

B.3

MOTION ON NOTICE

3. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Targets (VanRIMS No. 11-2000-14)

MOVED by Councillor Peter Ladner

SECONDED by Councillor

WHEREAS:

1. the World Mayors Council on Climate Change in Kyoto, Feb. 2007, adopted GHG reduction targets of 30% by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050;
2. the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change has called for a 50% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2050 worldwide, putting an expectation on developed countries to do better than 50%;
3. the UK government has introduced a bill to enforce a legally binding target of a 60 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2050;
4. the B.C. government has committed to reducing GHG emissions by 33% current levels by 2020, which will place emissions 10% under 1990 levels;
5. Vancouver has a goal of being the most sustainable city in the world and is already pursuing reduced global warming emissions based on a target of reductions to 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2012, and has initiated a major EcoDensity initiative to address land use and density in achieving these goals;
6. Council has passed a motion directing staff "to begin planning a significant reduction target beyond 2012, in partnership with provincial greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and considering the eventual goal of a carbon-neutral city";
7. Vancouver's current strategy lacks a long-term target and a process for community involvement in achieving that target;
8. Edward Mazria of Architecture 2030 demonstrated the importance of targets when he recently spoke in Vancouver as part of the city's EcoDensity initiative, advocating carbon neutrality in new buildings by 2030;
9. major infrastructure planning occurs over decades, not years, requiring an immediate goal for the long-term future to adequately plan infrastructure investments today;
10. GHG reduction also addresses reducing our dependence on oil, given concerns about peak oil and the rising cost of oil.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT Vancouver set a target of a city-wide reduction of 33 per cent of current GHG emissions by 2020 and an 80 per cent reduction by 2050, with carbon neutrality for all new buildings by 2030.
2. AND THAT as part of the upcoming report on the status of Vancouver's Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans, staff comment on how those existing plans will move Vancouver towards these longer range targets, and on what the next steps should be.

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