

## DEFINITIONS

Local governments have a range of tools that can be leveraged in order to secure, or encourage, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions:



### Policy & Regulation

City Council can develop and implement bylaws that set out legal regulations to govern specific activities carried out within the City of Richmond. Provincial legislation sets the areas in which Council has jurisdiction to implement bylaws.

The City has the right to enforce adopted bylaws when a bylaw is violated.

City Council may also adopt policies setting out standard procedures and priorities that staff and Council would use when evaluating and implementing plans and projects.



### Infrastructure

Local governments design, build and maintain a wide range of physical infrastructure that benefit residents and economy of the city, including roads, sewers, street lights, electric vehicle (EV) charging facilities and community centres.

Local governments also administer important public services for the community including fire protection, police and a range of social services.



### Incentives

City Council can provide incentives to encourage climate action by adjusting the allocation of City revenues. Council can adjust the criteria by which the City charges municipal taxes or fees, and/or prioritizes service delivery.

Incentives cannot prevent (or require that) some actions to be taken, but well-designed incentives can influence decision-makers to choose low-carbon options more often than they would otherwise.



### Collaboration & Partnerships

Local governments may need to partner with the provincial and/or federal governments, or with other agencies to have sufficient mandate to implement prioritized climate actions.

It may be more cost-effective for external agencies or non-governmental associations to implement specific climate actions on behalf of the City.

It may be more cost-effective for multiple governments to implement specific climate actions together.



### Advocacy

In some areas, local governments have little or no legal mandate to implement policies or programs to reduce GHG emissions.

In these cases, City Council can make formal requests to the provincial and/or federal governments and their agencies on behalf of Richmond residents for policy changes and/or new regulations to be implemented.



### Outreach & Capacity Building

Local residents and businesses have sole responsibility for many decisions that affect the amount of GHGs being emitted within the City of Richmond.

Local governments can allocate resources to increase awareness of the climate impacts of building design and operations, energy use and transportation choices, and provide information and resources to assist local residents make low-GHG decisions.