Engagement Summary Report

Draft NCAP | May 2024

UBC Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan





THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Campus + Community Planning

Cover Page Photo: Family in Wesbrook Place.

Photo Credit: UBC

The engagement activities and findings detailed in this report were designed, implemented, and analyzed by UBC Campus + Community Planning staff.

Land Acknowledgement

The UBC Point Grey campus is situated within the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəý əm (Musqueam) people. For millennia, x^wməθk^wəýəm have been stewards and caretakers of the lands upon which UBC is now located.

These lands are a place of cultural and spiritual learning, welcoming and interacting with visitors to the territory. In pursuit of sustainability, climate action, and climate justice, we understand that they are also a place of learning where the x^wmə θ k^wəýəm acquired knowledge of local plants and animals for their enduring wellbeing and ways of thriving with these resources. UBC is working toward building meaningful, reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnerships with x^wmə θ k^wəýəm.



s?i:4qəý qeqən by Brent Sparrow, x^wməθk^wəýəm Photo Credit: Hover Collective / UBC Brand and Marketing

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How are we defining the UBC neighbourhoods?



The Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan covers UBC's existing neighbourhoods¹: Hampton Place, Hawthorn Place, Wesbrook Place, Chancellor Place, East Campus, as well as the future Stadium and Acadia neighbourhoods.

The rest of the campus (academic core) is covered by the UBC Climate Action Plan 2030², which was launched in 2021.

Land use boundaries are approximate. Precise boundaries to be confirmed in applicable Campus Plan and/or Neighbourhood Plan.

¹Residential rental buildings in the University Boulevard area, such as *Focal* and *Central*, are also included in the NCAP scope. ²View the UBC Climate Action Plan 2030 at planning.ubc.ca/cap2030

Executive Summary

Introduction

UBC Campus + Community Planning (C+CP) is developing a Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan (NCAP) to map a pathway to a net-zero, climate resilient community in the university neighbourhoods on the Vancouver campus.

The draft NCAP was developed with support from Technical Working Groups, comprised of staff from UBC, UNA and UBC Properties, academics and subject matter experts. Their knowledge, work and research in each of the scope areas have informed the goals, targets and actions of the draft plan. Community feedback has also been essential in shaping the draft NCAP and has taken place during a community workshop in June 2023 and over two phases of public engagement in October/November 2023 and March 2024.

This Engagement Summary Report provides an overview of the second phase of public engagement during which the community provided feedback on the draft NCAP, and includes the engagement approach and summary of feedback heard. A summary from the community workshop and the first phase of engagement is available on <u>planning.ubc.ca</u>.

Overview of Draft NCAP Engagement

Public engagement on the draft NCAP focused on getting feedback on the draft goals, targets, and key actions that define UBC's pathway to a net-zero, climate resilient community. The feedback helped to refine the goals, targets and actions in each scope area and identify community priorities.



The draft NCAP was developed after the first phase of engagement on NCAP's emerging directions from October 17 to November 3, 2023 and reflected feedback from the community as well as inputs from workshops with Technical Working Groups. The draft NCAP was then presented to the community for feedback in the second phase of engagement from March 5 to March 22, 2024.

To ensure the NCAP is both ambitious and achievable, engaging with the community was essential to understanding the lived experiences of diverse community members and to identify community priorities, gaps, and what support the community needs in order to take climate action.

How We Reached People

There were a total of **667 engagement touchpoints** through several types of engagement activities including an online survey, open houses, pop-ups held throughout the neighbourhoods, community conversations, workshops, roadshow presentations, coffee chats, and a walking tour.

For more information about engagement activities and community members reached during engagement, refer to the <u>Engagement</u> <u>Approach and Analysis Methodology section</u> as well as <u>Appendix I (pg. 22)</u>.

Overview of What We Heard

Feedback was focused specifically around the six scope areas of NCAP. The main themes heard during public engagement are summarized below, with more detailed information in the body of this report and the Appendices included at the end.

We heard four cross-cutting themes across all six NCAP scope areas:

- Broad support for the draft Plan and interest in the details of NCAP implementation across all scope areas because of the importance and urgency behind mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Interest in diverse and creative types of education, training and resources targeting residents (especially youth) to increase community resilience and explain why the actions across all scope areas need to be taken.
- Interest in the equity implications of NCAP implementation and how the needs of vulnerable populations will be prioritized (e.g., seniors, non-native English speakers, folks with mobility challenges, tenants renting from owners).
- Desire to accelerate NCAP timelines to match the urgency behind climate change,most notably for cooling and wildfire smoke ventilation upgrades for existing buildings.

Next Steps

Feedback from this engagement informed the final draft plan before submission to UBC's Board of Governors for approval in June 2024. NCAP will help inform any amended and future Neighbourhood Plans, shaping how UBC's Land Use Plan³ is implemented, as well as other initiatives like transportation and zero waste planning.

The final NCAP will include an implementation plan with detailed actions, timelines and responsibilities. NCAP will adapt and evolve in the future to ensure UBC is taking advantage of all opportunities including new technical advancements and government policies.

Monitoring progress will be critical to ensuring that we are on the right path to achieving the targets set out in NCAP. Regular reporting will be part of NCAP implementation to share progress with the community.

³subject to Municipal Affairs adoption of UBC's December 2023 amended Land Use Plan for the Vancouver campus.



Fountains in Wesbrook Place Photo Credit: Paul H. Joseph

"Human connections make the community come together to improve."

Workshop 1 Participant

About NCAP & Climate Action Planning at UBC

In 2021, UBC launched Climate Action Plan 2030, which charts a course to reach net zero emissions for the academic campus. NCAP will do the same for residential neighbourhoods as well as plan for adaptation to our already changing climate.

The work being done to develop NCAP builds on the existing Community Energy and Emissions Plan, which was introduced in 2013 and has guided climate action initiatives in residential neighborhoods. With UBC's Declaration on the Climate Emergency in December 2019 and the increased frequency of intense climate events, there is a renewed and urgent focus on climate action, and a more comprehensive climate action plan that meets the unique conditions of the neighbourhoods is needed.

How we prioritize the NCAP goals and actions and evaluate their success is informed by the following guiding principles:



Information on past NCAP engagement can be found online. For further details, visit planning.ubc.ca/ncap

Engagement Approach and Analysis Methodology

Engagement Approach

The draft NCAP was developed through engagement with the University Neighbourhoods' Association (UNA), UBC Properties Trust, neighbourhood residents, and UBC students, academics, and staff. Public engagement is an important component of the NCAP process as it is critical to understanding community needs and interests that are shaping NCAP priorities and pathways.

The NCAP engagement process was anchored by <u>C+CP's Engagement Charter</u> and has built upon the successes of the engagement process for UBC's Campus Vision 2050. This meant emphasizing targeted engagement with community groups and providing diverse ways to engage. Transparency, inclusivity, equity, and flexibility were core principles for the engagement process.

The NCAP process was designed to support comprehensive and diverse engagement and intentionally sought to lower barriers to participation. This included building collaborative relationships with groups in the neighbourhoods, as well as meeting the community where they are by attending scheduled meetings. Other approaches include, but are not limited to:

- providing honoraria to support participation of students in workshops;
- offering both in-person and online options to participate;
- offering childcare at evening and weekend events; and
- translating informational materials and having translators at certain events to reach broader ethnocultural communities in the neighbourhoods.

Targeted engagement was also held with the UNA board, a key stakeholder group, throughout the engagement process. This engagement included a workshop during which the draft NCAP was presented and where each of the scope areas were discussed. See <u>Appendix IV</u> for the UNA's official response to the draft NCAP.

Who We Reached

There were a total of **667 engagement touchpoints** through several types of engagement activities. The graphic below provides a summary, and <u>Appendix I</u> includes an overview of each of the engagement activities as well as community members reached. In an effort to include diverse perspectives from the community, targeted conversations were held with seniors, youth, and newcomers, and roadshows were held at local Parent Advisory Council meetings.

Engagement Activity Overview (March 5th - March 22nd, 2024)*



ONLINE SURVEY 372 responses Mar 5 - Mar 22



OPEN HOUSES 15 participants Mar 9, Mar 11



POP-UPS 82 participants Mar 5, Mar 7, Mar 19



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

70 participants **7** events Mar 2 - Mar 20



PUBLIC & TARGETED WORKSHOPS 62 participants Feb 27, Mar 9, Mar 11



ROADSHOWS 51 participants Feb 22, Feb 28



WALKING TOUR 11 participants Mar 13



COFFEE CHATS 4 participants Feb 15, Mar 26

*With the exception of some events which took place outside of this time range but included the same content.



Survey question: Where do you live?

"The needs of children, parents, elderly and those with other mobility challenges need to be included in the discussion and with creative strategies for their participation in transportation & mobility"

Survey Response

Feedback Analysis Methodology

Following engagement, UBC staff reviewed and analyzed all comments, questions, ideas and notes generated during the public engagement period. This includes the survey, workshops, roadshows, community conversations, coffee chats, pop-ups and a public submission from the UNA Board of Directors.

Staff used a qualitative theming analysis methodology, which involved grouping the feedback collected into themes and subthemes according to common topics, ideas and patterns that came up repeatedly. Frequently heard themes were then summarized. Quantitative data from the online surveys were aggregated directly through survey software and in Microsoft Excel.

"We want to include Indigenous people in the conversation - we want to take care of the land and we want to learn from them."

Workshop 2 Participant

What Engagement Looked Like



Group Discussion on NCAP Scope Areas at the Wesbrook Community Centre Workshop. Photo Credit: Macy Yap Studio



"Draw Your Dream Neighbourhood" activity at the community conversation with UNA Pre-Teen Youth



Zainab Sayedain, Student Engagement & Climate Policy Assistant, and Saya Kawabe, Communications & Engagement Assistant at a pop-up event outside Old Barn Community Centre



NCAP Walking Tour in the Wesbrook Neighbourhood



Ralph Wells, Community Climate and Energy Manager, with community members at the community conversation at Tapestry Seniors Living



Feedback board at the Open House Event at Wesbrook Community Centre. Photo Credit: Macy Yap Studio



Open House Event at Wesbrook Community Centre. Photo Credit: Macy Yap Studio

Communications Outreach Strategy

The following communication tactics were used to raise awareness about opportunities to engage and provide feedback on the draft NCAP:

- Social media
- Communications toolkits for campus partners
- C+CP Newsletter
- UNA Newsletter
- School PAC Newsletters
- Posters around the neighbourhoods and buildings
- Targeted outreach to neighbourhood groups and individuals
- Informational postcards distributed at pop-up booth events and at youth engagement events
- Neighbourhood building listserves



Group photo after the community conversation with the UNA Newcomers Support Group

What We Heard

Throughout all engagement activities, we heard feedback on level of support for what is being proposed in the draft NCAP, and what is important to consider in the implementation of the final Plan.

Feedback was focused specifically around the six scope areas of NCAP. The detailed themes that were heard related to each scope area and about process during the NCAP public engagement are further expanded in this section. Refer to <u>Appendix I</u> and <u>Appendix II</u> for detailed feedback heard in the online survey, workshops, community conversations, and coffee chats, as well as quantitative data from the online survey. Some feedback received during engagement was beyond the immediate scope of NCAP. Topics beyond scope included those relating to built form, building heights, and neighbourhood density. This feedback was compiled and has been directed to the team working on the implementation of UBC's Land Use Plan* and subsequent neighbourhood planning processes. The comments related to these topics that were heard in the survey and events are included in <u>Appendix II</u> and <u>Appendix III</u>.

There was broad support from the community on the draft plan, including 74% of survey respondents indicating they strongly agreed or agreed that the draft NCAP aligns with their vision for the future of neighbourhood climate action at UBC. Through all engagement activities, community members expressed a strong interest in the details of NCAP implementation across all scope areas because of the importance and urgency behind mitigating and adapting to climate change.

New Construction and Existing Buildings

- Desire to accelerate all timelines, especially for retrofitting existing buildings.
- Desire for improved communication on how regulations (e.g., REAP) will be shifting, and interest in community collaboration on future REAP updates.
- Concerns about affordability of sustainable infrastructure for new and existing buildings, and a call to avoid passing retrofit costs onto renters or homeowners.

69% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

*subject to Municipal Affairs adoption of UBC's December 2023 amended Land Use Plan for the Vancouver campus.

- Interest in subsidies and incentives for low carbon retrofits, especially cooling.
- Call for all new buildings to be built using sustainable and green building technologies (e.g., passive heating and cooling) and low carbon materials (e.g., mass timber).
- Consider the language, knowledge, and physical barriers to the current retrofitting process (especially for seniors, renters and newcomers) and address these accessibility and inclusivity concerns to incentivize retrofitting.
- Consider phasing out natural gas appliances (e.g. heating, stoves, fireplaces).
- Consider and address those in precarious and vulnerable housing contexts who may bear the brunt of costs of retrofits or other measures, due to power dynamics between landlords and tenants.
- Include specific measures to monitor and reduce water use in the neighbourhoods (e.g. individual metering in residential housing, water efficiency requirements for new construction).

Transportation and Mobility

- Safety concerns surrounding specific intersections and routes for active transportation and car traffic (e.g., Wesbrook roundabouts, neighbourhood bike routes, pedestrian experience for disabled and older residents, etc.).
- Desire for improved transportation accessibility, efficiency, and reliability (e.g., rain shelters at stops, frequent and reliable undisrupted bus routes, affordability, etc.), especially for specific groups (e.g., disabled people, seniors, staff, students, young families and children, etc.).
- Need for local, accessible and affordable food options and amenities (especially culturally relevant food and groceries) to mitigate car traffic in and out of the neighbourhoods.

81% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

- Need for reliable intra-campus transportation for all (e.g., more frequent shuttle buses).
- Need to address challenges in parking availability, public transit inconvenience, and distance between locations (solutions may include direct or non-stop buses to and from UBC Campus and key city locations).
- Reduce barriers and provide incentives for more sustainable transportation methods, through funding, resources, and technology (e.g., publicizing the Bike Kitchen and their resources, extending the U-Pass program to staff, faculty, and neighbourhood residents, etc.).
- Call to advocate for increased on-campus housing options for UBC affiliates to reduce transportation emissions.

Waste, Materials, and Consumables

- Barriers to waste sorting include language barriers, lack of accessible information, and convenience; desire for accessible, transparent, and comprehensive information on community waste sorting responsibilities.
- Desire for more recycling stations around the neighbourhood (e.g., build capacity for more Green Depot facilities and longer hours, more recycling options in residential units).
- Increase community awareness about waste sorting through fun and engaging community building initiatives for people of all ages, cultures, and abilities (e.g., community clean-up days, yard sales etc.).
- Build partnerships between UBC's Zero Waste initiatives and the UNA depot to identify reusable items especially during peak move-in and move-out seasons (e.g., furniture and books), and make them available to the wider community.
- Leverage current technologies to create waste sorting and diversion solutions (e.g., autosorting systems, trading of items on social media platforms).

Ecology

- Community interest in ecology seems rooted in desire for:
 - more spaces for community connection
 (e.g., dog parks, gathering spaces, community gardens, resident-led ecology projects);
 - * more multi-functional green spaces to encourage local wildlife to thrive (e.g. wildlife & pollinator friendly gardens, preserved and enhanced tree canopy) and discourage invasive species; and
 - * bird-friendly design applied in new and existing buildings.
- Interest in seeing more measurable targets.
- Address long waitlists for community garden space by adding additional plots for flowers, edible plants, etc.
- Tension with the goals/intent of this scope area and plans for population growth and development on campus (e.g., eagles nest coning).
- Engage with Indigenous knowledge keepers to learn about their traditional planting and landscaping practices and implement these practices to improve ecology and biodiversity.
- Consider local wildlife, Indigenous species, pollinators, and water-smart practices when designing landscapes to promote biodiversity and resilience.

79% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

80% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

Climate Emergency Preparedness

- Accelerating retrofits for cooling systems in existing buildings are top of mind.
- Desire for more education and awareness building to ensure the safety of the neighbourhoods before, during or after climate emergencies (e.g., clear emergency plans, seasonal fire and earthquake drills).
- Desire for community spaces and "third" spaces where people can connect day-to-day and feel safe during future emergencies.
- Desire for establishing community leadership groups and • student organizations to enhance general awareness and share climate action information.
- Successful implementation of this scope area requires coordination and collaboration • locally, regionally, and provincially as well as making good use of currently available resources and services on campus (e.g., UBC Climate Hub, Climate Emergency Response Unit at UBC, UNA for resourcing and training).
- Educate why people should care about climate emergency preparedness and provide • a sense of urgency (e.g., quantify the data presented with percentages rather than numbers, provide visual images of what climate emergencies can look like in the UBC neighbourhoods etc.).
- Equity concerns regarding the future affordability of homes with the targets of eventually having active, low-carbon cooling in all homes by 2050.

Neighbourhood Infrastructure

- Carefully consider costs and how they impact residents (e.g., energy bills).
- Further consideration is needed for the human co-benefits. (i.e., wellbeing) of this scope area.
- Desire for culturally appropriate infrastructure . (e.g., grocery stores, services).
- Desire for safer, highly visible, and less steep bike paths. •
- Appreciation for current naturalized rainwater management • systems, and a desire for more (e.g., more stormwater retention ponds).
- Consider a range of energy sources and technologies for heating and cooling that can be incorporated into existing Neighborhood District Energy System (NDES) as well as explore decentralized alternatives for heating and cooling.

75% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

77% of survey respondents strongly supported or supported what was proposed in the scope area.

- Implement regular maintenance schedules for infrastructure in the neighbourhoods and involve community members in the process (e.g., cleaning, repairing).
- Educate the community on existing green infrastructure in the neighbourhoods and their significance.

Process

- Appreciation for NCAP workshops and meaningfully involving community members in the engagement process.
- Some skepticism about the implementation of the draft plan (e.g., UBC resourcing, funding sources etc.).
- Desire to include youth in the implementation of NCAP in helping to raise awareness and provide education amongst their family and community.









Left Column, Top-Bottom

- Newcomers session with Mandarin translation. *Photo Credit: Madeleine Zammar*
- NCAP workshop discussion. *Photo Credit: Macy Yap*

Right Column, Top-Bottom

- Participants talking at an NCAP workshop. *Photo Credit: Macy Yap*
- A discussion on NCAP at a workshop. *Photo Credit: Madeleine Zammar*



Appendices

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Appendix I Engagement Activities Summary

Engagement Activities Summary

This section outlines the different types of engagement activities that were conducted and community members reached as part of the UBC Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan public engagement between March 5 – 22, 2024. Note that some of the events happened in the weeks immediately preceding or following the engagement period.

Engagement Activity Summary (March 5th - March 22nd, 2024)*



ONLINE SURVEY 372 responses Mar 5 - Mar 22



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*With the exception of some events which took place outside of this time range but included the same content.

ppendix I

Who We Reached

Advisory Councils and Committees

- University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) Board
- UHill Elementary Parent Advisory Council
- UHill Secondary Parent Advisory Council

Community Groups

- Tapestry Seniors
- UNA Newcomers Support Group
- UNA Youth Leadership Group
- UNA Pre-Teen Leadership Group
- Environmental Alliance at UHill Secondary School
- Group of UBC students who are tenants (renting from owners) in the neighbourhoods
- Former UBC Climate Action Mobilizers

"Involving high school students is a pivotal strategy to the success of this plan. It fosters community engagement, facilitates communications with parents, and aids in data collection on awareness and behaviour."

Workshop 1 Participant

Thank you from the NCAP team

We would like to thank everyone who participated in engagement on the draft Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan. Your perspectives, ideas and concerns have been critical to the process, and we are committed to ensuring this feedback is included in the final NCAP.

How We Reached People

Activities	Description
Online Survey (372 respondents)	The online survey allowed respondents to provide feedback on NCAP's draft goals, actions, and targets.
Public Workshops (53 participants)	The public workshops were a long format event (two hours) comprised of a presentation sharing an overview of NCAP, followed by small group discussions to provide feedback on NCAP's draft goals, actions, and targets per scope area, as well as feedback on equity considerations including potential impacts on community members and barriers to taking action. One of the public workshops also included materials in Simplified Chinese and Mandarin-speaking facilitators.
Targeted Workshop (9 participants)	The targeted workshop was a long format event (90 minutes) comprised of a presentation sharing an overview of NCAP, followed by a group discussion to answer questions and provide feedback on the draft NCAP.
Community Conversations (70 participants)	Small to medium group sessions with neighbourhood community groups, comprised of a presentation and in-depth facilitated discussion on the draft NCAP. One of the events included materials in Simplified Chinese and Mandarin-speaking facilitators.
Coffee Chats (4 participants)	Informal discussions with neighbourhood residents to share info and hear feedback on the draft NCAP.
Pop-Up Booths (82 participants)	Pop-up booths were held at various high traffic areas in the UBC neighbourhood areas to share information with community members about the draft NCAP and engagement opportunities.
Roadshows (51 participants)	A presentation and short question and answer period during a prescheduled meeting with community groups.
Open Houses (15 participants)	Drop-in events with display boards at the Wesbrook Community Centre and the atrium of the Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS) in advance of the workshops to learn more, ask questions, and provide feedback on NCAP, as well as connect with the project team.
Walking Tour (11 participants)	A 90-minute guided tour of the Wesbrook neighbourhood, showcasing current and future strategies pursued through NCAP to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate.

Appendix II Detailed Survey Results

Detailed Survey Results

This section outlines what we heard from the UBC Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan online survey that was conducted between March 5th - 22nd, 2024.

Both qualitative and quantitative feedback were collected through the online survey. The quantitative feedback is summarized below in a number of different charts and visualizations. This data was collected through multiple choice and Likert scale questions. It is important to note that some questions had the option to "select all that apply."

The qualitative verbatim responses collected were reviewed and themed according to the sentiment of each comment. Top themes for open-ended survey questions are highlighted in the tables throughout this Appendix.

The top themes heard in the following charts and tables were collected and analyzed to contribute to the key takeaways for What We Heard (pg. 16) in the body and Executive Summary (pg. 6) of this report, alongside top themes from Workshops and Community Conversations (Appendix III, pg. 45).

Demographics



For those that live in a UBC

Where do you live?



How did you hear about this survey?



*Includes double counting. Survey respondants were able to select multiple affiliations.

New Construction and Existing Buildings

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the New Construction and Existing Buildings scope area?



What is important to consider in the New Construction & Existing Buildings scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
Accelerate all timelines, especially for retrofitting existing buildings	11
Ensure affordability and avoid passing retrofit costs onto renters/owners down the line	10
Concerns about additional population density (e.g., parking, construction and noise pollution, traffic)	6
Protect existing green spaces, wildlife habitat and plan for additional outdoor spaces to meet resident needs (e.g., dog park)	5
Need additional affordable housing for faculty, staff and students	5
Questions about technical studies and specific implementation details (e.g., regulation process, shade impacts of tall buildings, structural improvements)	5
Be a leader in new construction and energy infrastructure (e.g., mass timber, eliminate natural gas)	5
Adequate amenities and services for current residents and future population growth (e.g., shopping, hospital, grocery)	4

Residents have low trust in UBC and feel like they do not have a meaningful say in neighbourhood activities	3
Concern about height of future towers, especially around GHG emission impacts	3
Transportation and mobility improvements are needed (e.g., shuttle bus frequency, traffic)	3
Deeply involve the community and residents' feedback in decision-making	2
Prioritize concrete implementation actions over demonstrating/facilitating etc.	2
Stratas need more support when bypassing noise bylaws and being able to afford climate friendly solutions (e.g., electric hot water systems, outdoor compressors)	2
Consider maintenance/systems knowledge required for sophisticated green buildings (e.g., Evolve)	2
Ensure heat pump installation is affordable and does not damage the environment	2
Provide incentives to tenants/renters when making climate friendly choices (e.g., appliance upgrades, low flow faucets)	2
Range of community spaces available for all (e.g., quiet spaces, gathering spaces)	1
Use carbon pricing to guide decision-making	1
Support for roll-up shades for cooling	1
Explore tree/vegetation/soil retention as a carbon storage strategy	1
Create guidelines for stratas to use when approving requests for upgrade modifications	1
Impacts on the environment and Indigenous communities	1
Different groups will experience different impacts	1
Improve weather guarding	1
Transparency from Village Gate Homes around utility costs	1
Acknowledge historical and Indigenous value of land	1
Wesbrook in need of bike lanes	1
Include studios and one-bedroom units in Rent-Geared-to-Income to make more inclusive	1
Address housing affordability gap for UBC employees who want to live on campus and reduce commuting emissions/needs	1
Interest in process for partnering with Musqueam and consideration for Musqueam needs/values	1
Regularly communicate progress with students, faculty and staff	1
Limited spaces at Norma Rose is a stress for the whole community	1
Educate residents about retrofit options and provide more training/resources	1
Maintain green spaces between buildings	1
Think beyond just climate change disasters to supply chain disruptions, aging infrastructure, blackouts etc.	1

Meter water and gas usage	1
Buildings currently being constructed should have cooling/ventilation systems	1
Consider tension between benefits of retrofits and emissions required to do the retrofits	1
Village Gate Homes not prepared for population growth due to existing capacity issues and mismanagement	1
Pace of actions should match feasibility of reaching zero-carbon	1
Community leaders involved with construction of new buildings	1
Consider the ethics and human impacts of procurement	1
Include considerations for rainwater collection and renewable energy collection (e.g., solar panels)	1
Grand Total	99

Transportation and Mobility

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the Transportation & Mobility scope area?



What is important to consider in the Transportation & Mobility scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
Desire for increased safety on neighbourhood active transportation paths and infrastructure (walk, bike paths, roll paths, crosswalks), including lighting, clear routes, traffic control, expanded bike lanes, ice removal, theft prevention of bikes, etc. (e.g., 16th Avenue crosswalk, Wesbrook roundabouts)	20
Desire for transportation accessibility, efficiency, and reliability (e.g., rain shelters at stops, frequent and reliable undisrupted bus routes, affordability, etc.), especially for specific groups (e.g., disabled people, seniors, staff, students, young	18
Support for intra-campus shuttle buses and desire for more frequent and accessible intra-campus public transportation	9
Concerns about infrastructural and institutional capacity to carry out the plan (e.g., power grid capacity for EV charging, SkyTrain feasibility, accountability on public transportation implementation, etc.)	6
Desire for more amenities in neighbourhoods to decrease need to drive off campus and back (e.g., culturally relevant grocers, health food stores, retail, second-hand stores, mailing, activities, etc.)	5
Desire for Skytrain and other forms of increased rapid transit to and from UBC	4
Concerns about density (e.g., desire to limit population on campus to UBC- affiliated, transit and safety measures, etc.)	4
Does not want Skytrain	3
Desire for more parking	3
Support for walkability of neighbourhoods	2
Desire for more and affordable EV charging for residents	2
Desire to consider environmental implications and implications for Musqueam in implementation	2
Desire for more ambitious plan	2
Desire to limit population on campus to UBC affiliated	2
Support for expanded carshare and bikeshare	1
Desire to avoid construction	1
Desire for knowledge dissemination and educational opportunities to increase active transportation methods (e.g., biking lessons, guidelines on how to purchase a bike, how to use carshare/bikeshare programs, etc.)	1
Desire for more carpool initiatives	1
Desire for less cars	1
Desire for more engagement with general public	1
Desire for efficient implementation	1

Desire for more green space	1
Desire for focus on student housing	1
Desire to consider Skytrain traffic and parking lot use	1
Desire to consider e-bike and e-scooter rentals	1
Desire to prioritize low carbon public transport or carshare given electric car prices	1
Desire for more bus loops and transit hubs	1
Desire for implementation of the plan to not cause disruptions or delays to existing transportation	1
Concern about added costs for UBC residents as negative consequences to behaviour (e.g., extra parking charges or fines for non-electric vehicles)	1
Desire to remove car infrastructure to make active transportation more safe	1
Desire for no new buildings	1
Need for more schools and sustainable transportation options to and from schools.	1
Desire for resident consultation on EV infrastructure	1
Desire for consideration of increasing housing affordability and density to reduce carbon emissions	1
Desire for electric scooters on campus	1
Desire for sufficient infrastructure and financial support for electric vehicle and bike use	1
Desire for thoughtful design of commuter streets to prevent traffic jams	1
Grand Total	105

"I think as students, public transportation is extremely important. I see my peers unable to make their classes due to delays and canceled busses, taking away from their education due to our current system. Cars also increase traffic and emissions which I'd like to see lowered. I think public transit is something that we should continue to invest in as a campus and a community."

Survey Response

Waste, Materials, and Consumables

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the Waste, Materials & Consumables scope area?



What is important to consider in the Waste, Materials and Consumables scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
There is a lack of understanding and incentives to waste sorting. A need for more accurate and extensive educational materials and incentives (e.g., identifying what can be reused or repaired, more complete recycling guidelines).	22
Desire for more and convenient recycling options and facilities in the neighbourhoods (e.g., more Green Depot locations and longer hours, soft plastic recycling in residential buildings, disable garburators in units, provide compost liners for residents)	14
Appreciation for current community re-use and repair facilities, and a desire for many more in each neighbourhood (e.g., Little Free Libraries, furniture reuse, second-hand stores, upcycling and repair facilities)	10
Skepticism about the effectiveness of this scope area. Effective collaboration with stakeholders (e.g., UNA, stratas), standardization, and monitoring are important for successful implementation of the Plan.	5
Support for waste reduction at the source (e.g., reducing packaging)	4
Desire for UBC to take more leadership and responsibility in the amount of waste produced on campus (e.g., circular economy models of composting and paper recycling, leverage academic research)	4

Desire for more community events that promote waste reduction and increase community responsibility (e.g., clothing swaps, household items swaps)	2
Suggestions to emphasize the urgency of climate change and expand on more near-term changes and goals.	2
Maintain current density levels to minimize the production of waste.	2
Desire for more community tool sharing services.	1
Desire for an election system for UBC's local government system	1
Improve the ecology and biodiversity of the neighbourhoods by placing more sustainable and climate resilient green infrastructure.	1
Improve communications of regulations and standards around dog waste management and address safety concerns of pets in the neighbourhoods (e.g., health risks for children, fenced dog park)	1
Grand Total	69

Ecology

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the Ecology scope area?



What is important to consider in the Ecology scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
Protect and preserve existing trees and green spaces for nature and community uses (e.g., dog park, gathering)	12
Tension with the goals/intent of this Scope Area and plans for population growth and development on campus (e.g., eagles nest coning)	12
Address long waitlists for community garden space by adding additional plots for flowers, edible plants etc.	10
Consider local wildlife, Indigenous species, and pollinators when designing landscapes to promote biodiversity and resilience	9
Encourage community engagement with nature through gardening/planting initiatives (e.g., patio garden incentives, weeding parties, education)	8
Introduce naturalized low maintenance landscapes (e.g., less leaf blowers needed, simple irrigation systems)	7
Reduce construction and damage to the environment	3
Think about strategies for tree retention to reach canopy cover targets and promote shade coverage	3
Replace sidewalks with permeable pavers	2
Explore using rainwater / greywater for plant watering	2
Fix water feature infrastructure	2
Balance development with access to nature	1
Do not overdo it	1
Support for strengthening ecosystem resilience	1
Embed Musqueam values and practices	1
Preserve the UBC Farm	1
Concern about increasing cost of living	1
Skepticism about UBC prioritizing ecology overgrowth	1
Replace parking with trees and active transportation lanes	1
Green space and tree cover targets need to be on a per capita basis	1
Require sustainable landscape practices in neighbourhoods (e.g., UNA requirements, Neighbourhood Plans)	1
Accelerate timelines for tree planting	1
Strongly support NCAP	1

Lack of accountability and concrete actions	1
Consult academic experts in this area	1
Lawns should be replaced with pollinator friendly ground cover	1
Disconnect between proposed strategies and how they will support residents	1
Make accessible for students living in residence	1
Grand Total	87

Climate Emergency Preparedness

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the Climate Emergency Preparedness scope area?



"The needs for alleviating climate change need to be considered in concert with infrastructure that is resilient to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events etc." Survey Response

What is important to consider in the Climate Emergency Preparedness scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count		
Accelerate timelines for priority actions (e.g., home cooling, wildfire smoke and ventilation)			
Focus on retrofitting existing buildings with cooling systems as soon as possible			
Skepticism about NCAP actions matching the intent and holding UBC accountable			
Need to involve residents in disaster support discussions, programs and events			
Educate residents through demonstration projects and providing more training/ resources	3		
Goals of this Scope Area seem in tension with building more neighbourhood buildings	3		
Support for heat pumps and innovative heating/cooling technologies	2		
Look into retrofits that provide shading alternatives (e.g., "second skin," window awnings)	2		
Think about enhancing outdoor cooling features for each neighbourhood	2		
Retrofits and upgrades should be available for everyone and not just certain groups	2		
General support	2		
Explore tree planting and retention as a low carbon cooling strategy instead of AC etc.	1		
Address heat by not building tall buildings that magnify the sun	1		
Raise awareness about location of cooling and emergency centres	1		
All buildings, offices and homes should have emergency preparedness kits	1		
Student housing needs cooling centres too	1		
Collaborate with Musqueam on climate emergency preparedness	1		
Focus on mitigation as well as adaptation	1		
Concern about increasing housing unaffordability through Scope Area actions	1		
Resources need to be available in multiple languages for wide uptake	1		
Increase municipal role and oversight for emergency preparedness for future population growth	1		
Encourage community involvement and connection	1		
Concern NDES will not transition to low carbon supply	1		

Engage stakeholders beyond academics and leverage provincial legislation to increase impact	1
Make NCAP actions mandatory for all new properties	1
Transportation and access to indoor cooling centres for those with mobility challenges	1
Consider long-term, geological trends	1
Prioritize effective indoor cooling for homes	1
Grand Total	57

Neighbourhood Infrastructure

What is your level of support for what is being proposed in the Neighbourhood Infrastructure scope area?



What is important to consider in the Neighbourhood Infrastructure scope area as the plan moves into implementation? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
Carefully consider costs and how they impact residents (e.g., energy bills)	5
Accelerate timelines to be bolder and more ambitious (e.g., quicker NDES transition)	5
Think about opportunities for green infrastructure now (e.g., rainwater collection, green roofs)	4
NCAP is important but skeptical about reaching targets/completing actions	3
Support for heat pumps and innovative heating/cooling technologies	2
Questions about relationship to BC Hydro as the energy provider and future low carbon electricity sources	2
Concerns about actions being insufficient to address future population density	2
Address issues with maintaining neighbourhood water features	2
Additional green spaces for community building and recreation	2
Consider social panels on campus building roofs	1
Resident education and training	1
Promote a direct link with Strat Councils	1
Expanding the NDES is a worthy goal	1
Ensure neighbourhood infrastructure is sufficient to meet demand from growing population	1
Target water conservation as a residential education campaign	1
Plan feels too "business-as-usual" and not innovative enough for energy infrastructure	1
Support for the NCAP process and accountability being taken	1
Deeply involve the community and residents' feedback in decision-making	1
Consider climate change impact mitigation and adaptation at the same time	1
Embed equity and accessibility as core values	1
Include the UEL in climate action planning	1
Interest in funding details for neighbourhood infrastructure upgrades	1
Top down, low carbon retrofits right now (e.g., window shades) are better than residents switching to high carbon options for cooling (e.g., AC)	1

Focus on retrofitting existing buildings with cooling systems as soon as possible	1
UBC housing should be reserved for students, faculty and staff	1
General support	1
Impacts on the environment and Indigenous communities	1
Grand Total	45

General Feedback

Neighbourhood Climate Action Resources: Many of the proposed actions in NCAP involve supporting the campus community in taking climate action through UBC and UNA supported policy, programs and initiatives. Tell us how you would like to learn more about these resources.





What is your level of agreement with the following statement: "The Draft NCAP aligns with my vision for the future of neighbourhood climate action at UBC."

Is there anything that needs to be changed, improved or is missing in the draft NCAP? (optional)

Comment	Frequency Count
Accelerate timelines to be bolder and more ambitious	6
General support for NCAP directions and materials provided as part of engagement	6
UBC housing should be affordable and allocated to university-affiliates in order to reduce commuting emissions	5
Needs stronger metrics, concrete actions and more clearly defined accountability pathways	5
Interest in more details about implementation actions, especially funding plans and numbers (# of people, # of buildings)	5
Trust in UBC has eroded over time due to land development and proposed population/density growth	4
NCAP is important and aligns with vision of future UBC climate action	3
Meaningfully incorporate Musqueam and Indigenous values into climate action and housing planning	3
Deeply involve the community and residents' feedback in decision-making	2

Plan feels too "business-as-usual" and not innovative enough	2
Ensure equity and transparency when assigning consultant/developer contracts as part of the Plan	2
Increasing density without considering impacts on green space negatively impacts people and wildlife	2
Reduce cost barriers, especially for those with lower incomes	2
Think about using the land for not just housing developments but also amenities and services for residents (e.g., grocery, EV chargers)	2
Missing mention of affordable housing and neighbourhood services (e.g., healthcare)	2
Sentiment that some of the survey felt like sales and marketing	1
Prioritize effectively sharing information with the public	1
Nothing to add	1
Improve climate action planning	1
Provide covered public areas for recreation and community connection	1
Consider eagle protection and bird strike prevention	1
Tension between open space/transportation needs (e.g., bike lanes vs. roads, traffic calming)	1
Include livability needs identified by residents (e.g., social connection, health $\&$ safety)	1
Include needs for residents of the UEL	1
Include more ambitious embodied carbon targets	1
Protect and enhance existing green space	1
Acknowledge ecological degradation at UBC and UEL	1
Implement a UBC ban on disposable food ware containers	1
More emphasis on supporting biodiversity, tree protection and resilience	1
Situate plan with more realistic assumptions of what infrastructure upgrades are possible for how much population growth	1
Focus the Plan on highest impact problems	1
Concerns about university lights being left on at night being a waste of electricity	1
Disrupt business as usual and develop housing in partnership with Musqueam	1
Less tall towers and more student housing	1
Work with stakeholders and partners already existing in the climate emergency space	1
Leverage Campus as a Living Lab and UBC research/innovation	1
Make bird friendly building design mandatory	1
Grand Total	73

Appendix III Detailed Engagement Takeaways

Detailed Engagement Takeaways

This section provides more detailed information about what we heard from in person and virtual engagement events.

Public and Targeted Workshops

Workshops included public workshops as well as a targeted workshop with the UNA Board. It was a long format event (two hours) comprised of a short presentation sharing an overview of NCAP, followed by small group discussions and interactive ways to participate and provide feedback. One of the public workshops also included Mandarin translation. The following section summarizes notes taken by staff during these sessions.

General

- Suggestions for more engagement with students in the neighbourhood community to build awareness and change household behaviour.
- Generally, a very comprehensive plan.
- Desire for more information on how NCAP will address equity concerns in the implementation process and prioritize vulnerable groups.
- Climate action must be visible, easy, and rewarding to generate behavioural change.
- Leverage existing resources at UBC and extend the scope to the neighbourhoods.

New Construction & Existing Buildings

- Desire for more context around current construction standards (i.e., REAP) and opportunities for community members to provide feedback.
- Concerns about the affordability of transitioning to alternative energy sources in residential buildings.
- Concerns about retrofitting costs. Suggestion for the construction of net-zero buildings to start as soon as possible, so less retrofitting is necessary later.
- Desire for more information about the supply chain and economic sustainability of the physical changes and retrofits in the neighbourhood.
- There are language, knowledge, and physical barriers to the current retrofitting process especially for seniors and newcomers. Address accessibility and inclusivity concerns to incentivize retrofitting.
- Suggestion to educate residents on the differences between air conditioning and heat pumps, and provide reasons why heat pumps are beneficial.

Transportation & Mobility

- General support for the scope area.
- Contextualize the Target numbers in the scope area for a better understanding of where we are now, how UBC has helped get to this point, and how UBC is going to help get to the target (e.g., relate the numbers to the current baseline).
- Local amenities and a more complete community are essential to reducing emissions from transportation (e.g., food hubs, culturally grocery stores, community fridge and pantry)
- Support for improved connectivity and accessibility features the neighbourhood that supports active transportation types for all people.
- Address concerns around implementation and accountability, especially around how heavily reliant transportation infrastructure is on government funding.
- Provide more specificity in near-term targets.
- Reduce barriers and provide incentives for more sustainable transportation methods, through funding, resources, and technology (e.g., publicizing the Bike Kitchen and their resources, extending the U-Pass program to staff, faculty, and neighbourhood residents).

Waste, Materials, & Consumables

- Current barriers to waste sorting include language barriers, lack of accessible information, and convenience. Desire for accessible, transparent, and comprehensive information on community responsibilities and accountability to ask for support when issues arise.
- Desire for more recycling stations around the neighbourhood (e.g., build capacity for more Green Depot facilities and longer hours).
- Increase community accountability for waste sorting through fun and engaging community building initiatives for people of all ages, cultures, and abilities (e.g., community cleanup days, yard sales, thrift store in the neighbourhood, community workshops where community volunteers explain waste sorting and oversight).
- Build partnerships between UBC's zero waste initiatives and the UNA depot to identify reusable items especially during peak move-in and move-out seasons (e.g., furniture and books), and make them available to the wider community.
- Concerns about cross-contamination and a desire for educational materials to address this issue.
- Leverage current technologies to create waste sorting and diversion solutions (e.g., autosorting systems, trading of items on social media platforms).

Ecology

- Appreciation for current green spaces, open spaces, and the proximity of the neighbourhoods to naturalized spaces (e.g., Pacific Spirit Park). A desire for the preservation of current green spaces and biodiversity, and for more.
- Desire for more green spaces that also serve as community spaces where wellbeing and cultural ecosystems can be further considered (e.g., pollinator programming in community rooftop gardens and farms, shaded areas to allow outdoor learning, health benefits from spending time in nature, more farmers markets, free gardening spaces).
- Engage with Indigenous knowledge keepers to learn about their traditional planting and landscaping practices, and implement these practices to improve ecology and biodiversity.
- Desire for more publicly accessible and welcoming green spaces (i.e., especially for commuters who need spaces to take lunch breaks)
- Support for more naturalized landscapes over manicured landscapes and water systems (e.g., plants that support habitat and biofiltration) concerns for green gentrification and its associated high costs of living.
- Further reliance on natural cooling systems (e.g., tree canopy) to cool buildings.

Climate Emergency Preparedness

- There is a lack of awareness of the resources available during emergency situations (e.g., evacuation locations). Desire for more education and awareness building to ensure the safety of the neighbourhoods (e.g., seasonal fire and earthquake drills)
- A successful implementation of this scope area requires deep collaboration with various units across campus and making good use of currently available resources and services (e.g., UBC Climate Hub, Climate Emergency Response Unit at UBC, UNA for resourcing and training).
- Acknowledge access and knowledge barriers experienced especially by newcomers, international students, and new students at UBC due to language barriers, unfamiliarity with the UBC context, and a lack of community connectivity. Suggestion to provide additional resources and a sense of welcome for these groups (e.g., onboarding packages).
- Communicate why people should care about climate emergency preparedness and provide a sense of urgency (e.g., quantify the data presented with percentages rather than numbers, provide visual images of what climate emergencies can look like in the UBC neighbourhoods, provide a visualization of infrastructure that will be implemented.
- Equity concerns regarding the affordability of homes with the Targets of eventually having active, low-carbon cooling in all homes by 2050.

Neighbourhood Infrastructure

- Further consideration is needed for the human co-benefits (i.e., wellbeing) of this scope area.
- Support for more sustainable heating and cooling options.
- Desire for culturally appropriate infrastructure (e.g., grocery stores, services).
- Desire for safer, highly visible, and less steep bike paths.
- Appreciation for current naturalized rainwater management systems, and a desire for more (e.g., more stormwater retention ponds).
- Implement regular maintenance schedules for infrastructure in the neighbourhoods and involve community members in the process (e.g., cleaning, repairing).
- Educate the community on existing green infrastructure in the neighbourhoods and their significance.

Community Conversations

Community Conversations consisted of small to medium group sessions involving neighbourhood resident community groups from various demographics. Groups included Tapestry Seniors, UNA Newcomers Support Group (with Mandarin translation), UNA Youth Leadership Group, UNA Pre-Teen Leadership Group, and the Environmental Alliance at UHill Secondary School.

Each session was comprised of a presentation of NCAP, and an in-depth facilitated discussion which allowed participants to share their input on the draft NCAP. The following section summarizes notes taken by staff during these sessions.

General

- Desire for creative, engaging, and interactive communications solutions and information dissemination in a variety of forms to incentivize community behaviours (e.g., animated videos, posters, social media, educational programs, walking tours, volunteer opportunities), specifically to share information about actions like using bikes and bikeshare, waste sorting, water consumption, heating and cooling options, updates on local plans, etc.
- Desire to center youth as primary sites of communicating and disseminating knowledge, focusing on youth to incentivize participation and connectivity intergenerationally.
- Desire to ensure distribution of information and updates on how the Plan and climate action is being carried out, is equitable and reaching demographics who may not access it as readily (e.g., young people, seniors, newcomers, those in less connected housing situations, etc.)

- Desire for clarification about how NCAP and the LUP work together, specifically about densification, emissions, and overcrowding in future campus development plan and its addressing of climate change.
- Desire for clarification about why the Plan does not consider the UEL.
- Uncertainty surrounding upgrade costs and financial responsibilities for climate action in the community.

New Construction & Existing Buildings

- Desire for information communication about how shifting regulations set for new and existing buildings will be enforced.
- Interest in mini-split heat pumps and other cost-effective heat pump and cooling options, but recognizing that measures like these are a voluntary effort and need to be incentivized.
- Concerns about affordability of sustainable infrastructure for strata housing such as EV charging, installing heat pumps in apartments without rebates, installing heating and cooling systems that aren't disruptive due to noise, etc.
- Need to consider and address those in precarious and vulnerable housing contexts who may bear the brunt of costs of retrofits or other measures, due to power dynamics between landlords and renters.

Transporation & Mobility

- Concern of specific intersections and route safety for active transportation and car traffic (e.g., the Wesbrook roundabouts, bike routes along Birney Avenue especially in worsening weather conditions, stairs at Wreck Beach, lighting and smooth sidewalks, managing of bikes and e-scooters being shared by pedestrian users, pedestrian experience for disabled and older residents, safer crosswalks on highway roads, snow tires on buses, etc.)
- Suggestions to support public and active transportation use for young neighbourhood residents, including transit subsidies for high school students like the U-Pass, creating bike shelters, community carpool initiatives, etc.
- Need for accessible and affordable food options, and especially culturally relevant food and grocery options to mitigate car traffic in and out of the neighbourhoods.
- Need for reliable intra-campus transportation for all.
- Need to address challenges in parking availability, public transit inconvenience, and distance between locations (solutions may include direct or non-stop buses to and from UBC Campus and key city locations).

Waste, Materials, & Consumables

• Need to increase familiarity with waste sorting and disposal beyond garbage, recycling, and compost (e.g., awareness about Green Depot, recycling depots, etc.)

Ecology

• Desire for more considerations on ecology (e.g., development on less planted areas, increasing farms/gardens/botanical gardens, tree canopy, urban food forests in the neighbourhoods, ecology pilot projects, preservation and treatment of wildlife amidst development, etc.)

Climate Emergency Preparedness

- Support for policies and funds which promote community connectivity through recreational and common spaces, as well as those explicitly taking climate action (e.g., desire for basketball hoop in neighbourhood, more community gardening and farming opportunities, public clothing swaps and upcycling events and spaces, flea markets, community libraries, etc.)
- Concern about what may factor into wildfire risk at Pacific Spirit Park (e.g., irresponsible cigarette use).
- Desire for establishing community leagues, leadership groups, and student organizations to enhance general awareness and share climate action information.

Neighbourhood Infrastructure

• Emphasized the importance of planning adequate amenities for increased population.

"I think that more concrete actionable plans are needed. The timelines are well fleshed out, as are the net zero charts, but I would love to see more of the how."

Survey Response

Appendix IV Letter from the UNA Board on NCAP

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Letter from the UNA Board on NCAP



UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOODS ASSOCIATION

March 22, 2024

Sent via email: michael.white@ubc.ca

Michael White Associate Vice-President, UBC Campus + Community Planning 2210 West Mall Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

RE: Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan – March 2024 Public Engagement

Dear Mr. White,

The UNA Board supports the general goals of the Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan (NCAP) currently under consideration. These include decreasing neighbourhood carbon emissions to "net zero" by 2050, redoubling efforts to facilitate active and carbon-free transportation, and safeguarding public health and wellbeing in the face of the escalating climate emergency. The proposed plan comes close to matching climate action efforts in Vancouver and other cities at the leading edge of municipal climate policy.

But UBC can, and should, be more ambitious than that. As the province's largest public university, with a campus climate action plan that is among the boldest in the world, UBC should be a leader in fostering neighbourhood development that draws on and showcases UBC's expertise in low-carbon construction techniques, ecologically-sensitive design, and climate-oriented urban planning.

We offer the following feedback, which emphasizes key strengths of the proposed NCAP, as well as areas where we urge UBC to be more ambitious.

New Construction

- The UNA Board strongly supports the target of net zero community emissions by 2050 and the plans to transition the Neighbourhood District Energy System (NDES) to low carbon energy sources. We encourage UBC to consider a range of energy sources and technologies for heating and cooling, including electric heat pumps, solar water heating and cooling systems, recapture of waste heat, ground source heat pumps, and emerging technologies that can be "plugged into" existing NDES infrastructure.
- The plan should discourage the installation of natural gas appliances and fireplaces in new buildings.

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The plan should include strong measures to promote mass timber construction, as well as other innovative low-carbon building practices. UBC's Faculty of Forestry is a global leader in research and training in mass timber and wood hybrid technologies, and UBC's campus boasts one of the tallest mass timber structures in the world. The neighbourhoods can and should be a "living lab" by incubating expertise and capacity among developers and in the building trades. This would also support the province's <u>Mass Timber Action Plan</u>, which aims to "catalyze construction sector innovation" by promoting BC materials, expertise, and technologies in pursuit of climate mitigation and adaptation. Through coordination and regulation of development projects, UBC can also encourage off-site fabrication and other construction innovations and efficiencies.

Retrofits

- The NCAP's retrofit strategy should consider possibilities for phasing out natural gas heating, stoves, and fireplaces in existing buildings by 2050. We recognize that building retrofits take time and come with considerable costs. The NCAP should include a combination of regulation of system upgrades, pilot projects and education involving low-carbon technologies, and a strategy for attracting federal and provincial subsidies for low-carbon retrofits.
- The NCAP should encourage UBC Properties Trust to pilot low-carbon retrofits in their existing rental housing stock. At the same time, UBC Properties Trust should also work on retrofitting their existing buildings to meet current standards of accessibility and climate resilience.
- Though we see the advantage of adding older buildings to existing NDES infrastructure, the NCAP should also explore decentralized alternatives for low carbon heating and cooling, including heat pumps, solar water heating systems, green roofs, ground source heat pumps, and other emerging technologies.

Transportation

- The UNA Board strongly supports measures to enhance active transportation in the neighbourhoods and to connect them more safely and reliably with the UBC campus. As residents have insistently noted for quite some time, this is both an active transportation and a safety issue. These measures should include separated lanes for active transportation and safer crossings of arterial roads like 16th Avenue, for bikes, scooters, and pedestrians alike.
- A major factor in transportation emissions is the distance between where people live and where they work and study. UBC is uniquely positioned to drive down transportation emissions by increasing the proportion of households with residents who work or study at the university. The UBC Land Use Plan "aspires" to a target of at least 50% of households with UBC-affiliated residents, but the current proportion falls well short of that goal. The NCAP should reinforce efforts to achieve the 50% target for UBC affiliates, as well as promote residential

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opportunities for non-UBC local employees (such as grocery-store employees, child-care workers, schoolteachers, et al.).

Waste and Water

- The UNA Board strongly supports proposals to enhance neighbourhood recycling, to promote sharing opportunities for reducing consumption, and to tie conservation and sustainability programs to broader efforts to build community in the neighbourhoods.
- Climate change and population growth pose a growing threat to our region's water supply, and the NCAP should include specific measures to monitor and reduce water use in the neighbourhoods. These should include a transition to individual metering in residential housing, water efficiency requirements for new construction, support for water-saving retrofits in existing buildings, encouragement of water-smart landscape design, and research/develop ways to reuse and recycle water systemwide.

Ecology

- The UNA Board supports plans to document the benefits that ecosystems and tree cover provide to campus neighbourhoods. However, opportunities to "increase biodiversity and ecosystem services at the site scale" should be expanded to acknowledge that campus ecological systems are interconnected and that climate actions on individual sites will only be successful when combined with effective neighbourhood and campuswide ecological plans and actions.
- The NCAP's ecological targets should be specific, measurable, and achievable as much as possible. The draft plan currently mentions the development of targets for shading and rainwater management, which we support. There should be similar targets for other ecological actions, like climate-resilient plantings and sustainable landscaping practices.
- Bird-friendly design should be mandatory for all new developments and encouraged in all existing buildings. UBC researchers have developed detailed bird-friendly design guidelines for new buildings and retrofits. This is another "living lab" opportunity for the neighbourhoods.
- NCAP should seek to inform and empower campus residents to take individual and communal actions to increase the climate-resilience of their neighbourhood ecosystems. This could include supporting resident-led ecology projects that contribute to both ecological and social resilience in the neighbourhoods.

Climate Preparedness

• We strongly support the NCAP's emphasis on emergency response planning and education, including coordinating local, regional, and provincial FireSmart efforts to prevent and respond effectively to wildfires.

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In sum, the UNA Board supports the principles and goals of the NCAP, but we urge UBC to be bolder, more supportive of innovation, and more insistent that the neighbourhoods be leaders in climate-responsible development. As the sole landowner and master developer of the neighbourhoods, UBC also owns the climate responsibilities and opportunities inherent in that land. The NCAP is the University's chance to take full responsibility for their climate impacts and seize those opportunities for climate leadership.

Sincerely,

X81+

Richard Watson Chair University Neighbourhoods Association

CC: Chris Fay, UBC Campus + Community Planning, Director, Planning and Design UNA Board of Directors Paul Thorkelsson, UNA Chief Administrative Officer

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Appendix V Display Boards

Welcome

UBC's Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan is our pathway to a net-zero, climate resilient community.

Welcome to the second round of engagement for the Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan (NCAP). We'd like to hear from you on the draft NCAP goals, targets, and actions that define our pathway to a netzero, climate resilient community.



This graph summarizes emission reductions as a result of actions in the buildings, transportation and waste scope areas versus emissions if we continue on our current path. Building operations, which includes heating, cooling and hot water, are the largest source of community emissions in the UBC neighbourhoods, followed by emissions from resident vehicle travel and direct emissions from solid waste at the landfill.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Your feedback will help refine the goals, targets and actions in each

scope area. We want to know: Did we get it right? Are we missing

anything? And what support do you need to make changes in your

Take our online survey from March 5th - March 22nd

We want to hear from you!

Learn more about how you can get involved planning.ubc.ca/NCAP or scan the QR code.

> Scan the QR Code or visit planning.ubc.ca/ncap

daily life to take climate action?



Working Together

Collaboration with the community is critical in ensuring that the plan is achievable.

	UBC Residential	Neighbourhoods		The draft NCAP goals, targets, and actions are the result of technical and collaborative work with the campus community faculty and external subject-matter expanses
University Neighbourhods Association (UNA) - Maintain neighbourhod programming such as community gardens, community centres, recycling and compositing initiatives and recreational and community building initiatives. - Maintain infrastructure such as street and sidewalk repairs, public waste and landscapping. - Regulate matters of concern in the public realm such as a parking, noise and local emergency response.	UBC Residential University of British Columbia (UBC) • Develops the policy and plans around hove land is used and buildings are built. • Oversees permitting process. • Code the community engagement process that helps shape UBC plans and policy. • Provides campus-wide infrastructure such as rainwater management.	Neighbourhoods UBC Properties Trust - Builds and manages rental homes and retail in accordance with UBC's Land Use Plan, Housing Action Plan, Neighbourhood Plans as well as sustainability related plans and guidelines. - Build infrastructure such as transportation networks, greenways, parks and community guidens in accordance with UBC's Land Use Plan, Neighbourhood Plans as well as sustainability related plans and guidelines.	Neighbourhood Residents - Strata operations and retrofits. - Mobility choices (e.g. transit, walking and rolling, zero emission vehicles). - Wastet sorting (recycling, organics) and waster reduction. - Energy and water conservation - Consumption choices.	of technical and collaborative work with the campus community, faculty and external subject-matter experts, the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) and UBC Properties Trust to identify a path to net-zero emissions and how to be resilient and adapt to a changing climate.
Communicate directly with status and rental residents to support the distribution of information.	TISH COLUMBIA			
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Transportation and Mobility

Goal: Residents benefit from faster and easier transit access and an expanded on-campus mobility network (e.g. shared bike programs and cycling infrastructure) that prioritizes active and sustainable modes for people of all ages and abilities. These initiatives better support residents in ensuring they get to where they need to go, comfortably and safely, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



Waste, Materials and Consumables

Goal: Transition towards a zero-waste community by creating opportunities for residents to share, reuse, and repair, supporting the circular economy. Thoughtful building and neighbourhood design, along with community programming, make waste sorting for recycling and organics easy and efficient for all residents and visitors. Construction and demolition practices make efficient use of building materials and optimize their reuse and diversion from landfill.

Targets

- By 2035, per capita waste emissions are reduced by at least 30% from 2022 levels.
- By 2050, UBC's residential neighbourhoods will have achieved net zero emissions from solid waste.



Waste | UBC Neighbourhood Community Emissions

In 6+ years

recycling facilities.

bicycles, electronics, etc.),

These strategies will support residents in doing the following: • Recycling more items at local recycling depot. • Composting your food waste, yard trimmings and soiled pape • Buying secondhand items and donating used goods.

Facilitate opportunities for expansion of community

 Create community hubs and programming to support sharing, re-use and repair (clothing,

ions Next 1 - 2 years

 Regulate by updating UBC's Residential Environmental Assessment Program (REAP) in 2025 to require: 90% diversion of construction and demolition waste from landfill.
 Facilitate awareness campaigns on waste reduction and diversion.

Next 3 - 5 years • Explore how to expand and enhance UNA Green Depot.

 Review and update REAP requirements for recycling and organics facilities in new neighbourhood buildings.

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Ecology

Goal: Trees, landscapes and other natural assets provide vital ecosystem services to help UBC's neighbourhoods adapt to a changing climate. UBC's ongoing engagement with Musqueam to enhance Musqueam values on campus and climate adaptive planting support a network of resilient, connected green public spaces, courtyards, and corridors integrated with neighbourhood buildings and provide welcoming and restorative places for the community to come together and build connections.

Targets

- Targets related to neighbourhood climate action, to support mitigation and adaptation, will be defined through technical work over the next one to two years, including the Integrated Rainwater Management Plan, Biodiversity Strategy, and amended and future Neighbourhood Plans.
 - Targets will help define some of the UBC neighbourhood contributions to the overall campus target set in the draft updated Land Use Plan that commits to campus-wide net gain in tree canopy cover by 2050.

ctions Next 1 - 2 years

- Work with academic partners to develop baseline data related to ecosystem services supporting climate action (e.g. shade, urban heat island effect mitigation).
- Support nature-based solutions to climate action under future climate conditions at the neighbourhood scale through updates to UBC's amended and future Neighbourhood Plans (e.g. planting and soils guidelines, tree retention and planting locations, flood regulation).
 Identify opportunities to increase biodiversity and ecosystem services at the site scale through future REAP updates.
- Continue supporting the UNA on sustainable landscape practices (e.g. operations, equipment, climate resilient replanting guidelines).
 Include future climate projections and localized climate impacts to natural systems in scoping for the Biodiversity Strategy.

Next 3 - 5 years and beyond • Set performance targets relating to neighbourhood shade coverage.

- Develop demonstration projects showcasing different approaches to climate resilient plantings incorporating Musqueam and other Indigenous lucescheduces
- knowledge. • Begin upgrades to rainwater infrastructure, focusing on adaptive, green infrastructure that responds to seasonal
- adaptive, green infrastructure that responds to seasonal variability and future climate conditions. • Expand and enhance ecosystem services (e.g. shade, earth of the services (e.g. shade) and the services (e.g. shad
- flood regulation, carbon sequestration).

These strategies will support residents in:

- Planting climate resilient plants that thrive in our changing climate (e.g. hotter temperatures, less summer rain, increased spring and fall rain).
- Participating in a community garden program.

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Climate Emergency Preparedness

Goal: Residents are prepared for and well supported during extreme climate events such as heavy rainfalls, windstorms, wildfires and extreme heat. Through expanded resources, infrastructure, and proactive communication, residents feel safe and protected in their communities. Community-led social connectedness programs have strengthened ties between neighbours, creating a more resilient community network.



Climate projections show the UBC Vancouver campus will have more extreme day-to-day weather and also gradual constant changes, including rain, droughts, and warmer summer temperatures. NCAP will define how UBC adapts to these changes to build a resilient neighbourhood community.

Target

By 2030, at least 50% of homes have active, low carbon cooling and before 2050 100% have cooling.

Next 1 - 2 years

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 Provide educational tools and resources for residents to help prepare for climate emergency events supported by research collaborations with UBC's academic community.
 Continue to partner with the UNA to build programming that supports community connection and awareness.

Next 3 - 5 years and beyond • Develop comprehensive emergency response plan for local wildfire events • Expand cooling centres in the neighbourhoods. For example, facilitate partnerships and identify funding to support UNA in developing

For example, facilitate partnerships and identify funding to support UNA in developing a demonstration project to retrofit Old Barn Community Centre HVAC systems to decarbonize and add cooling and other resilience measures such as air filtration.

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Neighbourhood Infrastructure

Goal: Water and energy infrastructure servicing UBC's residential neighbourhoods is resilient and ready to respond to our changing climate. Upgraded systems support climate action and prioritize efficient, affordable, resilient services.

Next 3 - 5 year

rain events.

support climate action.

Complete NDES expansion in Wesbrook
 neighbourhood to provide low carbon heating and
 cooling to new Wesbrook homes.

· Coordinate upgrades to electricity infrastructure to

Begin upgrades to rainwater infrastructure.

Target

- By 2035, at least 65% of neighbourhood energy supply is from low carbon
- sources (electricity or low carbon Neighbourhood District Energy)
- By 2050, 100% of neighbourhood energy supply is from net zero sources.



Next 1 - 2 years

 Finalize plans and update agreements to convert Neighbourhood District Energy System (NDES) to low carbon energy supply.
 Finalize updates to the Integrated Rainwater Management Plan (RMP) to ensure rainwater systems are adapted to future climate conditions.

focusing on adaptive, green infrastructure (e.g. bioswales, rain gardens, ponds) that improves the neighbourhood capacity to respond to intense Fully transition ent

• Fully transition entire NDES to low carbon energy supply (target 2030).

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Thank You + Next Steps

Feedback from this engagement will inform the final draft plan before going to UBC's Board of Governors for approval in June 2024. NCAP will guide any amended and future Neighbourhood Plans, shaping how UBC's Land Use Plan is implemented, as well as other initiatives like transportation and zero waste planning.

The final NCAP will include an implementation plan with detailed actions, timelines and responsibilities. As with any climate action plan, NCAP will adapt and evolve in the future to ensure we're taking advantage of all opportunities including new technical advancements and government policies. Monitoring our progress will be critical to ensuring that we are on the right path to achieving the targets set out in NCAP. Regular reporting will be an essential part of NCAP Implementation to share our progress with the community.

We want to hear

from you!



Campus + Community Planning

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