

# The Climate-Friendly City:

## A Community Climate Change Action Plan for the City of Vancouver

*Application for the 2005 Energy Aware Award*

### Executive Summary

When, in the spring of 2005, the City of Vancouver adopted the Cool Vancouver Task Force's Community Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) and its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 6% below 1990 levels by 2012, it set in motion the implementation one of the most ambitious and comprehensive municipal energy plans in the country. This Plan is much more than a well conceived shelf document; it is grounded in concrete action options, policy commitments, and implementation resources.

The Plan and its strategies are based in a solid understanding of how much energy is used for what purposes in the city. In identifying a municipality's power and influence in community energy use, it provides all cities with a realistic and responsible roadmap to reduce energy usage through:

- Compact, mixed-use development
- Community engagement
- New building construction energy standards
- Programs to support energy retrofits in residential, commercial, and institutional buildings
- The implementation of incremental and adaptable community scale energy systems
- The provision and support of a diversity of economic and convenient transportation alternatives
- Programs and policies to support the market adoption of efficient vehicles, best vehicle operating practices, and cleaner and renewable fuels.
- The management of solid waste and the utilization of cost effective technologies to harness the energy embodied in our solid waste streams.

Through this community Plan, Vancouver is articulating a vision for itself as the cleanest, greenest, healthiest city in the world. The City of Vancouver will play a key role as catalyst, connector, and resource for the broader community to harness the many health, mobility, economic, employment, and environmental opportunities that are inherent in reduced or renewable energy usage.