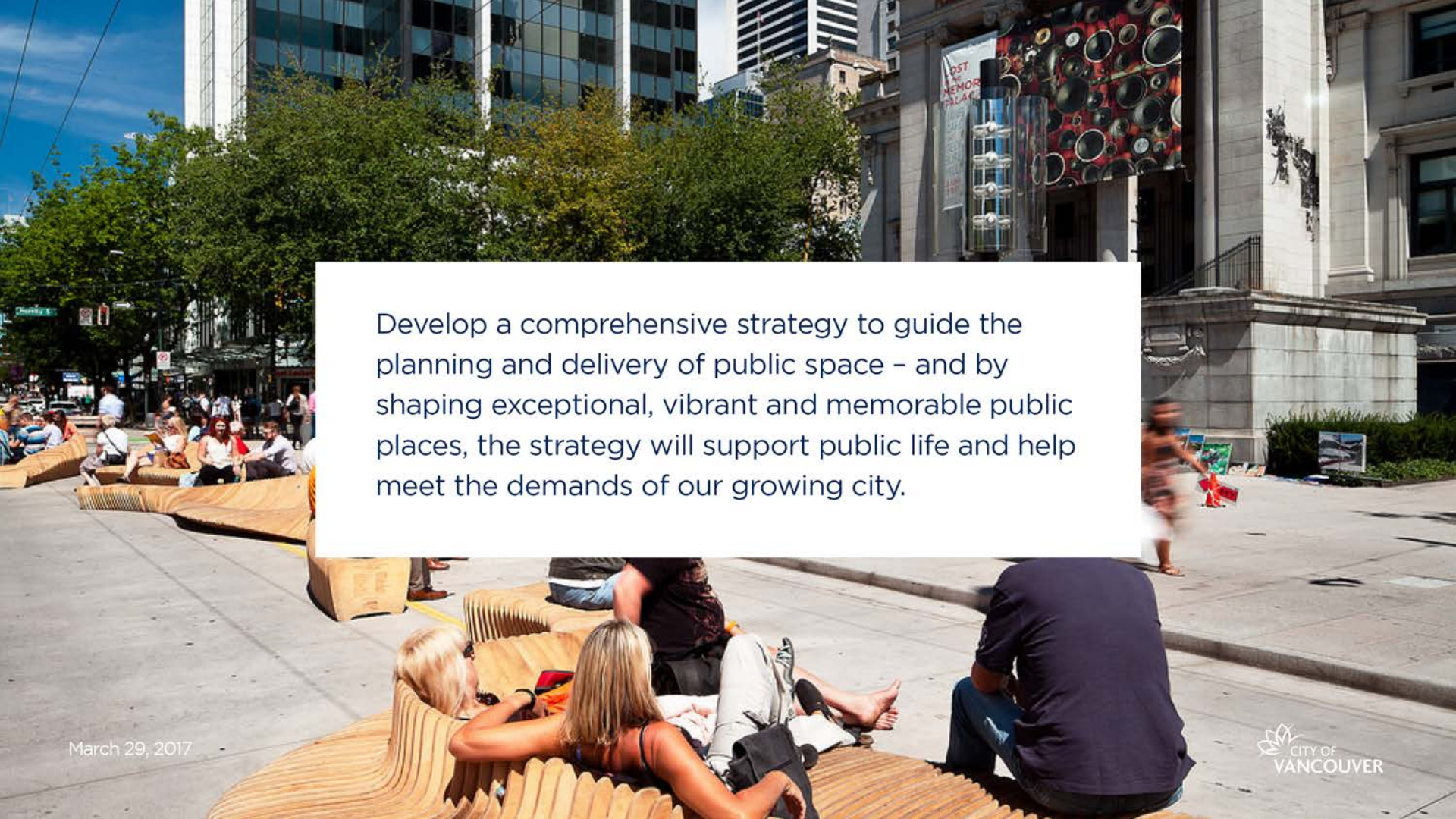




Downtown Places & Spaces Strategy

Planning, Urban Design
& Sustainability

March 29, 2017



Develop a comprehensive strategy to guide the planning and delivery of public space – and by shaping exceptional, vibrant and memorable public places, the strategy will support public life and help meet the demands of our growing city.

March 29, 2017

Recommendation

- A. THAT Council approve the preparation of a Downtown Places and Spaces Strategy in accordance with the work program outlined in Appendix A; the source of funds for the 2017 work program is \$350,000 from the 2017 Operating Budget.

- B. THAT staff be directed to report back to Council in late 2017 with a progress update, including key public engagement and consultant findings, and with the work program budget and funding required for 2018.



Outline

1. Downtown Context
2. Need for a Public Space Strategy
3. Approach to the Strategy
4. Work Program and Engagement
5. Next Steps



Downtown Context

City Core 2050

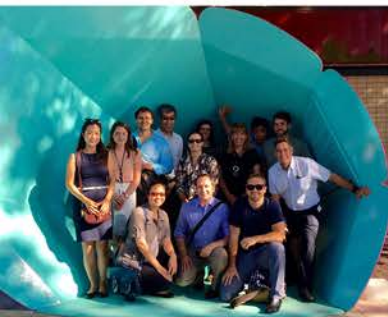


Downtown Places & Spaces Strategy



Downtown Context

Many Types of Public Space



Downtown Context

Diverse Communities &
Great Public Spaces



Downtown Places & Spaces Strategy

“Public space is the stage upon which the drama of communal life unfolds.”



Downtown Context

Recent Initiatives



VAG North Plaza



800 Robson Plaza



Jim Deva Plaza - The Megaphone

Downtown Context

Recent BIA Initiatives



Downtown Places & Spaces Strategy



Need for a Public Space Strategy

- There is no comprehensive public space and public life strategy for the downtown
- Significant growth continues
- Community expectations for public spaces
- Conflicting objectives and interests
- Policy issues, e.g. privately-owned public spaces (POPS)



Approach to the Strategy

The strategy will be guided by:

- Greenest City Action Plan
- Transportation 2040
- Healthy City Strategy Action Plan
- Vancouver Economic Action Strategy
- West End Plan
- Design/character area guidelines
- VIVA Refresh and Park Board's Parks and Recreation Services Master plan

Downtown Places & Spaces Strategy



Key Objectives

- Elevate discussion on public space to help shape public life in the Downtown as part of the City Core 2050 Vision
- Foster exceptional, vibrant and memorable public spaces, places and experiences
- Build partnerships within communities and between the City and organizations, groups and individuals





Strategy Deliverables

The strategy will provide:

- Public space values and principles
- An inventory of public spaces and needs
- Public life and public space studies
- Policy guidance on POPS and other policy issues
- Opportunities for community partnerships

Work Program & Engagement

Creative,
Meaningful
& Inclusive
Engagement



Work Program & Engagement

Action While Planning
& Partnerships



Downtown
Places &
Spaces
Strategy

VIVA VAN
COU
VER

Engagement, Activations
& Pilot Projects



Work Program & Engagement

Public Space &
Public Life Study

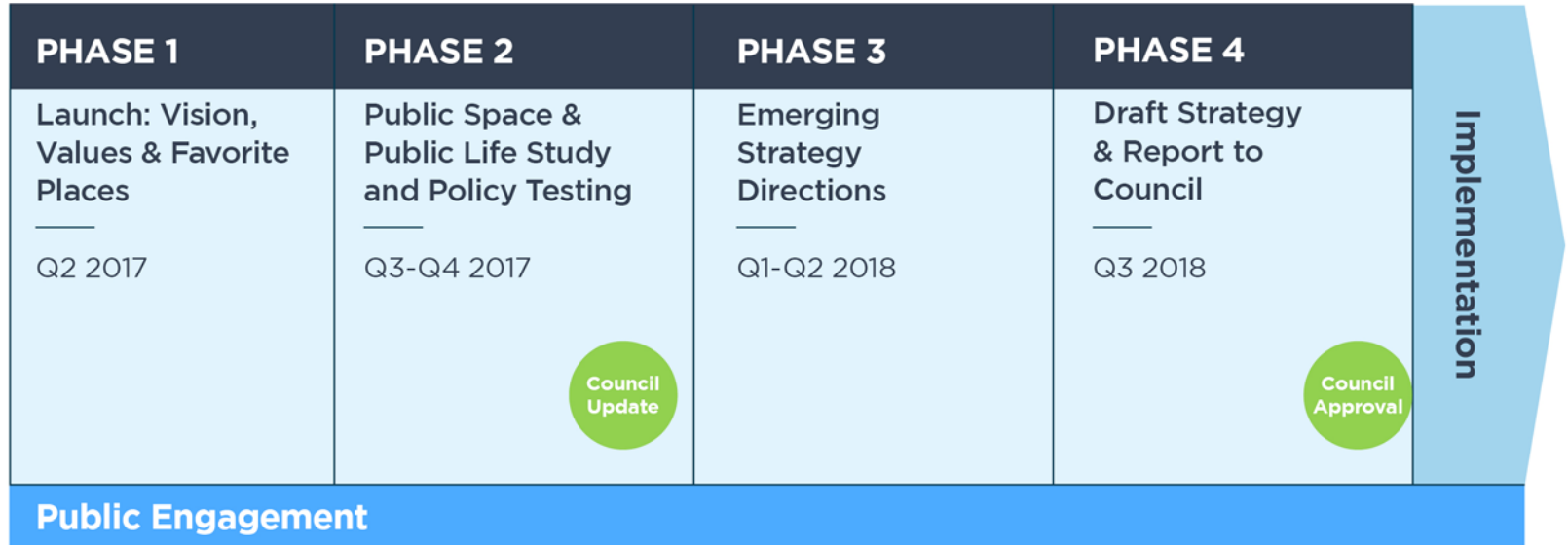
“Public life” is that part of our social lives that occurs in public spaces.

Downtown Values & Spaces Strategy



Work Program & Engagement

Work Program Timeline 2017-18 (18 months)





Thank you

“ Cultures and climates differ all over the world, but people are the same. They’ll gather in public if you give them a good place to do it. ”

Jan Gehl