



## Growth Strategy Update:

The Whitehorse Growth Strategy was created in 2011 in response to the city's housing shortage. The Strategy incorporates new and on-going projects that work together to generate new housing opportunities. Current projects include:

- *Downtown South Master Plan* implementation: adopted in 2011, the Plan shows potential for 600 new units in this area of downtown, as well as upgrades to trails and roads.
- Infill: to date, 5 out of 16 potential infill sites identified in the *Official Community Plan* (OCP) have been designed

and sold. More will receive consultation pending City Council approval.

- Stevens Quarry: the area is expected to supply 12 years of rock and sand resources, which are needed for roads and housing construction. The project is in the YESAB review stage.
- Whistle Bend: the neighbourhood will eventually house 8000 residents. Phase 1 is now for sale. Planning of Phases 3 to 7 is underway.

For info, visit [www.whitehorse.ca/growthstrategy](http://www.whitehorse.ca/growthstrategy) or contact [mike.ellis@whitehorse.ca](mailto:mike.ellis@whitehorse.ca), 668-8337.

## Motorways:

Additional clean-up work of the Motorways site was recently completed. With funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the City carried out soil testing over this past summer. Contaminated soil was removed by December – some went to the landfill while heavily contaminated soil went to a treatment facility in B.C.

The Motorways site is envisioned for mixed-use (residential/commercial) development. The lots will be back on the market later this year.

For info, contact [kinden.kosick@whitehorse.ca](mailto:kinden.kosick@whitehorse.ca), 668-8348.

## Community Associations: Get involved with yours!

Getting involved with your local community association (CA) is a great way to participate in neighbourhood activities and to stay informed on issues that may affect you, your residence, or property.

CAs exist across Whitehorse – to get in touch with yours visit [www.whitehorse.ca/community](http://www.whitehorse.ca/community).

While each CA is a bit different, the common goal of CAs is to foster dialogue and information exchange amongst residents, and between residents and the City.

The City often works with CAs to identify and address planning issues, and to make neighbourhood projects

happen! Collaborations have included:

- 2009: the City awarded \$20,000 to the Riverdale CA to develop the *Riverdale Neighbourhood Plan*.
- 2011: the City partnered with the Riverdale CA and Northern Climate Ex-change on an edible landscaping project near the fish hatchery.
- 2011: the City amended zoning which allowed the Valleyview CA to build a community greenhouse on a retired road right-of-way. A lease agreement was also created to allow community-use of the

site. The greenhouse had its first growing season this past summer.

- 2012: the Downtown Residents Association played an important role in consultation linked to the Zoning Bylaw Rewrite process. One outcome was new regulations for multiple-housing developments in Old Town.
- 2013: the City will be working with the Hillcrest CA on the Hillcrest Neighbourhood Planning Process ([www.whitehorse.ca/hillcrest](http://www.whitehorse.ca/hillcrest)).

For info, contact [mike.ellis@whitehorse.ca](mailto:mike.ellis@whitehorse.ca), 668-8337.



## Rethinking Lot Subdivisions in Country Residential Zones:

Over the past year, the subdivision of 1 hectare lots in country residential areas has been reviewed by City Administration. The review came in response to three applications in 2011 which drew attention to public concern for:

- “unplanned” density increase in country residential areas
- increased nitrate levels in soil from the addition of septic systems

- potential for well-water contamination

While isolated lot subdivisions are recognized to have a negligible impact, successive subdivisions in a neighbourhood may lead to cumulative effects – these can be difficult to predict, monitor, and assess.

In November, City Council gave the direction for an OCP amendment

process to be initiated. Proposed changes would prohibit this type of subdivision to occur.

A public hearing process will be scheduled when the amendment comes forward early this year. Information and opportunities for public input will be posted at [www.whitehorse.ca/amendments](http://www.whitehorse.ca/amendments).

For info, contact [erica.beasley@whitehorse.ca](mailto:erica.beasley@whitehorse.ca), 668-8600.

## Sustainability Corner:

Watch for winter cyclists! Dark days are here again. Be sure to look out for cold-climate-commuters on cycle paths. Reduce vehicle speed when passing cyclists and check side-view mirrors. Cyclists: wear reflective gear for high visibility! For tips, visit [www.whitehorse.ca/wintercycling](http://www.whitehorse.ca/wintercycling).

What's in your waste? Of all the waste generated in Whitehorse:

- 10% is composted
- 12% is recycled
- 78% is landfilled

For every 100 bags of garbage that head to the landfill:

- 7 are from homes
- 62 are from offices and businesses
- 31 are from builders

The City's *Strategic Sustainability Plan* calls for Zero Waste by 2040.



Tired of scraping your car, inside and out? Hate idling? Take transit instead! It's the better way to avoid the hassles of winter driving and to keep your carbon footprint down. Visit [www.whitehorse.ca/transit](http://www.whitehorse.ca/transit) for bus routes and schedules.

The first step to achieve this goal is to implement a *Solid Waste Action Plan* for waste diversion.

In 2012, the City consulted with industry professionals and the public through meetings, workshops, and surveys. The information generated will help to develop the Plan, which is due early this year.

Waste diversion has many benefits for the City. In addition to keeping garbage out of the landfill, diversion results in compost and job creation. The math is easy!

For info, contact [bryna.cable@whitehorse.ca](mailto:bryna.cable@whitehorse.ca), 668-8312.

Recycling 14,000 tonnes of waste = 9 jobs  
Composting 14,000 tonnes of waste = 7 jobs  
Landfilling 14,000 tonnes of waste = 1 job  
FCM, 2009.

## Comings and Goings:

Planning Services is pleased to welcome Marcel Barrault back to the department. Marcel takes on a Planner position and brings 11 years of experience to the team – 3 years gained here at the City. Welcome back Marcel!

## Contact Us:

Things are changing! To increase operational efficiency and to serve you better, the City is restructuring. The **Division of Development Services** has been created to encompass these four departments:

### Planning Services:

668-8346

[planning.services@whitehorse.ca](mailto:planning.services@whitehorse.ca)

### Building Inspections:

668-8340

[building.inspection@whitehorse.ca](mailto:building.inspection@whitehorse.ca)

### Engineering Services:

668-8305

[engineering@whitehorse.ca](mailto:engineering@whitehorse.ca)

### Environmental Sustainability:

334-2111

[environment@whitehorse.ca](mailto:environment@whitehorse.ca)