

Office of the Chair Tel. 604-432-6215 or via Email CAOAdministration@metrovancouver.org

October 31, 2023

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Mayor Megan Knight and Council City of White Rock 15322 Buena Vista Avenue White Rock, BC V4B 1Y6

VIA EMAIL: <a href="mknight@whiterockcity.ca">mknight@whiterockcity.ca</a>; <a href="tarthur@whiterockcity.ca">tarthur@whiterockcity.ca</a>;

Dear Mayor Megan Knight and Council:

## Streamlining the Delivery of Rental Housing Through Pre-Approved Plans and Off-Site Construction

As you know, there is a significant and urgent need for rental housing in the Metro Vancouver region, and the Province as a whole. Exploring new technologies and modern methods for delivering rental housing such as off-site construction has the potential to drive housing supply, affordability, climate action, and construction sector innovation in the region. The Province of British Columbia, in anticipation of the launch of BC Builds, is seeking municipal partners to advance these efforts in the Metro Vancouver region.

At its September 29, 2023 meeting, the Board of Directors of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) adopted the following resolution:

## That the MVRD Board:

- receive for information the report dated August 14, 2023, titled, "Streamlining the Delivery of Rental Housing Through Pre-Approved Plans and Off-Site Construction"; and
- b) direct staff to send correspondence to member jurisdictions, in an effort to identify municipalities interested in joining a project led by the Province to explore pre-approved building plans and off-site construction to streamline the delivery of rental housing.

At this time, Metro Vancouver is seeking to identify member jurisdictions who are interested in stepping forward as local government champions for this project led by the Province, alongside a coalition of other early adopters who will explore off-site construction and other innovative actions to achieve housing targets, and increase housing supply and affordability. As participants, member jurisdictions will have the opportunity to explore the creation and implementation of standardized

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guidelines and zoning regulations for six-storey rental buildings (including pre-approved building plans) that would facilitate the use of off-site construction methods.

Should your jurisdiction be interested in advancing actions to streamline the delivery of rental housing through the use of pre-approved building plans and off-site construction, I invite you or your staff to contact Heather McNell, Deputy CAO, Policy and Planning, by November 17, 2023 by phone at 604-436-6813 or by email at <a href="mailto:heather.mcnell@metrovancouver.org">heather.mcnell@metrovancouver.org</a>.

Yours sincerely,

George V. Harvie

Chair, Metro Vancouver Board

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cc: Guillermo Ferrero, Chief Administrative Officer, City of White Rock

Jerry W. Dobrovolny, Commissioner/Chief Administrative Officer, Metro Vancouver Heather McNell, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Policy and Planning, Metro Vancouver Jonathan Coté, Deputy General Manager, Regional Planning and Housing Development, Metro Vancouver

Michael Epp, Director, Housing Planning and Development, Metro Vancouver

Encl: Streamlining the Delivery of Rental Housing Through Pre-Approved Plans and Off-Site

Construction

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