the 33 major Strategic Planning projects and initiatives, 16 are currently "In Progress." Administration recommends prioritizing those that can be realistically completed before the end of this Council term in October 2026. By establishing clear, high-impact priorities, we can ensure our limited staff resources are focused on the projects that matter most - and deliver the greatest value.

### **1. Long-term On-going Projects**

Several long-term initiatives are not expected to conclude within the current Council term. These complex, multi-year efforts will extend through the next decade and rely heavily on provincial or federal legislation, as well as partnerships with external organizations. While staff will continue advancing them, full implementation will carry well beyond October 2026.

Outlined below are the specific projects in this category:

- Implementation of the Climate Action Plan
- Execution of the City's Housing Plan
- Long-term process improvements to the Development Application Review
- Regional Accessibility Committee Action Plan

These initiatives are foundational to our future plans - yet they demand sustained effort, coordination across government levels, and significant time and funding to realize their intended impact.

## **2. Nearing Completion**

Several projects and initiatives are now nearing completion are in their final stretch - whether it's rolling out strategies, opening new infrastructure, or finalizing service platforms - but require a few remaining actions before reaching full operational status.

## **3. Priority Projects**

To maximize impact within the remaining Council term, staff recommend concentrating on a few high-profile legacy priorities that can realistically be completed by October 2026:

- **The Active Living Centre**

Construction is well underway under an Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) model, with completion expected in fall 2026. The facility, budgeted at approximately \$136 million will feature a 50 m pool, leisure pool, sauna, steam room, fitness centre, gym, running track, multipurpose rooms, and fully embrace Syilx cultural design and accessibility standards.

- **Official Community Plan (OCP) Update**

The OCP is the municipality's blueprint for land use, housing, transportation, and utilities. This update is strategically well-aligned for completion within the current Council term, guiding future development decisions.

- **Transportation Plan Update**

Complementing the OCP, a revised Transportation Plan is essential to support sustainable mobility objectives - enhancing transit, road infrastructure, and active transportation networks. These elements are closely interlinked with OCP direction and can be coherently progressed in parallel within the 2025-2026 timeframe.

- **Council Procedure Bylaw Update**

This Bylaw is a foundational document for Council and was originally adopted in April 2004. Although many amendments have occurred, it is due for a fulsome review. Administration will be drafting a new bylaw to present to Council by December 2025.

The list of projects and initiatives on the 2023-2026 Action Plan (Attachment 2) are included in current and future Division work plans. Administration is available to provide a status update on specific items if requested by Council.

**Communication:**

The 2025 progress update of the Strategic Plan as well as the updated Action Plan has been posted to the City of Vernon's website and can be referenced at: [Council Strategic Plan | City of Vernon](#).

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 – 2023 - 2026 Council Strategic Plan Mid-term Report Update as of June 5, 2025

Attachment 2 - 2023 – 2026 Council Strategic Plan | Action Plan

Reviewed by: Sue Wood, Manager, Legislative Services

Reviewed by: Kevin Poole, Director, Corporate Administration

Approved by: Peter Weeber, Chief Administrative Officer