



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patricia Bridal, Chief Administrative Officer **FILE:** 6480-02 / 8300-07

PC: Terry Barton, Director, Planning and Community Services **DATE:** July 17, 2024
Brian Derrick, Acting General Manager, City Planning

FROM: Danielle DeVries, Manager, Transportation

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN & TRANSPORTATION PLAN RECOMMENDED VALUES

On July 1, 2024, the Phase 1 Engagement for the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Transportation Plan (TP) closed. During this time, 1,396 people participated in the community survey, 168 people attended 10 community workshops, and 882 people visited the booth at 9 pop-up events. The results from all three engagement activities were grouped into a series of themes, which will be presented by the consultant, Engage Delaney, at the July 30, 2024 Special Meeting. The results will also be released back to the public in a *What We Learned* report in August 2024.

Based on the themes that were heard from the community and early findings from the technical studies, Administration has prepared a set of value statements for the OCP and TP. These will act as guiding principles for the plan development moving forward. They are important to ensure the policies, growth model, and transportation network reflect both how the community wants to grow and are feasible to implement.

Administration recommends that Council support these values in principle to be worked into the plans. The exact wording may be adjusted as the plans develop.

OCP Values

The community shared some clear themes for the OCP around housing affordability and availability, collaboration and ease for planning and partnerships, support for businesses and tourism, helping our vulnerable neighbours, being prepared for and resilient to climate change, and increasing access to parks, recreation, and events.

Based on these, some additional elements from the technical studies, and Planning expertise, Administration has developed the following OCP values:

We will shape Vernon as a community where:

1. **Housing is plentiful, diverse, and supported by inclusive policies** to ensure availability and affordability that meet the needs of the community across all life stages.

2. **Sustainable growth is promoted** through thoughtful development near robust and accessible transportation systems, urban services, and community spaces.
3. **Economic prosperity is thriving** with policies that support businesses and tourism, streamline processes, attract and retain skilled workers, encourage new investments, and support locally owned businesses.
4. **Agricultural land is preserved and improved** to ensure community resilience and food security. Residents are empowered to develop and contribute to local food systems, both at home and within the broader community.
5. **Environmental stewardship is safeguarded** through protection of hillsides and sensitive ecosystems, efforts to mitigate climate change, and integration of innovative green spaces into our community, which will improve access to abundant natural amenities for all community members.
6. **Transportation is reliable and multimodal**, providing a network that connects people to each other, goods and services, and everywhere they need to go.
7. **Community connection is strengthened** by promoting equitable access to community spaces, amenities, and activities, particularly in rapidly growing areas, and inclusive policies and programs that address social inequalities for people of all ages and abilities.
8. **Arts and culture are celebrated** in a vibrant community where visitors and residents can gather, experience, and enjoy.
9. **Relationships with local indigenous nations are developed** on mutual respect, trust, listening to diverse perspectives and traditional knowledge, and understanding to advance truth and reconciliation.
10. **Community is prepared for emergencies** with plans and services in place to keep the community safe, resilient to climate change, and prepared for emergent events.

TP Values

The community shared some clear themes for the TP around transit frequency and span, alternatives to vehicles, affordability of transportation options, safety when sharing space on roads, increased trail availability, and improving parking options for all modes.

Based on these, some additional elements from the technical studies, and Engineering expertise, Administration has developed the following TP values:

We will create a reliable, multimodal transportation network that connects people to each other, goods and services, and everywhere they need to go. The transportation network will:

1. Prioritize **health, safety, and comfort** for all users;
2. Support a **variety of transportation options**;
3. Ensure the infrastructure is **climate-ready and resilient**;
4. Facilitate the **movement of goods and services**;

5. Create **vibrant and inclusive public spaces**;
6. Enhance **accessibility and connectivity** across our community; and
7. Position Vernon as a **regional destination**.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council support in principle the Official Community Plan values presented in the memo titled "Official Community Plan and Transportation Plan Recommended Values", dated July 17, 2024, and respectfully submitted by the Manager, Transportation as follows:

We will shape Vernon as a community where:

1. *Housing is plentiful, diverse, and supported by inclusive policies;*
2. *Sustainable growth is promoted;*
3. *Economic prosperity is thriving;*
4. *Agricultural land is preserved and improved;*
5. *Environmental stewardship is safeguarded;*
6. *Transportation is reliable and multimodal;*
7. *Community connection is strengthened;*
8. *Arts and culture are celebrated;*
9. *Relationships with local indigenous nations are developed; and*
10. *Community is prepared for emergencies.*

AND FURTHER, that Council support in principle the Transportation Plan values as follows:

We will create a reliable, multimodal transportation network that connects people to each other, goods and services, and everywhere they need to go. The transportation network will:

1. *Prioritize health, safety, and comfort for all users;*
2. *Support a variety of transportation options;*
3. *Ensure the infrastructure is climate-ready and resilient;*
4. *Facilitate the movement of goods and services;*
5. *Create vibrant and inclusive public spaces;*
6. *Enhance accessibility and connectivity across our community; and*
7. *Position Vernon as a regional destination.*

Respectfully submitted:



Danielle Devries
Manager, Transportation

Approved for the Agenda by the CAO

