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## Purpose + Scope



# A Plan for 200,000 Residents and Beyond

This Plan, Abbotsforward, is intended to be a powerful catalyst for a different and better Abbotsford at 200,000 people and beyond, than it has been up to 140,000 people. This Plan has been created with the intention that it be a ‘game-changer’, setting a new direction for the city.

This Plan brings the community vision to life. It determines where people will live, work, and play in the city, and how they move around. It shapes how Abbotsford will look and feel, and influences day-to-day experiences and quality of life. It guides decision making on:

- Land uses
- Housing options
- Building form
- Transportation choices
- Infrastructure investment
- Economic development and job creation
- Attracting and supporting businesses
- Parks, open spaces, people places, and natural area protection
- Community amenities and services
- Greenhouse gas reductions

The vision focuses on a population of 200,000 residents accommodated through more traditional development activity following the urban structure of this Plan. However, some of the land use policies of this Plan will accommodate additional residents through a ‘do it yourself’ approach to small scale infill opportunities. Abbotsford is expected to reach 200,000 under a medium growth scenario by approximately 2040 (1.5% per year) but the Plan focuses on the outcome and result, not how much time it takes to get there.

## Relationship to Other Plans

As the principal city wide policy document for the City, this OCP is the guiding plan for all departments within the City of Abbotsford as the City’s ‘north star’ for growth and development decisions. This OCP was developed through unprecedented broad-reaching engagement with City partners and other stakeholders, and thousands of people who are a part of Abbotsford’s diverse community. It is owned by everyone.

Several existing City of Abbotsford planning documents have helped shape the contents of this Plan. A number of them and others have a direct impact on growth and development and will need to undergo a critical review for alignment with this OCP. A comprehensive list of these documents is outlined in Part IV ‘Make The Plan Work’.

Given its necessarily broad scope, this OCP is also not intended to be needlessly detailed in its policies for certain specific topics or geographic areas within the city (zoning provisions or neighbourhood plans, for example). Rather, it inspires and sets direction for the development of new plans, ranging from a new Master Transportation Plan to a City Centre Neighbourhood Plan. Priorities for these new plans are also outlined in Part IV ‘Make The Plan Work’.

## Legislative Authority and Scope

Municipalities in British Columbia are given the authority to adopt an OCP in the *Local Government Act*, which stipulates what must or may be included in an OCP. Provincial legislation also establishes adoption procedures. This OCP has been prepared in compliance with the legislation.