

Section 5: Regional Context Statement

Sub-topic	Plan Reference	Feedback
General		Need a map of Victoria in the context of the Capital Regional District to illustrate regional issues, like transportation systems, etc
		How does the OCP work together with regional plans and other municipalities?
	p. 23-28	One of the best regional context statements I have read - thorough and explicit.
		Regional Planning has reviewed the document relative to the current Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) and also with a view to the proposed policy directions of the Regional Sustainability Strategy (RSS) as well as regional transportation initiatives like the Corridor Plan and the Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan. In recognition that these documents are still in progress, comments relative to them are primarily for information although in some cases, we advocated for specific references. The draft has also been circulated to other departments at the region and comments from Environmental Sustainability and Regional Parks are also incorporated into this letter.
		Firstly there is no mention of amalgamation and I think this was expressed several times in the session. While it does not fit neatly into the community plan is an over arching view by several participants and I believe it needs some comment in the plan.
		Where the OCP works to meet the RGS Strategic Direction we strongly agree with the listed “plan policy response and reference” details noted to create and maintain a sustainable city. We ask only that consultation with stakeholders be included as an integral part of developing new policies.
		For the city to get involved in food supply - no expertise, no buying power. Let Saanich worry about farmland. Victoria has enough real problems to deal with inside our boundaries
		And please take the lead in cooperating with Saanich and Oak Bay in developing the natural corridor of Bowker Creek. Take the lead in developing the Victoria section of that green corridor which can be a valued and renowned attribute of our city for many generations.
		Coordinate the planning of Shelbourne with Saanich re: place making and traffic management.
		We applaud the City for including ‘community well-being’ in the OCP and aligning it with portions of the Regional Growth Strategy (protecting green and blue space; build complete communities; increase transportation choices).
		I'd love to know if consideration has been given to the compatability of our RCS to the new CRD RSS, as well as the existing CRD RGS
Direction Specific	p. 24	I recommend including an explicit statement under (1) Keep Urban Settlement Compact supporting urban containment boundaries in the region. There are many reasons why these boundaries make sense, but from a City of Victoria perspective they make most sense because they create the impetus for infill development and compact walkable communities. They are, to an extent, the reason why we do not have a hollow urban core.
	p. 24	P. 24 the Urban Residential and traditional Residential designation provide greater scope for housing stock diversity than conventional exclusive use designations. Multi use is good and the Traditional Residential needs to be well monitored to prevent more loss. We lost the McClure designed house on Richardson Street (near Vancouver) with a garden and significant tree and the Douglas Grandson house on Moss Rocks
	Figure 6, p.25	We wish to check the Marine and Working Harbour designations underpinning the protected areas designated in the RGS. and will comment separately on that,
	p. 28	The draft OCP addresses the eight strategic directions of the RGS in Section 5 and cross-references other sections

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		with specific references to RGS policies. Generally, Figure 6 clearly indicates how the OCP has met or exceeded targets set by the RGS and how the policies achieve consistency. One exception is No.8, Strengthen the Regional Economy, whereby the OCP acknowledges attracting only 13% of regional employment growth between 2001 and 2006 compared to the target of 20% set in the RGS for 2026. While the remedies to ramp up economic activity in the City are appropriate, the performance comparison to the West Shore seems out of place and does not add value to the policy response.
	p.25	Page 25 – Mention of regional environmental sustainability - no mention of local policies or local pollution