



POLICY DOCUMENT #3 — ENVIRONMENT

Local Environmental Action

TEAM FOR A LIVABLE VANCOUVER

Local Environmental Action

Vancouver's natural environment is a shared privilege for all residents to access and enjoy.

Our trees, waterways, shorelines, gardens – public and private, and neighbourhood green spaces are not luxuries to be taken for granted. They are a critical part of what makes Vancouver a livable city.

While other civic parties at City Hall may claim to be green, their actions don't live up to their words.

The current council has repeatedly approved, often unanimously, developer-driven policies that remove mature trees, reduce green space, and place greater pressure on aging public infrastructure. All of the parties currently on council supported the recently passed Official Development Plan, which TEAM will repeal and replace with community planning.

TEAM will adopt an approach that prioritizes our local environment, making our trees, water, and environmental infrastructure a priority in every neighbourhood.



1. Our Tree Policy

Trees are essential public infrastructure and are a key part of our city's natural climate regulation.

But the City is not properly protecting existing trees. New development is too often permitted to remove mature trees without providing enough space for healthy replacements.

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TEAM's Tree Policy will:

- Protect mature trees and strengthen tree-retention requirements;
- Prevent development from unnecessarily removing trees and green space;
- Require development to provide adequate setbacks and room for healthy new trees;
- Expand tree planting in neighbourhoods with inadequate canopy;
- Consider tree canopy, sunlight, drainage, local ecology, and heat-island effects in development decisions;
- Improve the planting and maintenance of trees on City-owned land and boulevards;
- Protect parks and green spaces by retaining and fully funding the elected Park Board.



2. Clean Waters

Vancouver's beaches, shorelines, creeks, and surrounding waters are among our most important natural assets.

TEAM will:

- Upgrade city infrastructure to prevent raw sewage and pollution from entering Vancouver waters.
- Implement a transparent monitoring system to ensure our waters are clean.
- Improve storm water management and drainage through better street cleaning and maintenance.

3. Environmental Resilience

Environmental resilience begins with properly maintaining and upgrading the infrastructure residents already depend on. It continues with supporting residents in their efforts to be environmentally responsible and use limited resources wisely.

Together, along with our tree and clean-water policies, TEAM will:

- Upgrade City infrastructure to withstand flooding, storms, extreme heat, drought, and other harsh weather events.
- Ensure infrastructure improvements are planned and funded along side population growth.
- Incorporate long-term environmental resilience into City planning.





IN CONCLUSION

Environmental leadership means accountability for producing measurable local results.

A TEAM Council will deliver stronger tree canopy, cleaner water, less pollution, and the infrastructure necessary to make every neighbourhood in the city more livable.

TEAM will focus on the environmental responsibilities City Hall can directly control. And as a result, we'll achieve measurable improvements to our local environment.



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