

Shape Your Future Victoria



Infrastructure

Definition and description

Infrastructure refers to the basic physical structures and systems managed and maintained by the municipality that provide services to the community. Victoria's municipal infrastructure includes facilities and systems for water, sanitation and solid waste management as well as roads and sidewalks.

Sustainable infrastructure enhances the ecological, economic and public health of a community through the careful planning, design, construction, maintenance and replacement of infrastructure components.¹ For example, bike lanes, green buildings and low-water gardens provide multiple benefits for a community.

¹ Based on NRC Centre for Sustainable Infrastructure Research

Why is this topic important?

Infrastructure choices have a central role in the creation and maintenance of communities that are sustainable, livable, and prosperous. Services such as drinking water, storm and sanitary sewers, roads, bridges and power lines are vital to the economic, environmental and public health of a community.

Across the country, municipalities are challenged with aging and deteriorating infrastructure, and increasing costs for repair and replacement.

Infrastructure supports land use decisions by supplying services to developments and a growing population and business sector. Land use planning anticipates where and what kind of infrastructure will be needed in the future. Plans and policies ensure that neighbourhoods can be designed to accommodate infrastructure that supports sustainable lifestyles, such as green buildings and systems for renewable energy, water conservation, cycling, walking and transit.

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

Ideas and Options for the Future

June 25 and 26 - Topic Insert



Public Input on Infrastructure

Proposed Goal 1 From Public Input : <i>Transform the Urban Environment</i>	
Direction: Green Infrastructure	Direction: Green Energy
Ideas and Examples	Ideas and Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greener/innovative infrastructure. • Efficient infrastructure and services. Development that doesn't increase the load on infrastructure. • Hard and soft infrastructure is carbon-negative, net-zero energy, zero waste, in all aspects of the City. • Better/ expanded recycling systems. • Public recycling bins on streets. • Implement a versatile curb side pick up recycling program that encompasses: soft plastics, batteries, tetra packs, foil lined wrappers, etc. • Community-based waste disposal system. Dumpsters for whole neighbourhoods centralized, makes disposal easier, saves greenhouse gases. • Sewage is treated appropriately and no longer dumped in the ocean. • Sewage treatment needs to be more efficient due to increased density. • Cleaner storm water with reduced volumes. • Lower water use. • Free rain barrel distribution. • Subsidize and install rain catchment systems for willing residents and city gardens/buildings. • Ecological education on rainwater harvesting and composting and target apartment dwellers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable energy • Energy and resource self sufficiency • Set specific, measurable targets to achieve (e.g. 15 percent of energy from renewables; decrease overall energy demand by 30 percent. • Develop energy plan and utilize bio-philic design. • Allow community owned energy systems (PV, wind, solar, thermal, etc.). • Tools: carrot and stick, property tax levies for green infrastructure. • Renewable energy. • Victoria fuels itself largely from renewables including hydro. • Smart grid; PV infrastructure. • Design to incorporate wind and microclimates. • Maintain clean air. • More sustainability initiatives.

Related Victoria Sustainability Framework Subthemes and Goals	
Infrastructure:	<i>Victoria's well-maintained infrastructure and facilities meet the needs of residents and businesses utilizing best management practices.</i>

Existing Policies on Infrastructure

Victoria Sustainability Framework (2010)		
Infrastructure:	<i>Victoria's well-maintained infrastructure and facilities meet the needs of residents and businesses utilizing best management practices.</i>	
Official Community Plan (1995)	Downtown Core Area Plan (draft 2010)	Other Plans / Policies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage waste facilities (three stream) in new multi-residential development. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the use of incentives to encourage private development that includes renewable district energy systems able to serve the Downtown Core Area. 	