

Energy Demand Management and Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Draft Objectives and Policies

Objectives

- Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions generated by existing buildings through retrofits or redevelopment.
- Improve energy efficiency, use of renewable energy, and reduce GHG emissions for new buildings.
- Improve energy efficiency, use of renewable energy, and reduce GHG emissions for City owned buildings and facilities.

Policies

General

1. Work with partners and guiding policies identified in energy and greenhouse gas management plans to achieve significant measurable reductions in grid-supplied and fossil-fuel based energy and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. The City dedicates its support to the British Columbia Climate Action Charter by achieving carbon neutrality in City corporate operations by 2012.
3. By 2012, reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions by 10% and community greenhouse gas emissions by 2%, compared with 2002 levels.
4. Act as a resource to the community by promoting energy efficiency and awareness.
5. The City should consider establishing an energy efficiency and GHG reduction community energy committee to develop practical and effective strategies that create and education and awareness opportunities, look for ways to motivate people and create strategies for community wide energy and GHG reductions.
6. The City should work with partners to establish a demonstration and resource center on energy efficiency and GHG reduction building techniques, appliances, renewable energy technology and methods.
7. The City should work with partners to design and implement a marketable and highly visible awards and recognition program that recognizes those home owners and builders that are leaders in implementing energy efficient upgrades

and strategies for their homes. The intent is to spur market interest and demand for higher efficiency homes that come with multiple benefits.

8. Work towards expanding customers that connect to the Downtown District Energy System and look for opportunities to expand the DDES infrastructure (underground piping) in conjunction with other works.

Existing Buildings

1. Work with the provincial and federal governments to actively promote grant and incentive programs through means available to the City.
2. Develop incentive programs that support and compliment incentive programs from other levels of government to improve the market uptake for energy efficiency retrofits of existing buildings for all uses.
3. At the time of rezoning or development permit stage for rehabilitation, addition to or replacement of existing buildings, negotiate energy efficiency and renewable energy targets.
4. Through collaborative efforts with organizations, business groups, utilities and community groups, develop strategies to enable energy efficiency upgrades or retrofits and a high demand for energy efficient appliances and equipment.
5. Engage with the commercial (small & medium size business) and light-industry sectors, or support processes that facilitate the engagement (e.g. workshops conducted by Climate-Smart-Business) to develop energy efficiency targets, strategies and action plans and to encourage participation in third party programs (e.g. BOMA Go Green program).
6. Work with local building organizations to promote and encourage builders to become Built Green™ certified and use means available to the City to promote the Built Green™ program.
7. Use Local Improvement Charges (LIC) as a means to finance capital costs of specific energy efficiency (including adding renewable energy) improvements to buildings on a cost-recovery basis.
8. Promote and support the use of renewable energy technology that has been sanctioned by higher levels of government or certification and standards associations.

New Buildings

1. Establish Energy Efficiency and Renewal Energy development permits areas covering all residential development outside of the Phase 1 growth management area, in order to:
 - (a) Allow for residential development opportunities outside of the Phase 1 growth management area under conditions that promote high efficiency housing and/or housing that uses at least 20% renewable energy source.
 - (b) Allow for residential development opportunities outside of the Phase 1 growth management area under conditions where housing will be connected and utilize a shared heating and/or power plant (e.g. neighbourhood sized geo-exchange heating system or ground source heat pump system)
2. Amend infrastructure policies and standards to enable the development of energy efficient and green buildings or that use renewable energy.
3. Obtain green building and energy efficiency requirements at time of rezoning in the form of covenant or development agreement.
4. Support and promote education and awareness and the use of recognized programs that trains and registers local builders on energy efficiency, renewable energy alternatives and green building techniques.
5. Include provision for supporting energy efficient and green building, including use of renewable energy in development or amendments and implementation of a revitalization tax exemption bylaw.
6. Use Local Improvement Charges (LIC) as a tool to finance the capital costs of specific additional costs to buildings that will achieve high levels of energy efficiency or use of renewable energy.
7. Develop and implement demonstration projects through partnerships and incentive or grant programs.

City of Prince George Buildings and Facilities

1. Update, where needed, and implement the City of Prince George Sustainable Energy Management Plan in order to achieve energy and greenhouse gas reductions through such initiatives as:
 - capital equipment retrofit and replacement
 - energy awareness programs
 - operational and maintenance improvements

- construction of district energy systems
2. New City buildings and facilities will achieve high energy efficiency and, where practical, use renewable energy sources.
 3. The City should establish a corporate committee of staff from various departments in order to develop practical and effective strategies for workplace energy efficiency and GHG reductions.

Notes:

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