The new Sustainability Action Plan charts how the City of Victoria will continue to move towards its Sustainability Vision in the next three years.

VISION

Victoria, as a community and municipal corporation, is an urban sustainability leader inspiring innovation, pride and progress towards greater ecological integrity, livability, economic vitality, and community resiliency as we confront the challenges facing society and the planet today and for generations to come.

The Plan has three focus areas:

Reduce: Reducing waste and emissions and increasing efficiency
Transform: Leveraging market forces and transforming decision making
Thrive: Creating a livable city for everyone

Work in these areas will be carried out in partnership with community members, stakeholder groups, businesses, utilities and regional, provincial and federal governments. The Sustainability Action Plan will guide Victoria on its journey to becoming more sustainable, living within the planet's means, and sharing resources equitably. Where possible, the plan will move us towards becoming a regenerative society – one that actually restores ecosystems, increases biodiversity and enables our communities to be healthier and stronger than they are now.

To learn more visit: www.victoria.ca/sustainability.

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Reduce: Reducing waste and emissions, increasing energy efficiency and cost savings, and reducing environmental impacts.

- Community Climate and Energy Resiliency Plan – will help the community reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, and in many cases will save money while doing so.

- City of Victoria’s Corporate Climate Neutral Plan – will reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in municipal buildings, fleet and equipment and in street and traffic lights, and will also turn some waste streams back into resources. Investing in local carbon reduction projects will also be included.

- Residential Kitchen Scraps and Garbage Program – beginning in early 2013, this will reduce waste going to the landfill by 30%. The program will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while also reducing annual waste collection costs for residents.

Transform: Leveraging market forces and transforming municipal processes and decision-making.

- Sustainability Toolbox – will help the City maximize every dollar spent by helping to integrate social, environmental and financial goals into everything that we decide, build and do.

- Collaborative research program – will keep Victoria on the cutting-edge by exploring emerging trends and municipal best practices in areas such as eco-districts, incentives for green infrastructure and food systems.

- Building community partnerships – such as the UVic Protocol of Cooperation – will help us connect community resources with municipal priorities such as rainwater management.

- Expanding “green economy” opportunities – will help the City generate jobs in areas such as green technology and health technology.

Thrive: Creating a liveable city for everyone, including through supporting equitable participation of all citizens in city life and creating a more resilient community.

- Civic Investment Policy – will result in more effective and accountable City grant programs.

- Comprehensive Housing Strategy – will work with partners to address community-wide housing needs and opportunities.

- Conversion of two former motels – will create 75 units of sustainable, affordable and supportive housing.

- Climate Change Adaptation Plan – will identify how Victoria can make smart decisions now to become more resilient to climate change impacts such as sea-level rise and increasingly frequent and intense storms.

To view the full details of the plan please visit: www.victoria.ca/sustainability