

April 2, 2025 Reference: 185346

Her Worship Megan Knight Mayor of the City of White Rock 15322 Buena Vista Avenue White Rock BC V4B 1Y6

Email: mknight@whiterockcity.ca

## Dear Mayor Knight:

Thank you for the submission of the City of White Rock's six-month housing targets progress report. I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the report.

I note that White Rock delivered 24 net-new units in the first six months, and based on that, is not on track to achieve its year-one target of 189 net-new units.

However, I understand that due to the cyclical nature of development, the data provided in the six-month interim progress report may not be reflective of the efforts made by the City prior to the July 1, 2024, effective date of the Housing Target Order. Specifically, I acknowledge that 177 occupancy permits were issued immediately preceding July 1, 2024. Additionally, I acknowledge that the reporting methodology used for instream units is an undercount of the number of units currently being processed, especially in the early reporting periods.

Despite the shortfall of net-new units during the reporting period, I am pleased that the City of White Rock is advancing housing and planning policies, including complying with provincial requirements related to interim Housing Needs Reports and adopting the minimum standards for Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH) zoning. Further to my letter of January 10, 2025, I expect that the City is reviewing its bylaws and considering updates to achieve better alignment with the SSMUH Provincial Site Standards to support meeting housing targets. The City's draft *Affordable Housing Strategy*, expected to be approved by Council in March 2025, should provide a good foundation for making progress in the future.

I encourage the City of White Rock to continue to implement a full suite of actions and initiatives to increase diverse housing supply. If housing targets are not met and satisfactory progress has not been made following evaluation of the first annual progress report, I have the option to consider undertaking compliance measures, including appointing an advisor or issuing a directive.

Going forward, I trust all effort will be made by the City of White Rock to create the conditions that support the delivery of more housing to meet its housing targets. I look forward to receiving White Rock's first annual progress report in mid-August 2025.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Ravi Kahlon

Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs

CC: Guillermo Ferrero, Chief Administrative Officer Anne Berry, Director, Planning & Development Services

Neethu Syam, Planning Division Lead

Housing Targets Branch, Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs