

## CITY OF MERRITT

### AGENDA

### PUBLIC HEARING

**CITY HALL**  
2185 Voght Street  
Merritt, B.C.

**Tuesday, September 14, 2010**  
**At 7:00 pm**

*Mission Statement: The City of Merritt is a progressive, attractive, economically viable City that is socially responsible and environmentally sustainable.*

#### **Council**

Mayor Susan Roline

Councillor Dave Baker

Councillor Mike Goetz

Councillor Nadia Hunter

Councillor Harry Kroeker

Councillor Alastair Murdoch

Councillor Shelley Sanders

*Country Music Capital of Canada*

For Enquiries  
Telephone - (250) 378-4224  
[www.merritt.ca](http://www.merritt.ca)



# CITY OF MERRITT

## A G E N D A

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**  
**AT 7:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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2. INTRODUCTION OF THE BYLAW

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OFFICIAL  
COMMUNITY PLAN  
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- 2.1 City of Merritt Official Community Plan Bylaw Amending  
Bylaw No. 2094, 2010  
File: 3900.1879

3. STAFF REPORT

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OFFICIAL  
COMMUNITY PLAN  
Page 7-11

- 3.1 City of Merritt Official Community Plan Bylaw Amending  
Bylaw No. 2094, 2010; Administrator's August 27, 2010  
Memorandum  
File: OCP2010-01

4. PROPONENT'S SUBMISSION

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5. PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

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6. CONSIDERATION OF RETURNING BYLAW TO REGULAR  
COUNCIL MEETING FOR FURTHER READINGS

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7. CLOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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**CITY OF MERRITT  
BYLAW NO. 2094, 2010**

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**A BYLAW TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN**

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**WHEREAS** the Council for the City of Merritt has adopted an Official Community Plan pursuant to the Local Government Act;

**AND WHEREAS** Local Government Act allows for changes to that Official Community Plan;

**AND WHEREAS** the Council of the City of Merritt has held a Public Hearing pursuant to the *Local Government Act*;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the City of Merritt in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

1. That this bylaw shall be cited as "**CITY OF MERRITT OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 2094, 2010.**"
2. That the following be added under "City-Wide Policies":  
  
3.7 Greenhouse Gas Reduction.

Council is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The City of Merritt will reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions 10% on or before the year 2020 from 2007 baseline levels.

Policies:

It is Council's policy to:

- a. Encourage compact community design, infill development and planning strategies that reinforce smart growth principles and best practices in sustainable development.
- b. Encourage and supports self-propelled pathways, trails and alternative modes of transportation to help reduce automobile emissions.
- c. Allow home-based businesses in all residential zones.
- d. Allow secondary suites in all residential zones; and garden suites in site specific cases.
- e. Encourage energy efficient new construction and the retrofit of existing buildings.
- f. Encourage water conservation, including the installation of low-flow plumbing fixtures, and requires water meter installation in new construction.
- g. Encourage water conservation that restricts water usage.
- h. Encourage low-impact renewable energy generation including solar and geothermal technology.
- i. Have an initiative to upgrade wood-burning appliances through wood stove exchange programs.
- j. Support the preservation of agricultural lands and local food production.
- k. Encourage local community gardens and farmers' markets.
- l. Have recycling initiatives to divert waste from area landfills.
- m. Have a composting facility to divert waste from area landfills.
- n. Have an anti-idling policy for the City fleet.
- o. Have a policy on energy efficiency for corporate buildings.

Actions:

Council is taking action by:

- a. As a signatory to the Climate Action Charter, the City will take steps to address and support the goals of the Charter.
- b. Operate a Toro Sentinel Irrigation system on public lands to reduce water consumption.
- c. Operate and purchase machinery with Tier 4 emission standards.
- d. Convert all non-beam vehicle lighting to LED.
- e. Install LED seasonal lighting.
- f. Maintain the 400 trees planted since 2006. Another 5042 lilacs have been planted within the City in the same period.
- g. Investigate potential incentives to builders and developers who incorporate alternative energy sources.
- h. Support waste reduction policies and actions outlined in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan, including a region-wide goal of 30% reduction in waste disposal by 2013 (from 2004 levels).
- i. Continue to optimize the existing public transit system.
- j. Continue to support composting and recycling efforts.

READ A FIRST TIME this	11 <sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010
READ A SECOND TIME this	11 <sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010
SECOND READING RESCINDED this	10 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010
RE-READ A SECOND TIME this	10 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010
PUBLIC HEARING HELD this	14 <sup>th</sup> day of September, 2010
READ A THIRD TIME this	day of ,2010
ADOPTED this	day of , 2010

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SUSAN ROLINE,  
MAYOR

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MATT NOBLE,  
ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK

# Report

City of Merritt  
For Public Hearing  
September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**To:** Mayor and Council

**File Number:** 3357

**From:** Administrator

**Date:** August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Application No.** OCP2010-01

**Purpose:** To meet the legislative requirements of Bill 27, 2008 requiring local governments to include greenhouse gas reduction targets, policies, and actions in Official Community Plans.



**Report Prepared By:** Sean O'Flaherty, Development Services Officer

## Background:

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the City of Merritt signed on with the Province's Climate Action Charter and committed to be carbon neutral in its own operations by 2012. At the fall sitting in 2007, the Province passed Bill 44 that required local governments to take action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). That Bill committed the Province to reduce GHG 33% below 2007 levels by 2020 and 80% below 2007 levels by 2050, and mandated each local government to set community-wide reduction targets that are ambitious yet achievable.

A Public Hearing for this bylaw was originally scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 but was rescheduled because the bylaw did not meet the requirements of the Local Government Act. Council was notified in advance of the Public Hearing regarding this decision and the reasons. The Act requires at least one additional public consultation opportunity. Furthermore the Act requires the bylaw amendment to include specific Policies with respect to reducing GHG. And finally the Act requires the bylaw amendment to include specific Targets with respect to reducing GHG.

The draft bylaw now reflects the requirements of the Local Government Act. The bylaw includes Targets, Policies, and Actions. The bylaw has been posted on the website for

Reviewed by:			
Administrator: 	Financial Services Mgr:	Public Works Mgr: 	Other:



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public review since June 29, 2010. There was an additional public consultation opportunity on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 where the Targets, Policies, and Actions were displayed and available for discussion. There has also been a display in the foyer of City Hall since July 13<sup>th</sup> clearly displaying the bylaw together with a comment sheet. No constructive comments have been received to date.

### **Analysis:**

The Ministry of Environment in conjunction with Hyla Environmental Services Ltd. developed emission inventories for local governments province-wide which estimate GHG emissions for the baseline year of 2007. According to the research, Merritt's GHG emissions are 85,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (equivalent) emissions per year. The majority of emissions are derived from transportation, totaling 62,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> or 73% of total emissions. These reports will be produced by Hyla every two years so that we can track the effectiveness of our policies and actions 5 more times before 2020.

For comparison, the GHG reduction target of the Thompson Nicola Regional District (TNRD) is 10% by 2020 and 33% by 2050. The province has set more ambitious targets of 33% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 but has left flexibility for local governments to choose their own achievable targets.

Supporting policies and actions will need to be implemented for success in meeting the targets. These policies should focus first on reducing automobile generated GHG, and second on reducing GHG from buildings.

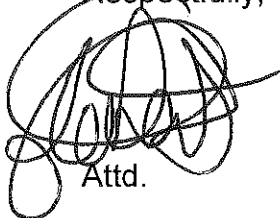
### **Agency Referrals**

This Official Community Plan amendment application has been referred to the Thompson Nicola Regional District. The Manager of Planning Services, Bob Finley, supports the intent of this OCP amendment, feels it is aligned with the TNRD's direction, and complies with the provincial Bill 27 Green Communities Statute Amendment Act. The Bylaw was also referred to the Ministry of Community Services, School District #58, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Ministry of Highways, and local First Nations.

### **Public Notice**

Notice of this Public Hearing was posted on the City's website and published in local papers September 1<sup>st</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup>. A public open house was well advertised and held on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. No comments have been received as a result of these notices.

Respectfully,



Attd.



**CITY OF MERRITT  
BYLAW NO. 2094, 2010**

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<b>ADOPTED this</b>	<b>day of , 2010</b>

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SUSAN ROLINE, MAYOR

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MATT NOBLE, CAO/CLERK