

Milan Pact Awards 2022		VANCOUVER				
<b>Country</b>	Canada					
<b>Population</b>	662,248					
<b>Title of policy or practice</b>	Vancouver Plan: Food Systems					
<b>Subtitle (optional)</b>	Integrating food systems objectives into City-wide long-range planning					
<b>URL video</b>	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1GktT9cnn3EME_vzvs9FzWcGHcYgJkdy6">https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1GktT9cnn3EME_vzvs9FzWcGHcYgJkdy6</a>					
<b>Category</b>	01 – GOV		<b>SDGs</b>		11 – 10 – 9	
<b>Year of start</b>	2022		<b>Year of end</b>		ongoing	
<b>Actors' involvement</b>	<b>Municipal departments</b>	<b>Public institutions</b>	<b>NGOs CSOs</b>	<b>Research centres</b>	<b>Private sectors</b>	<b>International bodies</b>
	5	1	Numerous		Numerous	
	<b>Other</b>	28,500 (points of contact with members of the public)				
<b>Budget</b>	The implementation budget will be determined by the new City Council to be elected in Nov. 2022					
<b>Brief description</b>	<p>The Vancouver Plan is a visionary long-range plan to guide growth and change to 2050 and beyond. It establishes a unified vision for Vancouver's future land use and supportive policies that will help this become a more livable, affordable, and sustainable city with a strong economy where people and nature thrive.</p> <p>In developing the Plan, staff worked iteratively to determine a strategic approach to integrating food systems policy. While the original vision saw these constrained to limited sections of the Plan, concerns that this would silo food policy implementation and overlook important food supply chain elements ultimately led to an outcome providing greater breadth and depth of food policy focus throughout the Plan. The final Plan includes policy chapters on ten city-shaping topics including a dedicated Food Systems chapter which outlines a vision of a resilient food system supporting people, environment, and economy, and in which residents have equitable access to food and food-related spaces and infrastructure. The Food Systems chapter includes five policies to guide action encompassing food production to waste management. The Plan additionally includes food-related policies in several other policy chapters to ensure a comprehensive approach elevating food's role in shaping the economy, public space, and ecology, and three infographics presenting data on key indicators of food insecurity, access, and resilience.</p> <p>Beneficiaries will include supply chain businesses (e.g.: urban farms, wholesale, retail, manufacturing) and those who lead, participate in, and rely on community food initiatives (e.g.: urban agriculture, community kitchens, food sharing). Being grounded in the Vancouver Plan's overarching equity, reconciliation, and resilience commitments, outcomes are intended first and foremost to benefit equity-denied communities including Indigenous, black, and people of color, residents experiencing poverty, and others who are marginalized.</p>					
<b>Innovation</b>	<p>The city has supported the development of a just and sustainable food system for decades, including adopting the Vancouver Food Strategy in 2013. Though the Strategy articulates important actions, it lacks capacity and tools for City-wide integration and thus there is still work to be done to achieve our vision. Currently, about 10% of Vancouver households are food insecure; rate is higher for equity denied groups. Colonization has erased Indigenous food practices, food assets face displacement risk, and many neighborhoods lack services such as food banks. Our food choices are driving climate change and supply chains are vulnerable to health, political, climate and economic disruptions.</p>					

	<p>By setting city-wide direction, the Vancouver Plan will support the City to address these issues in a holistic way that recognizes food as a city-building element that can be leveraged to build resilience, improve equity, support human and economic health outcomes and reduce environmental impacts. By situating the food system as on par with other urban issues more traditionally recognized as municipal responsibilities in Canada, the Vancouver Plan is a milestone in the integration of food policy into broader planning priorities. We anticipate that this will enable improved cross-departmental support, funding, and coordination on food policy implementation, in recognition of the critical links between the food system and other urban issues, and ultimately will lead to stronger outcomes</p>
<p><b>Impact</b></p>	<p>The development of the Vancouver Plan was designed to reach as many perspectives as possible. While broad public engagement was essential, emphasis was on centering voices that have typically been left out. In doing so, we aimed to ensure that social, environmental, and economic outcomes will align with commitments to Reconciliation (forming relationships of mutual respect with the three local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities) and equity (the benefits of growth and change are distributed across neighborhoods, with particular attention to mitigating disadvantages of equity-denied groups, so that everyone has the chance to thrive).</p> <p>As a long-term vision for growth and change, the Vancouver Plan including the Food Systems chapter must maintain relevance in a changing context. Updates are anticipated every four years and substantial reviews every 10 years. Regular monitoring of implementation will inform annual work plans. The Plan also sets the stage for a future update to the Vancouver Food Strategy to ensure its actions support the Food System chapter and policies.</p> <p>Plan implementation will be informed by more detailed technical, financial, and infrastructure analysis to be completed as a next step. Many factors will influence implementation, including financial resources, Council priorities, senior government investment and priorities, and other significant changes, shocks or stresses such as earthquakes, climate change, pandemics, and others.</p>
<p><b>Inclusion</b></p>	<p>The Vancouver Plan is a city-scale land use plan and in this context, the Food Systems chapter will help inform the development of all Vancouver’s neighborhoods to 2050 and beyond. The chapter takes a holistic approach, with policies that will advance all six MUFPP directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governance will require collaboration across City departments including Planning, Engineering, Development Services, and Arts Culture &amp; Community Services (who currently leads implementation of the Vancouver Food Strategy).</li> <li>• Sustainable Diets &amp; Nutrition is chiefly the responsibility of senior governments, but policies to improve access to food retail and culturally appropriate food in all neighborhoods will support progress in this goal area.</li> <li>• Social &amp; Economic Equity is at the heart of the Plan’s foundational principles of equity and Reconciliation and will be advanced through policies to address gaps in food system infrastructure and land access in underserved communities.</li> <li>• Food Production will be strengthened by policies to create food growing and harvest opportunities on public and private lands and waters.</li> <li>• Food Supply &amp; Distribution is linked to the Plan’s foundational principle of resilience and supported by policy to strengthen community food distribution and sharing infrastructure and the food supply chain, as well as to address displacement; finally</li> <li>• Food Waste is considered as one type of environmental impact that can be addressed through food system interventions.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Challenges and learning needs</b></p>	<p>Some of the implementation challenges we anticipate include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing space for urban agriculture: since 2010, we have increased urban agriculture space primarily by relying on vacant sites to host temporary initiatives. Today, many are undergoing development and there are increasingly limited options for new sites. To advance this priority we will need to develop creative tools and opportunities to secure permanent spaces integrated into new developments.</li> <li>• Addressing displacement of critical food assets, including cultural food stores and restaurants: several Vancouver neighborhoods which have long been hubs for various</li> </ul>

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cultural communities are now undergoing rapid gentrification, and densification. These changes are displacing beloved small and local food businesses support equity-denied residents and others to connect to culture, community identity, and economic opportunity. Work to protect and promote these assets must begin to prevent further losses.