District of SECHELT

2026-2030 District of Sechelt Strategic Plan

Vision

Sechelt is a resilient coastal community with a deep connection to the land and environment situated between the Salish Sea and Sechelt Inlet.

We encourage innovation and support safe, welcoming neighbourhoods where people can build a life, find suitable housing, earn a living, and move around the community easily and safely.

Core Values

The following core values guide Council communication and decisions:

- Transparency
- Civility
- Accountability
- Responsible stewardship of public resources

Shared Values with our Regional Partners

We will build respectful, collaborative relationships with the shíshálh Nation, neighbouring local governments and our provincial and federal partners.



Council Priorities

Building on our vision and values, Council will pursue the following priorities while promoting stable, effective municipal operations and reliable community services.

1. Community Safety, Wellness and Crime Reduction

Everyone should feel safe walking, working, living and enjoying public spaces in Sechelt.

Our focus will be:

- Improving community safety through coordinated municipal action, crime prevention, fair and consistent enforcement, advocacy, and collaboration with police, provincial agencies and community partners, with particular attention to repeat offending, property crime and public disorder.
- Working with the RCMP, health agencies, businesses, residents and community partners to identify recurring safety concerns, close service gaps and follow through on practical solutions.
- Strengthening local responses to mental health, substance use and homelessness by working with provincial ministries, health authorities and community organizations to advance compassionate, evidence-informed solutions for housed and unhoused residents.
- Creating safer, cleaner and more welcoming public spaces, including targeted safety and cleanup initiatives in the downtown core and other areas experiencing recurring concerns.
- Listening to residents, businesses and people with lived experience, communicating openly about our work, and measuring whether our actions are making a meaningful difference.
- Supporting broader community health and resilience, including sustainable food security and initiatives that strengthen individual and community well-being.

2. A Vibrant Downtown and Strong Local Economy

Our focus will be:

- Endorsing vibrant events and activities that bring residents and visitors from across the Sunshine Coast into downtown Sechelt.
- Identifying and implementing targeted strategies to support appropriate density, business growth and diverse housing options in the downtown core.
- Enhancing active transportation networks, walkability, streetscapes, beautification, and connections between downtown and outlying neighbourhoods.
- Working with regional partners to expand active transportation across the Sunshine Coast, including development of a coastal cycling corridor that positions Sechelt as a leading cycling and active-tourism destination in Canada.

3. Housing, Infrastructure and Regional Connections

Our focus will be:

- Optimizing the Water Resource Centre and its future operations and managing assets effectively to secure long-term funding and operational efficiency.
- Advocating for improved regional ferry service reliability and capacity to support local economic, medical, tourism, and community needs.
- Streamlining development approvals by making the process clear and predictable while maintaining planning, safety and infrastructure standards and working collaboratively with builders and District staff.
- Updating the Official Community Plan, completing the Development Cost Charge bylaw, and updating the Subdivision and Development bylaw.
- Supporting a diverse range of housing options, including rental and workforce housing, long-term care, seniors housing, family housing and supportive housing.
- Sourcing new location and logistics for the relocation of the septage facility.
- Prioritizing the maintenance and renewal of roads, drainage, wastewater, municipal facilities and other core infrastructure based on condition, risk and long-term community need.

4. Financial Sustainability and Good Governance

Our focus will be:

- Operating as a collaborative and transparent council committed to high standards of governance, visible teamwork and direct public engagement to ensure community input continuously shapes municipal decisions.
- Optimizing municipal operations and budget to maximize value for taxpayer dollars, carefully balancing rate increases against long-term operational and capital costs.
- Managing staffing growth carefully and ensuring new positions are supported by demonstrated service needs, operational efficiencies or sustainable funding.
- Strengthening financial resilience through sound asset and infrastructure management, better use of data, pursuit of grants, limiting tax increases, and exploration of sustainable revenue opportunities.
- Developing an integrated asset management plan based on lifecycle costs, risk management, and levels of service, to guide long-term investment decisions and sustainable service delivery.

5. Community and Environmental Resilience

Our focus will be:

- Preparing for wildfire, extreme weather and other emergencies through sound land-use planning, FireSmart practices, resilient infrastructure and regional emergency planning.
- Encouraging water conservation and demand reduction while advocating for greater municipal participation in regional water supply planning and long-term water planning.
- Protecting Sechelt's natural assets while balancing environmental stewardship, public safety, recreation and responsible growth.
- Developing options and plans with regard to long-term sea-level rise and flooding in the Downtown core.
- Leading regional and provincial advocacy efforts for emergency preparedness, including assets such as the Sechelt Airport and coastal road infrastructure.