



2023-2026

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PLAN

Message from Mayor and Council

On behalf of New Westminster City Council, I am excited to share our 2023-2026 Strategic Priorities Plan. This plan is the result of many hours of conversation and collaboration, guided by the principles and perspectives of all Council members, and supported by the foundational knowledge of our incredible City staff.

The five areas of focus reflect the issues we have heard from the community. We need renewed action on housing; we need to make our transportation spaces safer and more comfortable; we need to address gaps in our infrastructure; and we need to support a local economy that centres the people it serves. Perhaps most importantly, we need to build back the

community connections that the pandemic and economic uncertainty frayed, to assure we are a community where everyone feels they belong.

While we work on these focus areas, we recognize the contexts through which all of our work must be measured: Reconciliation, Public Engagement, Climate Action and Environment, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism (DEIAR). These are not separate work areas, but are woven through all of our work. They are the new standards that the public expects from a local government, and they are promises that all of Council made to the community during the election.

We can only do this work building on a foundation provided by an effective, healthy, and resilient organization. This means transparent budgeting, investing in the systems that support our community, and building a culture of respect in City Hall, in Council Chambers, and in the community.

With this Strategic Priorities Plan as our guiding document, Council will be taking action on the issues most important to New Westminster, and we will be accountable

for that work by regularly reporting back to the public about progress on our priority areas. We will also explore new ways to engage the public in decision-making, assuring that the voices heard at Council reflect the diversity of lived experience in our community.

Through this work, we will continue New Westminster's tradition of being the vibrant and compassionate centre of a growing metro region. We will support the young families putting down roots here while we invite them to join in the community closeness that makes New Westminster different. As we will build on our reputation as a regional leader in sustainability, social development, and resiliency, we will meaningfully move New Westminster towards being a community where everyone can thrive.

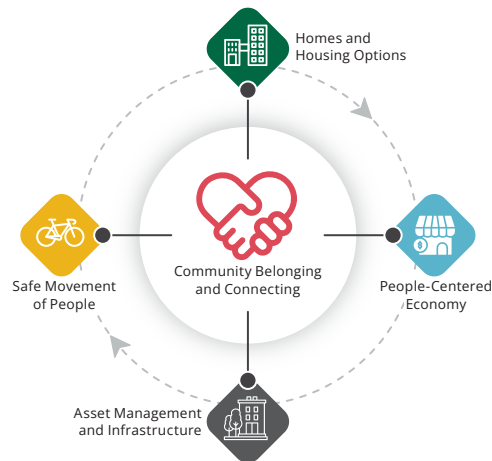


Patrick Johnstone
Mayor

VISION

A vibrant, compassionate, resilient city where everyone can thrive.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Community Belonging and Connecting

A community where everyone belongs and has the opportunity to connect and contribute.

Homes and Housing Options

Clear the way for all types of homes needed by people today and tomorrow, prioritizing homes for those with the greatest need.

People-Centered Economy

A local, nimble, resilient economy that serves our local community.

Safe Movement of People

Prioritize the movement of people on foot, cycle and transit on streets that are safer for all.

Asset Management and Infrastructure

Resilient infrastructure that meets the community's needs today and into the future.

CONTEXTS

The strategic priorities should be viewed using contexts that are both **foundations** and **lenses**. Foundations are the historical context and work done to date that we build on and adapt from. Lenses are how we should view the work as we move forward.

- **Reconciliation**
- **Public Engagement**
- **Climate Action and Environment**

- **DEIAR** (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Racism)
- **Organizational Effectiveness**