

Rioux, Luke MUNI:EX

From: Hutchinson, Jarrett JERI:EX
Sent: July 29, 2021 4:12 PM
To: Brooks, Jessica MUNI:EX
Subject: FW: Mass Timber Action Plan - Review, Feedback, Next Steps

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Due By: August 9, 2021 8:30 AM
Flag Status: Completed

Hello Jessica!

Following on Jeff's email from last week, I'm reaching out to offer my services to help you as best I can. Having been on the receiving end of these types of requests I'm aware that you may need a bit more support to complete the task. You'll see the document has a series of nested objectives, goals, tactics and actions. Each level has more specificity. There is a numbering convention. For example 4.2.b.(i) where:

| | | | Status | Executive Action | Purpose |
|-----------|-----------|---|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 4. | Objective | Establishing scope at the highest level | Penultimate draft, input welcome | DM endorsement required | Mandate setting (primarily a Cabinet/DM audience) |
| 4.2. | Goal | Answering the "what" | Drafted, your input required | | |
| 4.2.b | Tactic | Answering the "what" in more detail | Drafted, your input required | | |
| 4.2.b.(i) | Action | Answering the "how" | Partially drafted, input welcome | For actions where you hold the lever, Ministry commitment required | Project Management – prioritization & resourcing (primarily an ADM/ED audience) |
| | | Answering the "when" | Input welcome | | |
| | | Answering the "by whom" | Input welcome | | |

We hope to spend the next 3-4 weeks discussing this with you in advance of the s.13

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but we'll be using the Committee

structure to obtain our official word go. The immediate pressure is to establish consensus wording on the Goals and Tactics. However, some ideas are farther along and details about possible Actions would be great.

I'm free to walk you through the document if that would be helpful. It's on the TEAMS link you were provided and reproduced here for your convenience.

s.15

Thanks so much.

Jarrett Hutchinson | Executive Director
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From: Young, Olivia JERI:EX <Olivia.Young@gov.bc.ca> **On Behalf Of** Vasey, Jeff JERI:EX
Sent: July 23, 2021 3:38 PM

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Subject: Mass Timber Action Plan - Review, Feedback, Next Steps

Good afternoon,

In follow up to my meetings with most of you, I am writing to let you know about the Office of Mass Timber Implementation's upcoming process for developing and finalizing the Mass Timber Action Plan (MTAP),^{s.12}

^{s.12} For those I have yet to speak with (Laurel, Tara, Les, Diane, Deborah) you will soon be receiving meeting invitations.

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Not surprisingly, the MTAP is confidential and I would ask that you not share it beyond those who need to review and comment.

Thank you once again for your willingness to meet with me and my team and providing us the invaluable input that will make the Mass Timber Action Plan a success.

Respectfully,

Jeff Vasey
Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Mass Timber Implementation
Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

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Rioux, Luke MUNI:EX

From: McKenzie, Millie JERI:EX on behalf of Vasey, Jeff JERI:EX
Sent: June 29, 2021 9:47 AM
To: Faganello, Tara MUNI:EX
Cc: Brooks, Jessica MUNI:EX; Bedford, Brian MUNI:EX; Hutchinson, Jarrett JERI:EX; Nicol, Lee A JERI:EX; Hoffman-McGaw, Trilby JERI:EX; Gisborne, Carolyn JERI:EX; Beattie, Michelle JERI:EX
Subject: Mass Timber Action Plan consultation - MUNI follow up

Good morning,

As follow-up to the email and briefing note from Bobbi Plecas to your Deputy and to you as cc, I am reaching out to formally begin consultation with you and your staff on the Mass Timber Action Plan (MTAP). OMTI was established just over a year ago as government's leadership hub on mass timber with the express mandate to accelerate the use and production of mass timber in building construction. Key to advancing this agenda is the development of the Mass Timber Action Plan (MTAP), work that intersects with 15 ministries' strategic priorities, initiatives, and program areas.

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s.13 . It will also address
Ministry of Finance's mandate commitment that capital projects use mass timber wherever possible.

Over the coming weeks, OMTI staff, led by my Executive Director - Jarrett Hutchinson; Director of Policy - Trilby Hoffman-McGaw; and Director of Partnerships and Engagement - Lee Nicol will be reaching out to your executive directors and directors, as appropriate, to set up meetings to discuss the above. To that end, I have copied EDs that have responsibility over key areas that OMTI wishes to further discuss. Please share this email with anyone else you consider relevant and that I may have missed.

Finally, I fully anticipate there may be occasions when discussions will need to happen at the ADM level, including now at the very start of this process. I would be happy to meet with you to discuss this work further so please let me know if you'd like our office to set up some time for us to do so. In the meantime, I remain at your disposal to answer any questions you may have about OMTI or the MTAP.

Jeff Vasey
Assistant Deputy Minister
Management Services Division

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.13

BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

Date: August 14, 2020
Prepared For: Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Title: Authorizing Proposed Mass Timber Buildings
Issue: Preparing site-specific regulations to authorize 3 proposed mass timber buildings

RECOMMENDED OPTION:

OPTION 2: Recommend providing in-principle support for site-specific regulations (SSRs) to authorise mass timber construction for 3 imminent projects:

- 1. a 15-storey residential building with affordable housing in Colwood (BC Housing)**
- 2. a 12-storey student residence at BCIT's Burnaby campus (AEST)**
- 3. the new Royal BC Museum and a companion collections and research building (TAC)**

BACKGROUND:

BC is established as a continental leader in wood innovation and design for buildings, and has been an early supporter of mid-rise and tall wood construction. This was demonstrated most recently in late 2019 through the early adoption of national code provisions for mass timber buildings up to 12-storeys for select jurisdictions. Other examples include two showcase buildings – the Brock Commons student residence at the University of British Columbia (2017), and the Wood Innovation and Design Centre in Prince George (2014). SSRs were created to authorize construction as both buildings were beyond the scale and scope of the BC Building Code (the Code) at the time.

SSRs repeal elements of the Code and add substitute requirements to enable the increased use of wood on certain sites while also ensuring adequate levels of safety and building performance. They are Minister's regulations authorized by the Building Act and enacted by Ministerial Order.

SSRs are a three-way partnership between the Province, the local government and the Proponent. All three players need to be supportive in order to proceed successfully. The Province incurs costs related to staff time, legal review, consultant fees and travel/meeting costs. These costs are typically recovered from the Proponents by means of a contribution agreement as authorized by s.25 of the Financial Administration Act. Proponents are being advised that they are paying for an evaluation process. They are not paying for a specific outcome, and the Minister's decision-making ability remains unfettered.

DISCUSSION:

Mass timber construction is being proposed for 3 projects encompassing 4 buildings. SSRs will be required to authorize construction of at least 3, if not all 4 buildings depending on approved design proposals. Projects are described separately below.

1. Student residence at BCIT (Burnaby)

The Office of Mass Timber Implementation (OMTI) has worked with City of Burnaby and the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (AEST) staff to broker a solution for authorizing a 12-storey mass timber student residence at BCIT's Burnaby campus.

Burnaby chose not to adopt the 12-storey encapsulated mass timber construction (EMTC) provisions in the Code throughout their entire jurisdiction, and is reluctant to do so moving forward; however Burnaby staff are comfortable with an SSR that applies those provisions to the specific site. AEST's design team has also confirmed the design substantially complies with the EMTC provisions.

Both OMTI and the Building and Safety Standards Branch (BSSB) support this SSR as it will provide an immediate solution that all parties are comfortable with and will prevent project delays.

s.12

2. Affordable housing (Colwood)

Cascadia Architects, on behalf of the Greater Victoria Housing Society (The Proponent), submitted a request for a site-specific regulation on May 26, 2020. The design generally complies with the EMTC provisions – except for building height – and draws on the 18-storey Brock Commons student residence at UBC as a proof of concept for taller buildings.

The proposed building will replace an existing building and will double the number of affordable housing units currently at the site. It will also target zero carbon emissions, and will follow step 4 of the BC Energy Step Code to reduce energy and operational costs, and increase resident comfort.

Both OMTI and BSSB conceptually support this request because it aligns with provincial policy to increase the use of engineered wood in construction, construct high performing green buildings that minimize climate impacts, and expand affordable housing units. The project also has the potential to contribute to the body of knowledge for mass timber buildings by showcasing how affordable, highly energy efficient and low carbon construction projects can be delivered using mass timber construction systems.

Staff plan to initiate the regulatory development process (which includes drawing on experts to evaluate the design), and will communicate publicly about this. s.16; s.17

s.16; s.17

s.16; s.17

The Proponent has also been advised that timeliness will depend upon the quality of the technical submission and that multiple scenarios could delay development and approval.

This project provides OMTI and BSSB with an opportunity to contribute to advancing building code development in Canada and improve administrative efficiency of SSRs. OMTI staff are in discussions with the Proponents. s.16; s.17

s.13; s.16; s.17

s.16; s.17

s.16; s.17

3.

Ministerial approval to enact regulations will be sought separately at a later date if proponents can demonstrate proposals meet sufficient standards for building performance and safety. There will be no obligation to enact regulations if the results of an evaluation process indicate those standards have not been met. Staff will use the same method that was employed to develop site-specific regulations for UBC Brock Commons in 2016 and Corvette Landing in Esquimalt in 2018 (on pause).

OPTIONS:

s.13; s.16; s.17

APPROVED (OPTION 2) / NOT APPROVED

Honourable Selina Robinson

August 14, 2020

Date



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BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

Date: August 18, 2020
Prepared For: Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Title: 12-Storey Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction
Issue: Additional communities opting in to BC Building Code (the Code) provisions

SUMMARY:

- **5 new Lower Mainland communities have met eligibility criteria for early adoption of Code provisions for 12-storey mass timber buildings construction: Port Moody, Coquitlam, West Vancouver, District of North Vancouver and the University Endowment Lands (UEL).**
- **2 additional communities have recently expressed interest (Delta and Prince George) and Ministry staff are working with the communities to confirm eligibility.**
- **A Minister's Order amending the Code to include 7 new communities is planned for early Fall in advance of the virtual Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention in September. The Minister's speech may provide an opportunity to highlight this expansion.**
- **City of Vancouver also followed the Province's lead and amended their building bylaw to include the new provisions in late May 2020, with some modifications.**
- **If approved, the total number of early adopter communities will be 21. Together they represented 62 percent of 2019 housing starts and 56 percent of BC's estimated population in 2019.**

BACKGROUND:

In December 2019, the BC Building and Fire Codes were amended to include new provisions that authorize 12-storey encapsulated mass timber construction in select BC jurisdictions. The provisions are based on national code requirements which are informed by extensive testing and research, and technical review by industry experts, such as fire safety specialists, building designers, builders and staff of the Canadian Commission on Fire and Building Codes.

All local governments were invited to express interest in adopting these provisions two to three years before they are implemented for the whole Province, likely in late 2022. Eligibility criteria were established by policy to encourage preparation for the new requirements. To be eligible, communities had to (1) demonstrate support from their Council, (2) through the City Manager, confirm organizational alignment amongst their planning, building and fire departments, (3) have a level 3 certified building official, and (4) have land use bylaws in place that allow buildings higher than six storeys.

The City of Vancouver followed suit and early adopted the pending National Building Code provisions for Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction. However, they modified the requirements to make them more restrictive. Rather than allowing a specific percentage of unencapsulated mass timber per suite, they prohibit exposed or partially exposed mass timber in residential suites. An excerpt of the City of Vancouver staff report is attached containing their rationale for the more restrictive provisions.



DISCUSSION:

An initial call for expressions of interest was conducted by the Building and Safety Standards Branch (BSSB) in early 2019. 13 communities responded and met the eligibility criteria prior to the closing date for submissions. Communities were advised that there would be further opportunities for other interested communities to get onboard, and BSSB staff followed up with those that enquired.

UBCM is the annual anniversary of the program launch and provides an opportunity to announce the new early adopter communities. Staff are preparing a Minister's Order for approval to add up to 7 additional communities that have expressed interest and confirmed they met the eligibility criteria or an acceptable equivalent. The full roster of communities is attached. The new Office of Mass Timber Implementation is working closely with BSSB to prepare for this. It is proposed that the Order be signed on or before September 22, 2020 so that this news can be incorporated into communications associated with the virtual convention. Government Communication and Public Engagement have been made aware of this and will advise what may be the best medium to convey this information.

s.13; s.16

The UEL is unique as an unincorporated community administered by Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAH). UEL staff confirmed organizational alignment with their planning and building department. MAH contracts with the Vancouver Fire Department (VFD) to provide fire services for UEL and neighbouring University of British Columbia (UBC). UBC already adopted the new Code provisions in December 2019. In correspondence with UEL staff, the VFD stated they support the early adoption of mass timber but they also recommended that UEL follow the more restrictive provisions within the City of Vancouver's Building Bylaw, which do not permit any exposed timber. However, as the BC Building Code applies in the UEL, not the Vancouver Building Bylaw, VFD is obliged to use provincial Code provisions when operating under contract in the UEL. The UEL uses the BC Building Code, and as a program of MAH, could not reasonably adopt a provision that is not in the provincial Code (which is approved by MAH).^{s.13}

s.13

Organizational alignment was established as a policy requirement to preclude mixed messages about the advantages and trade offs associated with Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction. This strategy was based on experience when BC increased the allowable height of wood construction from 4 to 6 stories in 2009. In that case, media coverage featured some conflicting opinions about wood, perhaps even from staff within the same jurisdiction, with planning department staff welcoming a more affordable means of urban densification whereas fire departments were sharing concerns about fire risk. The risk of this kind of mixed messaging in the UEL is low, given VFD has been continuing to provide fire services to UBC without issue since the Code provisions were adopted there 8 months ago. UEL can work directly with VFD in the unlikely event that concerns arise.

Attachments:

1. List of the 13 early adopter communities and the additional proposed communities.
2. City of Vancouver Staff Report Excerpt



Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

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APPROVED BY:

Jeff Vasey, Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Mass Timber Implementation

Kathy Elder, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

Silas Brownsey, Acting Deputy Minister

Tara Faganello, Acting Deputy Minister (revisions)

DATE APPROVED:

August 11, 2020

August 14, 2020

August 14, 2020

August 18, 2020



ATTACHMENT 1: List of Early Adopter Communities

2019 intake

1. Abbotsford
2. Campbell River
3. Colwood
4. Kelowna
5. Langford
6. Langley (Township)
7. Mission
8. North Vancouver (City)
9. Richmond
10. Saanich
11. Surrey
12. University of British Columbia
13. Victoria

2020 intake (confirmed)

14. Port Moody
15. Coquitlam
16. West Vancouver
17. District of North Vancouver
18. University Endowment Lands

s.13; s.16

Other

21. City of Vancouver (via Vancouver Charter)



ATTACHMENT 2: Vancouver adopted the mass timber provisions in the BC Building and Fire Codes except that exposed or partially exposed mass timber within residential suites will be prohibited.

Here is an excerpt of the report to council on this issue:

In addition to the external Mass Timber Advisory Committee, staff formed an internal working group with representatives from Vancouver Fire Rescue Services, the Chief Building Official's Office, Building Policy Branch, Building Review Branch, Inspections, and Sustainability. This collaboration resulted in one significant difference from the BC Building Code in the recommended by-law changes, that remove the allowance for exposed mass timber within residential suites. In the National and BC Building Codes, following a complex set of calculations, up to 35% of wall and ceiling areas are allowed to omit the encapsulation protection. In Vancouver, however, staff recognize that partially exposing the wood of the mass timber within a suite could encourage the removal of the encapsulation protection to expose more or all of the mass timber in the suite by an occupant, creating a condition not designed-for and posing an unacceptable risk to fire safety. Once a residential suite is occupied there is no means for the fire department to inspect and ensure the building fire protection is maintained. In accordance with the Fire Services Act, residential suites are not inspect-able by the fire department without a valid complaint and without consent of the occupier. Therefore the proposed Vancouver Building By-law provisions for EMTC do not permit the omission of the encapsulation protection within residential suites.



BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

Date: August 27, 2020

Prepared For: Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Title: Research Project on Mass Timber in Multi-Unit Construction

Issue: BC Housing and the City of Vancouver are partnering on a research project to analyze the use of mass timber in multi-unit construction.

Meeting With: Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon, Ministry of Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development on August 31, 2020.

SUMMARY:

- **Mass timber represents an opportunity to grow the green economy while supporting local employment and BC's forest industry, especially in the context of post-COVID-19 economic recovery. Mass timber may also help address rental housing demand while simultaneously reducing building-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.**
- **BC Housing and the City of Vancouver are partnering on a research project to evaluate the costs between mass timber and concrete in multi-unit construction (e.g., buildings between 7 to 12 storeys).**

BACKGROUND:

In June 2020, Premier John Horgan appointed Ravi Kahlon, Parliamentary Secretary for Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, to lead the expansion and use of mass timber in buildings in British Columbia. In his announcement, the Premier noted that focusing on mass timber will stimulate the forest industry in the context of post-COVID-19 economic recovery while advancing CleanBC, the Province's climate action plan.

As part of Parliamentary Secretary Kahlon's new mandate, he will engage with local governments, industry and the construction sector, as well as create and chair a joint industry/government steering committee that will meet semi-annually to provide guidance and advice to the government's efforts.

Last year, the Province announced its intention to encourage the increased use of mass timber building projects in its capital construction projects, particularly in the development of the new St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver and the replacement of the Royal BC Museum in Victoria. The Province also announced last year that 13 communities in BC agreed to become early adopters to bring mass timber technology for buildings up to 12 storeys.

In mass timber buildings, the primary load-bearing structure is made of solid or engineered wood. The seismic force reduction systems continue to be designed with concrete. These buildings can be one-fifth the weight of comparable concrete buildings, while still meeting performance standards for safety, structural resilience and fire protection.

DISCUSSION:

BC Housing and the City of Vancouver are partnering on a research project to analyze the use of mass timber in multi-unit construction (i.e., buildings between 7 to 12 storeys) to help address rental housing demand with streamlined construction practices with completion under 12 months, while simultaneously reducing building-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.



The scope of the research project includes evaluating costs between mass timber construction and concrete construction in the 7 to 12 storey range for a rental multi-unit residential building in the mid-market rental price range. The scope also includes identifying potential barriers and trade-offs of using mass timber.

Understanding the economics of mass timber construction for multi-unit construction projects will provide BC Housing, the Office of Mass Timber Implementation and the City of Vancouver an understanding of options and solutions for the delivery of new rental housing units.

A Request for Proposals to select a proponent to lead the research project is anticipated for this fall. The proponent will assemble a team of professionals with expertise in architecture, structural engineering (including seismic forces), building code and fire code, mass timber construction, quantity surveying, and conventional concrete construction.

As there is a growing cross section of professionals who are working with mass timber, the research project will include industry consultation.

The research project will result in a final report that provides an evaluation of the economics of building in conventional concrete or mass timber in the 7 to 12 storey range.

Although BC Housing has not had direct experience using mass timber in multi-unit construction, it has collaborated on preliminary research on the topic over the last several years, including analysis on the design of mass timber buildings.

BC Housing also funded building science research on moisture and durability management and fire resistance of cross-laminated timber for the UBC Brock Commons project. The Brock Commons project is an example of a mass timber project in BC. For more information on Brock Commons, please visit <https://www.naturallywood.com/emerging-trends/tall-wood/brock-commons-tallwood-house>.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The research project will be co-funded by BC Housing, the City of Vancouver, Natural Resources Canada, and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources may also provide funding. The cost of the project is estimated to be approximately \$150,000 to \$170,000.

PREPARED BY:

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APPROVED BY:

Andrew Pape-Salmon, A/Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Housing and Construction Standards

Silas Brownsey, A/Deputy Minister

DATE APPROVED:

August 26, 2020

August 27, 2020



BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

Date: August 27, 2020
Prepared For: Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Title: Density Bonusing and Mass Timber Implementation
Meeting: Parliamentary Secretary Kahlon on September 1, 2020

BACKGROUND:

Density bonus zoning is a tool that can be used in a zoning bylaw to provide developers options for the density to which they are allowed to build. The zoning bylaw allows the developer to build either to the "base" density or to a greater density if certain amenities or affordable housing are provided, or other specified conditions are met. The developer, by right, always has the option of developing at the base level of density, but usually has an incentive to consider greater densities.

Density bonus zoning can benefit both the developer and the local government; the developer's profits increase with the sale of additional units permitted at the greater density, and the local government obtains more affordable housing or amenities plus more property tax revenues for the additional units or floor area built.

Local governments can sometimes find it challenging to gauge whether developers are likely to take advantage of the density bonus and provide the amenity contribution conditions in a density bonus bylaw. Some local governments consult with the development community and/or engage people with expertise in real estate market and financial analysis to help shape proposed density bonus zoning bylaws and monitor changes in local market conditions that may suggest adjustments are needed to their bylaws.

For most local governments in BC, density bonus zoning is authorized under section 482 (Density benefits for amenities, affordable housing and special needs housing) of the *Local Government Act*. In the City of Vancouver, density bonus zoning is authorized under s. 565.1 (Zoning for amenities and affordable housing) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

DISCUSSION:

Density Bonusing and Mass Timber Implementation

What qualifies as an amenity is the matter of some interpretation. At present, local governments are left to determine what qualifies as an amenity, the Province does not weigh in. Some local governments have asserted that energy efficient buildings are a community amenity. The low carbon footprint of mass timber buildings could be considered an extension of that position. s.13

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Vancouver Request

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PREPARED BY:

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Jarrett Hutchinson, A/Assistant Deputy Minister
Office of Housing & Construction Standards

Silas Brownsey, A/Deputy Minister

DATE APPROVED:

August 27, 2020

August 27, 2020



MEETING BRIEFING NOTE

Date: October 28, 2020

Prepared For: Don Wright, Deputy Minister to the Premier;
Kaye Krishna, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
Lori Wanamaker, Deputy Minister of Finance;
Shannon Baskerville, Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training;
John Allan, Deputy Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development;
Christine Kennedy, Deputy Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Competitiveness;
Jill Kot, Deputy Minister of Citizen's Services

Topic: Mass Timber Implementation Strategy

Purpose: Joint Kick-off meeting seeking Deputy Ministers support, strategic direction and next steps on November 5, 2020.

Meeting With: Joint Deputy Minister's Meeting on November 5, 2020

KEY MESSAGES:

- **Mass timber is identified as an emerging economic opportunity and continues to be a government priority.**
- **Co-ordination and shared vision are required as cross government and industry efforts ramp up to (1) implement mass timber into public and private sector building projects and (2) scale up associated professional services and industry capacity.**

BACKGROUND:

In March 2020, the Premier's Office staff proposed to Priorities and Accountabilities Cabinet Committee (P&A) that central leadership was required to support the expanded use of mass timber in building construction. Subsequently, Parliamentary Secretary Ravi Kahlon's mandate letter was amended to include expanding the production and use of mass timber. ADM Jeff Vasey was appointed in May 2020 and an Office of Mass Timber Implementation (OMTI) has been established in MAH to support the initiative. Mass timber implementation was identified within the platform of the incoming government.

DISCUSSION:

Co-ordination is underway:

- Success requires various actions within 7 core Ministries MAH, JEDC (FII), FLNRO, AEST, FIN, ENV, CITZ and the 7 additional ministries with capital plans.
- A Mass Timber Advisory Council (MTAC) is being established to act as a discussion forum and sounding board to validate and provide advice on B.C.'s Mass Timber Implementation Strategy. It is proposed that this industry committee would meet twice a year, with occasional ad hoc meetings.
- OMTI is being established as a cross-government project office tasked with leading the coordinated deployment of policy levers and statutory authorities distributed across various Ministries. Key responsibilities include:



- Developing a multi-sectoral, multi-Ministry strategy and action plan endorsed by core Ministries and MTAC.
- Establishing structure and accountability across Government to efficiently and successfully implement elements of the strategy via the action plan over the next 2-3 years.
- Reporting semi-annually on progress to P&A.

OMTI accomplishments to date:

- Developed draft strategy and action plan
 - Analyzed previous provincial efforts to support mass timber;
 - Established cross government network;
 - 30+ cross sectoral consultations.
- Initiated establishment of MTAC by drafting ToR and inviting members; on hold during interregnum.
- Concierge service for upcoming public sector construction projects (12-storey student residence tower at BCIT ; Royal B.C. Museum replacement project ; New St. Paul's Hospital Phase.)
- Steered joint professional practice guideline development in collaboration with the associations for architects (AIBC) and engineers (EGBC).
- Facilitated the amendment of the B.C. Building Code to add 7 new early adopter communities who can champion 12-storey encapsulated mass timber construction within their jurisdictions.
- Supported the advancement of 3 Stronger BC for Everyone economic recovery initiatives to support mass timber in various ways including research, demonstration projects and new recognized credentials from post-secondary institutes.

Core guidance documents have been developed:

- Shared value proposition agreement (Attachment 1) establishes the who, what, where, when, why and how. It articulates the long-term vision and short-term problem-solving approach.
- The Mass Timber Implementation Strategy consists of 3 primary components:
 1. Established **Framework** of themed actions which sorts the comprehensive range of activities;
 2. **Roll Out** plan of prioritized and sequenced activities within the framework; phased in 6 month intervals;
 3. Measurement and evaluation to assess if the roll out of the framework is resulting in the expected **Change Story**.
- The Framework and the Roll Out require input and validation from partner Ministry staff.

Next steps:



Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

s.13; s.17

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

s.17

Attachments:

1. s.13; s.17

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