

# Memorandum of Cooperation

*between the cities of*



VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA  
*and*  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



The cities of Seattle, Washington and Vancouver, British Columbia are both deeply committed to becoming the most resilient cities in the world. Both of our cities are honored to have been selected to join 100 Resilient Cities – Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation, an organization dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to physical, social and economic challenges. Participating in 100 Resilient Cities creates new opportunities for collaboration between our two cities which will help us advance our goals more effectively.

Vancouver and Seattle share a similar climate and geography, strong economies built on innovation, richly diverse communities and a deep commitment to sustainability across all sectors. Our cities also face similar risks and challenges such as climate change and seismic risk, a lack of affordable housing, aging infrastructure and an inability for all residents to have the same chance to realize their potential. By learning from each other as we develop and implement Resilience Strategies, we can most effectively leverage our strengths to make our cities models of resilience and demonstrate the value of collaboration between cities and across borders.

Our two cities have a well-established history of collaboration to advance our shared sustainability and resilience goals both directly and through global and regional networks including the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance, The Pacific North America Climate Leadership Agreement, and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group. Participation in 100 Resilient Cities creates the opportunity to deepen our relationship as we work together to advance the vision of resilience.

We confirm our good faith intent to work together as follows:

**1. Resilience Strategy:**

To support each other's Resilience Strategy development and implementation, including participating in key events in both cities and identifying collaboration opportunities as part of our strategy development processes.

**2. Exchanges:**

To host staff from each other's cities to learn from our successes and challenges in implementing solutions that advance resilience by working at the intersection of multiple resilience building community economic, social, and environmental goals, such as:

- a. Developing green stormwater infrastructure to improve flood resilience, neighborhood livability, and natural system function,
- b. Meeting the need for affordable housing that is energy efficient and low carbon and reduces utility bills,
- c. Supporting connections and belonging in residents to increase social resilience, enhance emergency preparedness & response, and improve health and quality of life, and
- d. Embedding equity into city government plans and programs in ways that break down institutional barriers to participation and opportunity.

Mayor Gregor Robertson  
City of Vancouver

Mayor Edward B. Murray  
City of Seattle