

Webinar

ULI British Columbia: Coffee and Conversations with Jim Bailey

Date: February 16, 2021

00:00:10 --> 00:00:13: Oliver let me know if we're good to go. 00:00:15 --> 00:00:17: I think this way wait a couple more minutes. 00:00:30 --> 00:00:33: Morning all. 00:00:33 --> 00:00:35: Morning. 00:00:35 --> 00:00:35: Really. 00:00:54 --> 00:00:58: It's getting pretty interesting seeing some familiar faces are familiar 00:00:58 --> 00:01:00: names rather coming to most of these, 00:01:00 --> 00:01:02: which is really nice, certainly. 00:01:06 --> 00:01:08: I think most of I think everybody or most of 00:01:08 --> 00:01:10: the people have joined. 00:01:10 --> 00:01:13: OK, let's get started. Thank you everyone for joining us 00:01:13 --> 00:01:16: here after the long weekend to those in the audience. 00:01:16 --> 00:01:19: There are new welcome and to those that are returning. 00:01:19 --> 00:01:22: Welcome back to another edition of coffee and Conversations hosted 00:01:23 --> 00:01:26: by the Urban Land Institute and generously sponsored by ANI. 00:01:26 --> 00:01:28: My name is Randolph Lee with you allies, 00:01:28 --> 00:01:31: young leaders group and I'm joined by my team members, 00:01:31 --> 00:01:33: Oliver Tenant and Chris Cuno. 00:01:33 --> 00:01:36: I would like to give a special thanks to Shannon 00:01:36 --> 00:01:39: Patterson and the rest of our young leaders group for 00:01:39 --> 00:01:41: their continued support and guidance. 00:01:41 --> 00:01:43: As a quick refresher about the event, 00:01:43 --> 00:01:46: coffee and conversations is UL lbc's monthly, 00:01:46 --> 00:01:48: early morning coffee networking event. 00:01:48 --> 00:01:51: We're all real estate professionals can drop in to meet 00:01:51 --> 00:01:52: other like minded colleagues, 00:01:52 --> 00:01:56: further contact base and share thoughts and ideas about

industry

00:01:56 --> 00:01:59: issues that we are also passionate about.

00:01:59 --> 00:02:02: We will continue to be putting out these monthly events

00:02:02 --> 00:02:05: online until imperson events are permitted.

00:02:05 --> 00:02:09: Other upcoming events. From you ally of note on February

00:02:09 --> **00:02:10**: 18th,

00:02:10 --> 00:02:14: Wlib C is launching an innovation podcast on February 19th.

00:02:14 --> 00:02:19: You Ally is presenting in speaker panel with the topic

00:02:19 --> 00:02:23: solved how the world's great cities are fixing the climate

00:02:23 --> 00:02:24: crisis.

00:02:24 --> 00:02:27: Lastly, on February 23rd you will IBC is having a

00:02:27 --> 00:02:30: virtual conversation about embodied carbon in real estate.

00:02:30 --> 00:02:33: You can learn more about these events in the link

00:02:34 --> 00:02:37: sent to the chat room right now from Shannon.

00:02:37 --> 00:02:39: Now some quick housekeeping items,

00:02:39 --> 00:02:41: please keep your microphones muted.

00:02:41 --> 00:02:43: Use of your web camera is optional,

00:02:43 --> 00:02:46: but we encourage you to turn it on.

00:02:46 --> 00:02:49: There will be a Q&A session towards the end of

00:02:49 --> 00:02:49: the talk.

00:02:49 --> 00:02:52: Please feel free to send a message to me or

00:02:53 --> 00:02:56: all over with any questions you may have about our

00:02:56 --> 00:02:57: speaker today.

00:02:57 --> 00:03:00: We will send them in the order that they are

00:03:00 --> 00:03:00: received.

00:03:00 --> 00:03:03: and unmute you so you can ask the speaker,

00:03:03 --> 00:03:06: directly. Speaking of which, I would like to introduce our

00:03:06 --> 00:03:07: speaker for today.

00:03:07 --> 00:03:11: Jim Bailey. Jim is the director of Planning and Development

00:03:11 --> 00:03:13: in the District of West Vancouver.

00:03:13 --> 00:03:16: He is currently leading one of the largest projects to

00:03:16 --> 00:03:19: date in the district named Cypress Village,

00:03:19 --> 00:03:22: which is expected to be home to over 7000 residents

00:03:22 --> 00:03:25: on 350 acres of land near Horseshoe Bay.

00:03:25 --> 00:03:28: Jim has his Masters in urban planning from UBC and

00:03:28 --> 00:03:31: has spent years in private practice as a planning consultant

00:03:31 --> 00:03:34: as well as holding multiple positions in the city of

00:03:34 --> 00:03:37: Vancouver's planning Department. Thank you very much for

joining us

00:03:37 --> 00:03:38: today,

00:03:38 --> 00:03:40: Jim.

00:03:40 --> 00:03:43: Thanks, it's a real privilege to be here and nice

00:03:43> 00:03:45:	to see everybody virtually.
00:03:45> 00:03:48:	I think it's an interesting commentary,
00:03:48> 00:03:50:	I guess on the state of the world that people
00:03:50> 00:03:53:	are up at 7:45 eight o'clock to listen to a
00:03:53> 00:03:53:	planner,
00:03:53> 00:03:56:	but good on ya. They look forward to the conversation
00:03:56> 00:03:58:	and look forward to the questions.
00:03:58> 00:04:01:	Certainly I think it's going to be great and hosting
00:04:01> 00:04:03:	our coffee and conversations event.
00:04:03> 00:04:06:	Today is my fellow teammate Chris Cuno.
00:04:06> 00:04:09:	Chris is an urban planning consultant at Colliers
00.04.00> 00.04.03.	International.
00:04:09> 00:04:12:	He is a recent graduate from McGill Masters of Urban
00:04:12> 00:04:13:	Planning Program,
00:04:13> 00:04:17:	and has worked in a variety of professional capacities.
00:04:17> 00:04:17:	For prominent VC developers. And as a final note,
00:04:21> 00:04:24:	we would like to give thanks in the knowledge that
00:04:24> 00:04:27:	West Vancouver is on the unceded territory of the Coast
00:04:27> 00:04:27:	Salish.
00:04:27> 00:04:29:	People, in particular to Squamish.
00:04:29> 00:04:32:	This layout tooth and Musqueam First Nations,
00:04:32> 00:04:34:	and with that Jim and Chris,
00:04:34> 00:04:37:	the floor is yours.
00:04:37> 00:04:40:	Alright Jim, yeah, thanks for thanks for joining us this
00:04:40> 00:04:40:	morning.
00:04:40> 00:04:43:	So a couple of quick questions to start off with.
00:04:43> 00:04:45:	I mean, I know I know you're the Co head
00:04:45> 00:04:47:	of a fishing Derby and I really want to hear
00:04:47> 00:04:48:	about that,
00:04:48> 00:04:50:	but I think I think most people aren't want to
00:04:50> 00:04:52:	hear about your planning background.
00:04:52> 00:04:54:	So if you can give a quick brief boat,
00:04:54> 00:04:56:	you know who you are,
00:04:56> 00:05:00:	where you come from. And your education and then planning
00:05:00> 00:05:00:	why?
00:05:00> 00:05:04:	Plotting how you got into it here so you know.
00:05:04> 00:05:08:	First off, I do also acknowledge that I'm I'm really
00:05:08> 00:05:12:	privileged and honored to live and work on the unceded
00:05:12> 00:05:15:	ancestral territory of the Musqueam,
00:05:15> 00:05:19:	Squamish, and Solitude nations. I work in West Vancouver,
00:05:19> 00:05:23:	but right now I'm working in my basement in out
00:05:23> 00:05:26:	near Deep Cove in North van.

00:05:26> 00:05:29:	And obviously, you know we're just everybody is going through
00:05:29> 00:05:31:	some really interesting times right now,
00:05:31> 00:05:32:	so it's it's a. It's a.
00:05:32> 00:05:35:	It's an interesting moment in history and and I think
00:05:35> 00:05:35:	you know this.
00:05:35> 00:05:38:	I'm really looking forward to the questions and hope we
00:05:38> 00:05:39:	can maybe talk about this.
00:05:39> 00:05:42:	Reflect on how where we're at historically and in this
00:05:42> 00:05:46:	moment is changing sort of the profession and where we're
00:05:46> 00:05:46:	at.
00:05:46> 00:05:48:	Yeah, so I mean I'm a I'm a Vancouver kid.
00:05:48> 00:05:50:	For all intents and purposes,
00:05:50> 00:05:52:	but Lower Mainland kid I grew up in Langley,
00:05:52> 00:05:54:	you know, moved to Vancouver.
00:05:54> 00:05:58:	When did my undergraduate Simon Fraser University went to
	the
00:05:58> 00:06:02:	School of Community and Regional planning to do my Masters
00:06:02> 00:06:02:	degree?
00:06:02> 00:06:05:	Really, you know planning at the time.
00:06:05> 00:06:07:	It was sort of the early 90s and I was
00:06:07> 00:06:11:	really interested in sort of concepts of environmentalism,
00:06:11> 00:06:13:	you know, but pragmatic, pragmatic,
00:06:13> 00:06:15:	change and and thought that planning,
00:06:15> 00:06:19:	you know, unlike the professions of law or things that
00:06:19> 00:06:19:	were,
00:06:19> 00:06:21:	maybe you know, more combat.
00:06:21> 00:06:23:	If I saw planning as a way to sort of
00:06:23> 00:06:25:	be able to work with people,
00:06:25> 00:06:28:	to, you know, energize positive change in communities.
00:06:28> 00:06:31:	None. I had no idea that I'd end up being
00:06:31> 00:06:32:	a land use planner.
00:06:32> 00:06:35:	l didn't take one urban design course at.
00:06:35> 00:06:37:	At the School of Community and Regional Planning,
00:06:37> 00:06:40:	I was more sort of a disciple of kind of
00:06:40> 00:06:40:	build,
00:06:40> 00:06:44:	recent Tony Dorsey that were there were more sort of
00:06:44> 00:06:48:	resource management negotiators and sort of negotiation as
	a.
00:06:48> 00:06:51:	As it as a real tactics so ended up working
00:06:51> 00:06:54:	for the city was a little bit surprised me.
00:06:54> 00:06:58:	I lead the Director of Planning Development Services at the

00:06:58> 00:07:00:	District of West Venice.
00:07:00> 00:07:04:	It's an amazing job. I'm have some wonderful colleagues
00:07:04> 00:07:08:	work with a lot of really great people there for a
00:07:08> 00:07:09:	smaller municipality,
00:07:09> 00:07:11:	and it's a really broad job.
00:07:11> 00:07:13:	It's there's a lot that I do.
00:07:13> 00:07:17:	I manage the direct that Community planning group,
00:07:17> 00:07:20:	the sustainability. The section of a lot of that in
00:07:20> 00:07:21:	West Vancouver.
00:07:21> 00:07:24:	I managed the environmental portfolio in a large way.
00:07:24> 00:07:27:	Some of it is in our Parks Department.
00:07:27> 00:07:29:	Beyond I manage your like the creeks,
00:07:29> 00:07:31:	the streams that the steep slopes.
00:07:31> 00:07:35:	I have the arborist and the Environmental Protection Officer under
00:07:36> 00:07:38:	my under My Portfolio in West Bend.
00:07:38> 00:07:41:	We also have a really unique system and it's you
00:07:41> 00:07:44:	know it's very different from the city Vancouver.
00:07:44> 00:07:48:	I also managed the land development engineering side as well
00:07:48> 00:07:49:	as permits and inspections.
00:07:49> 00:07:51:	So really, from a scale perspective,
00:07:51> 00:07:54:	I manage everything from like doing the Community plans to
00:07:54> 00:07:54:	them,
00:07:54> 00:07:57:	doing the rezoning to then implementing it all the way
00:07:57> 00:07:58:	through.
00:07:58> 00:08:01:	So it's really cool and interesting privilege to work with
00:08:01> 00:08:04:	the folks at West Santa to do that.
00:08:04> 00:08:05:	Linda, that's about it. I mean,
00:08:05> 00:08:08:	I am. There are a number of exciting projects that
00:08:08> 00:08:09:	are happening and increase.
00:08:09> 00:08:11:	Maybe we could. I assume you're going to ask about
00:08:11> 00:08:12:	those,
00:08:12> 00:08:14:	but that's kind of mean in nutshell.
00:08:14> 00:08:16:	Strapped in my basement, kids upstairs,
00:08:16> 00:08:19:	brushing their teeth, moms gonna get him out the door.
00:08:19> 00:08:20:	Hope they're quiet on the way down.
00:08:20> 00:08:22:	Living in a covid reality and just you know,
00:08:22> 00:08:25:	hoping for the best over the next few months we
00:08:25> 00:08:27:	can get back to some normalcy.
00:08:27> 00:08:30:	Before we get into, some are more larger scale projects
00:08:30> 00:08:32:	which if I want to touch upon,

00.00.22 > 00.00.24.	very know we gripp we gripp moultiple different beta
00:08:32> 00:08:34: 00:08:34> 00:08:37:	you know, wearing wearing multiple different hats, both because of covid and an at your role in
00:08:37> 00:08:38:	West Vancouver key touch Bond.
00:08:38> 00:08:41:	You know how you balancing that and how that's kind
00:08:41> 00:08:43:	of evolved and how you know how you can switch
00:08:44> 00:08:46:	off one lens and think about so many different things
00:08:46> 00:08:49:	at once, like you kind of touched on that at
00:08:49> 00:08:49:	all.
00:08:51> 00:08:53:	
00:08:53> 00:08:56:	So I think you're right.
	Yeah, I mean, how do you balance multiple priorities?
00:08:56> 00:08:59:	I think it's this whole role of technology is pretty
00:08:59> 00:09:01:	fascinating right now.
00:09:01> 00:09:03:	I think at first when Covid struck,
00:09:03> 00:09:06:	you know there frankly was a bit of panic.
00:09:06> 00:09:09:	We in municipality. We really went through a whole bunch
00:09:09> 00:09:11:	of iterations around,
00:09:11> 00:09:12:	you know. Oh my goodness,
00:09:12> 00:09:15:	we're going to. Our revenues are going to plummet.
00:09:15> 00:09:17:	Planning is going to stop.
00:09:17> 00:09:20:	And to be honest, a lot of the 1st.
00:09:20> 00:09:23:	Few weeks of Cove. It was just sort of managing
00:09:23> 00:09:25:	people and people's expectations.
00:09:25> 00:09:28:	Trying to you know, the Chief Medical Health Officer says
00:09:28> 00:09:29:	like just being.
00:09:29> 00:09:33:	COM was one of the really big big pieces.
00:09:33> 00:09:36:	But you know, technology is that just this call is
00:09:36> 00:09:37:	fascinating.
00:09:37> 00:09:39:	Hey, like, I don't have to do commute,
00:09:39> 00:09:41:	right? So we're you know,
00:09:41> 00:09:44:	working out of our homes on being able to spend.
00:09:44> 00:09:47:	I think time now that we've adjusted to the technology,
00:09:47> 00:09:49:	I think that.
00:09:49> 00:09:52:	It's it's been. Been really fruitful,
00:09:52> 00:09:54:	and actually, you know, all the work still gets done,
00:09:54> 00:09:57:	which I think is fantastic and the district of West
00:09:57> 00:09:57:	Vancouver.
00:09:57> 00:10:00:	Our building permit revenues and our revenues were essentially the
00:10:00> 00:10:02:	same in 2020 as they were in 2019,
00:10:02> 00:10:05:	and I think that that's just been real testament to
00:10:05> 00:10:07:	the ability for people to be able to pivot to
00:10:07> 00:10:09:	new realities and to be able to to be nimble

00:10:09> 00:10:10:	and change. And you know,
00:10:10> 00:10:11:	a lot of that, for example,
00:10:11> 00:10:14:	is being able to.
00:10:14> 00:10:16:	We've gone much more digital in our submissions.
00:10:16> 00:10:20:	We don't take anymore paper submissions for development
	permits.
00:10:20> 00:10:22:	Building permits all those sorts of things,
00:10:22> 00:10:25:	and I think that that's really helped and people in
00:10:25> 00:10:28:	their jobs have found new ways to deal with deal
00:10:28> 00:10:31:	with applications to deal with communications,
00:10:31> 00:10:32:	and that's been, I think,
00:10:32> 00:10:35:	a very positive thing coming out of out of the
00:10:35> 00:10:35:	pandemic.
00:10:35> 00:10:38:	And I think it's going to continues as we move
00:10:38> 00:10:39:	forward.
00:10:39> 00:10:42:	So, for example, when we move back to the municipal
00:10:42> 00:10:44:	Hall like we're looking at allowing.
00:10:44> 00:10:47:	Folks to do you know?
00:10:47> 00:10:50:	Be much more flexible in their in their work schedules
00:10:50> 00:10:51:	to you know to work from home,
00:10:51> 00:10:53:	and it's great for municipalities like ours.
00:10:53> 00:10:55:	We have one of our plumbing inspectors,
00:10:55> 00:10:57:	for example, is in abbottsford,
00:10:57> 00:10:59:	so you can imagine that commute everyday is.
00:10:59> 00:11:01:	That's crazy like in that person eventually is going to
00:11:01> 00:11:02:	quit,
00:11:02> 00:11:03:	but we're hopefully not. I mean,
00:11:03> 00:11:05:	but I mean, the sooner or later you know it's
00:11:05> 00:11:06:	just too far.
00:11:06> 00:11:07:	But now you know if we say,
00:11:07> 00:11:09:	hey, look, why don't you just come in two days,
00:11:09> 00:11:12:	do some work and kind of balance balance your life
00:11:12> 00:11:12:	with your work,
00:11:12> 00:11:15:	and I think that that's a real opportunity for people
00:11:15> 00:11:17:	to be able to do things differently,
00:11:17> 00:11:19:	and two. To to kind of succeed in jobs where
00:11:19> 00:11:23:	they intend to maybe provide some longevity in places where
00:11:23> 00:11:27:	where places like West Vancouver that we didn't see before.
00:11:27> 00:11:29:	Yeah, I think they were just trying to balance peoples
00:11:29> 00:11:32:	needs people's mental health with with everything that's
	happening.
00:11:34> 00:11:37:	But my commute sounds like one of the worst that
00:11:37> 00:11:39:	could pass the exam.

00:11:39> 00:11:39:	Get that one.
00:11:42> 00:11:44:	So I guess the touch up on some of your
00:11:44> 00:11:45:	larger projects.
00:11:45> 00:11:48:	So in particular Cypress Village upper lines,
00:11:48> 00:11:51:	which is coming up quite soon and Horseshoe Bay.
00:11:51> 00:11:54:	What are some major steps in hurdles that need to
00:11:54> 00:11:57:	be overcome to kind of get to the point where
00:11:57> 00:11:58:	they are today,
00:11:58> 00:12:02:	
00:12:02> 00:12:06:	obviously. The general I think a common perception of West
00:12:02> 00:12:08: 00:12:06> 00:12:07:	Vancouver is that there is some perhaps some difficult public
	sentiment at times,
00:12:07> 00:12:11:	and there's a lot of environmental constraints with the water,
00:12:11> 00:12:13:	and then the mountain and the you know,
00:12:13> 00:12:17:	natural forested areas. Yeah, so just if you touched on
00:12:17> 00:12:20:	some steps in hurdles that got you to where it
00:12:20> 00:12:21:	is now.
00:12:21> 00:12:23:	Let me I think in West Valley there are a
00:12:23> 00:12:26:	lot of projects so Cypress and we'll touch on that
00:12:26> 00:12:29:	a little bit more and then Horseshoe Bay.
00:12:29> 00:12:31:	Those are two what you were calling to our local
00:12:31> 00:12:35:	area plans community plans within West Vancouver and you know
00:12:35> 00:12:38:	West Vancouver hasn't really had a tradition of doing those
00:12:38> 00:12:40:	sort of local area plans.
00:12:40> 00:12:42:	So in 2018 my colleague David Hawkins.
00:12:42> 00:12:46:	He would, you know, managed and managed to.
00:12:46> 00:12:50:	Get approved I think very very progressive official community plan.
00:12:50> 00:12:53:	And how he did that is in this kind of
00:12:53> 00:12:55:	goes to the kind of getting over the hurdles of
00:12:55> 00:12:57:	some of the challenges you face.
00:12:57> 00:12:59:	Like he spent a tremendous amount of time,
00:12:59> 00:13:01:	you know, talking to people,
00:13:01> 00:13:03:	listening to people about what matter,
00:13:03> 00:13:06:	and then sort of really made sure that he reflected
00:13:06> 00:13:08:	their values in the official community plan.
00:13:08> 00:13:11:	So we have this plan now that I think is
00:13:11> 00:13:12:	progressive and does reflect.
00:13:12> 00:13:15:	I think it kind of a real acknowledgement from,
00:13:15> 00:13:18:	you know, a large number of folks in West Vancouver
00:13:18> 00:13:20:	that that things need to change,
00:13:20> 00:13:22:	and that and so, so we're seeing that as I
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00:13:22 --> 00:13:22: got. 00:13:22 --> 00:13:25: Positive first step so you know in terms of getting 00:13:25 --> 00:13:27: over some of the challenges of. 00:13:27 --> 00:13:29: You know Nimbyism or populism or door door. 00:13:29 --> 00:13:31: Just those sorts of issues that we see you know, 00:13:31 --> 00:13:34: really reaching out and connecting with people on on the 00:13:34 --> 00:13:37: core values that they want to see in their community. 00:13:37 --> 00:13:38: It really is gone a long way. 00:13:40 --> 00:13:42: A lot of it is just really character up. 00:13:42 --> 00:13:45: You know we're taking advantage of her or getting in 00:13:45 --> 00:13:47: front of the problems. 00:13:47 --> 00:13:49: Also, you mentioned, for example, 00:13:49 --> 00:13:51: you know the environment is as a key key constraint. 00:13:51 --> 00:13:54: For example in West Vancouver ensure it is, 00:13:54 --> 00:13:57: but that can also be turned into an opportunity where 00:13:57 --> 00:14:00: you know that you have the environment as a constraint 00:14:00 --> 00:14:01: and then so, 00:14:01 --> 00:14:03: for example, British Pacific properties. 00:14:03 --> 00:14:06: There they are the company that you know the predominant 00:14:07 --> 00:14:09: landover's land owners in Cypress Village there. 00:14:09 --> 00:14:12: You know they've changed. In my opinion, 00:14:12 --> 00:14:15: their business model to really look at the environment as 00:14:15 --> 00:14:17: an asset and and so as part of Cypress Village. 00:14:17 --> 00:14:19: We're looking at, you know, 00:14:19 --> 00:14:22: building in a way that that. 00:14:22 --> 00:14:26: Celebrates if you will. The natural environment celebrates. 00:14:26 --> 00:14:29: The Creeks were looking at doing a significant land transfer 00:14:29 --> 00:14:31: where we're going to be protecting, 00:14:31 --> 00:14:33: you know, a piece of land in in, 00:14:33 --> 00:14:36: in public, in the public domain as big as Stanley 00:14:36 --> 00:14:36: Park. 00:14:36 --> 00:14:39: And then there's there. They have a have a sustainable 00:14:39 --> 00:14:41: urban village near near the switch. 00:14:41 --> 00:14:44: Back when you're heading out to Cyprus. 00:14:44 --> 00:14:46: So there's two things there that kind of work. 00:14:46 --> 00:14:49: So sure, the environment is a constraint, 00:14:49 --> 00:14:51: but that can also be be kind of you know. 00:14:51 --> 00:14:53: Jujitsu it into being a being, 00:14:53 --> 00:14:56: a positive. So we're seeing that there's always those sorts 00:14:56 --> 00:14:58: of opportunities in West Vancouver. 00:14:58 --> 00:15:01: You know, Cypress Village is certainly a project that you 00:15:01 --> 00:15:02: know is near and dear to my heart.

00:15:02> 00:15:04:	I think it's very exciting it
00:15:02> 00:15:04:	I think it's very exciting it. When I was, uh, I was a plan or an
00:15:04> 00:15:09:	assistant planner in West Vancouver before I went to
00.13.00> 00.13.09.	Vancouver
00:15:09> 00:15:12:	is actually a planner at junior planner in West Vancouver.
00:15:12> 00:15:15:	Annual participated in some of the early work around Rogers
00:15:15> 00:15:17:	Creek and saw the transformation of sort of that single
00:15:18> 00:15:20:	family housing to more multifamily housing.
00:15:20> 00:15:22:	And now it's kind of going to the next level
00:15:23> 00:15:26:	where it's we're completing that with a whole host of
00:15:26> 00:15:27:	amenities.
00:15:27> 00:15:29:	You know things like community centers,
00:15:29> 00:15:31:	potentially school, and just the sorts of things that maybe
00:15:32> 00:15:34:	hotel things that really want to make that area exciting.
00:15:34> 00:15:37:	So I think we're seeing transformation that actually comes
	from
00:15:38> 00:15:38:	the constraints,
00:15:38> 00:15:40:	so it's kind of not to be corny,
00:15:40> 00:15:42:	but it's, you know if you have lemons,
00:15:42> 00:15:44:	you make lemonade right? You have you have creeps,
00:15:44> 00:15:47:	you have forests. It's like that's really exciting.
00:15:47> 00:15:48:	Let's protect some of that.
00:15:48> 00:15:52:	And then let's also do some other things that are
00:15:52> 00:15:54:	that are that are good urban planning.
00:15:54> 00:15:57:	It's it's interesting. It's like for you to have that
00:15:57> 00:15:59:	evolution from you know very early on your career in
00:15:59> 00:16:01:	this area to come back to it at a later
00:16:01> 00:16:04:	stage and then an attachment again in a different iteration.
00:16:04> 00:16:08:	That's that's really interesting. So I guess kind of touch
00:16:08> 00:16:11:	upon that you know you've worked in a number of
00:16:11> 00:16:12:	municipalities.
00:16:12> 00:16:16:	What are some key lessons and takeaways you've had in
00:16:16> 00:16:19:	your progression so we know some of the audience are
00:16:19> 00:16:20:	in school?
00:16:20> 00:16:23:	Still somewhere in earlier stages of their careers,
00:16:23> 00:16:27:	not necessarily just in planning but no planning and planning
00:16:27> 00:16:29:	adjacent fields such as development.
00:16:29> 00:16:33:	What are some key lessons and takeaways you've had in
00:16:33> 00:16:35:	your career so far?
00:16:35> 00:16:36:	But the big loaded question,
00:16:36> 00:16:39:	but no, it's a great question and you know for
00:16:40> 00:16:41:	folks who are kind of new,
00:16:41> 00:16:44:	I guess my advice would be to take advice to

00:16:44 --> 00:16:45: listen to people. 00:16:45 --> 00:16:48: And no matter where those folks are from like you 00:16:49 --> 00:16:49: 00:16:49 --> 00:16:51: I was actually on a panel last week. 00:16:51 --> 00:16:55: The School of Community and Regional Planning asked a 00:16:55 --> 00:16:58: planning directors to sort of give some. 00:16:58 --> 00:17:01: I'm advice on like what the school should be doing. 00:17:01 --> 00:17:03: I mean, one of the things that I said was, 00:17:03 --> 00:17:06: like, you know, well these students come out and they're 00:17:06 --> 00:17:07: really smart. 00:17:07 --> 00:17:09: Hey, like, I'm always so impressed that you have these 00:17:09 --> 00:17:13: students come in their technical skills are unbelievable there. 00:17:13 --> 00:17:15: There really well read, you know, 00:17:15 --> 00:17:17: they read the most recent books on theory and even 00:17:17 --> 00:17:20: to get into these schools like you know the various 00:17:20 --> 00:17:20: weather. 00:17:20 --> 00:17:23: Whether it's you know UBC or SFU or or Dell 00:17:23 --> 00:17:24: or wherever going Miguel, 00:17:24 --> 00:17:25: right? 00:17:25 --> 00:17:28: And then it you know these students come out and 00:17:28 --> 00:17:30: there's and they're kind of mad because they hate the 00:17:30 --> 00:17:31: state of the world. 00:17:31 --> 00:17:33: Like there's a bit of self righteousness, 00:17:33 --> 00:17:35: a little bit. So it's like it's kind of like 00:17:36 --> 00:17:38: let's temper some of the self righteousness and then and 00:17:38 --> 00:17:41: then the ability just to take advice is really important 00:17:41 --> 00:17:43: to listen to a variety of different people you want 00:17:44 --> 00:17:45: in the key advice like I think you know, 00:17:45 --> 00:17:48: for me it's just that you know if you're working 00:17:48 --> 00:17:49: in a municipality, 00:17:49 --> 00:17:51: it's just to be able to communicate with people and 00:17:51 --> 00:17:54: to be able to understand and listen and understand that 00:17:54 --> 00:17:55: knows a planner and I. 00:17:55 --> 00:17:57: I don't want to kind of you, 00:17:57 --> 00:17:59: just not that important. Like you're important, 00:17:59 --> 00:18:01: you have an important role, 00:18:01 --> 00:18:04: but it's about the people and connecting with people. 00:18:04 --> 00:18:07: An understanding how people work and working with folks to 00:18:07 --> 00:18:08: kind of achieve an outcome in, 00:18:08 --> 00:18:10: you know, deep planarizing your language, 00:18:10 --> 00:18:13: you know.

00:18:13> 00:18:16:	You know, understanding how what motivates people and then how
00:18:16> 00:18:18:	
	you can kind of get from A to BI think
00:18:18> 00:18:19:	that's really important.
00:18:19> 00:18:22:	I seen you know throughout the region right now I'm
00:18:22> 00:18:24:	seeing like just were project start to flounder.
00:18:24> 00:18:27:	It's sometimes you folks don't really know how to get
00:18:27> 00:18:28:	from point A to point B,
00:18:28> 00:18:30:	and that's just really critical.
00:18:30> 00:18:33:	Like what are your tactics and how do you kind
00:18:33> 00:18:35:	of simplify something just to get from A to B
00:18:35> 00:18:37:	and make that happen and make it work?
00:18:37> 00:18:39:	And and who are the people that you need to
00:18:39> 00:18:41:	talk to and who your allies who are?
00:18:41> 00:18:43:	Who are your who are you?
00:18:43> 00:18:44:	The folks that you listen to.
00:18:44> 00:18:46:	So I mean, I even notice on this call right?
00:18:46> 00:18:48:	Like I mean, there's a lot of folks here who
00:18:48> 00:18:49:	are who,
00:18:49> 00:18:51:	hopefully are listening and taking some of this advice.
00:18:51> 00:18:53:	But I've had a lot of advice and I see
00:18:53> 00:18:54:	Michael Geller's there.
00:18:54> 00:18:56:	He's in development industry back.
00:18:56> 00:18:58:	I listen to Mr. Geller like he's really,
00:18:58> 00:19:00:	really good at listening to folks in getting projects.
00:19:00> 00:19:02:	Or I think Dan Milburn was on there.
00:19:02> 00:19:03:	He's a colleague of mine,
00:19:03> 00:19:05:	and in North End Mr crawls on on the call
00:19:05> 00:19:06:	I see as well.
00:19:06> 00:19:09:	It's just like. So there's these folks out here that
00:19:09> 00:19:11:	I would encourage young people or any people at any
00:19:11> 00:19:14:	stage in your career to listen to understand their
	perspectives.
00:19:14> 00:19:17:	You know, figure out how you like within your own
00:19:17> 00:19:18:	personality.
00:19:18> 00:19:20:	Like how are you going to get things done,
00:19:20> 00:19:24:	but listening to other people and understanding other perspectives to
00:19:24> 00:19:25:	kind of swim upstream if you will,
00:19:25> 00:19:28:	is really the that I think are really key piece
00:19:28> 00:19:29:	of being successful.
00:19:32> 00:19:35:	Can you kind of touch upon why you chose?
00:19:35> 00:19:38:	You know briefly why you chose the public sector is

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00:19:41 --> 00:19:42:
                          I mean even for myself,
00:19:42 --> 00:19:46:
                          you know almost two years out of grad school now.
00:19:46 --> 00:19:48:
                          It's always been kind of a battle or a choice
00:19:48 --> 00:19:49:
                          between the two.
00:19:49 --> 00:19:52:
                          So how did you kind of find yourself in working
00:19:52 --> 00:19:54:
                          for municipalities?
00:19:56 --> 00:19:59:
                          Well, I guess there's two questions there.
00:19:59 --> 00:20:01:
                          I mean, I think public sector for me is always
00:20:01 --> 00:20:02:
                          been.
00:20:02 --> 00:20:03:
                          I've always just had more.
00:20:03 --> 00:20:05:
                          I think of an interest in sort of the public
00:20:05 --> 00:20:07:
                          interest if you will and in terms of,
00:20:07 --> 00:20:10:
                          you know, advancing the public interest.
00:20:10 --> 00:20:12:
                          Like you know, strong sort of.
00:20:12 --> 00:20:15:
                          Ethical inclination I guess towards you know,
00:20:15 --> 00:20:18:
                          sustainability towards you. Know, social justice,
00:20:18 --> 00:20:21:
                          social equity, that kind of thing and then kind of
00:20:21 --> 00:20:24:
                          how that would be manifest would be sort of more
00:20:24 --> 00:20:26:
                          typically through through public sector.
00:20:26 --> 00:20:29:
                          Now I think what we're seeing more recently is a
00:20:29 --> 00:20:33:
                          real transformation and kind of bringing together of the public
00:20:33 --> 00:20:34:
                          and private sector.
00:20:34 --> 00:20:37:
                          You know, I think the private sector can really deliver
00:20:37 --> 00:20:39:
                          a lot of those things around.
00:20:39 --> 00:20:42:
                          Environmental Protection, social justice, social equity,
00:20:42 --> 00:20:45:
                          and I think that. That the private sector can oftentimes
00:20:45 --> 00:20:48:
                          do that more efficiently than the public sector.
00:20:48 --> 00:20:50:
                          I think those two things need to work together.
00:20:50 --> 00:20:53:
                          I also just think that you know I'm in the
00:20:53 --> 00:20:54:
                          public sector now.
00:20:54 --> 00:20:55:
                          I mean, I'm only 45.
00:20:55 --> 00:20:56:
                          You know. Hopefully I got at least,
00:20:56 --> 00:20:58:
                          you know, 10 more years.
00:20:58 --> 00:20:59:
                          And maybe I don't know.
00:20:59 --> 00:21:00:
                          Maybe 15 like I, I could see,
00:21:00 --> 00:21:02:
                          why not go work in the private sector?
00:21:02 --> 00:21:05:
                          I think that would be really interesting.
00:21:05 --> 00:21:07:
                          At some point. I love my job and I don't
00:21:07 --> 00:21:08:
                          really want to go anywhere,
00:21:08 --> 00:21:09:
                          but I just, you know,
00:21:09 --> 00:21:12:
                          I don't think that. I think you can make that
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a planner versus the private sector is always,

00:19:38 --> 00:19:41:

00:21:12> 00:21:14: 00:21:14> 00:21:18:	difference in either the private or public sector. Whether you're working for development company and you
	see these
00:21:18> 00:21:20:	development companies now with with,
00:21:20> 00:21:22:	you know good business is doing the right thing.
00:21:22> 00:21:25:	It is doing. You know that and you know it
00:21:25> 00:21:26:	is protecting the watersheds.
00:21:26> 00:21:28:	It is providing social housing.
00:21:28> 00:21:31:	It is, you know, those things matter because it's about
00:21:31> 00:21:33:	those complete communities.
00:21:33> 00:21:35:	So I think that that the lines between private and
00:21:35> 00:21:37:	public are becoming blurrier,
00:21:37> 00:21:38:	and I think that again,
00:21:38> 00:21:41:	it kind of goes to that piece where you're where
00:21:41> 00:21:43:	folks when you're working together.
00:21:43> 00:21:46:	It's listening to those other perspectives like.
00:21:46> 00:21:48:	The public sector could learn a lot from the private
00:21:48> 00:21:49:	sector and vice versa.
00:21:49> 00:21:52:	You know, the private sector could learn a lot from
00:21:52> 00:21:53:	the public sector in both.
00:21:53> 00:21:55:	Both areas can do things really well.
00:21:55> 00:21:58:	Some of the most effective public sector people are people
00:21:58> 00:21:59:	who have private sector experience.
00:21:59> 00:22:01:	It's really cool to kind of see people come in
00:22:01> 00:22:04:	and be able to navigate problems with a with a
00:22:04> 00:22:05:	little bit of a different mindset.
00:22:08> 00:22:09:	Thanks for that. That's yeah,
00:22:09> 00:22:11:	that's been something you know.
00:22:11> 00:22:12:	Obviously going in my head as a planner and I
00:22:13> 00:22:15:	know having only worked in the private sector like what
00:22:15> 00:22:16:	does this look like?
00:22:16> 00:22:18:	In which avenues could it go?
00:22:18> 00:22:21:	Because if we could kind of backtrack to.
00:22:21> 00:22:24:	I mean this is before everyone else jumped online,
00:22:24> 00:22:28:	but we could talk about workforce housing in West Vancouver.
00:22:28> 00:22:32:	And obviously you know housing prices in West Vancouver being
00:22:32> 00:22:32:	a key.
00:22:32> 00:22:36:	You know massively critical challenge to retaining people.
00:22:36> 00:22:40:	And once Vancouver, both from a workforce perspective and just
00:22:40> 00:22:43:	from a living aging in place kind of perspective.

00:22:43 --> 00:22:47: What kind of initiatives are being undertaken in West van 00:22:47 --> 00:22:50: to kind of solve this or or tackle this issue? 00:22:50 --> 00:22:52: Yeah, that's a great question. 00:22:52 --> 00:22:53: I think you know we. 00:22:53 --> 00:22:56: We have an official community plan that really gives us 00:22:56 --> 00:22:58: a really strong foundation. 00:22:58 --> 00:23:00: I think for providing policy around, 00:23:00 --> 00:23:03: you know requiring more affordable housing as part of you 00:23:03 --> 00:23:04: know, 00:23:04 --> 00:23:06: redevelopment so you know one of the things that I 00:23:06 --> 00:23:09: started there in 2015 and one of the things that 00:23:09 --> 00:23:11: I really wanted to make a goal. 00:23:11 --> 00:23:14: And I think you know well in Council certainly has 00:23:14 --> 00:23:17: two is to provide that more affordable housing. 00:23:17 --> 00:23:20: So you've seen in West Vancouver when we're dealing with 00:23:20 --> 00:23:22: these larger projects where? 00:23:22 --> 00:23:25: Where we're requiring rental, we're seeing that happen. 00:23:25 --> 00:23:28: Whether it's you know it's the Largos project at Marine 00:23:28 --> 00:23:29: and Taylor. 00:23:29 --> 00:23:31: Whether it's no British specific properties, 00:23:31 --> 00:23:35: they did a recent rezoning of Rogers Creek and that 00:23:35 --> 00:23:36: included. 00:23:36 --> 00:23:38: You know tremendous amount of rental housing and so you 00:23:38 --> 00:23:39: have, 00:23:39 --> 00:23:41: you know. 00:23:41 --> 00:23:44: There's a number of projects that are looking to provide 00:23:44 --> 00:23:45: a diversity of housing. 00:23:45 --> 00:23:47: Some of those projects are also provided below. 00:23:47 --> 00:23:49: Market housing is well supported housing, 00:23:49 --> 00:23:52: which is, you know, a new for new thing. 00:23:52 --> 00:23:54: For West Ham we have the districts putting our own 00:23:54 --> 00:23:55: land into the game. 00:23:55 --> 00:23:58: You know, we're kind of we're walking the talk if 00:23:58 --> 00:23:58: you will. 00:23:58 --> 00:24:01: So so you know, folks would have seen in RFP 00:24:01 --> 00:24:03: come out last week for the redevelopment of 2195. 00:24:03 --> 00:24:06: Gordon, which is a district own site where we rezoned 00:24:06 --> 00:24:08: it so we know the district I think is gone 00:24:09 --> 00:24:10: to the trouble to rezone it. 00:24:10 --> 00:24:12: So development company can come in. 00:24:12 --> 00:24:15: And and create something on that site consistent with the 00:24:15 --> 00:24:17: zoning in the development permit.

00:24:17 --> 00:24:20: But looking at you know below market housing on that 00:24:20 --> 00:24:20: site, 00:24:20 --> 00:24:23: some rental housing and below market in West Van you 00:24:23 --> 00:24:23: know 70% 00:24:23 --> 00:24:25: of market still requires a pretty. 00:24:25 --> 00:24:28: It's it's not. You know what people would typically think 00:24:28 --> 00:24:29: of as as social housing. 00:24:29 --> 00:24:31: It's you know 70% of market is folks like us 00:24:31 --> 00:24:33: to tell you the truth right? 00:24:33 --> 00:24:35: Like it's it's, you know it's it's you know mid 00:24:35 --> 00:24:37: level professionals who are. 00:24:37 --> 00:24:40: I don't know that everybody is a mid level professional. 00:24:40 --> 00:24:42: It's like it's that kind of folks who are going 00:24:42 --> 00:24:43: to be living there, 00:24:43 --> 00:24:46: your teachers, your. Your planner is outside with the thing, 00:24:46 --> 00:24:48: so I think that that's a real change. 00:24:48 --> 00:24:50: Now I think when you're knocking on the door in 00:24:50 --> 00:24:51: West van. 00:24:51 --> 00:24:53: is it as a developer and you're coming in? 00:24:53 --> 00:24:54: You should be thinking like, 00:24:54 --> 00:24:57: OK, you know what? How is my project going to 00:24:57 --> 00:24:58: contribute to? 00:24:58 --> 00:25:01: Two affordable rental housing and we're seeing that, 00:25:01 --> 00:25:03: and it's a really good news story. 00:25:03 --> 00:25:05: We're kind of seeing that a transformation. 00:25:05 --> 00:25:07: I think in the in the district. 00:25:07 --> 00:25:09: So exciting. 00:25:09 --> 00:25:12: It is, yeah, just I think even as as a 00:25:12 --> 00:25:15: young person growing up here. 00:25:15 --> 00:25:18: You know, in terms of neighborhoods to think about. 00:25:18 --> 00:25:19: When I would like you know, 00:25:19 --> 00:25:21: as I get older and want to age. 00:25:21 --> 00:25:24: Etc. I've never really thought of West Vancouver is a 00:25:24 --> 00:25:27: place that would even ever be kind of attainable, 00:25:27 --> 00:25:29: frankly, honest. But you know, 00:25:29 --> 00:25:31: with different initiatives and an workforce, 00:25:31 --> 00:25:35: housing and such, it makes it seem like another municipality 00:25:35 --> 00:25:37: that could be in contention as a as a as 00:25:37 --> 00:25:38: a place to live. 00:25:38 --> 00:25:41: Obviously having a lot of amenities in being and actually 00:25:41 --> 00:25:44: quite a nice setting helps that so you know, 00:25:44 --> 00:25:46: kind of bringing those together.

00:25:46 --> 00:25:49: Might change the demographics of the region moving forward 00:25:49 --> 00:25:51: the district moving forward. 00:25:51 --> 00:25:54: There are aesthetic is amazing like it's a beautiful place 00:25:54 --> 00:25:55: I think. 00:25:55 --> 00:25:57: Obviously we need to provide more housing. 00:25:57 --> 00:25:59: I think we do also need to really focus on 00:25:59 --> 00:26:02: sort of revitalization of our of our commercial centers. 00:26:02 --> 00:26:04: I think that's a really key piece. 00:26:04 --> 00:26:05: I think no. So Ambleside. 00:26:05 --> 00:26:08: There's a sample size. An amazing place I could we 00:26:08 --> 00:26:09: could we improve it? 00:26:09 --> 00:26:12: I think so. I think there are some things we 00:26:12 --> 00:26:13: could certainly do there. 00:26:13 --> 00:26:16: I'm really excited about the future of the upper lands 00:26:16 --> 00:26:17: with Cypress Village, 00:26:17 --> 00:26:20: I think that could be a pretty amazing place that 00:26:20 --> 00:26:22: I think it has the potential to be. 00:26:22 --> 00:26:23: To be really exciting and you know, 00:26:23 --> 00:26:25: we've on that project too. 00:26:25 --> 00:26:26: I mean, it's you know, 00:26:26 --> 00:26:28: traffic. All this comes up as an issue, 00:26:28 --> 00:26:30: but you know, BPP is worked really hard and we 00:26:30 --> 00:26:33: worked hard with transit Translink to create an independent transit 00:26:34 --> 00:26:34: service, 00:26:34 --> 00:26:36: so we're trying to get we're getting the bones in 00:26:36 --> 00:26:39: place for where I think some exciting places where people 00:26:39 --> 00:26:40: can work and play. 00:26:40 --> 00:26:42: It's a good news story. 00:26:42 --> 00:26:45: Are there any other kind of new projects in the 00:26:46 --> 00:26:49: upcoming that you kind of want to shout out to 00:26:49 --> 00:26:50: kind of talk him up a bit? 00:26:50 --> 00:26:53: Funny mods oh check out like I mean Horseshoe Bay. 00:26:53 --> 00:26:57: That plan. We've just released a draft plan for Horseshoe 00:26:57 --> 00:26:59: Bay and I think that that's really exciting. 00:26:59 --> 00:27:01: I mean where she pays for a lot of folks. 00:27:01 --> 00:27:04: It's just a place you visit when you're when you're 00:27:04 --> 00:27:06: going to Vancouver Island, 00:27:06 --> 00:27:08: but I think you know the it's a beautiful place 00:27:08 --> 00:27:09: again. 00:27:09 --> 00:27:12: The aesthetic is incredible. West Bank is nearing completion of

00:27:14 --> 00:27:17: and that is fairly transformative for that area. 00:27:17 --> 00:27:19: But you know, we are introducing a plan out there 00:27:19 --> 00:27:21: that is going to introduce. 00:27:21 --> 00:27:24: A variety of different housing forms at price points that 00:27:24 --> 00:27:25: I think are probably I. 00:27:25 --> 00:27:27: I'm really excited about where she may like. 00:27:27 --> 00:27:29: It's it's. It's a great place where I think you 00:27:29 --> 00:27:32: could find some really interesting housing out there, 00:27:32 --> 00:27:35: and we're looking at you know that the missing middle 00:27:35 --> 00:27:36: out there. 00:27:36 --> 00:27:37: The duplex is the coach house. 00:27:37 --> 00:27:39: Is that the town houses as part of that and 00:27:39 --> 00:27:41: then that plan to check that? 00:27:41 --> 00:27:43: Check that out and one of the things that we're 00:27:43 --> 00:27:45: hoping to do with that is to not just, 00:27:45 --> 00:27:47: you know, put it policy plan like I would like 00:27:47 --> 00:27:48: to and I you know, 00:27:48 --> 00:27:50: I did this in a few places in Vancouver when 00:27:50 --> 00:27:51: I worked there. 00:27:51 --> 00:27:53: You know like do some pre zoning in there, 00:27:53 --> 00:27:54: right? So so you know, 00:27:54 --> 00:27:56: people can come out, they don't have to go through 00:27:56 --> 00:27:59: a rezoning for every single townhouse duplex coach house, 00:27:59 --> 00:28:02: because I mean, that's that's one of the biggest challenges. 00:28:02 --> 00:28:04: I think we we faced a kind of pivot to 00:28:04 --> 00:28:05: challenge is a little bit. 00:28:05 --> 00:28:09: Is that this? We spent last Monday we spent, 00:28:09 --> 00:28:13: I think, about four hours on a on receiving an 00:28:13 --> 00:28:17: information report on a townhouse development at .45, 00:28:17 --> 00:28:20: FAR right, and so. So that so that's just to 00:28:20 --> 00:28:23: give you some perspective on that and it you know. 00:28:23 --> 00:28:25: And I think you know Council wants to do the 00:28:25 --> 00:28:25: right thing. 00:28:25 --> 00:28:28: Council certainly wants to and from my perspective, 00:28:28 --> 00:28:29: approve these types of housing forms, 00:28:29 --> 00:28:32: but you just get such neighborhood pushback on these individual 00:28:32 --> 00:28:35: projects that I think things like rezoning. 00:28:35 --> 00:28:36: Here are the way to go, 00:28:36 --> 00:28:38: and we're going to be looking at moving forward, 00:28:38 --> 00:28:40: so that's really exciting. Couple of other things I'm mindful

their project out there,

00:27:12 --> 00:27:14:

00:28:40> 00:28:41:	of time here,
00:28:41> 00:28:43:	but.
00:28:43> 00:28:46:	Maybe not so exciting things where West Vancouver at the
00:28:46> 00:28:49:	end of this month is about to have the greenest
00:28:49> 00:28:52:	building code the green is building by law in the
00:28:52> 00:28:56:	region. You know where we're really kind of pushing the
00:28:56> 00:28:57:	envelope on that.
00:28:57> 00:28:59:	So February 28th.
00:28:59> 00:29:02:	New houses gotta be Step 5.
00:29:02> 00:29:05:	The Multi family is is I think step four or
00:29:05> 00:29:07:	you can go on both of these situations.
00:29:07> 00:29:09:	You can do that. The low carbon system as well,
00:29:09> 00:29:13:	but that's really transformative. I think we're really pushing the
00:29:13> 00:29:16:	the boundary there on on climate change related things to.
00:29:16> 00:29:19:	We've just adopted a wildfire development permit area.
00:29:19> 00:29:22:	You know, we've kind of followed the district in North,
00:29:22> 00:29:25:	and they've done an excellent job of that where we're
00:29:25> 00:29:25:	following them,
00:29:25> 00:29:29:	and we're developing a foreshore development permit and
	the reason
00:29:29> 00:29:30:	I'm mentioning those are,
00:29:30> 00:29:34:	you know there maybe not super exciting but they're really
00:29:34> 00:29:35:	indicative of the other.
00:29:35> 00:29:38:	I think big existential crisis that we're all facing in
00:29:38> 00:29:39:	sort of in climate change,
00:29:39> 00:29:42:	right? So you know, we have this pandemic.
00:29:42> 00:29:45:	Thank goodness we didn't have a forest fire last year,
00:29:45> 00:29:47:	right? I mean like the you know and so,
00:29:47> 00:29:49:	but so we're kind of getting ready and prepared for
00:29:49> 00:29:50:	those things as well,
00:29:50> 00:29:52:	because those things are on the horizon.
00:29:52> 00:29:55:	So we're, you know we're dealing with this world of
00:29:55> 00:29:58:	pandemic climate change when it happens.
00:29:58> 00:30:01:	Really, really huge challenges around affordability and so trying to
00:30:01> 00:30:04:	trying to manage all that is really interesting,
00:30:04> 00:30:06:	but those are some of the things that we're doing
00:30:06> 00:30:08:	to get in front of those things and I think
00:30:08> 00:30:11:	municipalities are good places and where you can where you
00:30:11> 00:30:15:	can can kind of make some proactive change.
00:30:15> 00:30:17:	That's on, that's great here and then yeah,
00:30:17> 00:30:18:	I'm just being mindful of time.

00:30:18 --> 00:30:21: We have a couple of questions of the audience, 00:30:21 --> 00:30:23: so I'm going to turn it over first to Oliver, 00:30:23 --> 00:30:25: who can introduce the people when asked questions. 00:30:25 --> 00:30:27: Thank you. Thank you so much once again. 00:30:27 --> 00:30:31: And this is this has been great. 00:30:31 --> 00:30:34: Yes, we thanks Chris. We did get a few questions 00:30:34 --> 00:30:34: 00:30:34 --> 00:30:37: First question was for Monica Monica. 00:30:37 --> 00:30:40: I'll unmute you and you can ask your question. 00:30:42 --> 00:30:45: Thanks, Oliver. Hi Jim, thanks for taking the time to 00:30:45 --> 00:30:47: be with us this morning. 00:30:47 --> 00:30:49: I'm a little bit biased with my question because I 00:30:49 --> 00:30:52: work in proptech at Ratio City here in Vancouver, 00:30:52 --> 00:30:56: but what kind of technologies is address tricked looking into 00:30:56 --> 00:30:59: to assist with development processes and virtual settings? 00:30:59 --> 00:31:02: Um, I don't know that we're looking into any of 00:31:03 --> 00:31:03: the community, 00:31:03 --> 00:31:07: so we work really closely with our. 00:31:07 --> 00:31:11: Professionals and experts in it to make sure that you 00:31:11 --> 00:31:15: know that our systems are running as efficiently as possible 00:31:15 --> 00:31:19: with respect to all of our Land Management systems. 00:31:19 --> 00:31:22: And I, I think they serve us really well. 00:31:22 --> 00:31:25: We've we've managed to. 00:31:25 --> 00:31:26: Again, as I mentioned earlier, 00:31:26 --> 00:31:29: to kind of become much more proficient at sort of, 00:31:29 --> 00:31:31: you know, digital plan checking, 00:31:31 --> 00:31:33: document management, all those sorts of things. 00:31:33 --> 00:31:34: I think that goes really well, 00:31:34 --> 00:31:37: even like simple things like signatures and when and how 00:31:37 --> 00:31:38: you need to sign something, 00:31:38 --> 00:31:41: say, isn't improving Officer to go in the land titles 00:31:41 --> 00:31:44: office like just working through those details early on was 00:31:44 --> 00:31:46: really interesting and challenging. 00:31:46 --> 00:31:49: I think we have a strong kind of framework around 00:31:49 --> 00:31:53: our Land Management systems and just our technological systems internally 00:31:53 --> 00:31:53: as well. 00:31:53 --> 00:31:56: Always looking, you know, to improve those things. I mean, obviously you know with the kind of the 00:31:56 --> 00:31:58: 00:31:58 --> 00:31:59: onset, 00:31:59 --> 00:32:02: of of fiber and various things coming into communities where 00:32:02 --> 00:32:03: we're working on those issues.

00:32:03> 00:32:06:	There's some really ironic things like the number of my
00:32:06> 00:32:08:	colleagues who live up in the in the in,
00:32:08> 00:32:11:	the British Pacific Property areas like in the upper lands,
00:32:11> 00:32:14:	more to the East, the cell coverage is terrible,
00:32:14> 00:32:16:	right? So we were working like how do we improve
00:32:16> 00:32:17:	those things like those are?
00:32:17> 00:32:20:	Those are issues that we that we need to address,
00:32:20> 00:32:22:	but you know, and it's pretty basic things.
00:32:22> 00:32:24:	Like I joked around with this.
00:32:24> 00:32:27:	The The Plan Checker is early on when we were
00:32:27> 00:32:30:	just even basic like sort of digital measuring tools and
00:32:30> 00:32:33:	like can you just hold up your ruler to the
00:32:33> 00:32:36:	screen and measure and then there's like so you can't.
00:32:36> 00:32:39:	But so so we've been like sort of improving all
00:32:39> 00:32:43:	of our software and an infrastructure around that recently.
00:32:43> 00:32:44:	Awesome thanks.
00:32:46> 00:32:49:	Hey, thanks for your question Mark and we have another
00:32:49> 00:32:51:	question here from Richard Richard.
00:32:51> 00:32:53:	I'm going to unmute you and you can ask your
00:32:53> 00:32:54:	question.
00:32:56> 00:33:00:	Alright thanks Oliver and thanks Jim for having this
	conversation
00:33:00> 00:33:01:	Jim.
00:33:01> 00:33:04:	I just over the last couple of months I've been
00:33:04> 00:33:06:	contemplating to learn through accretive.
00:33:06> 00:33:10:	Mentioned just, you know, a career in public versus private
00:33:10> 00:33:11:	sector,
00:33:11> 00:33:14:	and I think how I'm kind of framing that decision
00:33:14> 00:33:17:	is trying to understand kind of the.
00:33:17> 00:33:20:	Extensive impact on either of these sectors?
00:33:20> 00:33:23:	Or can you know either in?
00:33:23> 00:33:25:	Moving towards in a similar role as you,
00:33:25> 00:33:28:	you know, like later down in my career,
00:33:28> 00:33:31:	or moving down into a more of a managerial role
00:33:31> 00:33:32:	in the private sector.
00:33:32> 00:33:34:	And I guess my question is,
00:33:34> 00:33:37:	in your perspective, what would you say is the most
00:33:37> 00:33:40:	impactful project that you've been able to work on as
00:33:40> 00:33:44:	as Director of Planning and Development Services at West
00 00 44 + 00 00 45	Vancouver
00:33:44> 00:33:45:	and why?
00:33:47> 00:33:48:	Well, that's a good question.
00:33:48> 00:33:49:	The most impactful.

00:33:51> 00:33:53:	So like I don't need to.
00:33:53> 00:33:57:	Duck the question. I don't think it's ever just one
00:33:57> 00:33:58:	thing you know.
00:33:58> 00:34:01:	I think that I think.
00:34:01> 00:34:05:	What's been impactful? I think has been working with Council
00:34:05> 00:34:08:	to sort of change the culture around,
00:34:08> 00:34:11:	around and.
00:34:11> 00:34:12:	He's kicking my kid out of here.
00:34:12> 00:34:14:	That's great.
00:34:14> 00:34:17:	I think so. So to kind of change the culture
00:34:17> 00:34:19:	around affordable housing,
00:34:19> 00:34:21:	I think that's been a really important piece,
00:34:21> 00:34:25:	just kind of making sure that when development applications are
00:34:25> 00:34:26:	coming in,
00:34:26> 00:34:30:	there's an expectation and understanding that people are going to
00:34:30> 00:34:30:	be on.
00:34:30> 00:34:34:	Notice that they are contributing to affordability through projects and
00:34:34> 00:34:38:	so that then manifests itself in sort of any negotiation
00:34:38> 00:34:41:	discussion that you're going into with any developer on any
00:34:41> 00:34:45:	project. So I think that that's been the most impactful
00:34:45> 00:34:45:	thing.
00:34:45> 00:34:48:	And it's in. It's been really exciting to watch because
00:34:48> 00:34:48:	you see,
00:34:48> 00:34:50:	you know where they say day one.
00:34:50> 00:34:52:	People would come in and they would be like,
00:34:52> 00:34:54:	oh, here's our project is Strata Project Bah Bah?
00:34:54> 00:34:56:	Go through it and now it's coming.
00:34:56> 00:34:58:	It's like this is what we're pitching now.
00:34:58> 00:34:59:	As part of this project.
00:34:59> 00:35:02:	This is the level of affordability we're going to achieve.
00:35:02> 00:35:04:	This is how we're going to go.
00:35:04> 00:35:05:	So I think that that's been.
00:35:05> 00:35:07:	I think one of the key pieces is trying to
00:35:07> 00:35:10:	turn the dial on on the affordability question in West
00:35:10> 00:35:10:	van.
00:35:10> 00:35:12:	And frankly, throughout the region,
00:35:12> 00:35:14:	I think that's the biggest issue like we have.
00:35:14> 00:35:16:	We're super desirable place to live.
00:35:16> 00:35:20:	Our geographic location is is unparalleled from an aesthetic
	perspective,

00:35:20> 00:35:23:	but also just our proximity to various markets and whatnot,
00:35:23> 00:35:25:	so that pressure is going to come in and making
00:35:25> 00:35:28:	sure that we respond proactively to that,
00:35:28> 00:35:29:	I think is is kind of key and what I'm
00:35:30> 00:35:30:	most proud of,
00:35:30> 00:35:33:	I guess. That's really interesting.
00:35:33> 00:35:35:	Thank selection and Internet to keep going back and you
00:35:35> 00:35:38:	can do that if you're working private sector or public
00:35:38> 00:35:39:	sector right?
00:35:39> 00:35:41:	Like? I mean that's the key thing like I'm always
00:35:41> 00:35:44:	impressed now with private sector developers,
00:35:44> 00:35:47:	the private sector developers who are going to be ahead
00:35:47> 00:35:49:	of the game are going to be those people that
00:35:49> 00:35:52:	see those trends and then respond to them earlier and
00:35:52> 00:35:53:	get in front of those things.
00:35:53> 00:35:56:	And it's just and it's not only just when you
00:35:56> 00:35:58:	come in the room to meet with the public sector,
00:35:58> 00:36:00:	you're going to be better received if you will,
00:36:00> 00:36:05:	but. But it's just you're also hitting a market real.
00:36:05> 00:36:08:	You're getting to a market where there's need and figuring
00:36:08> 00:36:10:	out how to make that profitable.
00:36:10> 00:36:12:	But still affordable is, I think,
00:36:12> 00:36:18:	a really interesting business slash mental challenge.
00:36:18> 00:36:20:	Just a quick follow up question I guess to that
00:36:20> 00:36:23:	then do you think that's that viewed of public private
00:36:23> 00:36:24:	partnership?
00:36:24> 00:36:27:	Do you think that's unique to Metro Vancouver?
00:36:27> 00:36:29:	Or do you think that's like hopping across Canada?
00:36:29> 00:36:33:	Or is Vancouver leading in that area of partnership or
00:36:33> 00:36:34:	professional take on that?
00:36:34> 00:36:36:	I don't think it's unique to Metro Vancouver.
00:36:36> 00:36:38:	I think you know those partnerships exist,
00:36:38> 00:36:40:	you know all over the world.
00:36:40> 00:36:41:	I think there's a lot of places.
00:36:44> 00:36:46:	This is that we can learn from,
00:36:46> 00:36:47:	you know you you go.
00:36:47> 00:36:50:	I keep seeing Michael's on my screen so I keep
00:36:50> 00:36:53:	seeing him and keep reminding you know keeps reminding like
00:36:53> 00:36:56:	you watch watch one of his blogs on his travels
00:36:56> 00:36:59:	to Europe and I think you'll see there some really
00:36:59> 00:37:04:	interesting public private partnerships that that sort of

showcase various 00:37:04 --> 00:37:07: levels of success in affordability or just in Great city 00:37:07 --> 00:37:08: building, right? 00:37:11 --> 00:37:13: Awesome, thank you. 00:37:15 --> 00:37:18: Yeah, thanks for your question there. 00:37:18 --> 00:37:21: And we do have another question that came in just 00:37:21 --> 00:37:23: in regards to workforce. 00:37:23 --> 00:37:26: An affordable housing. I can't see their full name so 00:37:26 --> 00:37:30: it's M birming and I'm going to unmute them right 00:37:30 --> 00:37:30: now. 00:37:32 --> 00:37:37: Hi thanks Oliver. Yeah it's my name is Michael. 00:37:37 --> 00:37:43: That no problem, I didn't change it on my tag. 00:37:43 --> 00:37:45: Thank you Jim for taking the time to speak with 00:37:45 --> 00:37:46: us this morning. 00:37:46 --> 00:37:50: It's been insightful learning about your work experience and what's 00:37:50 --> 00:37:52: going on in the district. 00:37:52 --> 00:37:55: My question for you is that you spoke about the 00:37:55 --> 00:37:58: need for workforce and affordable housing in the district, 00:37:58 --> 00:38:01: which I think is a common sentiment we know is 00:38:01 --> 00:38:02: an issue. 00:38:02 --> 00:38:04: Providing that form of housing in the district. 00:38:04 --> 00:38:08: Given the high cost of housing. 00:38:08 --> 00:38:12: Speak to any specific actions such as policies that are 00:38:12 --> 00:38:16: in place in the district that the district is using 00:38:16 --> 00:38:19: to promote this form of development. 00:38:19 --> 00:38:22: Sure, so I mean, in terms of specific policies, essentially, you know when when applications are coming in 00:38:22 --> 00:38:26: we 00:38:26 --> 00:38:29: require and we don't have prescriptive percentages, 00:38:29 --> 00:38:30: but we do for example, 00:38:30 --> 00:38:33: require affordability to be built into projects, 00:38:33 --> 00:38:36: and you know, typically we look at that as a 00:38:36 --> 00:38:40: requirement and then through the pro forma design phase we 00:38:40 --> 00:38:44: we could negotiate and discuss what levels of affordability those 00:38:44 --> 00:38:46: are. We require that so you know.

 00:38:44 --> 00:38:46:
 are. We require that so you know.

 00:38:46 --> 00:38:49:
 In in West Vancouver's folks are probably well aware we have a number of.

 00:38:51 --> 00:38:53:
 Purpose built rental buildings that that are,

 00:38:53 --> 00:38:57:
 I think, vulnerable to to demolition and change like and so we have no we would require if those sites

 00:39:00 --> 00:39:01:
 would be rezoned.

00:39:01> 00:39:03:	we'd require no tenant relocation programs.
00:39:03> 00:39:06:	All those sorts of things to make sure that those
00:39:06> 00:39:08:	people are are taken care of.
00:39:08> 00:39:11:	If those sites were to be rezoned when we're doing
00:39:11> 00:39:13:	master plans like larger plans,
00:39:13> 00:39:15:	whether it be, for example,
00:39:15> 00:39:17:	Horseshoe Bay or Cypress Village,
00:39:17> 00:39:19:	we are working with the the land owners,
00:39:19> 00:39:22:	the folks in the community to come up with.
00:39:22> 00:39:26:	With policies around what would be appropriate for those neighborhood,
00:39:26> 00:39:30:	so there's a whole host of tools around the protection
00:39:30> 00:39:31:	of existing renters,
00:39:31> 00:39:35:	existing residents, and frankly the creation of more of that.
00:39:35> 00:39:36:	And really, in a way,
00:39:36> 00:39:38:	like I mean, I think one of the key drivers
00:39:38> 00:39:39:	of this,
00:39:39> 00:39:42:	of course, is sort of a realization that you need
00:39:42> 00:39:44:	density to to make any of that happen,
00:39:44> 00:39:49:	right? Like it kind of the wealth generated to.
00:39:49> 00:39:52:	Provide the housing doesn't happen unless there is a the
00:39:52> 00:39:53:	development that occurs.
00:39:53> 00:39:56:	I mean, I can't think of really any scenarios where
00:39:56> 00:39:58:	I just sort of appears out of nowhere.
00:39:58> 00:40:00:	More affordable housing appears out of nowhere,
00:40:00> 00:40:03:	so those are the types of policies and any other
00:40:03> 00:40:06:	thing too is again like I think councils really walking
00:40:06> 00:40:08:	the walk with their whole notion of district lands as
00:40:08> 00:40:11:	a key tool in terms of achieving some of those
00:40:11> 00:40:12:	things right.
00:40:12> 00:40:14:	So you know, we are leveraging some of our own
00:40:14> 00:40:18:	lands to provide some of that workforce and affordable housing.
00:40:18> 00:40:19:	Thank you.
00:40:21> 00:40:25:	Great and I actually questioned myself free Jim how can
00:40:25> 00:40:29:	obviously see a lot of applications come through.
00:40:29> 00:40:35:	How can developers better their DP submissions when they submit?
00:40:35> 00:40:39:	Um, I think.
00:40:39> 00:40:42:	Good question. I think doing a bit of pre work
00:40:42> 00:40:45:	understanding the context of the community is really key.
00:40:45> 00:40:49:	You know having those discussions where you see successes where

00:40:49> 00:40:53:	developers have gone out and they've had communication with you
00:40:53> 00:40:56:	know neighbors and I'll be honest like sometimes you can
00:40:56> 00:40:59:	go and have have communications with neighbors and the neighbors
00:41:00> 00:41:01:	are just dead set against it.
00:41:01> 00:41:04:	But I think where you see where I've seen successes
00:41:04> 00:41:08:	where there's been no effective communication is sort of the
00:41:08> 00:41:11:	representation of the neighbors values in the project itself.
00:41:11> 00:41:14:	And I think that really really goes a long way
00:41:14> 00:41:17:	in in making sure that and really being authentic and
00:41:17> 00:41:21:	genuine in showing how a project can change or be
00:41:21> 00:41:25:	modified or reflect what what the neighborhood is saying right?
00:41:25> 00:41:26:	And and that often is,
00:41:26> 00:41:29:	you know, it's a function of design.
00:41:29> 00:41:31:	It's a function of listening and it's,
00:41:31> 00:41:33:	you know, it's a function.
00:41:33> 00:41:35:	I think of just have a good planning.
00:41:35> 00:41:39:	Being able to do those things.
00:41:39> 00:41:42:	Very cool, thank you and we did get one question
00:41:42> 00:41:45:	in the public chat here and I'll just read it
00:41:45> 00:41:45:	out.
00:41:45> 00:41:49:	It says with the discussion of affordable housing.
00:41:49> 00:41:53:	What are the mechanisms that West Vancouver is using to
00:41:53> 00:41:56:	secure affordable ownership in the market?
00:41:58> 00:42:02:	To secure affordable ownership in the market.
00:42:02> 00:42:04:	Correct?
00:42:04> 00:42:06:	Well, we haven't really, we don't.
00:42:06> 00:42:09:	l don't, l can't. l can't recall us having a
00:42:09> 00:42:11:	affordable homeownership program.
00:42:11> 00:42:14:	I think where we're achieving what I would call more
00:42:14> 00:42:15:	affordable housing.
00:42:15> 00:42:18:	Sort of through rental or below market.
00:42:18> 00:42:22:	Housing were typically achieving those through through housing agreements.
00:42:22> 00:42:24:	Just. I mean, that's the.
00:42:24> 00:42:26:	That's the typical tool. The home.
00:42:26> 00:42:29:	Affordable Homeownership is an interesting question.
00:42:29> 00:42:31:	Hey, like and I think we've had a number of
00:42:31> 00:42:33:	discussions with BC housing,
00:42:33> 00:42:35:	and I know you can do it
	and I know you can do it.
00:42:35> 00:42:37:	And I know there are tools to do it.

00:42:37> 00:42:41:	For municipality our size I think it's fairly cumbersome to
00:42:41> 00:42:43:	manage and these aren't reasons why we shouldn't do it.
00:42:43> 00:42:48:	I just we haven't done an affordable home ownership
	program.
00:42:48> 00:42:51:	So really interested in exploring that you get into a
00:42:51> 00:42:53:	whole bunch of administration around who qualifies.
00:42:53> 00:42:55:	What happens at the end of the term?
00:42:55> 00:42:57:	What's the covenant? How do you deal with equity?
00:42:57> 00:43:00:	There's a. There's a bunch of really interesting things Now,
00:43:00> 00:43:02:	I think. One big solution,
00:43:02> 00:43:05:	like more affordable homeownership is to make and this might
00:43:05> 00:43:06:	sound awful.
00:43:06> 00:43:09:	But to instead of having really big you know \$5
00:43:09> 00:43:10:	million houses.
00:43:10> 00:43:13:	It is more affordable to have a market apartment right?
00:43:13> 00:43:16:	I mean it's it's. It's just more affordable and now
00:43:16> 00:43:19:	it's still market price and it's still market and blah
00:43:19> 00:43:20:	blah blah.
00:43:20> 00:43:23:	But providing that supply the supply side of the Ledger
00:43:23> 00:43:24:	is really really important.
00:43:24> 00:43:27:	The other thing that I think our Council is also
00:43:27> 00:43:30:	done is there's the supply side of the Ledger,
00:43:30> 00:43:32:	but there's also kind of the demand side tools to
00:43:33> 00:43:35:	help deal with some of the affordability questions.
00:43:35> 00:43:37:	So we have been really,
00:43:37> 00:43:40:	I think, pioneered sort of locals first programs where you
00:43:40> 00:43:42:	know people are signing stat dexta.
00:43:42> 00:43:44:	Say that they they live in the community and they're
00:43:44> 00:43:46:	going to participate in the community.
00:43:46> 00:43:48:	Those are really important initiatives as well,
00:43:48> 00:43:51:	so you can build out supplies you that you want,
00:43:51> 00:43:53:	but I think it's also important that there be some
00:43:53> 00:43:55:	emphasis on people who are then coming to stay in
00:43:55> 00:43:57:	this place is contributing to the local economy,
00:43:57> 00:44:00:	contributing to the kind of local fabric of life,
00:44:00> 00:44:02:	and that housing just doesn't become an investment chip if
00:44:03> 00:44:03:	you will,
00:44:03> 00:44:06:	right? So we know both of those things that were
00:44:06> 00:44:08:	things we're trying to work on.
00:44:08> 00:44:11:	Right understood, thank you so that is the effort that
00:44:11> 00:44:12:	is up for questions.
00:44:12> 00:44:15:	Obviously cognizant of time and everybody going on to their

00:44:15 --> 00:44:16: next meetings. 00:44:16 --> 00:44:18: I'm going to pass it back over to Chris Ann Rand off to wrap up. 00:44:18 --> 00:44:19: 00:44:22 --> 00:44:25: OK Jim, thank you very much for speaking to us 00:44:25 --> 00:44:26: today. 00:44:26 --> 00:44:30: I think I could speak for everyone in the audience 00:44:30 --> 00:44:33: that we all got a little something out of this 00:44:34 --> 00:44:35: conversation. 00:44:35 --> 00:44:38: If there are more specific questions that people in the 00:44:38 --> 00:44:40: audience may have for you, 00:44:40 --> 00:44:44: what's the best way to get in touch with you? 00:44:44 --> 00:44:48: Just email me 00:44:48 --> 00:44:54: so we will share that email in. 00:44:54 --> 00:44:57: Future message to the audience, 00:44:57 --> 00:44:58: so that's it from us. 00:44:58 --> 00:45:02: Thank you everyone for joining and see you next time 00:45:02 --> 00:45:06: on a coffee and conversations event hosted by urban lenses 00:45:06 --> 00:45:07: too. 00:45:07 --> 00:45:10: Thanks everything. Care. That's great, 00:45:10 --> 00:45:11: thank you.

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