

# Official Community Plan Indicators Report

2016



City of  
**Kelowna**

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# Introduction

## The Official Community Plan

The Official Community Plan (OCP) is our shared vision for Kelowna as a sustainable city over the next 20 years. It illustrates how we want to grow and what we want our city to be like. It outlines what our city needs to be successful in the future – a great place to live, work and play. To achieve this, the OCP sets goals, objectives and policies to guide our growth and change (see pg. 4). It was developed with significant public involvement and responds to the community’s vision for a livable and thriving community.

The OCP guides long-term civic infrastructure investment and helps to prioritize the use of limited resources. The OCP is also used by the development community, businesses and the public for a range of purposes such as determining which areas are suitable for development or what changes could occur at a neighbourhood level.

## OCP Indicators Report

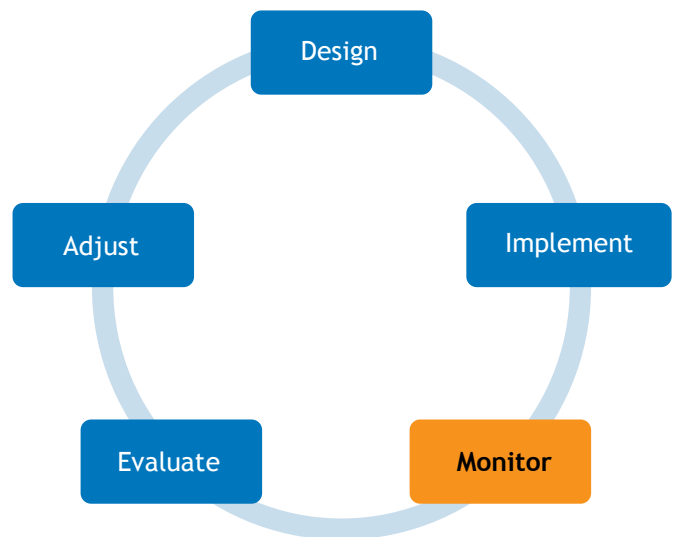
Ensuring the successful implementation of the OCP requires a commitment that extends well beyond the date of adoption. A robust monitoring and evaluation program is a central part of this effort and is vital in equipping staff and elected officials with the information needed to respond to the evolving context of the community and to determine whether OCP objectives are being achieved. The *OCP Indicators Report* represents the City’s principal effort in this area, using metrics that have been established and measured at regular intervals to quantify progress. Measuring progress will provide information on where changes may need to be considered for goals to be achieved.

Indicators were selected using two key criteria: the indicators had to be meaningful by reflecting the goals and objectives of the OCP, and they had to be based on data that would be readily available on an annual basis.

The 2016 report contains data to the end of 2015, and builds on the previous years, including all data and results from the previous four reports. 2011, the year the OCP was adopted, is used as the baseline year. Some indicators utilize years prior to 2011 to help provide a broader view of how these indicators are performing in the long term.

## How to use this report

For each indicator, four key questions are answered: What is being measured? Why is it important? What is the desired target? How are we doing? A coloured symbol measures performance relative to the baseline year. However, it is important to note that performance (annual) does not always equate to a trend (long-term). While performance in any given year may be positive or negative, a clear trend may take many years of data to identify reliably. Where possible, trend lines are included in the graphs to help illustrate the indicator trend over the four years.



Monitoring indicators will provide information on where changes may need to be considered for goals to be achieved.

## OCP Goals
















The objectives and policies of the OCP are focused on creating a sustainable community and support the following main goals:



# Balance Sheet

The following is a snapshot of how we are performing in the current year relative to the previous years:

Performing in the right direction  Performing in the wrong direction  Yearly difference in performance is minimal 

Indicator	Measurement frequency	Performance
<b>Contain Urban Growth</b>		
1. Urban Growth		
1.1 Percent of new residential units located in the Urban Core	Annually	
1.2 Percent of new commercial square footage located in the Urban Centres	Annually	
1.3 Impact of changes to the Permanent Growth Boundary	Annually	
<b>Address Housing Needs of All Residents</b>		
2. Housing Composition	Annually	
3. Housing Affordability		
3.1 Housing affordability index (ratio of income to house price)	Annually	
3.2 Rental vacancy rate	Annually	
3.3 Supply of single unit residential land	Annually	
3.4 Supply of multiple unit residential land likely to redevelop by 2030	Annually	
<b>Feature a Balanced Transportation Network</b>		
4. Length of new cycling and pedestrian network compared to new roads	Annually	
5. Modal split for travel to work	Every 5 years	Not enough data
6. Proximity to transit	Annually	
<b>Improve Efficiency and Performance of Buildings</b>		
7. Average household energy (electricity and gas) consumption	Annually	
<b>Foster Sustainable Prosperity</b>		
8. Median household income relative to provincial median	Annually	
9. Business Growth (number of businesses with employees)	Annually	
<b>Protect and Enhance Natural Areas</b>		
10. Percent of environmentally sensitive land under formal protection	Annually	
11. Percent of green space protected from development	Annually	
<b>Provide Spectacular Parks</b>		
12. Percent of residents that live within 400m of a park	Annually	
13. Number of public program hours delivered per resident	Annually	
<b>Include Distinctive and Attractive Neighbourhoods</b>		
14. Distinctive Neighbourhoods		
Percent of parks and transportation dollars spent in the Urban Core	Annually	
Percent of total assessed value within the Urban Core	Annually	
<b>Enable Healthy and Productive Agriculture</b>		
15. Food Production		
Percent of land base actively farmed	Annually	
Number of community gardens	Annually	
<b>Encourage Cultural Vibrancy</b>		
16. Safety		
Crime rate in Kelowna	Annually	
Number of motor vehicle crashes reported per 1,000 people	Annually	2014 data not available
17. Cultural indicator (undetermined to date)	Annually	Not enough data

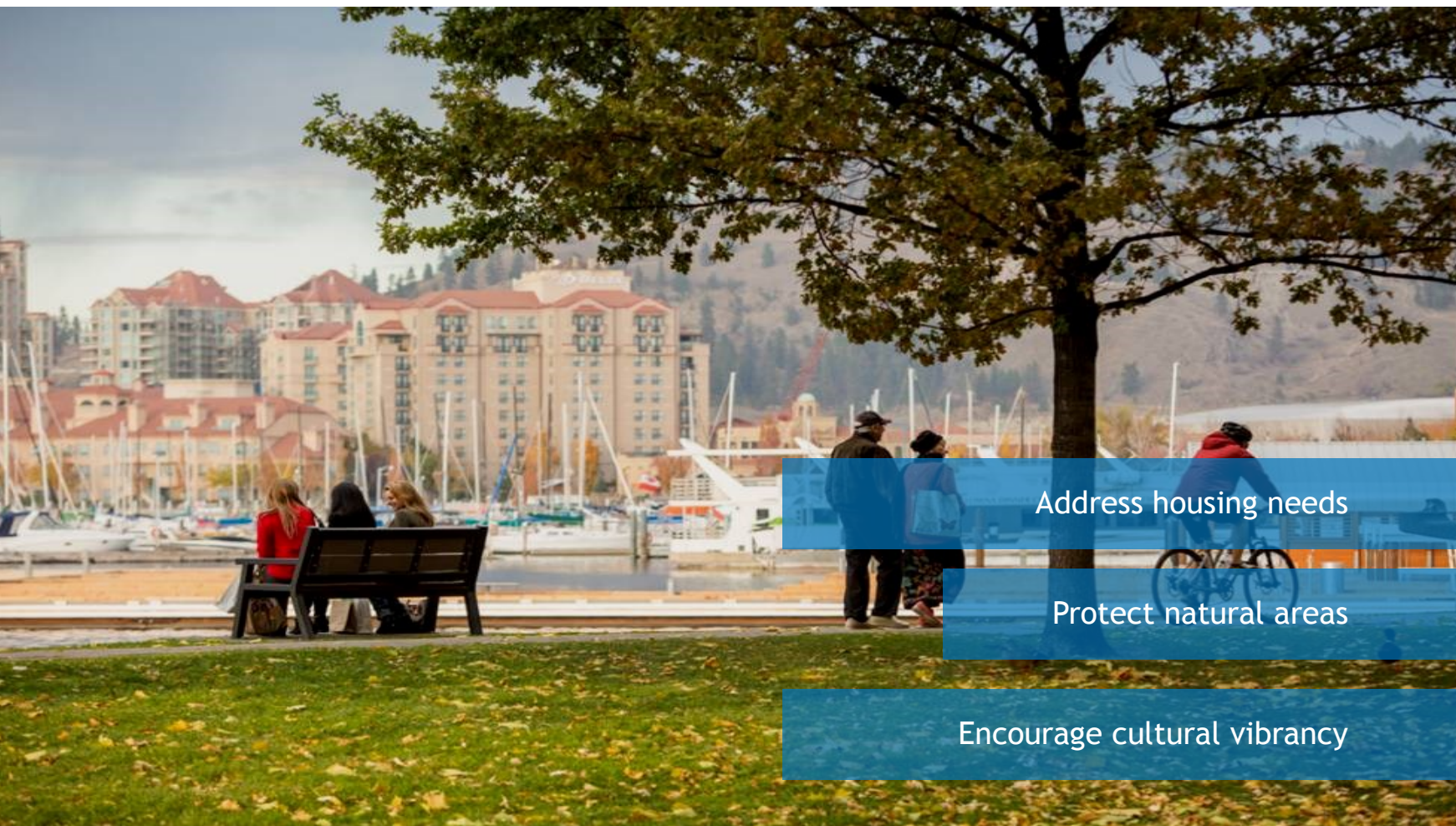
# Trends & Issues

.....

## Emerging Trends & Issues

The 2016 OCP Indicators Report contains five years worth of data. Where possible, trend lines have been included to show how the indicators has been performing over time. Some of the key areas where trends are emerging include:

- More development is taking place in the city's urban centres (indicator 1.1)
- Proportion of new housing that is multi-family housing continues to increase (indicator 2)
- Rental housing vacancy rate continues to decrease below the target rate (indicator 3.2)
- Number of businesses with employees continues to increase year-over-year (indicator 9)
- Access and proximity to parks for city residents has increased consistently since 2011 (indicator 12)
- The majority of investment in parks and transportation is in the Urban Core (indicator 14)



Address housing needs

Protect natural areas

Encourage cultural vibrancy

# 1

## Urban Growth

### 1.1 Residential Units

#### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percentage of new residential units located within Kelowna's Urban Core, as well as the percentage of new units located within Kelowna's five Urban Centres. New units are based on annual building permit issuance data from the City of Kelowna. The Urban Core was introduced with adoption of OCP 2030.

#### Why is this indicator important?

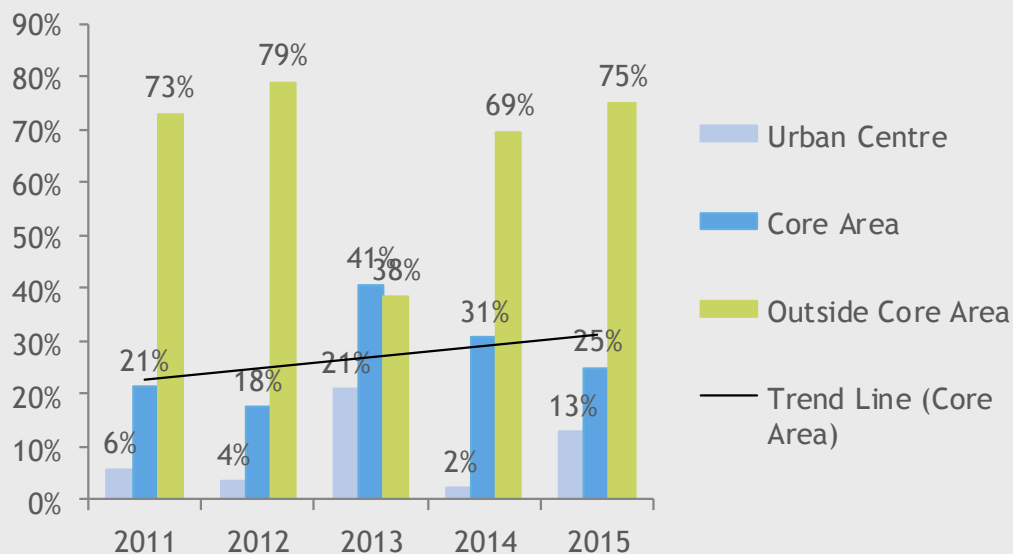
One of the main goals of the OCP is to contain urban growth by reducing urban sprawl and developing great neighbourhoods. To achieve this, the City of Kelowna aims to balance the projected need for approximately 20,100 housing units by the year 2030 by directing this growth to the Urban Core and its supporting Urban Centres.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase the proportion of units in the Urban Core and Urban Centres to approximately 46% of all new residential units

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

In 2015, 13% of all new residential units approved were located in an urban centre, and 25% were located in the Urban Core. This is an increase in development in the urban centres, but a decrease in the number of units in the Urban Core. A significant number of the units outside of the urban core in 2015 are associated with development at University South Village Centre. This area is outside of the Urban Core, but the City is supportive of growth as it is creating a more complete university community. The City continues to encourage growth in the Urban Centres through strategic civic investments and the use of financial incentives.

### Location of New Residential Units



# 1

## Urban Growth

### 1.2 Commercial Space

#### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percentage of new commercial square footage located within Kelowna's Urban Centres. New commercial square footage is based on annual building permit issuances.

#### Why is this indicator important?

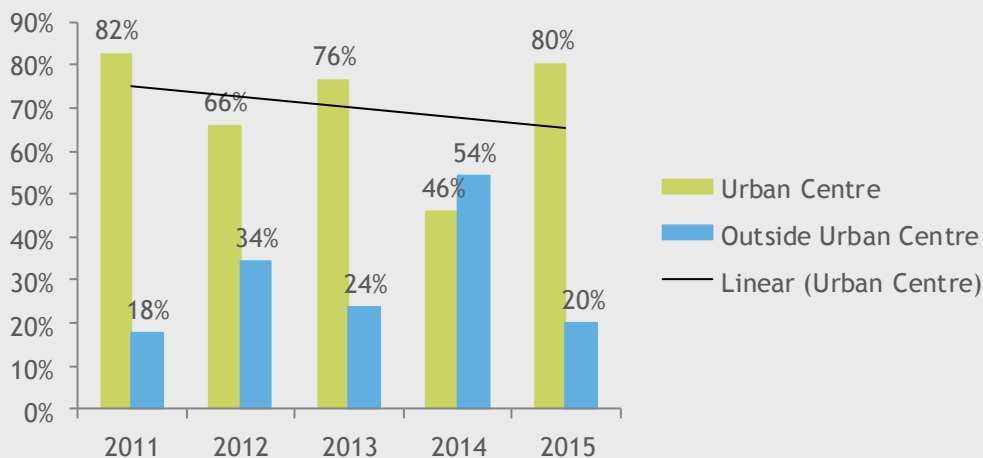
The City of Kelowna projects the need for an additional 3,000,000 square feet of commercial floor space by the year 2030 to accommodate the projected growth within the City. Much of the new commercial growth is projected to be in the Urban Centres and this is supported by policies that aim to ensure that these Centres develop as vibrant commercial nodes. However, small amounts of commercial space are expected in suburban areas (e.g. convenience commercial) to facilitate the development of complete suburbs.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase the percentage of new commercial space in Urban Centres

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

In 2015, 80% of all new commercial development was within the city's urban centres. This data reinforces that 2014 was an outlier based on the fact that four of the five years have had a very high proportion of commercial development in the Urban Centres. The city's urban centres continue to attract commercial development with the Downtown's Revitalization Tax Exemption Program supporting projects such as the Okanagan Centre for Innovation. This trend highlights the City's efforts to encourage compact growth by directing commercial development and employment to areas that will continue to be prioritized for future residential development as well as transit and alternative transportation infrastructure.

Location of New Commercial Development (sq. ft.)





# 1

## Urban Growth

### 1.3 Permanent Growth Boundary

#### What is being measured?

This indicator measures how much building space has been added for urban development where changes to the Permanent Growth Boundary (PGB) have been approved. Data for this indicator is based on annual building permit issuances from the City of Kelowna.

#### Why is this indicator important?

This indicator serves as a tool used to protect farms, forests, parks and to promote the efficient use of land and services within the Permanent Growth Boundary (PGB). By designating the area inside the boundary for higher density urban development, and the area outside for lower density rural development, the PGB helps control urban sprawl and protect agricultural land.

**Target / Desired Trend:** No changes to the PGB that result in an increase in building floor area for urban development

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

There have been minor changes to the Permanent Growth Boundary but none have resulted in additional floor space for urban development. This indicator has been trending in the right direction for five consecutive years. This suggests that the PGB is playing a positive role in containing urban sprawl and directing growth to designated areas.

0 sq.ft.

of new building space added for urban development in 2015 as a result of changes to the PGB

“Over the last 5 years, the Permanent Growth Boundary has not been amended to accommodate urban development.”

# 2

## Housing Composition

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the composition of new residential units by housing type. Housing types are categorized as either multiple unit residential (e.g.: row housing, apartment housing) or single/two unit residential (e.g.: detached or semi-detached dwellings). Data for this indicator is based on annual building permit issuances from the City of Kelowna.

### Why is this indicator important?

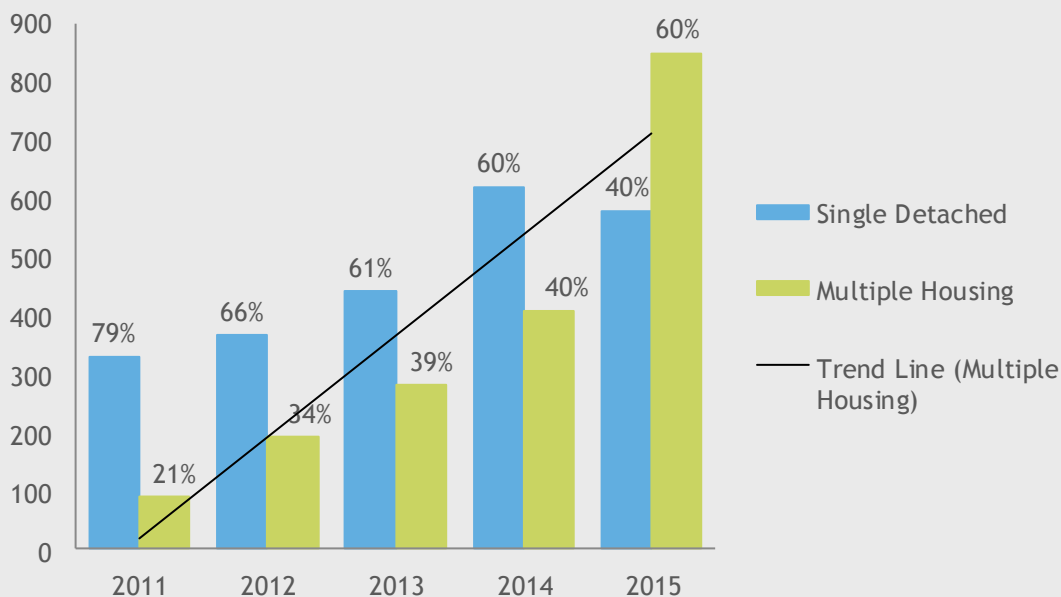
The OCP includes policy direction that promotes higher density housing development as a means to reduce sprawl and to make more efficient use of infrastructure resources, especially in the form of infill or redevelopment in core areas. The OCP sets a target for housing distribution of new units at approximately 43% being single/two unit housing, and 57% being multiple unit residential.

**Target/Desired Trend:** 57% multiple unit and 43% single/two unit

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

In 2015, 1,430 building permits were issued for residential development and 60% were in the form of multiple housing units. Comparatively, in 2011, 423 building permits were issued for residential development. Of these, 21% were multiple housing units. Since 2011, the percentage of multiple unit residential development has been increasing annually, highlighting Kelowna's on-going evolution as an urban region. Multi-family housing continues to be supported by the City through incentives such as the Rental Housing Grants Program and the Revitalization Tax Exemption program for rental housing and the DCC exemptions for micro suites. So far this positive trend appears to be continuing in 2016.

### Housing Breakdown by Type (Units)



# 3

## Housing Affordability

### 3.1 Housing Affordability Index

#### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the number of years of wages (working at the median household income) needed to purchase a home at the median house price (including all building forms). Data for this indicator is from Environments Analytics and the British Columbia Assessment Authority.

#### Why is this indicator important?

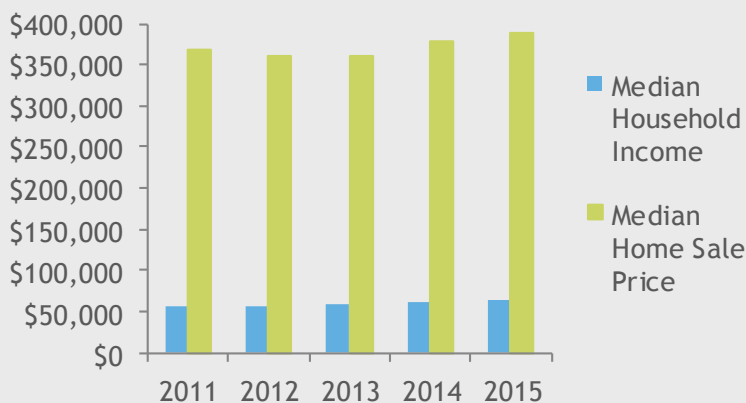
According to community input, citizens want a City where housing is available and affordable. To measure performance in this area, median income is compared to the median house price as the “median multiple”, a standard used internationally. While this is a valuable indicator of housing affordability, it should be noted that it does not take into account other home ownership costs such as utilities and property tax. Staff have previously noted that when utility, property tax and mortgage rates are factored in, Kelowna’s ownership viability is comparable to other similar Canadian municipalities.

**Target/Desired Trend:** 3.5 years of wages to purchase a home

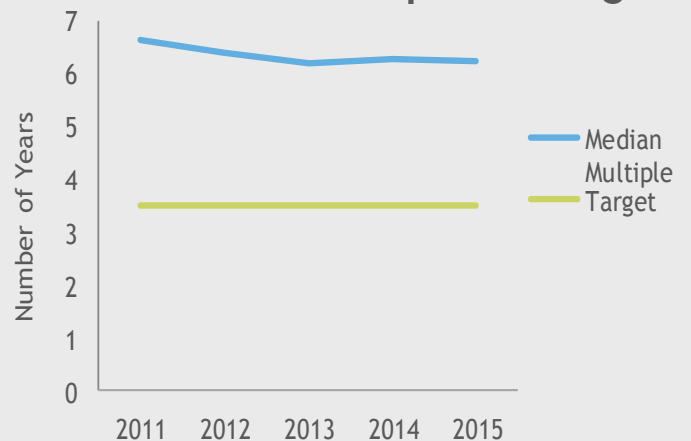
**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

In 2015, the median household income was \$62,586 and the median home sale price was \$388,500, translating into a median multiple of 6.21. This data represents a small improvement in comparison to recent years. The median household income increased 3.7% offsetting the \$10,000 increase in median home sale prices. The small decrease from 6.26 to 6.21 in the median multiple reflects the growing number and ratio of sales of strata, semi-detached and row housing units as well as the small increase in median household income. This reflects the City’s efforts to encourage more multi-family housing in the urban core. Although, the median multiple has decreased in 5 of the last 6 years it remains well above the OCP target of 3.5 years of wages to purchase a home. Access to affordable housing is a key driver for attracting and retaining residents and will require on-going efforts from City of Kelowna and senior levels of government.

#### Median Income vs. Median Home Price



#### Median Multiple vs. Target



# 3

## Housing Affordability

### 3.2 Rental Vacancy Rate

#### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the rental vacancy rate. The measure shows how many rental properties, at the time of survey, are without tenants and available for immediate rental. The City uses the vacancy rate published by Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), in their Rental Market Report for Kelowna CMA.

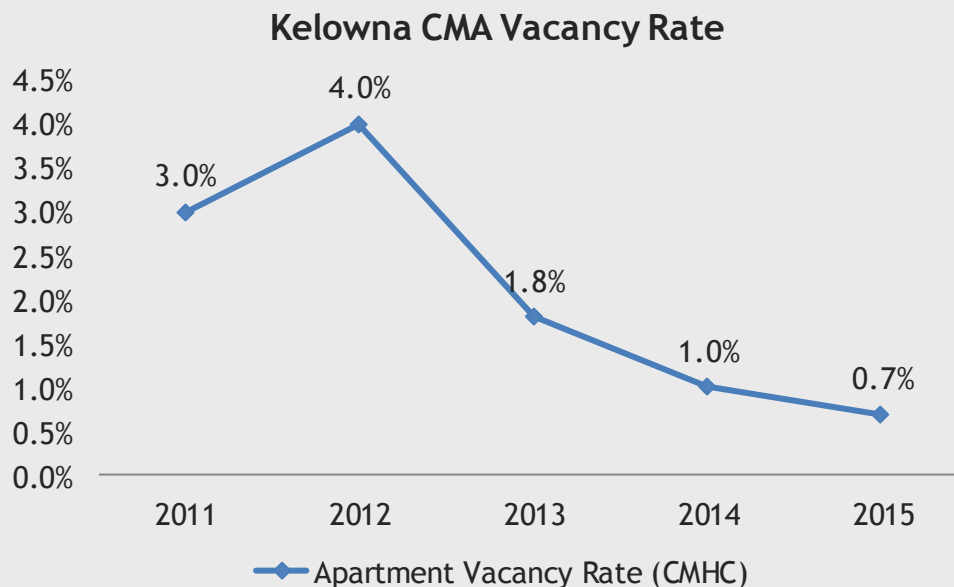
#### Why is this important?

This indicator offers insight into rental market conditions and ultimately guides the City in developing housing investment strategies and establishing housing policy. Kelowna 2030 OCP includes policy direction in support of affordable and safe rental housing. To accommodate the projected growth, a range of housing units is required, including rental units. A three percent vacancy rate is considered healthy in the rental market.

**Target / Desired Trend:** A vacancy rate between 3% and 5%

**How are we doing?** Performing in the wrong direction. ←

The rental vacancy rate published by CMHC was 0.7% for 2015. This is a decrease from 1.0% in 2014 and well under the 3.0% goal of the OCP. This trend is the result of a growing demand for rental accommodation associated with significant population growth in the region. Until recently there was little response on the part of the development community to address the lack of supply. However, recent staff analysis estimates that there are approximately 1,000 rental units that are likely to be added to the rental housing market over the next several years. The low vacancy rate in 2015 highlights the lag between the increased rental demand and the response from the development community to build new rental housing. To support the development community the City has multiple incentives in place to encourage the development of rental housing, including tax incentives, micro-suite incentives and rental housing grants. The vacancy rate is expected to slowly rise as the units that are under construction or moving to construction are added to the rental market over the next two years.



## 3.3 Supply of Single Unit Residential Land

**What is being measured?**

This indicator measures the supply of available land (in years) designated for single detached development in Kelowna. Data for this indicator uses housing projections from the OCP, relative to the years remaining on the lifespan of the OCP (currently 14 years). A units/hectare calculation provides the estimated total unit yield.

**Why is this indicator important?**

Ensuring a balanced land supply is a critical factor in managing the growth of a city. The City of Kelowna projects the need for approximately 20,100 housing units of all types between 2010-2030 to accommodate the projected growth. Of this total, approximately 8,600 are estimated to be single detached dwellings.

**Target / Desired Trend:**

For single detached development, enough available land to match the years remaining on the current OCP.

**How are we doing?** Performing in the wrong direction. ←

For single detached development, there is estimated to be approximately 9.3 years of supply remaining. New single detached development appears to be developing at a lower density (6.2 units/ha) than previously expected. This may be the result of the high proportion of new development occurring on hillside lands, where development density is more challenging to maximize. To address this shortfall, a new Area Structure Plan (Thomson Flats) area is under development in order to examine the potential for new development lands to accommodate projected housing demand within the OCP timeframe. Work is also underway on the *Infill Challenge*, a project looking into possibilities to expand capacity in existing developed areas through unconventional housing.

9.3

years of  
undeveloped land  
remaining for  
single detached  
dwellings.



## 3.4 Supply of Multiple Unit Residential Land

**What is being measured?**

This indicator measures the supply of multi-family designated land in Kelowna that is likely to redevelop within the horizon of the OCP. In order to determine which land is likely to redevelop, the relationship between land value to building value was examined. A ratio of 1:0.25 or less, is considered land that will likely redevelop within the short-term (OCP horizon). For example, a property with a land value of \$100,000, and a building value of \$25,000 or less, is considered as a candidate for redevelopment in the short term.

This indicator is an attempt at identifying sites that may be the most likely candidates for redevelopment. It is recognized that a host of other factors are considered that may encourage or discourage land owners to redevelop or not. Furthermore, as short-term land supply is absorbed by the market, other land will become available.

**Why is this indicator important?**

Ensuring a balanced land supply is a critical factor in managing the growth of a city. The City of Kelowna projects the need for approximately 20,100 housing units of all types by the year 2030 to accommodate projected growth. Of this total, approximately 11,500 are estimated to be multiple unit dwellings.

**Target / Desired Trend:**

Enough underutilized land available to match the years remaining on the current OCP (14 years)

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

2015 was the second year that this indicator has been measured. For multi-family development, there is estimated to be approximately 12 to 14 years supply of land that is considered likely to redevelop in the short-term (within OCP horizon). This puts the land supply in line with the target. In addition to this, Kelowna has significantly more land designated for multi-family development in the long-term (beyond 2030). If considering both short-term and long-term multi-family designated land, there is a supply of over 60 years. This suggests that the City is not unduly restricting the market for multi-family land.

**Multi-Family Land Supply Likely to Redevelop by 2030**

# 12 to 14

years of land that is most likely to redevelop as multi-family within OCP horizon.

LAND LIKELY  
TO REDEVELOP  
(UNDERUTILIZED)

=

BUILDING VALUE  
< 25% OF LAND  
VALUE

For example, a property with a land value of \$100,000, and a building value of \$25,000 or less, is considered underutilized, and a candidate for redevelopment in the short term.

# 4

## Pedestrian & Cycling Network

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the length of new pedestrian and cycling network compared to new road lanes constructed per year. Data is provided by the City of Kelowna.

### Why is this indicator important?

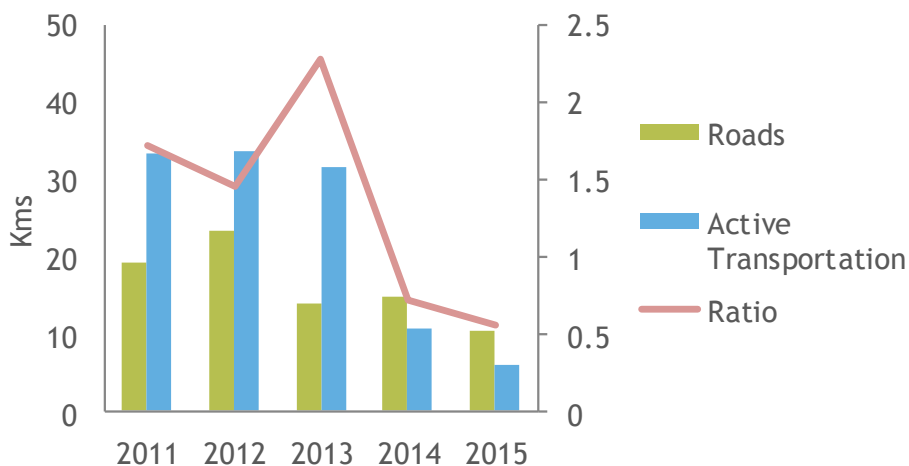
Creating walk-able, pedestrian-friendly, and connected neighbourhoods is a central focus of the OCP and is achieved in part through a balanced transportation network. For this to occur, it is important to increase the attractiveness, convenience and safety of all modes of transportation by implementing complete streets that are designed to serve a broader range of transportation modes, including pedestrians and cyclists. OCP policy 7.6.1 (Transportation Infrastructure Priority), supports funding walking and cycling infrastructure ahead of infrastructure for vehicles.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase the pedestrian and cycling infrastructure relative to new roads . Target to be revised to align with targets from the *Pedestrian & Cycling Master Plan*.

**How are we doing?** Performing in the wrong direction. ←

Active transportation (AT) infrastructure continues to be funded and constructed annually. However, given the significant cost of transportation projects it is important to look beyond individual years and look at the broader trends. Since 2011, for every 1.0 kilometre of road lane constructed, 1.41 kilometres of walking and cycling infrastructure was constructed. In addition, it is worth noting that the recently adopted Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan has placed more emphasis on building AT routes that are accessible to all ages and abilities (AAA). However, these AAA routes are more costly to construct which affects the number of kilometres of AT infrastructure that can be built each year. The City also made a number of other investments including AT counters, pedestrian activated flashers and other pedestrian crossing improvements in 2015.

**Transportation Infrastructure Constructed by Type (kms)**



Note: data on the distribution of bike lane development between 2012 and 2013 is not available. Therefore, the total bike lane marked was divided evenly over each year.

*The Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan* implementation is currently underway and will address infrastructure and policy requirements to promote walking and cycling within Kelowna.

# 5

## Balanced Transportation Network

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the modal split (% of population that uses each mode of transportation) for transportation to work. The modes of transportation include vehicle - as driver, vehicle - as passenger, public transit, walk, bicycle, or other. Data for this indicator is based on census data and will be measured every five years when census data is released.

### Why is this indicator important?

Active transportation is a major theme of the OCP and is supported by one of the main goals: to feature a balanced transportation network. Increasing the attractiveness, convenience and safety of all modes of transportation by implementing complete streets is supported by OCP objectives and policy.

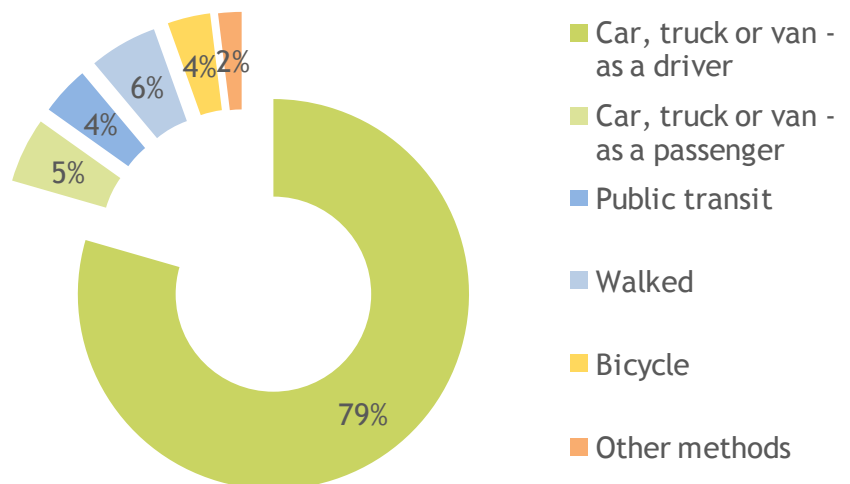
**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase the number of people making more sustainable transportation choices (e.g. pedestrian, cycling, transit) - *under review*

### How are we doing?

As this indicator is measured every 5 years, at this point this report is dependent upon the next census data which will be provided in 2016. The data provided below is based on 2011 Census and until more data is available, no trend can be identified. However, in 2015 Kelowna transit riders amassed a total 108,000 daily passenger kilometres. Meaning, if you add up all the distance travelled for everyone riding the bus in Kelowna, it is equal to going around the earth two and a half times per day.



Mode of Transportation to Work (%)





# 6

## Proximity to Transit

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percentage of our population that lives within 400 m (5 minute walk) of a transit stop. Data for this indicator utilizes BC Transit data as well as census data.

### Why is this indicator important?

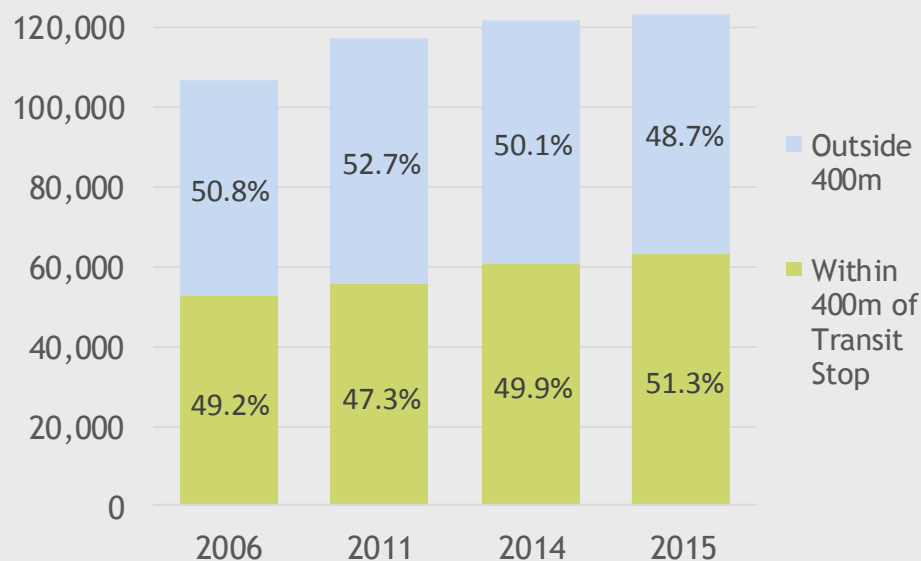
An important part of a sustainable city is creating compact communities served by transportation routes that encourage transit, bicycles and pedestrians. As traffic becomes more congested and as we work towards becoming a more sustainable city, transit will play a larger role in daily commutes. The OCP supports increasing density (people and employment) in communities to a level that will support transit service. Increased density around transit will also contribute to the City's commitment to reducing our Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase the percentage of people living within 400 m of a transit stop

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

Compared to the baseline year, which was the 2006 Census, over 51% Kelowna residents now live within a 400m (approximately a 5 minute walk) of a transit stop. In the baseline year, 49% of people lived within 400m of a stop. Although there has been a slight increase in people living close to a transit stop, communities within Kelowna need to reach greater density to make transit viable. A stronger trend will emerge with more data.

### Population Proximity to Transit Stops



# 7

## Efficient Energy Use

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures household energy consumption (electricity and gas). Data for this indicator was provided by Fortis and the City of Kelowna.

### Why is this indicator important?

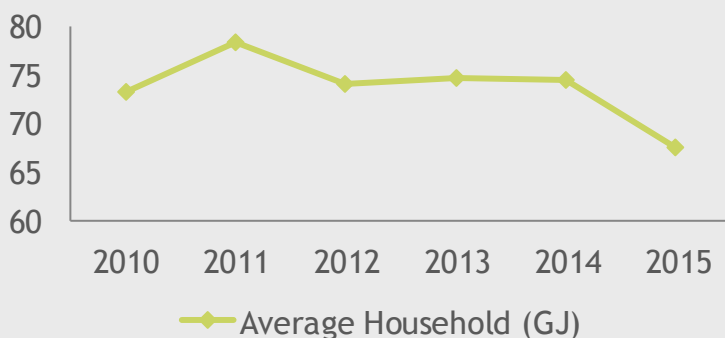
The OCP was developed to establish a long-term vision for a sustainable community. As part of this, new buildings will be required that are attractive as well as energy efficient. A reduction in energy consumption will also contribute to a reduction in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and help to minimize Kelowna's contribution to climate change.

**Target / Desired Trend:** A decrease in average household electricity and gas consumption

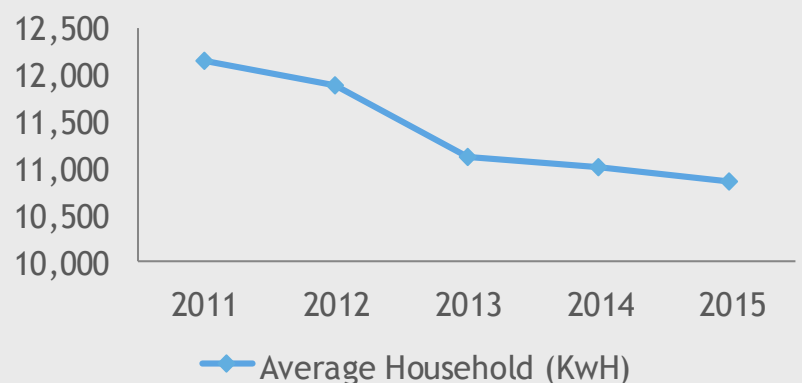
**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

Residential electricity consumption has been decreasing per household since the baseline year of 2011. In 2015, households in Kelowna consumed an average of 10,849 Kwh of electricity a slight decrease from 2014. In contrast, residential gas consumption per household decreased 9.5 per cent in 2015 to 67.4 GJ of gas. In 2014, households in Kelowna consumed an average of 74.5 GJ of gas. The trend for both gas and electricity consumption has been going in the right direction since 2011. It is difficult to isolate any one factor that is contributing to the decrease in gas and electricity usage. However, the combination of a mild winter and advances in building technology and major appliances is likely contributing to enhanced energy efficiency. The City is also encouraging more smart growth development which is more energy efficient than low density greenfield development and less costly from an infrastructure perspective. With continued reduction in energy consumption, the community is contributing to the City's commitment to reduce GHG levels.

### Average Household Gas Consumption (GJ)



### Average Household Electricity Consumption (Kwh)



# 8

## Well-Paying Jobs

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the median household income for those employed in Kelowna relative to the provincial median. Median income data is derived from Environics Analytics.

### Why is this indicator important?

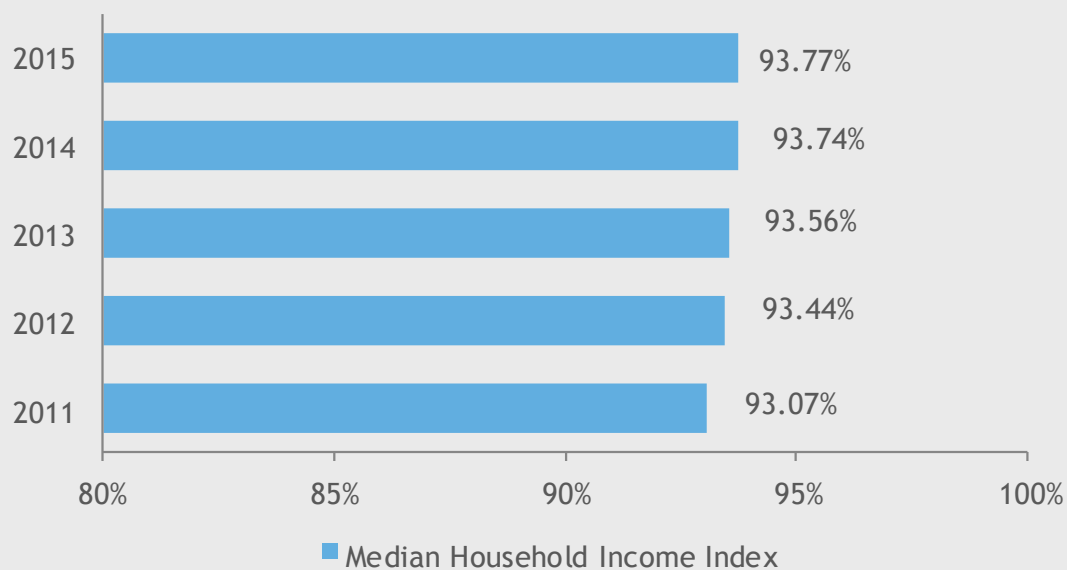
One of the goals of the OCP is to foster economic prosperity. A healthy, dynamic and sustainable economy will help attract and retain youth and talent, support business, encourage investment, and improve the quality of life for Kelowna residents.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Median income equivalent or higher than provincial median

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

Kelowna's median household income increased at a slightly faster rate compared to the provincial median over the past four years. From 2010 to 2012, the median in Kelowna was 93% of the provincial median and over the last three years that increased to 94%. In 2015, the estimated median household income was \$62,586. The City continues to support the shift to a more diversified economy, encouraging new sectors such as technology through efforts such as the Dark Fibre Network. This indicator is performing in the right direction with the Kelowna median gaining incrementally relative to the provincial median.

### Median Income Relative to Provincial



### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the number of businesses with employees. Data for this indicator is provided by BC Stats and is only available at the Census Metropolitan Area level (RDCO).

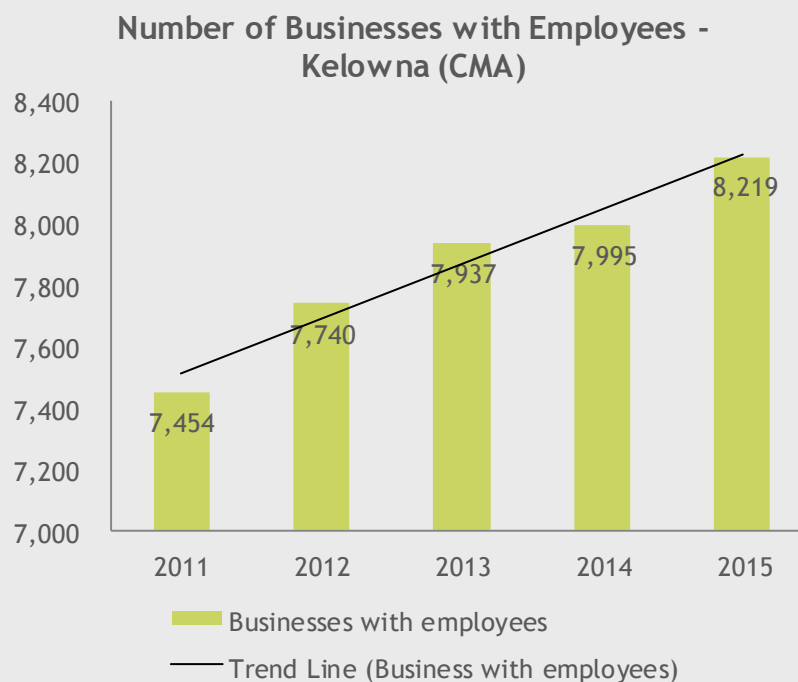
### Why is this indicator important?

According to community input, people want a City where the economy is growing, vibrant and attracting new business. In order to create a sustainable city, there needs to be a balance between, environmental protection, economic growth, social development and cultural vibrancy. Measuring the number of businesses with employees provides a snapshot of efforts in the attraction and retention of business.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase in the number of businesses with employees

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

The number of businesses with employees in the Kelowna CMA has grown consistently since the baseline year of 2011. In 2015 there were 8,219 businesses with employees in Kelowna CMA. Since 2014 roughly 200 businesses were added to the region. While the business climate is influenced by a wide array of factors, including provincial, national and international economic trends, data from this indicator suggests that there is a positive business climate in Kelowna. For example, access to an international airport, educated labour force and the quality of life in the region are factors that contribute to a positive business climate.



# 10

## Protected Sensitive Ecosystems

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percentage of Kelowna's land base that is considered to be environmentally sensitive and is under formal and permanent environmental protection. Data for this indicator is from the City of Kelowna's Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory (SEI).

### Why is this indicator important?

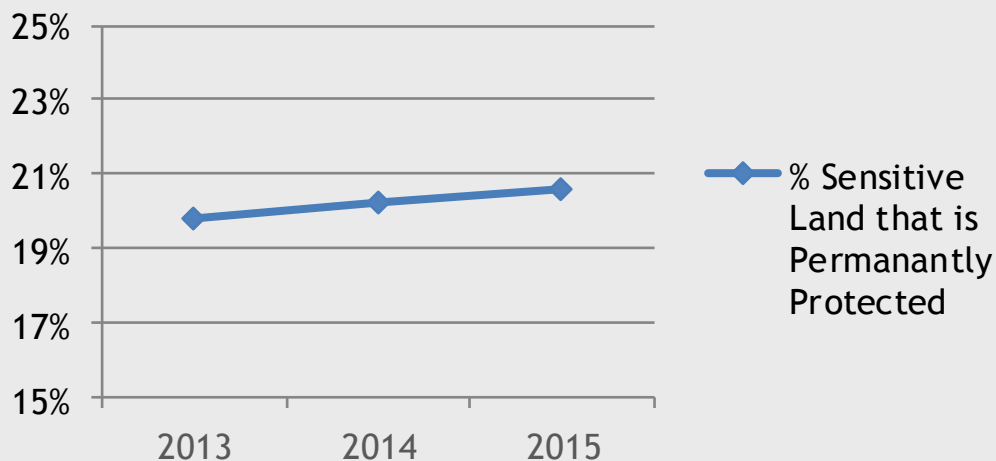
Kelowna residents have identified that protecting the natural environment is a priority. It is the City of Kelowna's objective to protect and enhance natural areas, including creating an open space network that protects sensitive ecosystems and links important habitat areas.

**Target / Desired Trend:** As a requirement for development, protect and preserve environmentally sensitive area (ESA's), or portions of thereof, where possible

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

The City saw a small increase in the amount sensitive land that was permanently protected in 2015. The City works with developers to ensure environmentally sensitive areas become parks through the rezoning and subdivision process, reflecting the city's commitment within the OCP to protect these areas. In 2013, the baseline year, 19.8% of sensitive land was protected and in 2015 20.6% is now protected. Although there is limited amount of data available, recent progress suggests the city's policies are encouraging the long-term protection of key environmental areas such as watercourses and wetland areas.

### Percent of Sensitive Land that is Permanantly Protected



# 11

## Protected Natural Areas and Parks

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percentage of Kelowna's green space that is protected from development. To quantify this, the amount of land that is currently zoned for park is measured against the amount of land designated for park in the Official Community Plan. Data for this indicator is from the City of Kelowna.

### Why is this indicator important?

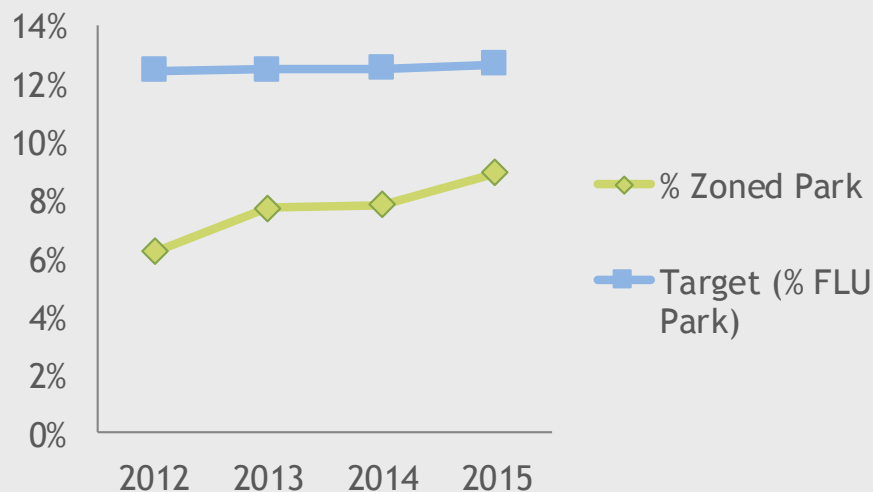
A healthy natural environment positively impacts both quality of life and economic vitality. In order to preserve the biodiversity and ecological landscape from development pressures, the City of Kelowna will take an integrated ecosystem management approach to ensure that the environment is afforded a high priority in land use related decisions.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase amount of lands zoned park to reach OCP Future Land Use Parks and Open Space target

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

Since the baseline year of 2012, each year has seen slightly more land become zoned for park. In 2015, there were 1,922 hectares of land in Kelowna zoned for park up from the previous year of 1,687 hectares (2014). As the City increases its population and becomes more densely populated, access to park space is increasingly important to ensure a high quality of life for residents and workers. The City increases its park space through its parkland dedication program policies as well as establishing new parks in urban centres (e.g. Rowcliffe park).

**Parkland Protected from Development (as Percent of City Land Base)**



# 12

## Parks Proximity to Population

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the percent of Kelowna residents that live within 400 meters of a park (5 minute walk). Data for this indicator is from the City of Kelowna GIS system.

### Why is this indicator important?

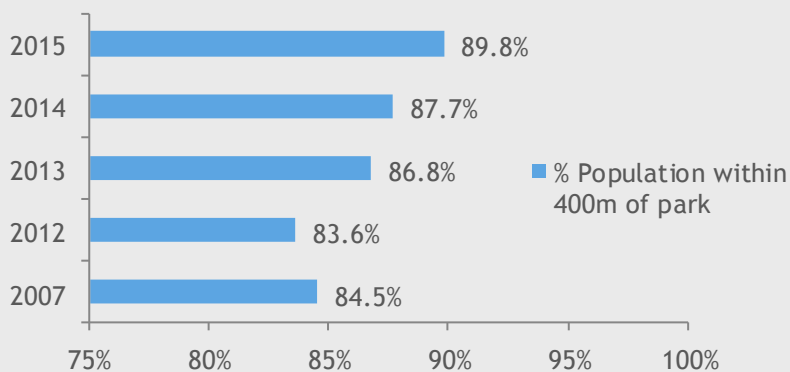
The OCP aims to provide spectacular parks for residents and visitors to enjoy. Parks play a critical role in supporting community sustainability and in enhancing community quality of life. This is encouraged by OCP objectives to protect and enhance natural areas and to provide a variety of parks for people to pursue active, creative and healthy lifestyles close to where they live and work. The OCP has specific policy requiring 2.2 ha of park per 1,000 of new population growth. But, understanding the proximity of parks to population is also critical.

**Target / Desired Trend:** To have 90 percent of the population within walking distance of a park

**How are we doing?** Performing in the right direction. →

Every year since the 2007 baseline year, there has been an increase in the percent of the population that lives within 400m of a park. In 2015, 89.8% of Kelowna residents live within 400m of a park. Access to community amenities such as parks will be increasingly important as more residents live in Multi-family housing. The positive trend for this indicator suggests that policy is being adhered to and civic investment is resulting in new parks being established to match population growth.

Percentage of Population within 400m of park



# 13

## Recreational Opportunities

### What is being measured?

This indicator measures the number of public program hours delivered by the City per resident. Data for this indicator provided by the City of Kelowna.

### Why is this indicator important?

The vision for Kelowna includes a place where recreation and cultural opportunities are plentiful. The OCP is supported by objectives that promote social well-being and quality of life by providing facilities and services for all community members.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase in the number of recreational opportunities available

**How are we doing?** Yearly difference in performance is minimal. 

The number of program hours has remained consistent since the baseline year of 2011, at 0.3 hours of programming delivered per resident, and has kept pace with population growth.

Year	Program Hours (Per Resident)
2011	0.3
2012	0.3
2013	0.3
2014	0.3
2015	0.3

“Over the past 5 years the number of hours of programming per resident has remained consistent.”



### What is being measured?

This indicator is measured in two parts – the first part measures the percent of parks and transportation capital dollars that are invested within the Urban Core. This metric is based on annual budget capital requests from the City of Kelowna. The second measurement is the percent of total value of assessed land and buildings located within Kelowna’s Urban Core. This metric is based on annual British Columbia Assessment Authority property assessments.

### Why is this indicator important?

An underlying theme of the OCP is to create compact communities served by transportation routes, to encourage active living, and by investing in efficient infrastructure. The OCP has policy to support resource allocation to be directed in the Urban Core with the purpose of making these safe, accessible, high-quality living and working environments.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase in parks and road infrastructure, as well as the percentage of assessment value in the Urban Core

### How are we doing for infrastructure spending in the Core?

Performing in the right direction. →

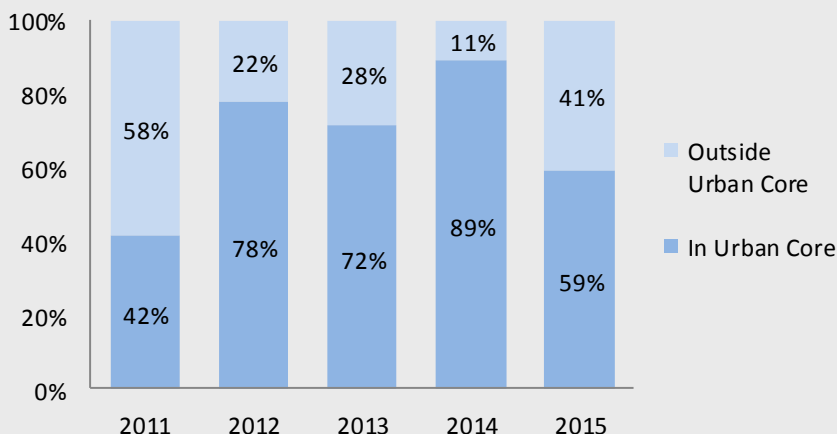
The percent of Parks and Transportation dollars spent in the Urban Core decreased in 2015 as a result of several large projects outside of the core. For example, roughly four million dollars were invested in Lakeshore Rd improvements adjacent Anne McClymont School. However, since the baseline year 69 per cent of parks and transportation investment was spent in the Urban Core. It is important to look beyond individual years and look at the broader trend to understand how the City is prioritizing infrastructure spending.

### How are we doing for focusing investment in the Core?

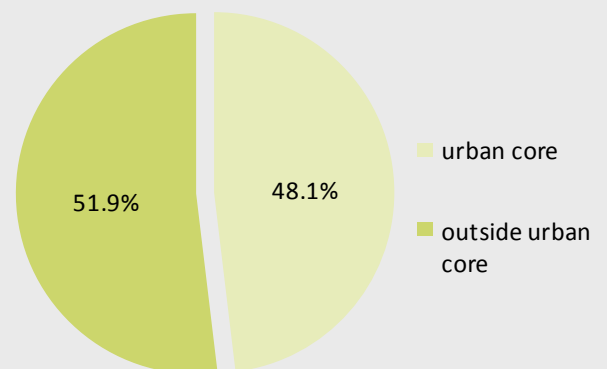
Yearly difference in performance is minimal. ==

This metric has been consistent over the past years. In 2011, the baseline year, 50% of the total assessed value of land and buildings in Kelowna was within the Urban Core. The 2015 assessed value in the Urban Core was 48.1 % down slightly from 49% in 2014. In 2015, the total property value for all land and buildings in Kelowna was over \$26 billion. As major projects such as Central Green move forward this ratio may change.

**Parks and Transportation Capital Projects  
(% of dollars spent)**



**Total Assessed Value (2015)**



### What is being measured?

This indicator is comprised of two parts – the percentage of Kelowna’s land base that is actively farmed, and the number of community gardens in Kelowna. The actively farmed land metric is based on British Columbia Assessment Authority data. Data for the second measurement (the number of community gardens in Kelowna) is provided by Central Okanagan Community Gardens.

### Why is this indicator important?

An important goal of the OCP is to enable healthy and productive agriculture, particularly given the large agricultural land base within the city’s boundaries. This is supported by policy that promotes healthy agriculture through diverse strategies that protect farmlands and promote food production.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase agricultural land in production

### How are we doing for active farmland?

Yearly difference in performance is minimal. **==**

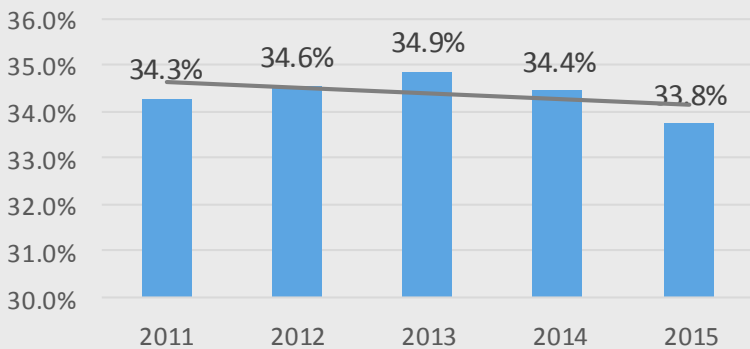
The percentage of land that is actively farmed has decreased slightly over the last five years. In 2015, 33.8% of that land base is actively farmed. This is an indication that actively farmed land is decreasing slightly in the face of development pressure. The City is currently updating the Agricultural Plan to guide future policies for farming to support a healthy economy and food system.

### How are we doing for community gardens?

Performing in the right direction. **→**

Community gardens continue to increase in popularity. As of 2015, there are 12 community gardens. This has increased from 7 in 2011. A trend is beginning to emerge that residents are interested in food production as new community gardens come on-stream each year and the waitlist for plots continues to grow. The City amended the Official Community Plan and the Zoning Bylaw in 2015 to encourage the development of shared garden space in new multi-residential developments to help ease pressure for community garden space.

Percentage of Kelowna's Land Base Actively Farmed



**As of 2015, in Kelowna, there are 12 Community Gardens that are active and in full production, 9 of which are on City property:**

- › Cawston Avenue Garden
- › St. Paul Garden
- › Sutton Glen Garden
- › Gibbs Road Garden
- › Hartman Road Garden
- › Barlee Road Garden
- › Michaelbrook Garden
- › Willow Park Garden
- › Lindahl Garden
- › DeHart Garden
- › Parkinson Rec. Garden
- › Ballou Community Garden

# 16

## Safety

### What is being measured?

This indicator is measured in two parts – the crime rate in Kelowna, and the number of motor vehicle crashes related to the population. The crime rate is provided by the RCMP and the motor vehicle crash data is provided by ICBC.

### Why is this indicator important?

According to community input, residents want a city where they feel safe downtown and in their own neighbourhoods. The OCP has policy that supports this vision. In the 2015 Citizen Survey, residents ranked concerns about personal safety relatively low, with 94% of citizens describing Kelowna as a safe community. Measuring the crime rate and the number of motor vehicle collisions provides a concise picture of community safety.

**Target / Desired Trend:** Increase in the level of safety in the community (reduced crime rate and collisions)

### How are we doing for crime rate?

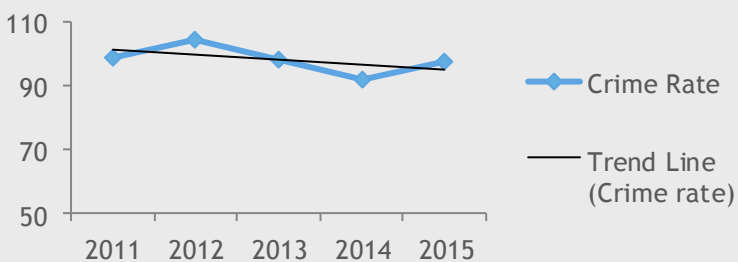
Yearly difference in performance is minimal. **==**

The crime rate is measured as the number of criminal code offenses reported per 1,000 people. In 2015, there were 97.97 crimes reported per 1,000 people a minor decrease from the baseline year of 2011 when the crime rate was 98.8. However, in looking at the trend over the last four years there has been very little overall change with some years above and some years below the baseline. In other areas of BC and Canada the general trend has been declining crime rates. Some of the increase in crime rates in Kelowna is associated with the additional staffing within the Downtown of Kelowna.

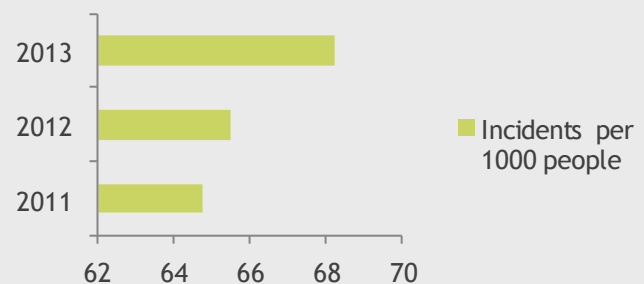
### How are we doing for traffic collisions?

2014 and 2015 crash data was not available at time of publication. Between 2011 and 2013, the number of motor vehicle crashes per 1,000 people increased each year. In 2011, there were 64.8 crashes reported for every 1,000 people, compared to 68.2 in 2013. Based on the available data, a trend is starting to emerge but more data is required to substantiate the trend

**Crime Rate**  
(Number of criminal code offenses reported per 1,000 people)



**Traffic Collisions per 1000 people**



### What is being measured?

The City of Kelowna is part of a national Cultural Statistics Strategy Consortium, a group of 32 Canadian municipalities which is working with the Department of Canadian Heritage Policy Research Group to create a common culture data pool accessible to local governments. The data pool has potential to include cultural GDP, jobs economic impact, social impact and municipal indicators. The consortium is a multi-year initiative. As research progresses, more data will be available for Kelowna. It should also be noted that delivery of cultural programs by independent organizations means that complete data about these programs may not be accessible by the City. However, the City is working with program providers to improve data collection and sharing in the future.

### How are we doing?

A 'Cultural Report Card' providing a snapshot of data was produced in 2015. As implementation of the Cultural Plan proceeds, positive progress can be noted in the following areas:

- The City has increased funding by \$65,000 to \$1,420,193 for cultural facilities (the Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna Museums and Rotary Centre for the Arts), consistent with Goal 1 of the Cultural Plan. All of these facilities report an increase in visitation and participation between 2014 and 2015.
- These organizations reported the following increases between 2014 and 2015:
  - Okanagan Symphony Orchestra: ticket sales up by 18%
  - Ballet Kelowna: 15% increase in subscription sales
  - Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art: 27% increase in Gallery attendance and participation
  - Bumbershoot Children's Theatre: 20% increase in revenue
- Per Capita Cultural Investment by the City of Kelowna in 2015 was \$21.34 compared to \$18 per capita in 2011.
- Operating support for professional arts organizations increased by 47 per cent from 2012 to 2016 from \$95,000 to \$140,000.



Photo credit: Michael Hintringer



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