

NELSON PATH TO 2040 Sustainability Strategy



This project is a requirement of the Federal Gas Tax Agreement. The City would like to thank the provincial government, the federal government, Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and the Columbia Basin Trust for generously supporting this project.

The City also thanks all members of the Nelson community who participated in this initiative.

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Planning and Landscape Architecture Vancouver Office

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Nelson has created the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy. This Strategy recognizes and defines what is great about Nelson, and offers insight into how Nelsonites can preserve and enhance what we love about where we live. It serves as an umbrella document that sets the direction for future policy and planning decisions.

This Strategy was created using an iterative and collaborative process with local residents, businesses, community organizations, staff and Council. There were multiple points of engagement with community members in the development of the strategy.

OVERVIEW OF THE PATH TO 2040

The Strategy is comprised of three components: Sustainability Principles and Directions, Focus Areas, and the Path to 2040 Assessment Tool:

BROAD ENGAGEMENT

General Public

- 55 people at public workshop
- Over 150 people surveyed

Seniors and Youth (over 40 people)

- Youth Centre
- Seniors and elementary students
- LV Rogers High School class

Working Groups

- 5 Community Leads
- 35 members with a mix of business, social and environmental interests

Stakeholders

- Over 30 stakeholders group representatives

SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIONS

Sustainability Principles and Directions define Nelson's community vision. These will be used to guide decisions made by the City and community. There are 5 Sustainability Principles and Directions in the Strategy:

CULTURAL STRENGTH

Principle

Cultural Strength is about celebrating and embracing our history and our diversity. It is about using our many arts, traditions, heritage and recreation assets to enrich the quality of life for all citizens.

Direction

Cultural Strength involves:

- Authentically representing our artistic and cultural values in how we live, move, play, shop, and do business;
- Using arts, heritage, recreation and our greatest community asset, our diversity to create meaningful learning opportunities;
- Facilitating cross-generational and socio-economic relationships;
- Conserving and enhancing our diverse recreational assets and opportunities;
- Meaningful civic participation in our City's governance systems.

HEALTHY NEIGHBOURHOODS

Principle

Healthy Neighbourhoods are safe, welcoming, connected places with meaningful opportunities to interact with neighbours of all ages and income levels.

Direction

Healthy Neighbourhoods have:

- Inviting parks, community gardens and informal public spaces for gathering;
- Diverse and affordable housing opportunities in all neighbourhoods;
- Development focused in specific, pre-identified mixed use areas;
- Connected residential areas via safe, enjoyable walking and cycling corridors and greenways; and,
- Buildings that are sustainable in design and operation; they incorporate green building practices and technologies when renovating existing and constructing new buildings.

ROBUST ECOSYSTEMS

Principle

Robust Ecosystems are about ensuring natural systems are flourishing in Nelson.

Direction

Ensuring Robust Ecosystems will involve:

- Protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural assets by continuing to cultivate responsible environmental practices;
- Using our natural resources efficiently and conserving them to the greatest extent possible;
- Protecting the natural areas in our neighbourhoods;
- Designing infrastructure that maintains natural systems, and using natural systems to enhance infrastructure performance.



PROSPERITY

Principle

Prosperity is about fostering a diverse, value-added economy that provides meaningful employment opportunities and supports healthy and affordable lifestyles.

Direction

Ensuring Prosperity requires:

- Supporting new and existing industries, businesses, and NGOs;
- Respecting our leadership role in regional social and economic systems;
- Supporting efficient movement of people and resources;
- Supporting a vibrant, safe downtown and waterfront as a welcoming space;
- Recognizing small business as a key driver of our local community.
- Promoting affordability in how we live, move, play, shop, and do business.

RESILIENCY

Principle

Resiliency is about maintaining and enhancing the economic, social, ecological, and cultural systems that strengthen our ability to withstand future challenges.

Direction

Our Resiliency is dependent on our ability to:

- Foster healthy relationships to ensure residents trust and support each other in times of need;
- Foster a diverse, flexible business community that sustains our prosperity;
- Continue to build local, green infrastructures that use resources thriftily and efficiently;
- Adapt and flourish despite an uncertain, changing climate and environment;
- Champion transparent, participatory decision making practices that foster engagement.

FOCUS AREAS

Focus Areas are defined pieces, or components of Nelson’s larger urban system. There are 10 Focus Areas used in the Strategy. For each Focus Area, an End-state Goal and corresponding Objectives have been developed to define success in that Focus Area. The Focus Areas are:



Arts, Culture, and Heritage (AC&H)



Energy and Climate Change (ECC)



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture (FFSA)



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being (HLSW)



Land Use (LU)



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater (W)



Transportation and Mobility (TM)



Solid Waste (SW)



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure (NARL)



Local Economy (LE)

2040 ASSESSMENT TOOL

2040 Assessment Tool is designed to help Staff and Council align upcoming City initiatives with the Strategy. It is a short checklist and summary sheet that will accompany Council reports to describe how policy, planning and capital investment decisions contribute to the community’s Path to 2040.

A LIVING DOCUMENT

The Path to 2040 is living a document that reflects Nelson’s vision of a sustainable community. This vision will be considered in the development of future policy and planning. It is recommended that the Sustainability Principles and Directions be incorporated into all of the City’s strategic planning documents. It is also important to continue to report on City and Community initiatives that support the Strategy as well as to review and update the Strategy every 5 years. This will help ensure that the Strategy is current, adaptive and continues to reflect Nelson’s vision of a sustainable community.



1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

PURPOSE

The City of Nelson has created the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy that sets the direction for future policy and planning decisions. This Strategy recognizes and defines what is great about Nelson, and offers insight into how Nelsonites can preserve and enhance what we love about where we live. It also helps staff, Council, and the public determine how we can work together to make Nelson an even better place over time. The Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy articulates our community vision for sustainability, and serves as an umbrella document under which future work will align.

In developing this strategy, we are recognizing and defining what is great about Nelson. We are diverse, have a strong downtown core, great parks and recreational areas, and are often considered a model of what other communities are trying to achieve. Recognizing these strengths, this initiative does not reinvent Nelson, but identifies the many factors that make our community vibrant. The Strategy builds from our strong base by clearly articulating what makes us who we are and identifying additional opportunities to build upon our assets.

Sustainability is about having a productive economy, well protected ecosystems, and healthy citizens with strong cultural connections. It is about living well today while preparing for the future. This initiative involved the community in understanding how we can best plan for the challenges of tomorrow: maintaining our strong social connections, navigating

job market fluctuations, ensuring our food security, managing energy costs & climate change, and enhancing housing diversity. By identifying opportunities and preparing for challenges, this initiative ensures we safeguard and enhance what we love about our city.

The City of Nelson's Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy was created through an open and collaborative process with local residents, businesses, community organizations, staff and Council. This process sets the direction and context for future planning exercises and includes a decision making tool to help staff and Council make decisions that are aligned with our community sustainability ambitions.

PROCESS

The City has taken a collaborative Working Group approach to developing Nelson's Path to 2040, seeking broader community input at various points throughout the development of the Strategy. The process used to develop the Strategy was iterative, incorporating feedback from participants at multiple points during the project¹. This allowed us to adjust our workplan and timelines to meet demands and expectations as they emerge. This Strategy Document is the main

¹ For further details on this process, see the Path to 2040 Process Document.



1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

outcome of this process, presenting End-state Goals and Objectives for each Focus Area and the cross cutting Sustainability Principles and Directions for the City of Nelson. The 2040 Assessment Tool for Council and Staff is also included, which will help to make informed development, financial, policy and strategic planning decisions that are consistent with our Sustainability Principles.

March Sessions: Public, Seniors and Youth

The Path to 2040 initiative began with early meetings in March 2010 between the project team and invited stakeholders, youth, seniors, and the public-at-large to offer specific input on the Strategy's 10 Focus Areas. Feedback generated was used to refine the Focus Areas and create a context document for the Working Group process.

Working Groups

The March Sessions were followed by an intense month of recruiting Working Group Leads and Members, designing sustainability training materials for the Working Group Training Session, and preparing for the first round of Working Group exercises.

Approximately forty Working Group leads and members were selected by the City with the End-state Goal of ensuring broad community representation on each Working Group. Each Working Group was lead by a local, professional facilitator (the Working Group Lead), and Working Group Members included representation from business, environment, cultural sectors, as well as senior, youth, and City representatives. After the Training Session, which provided an opportunity to establish a shared understanding of what sustainability means in the Nelson context, Working

Groups embarked on three rounds of Working Group meetings.

The purpose of the Working Group process was to recommend balanced, implementable draft End-state Goals and Objectives for sustainability in each of the 10 Focus Areas, and provide insight into the creation of Sustainability Principles and Directions for further action.

October Sessions: Intergenerational Interviews and Online Survey

The project team used outcomes from the Working Group Process to draft final End-state Goals and Objectives, and create the Sustainability Principles and Directions. In October 2010, the public was invited to comment on the outcomes of the Working Group process. Input on the Sustainability Principles and Directions was gathered from 165 members of the public through intergenerational interviews and an online survey. Youth from LV Roger's leadership class participated by interviewing people of all ages in the community; the same questions were put to the public-at-large through an



1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

online survey, promoted by the Working Group members, local media, and local advertizing. Input received from the public showed between 80-90% of participants support the Sustainability Principles and Directions. A summary of the results is included the Path to 2040 Process Document.

Draft Strategy – End-state Goals, Objectives, Sustainability Principles and Directions

The outcomes of the March Sessions, the Working Group Process, and October Sessions were used by the project team to create the Preliminary Draft Strategy. This document outlined the Nelson Path to 2040 End-state Goals and Objectives for each Focus Area, and the overarching Sustainability Principles and Directions.

Working Group Celebration

The Preliminary Draft Strategy was shared with all Working Group Members during the Working Group Celebration in November 2010.

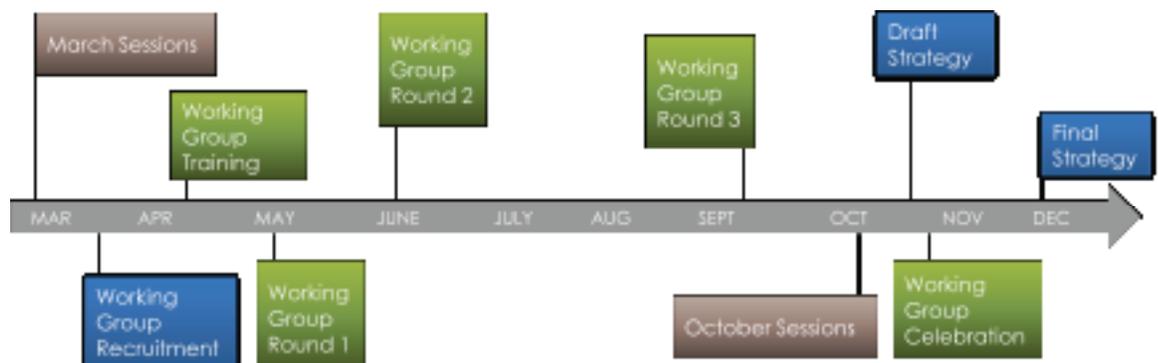
This meeting was requested by the Working Group Members to review the Sustainability Principles and Directions and celebrate all the hard work they have contributed to this initiative. This celebration was organized by the Working Group Leads, and gave Working Group Members an opportunity to present their work to others and share how they would like to stay involved in the implementation of the Sustainability Strategy.

Council Presentation

The Final Draft Strategy will be presented to Council for consideration of adoption.

Timeline

The diagram below illustrates important milestones completed during the development of Nelson’s Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy.





ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

There were many people involved in creating the Path to 2040 Nelson Sustainability Strategy:

Project Team

The City of Nelson created a project team consisting of Council members, City Staff, and consultants from Stantec. The project team is responsible for directing the project, designing a process to solicit input from the public, and incorporating that input into the Final Strategy.

Steering Committee

This group includes the project team and the Working Group Leads. The Steering Committee meets before each Working Group meeting to go over objectives and resolve any issues that came up during the last round of Working Group meetings. The Steering Committee's responsibility is to ensure the Working Group process runs smoothly.

Working Group Leads: Five Working Group Leads were retained by the City to facilitate and coordinate the work assigned to each Working Group, and to bring questions and concerns to the Steering Committee.

Working Group Members

Forty members of the public volunteered their time to provide consistent input to the creation of the Strategy. These individuals include interested residents, experts, representatives from environmental, social, and cultural organizations, municipal staff, local business people, youth and seniors who have local knowledge, connections, and interests in enhancing the sustainability of our city. The role of a working group member is to represent the community, provide local knowledge and offer direct advice and recommendations to

1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

the Project Team regarding Strategy development.

Public-at-large

At two key points during the Path to 2040 initiative, the public was invited to provide input and comment on the Strategy. The March Sessions solicited input on values, End-state Goals, community assets and challenges. During the October Sessions, the public was invited to comment on the Sustainability Principles and Directions.



2.0

OVERVIEW OF NELSON PATH TO 2040

The Strategy is comprised of three components: Sustainability Principles and Directions, Focus Areas, and the Path to 2040 Assessment Tool.

SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIONS

There are five Sustainability Principles and Directions that have emerged from the Path to 2040 Nelson Sustainability Strategy process. They reflect the cross-cutting themes of the Focus Areas and describe how the Strategy's multiple End-state Goals and Objectives can be achieved simultaneously and in an integrated way. The purpose of the Sustainability Principles and Directions is to define a community vision that can be used to guide decisions made by the City and community. Sustainability Principle and Directions are contained on page 7.

FOCUS AREAS

A Focus Area is a defined piece, or component of Nelson's larger urban system. Breaking Nelson's urban system into definable components provides a way of organizing our thinking about sustainability. There are 10 Focus Areas in this Strategy, 10 End-state Goals and 40 objectives, and although they are identified individually in the Path to 2040 Strategy, these are not intended to be viewed in isolation. The strength of the plan is to create synergies by meeting multiple objectives while working to realize the Strategy's five Sustainability Principles and Directions.

For each Focus Area, an **End-state Goal** and corresponding **Objectives** have been developed to define success in that Focus Area. End-state Goals

and Objectives reflect the unique circumstances, opportunities, and challenges present in Nelson, and are intended to leverage existing assets and partnerships currently in place. The objectives do not stand alone but are intended to be considered in concert with all other Objectives, End-state Goals, Principles, and Directions to provide a full picture of sustainability. Focus Area Summary Sheets, containing the End-state Goals and Objectives, along with contextual information, are contained on page 13.

2040 ASSESSMENT TOOL

The 2040 Assessment Tool is designed to help Staff and Council align City initiatives with the Strategy. It is a short checklist and summary sheet that ensures Council and Staff recommendations and decisions contribute to the Sustainability Principles, Directions, End-state Goals, and Objectives of the City. The Tool is intended to inform decisions regarding policy, planning, and large capital investments, and will also be used as part of a larger staff awareness program on the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy. A description and example of the 2040 Assessment Tool is included on page 35.



3.0 SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES AND DIRECTIONS

The Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy includes five Sustainability Principles and supporting Directions that have emerged from the Path to 2040 Nelson Sustainability Strategy process. They reflect the cross-cutting themes between the Focus Areas and describe how the Strategy's multiple End-state Goals and Objectives can be achieved simultaneously and in an integrated way. These Principles and Directions are based on the extensive work of the Working Groups and have been refined with input from City Staff, Working Group members, and Council. This section uses the following format to present Nelson's five Sustainability Principles and Directions:

SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLE AND DIRECTIONS													
1. Name of the Principle	Prosperity												
2. A short description of the principle	PRINCIPLE Prosperity is about fostering a diverse, value-added economy that provides meaningful employment opportunities and supports healthy lifestyles.												
3. Direction: Illustrates how the City and community can support this principle	DIRECTION Ensuring Prosperity requires: • Supporting new and existing industries and business												
4. Partners: Lists community partners that can play a role in achieving the sustainability principle and directions.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>PARTNERS</td> <td>Association</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chamber of Commerce</td> <td>Regional District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>City of Nelson</td> <td>Educational Institutions / School Board</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Futures</td> <td>Financial Institutions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nelson Kootenay Lake tourism</td> <td>Investors</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>NGOs</td> </tr> </table>	PARTNERS	Association	Chamber of Commerce	Regional District	City of Nelson	Educational Institutions / School Board	Community Futures	Financial Institutions	Nelson Kootenay Lake tourism	Investors		NGOs
PARTNERS	Association												
Chamber of Commerce	Regional District												
City of Nelson	Educational Institutions / School Board												
Community Futures	Financial Institutions												
Nelson Kootenay Lake tourism	Investors												
	NGOs												
5. Directly related objectives: Lists the objectives from the Focus Areas that relate directly to this Sustainability Principle.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACH4: Integrate ACMH into other sectors of the community</td> <td>FFSA3: Encourage individual and commercial food production, processing, and distribution within city limits</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECC3: Encourage local green economy</td> <td>HLSW1: Support healthy living</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes</td> <td>HLSW2: Ensure public safety</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution</td> <td>HLSW3: Support socially just economic development</td> </tr> </table>	DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES		ACH4: Integrate ACMH into other sectors of the community	FFSA3: Encourage individual and commercial food production, processing, and distribution within city limits	ECC3: Encourage local green economy	HLSW1: Support healthy living	ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes	HLSW2: Ensure public safety	FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution	HLSW3: Support socially just economic development		
DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES													
ACH4: Integrate ACMH into other sectors of the community	FFSA3: Encourage individual and commercial food production, processing, and distribution within city limits												
ECC3: Encourage local green economy	HLSW1: Support healthy living												
ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes	HLSW2: Ensure public safety												
FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution	HLSW3: Support socially just economic development												
	<div style="float: right; background-color: #76b82a; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> NELSON path to 2040 </div> <p style="text-align: center;">November 29, 2010 Draft V.1</p>												

Cultural Strength

PRINCIPLE

Cultural Strength is about celebrating and embracing our history and our diversity. It is about using our many arts, traditions, heritage and recreation assets to enrich the quality of life for all citizens.

DIRECTION

Cultural Strength involves:

- Authentically representing our artistic and cultural values in how we live, move, play, shop, and do business;
- Using arts, heritage, recreation and our greatest community asset, our diversity to create meaningful learning opportunities;
- Facilitating cross generational and socio-economic relationships;
- Conserving and enhancing our diverse recreational assets and opportunities;
- Meaningful civic participation in our City's governance systems.

NELSON path to 2040

PARTNERS

Chamber of Commerce
 City of Nelson
 Community Futures
 Nelson Kootenay Lake tourism Association
 Regional District
 Educational Institutions / School Board
 Financial Institutions
 Investors
 Cultural Development Commission
 BC Lotteries
 Artists and Performers
 NGOs
 Columbia Basin Trust
 Heritage Commission

Osprey Foundation
 Volunteers
 Recreation and Leisure Groups
 Nelson Cares
 Rotary Club
 Sport Council
 Academy of Classical Oriental Sciences
 Kootenay Coop
 Kootenay Local Agriculture Society
 Coop Radio
 Rails to Trails Society
 Valhalla wilderness Society
 Nelson Naturalists
 Private developers
 Cultural non-profit organizations

DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES

ACH1: Promote artistic and cultural expression & celebration
 ACH2: Preserve and celebrate heritage
 ACH3: Build cultural vision for our community
 ACH 4: Integrate AC&H into other sectors of the community
 ECC3: Encourage local green economy
 FFSA4: Build community capacity and foster ethical food consumption
 HLSW1: Support healthy living
 HLSW2: Foster an inclusive and respectful community
 HLSW3: Ensure public safety
 HLSW4: Maximize intergenerational connections

HLSW5: Sustain an open attitude and culture of learning
 LE2: Support entrepreneurial leadership
 LE4: Align economic development with community values
 LU2: Promote affordable mixed use housing
 NARL2: Promote accessible human-powered recreation
 NARL3: Establish a distributed, restored natural areas network
 SW2: Foster waste reduction and reduced consumption
 TM1: Support human powered transportation
 TM6: Improve awareness of sustainable transportation
 W1: Reduce water consumption
 W3: Align water quality to use

Healthy Neighbourhoods

PRINCIPLE

Healthy Neighbourhoods are safe, welcoming, connected places with meaningful opportunities to interact with neighbours of all ages and income levels.

DIRECTION

Healthy Neighbourhoods have:

- Inviting parks, community gardens and informal public spaces for gathering;
- Diverse and affordable housing opportunities in all neighbourhoods;
- Development focused in specific, pre-identified mixed use areas;
- Connected residential areas via safe, enjoyable walking and cycling corridors and greenways; and,
- Buildings that are sustainable in design and operation; they incorporate green building practices and technologies when renovating existing and constructing new buildings.

NELSON path to 2040

PARTNERS

City of Nelson
Educational Institutions / School Board
Cultural Development Commission
BC Lotteries
Eco-society
NGOs
Osprey Foundation
Service Clubs
Volunteers

Nelson Downtown Business Association
Nelson City Councilors
Firefighters
Interior Health
Aquatic Center
Nelson Cares
Police
Community Food Matters
Land and property developers
CP Rail

Private transportation providers
Coop Radio
BC Transit
Rails to Trails Society
Nelson Naturalists
The Land Conservancy
Sport Council

DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES

ACH2: Preserve and celebrate heritage
ECC2: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions
ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes
FFSA1: Ensure nutritious whole food
FFSA3: Encourage individual and commercial food production, processing, and distribution within city limits
FFSA4: Build community capacity and foster ethical food consumption
HLSW2: Foster an inclusive and respectful community
HLSW3: Ensure public safety
HLSW4: Maximize intergenerational connections

HLSW6: Support socially just economic development
LU1: Ensure bylaws support sustainability
LU2: Promote affordable mixed use housing
LU3: Ensure convenient access to daily needs
LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront
NARL3: Establish a distributed, restored natural areas network
NARL6: Accessible waterfront recreation areas.
SW3: Enhance composting
TM1: Support human powered transportation
TM3: Improve cycling amenities
W4: Manage stormwater onsite

Prosperity

PRINCIPLE

Prosperity is about fostering a diverse, value-added economy that provides meaningful employment opportunities and supports healthy and affordable lifestyles.

DIRECTION

Ensuring Prosperity requires:

- Supporting new and existing industries, businesses, and NGOs;
- Respecting our leadership role in regional social and economic systems;
- Supporting efficient movement of people and resources;
- Supporting a vibrant, safe downtown and waterfront as a welcoming space;
- Recognizing small business as a key driver of our local community.
- Promoting affordability in how we live, move, play, shop, and do business.

NELSON path to 2040

PARTNERS

Chamber of Commerce
City of Nelson
Community Futures
Nelson Kootenay Lake tourism
Association
Regional District
Educational Institutions / School Board
Financial Institutions
Investors
NGOs

Columbia Basin Trust
Heritage Commission
Osprey Foundation
Nelson Downtown Business Association
Nelson Economic Development
Partnership
Police
Rotary Club
Kootenay Coop
Kootenay Local Agriculture Society

BC Food Systems Network
Land and property developers
CP Rail
Coop Radio
BC Transit
Industry
Sport Council
Cultural Development Commission

DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES

ACH4: Integrate AC&H into other sectors of the community
ECC3: Encourage local green economy
ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes
FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution
FFSA3: Encourage individual and commercial food production, processing, and distribution within city limits
HLSW1: Support healthy living
HLSW3: Ensure public safety
HLSW6: Support socially just economic development
LE1: Support businesses and investment
LE2: Support entrepreneurial leadership
LE3: Maintain and further develop a diverse economy

LE4: Align economic development with community values
LU2: Promote affordable mixed use housing
LU3: Ensure convenient access to daily needs
LU4: Allocate appropriate areas for recreational accommodation
LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront
LU6: Require best practices in renovation/demolition/new construction
TM4: Improve inter and intra community transit
TM5: Foster connectivity downtown

Resiliency

PRINCIPLE

Resiliency is about maintaining and enhancing the economic, social, ecological, and cultural systems that strengthen our ability to withstand future challenges.

DIRECTION

Our Resiliency is dependent on our ability to:

- Foster healthy relationships to ensure residents trust and support each other in times of need;
- Foster a diverse, flexible business community that sustains our prosperity;
- Continue to build local, green infrastructures that use resources thriftily and efficiently;
- Adapt and flourish despite an uncertain, changing climate and environment;
- Champion transparent, participatory decision making practices that foster engagement.

NELSON path to 2040

PARTNERS

Chamber of Commerce
 City of Nelson
 Community Futures
 Regional District
 Educational Institutions / School Board
 Eco-society
 Columbia Basin Trust
 Osprey Foundation
 Nelson Downtown Business Association
 Nelson Economic Development Partnership
 Cottonwood Creek Restoration Society

Firefighters
 Interior Health
 Federal Government
 Canadian Water Federation
 Nelson Hydro
 Nelson Cares
 Police
 Kootenay Coop
 Kootenay Local Agriculture Society
 Land and property developers
 Green technology providers

BC Transit
 Alternative energy experts
 Industry
 Farmers
 Fortis
 BC Hydro
 The Land Conservancy

DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES

ECC1: Reduce dependence on fossil fuels
 ECC2: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions
 ECC3: Encourage local green economy
 ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes
 FFSA1: Ensure nutritious whole food
 FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution
 FFSA4: Encourage food production, processing, and distribution within city limits
 HLSW3: Ensure public safety
 HLSW4: Maximize intergenerational connections
 LE1: Support businesses and investment

LE3: Maintain and further develop a diverse economy
 LU1: Ensure bylaws support sustainability
 LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront
 NARL4: Restore and enhance ecological systems
 NARL5: Conserve indigenous plants and wildlife
 SW1: Avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and then dispose of waste
 SW2: Foster waste reduction and reduced consumption
 SW3: Enhance composting
 TM4: Improve inter and intra community transit
 W1: Reduce water consumption
 W3: Align water quality to use
 W4: Manage stormwater onsite

Robust Ecosystems

PRINCIPLE

Robust Ecosystems are about ensuring natural systems are flourishing in Nelson.

DIRECTION

Ensuring Robust Ecosystems will involve:

- Protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural assets by continuing to cultivate responsible environmental practices;
- Using our natural resources efficiently and conserving them to the greatest extent possible;
- Protecting the natural areas in our neighbourhoods;
- Designing infrastructure that maintains natural systems, and using natural systems to enhance infrastructure performance.

NELSON path to 2040

PARTNERS

Chamber of Commerce

City of Nelson

Community Futures

Regional District

Educational Institutions / School Board

Eco-society (and other NGOs)

Kootenay Coop

Cottonwood Creek Restoration Society

Firefighters

Federal Government

Canadian Water Federation

Nelson Hydro

Recreation and Leisure Groups

Kootenay Local Agriculture Society

Green technology providers

Alternative energy experts

Horticulturalists

Foresters

Biologists

Industry

Farmers

Valhalla wilderness Society

Nelson Naturalists

Ski Operators

Fortis

BC Hydro

The Land Conservancy

Permaculturists

DIRECTLY RELATED OBJECTIVES

ACH2: Preserve and celebrate heritage

ECC1: Reduce dependence on fossil fuels

ECC: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions

FFSA2: Maximize regional food production, processing and distribution

FFSA4: Build community capacity and foster ethical food consumption

LE4: Align economic development with community values

LU4: Allocate appropriate areas for recreational accommodation

LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront

LU6: Require best practices in renovation/demolition/new construction

NARL1: Efficient, carbon-neutral recreation and leisure infrastructure

NARL3: Establish a distributed, restored natural areas network

NARL4: Restore and enhance ecological systems

NARL5: Conserve indigenous plants and wildlife

SW1: Avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and then dispose of waste

SW2: Foster waste reduction and reduced consumption

TM2: Reduce personal vehicle use

TM4: Improve inter and intra community transit

W2: Ensure healthy environmental practices in watershed

W3: Align water quality to use

W4: Manage stormwater onsite



4.0 FOCUS AREAS

Each Working Group dedicated their efforts to exploring two Focus Areas. This involved generating a shared understanding of the current reality, and then developing End-state Goals and Objectives to move forward towards sustainability.

This section uses the following format to summarize what the City, its partners and the community will be working towards achieving over the next 30 years. These Focus Area summaries reflect the work completed by the Working Groups for each Focus Area.

1. **Name of the Focus Area**
2. **Focus Area Description:** Illustrates the scope of the Focus Area, and sets the context for further information on this summary sheet.
3. **End-state Goal:** Describes what a Focus Area will look like when sustainability is achieved.
4. **Objectives:** Short, action oriented statements that, when met, will move towards achieving the End-state Goal.
5. **Four Pillars:** A table to draw attention to how this Focus Area relates to Nelson's 4 Pillars of Sustainability.
6. **Relationship to other Focus Areas:** All Focus Areas are components of a larger inter-related system. This section illustrates how certain Focus Areas are closely related.

FOCUS AREA SUMMARY SHEET

Arts, Culture, and Heritage (AC&H)

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION
Arts, Culture and Heritage is based on shared and diverse attitudes, values, goals, history and practices.

GOAL
Nelson is regarded as a vibrant arts, culture and heritage hub where locals and visitors are engaged in experiencing the authentic fabric of the city!

OBJECTIVES
ACH1: Promote artistic and cultural expression and celebration in the community to help support a vibrant centre and identity.

FOUR PILLARS
How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson's Four Pillars?

<p>Environment Indirectly encourages restoration, conservation and preservation of our environment.</p>	<p>Culture Culture is based on shared and diverse attitudes, values, goals, practices and heritage.</p>
<p>Social Directly supports identity, diversity, and is also about how residents engage with each other.</p>	<p>Economy Directly generates tourism dollars, support local economy, and creates jobs.</p>

NELSON
path to
2040

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS
Most closely related to Arts, Culture, and Heritage:

Arts/Culture/Heritage

Local Economy

Healthy Living and Social Well-Being

Food, Food Security, and Agriculture

Land Use

Natural Resources, Recreation, and Parks

Other related Focus Areas:

Water, Waste, Water, Stormwater

Solid Waste

Energy and Climate Change

Transportation and Mobility

November 29, 2010 Draft V.1

Arts, Culture, and Heritage (AC&H)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Arts, Culture and Heritage is based on shared and diverse attitudes, values, goals, history and practices. This Focus Area has many components, including music; theatre; film; literature; visual arts; formal and informal education; food; multicultural celebrations and traditions; recreational choices; and history and heritage buildings. Arts, Culture and Heritage is also about how residents participate in civic life and engage with each other. This Focus Area will define how to recognize diversity in Nelson and articulate how arts, culture and heritage will support and enhance life in Nelson.

GOAL

Nelson is regarded as a vibrant arts, culture and heritage hub where locals and visitors are engaged in experiencing the authentic fabric of the city, the diverse nature of the community and the creative spirit of its people.

OBJECTIVES

- ACH1: Promote artistic and cultural expression and celebration in the community to help support a vibrant centre and identity.
- ACH2: Preserve and celebrate the authenticity and heritage of our community.
- ACH3: Engage the creative energy of the community in strengthening a cultural vision for Nelson.
- ACH4: Integrate the Arts, Culture and Heritage sector with others to enrich and build a stronger community.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Indirectly encourages restoration, conservation and preservation of our environment.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Culture is based on shared and diverse attitudes, values, goals, practices and heritage.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>Directly supports identity, diversity, and foster and cultural learning and appreciation.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Directly generates tourism dollars, supports the local economy, and creates jobs.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Arts, Culture, and Heritage:



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Water, Waste, Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste



Energy and Climate Change



Transportation and Mobility

Other related Focus Areas:

Energy and Climate Change (ECC)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Our lifestyles and habits including consumption patterns, businesses, institutions, how we build our community, land use, and transportation trends, consume valuable energy resources that have a lasting impact on our environment. This Focus Area explores how we can diversify our energy resources and use them responsibly while protecting the natural environment and adapting to the impacts of climate change.

GOAL

Nelson is an energy self-sufficient community where energy production is local, resilient, adaptive, carbon-neutral, and minimizes impacts on the ecosystem. Production meets or exceeds local consumption and energy is consumed responsibly and efficiently. Together, production and consumption creates a vibrant and resilient economy. A clear differentiation between our “energy wants” and our “energy needs” are central to our energy decisions regarding matters such as supply, type, and distribution.

OBJECTIVES

- ECC1: Significantly reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and prioritize local, renewable sources that feed a distributed, robust grid.
- ECC2: Promote and support activities and infrastructure, such as buildings and transportation, which reduce energy consumption, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are carbon-neutral.
- ECC3: Encourage the inception and growth of a local green energy economy through partnerships, education, incentives, legislation, and conservation.
- ECC4: Understand, anticipate and plan for upcoming changes to our local and regional climate when making development, policy and program decisions that affect Nelson.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Diversify our energy resources and use them responsibly while protecting the natural environment.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Our lifestyles consume valuable energy resources.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>Consumption patterns, businesses, institutions, how we choose to build our community, and transportation trends, consume valuable energy resources.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>More local, renewable energy production and consumption will create a vibrant and resilient economy.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Energy and Climate Change



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Transportation and Mobility



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure

Other related Focus Areas:

Food, Food Security, and Agriculture (FFSA)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Local food systems support growers and producers to be stewards of the land and contribute to a diversified economy. This means supporting the agricultural sector to grow and add value to local crops. Local agriculture allows citizens to buy and eat from a regional food chain, supporting businesses and markets offering local products. This Focus Area explores how Nelson can protect foodlands and strengthen the distribution of locally grown, produced, processed, and distributed food.

GOAL

All Nelsonites have access to affordable, nutritious food that is produced in a socially just and environmentally sustainable manner. The local food system is robust, resilient and integrated with other sustainable regional and global food systems.

OBJECTIVES

- FFSA1: Ensure availability and accessibility of nutritious whole foods.
- FFSA2: Participate in a coordinated approach to support farmers' access to the land and resources they need in order to maximize regional food production, processing and distribution.
- FFSA3: Support and encourage food production, processing and storage within city limits at both the commercial level and individual level.
- FFSA4: Inspire a greater understanding of the local / global food system and available resources to build community capacity and to foster more informed, ethical choices.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson's Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>To grow plants and raise animals that are adapted to our natural ecosystems.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Supports our self sufficiency and resiliency.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>Builds community capacity and fosters more informed, ethical choices.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Contributes to a diversified economy and supports businesses offering local products.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Food, Food Security, and Agriculture

Other related Focus Areas:



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Transportation and Mobility

Healthy Living and Social Well-Being (HLSW)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

A healthy lifestyle includes physical activity, mental health, education, healthcare, and supportive social networks. It is also about equity, volunteerism, and participation in civic life. The City, senior government and community partners contribute to the health and social well-being of our citizens. This Focus Area defines what we can do in our community to enhance our ability to meet the needs of our citizens.

GOAL

Nelson is a healthy, vital, safe, inclusive and affordable community where people are engaged, respectfully connecting with their families, other generations, their community, the economy, culture, the environment. Learning is embraced as a means to adapt positively to change.

OBJECTIVES

- HLSW1: Support & encourage healthy living choices and be responsive to the needs of individuals, families and the greater community.
- HLSW2: Foster an inclusive & respectful community where all citizens have opportunities for meaningful participation in social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects of the City.
- HLSW3: Ensure a high level of public safety that maximizes physical and social well-being.
- HLSW4: Maximize opportunities for intergenerational connections, in particular as they support family development.
- HLSW5: Sustain an attitude of openness and a culture of learning that adapts positively to change.
- HLSW6: Support economic development activities that incorporate social justice considerations such as: affordable and acceptable childcare, housing and transportation; living wages; sufficient employment; and workplaces free of discrimination and harassment.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Engaged citizens respect their environment.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Nelsonites have an attitude of openness and culture of learning that supports well-being.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>Healthy lifestyles include mental and physical health, education, and social interconnectedness.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Social well-being is directly related to safe, meaningful, living wage employment opportunities.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Healthy Living and Social Well-Being :



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Transportation and Mobility

Land Use (LU)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

The City manages the use of land, buildings, neighbourhoods and commercial areas. Our attention to land use in Nelson will help define what it means to develop all land and housing issues in a comprehensive, affordable, accessible and sustainable way. This Focus Area explores how to promote a diversity of building initiatives that encourages high standards of livability and compact neighbourhoods for our mountain and lakeside community.

GOAL

The City of Nelson manages the use of land and housing by enforcing responsible and sustainable policy which reflects the needs of an increasingly diverse population.

OBJECTIVES

- LU1: Allocate sufficient resources to align City Bylaws with the Sustainability Strategy and continue to update Bylaws and Regulations to ensure and enforce sustainable land use decisions.
- LU2: Promote quality, affordable mixed-use housing (mix and choice of housing for all stages of life and income) in all neighbourhoods.
- LU3: Ensure our neighbourhoods have convenient access to commercial, leisure, and education spaces and services.
- LU4: Establish sufficient and appropriate areas for recreational accommodation (e.g. RVs, camping).
- LU5: Focus new growth and mixed development in the downtown and waterfront to support a vibrant city centre while protecting outlying natural areas and agriculture from sprawl.
- LU6: Require best practices in renovation/demolition/new construction.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Sustainable land use decisions helps protect natural and agricultural areas from sprawl.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Support diversity and ensure neighbourhoods have convenient access to leisure and educational spaces and services.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>A diversity of mixed use building initiatives encourages high standards of livability and affordability.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Encourages quality housing stock, and neighbourhoods with convenient access to commercial areas, and our vibrant city centre and a waterfront that supports diverse economic activities.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Land Use:

Other related Focus Areas:



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Transportation and Mobility



Solid Waste

Local Economy (LE)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Our local economy is about providing a diversity of jobs from a healthy cross-section of sectors. Nelson’s economy is a system supported by a network of businesses, government services, NGOs, and consultants, investing capital from the region and afar into our community. Local economic activity supports a healthy city, and ensures the tax base supports and enhances liveability in Nelson. This Focus Area defines how to meet our community needs for a strong local economy.

GOAL

Nelson is a forward-thinking community that attracts investment and innovative business that values our Kootenay lifestyle.

OBJECTIVES

- LE1: Proactively attract, retain, expand and foster businesses and investment in Nelson.
- LE2: Foster and support entrepreneurial leadership in the community.
- LE3: Maintain and further develop our diverse economy by identifying and supporting key sectors.
- LE4: Focus economic development and stimulus where it contributes to community values, including a vibrant downtown and waterfront and meaningful employment opportunities that support healthy lifestyles.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment</p> <p><i>We attract investment and innovative business that respects and protects our environment.</i></p>	<p>Culture</p> <p><i>Foster and support entrepreneurial leadership in the community and triple bottom line business outcomes.</i></p>
<p>Social</p> <p><i>Meaningful employment opportunities that supply a living wages, support healthy lifestyles and reflect community values.</i></p>	<p>Economy</p> <p><i>Proactively attract, retain, expand and foster businesses, NGOs, and investment in Nelson.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Local Economy:



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Transportation and Mobility



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste

Other related Focus Areas:

Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure (NARL)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Natural areas and parks help protect local ecosystems and biodiversity while providing spaces for recreation, leisure and increased mental/physical health through connections with nature. Natural recreation amenities are paired with indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, creating fun, safe venues for all. This Focus Area defines how Nelson’s natural and recreational areas will be protected and enhanced.

GOAL

Nelson’s natural areas are restored into functioning, accessible ecosystems. These ecosystems provide recreation, leisure, sustenance and transportation opportunities. Nelson meets the diverse recreational and leisure needs of its demographic within a carbon-neutral context.

OBJECTIVES

- NARL1 : Establish recreation and leisure infrastructure as showcase models of energy efficient, water efficient, carbon-neutral design, construction and maintenance.
- NARL2: Promote and foster diverse human-powered recreation that is healthy and accessible to everyone, including an interconnected trail network that encourages walking and cycling.
- NARL3 : Protect and enhance parks and open spaces and establish a distributed, restored natural areas network to serve as natural playgrounds for residents.
- NARL4 : Restore natural areas to enhance their ecological functions, e.g. wetlands that clean water, greenways for migration and breeding.
- NARL5 : Conserve indigenous plants and wildlife.
- NARL6 : Establish and maintain publicly accessible waterfront recreation areas.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Protect and restore local ecosystems and biodiversity in a carbon neutral context.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Provide recreation, leisure opportunities.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>Natural areas offer beautiful public spaces for gathering, recreation, and enhance social well-being.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Recreation and leisure creates opportunities for our local economy.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure:



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Solid Waste



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Transportation and Mobility

Other related Focus Areas:

NELSON path to 2040

Solid Waste (SW)

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Solid waste is about the garbage we create and dispose in our landfills. Our city has a responsibility to reduce and manage our waste as best we can. This means reducing what we use, reusing and repairing what we can and recycling what we can't. It also means working to eliminate toxins in our environment that are released in the waste stream. This Focus Area defines how we effectively reduce and manage waste generated in our community.

GOAL

Nelson is a zero-waste community that avoids and reduces consumption first, then reuses, recycles, and recovers waste, and finally ensures responsible disposal of the small amount remaining.

OBJECTIVES

- SW1: Manage liquid, solid and hazardous waste in the following order: avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover and dispose.
- SW2: Foster waste reduction and elimination practices by providing innovative means for reduced consumption.
- SW3: Encourage local composting and reuse of organic material.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson's Four Pillars?

<p>Environment</p> <p><i>Working to eliminate toxins in our environment, minimize land used for waste, and use our waste as a resource.</i></p>	<p>Culture</p> <p><i>Supports a culture that fosters waste reduction and elimination practices by providing innovative means for reduced consumption.</i></p>
<p>Social</p> <p><i>Creatively managing waste and eliminating toxins supports healthy citizens and encourages social connections.</i></p>	<p>Economy</p> <p><i>Reuse, recycling, recovering, and disposal creates economic opportunities.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Solid Waste:



Local Economy



Water, Waste Water, Stormwater



Solid Waste



Healthy Living and Social Well-Being



Food, Food Security, and Agriculture



Land Use



Energy and Climate Change



Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure



Arts/Culture/Heritage



Transportation and Mobility

Other related Focus Areas:

Transportation and Mobility (TM)

NELSON path to 2040

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Transportation and mobility is about the movement of people, goods and materials in our community. From land, to air and water, the focus for this area is about creating resilient opportunities to move people and goods while meeting the challenges of diminishing fossil fuels, changing demographics and the geography of Nelson and area.

GOAL

The community of Nelson has access to various modes of transportation and mobility which blend public and private enterprise to ensure the energy-efficient movement of people and goods.

OBJECTIVES

- TM1: Establish direct and accessible, human-powered transportation, including the provision of all season pedestrian and cycling pathways that are well connected to transit.
- TM2: Reduce personal vehicle use and promote alternative modes of travel, including car-coops and safe ride-sharing Car Stops.
- TM3: Create bicycle wayfaring signage, parking facilities and interconnected bicycle pathways throughout the City.
- TM4: Improve intercommunity and intracommunity transit service by implementing increased services and links to the airport, hospitals, and other regional services.
- TM5: Create an interconnected, pedestrian friendly downtown and waterfront that prioritizes pedestrian mobility.
- TM6: Improve awareness about the availability of efficient and sustainable transportation.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment <i>Energy-efficient movement of people and goods in the community and region.</i></p>	<p>Culture <i>Interconnected, pedestrian and bike friendly paths that encourage civic interaction and a culture of healthy living.</i></p>
<p>Social <i>A variety of transportation alternatives that match the need of our changing demographics.</i></p>	<p>Economy <i>Engaging business to create a blend public and private transportation enterprises to move people and goods.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Transportation and Mobility:

Local Economy

Healthy Living and Social Well-Being

Land Use

Energy and Climate Change

Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure

Transportation and Mobility

Other related Focus Areas:

Arts/Culture/Heritage

Water, Waste Water, Stormwater

Solid Waste

Food, Food Security, and Agriculture

NELSON path to 2040

Water, Waste Water, Stormwater (W)

FOCUS AREA DESCRIPTION

Protecting our natural water systems and providing a dependable supply of clean and safe water requires working with the Regional District, industry, businesses, and citizens to maintain clean water, minimize erosion, and use water efficiently. This Focus Area defines how to protect our watershed (water quality and supply), use water efficiently, and in partnership with the region, manage wastewater and stormwater responsibly.

GOAL

Our mountain watersheds and water courses are protected from over consumption and provide a clean, safe, secure, and plentiful water supply for ourselves and future generations.

OBJECTIVES

- WI: Ensure community stewardship and use of best management practices to reduce water consumption.
- WI: Support healthy environmental practices in the watershed, particularly as it impacts the quality of runoff water into streams and reservoirs.
- WI: Preserve and allocate higher quality water supply for primary uses (such as drinking) and utilize lower quality water sources for secondary uses (such as irrigation and flushing toilets).
- WI: Manage runoff on a local level and encourage runoff infiltration and retention.
- WI: Ensure the community maintains control over its water resources and are able to effectively work with industries and agencies in ensuring a healthy, secure potable water supply for residents.

FOUR PILLARS

How does this Focus Area relate to Nelson’s Four Pillars?

<p>Environment</p> <p><i>Protecting our natural water systems.</i></p>	<p>Culture</p> <p><i>Healthy environmental and recreational practices in the watershed.</i></p>
<p>Social</p> <p><i>Secure, dependable supply of clean and safe water for all residents.</i></p>	<p>Economy</p> <p><i>Partner with businesses to manage water resources responsibly.</i></p>

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER FOCUS AREAS

Most closely related to Water, Waste Water, Stormwater:

Local Economy

Water, Waste Water, Stormwater

Healthy Living and Social Well-Being

Food, Food Security, and Agriculture

Land Use

Natural Areas, Recreation, and Leisure

Other related Focus Areas:

Arts/Culture/Heritage

Solid Waste

Energy and Climate Change

Transportation and Mobility

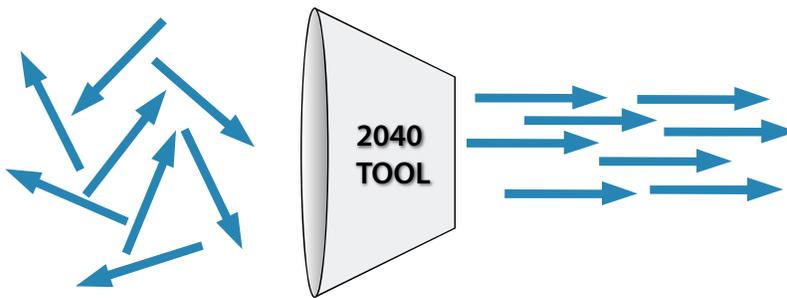


5.0

2040 ASSESSMENT TOOL

PURPOSE

The 2040 Assessment Tool is designed to help Staff and Council align City initiatives with the Sustainability Strategy. It is a short checklist and summary sheet that ensures Council and Staff understand how their recommendations and decisions contribute to the sustainability ambitions of the community. This tool will be helpful when making decisions regarding policy, planning, and large capital investments.



HOW WE WILL USE THE 2040 ASSESSMENT TOOL

The 2040 Assessment Tool has been designed to accompany Council reports that pertain to financial, policy, strategic planning, and large capital investments decisions. It is a sustainability reporting tool that will communicate how decisions support the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy, allowing Council to make better informed decisions.

The 2040 Assessment Tool can be used beyond Council reporting to provide guidance and inform new City policy and strategic planning documents. The Sustainability Principles and Directions provide a framework for developing new initiatives and updating current policy and planning documents across all City departments.

Over time, it is recommended the City embark on a staff education and awareness campaign on sustainability. The purpose of this initiative will be to create a 'culture of sustainability' at all levels in the organization. Using the 2040 Assessment Tool at a broader staff level can serve as an entry point to engage with the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy and will help staff understand how their daily decisions can support the Sustainability Principles and Directions set out in the Strategy, and enshrine sustainability into every aspect of the organization.

EXAMPLES

Included below are two examples of how the 2040 Assessment Tool is applied to City decisions.

2040 ASSESSMENT TOOL

This tool is to be used for all community level actions.

1. What is the proposed action item?

Move forward on a completed Downtown Master Plan

2. Which current policies and plans does this action support?

Policy(s):	How:
Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy, Official Community Plan, Zoning Bylaw, Water Master Plan, Subdivision Bylaw, Sewer Master Plan	The goals and objectives within the proposed downtown-waterfront plan strengthen policies towards a long-term development and supports necessary infrastructure with efficiencies and demand.

3. What impact does this action have on Nelson's Sustainability Principles, Directions, and Objectives?

1. Review the Sustainability Principles and Directions sheets. Indicate which objectives are related and identify the impacts of the action.

2. Assign Impact Rating:

3 or -3 = strong impact; 2 or -2 = moderate impact; 1 or -1 = minor impact; 0 = no impact or not applicable *

Sustainability Principle & Direction		Objectives	Direct Related Impact Rating	Indirect Related Impact Rating	Notes
Cultural Strength	Conserving and enhancing our diverse recreational assets and opportunities, Meaningful civic participation in our City's governance systems, Using arts and culture to create meaningful learning opportunities, Facilitating cross generational and socio-economic relationships	ACH1: Promote artistic and cultural expression & celebration, ACH2: Preserve and celebrate heritage, ACH3: Build cultural vision for our community, ECC3: Encourage local green economy, HLSW1: Support healthy living, LE2: Support entrepreneurial leadership, NARL3: Establish a distributed, restored natural areas network, W1: Reduce water consumption, TM1: Support human powered transportation	3	3	
Healthy Neighbourhoods	Inviting parks, community gardens and informal public spaces for gathering, Diverse housing opportunities in all neighbourhoods, Development focused in specific, pre-identified mixed use areas, Connected residential areas via safe, enjoyable walking and cycling corridors and greenways, Buildings that are sustainable in design and operation; they incorporate green building practices and technologies when renovating existing and constructing new buildings	ACH2: Preserve and celebrate heritage, ECC2: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions, HLSW2: Foster an inclusive and respectful community, HLSW4: Maximize intergenerational connections, HLSW6: Support socially just economic development, LU1: Ensure bylaws support sustainability, TM1: Support human powered transportation, TM3: Improve cycling amenities, LU2: Promote affordable mixed use housing	3	3	
Prosperity	Supporting new and existing industries, businesses, and NGOs, Supporting efficient movement of people and resources, Supporting a vibrant, safe downtown and waterfront as a welcoming space, Recognizing small business as a key driver of our local community	ECC3: Encourage local green economy, HLSW1: Support healthy living, LE1: Support businesses and investment, ECC4: Anticipate and plan to adapt to climate changes, LE3: Maintain and further develop a diverse economy, LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront, TM4: Improve inter and intra community transit, ACH4: Integrate AC&H into other sectors of the community, TM5: Foster connectivity downtown	3	2	

*** Strong Impact:** This initiative will move Nelson significantly 'closer' or 'away' from meeting the related principle, directions, and objectives. Example: the initiative puts Nelson more than 10 years ahead or behind of where we are now.

*** Moderate Impact:** This initiative will move Nelson somewhat 'closer' or 'away' from meeting the related principle, directions, and objectives. Example: the initiative puts Nelson more than 5 years ahead or behind of where we are now.

*** Minor Impact:** This initiative will move Nelson slightly 'closer' or 'away' from meeting the related principle, directions, and objectives. Example: the initiative puts Nelson more than 1-2 years ahead or behind of where we are now.

Resiliency	Foster a diverse, flexible business community that sustains our prosperity, Continue to build local, green infrastructures that use resources thriftily and efficiently, Adapt and flourish despite an uncertain, changing climate and environment	ECC1: Reduce dependence on fossil fuels , ECC2: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions , ECC3: Encourage local green economy, LE1: Support businesses and investment, LU5: Focus new growth in the downtown and waterfront , LU1: Ensure bylaws support sustainability, LE3: Maintain and further develop a diverse economy	2	-1	Additional environmental goals could be better incorporated in the planning process.
Robust Ecosystems	Protecting, restoring, and enhancing our natural assets by continuing to cultivate responsible environmental practices;; Using our natural resources efficiently and conserving them to the greatest extent possible;; Designing infrastructure that maintains natural systems, and using natural systems to enhance infrastructure performance. , Protecting the natural areas on our neighbourhoods;	ECC: Reduce energy consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions , NARL3: Establish a distributed, restored natural areas network , TM2: Reduce personal vehicle use	3	-1	Additional environmental goals could be better incorporated in the planning process.
Total Impact Ratings:			14	6	
Reflect on the total Impact Rating and assign a net impact (Highlight one):			Net Negative Impact	Strong Moderate Minor	Net Positive Impact
4. Describe how to mitigate the negative impacts on the Sustainability Principles, Directions, and/or Objectives.			Negative impacts predominantly relate to environmental considerations. The planning process articulates predominant redevelopment of sites currently developed or are brownfields. The plan would strongly discourage greenfield development and would focus future development on already disturbed sites.		
5. Describe any key outcomes, considerations, or notes on implementation.			The key outcome of the Planning Process will change how future development patterns will be occur. This will be a cultural shift and will require focussed resources to ensure the end goals are met.		



6.0

A LIVING DOCUMENT

ENSHRINING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

It is recommended that the Sustainability Principles and Directions be incorporated into all of the City's strategic planning documents. This can be accomplished during the review process of these plans by aligning the Sustainability Principles and Directions with the policies and objectives in the plans.

REPORTING SUCCESS

The Nelson community has shown a high level of commitment to the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy. The momentum created during this process can be maintained and enhanced by ongoing reporting on City and Community initiatives that support the Strategy. Ongoing reporting of successful sustainability initiatives on the City's website is recommended. An annual report to Council summarizing relevant achievements is also recommended.

AN ADAPTIVE STRATEGY

The End-state Goals, Objectives, Principles and Directions put forward in the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy establish a vision and pathway for Nelson to pursue sustainability over the next 30 years. A key aspect of ensuring the sustainability of

our community is to be adaptive to changes. Recognizing the potential to adapt and improve over time, it is recommended that the End-state Goals, Objectives, Principles and Directions be reviewed every 5 years to ensure new sustainability thinking and community aspirations are considered and incorporated into the Strategy. This review should involve interested Working Group Members, community partners and the public, with a End-state Goal of refining and building on the foundation created by the Path to 2040 Sustainability Strategy.

