

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.	Identifies how the objectives and policies are to be implemented.	
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 identify how the OCP relates to projections in RGS Table 1, however the dwelling projection provided is aligned with RGS projections.	The RCS is aligned with RGS growth targets of approximately 1% per year.	

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)				
429(2)(c) and (d); 429(3)	Identify how the OCP relates to the RGS.			N/A
	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for managing and balancing growth.		The RCS confirms that Highlands will continue to support its historical slow growth in rural areas, with the objective of preserving large areas of natural green space. This approach is aligned with the RGS and upholds the concept of the Urban Containment Boundary.	
Environment and Infrastructure (Objective 2.1 & 2.2)				
				N/A
	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for environmental protection, sustainability, and the efficient delivery of infrastructure.		The RCS supports RGS principles of protecting, conserving, and managing ecosystem health. OCP policies are referenced that support the Capital Greenlands Policy Area, the CRD Parks Master Plan, and targets for the Sea to Sea Green/Blue Belt. The RCS notes that the District of Highlands is not part of regional water or sewer systems. This is appropriate for the rural character of the district and the RCS upholds that the majority of its area is not intended for future urban/suburban growth. This is aligned with RGS objectives to manage regional infrastructure efficiently and sustainably.	

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)			
		 <p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for housing and complete communities.</p>	 <p>The RCS notes that the majority of the District is outside of the Urban Containment Policy Area and is designated Rural/Rural Residential. The RGS acknowledges that that notions of what makes a community complete in a rural area may be different and that the criteria for complete communities don't apply in Rural/Rural Residential Areas.</p> <p>On the RGS objective to improve housing affordability, the RCS reference policy on the need to encourage housing for a broad spectrum of housing needs. This is being supported through policy supporting secondary housing.</p> <p>It should also be noted that the RCS references the Bear Mountain Comprehensive Development Area, which will provide a mix of housing, employment, services, and recreation.</p>	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
	Transportation (Objective 4.1)				
			✓	✓	N/A
		<p>The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for transportation.</p>		<p>The RCS references OCP policies that support the continued development of roadside trails and encouraging residents to increase transit use.</p> <p>The RCS supports the RGS targets for multi-modal travel.</p>	
	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 notes that the rural character of the District provides limited opportunity for economic development and that it is not expected to be a significant contributor to the job/population ration in the region. Though it is noted that the OCP acknowledges and supports ongoing commercial, industrial, and forest activities.</p> <p>The RCS notes that the Regenerative Development area established in the South Highlands Local Area Plan, and the Bear Mountain Comprehensive Development Area both support employment and economic uses that contribute to the region.</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
	Food and Agricultural Systems (Objective 6.1)			
				
	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for food and agricultural systems.		The RCS notes that the OCP supports a strong and sustainable regional agriculture and food system. The RCS references policies that support food production on private properties and community food gardens.	The RCS notes that consideration of RGS targets for increase food production will be included in the next OCP review.
	Climate Action (Objective 7.1)			
				
	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for climate action.		The RCS aligns with the RGS objective and policies of reducing community-based greenhouse gas emissions. However, it should be noted that the greenhouse gas reduction targets are lower than the targets established in the RGS.	The RCS notes that consideration of RGS targets for greenhouse gas reduction will be reviewed and updated in the next OCP update.

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