

Date: July 30, 2024

To: **Mayor and Council.**

Name and title: Deanna Wasnik, Director of Planning and Development

Subject: Provincial Housing Target Order Information Report

Attachment(s): Letter dated July 29, 2024 from Minister of Housing, Ravi Kahlon, RE: Housing Target Order for the City of Prince George Incl. Appendices

Recommendation(s):

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated July 30, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development, titled “Provincial Housing Target Order Information Report”.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council that the Minister of Housing has issued the City of Prince George a Housing Target Order, effective August 1st, 2024, as mandated through the *Housing Supply Act*.

Background:

On May 31, 2023, the BC Government enacted the [Housing Supply Act](#), granting the Province the authority to set housing targets for forty-seven municipalities specified in the [Housing Supply Regulation](#). The City of Prince George is in the third cohort of communities to receive a housing target.

The Province states that the purpose of implementing housing targets is to increase the availability of affordable homes and alleviate pressure on the housing market through increased supply. These targets are established using assessments of regional housing needs and are designed to ensure a steady supply of diverse housing options. The Province indicates that the Act underscores the provincial government's commitment to fostering collaboration with municipalities to achieve sustainable, long-term solutions for housing affordability and accessibility.

Provincial Housing Targets:

The housing target for the City of Prince George is 1,803 net new completed units over five years (2024-2029), effective August 1st, 2024. The attached letter from the Minister of Housing introduces the annual housing targets required to meet estimated housing need (Appendix A, Schedule A), performance indicators (Appendix A, Schedule B) and reporting periods (Appendix A, Schedule C), and guidelines for housing by unit size, tenure, and affordability (Appendix B). The targets are broken down over the 5-year timeframe below:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Target Net New Units	273	302	346	404	478	1803

Figure 1: Yearly Housing Targets

As detailed within the letter, Administration is required to return to Council to present a six-month progress report containing housing data collected since August 1st, 2024. The Housing Target Order, methodology, unit guidance breakdown, and required reporting information is available for the public through the City’s [Provincial Housing Targets webpage](#).

Strategic Priorities:

Achieving the housing target goal aligns with Council’s strategic priorities to grow the city and increase quality of life. Further, increasing housing stock aligns with the overarching myPG social development goals, which aim to offer accessible, affordable, and safe housing for all.

Summary and conclusion:

The Housing Target Order issued for the City of Prince George and outlined by the Minister of Housing in the attached letter, aims to address local housing needs with 1,803 net new units over five years. The Order aligns with the City of Prince George's ongoing efforts to enhance housing availability and underscores the City’s commitment to working with the Ministry of Housing to deliver more housing.

Respectfully submitted:

Deanna Wasnik, Director, Planning and Development

Prepared by Imogene Broberg-Hull, Housing Development Liaison

Approved:

Walter Babicz City Manager

Meeting date: 2024/08/19