



Climate-Smart Homes

In Vancouver, buildings are our second-largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, and our homes are also increasingly feeling the effects of a changing climate. Over the past few weeks, we have sat down with residents across the city to talk about their top home priorities and the improvements they dream of making.

What We're Hearing from Neighbors

We heard a common thread across conversations, regardless of what motivated people to get involved: people want homes with comfortable temperatures, affordable operating costs, and clean indoor air.

Many residents are already taking steps to make their homes more climate-smart, from larger investments like heat pumps to everyday changes like programming smart thermostats, lowering water heater temperatures, and installing weatherstripping. Others hope to make these changes in the future.

To make that possible, residents told us they need more than financial support. They also want a trusted guide who can help them understand what their home needs, find reliable contractors, and navigate available programs. Renters, who have less control over structural changes, are especially interested in energy-efficiency education and low-cost improvements they can make themselves.

Broader Environmental Interest

And while our conversations focused largely on home energy, residents are thinking about climate action more broadly too, including creating backyard habitats that provide food and shelter for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife, as well as gardening and composting. Speaking of, want to learn more about composting in Vancouver? Check out this short video: Climate-friendly food scrap and organics disposal options.

Staff will compile and analyze this feedback to help inform how the City supports programs and investments that make Vancouver homes more comfortable, affordable, and resilient to a changing climate.

Thank you to everyone who has shared their experiences and ideas with us!

