# CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM





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## **New Provincial Housing Legislation**

As you may have heard, in late 2023, the provincial government passed several pieces of legislation intended to provide more housing supply and improve affordability in all BC municipalities.

To achieve this goal, the BC government will be allowing more homes and different types of housing in established single-family neighbourhoods, and in transit oriented areas.

This new legislation fundamentally changes how the City – and all local governments in BC – plans, considers and approves development and growth across the municipality.

### What does this mean for Port Coquitlam?

At this stage, City staff are analyzing how these significant pieces of legislation will affect our community. This includes looking at ways to integrate more housing for people in a sustainable way, and how to support those homes with services such as water and sewer lines, and transportation infrastructure.







#### **Key Facts:**

 In most single-family neighbourhoods, the legislation supports three, four or six units per lot, depending on the proximity to transit service and exemptions as defined by the province.

 The provincial government has designated Transit Oriented development areas with minimum densities and heights near frequent transit.

 As part of the new rules, municipalities are no longer able to hold public hearings for residential projects that conform to the City's Official Community Plan.

 The City's Housing Needs Report, Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw must be updated by Dec. 2025 to accommodate 20 years of projected residential growth. Not all single family properties will be eligible for increased density. Properties that are outside the Urban Growth Boundary, larger than an acre, have heritage designation, not connected to City services or in hazardous areas may be exempted by the province.

The City is assessing neighbourhoods within the municipality, taking into account four key elements:

- Provincial Legislation and regulation
- Provincial government's objectives
- Our community's goals
- City's regulations and policies

However, the evaluation isn't just about deciding how we use land for housing in the City, there are impacts on many plans, policies and services. The City will also need to consider the impacts of providing enough parks, recreational facilities, jobs, schools, and healthcare services.

To comply with requirements of some legislation, we must update and adopt bylaws by the end of June 2024.

Stay up to date on the Official Community Plan changes to come in 2025 at portcoquitlam.ca/ocp.





#### **Learn More**

We encourage you to stay informed about upcoming changes about the community's goals as we adjust to the new land-use rules.

Questions or comments can be made to the Planning Division via email at planning@portcoquitlam.ca or call 604.927.5442.

Visit portcoquitlam.ca/housing to learn more!



