

2026 Municipal Election Platform Analysis – City of Vancouver

This summary by BC Non-Profit Housing Association reviews housing-related commitments in City of Vancouver party 2026 platforms and was informed by Housing Central's framework and advocacy, organizing housing policies into three themes: Build, Protect, and Support¹. [For more information about what local governments can do to Make Housing Central, please see Housing Central's 2026 local government election resources.](#)

BC Non-Profit Housing Association has developed a platform analysis for the City of Vancouver municipal election because of the historic and current significance of community housing supply in the city. Vancouver has a generations long commitment to supporting the community housing sector through partnerships that have spanned across administrations dating back to the 1960s when Federal affordable housing programs were introduced.

The municipal election platforms below build on the ongoing recognition that Vancouver's housing challenges require action across the housing continuum, from increasing overall supply and improving affordability to addressing homelessness and the pressures facing people with increasingly complex needs. There are differences among the parties about the role of the City, how public land should be used, the balance between market and non-market housing, and how responsibility should be shared with the provincial and federal governments.

There are a broad range of strong proposals for developing additional tools for affordable housing in Vancouver, with some standouts being the dedication of land, accelerating approvals, reducing fees, and supporting rental acquisitions, all of which will aid the buildout and preservation of affordable housing in Vancouver. [Each party's platform is detailed below.](#)

Supportive housing features in more Vancouver municipal platforms in 2026 than it has historically, reflecting a growing concern with the considerable rise in homelessness over the past four years. Several platforms call for a reversal of the [no net-new supportive housing mandate](#) introduced in 2025, which is encouraging to see as supportive housing remains a broadly accepted means for solving homelessness. Nearly 60% of [British Columbians say](#) housing with supports is the most effective way to reduce homelessness and related public safety concerns, while 75% believe it improves public safety more than short-term enforcement measures.

Supportive housing commitments that focus primarily on enforcement, operator penalties, business-licence sanctions and which treat housing instability as an enforcement or service management issue fail to address larger systemic issues at play. Open and honest conversations about what is working well and what needs improvement within the broader system are necessary to ensuring community and individual needs are met. Those conversations need to start with the recognition that non-profits and charities are called upon to fill the gaps in our social safety net. Meaningful systems change – and the closure of those gaps – require leadership and action at all levels of government. This includes municipal leaders.

¹ Platform commitments are organized according to Housing Central's municipal housing priorities. Party platforms may contain additional housing-related proposals that do not fit within these categories. Links are provided to each party platform for more information.

	BUILD MORE.	PROTECT MORE.	SUPPORT MORE.
Housing Central Recommends	Use planning, approval, and land-use tools to make it easier and faster to deliver new community housing.	Prevent loss of existing affordable housing and support its affordability through property tax relief, investments in building retrofits, and advocacy with senior governments.	Partner with community housing providers to help tenants remain successfully housed and build community understanding for housing with supports.
Why it Matters?	Building community housing creates homes that remain affordable for the long term and helps local governments address housing needs that the private market alone does not. • BC needs 12,500 new affordable homes annually for 10 years	Preserving existing affordable homes is more cost-effective than replacing them, while ensuring affordable homes remain safe and comfortable. • 13,000 affordable homes are at-risk in BC as operating agreements expire within 5 years • \$557M is needed annually to address capital renewal needs of affordable homes in BC	Housing with supports helps people remain stably housed, reduces pressure on other public services, and contributes to safer, healthier communities. • BC needs 5,000 new homes with supports for people at-risk of homelessness • 95% of supportive housing tenants remain stably housing
What British Columbians Want from Local Governments:	<i>79% support increasing supply of non-profit and co-op housing in their communities.</i>	<i>74% believe that a strong non-profit and co-op housing sector is essential for keeping housing affordable.</i>	<i>75% believe providing supportive housing leads to improved public safety in communities compared to enforcement measures.</i>

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 ABC Vancouver Housing Policy - ABC Vancouver Vancouver Agenda - ABC Vancouver	• Deliver purpose-built rental, entry-level ownership, co-op. • Call for provincial and federal funding for social and middle-income housing. • Partner with employers, unions, non-profits, and senior governments to create workforce housing and housing for middle-income households. • Use under-utilized city-owned land for 4,200 new middle-income rental homes. • Expand missing-middle housing options by building on multiplex zoning reforms and pre-approved housing designs. • Accelerate housing approvals. • Reduce or defer city fees in exchange for faster delivery of housing, with enhanced incentives for purpose-built rental, family-sized, and below-market homes.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> <i>None specified</i> <u>Building retrofits</u> <i>None specified</i>	• “Three strikes and you’re out” accountability framework for supportive housing operators, including requiring corrective action for persistent safety issues and revoking business licences for operators that repeatedly fail to address serious concern. • Establish 100 new involuntary and secure-care beds. • Call on Province for binding supportive housing and shelter targets to reduce Vancouver’s role as “region’s default provider of supportive housing and shelter.” • Call on Province to replace aging SROs with self-contained homes. • Strengthen oversight and good-neighbour agreements for supportive, non-profit, and public housing sites experiencing persistent safety concerns.
 The Roots Project BRIGHT FUTURE VANCOUVER	• Expand community housing. • Approve or advance 2,000 affordable homes, including 500 rent-to-own homes. • Require 25% of units in eligible new multi-family developments to be family-sized homes.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Anti-flipping protection for homes created through public land or public incentives. <u>Building retrofits</u> <i>None specified</i>	• Expand health-led crisis response for non-violent mental health emergencies prioritizing clinical care over police dispatch.
 Platform 2026 — COPE Vancouver	• Build and secure 20,000+ units of community housing. • Advance stalled community housing development through low-interest loans and securing funding from senior governments.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Create a rental acquisition fund. • Require replacement of deeply affordable housing lost to redevelopment.	• Reverse supportive housing ban. • Expand supportive programming, shelters, and homelessness services. • End encampments through expansion of affordable housing.

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	• Use City-owned land for swing-site housing and future co-op or public housing. • Expand supply of deeply affordable housing and community land trusts. • Preserve and expand public land through a city-wide public land trust and partnerships to deliver permanently affordable public housing. • Triple empty homes tax - use revenues to produce affordable housing. • Introduce progressive property taxes and secure new revenue powers to support public services and affordable housing.	<u>Building retrofits</u> • Retrofit existing affordable housing for seismic safety and climate preparedness.	• Expand and strengthen tenant relocation protections city-wide to prevent displacement and renovations. • Reinstate Vancouver Renters Office.

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 Platform - Green Party of Vancouver	• Use city-owned land for affordable housing, co-op housing and CLTs. • Partner with non-profits and senior governments to deliver affordable housing. • Municipal housing bonds to finance affordable housing. • Expedite lease renewals for co-ops on city-owned land and reduce capital expenditure requirements. • Require affordable housing contributions from large private developments. • Fast-track zoning and permitting processes to enable affordable housing. • Advocate for renewed provincial and federal housing funding, including a replacement for the BC Community Housing Fund, reinstatement of RRAP (Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program), and \$2 billion for very low- and low-income housing. • Create a dedicated role to deliver non-market and supportive housing. • Enable more housing through dynamic zoning, missing-middle housing policies and faster modular/prefab construction. • Create a Vancouver Affordability Index to monitor household costs vs. local incomes. • Amend procedure by-law to allow public hearings on extraordinary zoning amendments. • Set affordability targets to 30% of median household income, not market rents.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Create a Rental Housing Acquisition and Preservation program to preserve at-risk rental housing. • Create a dedicated rapid acquisition fund, and partnerships to protect existing affordable homes. • Enforce vacant building regulations and strengthen renter protections. <u>Building retrofits</u> • Support climate-smart building retrofits through federal and provincial funding partnerships. • Simplify conditions around green retrofits by reducing triggers for extraneous upgrades. • Restore interdepartmental sustainability work. • Improve access to cooling, shading, and clean-air infrastructure.	• Reverse supportive housing ban and partner with Province to build housing with supports. • Prioritize diversion, outreach, and service connection before enforcement measures. • Establish 24/7 outreach response team to support individuals experiencing homelessness. • Invest in crisis intervention and de-escalation programs. • Establish licensing and permitting requirements to support health and shelter facilities. • Reinstate Vancouver Renters Office. • Strengthen relocation policy citywide, with fair compensation and support.
 Vote OneCity 2026 Platform	• Construct 4,000 affordable homes on city-owned land. • End Vancouver's apartment ban and allow mid-size housing near services.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Create acquisition fund to preserve and expand affordable housing from	• Reverse ban on supportive housing. • Expand treatment centres, low-barrier non-profit recovery houses, and evidence-informed harm reduction education.

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	- Reform development regulations to enable apartments on small lots and remove unnecessary setback requirements. - Legalize single-stair and small-lot apartments. - Enforce replacement housing timelines and extend rent top-ups. - Create city-wide Community Land Trust - Support strategy based on successful existing models to prioritize community ownership and deliver permanently affordable housing.	redevelopment to market rents. <u>Building retrofits</u> <i>None specified</i>	- Create shelter standards to support cultural and community needs of Indigenous, Two Spirit, and gender diverse people. - Reinstate Vancouver Renters Office. - Expanding tenant protections and reducing the qualifying period for redevelopment protections from 12 months to 6 months.
 TEAM FOR A LIVABLE VANCOUVER Platform Team For A Livable Vancouver	- Prioritize housing affordable to local incomes. - Replace existing city-wide plans with neighborhood planning processes.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> <i>None specified</i> <u>Building retrofits</u> <i>None specified</i>	- Establish Treatment and Recovery Pathway with Vancouver Coastal Health. - Call to expand provincially funded detox, treatment and recovery beds. - Expand involuntary care as a last resort. - Use city land and expedited approvals for treatment and recovery facilities. - Establish a Downtown Eastside Audit.

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 Platform Issues Kareem Allam's Plan for Vancouver	• Contribute city land for non-market homes. • Call to senior governments to fund deeply affordable housing. • DCC (Development Cost Charges) exemptions for priority and non-market housing. • Reserve below-market homes for essential workers in new housing development. • Remove rezoning requirements for affordable homes-built by community organizations. • Streamline housing-approval processes. • Reform Community Amenity Contributions (CAC) by requiring cash CACs. • Develop new social housing at shelter rate in Downtown Eastside. • Create a community land trust to hold city-owned land for affordable housing.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Extend co-op and non-profit lease on City land with automatic renewals. <u>Building retrofits</u> • Adopt BC Building Code to cut cost and delay, while keeping City's leading zero-carbon and energy standards. • Back repairs with City financing.	• Build renewed framework prioritizing housing and early intervention. • Connect people experiencing homelessness to stable housing and support services. • Scale Peer Assisted Care Teams. • Require accountability agreements for new supportive housing and shelters with enforceable standards for operators. • Restore the renters' office.

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 platform Service Trust Vision — Vote Vancouver	• Use underutilized city-owned land for affordable housing. • Partner with senior governments, non-profits and faith-based organizations to deliver affordable housing. • Target new affordable housing to 30% of household income. • Build more Indigenous housing in collaboration with First Nations. • Work with faith-based organizations to navigate municipal development guidelines to deliver more affordable housing. • Streamline rezoning applications and standardized approvals. • Establish right-of-first-refusal policy giving City first opportunity to purchase eligible faith-based properties for affordable housing, childcare, and community uses.	<u>Existing affordable housing</u> • Protect co-op and community housing through long-term lease solutions. <u>Building retrofits</u> • Enforce rental housing maintenance standards.	• Reverse ban on supportive housing. • Support existing community land trusts and societies in establishing affordable community housing with integrated services. • Replace existing SROs with self-contained, purpose-built housing.