

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Council Approves Net Zero Community Greenhouse Gas Emission Target

Maple Ridge, BC: On October 20, Council voted to begin the process to change the City's community greenhouse gas emission target to net zero from 2010 levels by 2050, with an interim reduction goal of 45 per cent.

These goals align with the scientific assessments made by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The current reduction target of 80 per cent from 2007 levels by 2050 was established more than a decade ago.

The updated aspirational targets were part of a report received by Council outlining options to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. In the report, staff recommend that the City explore the introduction of several measures, including:

- Requiring compliance with the BC Energy Step Code for new construction in Maple Ridge;
- Strengthening development requirements for electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, and;
- Connecting homeowners with resources to make their homes more energy efficient and EV-ready.

Staff will start preparing an amendment to the City's Official Community Plan to reflect the new targets, which will be brought forward for public consultation in the coming months.