



2022

YEAR IN REVIEW

*INVESTING IN A VIBRANT
AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY*



COUNCIL'S 2022 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



**INVEST IN
INFRASTRUCTURE**



**ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND PROSPERITY**



**STRENGTHEN
OUR COMMUNITY**



**FOSTER SAFETY
AND WELL-BEING**

THANK YOU 2018 - 2022 COUNCIL

We thank the 2018 - 2022 West Kelowna City Council for moving our resilient and vibrant West Kelowna community forward.

Over the 2018 - 2022 Council Term, the first ever community vision was established, we advanced strategic planning of major plans, delivered the largest infrastructure investment program to date, and experienced record-breaking development, however, there is still much to do.

Special thanks to former Mayor and Councillor Doug Findlater and Councillor Jayson Zilkie for their leadership and support during a pivotal time of record growth and investment.



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We acknowledge the City of West Kelowna is gathered on the traditional territory of the syilx/Okanagan Peoples.



INVESTING IN A VIBRANT AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Our Year In Review highlights the City of West Kelowna's 2022 accomplishments as we continue to invest in a vibrant and resilient community and deliver programs, services and infrastructure guided by Council's Strategic Priorities.

Delivering on our priorities

The Rose Valley Water Treatment Plant is the single largest construction project the City has undertaken. The final phase of construction is underway with the installation of critical water transmission mains in the Sunnyside and West Kelowna Estates neighbourhoods. The plant is scheduled to be complete in 2023, prior to the summer peak demand.

Infrastructure improvements are helping connect our neighbourhoods, schools and employment hubs. For example, the addition of a roundabout, sidewalks and bike lanes at the Shannon Lake-Bartley-Stevens Roads intersection improved traffic flow and safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

Many of our City parks experienced a makeover with the replacement of playground equipment, enhanced landscaping and accessibility upgrades to keep our community active.



Shannon Lake-Bartley-Stevens Roads roundabout

The City's first Housing Needs Assessment study was completed, which provides an update on the future of housing for our growing community. This study provides the City with meaningful local data to support the development of our first Housing Strategy, starting in 2023.

Streamlining development applications for minor variances was granted by Council to help accelerate approvals and create efficiencies following the amendments to the Province of BC's Bill 26.

We engaged the community on major planning priorities, such as the Official Community Plan, Transportation Master Plan, Development Cost Charges Bylaw Update and the facility plan for the restoration of Mt. Boucherie Community Centre. In 2023, residents and community stakeholders will be invited to share their continued feedback on these plans and initiatives to support decision-making in our community in the short and long term.

Progress was made to address public safety and ongoing operations and administrative needs of West Kelowna Fire Rescue (WKFR) by advancing the design of Fire Hall #32 and establishing Fire House #30 as a central location for WKFR administration. Fifty FireSmart grants were also awarded to residents of West Kelowna and Westbank First Nation for wildfire mitigation efforts and the Sunview neighbourhood was recognized for its wildfire prevention efforts.

Construction of the City Hall/Library Building continues and, once complete in 2023, it will be a significant addition to Westbank Centre, providing an economic catalyst and greater civic services to the area.

A new Council was inaugurated for the 2022-2026 City of West Kelowna Council term, on the cusp of the City's 15th anniversary of incorporation, on Dec. 6, 2022.



2022 YEAR IN REVIEW



INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE



\$19.5

million invested in Rose Valley Water Treatment Plant



35

active or completed infrastructure projects



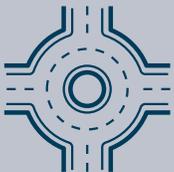
9.4

lane kms of new sidewalks and bike lanes



15.1

lane kms of roads resurfaced



1

new roundabout



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY



\$202

million in construction value



7%

increase in construction value over 2021



692

building permits issued



1,912

active businesses



611

new business licences

All statistics are calculated from Jan. 1 - Oct. 31, 2022.

BY THE NUMBERS



STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY



62%

increase in online participation through OurWK.ca



6.8K

visits to our online engagement platform



5,000

fans attended Music in the Park



21.5K

recreational program participants



291

recreational programs offered



FOSTER SAFETY AND WELL-BEING



17

wildfires actioned and/or supported



6

wildfire mitigation projects active or completed



400

new urban trees planted



7,503

calls for service to West Kelowna RCMP



50

FireSmart grants awarded to residents of West Kelowna and WFN

INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE

- BUILDING A NEW WATER TREATMENT PLANT
- STEVENS-BARTLEY-SHANNON LAKE ROUNDABOUT, BIKE LANES
- SIDEWALK NETWORK EXPANSION
- ENHANCING OUR PARKS
- DESIGN FIRE HALL #32 AND PREPARATION OF FIRE HOUSE #30

Investments to build a vibrant and resilient community

We are continuing to invest in our rapidly growing community to connect people to places and support critical infrastructure improvements to our water system, active transportation networks, parks and public safety.

Rose Valley Water Treatment Plant

The last stage of construction of the Rose Valley Water Treatment Plant (RVWTP) began this year with the installation of underground water transmission mains. When watermain construction is complete in 2023, nearly four kilometres of critical infrastructure will connect residents on the West Kelowna Estates and Sunnyside/Pritchard water systems to the new Rose Valley Water Service Area.

Testing and commissioning of the system are in the final stages of connecting homes to the new plant. As we get closer, we will provide residents with information on what to expect during the connection to the new water supply.

Improving commutes and active transportation

Getting around West Kelowna is now easier with the addition of a roundabout at the Shannon Lake-Bartley-Stevens intersection. As part of this project, we added over two kilometres of bike lanes, sidewalks and street lights. By improving pedestrian and cycling access on Shannon Lake and Stevens Roads, we've provided a key connection to the West Kelowna Business Park – a major employment hub and transit corridor.



The City's Capital Works Crew was busy completing sidewalk connections on Shannon Ridge Drive and Shannon Way to expand the active transportation network in West Kelowna. Upgrades included 600 metres of sidewalks, street lighting, crosswalks and storm water improvements.

West Kelowna's road network is inspected each year and roads are prioritized for repair. The 2022 Road Rehabilitation Program improved 7.6 lane kilometres of roadways to keep our roads in tip top shape.

Design plans are also underway to address transportation upgrades to the Old Okanagan/Butt Road intersection.



**INVEST IN
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Upgrading parks across the city

Investing in our City parks supports an active community, fosters connection and enhances our neighbourhoods. By the end of the year, we will have completed improvements on 12 parks across the city. This includes the replacement of playground equipment, upgraded irrigation, enhanced landscaping and more. Beechnut Park and Casa Loma Dock Park received accessibility upgrades including paved pathways and accessible picnic areas.

Strengthening West Kelowna Fire Rescue

We made progress to address public safety and ongoing operations and administrative needs of West Kelowna Fire Rescue (WKFR) by advancing the design of the long overdue replacement of Fire Hall #32 and establishing Fire House #30 as the central location for WKFR administration.

HIGHLIGHTS



750 metre paved multi-use pathway on Whitworth Road provides a separated path to Pebble Beach and Goats Peak Trail.



The new Capital Works Crew completed 11 projects throughout the City to improve drainage and added sidewalks and crosswalks.



2.5 kilometres of new mains: sewer, storm sewer and water.



Casa Loma Dock Park

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY

- DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGES SUPPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE
- CREATING EFFICIENCIES IN APPROVALS
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Expand our economy, create efficiencies and contribute to community prosperity

New construction in West Kelowna continues to be strong in 2022 following a record-breaking year. With growth comes the demand for infrastructure that serves our community. Costs to service areas with roads and sidewalks, drainage, sanitary sewer, water and parkland are, in part, funded by Development Cost Charges (DCCs). Council approved the update to the DCC Bylaw, which aligns with our neighbouring municipalities and reflects actual costs, such as inflation and land, to ensure growth contributes effectively to modern and sustainable infrastructure.

Improving permit processes

Following the changes from the Province of BC's Bill 26 to support timely approval processes, Council delegated the review and approvals of minor development permit variances to staff to create efficiencies following the adoption of the City's revised Zoning Bylaw. Minor variances include regulation of signs, off-street parking and zoning bylaws related to dimensions of buildings and permitted uses. Council also expanded delegation of development permits and strata conversions to further streamline approval processes.

Economic development for our community

An Economic Development Corporation governance model review is underway as we expand opportunities to proactively seek opportunities with partners and business stakeholders throughout the region to grow West Kelowna's economy.



Business development contributes to the resilience of West Kelowna and the well-being of our City through job creation and economic diversity. We have also improved our business licensing processing to increase efficiencies and service levels.



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Union of BC Municipalities conferences reconvened in-person in 2022. These ministerial meetings and sessions gave Council the opportunity to discuss the challenges we face as a community and work toward solutions. Our participation ensures our voices are heard as we advocate to receive critical investments from the federal and provincial governments.

Tourism and local business

For all who love to adventure in our beautiful outdoors, Visit Westside published the 2022-2023 Visitor Guide with tips on where to eat, play and stay. Promotions for the Westside Farm Loop showcased our agricultural roots and gave locals and visitors another opportunity to experience the Westside. Banners, signage and maps helped to support our local agricultural farms, wineries, Ale Trail, orchards and more.

Mayor Gord Milsom returned to his in-person annual State of the City address in the spring, hosted by the Greater Westside Board of Trade. The annual address highlighted our growing community, Council's Strategic Priorities, the Official Community Plan, Transportation Master Plan and our continued support for local businesses.

HIGHLIGHTS



West Kelowna is the fourth largest city by population in the Okanagan, growing 17.3 per cent between the 2016 and 2021 census (Stats Canada).



We became supporting partners in the BC Ale Trail Passport Program.



Construction of new neighbourhoods, Upper Smith Creek and Goats Peak, are well underway.



Rose Valley neighbourhood.

STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY

- PLAN OUR FUTURE TOGETHER
- EXPAND COMMUNITY SPACES
- STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- CELEBRATE CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Engage people of all ages and backgrounds in programs, services and our long term plans.

Departments across the City were busy engaging with members of the community to help shape and inform our future plans. Engaged communities are vibrant and healthy communities. Thank you to everyone who participated and provided feedback for consideration as we grow.

Shaping West Kelowna's future

By collaborating with the community on the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Transportation Master Plan (TMP) Updates, we are building our future together.

During the OCP Update, residents and stakeholders had an opportunity to share their ideas and comment on policies to guide the City's housing, business, infrastructure, and parks decisions for the next 20 years.

During the TMP Update, the community participated by identifying transportation challenges and opportunities for how our community will walk, cycle, drive and take transit through the city over the next 20 years.

Together, these two plans will help create the community's vision of a vibrant, walkable and connected West Kelowna. Watch for continued engagement opportunities in 2023.

The first phase of engagement was completed for the restoration of Mt. Boucherie Community Centre (MBCC). Public feedback on the concept facility plan and programming for MBCC will be finalized in 2023. Once restoration efforts are complete, the facility will be returned to the community to celebrate its 50th anniversary!



Our online engagement platform, OurWK.ca, continued to see increased participation with 6,800 visitors to our major planning projects such as the OCP and TMP, 2022 Budget and Council's Strategic Priorities.



**STRENGTHEN
OUR COMMUNITY**

Celebrating culture and recreation

Collaboration with our good neighbours, Westbank First Nation, continues as we introduce cultural elements connected to the City Hall/Library Building. We also promote local tourism through Visit Westside our City-run tourism program in partnership with Westbank First Nation. We are continuing to strengthen our relationship by sharing our strategic priorities and exploring new ways to work together to benefit all communities across the Greater Westside.

In 2022, we saw more than 21,000 participants in our recreation programs, including after-school care, summer camps, registered programs and more. Due to demand, we extended our popular outdoor Park Play Day program by one month.

We also celebrated summer on a high note. Our free Music in the Park concert series returned to the beautiful setting of Annette Beaudreau Amphitheatre at Memorial Park. Thanks to event organizer Creative Okanagan and to music fans for taking part, supporting sponsors and artists and adding to the vibrancy of our community.

HIGHLIGHTS



40 additional recreational programs offered in 2022 including sportball programs both multi-sport and soccer and an additional day of Dome Play Days.



Nearly 5,000 fans attended our Music in the Park summer concert series.



We reached more than 11,000 followers across our social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) and visits to our online engagement platform grew 62 per cent with more 6,800 visits this year.



Collaborated to establish Julia's Junction Inclusive Play Space, for design and build of a park for all abilities in Westbank Centre Park.



Music in the Park at the Annette Beaudreau Amphitheatre at Memorial Park

FOSTER SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

- CONTINUED RELIABLE SERVICES
- FIRE RESCUE
- POLICE SERVICES

Create a safe and healthy community and ensure service continuity for all residents

Everyone needs a place to call home. We are working with partners and advancing initiatives aimed at expanding the supportive and other housing needs of West Kelowna's residents, and addressing the market housing spectrum through the Housing Needs Assessment. Once complete, this will provide local data to support the development of the City's first Housing Strategy starting in 2023.

Council continues to advocate with the Province of BC and BC Hydro to more rapidly address power redundancy for 60,000 residents on the Greater Westside.

The City's Community Support Officer position was extended to the end of the year to help build relationships with service providers and people experiencing homelessness. This liaison role closely connects support services that are available in West Kelowna.

The City is taking steps to be a Bear Smart Community by undertaking a bear Hazard Assessment lead by WildSafe BC.

Information Services staff continued to reduce the City's carbon footprint by further transitioning from paper work flows into the virtual realm. Staff also completed training to improve the City's response to cybersecurity risks.



Advancing Fire response and prevention

In August, West Kelowna Fire Rescue and City staff collaborated to implement an Extreme Heat Plan as we experienced hot, dry conditions in our region. We opened cooling stations and shared information to help keep our community safe as temperatures rose.

West Kelowna Fire Rescue and the Casa Loma neighbourhood worked together to improve emergency preparedness and response. A new evacuation plan contains several recommendations and includes key maps, which emergency officials can distribute in advance to residents, to show muster points and road, pedestrian and cycling egress routes and other critical response factors.

After a two-year hiatus, FireSmart Family Day returned in 2022! We were happy to see people of all ages learn how to help protect our community from wildfires. Residents met with members of West Kelowna Fire Rescue, BC Wildfire, Sparky the Fire Dog and Ember the Fox to find out how to prepare for a fire and learn more about grants available.



**FOSTER SAFETY
AND WELL-BEING**

HIGHLIGHTS



Our fourth annual Urban ReLeaf Program added 400 trees, plus an additional 40 trees through park improvements, to green our city, improve our air quality and take action against climate change.



Over 1,000 residents attended FireSmart Family Day to learn how to protect their home from wildfires.



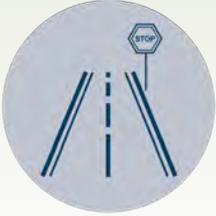
A utility-wide Cross Connection Control/Backflow Prevention Program was launched to protect public health by reducing the risk of contaminants in the public water supply.



Firefighters at FireSmart Family Day.

POLICE SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Keeping our community safe and reducing crime



ROAD SAFETY

Road Safety

- Conduct proactive patrols
- Issue Immediate Roadside Prohibitions, Traffic Violation Tickets and Driving Suspensions
- Attend Motor Vehicle Incidents and provide roadside assistance



CRIME REDUCTION

Community Safety Unit

- Team comprised of four RCMP members
- Innovative projects and partnerships result in arrests, recovery of stolen items and narcotics and weapons seizures
- Community priorities focus on prolific offenders, business thefts, and traffic initiatives

COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAM





VIOLENCE IN RELATIONSHIPS

Violence in Relationships

- Respond to and thoroughly investigate verbal and physical calls
- Contact Ministry of Children and Families in cases involving children and make referrals to Victim Services
- Work collaboratively with community resources and high risk clients



POLICE/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Greater Westside Hub

- West Kelowna, Westbank First Nation and Peachland partnership
- Helps front line staff from public safety, health, and social services to identify vulnerable people in the community
- Collaboratively connects vulnerable people to services before they experience trauma

School Resource Officer

- Works in 13 Greater Westside schools
- Teaches about drug and cyber-bullying prevention, Internet (and other safety and healthy relationships) and works with schools to address drug use, fighting, and vandalism
- Facilitates Lunch with the Law and Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth (PARTY) Programs



RCMP at work in Westbank Centre.

WELCOME 2022 - 2026 COUNCIL

Welcome 2022 - 2026 Council Members!

West Kelowna welcomes incoming Councillors Da Silva and Millsap, along with returning Mayor Milsom, and Councillors Johnston, de Jong, Friesen and Zanon. Setting Council's Strategic Priorities and budget deliberations are underway so please watch for continued engagement opportunities on the drafts in-progress beginning in early 2023. We remain grateful to the community who participate in shaping the future of our beautiful City of West Kelowna.



Left to right: Councillors Tasha Da Silva, Stephen Johnston, Mayor Gord Milsom, and Councillors Rick de Jong, Jason Friesen and Garrett Millsap. Absent: Councillor Carol Zanon.



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**THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR WORKING WITH US TO MAKE
WEST KELOWNA THE PLACE TO BE!**





westkelownacity.ca