



Cities and Climate Change

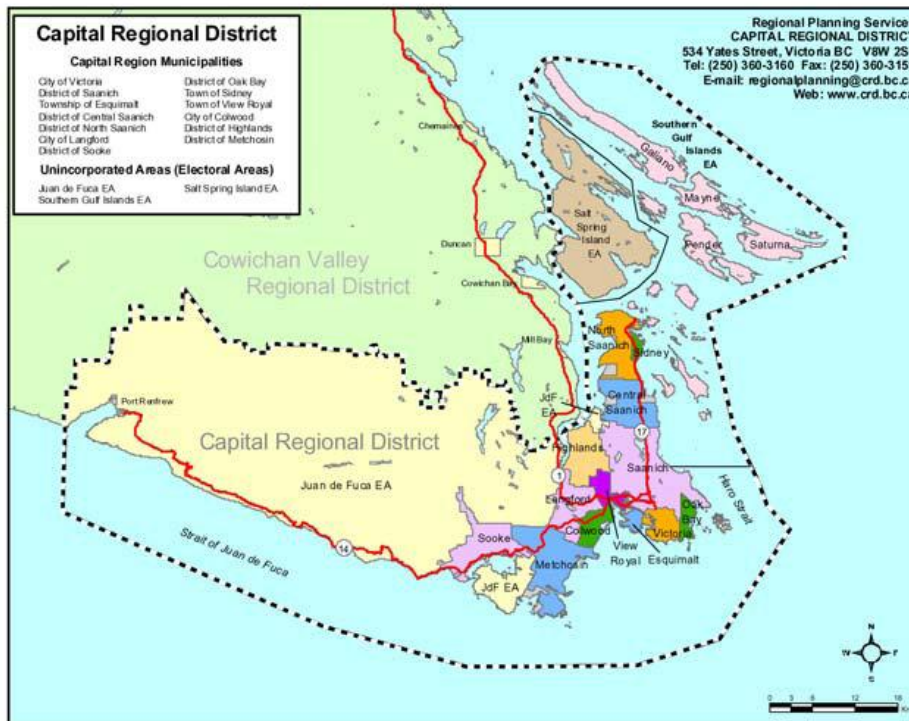
The Urgent Agenda For The Capital Region and Beyond

***Sarah Webb, Capital Regional District,
AWMA Luncheon January 25, 2011***

“Tackling the immense and multi-dimensional challenge of climate change demands extraordinary ingenuity and cooperation.

A climate smart world is possible in our time – yet affecting transformation requires us to act now, act together and act differently.”

The Capital Regional District is the regional government and service provider for 13 municipalities and 3 electoral areas located on Southern Vancouver Island.

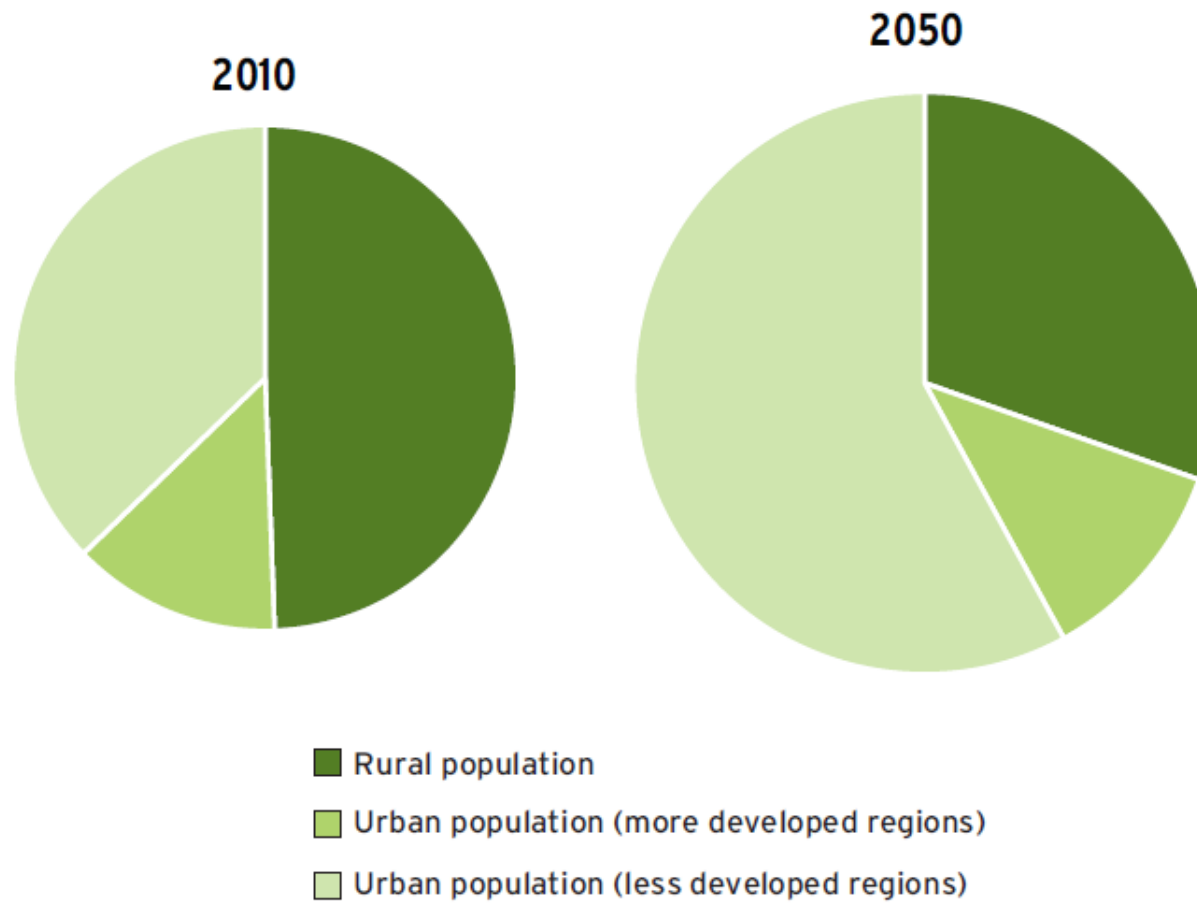


367,000 people within urban centers, rural communities, gulf islands and unincorporated areas.

The Potential of Cities:

- **Cities are often seen to contributing to environmental degradation and represent immense ecological burdens.**
- ***Sustainable cities* can help to model environmental efficiency and enhanced quality of life.**
 - Increased density and better management of resources can reduce long term costs, promote innovation and enable prosperity through sound economic development.

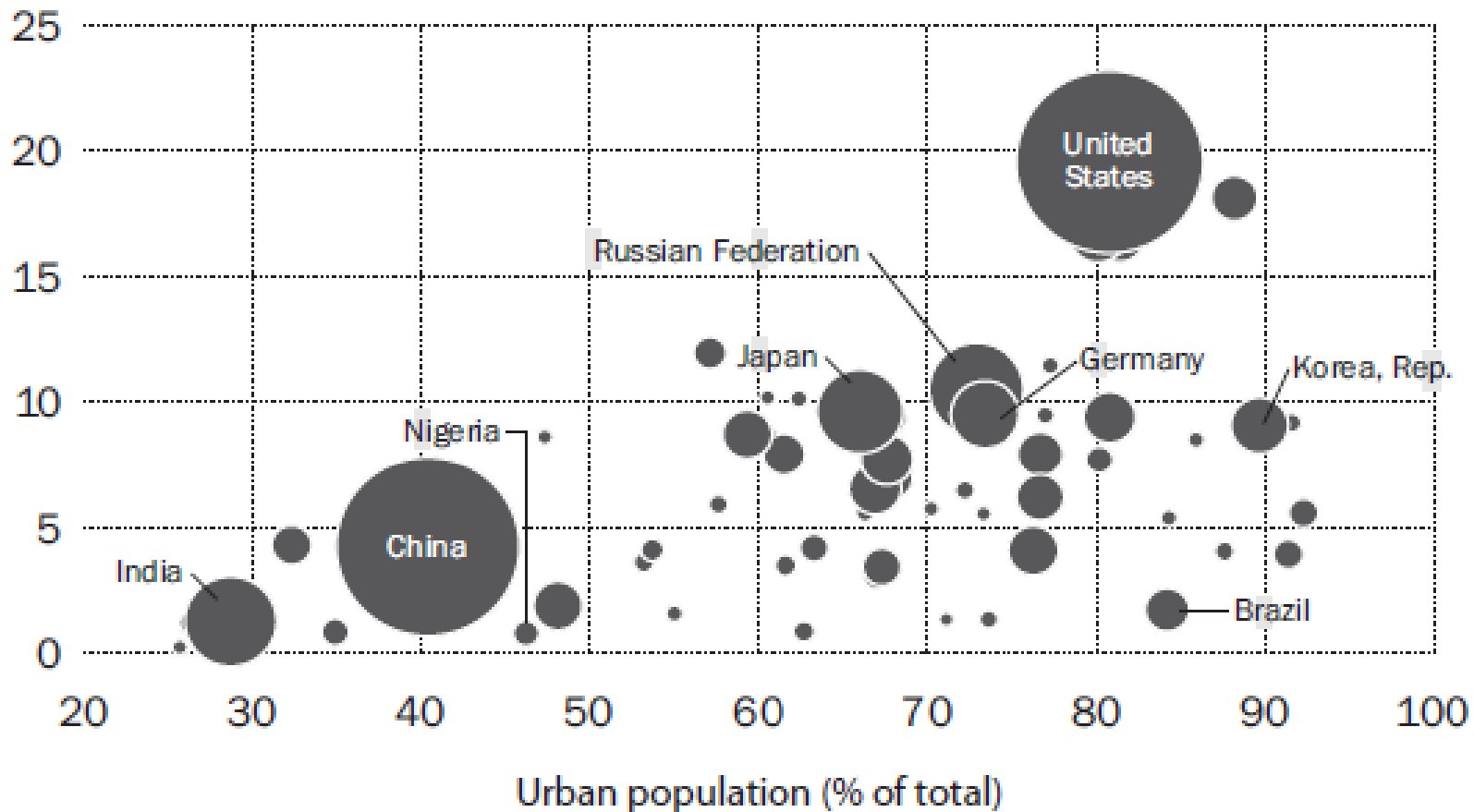
The Great Migration to Cities



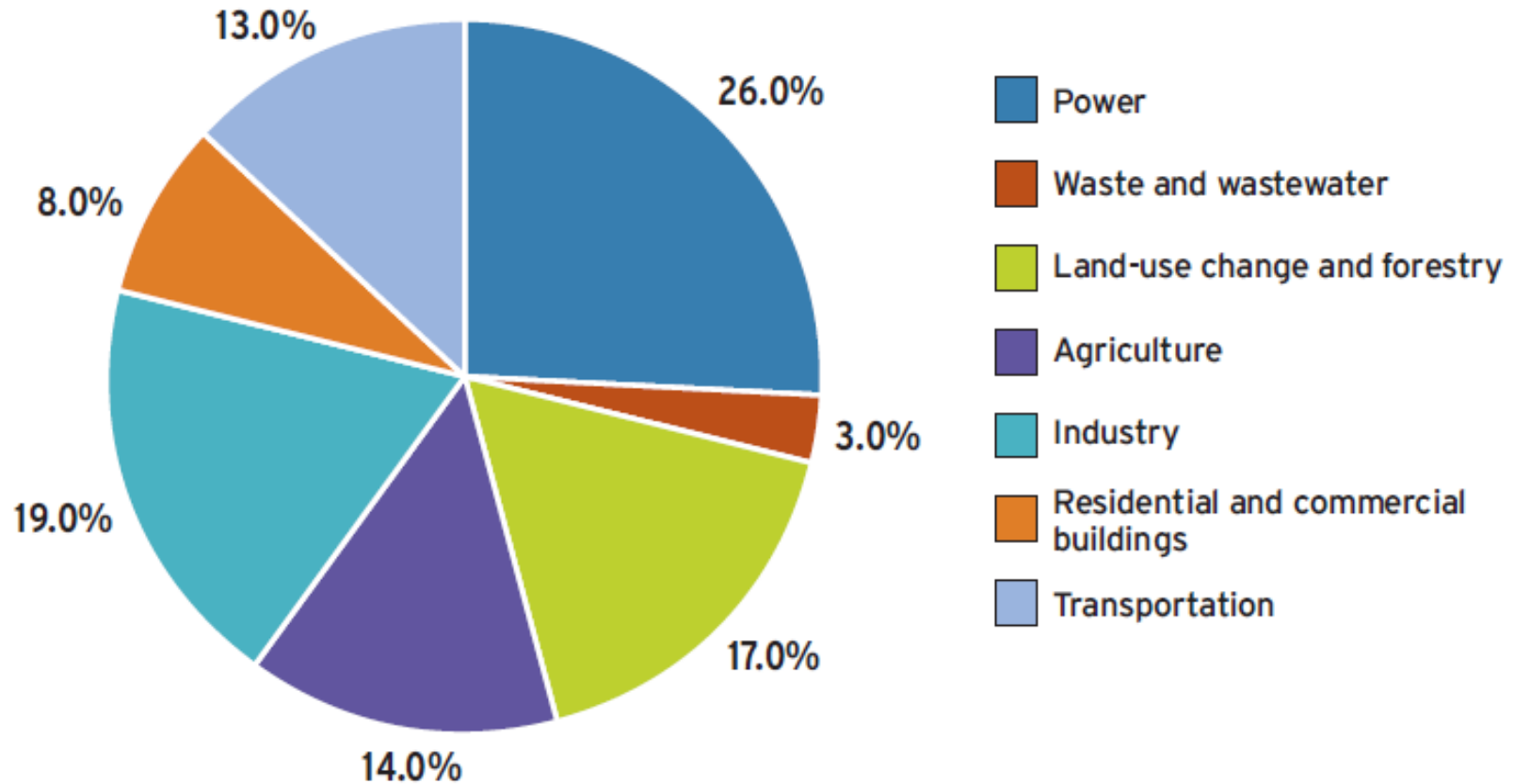
Source: United Nations 2007

Development and CO₂ Emissions

Carbon dioxide emissions, 2005 (metric tons per person)



Global Emissions by Sector



Source: World Bank 2009b.




Our Region: Energy and Climate

1.5 million tonnes of Co₂e- annually

- 58% transportation
- 39% buildings
- 3% solid waste

2007: 4.11 tonnes of Co₂e per person

- Arguably, climate change is not the most serious issue facing our region today.
- But dealing with climate change can driving a change in problem-solving behavior at the local and regional level.
 - Continuous visioning, acting, monitoring and learning is required

- **Climate change is a cumulative process.**
 - The longer we wait to reduce GHGs, the steeper is the abatement cost curve and the harder to reverse the trend.
 - Pollution, congestion, energy costs, urban heat islands etc.
 - **Climate action is enabling strategy for social, economic and environmental priorities.**
 - Lower energy costs, increased human capital and investment, improved health etc.
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Context for the Challenge:

- Economic growth will not be able to counter the danger of climate change.
- Climate smart policies are needed that enhance development while reducing vulnerabilities and help us transition to a low-carbon society.

Act now

Act together

Act differently





A unique mandate to serve local governments and work with non-profit, private and public sector to reduce emissions today and plan for impacts of tomorrow.

5 Distinct Roles of the Service

- Providing Information
- Delivering Support
- Expanding Education
- Liaising with Government
- Championing Corporate Leadership

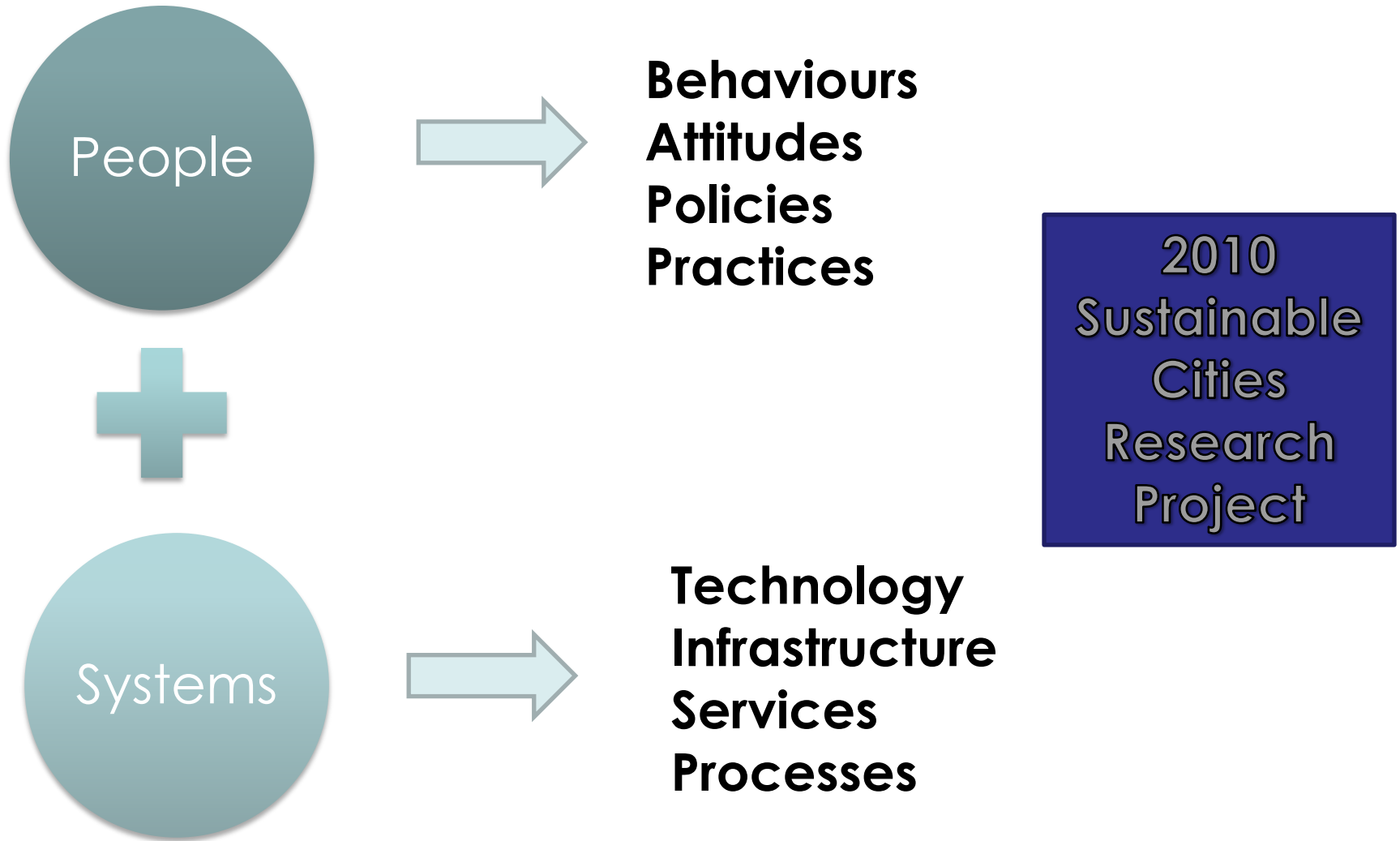



**THE
GOOD**

**THE
BAD**


**AND THE
UGLY**

Mandate to Build Capacity



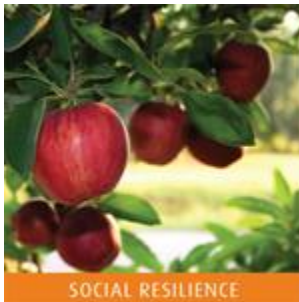
- How cities contribute to and are affected by climate change?
 - How policy makers can use cities to change human behaviour and improve technology related to climate change?
 - How cities should use climate change as an opportunity to raise their profile, reinforce sensible policies, and move toward a more sustainable community and planet?
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- A decorative teal wave graphic at the bottom right of the slide.

A comprehensive analysis of leading practices, policies and projects from six international cities on issues such as climate change, housing and homelessness, resource management, public engagement, ecological health and more.



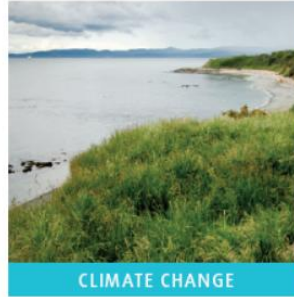
Application to Our Region:

- The Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is the CRD's long term growth management plan
 - Adopted by the region and accepted by its member municipalities in 2003.
- The Regional Sustainability Strategy (RSS) will use the RGS as a platform, building upon that base and increasing its scope.
 - Review, update and expansion of RGS policies.

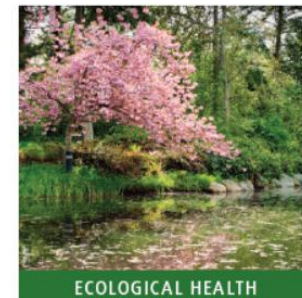
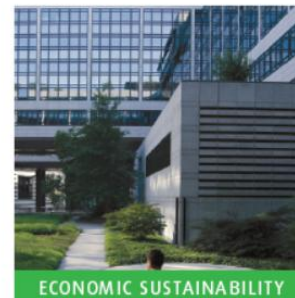
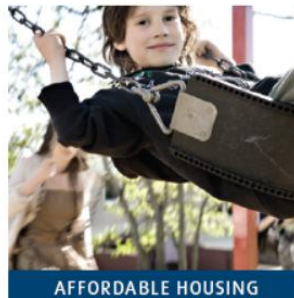
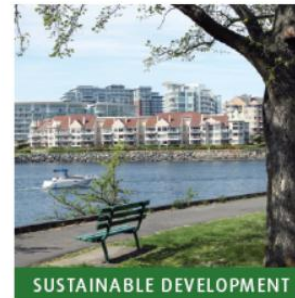


Nine Policy Areas identified for the RSS:

CLIMATE CHANGE
TRANSPORTATION
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



SOCIAL WELLBEING
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
FOOD SECURITY
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY
ECOLOGICAL HEALTH



“We are increasingly interconnected–no city can wall itself off from the consequences of climate change, and no city can prevent catastrophic climate change on its own.”

–KEN LIVINGSTONE

Former Mayor of London (2007)

