

REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT EVALUATION

The Regional Context Statement (RCS) has been reviewed in accordance with the evaluation framework approved by the CRD Board on April 11, 2018. The evaluation framework relies on the three criteria shown below.

1. **All relevant content is included:** The regional context statement addresses all Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) content relevant to the Official Community Plan (OCP). Content that is not applicable in the context of the OCP should be identified as “not applicable”.

***Example:** The regional context statement contains headers, sections, a table or other such format that clearly identifies each applicable RGS objective. Should an objective not apply, such as if a municipality contains no identified food or farmlands, the context statement would note that the objective does not apply.*





2. **Clearly articulates relevant content:** The regional context statement provides a sufficient level of detail to convey how the specific OCP content relates to the RGS.

***Example:** The regional context statement provides content specificity such that it is clear what the Board is accepting. An example is: “RGS Objective X is implemented by building in “...” location, at a range of “...” densities and proximate to “...” services.” A context statement with content as follows: “RGS Objective X is implemented with OCP policies A, B and C” would not be sufficiently specific.*

3. **Plan to be consistent over time:** The regional context statement identifies how the OCP will become consistent with the RGS over time, if content is not immediately consistent.

***Example:** A regional context statement identifies that a municipality will undertake a population projection to determine how to align with the RGS population projections over time.*

Table 1. Regional Context Statement Evaluation Framework

		Relationship to Legislative Requirement For CRD* Board consideration		
LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
429(2)(a)	Identify how the OCP relates to the RGS vision on p. 1 of the RGS.			N/A
		The RCS addresses all seven topic areas from the RGS and identifies alignment with all objectives.	The RCS references a wide range of OCP policy that identify how the vision of the RGS will be supported.	
429(2)(b)	Identify how the OCP relates to the projections provided in Table 1 of the RGS.			N/A
		The RCS does not directly address RGS Table 1 for population, dwelling, and employment projections, but does reference OCP sections where projections by the City of Victoria are provided.	The RCS references OCP Goal Posts that include projections for population, dwelling, and employment growth. The projections provided are aligned with the RGS.	

Legend: Regional Context Statement Evaluation



Strong alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval





Moderate alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval



Weak alignment with evaluation criteria; do not recommend approval

Relationship to Legislative Requirement
For CRD* Board consideration

LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
		Managing and Balancing Growth (Objectives 1.1 & 1.2)		
				N/A
429(2)(c) and (d); 429(3)	Identify how the OCP relates to the RGS.	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for managing and balancing growth.	<p>The RCS appropriately acknowledges Victoria's role within the region as a prominent population centre and the primary regional employment, business, and cultural centre.</p> <p>The RCS references OCP policies for managing and balancing growth, with a focus on strengthening complete communities, including supporting a new urban form that allows for diverse housing and business types in the downtown core. Policy supporting the alignment of growth with transit and multi-modal transportation is also noted.</p> <p>The RCS notes that while the city is entirely within the Urban Containment Policy Area, it has a role to play in protecting the integrity of rural communities by accommodating a significant proportion of the regional population and employment.</p>	

Legend: Regional Context
Statement Evaluation



Strong alignment with evaluation
criteria; recommend approval





Moderate alignment with evaluation
criteria; recommend approval



Weak alignment with evaluation
criteria; do not recommend approval

Relationship to Legislative Requirement
For CRD Board consideration

LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
Environment and Infrastructure (Objective 2.1 & 2.2)				
	<div>  <p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for environmental protection, sustainability, and the efficient delivery of infrastructure.</p> </div>	<div>  <p>The RCS supports RGS principles of protecting, conserving, and managing ecosystem health. OCP policies related to RGS objectives for reducing the demand for natural resources, minimizing waste, and supporting sustainable energy use and urban food system.</p> <p>The RCS references and supports RGS policy for Green Blue Networks, supporting biodiversity, and preserving natural assets. The OCP views ecosystem and population health as core priorities of land use and transportation network planning.</p> <p>The RCS references OCP policy that aligns with RGS Objective 2.2 to manage regional infrastructure services sustainably by focusing growth in the downtown core and primary growth areas. The OCP includes policies for sustainable efficient management of municipal infrastructure and alignment with regional infrastructure plan.</p> <p>The OCP also supports a zero net solid waste in partnership with the CRD to avoid negative impacts to the long-term availability of utility services.</p> </div>	N/A	

Legend: Regional Context Statement Evaluation



Strong alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval



Moderate alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval





Weak alignment with evaluation criteria; do not recommend approval


Relationship to Legislative Requirement
For CRD Board consideration

LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
Housing and Community (Objectives 3.1 & 3.2)				
	<div>✓</div> <p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for housing and complete communities.</p>	<div>✓</div> <p>The RCS is aligned with RGS goals for growth in complete communities. Growth is primarily targeted to Priority Growth Areas near community and commercial nodes and along the Transit Priority Network.</p> <p>High density residential and significant employment, institutional, and cultural uses are directed to the Town Centre area.</p> <p>The RCS references OCP policies that support safe and welcoming public spaces for a demographically diverse community, alignment with seismic and tsunami hazard mapping from the CRD, and promoting resilient urban infrastructure that can withstand and adapt to climate impacts.</p> <p>The RCS displays OCP alignment with RGS goals for improving housing affordability. The OCP provides strategies for meeting the targets of most recent Housing Needs Report, which includes both projected population growth and latent demand.</p> <p>The OCP's plan for urban form and land use is aligned with the RGS vision for the region.</p>	N/A	



Legend: Regional Context
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criteria; recommend approval


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Relationship to Legislative Requirement
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LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
	Transportation (Objective 4.1)			
	<div></div> <p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for transportation.</p>	<div></div> <p>The RCS references OCP policies that support the RGS objective to improve multi-modal connectivity and mobility across there region.</p> <p>Residential growth and trip-generating land uses are guided towards transit-oriented nodes and corridors. Support is expressed for strategic investment in public transit, including street improvements that support rapid transit corridors.</p> <p>The RCS notes that the OCP supports RGS objectives to emphasize transit and active transportation.</p>	N/A	



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Relationship to Legislative Requirement
For CRD* Board consideration

LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
	Economic Development (Objective 5.1)			
				N/A
	<p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for economic development.</p>		<p>The RCS shows alignment with the economic development objectives of the RGS through OCP policies focused on maintaining and enhancing employment lands and supporting the RGS target of a jobs to population ratio of 0.60 for the core area. This includes policy to protect industrial lands for future use.</p> <p>Other economic policies that the RCS highlights are focused on attracting new businesses, maintaining a highly skilled workforce, and supporting innovative and adaptable use of commercial space.</p> <p>The RCS references OCP policy supporting the marine sector, both for tourism and industrial marine uses.</p> <p>The RCS also notes OCP policy in support of economic reconciliation and to pursue collaborative economic development with Indigenous communities.</p>	

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Relationship to Legislative Requirement
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LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
	Food and Agricultural Systems (Objective 6.1)			
				
	<p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for food and agricultural systems.</p>		<p>The RCS displays alignment between OCP and RGS policy to foster a resilient food and agriculture system.</p> <p>The RCS supports local and regional food production, processing, and distribution. The OCP is supporting of urban food production and appropriately notes that while the City of Victoria does not have farmland, it is supportive of urban farming approaches</p> <p>Despite this, the City of Victoria still plays a key role in the regional food system through support of food vendors, farmers' markets, and food production facilities.</p> <p>The RCS also notes OCP policy to consider reconciliation in food security actions, and to celebrate local, indigenous, and multicultural food traditions and partners.</p>	

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Statement Evaluation



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criteria; do not recommend approval

Relationship to Legislative Requirement
For CRD* Board consideration

LGA	RCS Content	All relevant content is included	Clearly articulates relevant content	Plan to be consistent over time
	Climate Action (Objective 7.1)			
		✓	✓	
	<p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for climate action.</p> <p>The RCS is aligned with the RGS objectives and policies for reducing community-based greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The land use and compact development approach described in the OCP support resource efficiency and support a low-carbon built form to reduce energy demand.</p> <p>The OCP seeks to minimize GHG production by supporting low-carbon mobility options, efficient district energy systems, and capital investment in low-carbon mobility options.</p> <p>The RCS notes the importance of ecosystem services provided by the Blue Green Network and natural assets, and provides direction for coastal resiliency and community focused adaptation.</p>			

Acronym*	
CRD	Capital Regional District
LGA	Local Government Act
OCP	Official Community Plan
RCS	Regional Context Statement
RGS	Regional Growth Strategy

Legend: Regional Context Statement Evaluation



Strong alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval



Moderate alignment with evaluation criteria; recommend approval



Weak alignment with evaluation criteria; do not recommend approval