

Vision, Values and Goals

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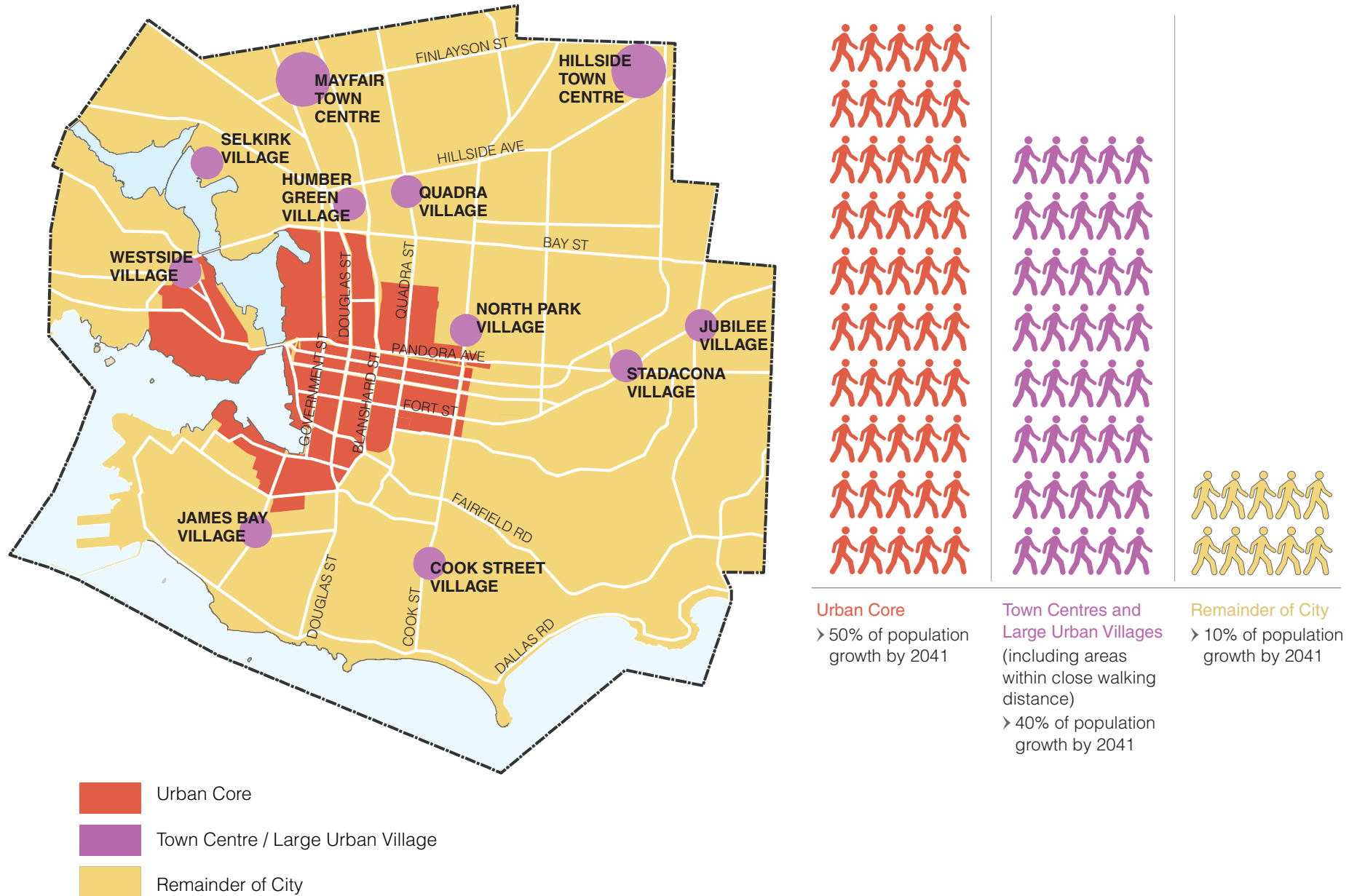
2041 Vision: Victoria is an urban sustainability leader inspiring innovation, pride and progress towards greater ecological integrity, livability, economic vitality, and community resiliency confronting the changes facing society and the planet today and for generations to come, while building on Victoria's strengths as a harbour-centred, historic, capital city that provides exceptional quality of life through a beautiful natural setting, walkable neighbourhoods of unique character, and a thriving Downtown that is the heart of the region.

OVERVIEW

In recent years and decades Victoria has grown and changed dramatically. The city's population has increased from 63,800 in 1981 to more than 90,000 in 2021, with much of that growth occurring in the city core and on former industrial lands near the harbour in Downtown, Harris Green, Victoria West, North Park and Burnside. The economic transition that saw the departure of most of the primary manufacturing and shipping from the harbour and the core has seen these lands redeveloped as thriving residential and mixed-use neighbourhoods, with greatly increased public access to the water through an expanding network of harbour-side parks and trails. This rediscovery of the centre has also resulted in the revitalization of many of Victoria's high quality Victorian and Edwardian buildings, returning new life to Old Town and Chinatown and further enhancing the quality of place.

The City estimates Victoria's population will reach 111,300 by 2041, building on the advantages of its harbour location, compact urban form, and human-scaled neighbourhoods, undergoing a deeper transition, to become a leader in urban sustainability while remaining one of Canada's most livable cities. The foundation for this transition is a growth management concept, illustrated in Figure 3, based on a strong Urban Core and network of walkable Town Centres, Urban Villages and diverse housing, connected by sustainable mobility options.

Figure 3: Growth Management Concept



PLAN VALUES

The following 13 values were identified through community engagement. These values inform the goals, broad objectives, policies, implementing actions, and the on going administration, review and renewal of this plan:

- 3.1 **Whole Systems Thinking:** Consider how the different parts of the city work together to affect the whole, including the environmental, social and economic dimensions of urban life and development.
- 3.2 **One Planet Living:** Become a city that lives and works within its fair share of the planet's resources.
- 3.3 **Integrated Design:** Integrate the natural, built and human environments in all aspects of city-building.
- 3.4 **Inclusivity and Accessibility:** Respect and respond to the perspectives, values and needs of Victoria's many individuals, groups and communities.
- 3.5 **Life Cycle Planning:** Anticipate the needs of citizens throughout their lives.
- 3.6 **Individual Well-Being:** Help ensure that all residents have secure access to basic needs, such as food, housing and services, as well as the skills and abilities required to flourish.
- 3.7 **Community Capacity Building:** Strengthen the natural, human, economic, social and cultural resources of Victoria to build, develop and shape a resilient community.
- 3.8 **Strong Local Communities:** Support and enhance the sense of place and community, and the uniqueness of Victoria's neighbourhoods.
- 3.9 **Downtown Vibrancy:** Reinforce the regional role of Downtown Victoria as a vibrant, engaging centre for employment, living, arts, culture, entertainment, tourism, and business.
- 3.10 **Engaged Citizens:** Actively engage citizens and community stakeholders and value and respect their contributions.
- 3.11 **Adaptive and Responsive:** Remain flexible and adaptive and ensure that mechanisms are in place to deal with changing, unpredictable circumstances.
- 3.12 **Regional Context:** Integrate a regional perspective and contribute to regional solutions.
- 3.13 **Coordinated Planning:** Work collaboratively with other agencies, levels of government and community stakeholders to co-ordinate plans, initiatives and programs.

PLAN GOALS

The plan sets out broad objectives and policies in 17 topic areas for the next 30 years that give expression to Victoria's sustainability commitment and work toward the achievement of long-term sustainability goals. The OCP goals are based on goals that were initially developed through the Victoria Sustainability Framework process, which provide a 100 year vision for the City as a community and corporation. The goals included in the OCP are adapted to focus on the areas that are most relevant to the community. These goals will not be achieved fully within the term of this plan. The efforts of many partners with powers well beyond the planning and land use responsibilities of the City, including those of senior government, business, neighbouring jurisdictions, and the community at large, must align to secure the vision of Victoria's future that these goals describe.

Figure 4: Plan Goals by Topic Area

Topic Areas	Goals
Land Management and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria has compact development patterns that use land efficiently. B. Victoria's bustling downtown and harbour are a prominent centre for business, government, arts and culture on Vancouver Island. C. Neighbourhoods include centres of economic activity that serve the needs of residents within walking, wheeling or cycling distance. D. Victoria's land use patterns reinforce values related to equity, diversity and inclusion.
Transportation and Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria's land use patterns reinforce a sustainable local and regional transportation system where the downtown core remains the regional employment centre, new regional growth is serviced by transit, and compact, complete neighbourhoods are supported by mobility hubs. B. Victorians move safely and efficiently via clean, integrated and convenient networks of roadways, sidewalks, pathways, public transit and bike routes. Networks are inviting, accessible, and supported by an attractive public realm with renewed streetscape assets. C. There is an expanded network of transportation services, mobility options, and parking / loading infrastructure to support people with disabilities. D. Transportation systems have reduced fossil fuel dependence, produce lower greenhouse gas emissions and air contaminants, and are resilient to climate change impacts.
Placemaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria is vibrant and attractive with unique character and sense of place. B. Victoria's cultural and natural heritage resources are protected and celebrated.
Parks and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria is an active community where everyone enjoys convenient access to community parks, open spaces, facilities, amenities and programs close to where they live.
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria's urban environment, including urban forests, and public and private green spaces support healthy and diverse ecosystems that are prepared for the impacts of climate change. B. Victoria's Harbour, coastline, ponds and streams support healthy populations of fish and other aquatic life.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria's well-maintained infrastructure and facilities meet the needs of residents and business utilizing best management practices. B. Victoria's healthy, clean, high-quality drinking water is used in a thrifty way and maintained through generations. C. Efficient and effective liquid waste management protects human health and the natural environment and makes use of resource potential. D. Rainwater resources are carefully managed with collection, diversion, and re-use practices that moderate runoff volumes and maximize water quality. E. The waste stream to the regional landfill is reduced to a minimum, with recovery, re-use, recycling and composting of resources undertaken as standard practice.
Climate Change and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria and Victorians are resilient to the impacts of climate change. B. Victoria relies on 100% renewable energy sources. C. All Victorians have equitable access to efficient affordable and renewable energy options. D. New and existing buildings are energy efficient and produce few greenhouse gas emissions. E. Transportation options reduce fossil fuel dependence, help conserve energy and produce low greenhouse gas emissions and other air contaminants.

Topic Areas	Goals
Housing and Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. All residents have access to appropriate, secure, affordable housing. B. A wide range of housing types, tenures and prices gives residents choices.
Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria generates economic growth, through innovation, diverse entrepreneurship and new business formation, and attracts and retains sustainable enterprises well-suited to the region. B. Victoria is a future-ready, globally-fluent influencer and innovator, produces and attracts talented researchers, incubates innovation, and brings new goods and services to market. C. Victorians have the knowledge and abilities to support a vibrant regional economy and the resilience and capacity to creatively adapt to economic change. D. Victoria is the headquarters of the Provincial Government, a premier tourism destination, and a gateway to Vancouver Island. E. Victoria supports a high quality of life for the local workforce through a broad range of employment opportunities that provide a living wage and through diverse and accessible services, amenities, housing and mobility options. F. Small businesses are resilient and remain the lifeblood of Victoria's economy, where diverse local businesses, including those led by youth, Indigenous residents, and Canadian newcomers have an opportunity to thrive.
Community Well Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. All Victorians have income and access to public services to be able to flourish and live with dignity. B. Lifelong learning opportunities that are culturally appropriate are available for diverse learners of all ages and income levels. C. High quality, affordable formal education is available and accessible for students of all ages. D. Victorians know their neighbours, are connected to communities of interest and have diverse opportunities for social interaction. E. Victorians can support themselves and their neighbours in difficult times. F. Victoria is a place where people come to live, work and play, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, culture, income, sexual orientation, ability and family status. G. Victorians are healthy and have a network of health-related amenities, facilities and programs to promote wellness and meet the needs of all levels of mental and physical care. H. Victoria is a safe city, where everyone feels secure in public, in their homes, and workplaces. I. Victoria continues to advance equity, diversity and inclusion.
Arts and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria is a place where artists are able to thrive and where people from all walks of life enjoy formal and informal opportunities to create and enjoy the arts, culture, and entertainment activities. B. Victoria's cultural and natural resources are protected and celebrated. C. Lifelong learning opportunities that are culturally appropriate are available for diverse learners of all ages and income levels.
Food Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. A healthy share of the food that supplies Victoria's daily needs is sustainably grown, processed and packaged in the city, in surrounding agriculture areas, and on Vancouver Island. B. Victorians have access to skills, knowledge, and resources to produce and process their own food in urban areas.

Topic Areas	Goals
Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Victoria is prepared to deal with known hazards and emerging threats, to limit the adverse impacts of events, and effectively manage emergencies. B. Victoria is able to respond rapidly and effectively to all emergencies, including events with long-term impacts and recovery times. C. Victorians can rely on significant local sources for food, energy and materials to meet daily needs under emergency conditions.
Plan Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Corporate and community decision-making processes are clear and open to the public. B. Victorians are interested, informed, empowered and involved in their communities and the process of democratic governance.
Local Area Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Corporate and community decision-making processes are clear and open to the public. B. Victorians are interested, informed, empowered and involved in their communities and the process of democratic governance.
Adaptive Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The City monitors and reports on progress for to learn and adapt as needed B. Corporate and community decision-making processes are clear and open to the public.
Monitoring and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The City monitors and reports on progress for to learn and adapt as needed. B. Corporate and community decision-making processes are clear and open to the public.