

HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LANDS POLICY REVIEW PROJECT

Second Workshop With Study Circle Representatives

A Residential Policy Review

A housing and residential policy review process was initiated by the District in order to ensure that its residential lands and residential capacity are managed in a manner that is consistent with other OCP objectives and contribute to a livable and sustainable community. The intent of the housing and residential lands policy review is to provide background and policy direction for the District in its decision making and in the development of strategies for sustainably managing growth and change.

The residential policy review consists of a four part workplan that includes the following components:

- 1) a context review
- 2) residential capacity assessment
- 3) an evaluation of three different growth options for accommodating growth
- 4) development of recommendations and strategies for policy development and refinement

The strategies and recommended policies are to reflect the community development objectives including:

- **Fiscal / economic objectives** (costs of services, amenities, and infrastructure; the market viability of different residential growth options)
- **Environmental objectives** (maintaining the natural qualities and features of the District, such as viewsheds, open spaces, and protecting sensitive habit areas)
- **Social objectives** (supporting the diverse housing needs of the community, ensuring continued livability and health of the community)

Community Consultation

A comprehensive policy review includes a component of technical research and community consultation. As representatives of Maple Ridge's neighbourhood, the study circles form an essential part of this consultation. At the first workshop with Study Circle representatives held on May 20th, participants identified the top issues and challenges of residential development faced by the community and identified suggestions for policy development.

As part of the fourth component of the project, the team will draft a set of policy recommendations that achieve a balance amongst the District's community objectives and sustainable strategies for managing growth. Key steps in this process include:

- Identification of policies recommended for change, update, or removal.
- Consideration of community objectives and their relationship to other areas of the OCP.
- Consideration of the Livable Region Strategic Plan's principles and objectives.
- Development of draft policy recommendations.
- Development of criteria for achieving a more financially sustainable community.

Workshop with Study Circle Representatives

To feed into the community building solutions initiative, a second workshop with representatives of community circles and key stakeholders is proposed at this stage of the review. The workshop is scheduled for October 7, 2004.

Purpose:

- To seek input and feedback on the draft policy recommendations for housing and residential lands in Maple Ridge.
- To consider these recommendations in relation to community objectives and targets and identify additional strategies and recommendations for change.

Questions to Consider:

- How well do the community's policies and strategies contribute to the achievement of the District's objectives and targets?
- In addition to the recommendations drafted by the consultant team, are there other areas where policies could be improved, updated, or added?