

**GOAL 3:****Enhance transportation resilience and sustainability**

Indicators: Net greenhouse gas emissions per year from light-duty vehicles and total kilometres of new sustainable transportation projects completed annually.

OVERVIEW

Transportation is a lifeline for the region, connecting communities, supporting the economy, and enabling access to goods and services. However, the region's transportation infrastructure faces significant challenges, including vulnerabilities to climate impacts such as extreme weather, flooding, and freeze-thaw cycles. These issues threaten the safety, functionality, and resilience of the transportation network, potentially causing disruptions to the local economy, supply chains, and emergency evacuation routes. Community concerns highlight the need for durable and climate-resilient infrastructure that can withstand future conditions.

Challenges also exist in transitioning to low-emission transportation, particularly in rural areas, due to limited electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure, high costs, and battery performance in cold climates. Provincial initiatives like the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030, which

mandates 100% zero-emission vehicle sales by 2035, provide a framework to support these efforts. Still, tailored regional approaches will be crucial to meet the unique needs of northern communities. Public transit access remains limited, with opportunities for expansion in more populated areas to reduce dependency on personal vehicles.

This theme emphasizes the importance of building a transportation system that is both climate-resilient and low-carbon.



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| REGIONAL DISTRICT SCOPE | TIMEFRAME |
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| <p>3.1 Support active transportation infrastructure development</p> <p>Incorporate active transportation considerations into regional planning updates, including Official Community Plans, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and similar planning tools. Work with partners, NGOs, and communities to build the capacity for active transportation infrastructure while coordinating with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit.</p> | Medium (2-5 years) |
| <p>3.2 Investigate installation of EV charging stations at PRRD facilities</p> <p>Investigate installing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at PRRD facilities, contributing to the expansion of EV infrastructure in the region and supporting sustainable transportation options.</p> | Medium (2-5 years) |
| <p>3.3 Explore pursuing land use planning tools to promote sustainable community planning</p> <p>Investigate the development of a Complete Communities Assessment for key fringe and rural areas to help reduce transportation related emissions, and reduce urban sprawl in the wildland urban interface.</p> | Medium (2-5 years) |



Goal 3: Enhance transportation resilience and sustainability – Continued

| COLLABORATION | |
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| 3.4 Explore expansion of public transit options Partner with BC Transit and local municipalities to explore opportunities to enhance public transit connectivity between rural and urban areas, aiming to reduce vehicle dependency, decrease emissions, and provide greater mobility for residents living in fringe areas. | Medium (2-5 years) |
| 3.5 Consider developing a resilient master transportation plan Collaborate with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to evaluate developing a regional transportation plan that focuses on improving connectivity, safety, accessibility, community well-being, and economic vitality, all while supporting a low-emission, active, and resilient northern transportation system. | Medium (2-5 years) |
| 3.6 Support community groups building active transportation trails Collaborate with community groups working on building or expanding active transportation infrastructure, such as trails, bike lanes, and pedestrian pathways, to enhance mobility options and encourage sustainable, low-emission transportation choices. | Medium (2-5 years) |
| ADVOCACY | |
| 3.7 Promote regional EV infrastructure development Advocate for and facilitate partnerships (e.g., Charge North) for expanding electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the region to support a low-emission transportation network. | Long (5+ years) |