

Are you concerned about climate change?

City of Courtenay Open House
Official Community Plan Review

***Greenhouse Gas Reduction
Targets, Strategies & Actions***

Wednesday, September 15

Florence Filberg Centre
Conference Hall, Courtenay

Doors open: 4 - 7 pm

Presentation: 5 - 6 pm



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The challenge

- **Carbon dioxide emissions are increasing world wide**
- **Global temperatures increase as carbon dioxide increases in the Earth's atmosphere**
- **Climate science models predict that a number of consequences are likely, the greatest of which is less predictable weather patterns**
- **Global fossil energy reserves are diminishing**

Everyone is asking – what can we do about it?

What governments are doing

- Provincial goals – BC Climate Action Plan
- Local Government – Bill 27
 - One community-wide GHG reduction target
 - Strategies and actions to reduce emissions
- Federal action
- International - Copenhagen



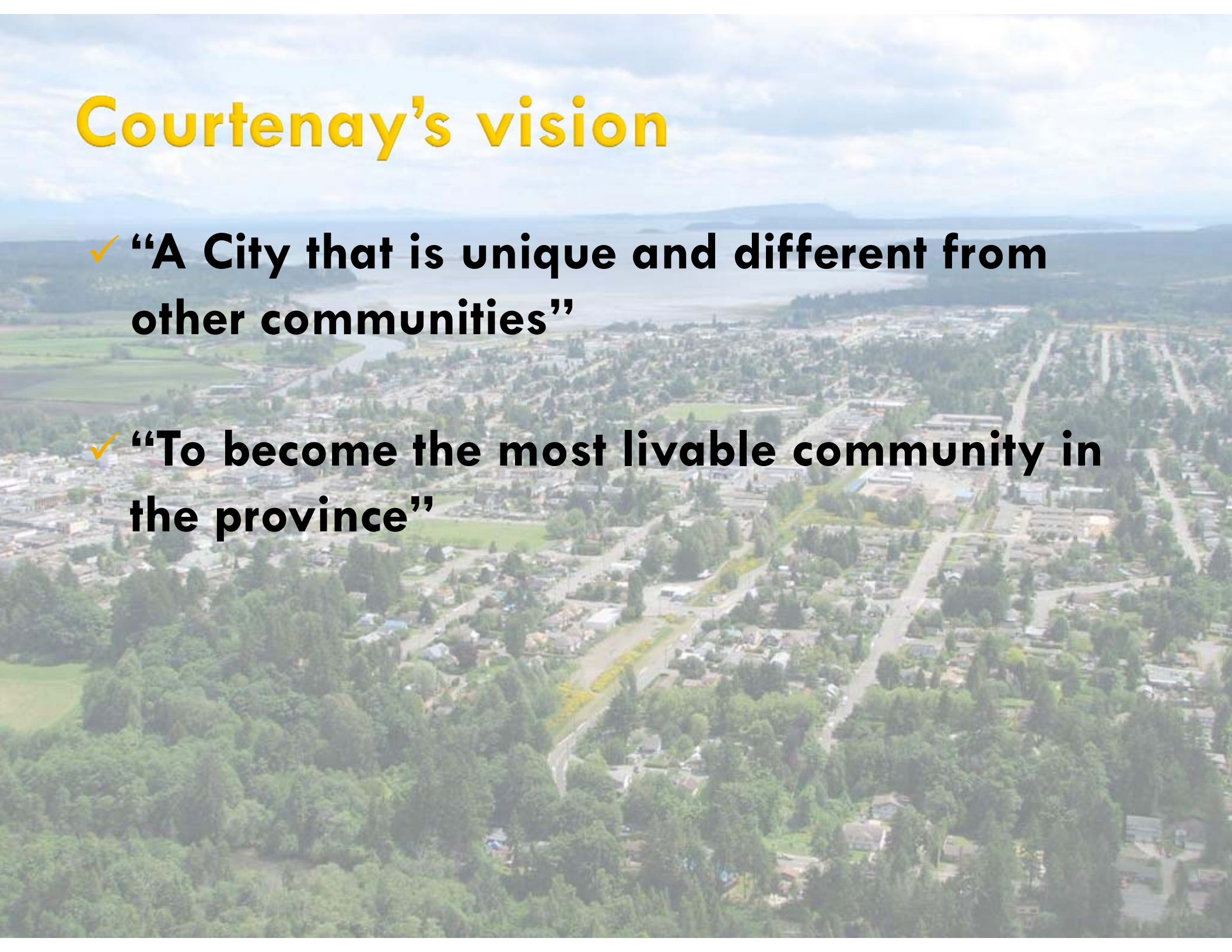
How can the Official Community Plan help us meet our climate change goals?

- Provides comprehensive, strategic and high-level policies on land use, transportation, servicing as well as social, economic and environmental goals
- Vision of the community

Review has revealed that many of the policies supported at that time are still consistent with best practices low carbon community development

Courtenay's vision

- ✓ **“A City that is unique and different from other communities”**
- ✓ **“To become the most livable community in the province”**



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- ✓ **Inclusive, open and caring community**
 - ✓ **Commitment to continued excellence**
 - ✓ **A strong downtown**
 - ✓ **High levels of aesthetic and architectural design**
 - ✓ **Premier regional centre for arts and culture**
 - ✓ **Ability to lead growth and provision of services**
 - ✓ **Center of commerce for the Comox Valley**
 - ✓ **An expanding parks, natural areas and greenway system**
 - ✓ **A strategy to lead in environmental protection**
 - ✓ **Commitment to serve youth and seniors**
 - ✓ **Support for a viable agricultural economy and ensure the protection of agricultural lands**

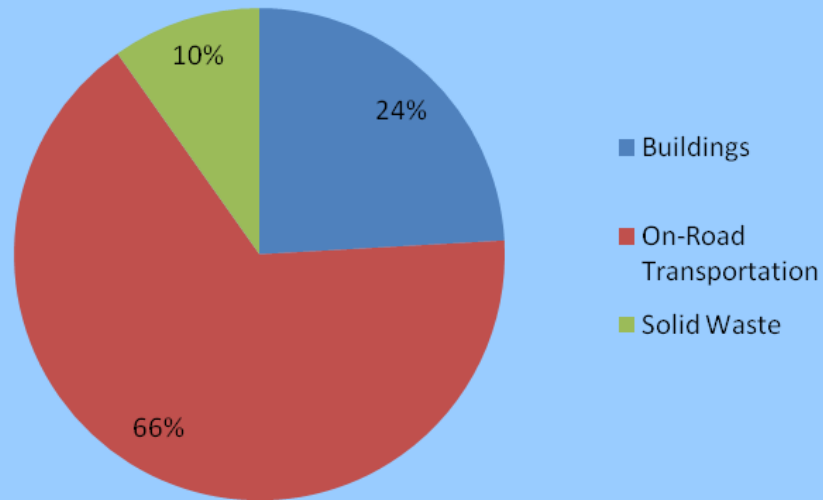


So what can the City of Courtenay and residents do about climate change?



Measuring emissions and setting targets

Courtenay's community-wide GHG emissions sources, 2007



	2007 baseline data	Projections for 2020
Courtenay population	24,500	33,000
Total community-wide GHG emissions (tonnes)	140,111	188,568*
Per capita emissions (tonnes of GHGs/person/annum)	5.7	Target: 112,089 Target: 3.4

*Projected emissions with no community – wide climate action

Opportunities

- **Land uses can be planned to make efficient use of serviceable land base; sensitive areas can be protected**
 - ✓ **Infill development**
 - ✓ **Inclusion of GHG emissions criteria in DPAs**
 - ✓ **Increased protection of Environmentally Sensitive Areas**
- **Transportation emissions can be significantly reduced**
 - ✓ **Providing infrastructure for low emission modes**
 - ✓ **Cycling Plan**

Opportunities

→ **Energy efficiency of buildings in the community can be improved**

✓ **New 'green' BC Building Code**

✓ **Lower DCC rates for low impact development**

→ **Green infrastructure can be maintained and enhanced**

✓ **Comprehensive parks plan**

✓ **Improved Tree Bylaw to retain and enhance the City's Urban Forest**

Overarching sustainability goals

- ✓ To incorporate triple bottom line accounting into decision making
- ✓ To incorporate life cycle cost analysis in decision making
- ✓ To adopt a precautionary approach when unsure of risk of a decision
- ✓ To aim to achieve multiple-objectives in policy decisions
- ✓ To strengthen community resiliency to changing resource supplies – food, energy, groundwater security – as an adaptation measure to future uncertainty around these commodities
- ✓ To acknowledge and incorporate relevant adopted policies and plans, including those of the Comox Valley Regional District
- ✓ To work towards an inter-departmental and inter-jurisdictional integrated approach to land use planning and development
- ✓ To work with businesses and community-based organizations to achieve community-wide goals

Next steps in the OCP review process

- Summarize public comments and incorporate into recommendations
- Complete the review of initiatives
- Incorporating policies and action strategy into OCP
- Present OCP amendments to Council and public hearing

Goal is to have amendments adopted by end of the year



City of Courtenay
Green House Gas Reduction Strategy
Open House – September 15, 2010

COMMENTS SHEET

If you would like to take this home to complete, please return to City Hall by Wednesday, September 29, 2010. You may also complete it and fax it to: 250 334 4241 or scan and email it to: nhofer@courtenay.ca

Please comment on your perception towards climate change and personal Greenhouse Gas emissions:

1. How concerned are you personally about the issue of climate change? Please circle one:

Extremely concerned Definitely concerned Somewhat concerned Not at all concerned

2. Do you believe that Courtenay as a whole is likely to be affected by climate change? Please circle: Yes / No

3. As far as you know, is there something you can personally do about reducing your personal GHG emissions? Please circle: Yes / No

4. If you answered yes, what do you feel you can do to reduce your and your family's GHG emissions?

Please comment on the ideas being proposed by the City of Courtenay to reduce community-wide Greenhouse Gas emissions:

5. What are your thoughts on the initiatives being proposed?

6. Are any of the initiatives a priority to you?



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SUMMARY SHEET OF PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Feel free to use this summary sheet to complete the comments sheet. Please consult information boards or City staff for more information: Nancy Hofer, nhofer@courtenay.ca or 250 334 4441

The City is proposing a number of initiatives to reduce community-wide Greenhouse Gases emitted in the land use, transportation and building sectors. A community-wide Greenhouse Gas target has also been set. Key points are included below.

TARGETS

	2007 baseline data	Projections for 2020
Courtenay population	24,500	33,000
Total community-wide GHG emissions (tonnes)	140,111	188,568* Target: 112,089**
Per capita emissions (tonnes of GHGs/person/annum)	5.7	Target: 3.4**
*Projected emissions with no community – wide climate action ** Projected emissions with a 20% reduction target below 2007 levels		

PROPOSED INITIATIVES

Land Use

1. Conduct an Integrated River Basin Management planning process to ensure that cumulative land uses at this scale and flood plain inundation do not adversely affect water quality, habitat values or other public enjoyment of Courtenay's water systems.
2. Include objectives and criteria in Development Permit Area guidelines to promote reduction of GHG emissions and conserve energy and water.
3. Promote infill development in designated single-residential neighbourhoods in the form of secondary suites and auxiliary buildings such as carriage suites.