

Mayor and Council  
City of Victoria  
City Hall  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC  
V8W 1P6

February 10, 2020

Dear Mayor and Council,

**Re: Next Generation Conversion Regulations.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input on the Next Generation Conversion Regulations.

The Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) is an independent, non-partisan, and knowledgeable voice on social issues in BC's capital region. By fostering social innovation and integrated action on social, cultural, economic and environmental conditions the Council supports the creation of sustainable communities.

Two of our four priority work areas are housing affordability and sustainability. Both housing affordability and sustainability will be assisted by the proposed changes to the Next Generation Conversion Regulations.

In relation to the three options in the staff proposal - walk, run, or sprint - we note that both housing scarcity in Victoria and climate change are crisis-level problems, and we need to quickly mobilize a range of effective policies to address both. While there are no magic-bullet policy solutions, updating the conversion regulations would enable more and different types of housing to be available in the core urban area of the region, reducing automobile traffic and greenhouse gas emissions.

Thus the CSPC supports the adoption of the "Run" option in the staff proposal, but we urge the City to immediately launch preparations for the remainder of policies in the "Sprint" option.

We thank you again for the opportunity and for your consideration of this submission.

Yours truly,



Diana Gibson  
Executive Director