

CITYPLAN DIRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY VISIONS DIRECTIONS

The Community Visions Program terms of reference specify that the Community Visions must address all CityPlan topics, and move in CityPlan directions. The following notes describe how the Hastings-Sunrise (H-S) and Renfrew-Collingwood (R-C) Community Vision Directions do this. In each case, the overall CityPlan Direction is quoted and the ways in which the Visions promote it are summarized. The level of support at the CityPlan final survey [CityPlan: A Survey of Vancouver Residents, October 1994] is compared with the level of support in the Visions Choices Surveys. Additional facts that may be helpful are provided in some cases.

The CityPlan topics are:

1. Neighbourhood Centres
2. Neighbourhood Housing Variety
3. Distinctive Neighbourhood Character
4. Accessible, Community-based Services
5. Working Together to Promote Safety
6. Addressing Housing Costs
7. Art and Culture in a Creative City
8. New and More Diverse Public Places
9. Diverse Economy and Jobs Close to Home
10. Transit, Walking, and Biking as a Priority
11. Clean Air and Water
12. Downtown Vancouver
13. People Involved in Decision-Making
14. Financial Accountability

1. Neighbourhood Centres

CityPlan Direction

"Create neighbourhoods that provide residents with a variety of housing, jobs, and services; create neighbourhood centres that become the civic, public heart of each neighbourhood; and plan the centres with local people to meet the current and emerging needs of residents and local businesses."

Community Visions

- H-S: Confirms three key shopping areas, all along bus routes (which already have housing potential above shops) to act as neighbourhood centres; calls for their improvement into better community places; supports additional housing variety around all centres; calls for new or relocating community services to consider centres locations; and promotes pedestrian and transit amenity in centres. The library and a community centre are already located in or adjacent to the centres.
- R-C: Confirms three shopping areas along bus routes, (all have housing potential above shops, and one already has significant housing variety on adjacent CD-1 sites) to act as neighbourhood centres; supports additional housing variety adjacent to all centres; promotes pedestrian and transit amenity in centres. The community centre and two branch libraries are currently located within the potential neighbourhood centres and a supported Direction identifies shopping areas as locations for new services and/or relocating facilities.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support for neighbourhood centres [50%] was increased in terms of support for strengthening and improving shopping areas (H-S 63% - 95%; R-C 60% - 93%). These areas already have housing potential and Vision Directions add to this (see below).

2. Neighbourhood Housing Variety

CityPlan Direction

"Increase neighbourhood housing variety throughout the city, especially in neighbourhood centres; and give people the opportunity to stay in their neighbourhoods as their housing needs change and, by doing so, take a share of regional growth."

Community Visions

- H-S: Existing zoned capacity of 3,200 units could be increased by up to 2,100 units through supported Directions on homes with two suites and new housing variety around commercial areas. The demand estimate for 2021 is for 2,500 additional units, which could be fully met. Additional seniors' housing is also supported.

R-C: Existing zoned capacity of 2,300 units, could be increased by up to 1,900 units through Directions to increase the area which allows rental suites and to add housing capacity around neighbourhood centres. The demand estimate for an additional 3,500 units by 2021 could be fully met. Additional seniors' housing is also supported.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support [50%] has been somewhat increased. Support for homes with two suites and new housing variety around centres in H-S was 63% - 66%, and for rental suites in more areas and new housing variety around centres in R-C was 54% - 65%. Overall, 83% of respondents in H-S (65% in R-C) supported at least one of the new types of housing described in the Choices Survey. Support for seniors housing was 81% - 86%.

3. Distinctive Neighbourhood Character

CityPlan Direction

"Support the creation of a distinctive look and feel for each neighbourhood; and use guidelines based on this character to determine the design of new development."

Community Visions

H-S: Supports protecting existing residential areas; design review for new single family houses; retention of character and heritage buildings; new housing types subject to design controls; improvements to appearance of local shopping areas; more greening of parks, streets and lanes; and protection of public views.

R-C: Similar to Hastings-Sunrise.

Level of Support

Support level in CityPlan survey [67%] is paralleled by support for Directions on design review (H-S 74%/68%; R-C 65%/64%), older character buildings (H-S 75%/70%, R-C 61%/65%). H-S also supported contextual zoning in character areas (73%/68%).

4. Accessible, Community-based Services

CityPlan Direction

"Provide better access to City services for people who most need them and for people who currently have difficulty getting the services they require; and increasingly deliver services locally and in consultation with users."

Community Visions

Out of the broad range of services in the communities, the Vision workshops focussed on services and facilities that are either provided directly by, or partly funded by, the City.

H-S: Support for Directions about more focus on seniors and youth in recreation programming; more variety in park design and activities to serve a diverse population; better information on City services in appropriate languages; improved library services; and locating new facilities/services in shopping areas.

R-C: Similar to Hastings-Sunrise.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support was 70% for a very general statement. The range of agreement for the wide variety of services Directions [H-S 63% - 79%, R-C 64% - 76%] shows which ones have more support.

5. Working Together to Promote Safety

CityPlan Direction

"Improve community safety by emphasizing the prevention of crime and reducing unsafe conditions."

Community Visions

H-S: Supports individual, community and City effort on community crime prevention, including support for CPCs and making police more responsive to community needs; support for additional attention to safety in park design; and more preventative measures to reduce youth crime. Also strong support for a comprehensive study of prostitution to reduce community impacts.

R-C: Similar to Hastings-Sunrise.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support [84%] generally increased [H-S 77% - 89%, R-C 82% - 91%].

6. Addressing Housing Costs

CityPlan Direction

"Increase the supply of subsidized and lower cost market housing throughout the city through the use of senior government programs, private sector initiatives, and City regulations and subsidies."

Community Visions

Both Communities:

- Accept, and had no suggestions to add to, existing City tools for non-market housing and SNRFs;
- Support new ground-oriented housing as a way of making units with some single family features available at a lower price than new single family houses;
- Support housing designated for seniors; and
- Support urging senior governments to re-instate social housing programs and assist low income households with housing.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan support was 67%. H-S and R-C support for new housing types is described above. For seniors designated housing, support was higher (H-S 86%/87%, R-C 81%/82%). Support for senior government initiatives was 71%/64% in H-S and 57/65% in R-C.

7. Art and Culture in a Creative City

CityPlan Direction

"Make Vancouver a City where creativity is valued and contributes to our cultural, social, and economic development; and expand partnerships between arts organizations, civic institutions, and the private sector that reflect neighbourhood needs, cultural diversity, and the artist's role."

Community Visions

Public arts and culture programs were discussed in the workshops. Arts and culture initiatives were seen as contributing to other Directions, such as improvements to neighbourhood centres, neighbourhood greenways, improvements to arterials, parks and school grounds. Each community supported a Direction on more public art in parks and public places.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan support was 55%. In both communities the Direction on art in public places had a higher level of support (H-S: 67%/59%, R-C: 61%/57%).

8. New and More Diverse Public Places

CityPlan Direction

"Ensure that the number and quality of the city's public places (parks, streets, schools, institutions, plazas) matches the needs of a growing and increasingly diverse population; and encourage neighbourhoods and businesses to participate in enhancing the city's public places."

Community Visions

Both Communities:

Directions on greening in public streets, more variety in the design of parks and school grounds, and preserving public views all support the CityPlan Direction and make it more specific. Other related Directions include improving shopping areas; improving arterials; pursuing greenways and community walking and biking routes; and improving cleanliness and upkeep. R-C Vision also addresses the park space deficiency in that community.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support was 85%. Support for Directions on greening parks, streets and lanes was generally the same or higher (H-S 85% - 88%, R-C 78% - 85%).

9. Diverse Economy and Jobs Close to Home

CityPlan Direction

"Increase the number and choice of jobs in the city; and concentrate major job growth in the downtown, maintain industrial areas, and focus other job growth in neighbourhood centres."

Community Visions

This CityPlan Direction can only be addressed in a limited way through local Visions. However, both Visions do call for supporting local shops and services in neighbourhood centres, and for supporting formation of business associations and BIAs.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan support was 58%. Directions relating to strengthening shopping areas were supported 64% - 87% in Hastings-Sunrise and 70% - 93% in Renfrew-Collingwood. Limiting "big box" stores and malls that would harm local shopping was supported by 65%/66% in Hastings-Sunrise, 60%/66% in Renfrew-Collingwood. Supporting business associations or BIAs had 74%/75% agreement in Hastings-Sunrise and 68%/70% in Renfrew-Collingwood.

10. Transit, Walking, and Biking as a Priority

CityPlan Direction

"Enhance the transportation system to provide a greater emphasis on transit, walking, and biking within and between neighbourhood centres and the downtown; and make better use of the existing street system for moving people and goods."

Community Visions

Both communities have a number of Directions that further the CityPlan direction, as well as being consistent with the City's Transportation Plan. Both Hastings-Sunrise and Renfrew-Collingwood emphasize the need to make their arterial streets easier to cross, safer, and easier to live with, even while recognizing their traffic roles. R-C supports redesignation of several secondary arterial to neighbourhood collectors and H-S would like to see more traffic calming adjacent to arterials. Both communities support bikeways and greenways, and suggest improvement to local walking and biking links. Both communities support better transit service and amenities, improved transit priority on streets, and a review of transit fares. These Directions are augmented by the Directions on improving shopping areas for pedestrian safety and comfort.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan survey support was 67%. H-S's 20 adopted transportation Directions were supported by 59% - 84%; R-C's 20 Directions by 55% - 85%.

11. Clean Air and Water

CityPlan Direction

"Make improving the environment a priority in decision-making with particular attention to air and water quality; and to involve individuals and businesses directly in actions that protect and improve the environment."

Community Visions

Most of the Visions topics have an aspect of environmental sustainability inherent in them:

- Transportation and housing Directions that are consistent with City goals to reduce commuting to assist with air quality; and
- Directions related to greening and planting, which furthers air quality, as well as stormwater quality

In terms of Directions specifically labelled "environmental", both communities strongly supported Directions on energy and water conservation, increasing recycling and composting, and creating a cleaner community.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan level of support was 81%. Support levels for the specific environmental directions are higher: H-S 82% - 94%, R-C 74% - 93%. Support levels have already been quoted for the Directions on new housing types, transportation, and greening.

12. Downtown Vancouver

This CityPlan section deals with Directions related to the central area, and does not apply to these two communities.

13. People Involved in Decision-making

CityPlan Direction

"Provide opportunities for meaningful participation in a broad range of Council decisions; bring citizens and City staff together to resolve community issues; and ensure a broad constituency takes part in city-wide decisions and neighbourhood planning."

Community Visions

The Visions Program itself is an example of carrying out this CityPlan direction. Both communities supported Directions calling for more involvement in decisions that affect their

community and a new program of neighbourhood capital grants to be spent on community priorities. H-S also supported neighbourhood decision-making while R-C sought more partnerships with the City on community projects.

Level of Support

Prior CityPlan level of support [65%] was increased [H-S 80%-86%, R-C 78%-86%].

14. Financial Accountability

CityPlan Direction

"Continue to take a cautious approach towards increasing City spending; use CityPlan directions to re-direct the allocation of the City's budget; and provide more public information on the nature and location of City spending."

Community Visions

The CityPlan Direction was treated as a "given" in the Program. Information on the City's sources of funds was provided in Workshops and the Choices Survey, together with the fact that tax levels, related operating and capital spending would not likely increase. Development Cost Levies and user fees were also noted as additional funding sources.

The Visions provide guidance about the priorities of the communities, and where they would like to see some redirection of City resources. Below are some items on which the City spends, and the level of support for related Directions:

	H-S Support	R-C Support
Garbage/clean-up services		
- throughout community	94%/94%	93%/95%
- in commercial areas	83% - 95%	89% - 93%
Shopping area improvements (sidewalks, trees, etc)	77% - 85%	77% - 84%
Crime prevention, incl. support for CPCs	84% - 89%	82% - 91%
Library service improvements (hours, collections etc)	84%/89%	75%/72%
Recreation:		
- upgrade Pools (New Brighton and Renfrew)	79%/76%	67%/66%
- more Diverse Park Design/Activities	88%/85%	85%/88%
- youth services/facilities	79%/75%	75%/77%
- seniors services/facilities	79%/80%	76%/74%
Traffic calming	69%/65%	70%/66%

Participation Overview

Step	Outreach and Events - Both Communities	H-S Statistics	R-C Statistics
1. Getting in Touch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calls to and meetings with all community organizations; school PACs, associations, community centres, church/temple groups; • Recruiting of Community Liaison Group, which met at intervals throughout the process; • Newsletter #1: to all households, businesses and absentee owners, introducing program, advertising Visions Fairs; English and Chinese; • Press release, advertisements for Visions Fairs in local English and Chinese press, Chinese media interviews; school flyers; • Set up of community web pages for both communities; and • Mini-displays in libraries, community centres, and neighbourhood houses. 	<p>45 meetings plus calls</p> <p>37 members: range of demographics</p> <p>14,298 households+</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>5</p>	<p>23 meetings plus calls</p> <p>28 members: range of demographics</p> <p>14,655 households+</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>4</p>
2. Creating Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visions Fairs: April 2002, two "kick-off" weekends at Hastings and Renfrew community centres; interactive displays by City and community groups; • Creative workshops June-Nov. 2002, developing ideas/ options for draft Vision Directions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - main workshops: six topics (4 - 10 hours each), English language but with Chinese small group discussion where desired; - special multi-cultural workshops in Chinese (2 - 3 hours each); - youth workshops at High Schools; and - business association or BIA open houses. • Advertise for workshops twice in local English and Chinese press; school flyers; banners; • Mini-displays updated in libraries, community centres, and neighbourhood houses; • Newsletter #2 to all households, businesses, absentee owners; update and reminder re program; English and Chinese. 	<p>About 700 attendees</p> <p>- 334 attendees</p> <p>- 88 attendees</p> <p>- 195 attendees</p> <p>- 62 attendees</p> <p>✓</p> <p>5</p>	<p>About 900 attendees</p> <p>- 322 attendees</p> <p>- 66 attendees</p> <p>- 229 attendees</p> <p>- 25 attendees</p> <p>✓</p> <p>4</p> <p>14,655 households+</p>

Step	Outreach and Events - Both Communities	H-S Statistics	R-C Statistics
3. Choosing Directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choices Survey with draft Vision Directions; 75 pages with English and Chinese versions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to all households, businesses, absentee owners; - for targeted households, translated version with the English version; and - special mailing and follow up to random sample. 	14,298 households+: - 13% return (general and random) - 18%/17% of the returns were in Chinese	14,655 households+: - 13% return (general and random) - 26%/29% of the returns were in Chinese
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach to publicize and promote return of surveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calls, meetings with community organizations as in step 1 - "meet and greet" at community and school events 	35 meetings or events	38 meetings or events
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press release; advertise in local English and Chinese press; school flyers; banners; and 	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini-displays updated in libraries, community centres, and neighbourhood houses. 	5	4
4. Finalizing the Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming Newsletter #3: "Vision Approved" to all households, businesses, absentee owners summarizing adopted Community Vision; English and Chinese; and 	14,298 households+	14,655 households+
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Community Vision document: available on request and posted on community web pages. 	✓	✓

Renfrew-Collingwood Community Vision
Community Liaison Group Statement
February 2004

To: Mayor Campbell and Members of City Council,

Over the past two years, we, the residents of Renfrew Collingwood neighbourhood have been engaged in shaping our Vision of our community for years to come.

The Renfrew Collingwood community is one of the oldest neighbourhoods of Vancouver, and one whose full potential is yet to be realized. Located centrally within Greater Vancouver, our neighbourhood has been undergoing revitalization over the past few years, with significant changes due to population growth and development. This has further reinforced by the reputation of our community as socially welcoming and transportation accessible. Our neighbourhood is a reflection of the diverse and vibrant people who call it home.

Recently, through our response to the Choices Survey, our community identified its future. Our Vision for our community seeks to manage change progressively, by making improvements in public places and developing vibrant centers. We want our neighbourhood to be safe for all forms of mobility and responsive to services that are essential for quality of life. We value our unique green spaces and wish to protect and build on them for future generations.

We are here today to seek your adoption of our Vision and to voice our endorsement of the Community Vision process as a model for resident-led planning. For this model to succeed, resources must continue to be dedicated to both the continued process of refinement of the plan and to ensure timely implementation.

We want to thank City Staff for their ongoing support and dedication. We learned a lot through this process, about our neighbourhood, ourselves, and our City. We look forward to furthering our relationship with the City in the realization of our Vision.

Hastings-Sunrise Community Vision
Community Liaison Group Statement
February 2004

Good Afternoon Mayor Campbell and members of City Council, my name is Patricia Barnes, Executive Director of the Hastings-North Business Improvement Association. With me today is Stewart Anderson. Together we represent the Hastings Sunrise Community Liaison Group. We are pleased to support the Vision for our Community which is being presented to you today for adoption.

Our group has been involved with this process for almost two years. As well, the citizens of Hastings-Sunrise have actively participated in Vision community meetings, workshops, and the Choices Survey. In addition to the formal Vision Process, external factors such as the change in the City's policy on gaming, the future of the PNE, and development within and around the Port of Vancouver have inspired the Community to mobilize and ensure its voice is heard.

The Vision before you today is the result of this Community effort to define itself, its goals, and its direction for the future. There is a strong message of continued community consultation and involvement, and the desire to make Hastings-Sunrise safer, greener, and more vibrant and connected within the larger community of Vancouver. Future regional development and the impact on our community as host to this development is obviously a concern of residents.

The current planning and discussions about future development in our community are significant. As hosts to this development, residents are concerned, and we want to remain involved in the planning of these projects. We appreciate City Council's agreement in December to defer the decision on gaming in Hastings Park to ensure that the Community's voice would be heard as to the future of this invaluable asset within our City. We trust that you will now refer to the Hastings-Sunrise Vision when considering new developments within our Community.

We wish to acknowledge the leadership and guidance provided by City Staff. Ted Sebastian, Angela Ko, and Joanne Franko lead the Community through this process with patience and sensitivity, keeping us focused on the development of the Vision before you today.

We are proud to live and work in the Hastings-Sunrise Community, and we look forward to working together with the City to ensure that the Vision Directions which have been developed to guide its future are respected and implemented.

The first step to implementation is your adoption of the Community's Vision, and we thank you for your support in this process.

Thank you.

Hastings-Sunrise and Renfrew-Collingwood Community Visions
City Perspectives Panel Comments
February 2004

To: Mayor Campbell and Council:

Our role as the City Perspectives Panel has been to advise on how well the Community Visions for Renfrew-Collingwood and Hastings-Sunrise fit with CityPlan, the overall guide for the city and the framework for the Community Visions Program. Community Visions are intended to move in CityPlan directions in a way that suits each community.

Our first task was to review the draft Visions Choices Survey for each community and to provide comments (included in the survey) for community-wide consideration. Our final task has been to review the resulting draft Visions and provide comments to City Council.

We find that the draft Visions do fit well with CityPlan. The draft Visions make good progress on moving in CityPlan directions.

We have compared the Vision results to the "Ground Rules", contained in the Program Terms of Reference (Section 1), and have drawn the following conclusions:

- Visions must include all CityPlan topics.
 - Yes.
- Each community must consider information on CityPlan directions that define local, city-wide, and regional needs.
 - Yes. Renfrew-Collingwood and Hastings-Sunrise have pursued a balanced approach to many issues, responding to community concerns while respecting the concerns of adjacent neighbourhoods and the city as a whole. Examples of this include the directions to initiate a city-wide process to examine the issues around prostitution, and the directions to build more complete communities within neighbourhood centres. We do have some concerns about locating regional-serving stores within neighbourhood centres, and we would want to ensure that all decision-making bodies - including those based in the community - seek to balance local community goals with overall city objectives.
- The consequences of Vision directions must be described to the community while considering the "rights" of the neighbourhood and its "responsibility" as part of the city and region.
 - Yes. Again, we would cite the directions respecting prostitution and neighbourhood centres. We would also note that key regional issues involving housing and transportation have been dealt with in the Visions. With respect to housing, the approved Vision directions (i.e., adding units to existing buildings, adding housing around neighbourhood centres) could mean an additional 1,900 units in Renfrew-Collingwood and an additional 2,100 units in Hastings-Sunrise. With respect to transportation, both communities seek to make crossing arterials safer without restricting traffic and both communities seek creative ways to encourage walking, biking, and transit.
- Vision options and the preferred Vision must move the community in CityPlan directions.
 - Yes.

The CPP: Darren Chung, Marta Farevaarg, James Lee, Judy Glick, Andrea Rolls, and Suzanne Allard Strutt