

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, but this content is available in Appendix A – Community Profile. Projections for population (pg. 256), dwellings (pg. 261), and employment (pg. 263) are provided.		The RCS contemplates three levels of growth scenario, with the low growth projection of 1.1% yearly growth aligning most closely with the CRD’s 1% per year growth target for the region.	
			Dwelling projections using the provincial Housing Needs Report methodology exceed RGS projections, but this is due to changing policy and provincial housing target increases since the last RGS update.	

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 identifies OCP sections with growth management policies that are aligned with RGS objectives. The focus of future growth will be in higher density development around mobility hubs and in two designated transit-oriented areas and with infill development and small-scale multi-unit housing in other areas.	
			The RCS displays alignment with RGS objective 2.1 to protect the integrity of rural communities by directing new development within the urban containment boundary and limiting development in rural designated areas. Development is also discouraged in environmentally sensitive areas.	

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)				
		 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. This includes protection and preservation of watercourses, shorelines, and terrestrial habitats. Priorities are expressed for preservation of green space, implementation of the Urban Forestry Strategy, and watershed protection. The RCS speaks to the RGS objective to manage regional infrastructure services sustainably with a focus on infrastructure development that is fiscally responsible, with full lifecycle and maintenance costing, and with consideration for mitigating adverse impact of climate change. The OCP also discourages extension of infrastructure services beyond the Urban Containment Boundary.	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)				
		 The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for housing and complete communities.	 The RCS speaks to the RGS objective for creating safe and complete communities with a focus on providing diverse housing forms, access to employment and daily needs to support community members of all ages and abilities. The RCS highlights the OCPs focus on the relationship between land use, transportation, parks and trails, community amenities, servicing infrastructure, and tree canopy coverage as a means of strengthening physical and social connections between neighbourhoods. Regarding the RGS objective for improving housing affordability, the RCS identifies OCP policy to incorporate accessible and adaptable housing units into multi-unit residential development. The OCP also addresses how the Town could support below market and supportive housing through density bonusing and inclusionary zoning regulations.	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)



The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for transportation.



The RCS highlights the need to align higher density mixed-use development with improved transportation options by focusing growth around designated mobility hubs. It also seeks to expand mobility options and ensure sufficient infrastructure throughout the community.

Support is expressed for working with neighbouring local governments on transportation demand management strategies as a means of reducing congestion.

The RCS acknowledges the role of trails in providing opportunities for both leisure and transportation and prioritizes enhancing connections to support walking, cycling, and rolling as primary modes of transport. This is particularly important in View Royal as a key connecting point for regional trails.

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

Economic Development (Objective 5.1)



The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for economic development.



The RCS highlights the importance of the Western Gateway Corridor along Island Highway as a growing employment hub. The OCP supports a range of employment-oriented uses and locating higher density development in this area.

The OCP aims to attract new business and industry, particularly in health services, technology, and tourism.

The need for a local economic development strategy is noted.

N/A

Food and Agricultural Systems (Objective 6.1)



The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for food and agricultural systems.



The RCS identifies that the OCP supports food systems by protecting rural lands to encourage farming and agriculture as a primary use, supporting initiatives for sustainable food waste management, and the development of a food security strategy.

There is also a commitment to collaborating with X^wsepsəm and Songhees Nations to support traditional Indigenous food systems.

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
Climate Action (Objective 7.1)				
	The RCS identifies how the OCP aligns with RGS objectives for climate action.		<p>The RCS aligns with the RGS objective and policies for reducing community-based greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Compact built form, alternative modes of transport, and a lower carbon footprint are all prioritized. A wide range of OCP policies encourage climate-resilient development and infrastructure.</p> <p>The RCS notes the importance of protecting natural assets, planning for climate resiliency, and protecting the public from hazardous areas susceptible to the impacts of climate change.</p>	N/A

Acronym*	
CRD	Capital Regional District
LGA	<i>Local Government Act</i>
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