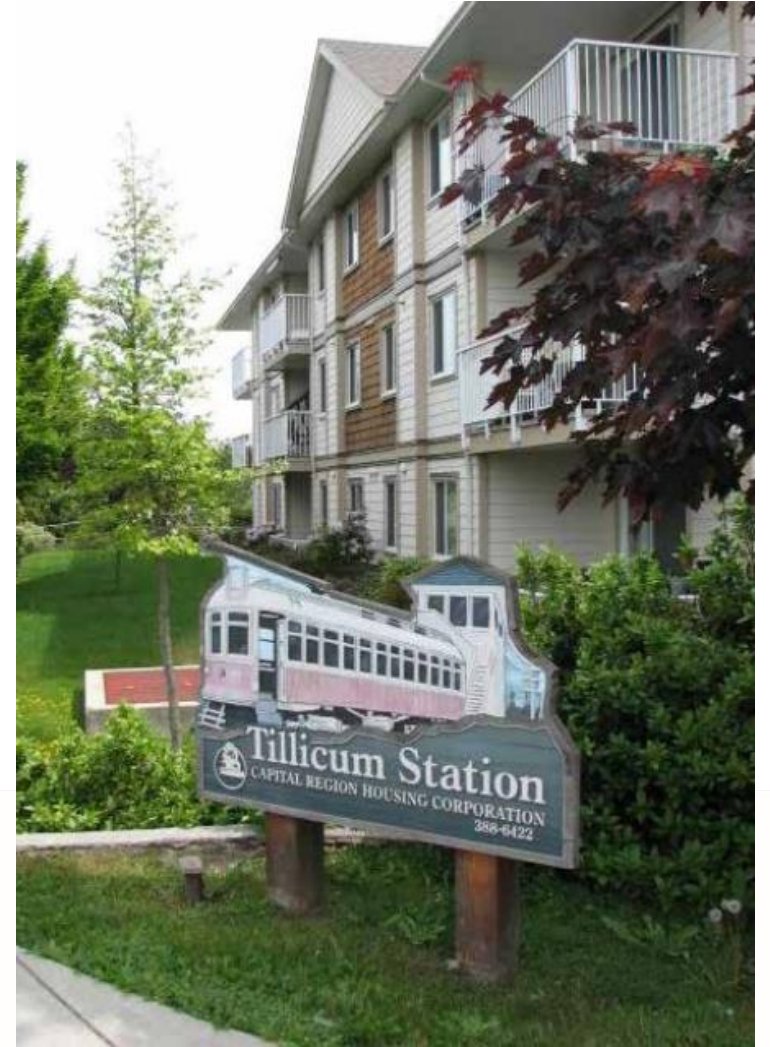# Energy and Carbon Emissions Reporting Requirement

November 4, 2024
Committee of the Whole

Maggie Baynham
Sustainability Project Manager

saanich.ca/climateplan

WHAT IS ENERGY AND CARBON EMISSIONS REPORTING?

Has typically been referred to as "benchmarking", which will remain an important aspect of the process.

There are three core components:

Measure and Track

Measuring and tracking a building's energy use and emissions, and comparing the data against established standards, similar buildings and/or past performance.

Report

Sharing benchmarking data with local, provincial, and/or federal governments.

Disclose

Making all or a part of benchmarking data available to the public and/or targeted audiences.

BUILDING BENCHMARK BC

A strong foundation for establishing a reporting requirement in Saanich.

- Largest voluntary program in North America, operating since 2020

- 100+ buildings, representing nearly 10 million sq.ft. in Saanich

- Over 1200 buildings reporting in BC, over 90% choose to publicly disclose data

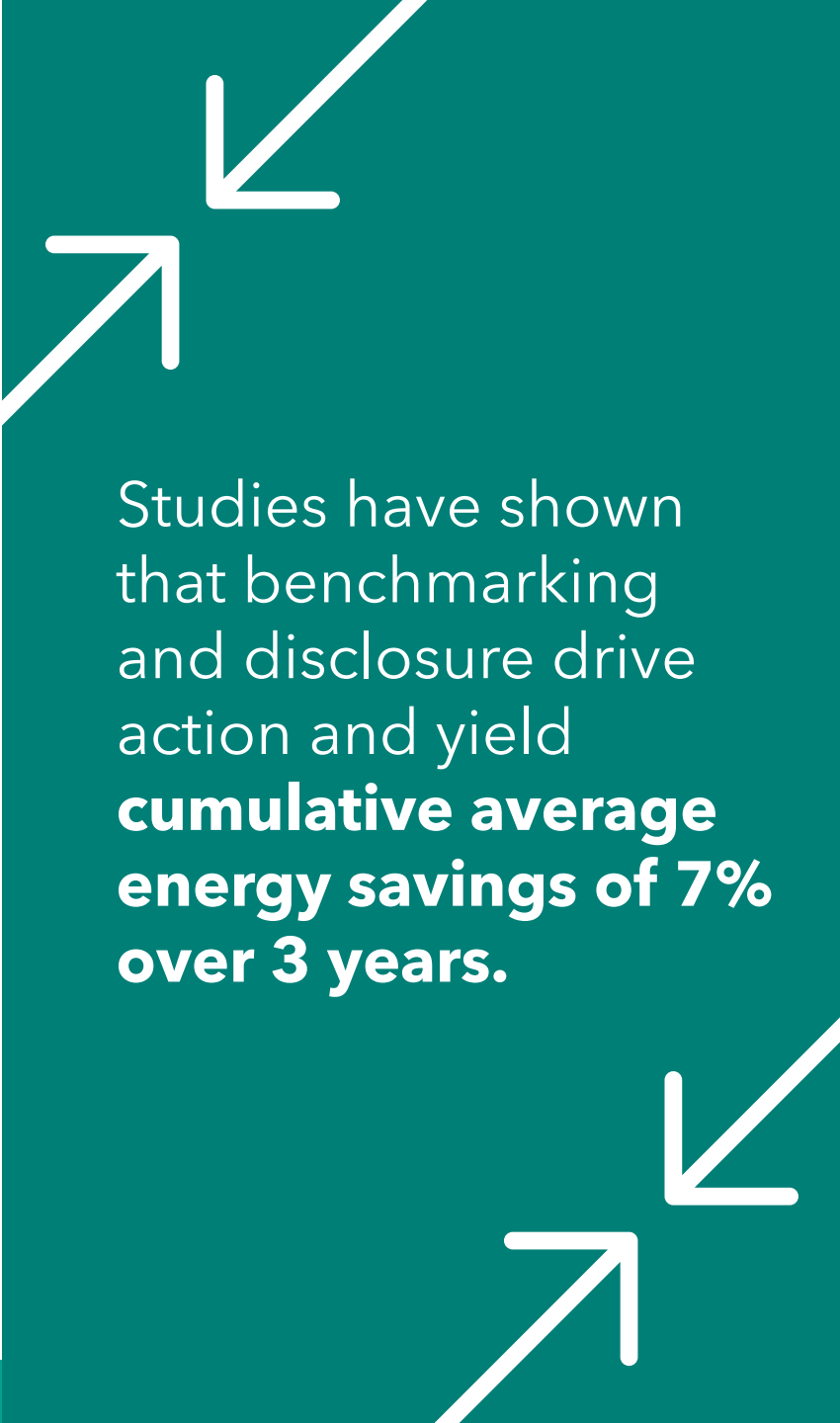- Provides support and data insights to building owners
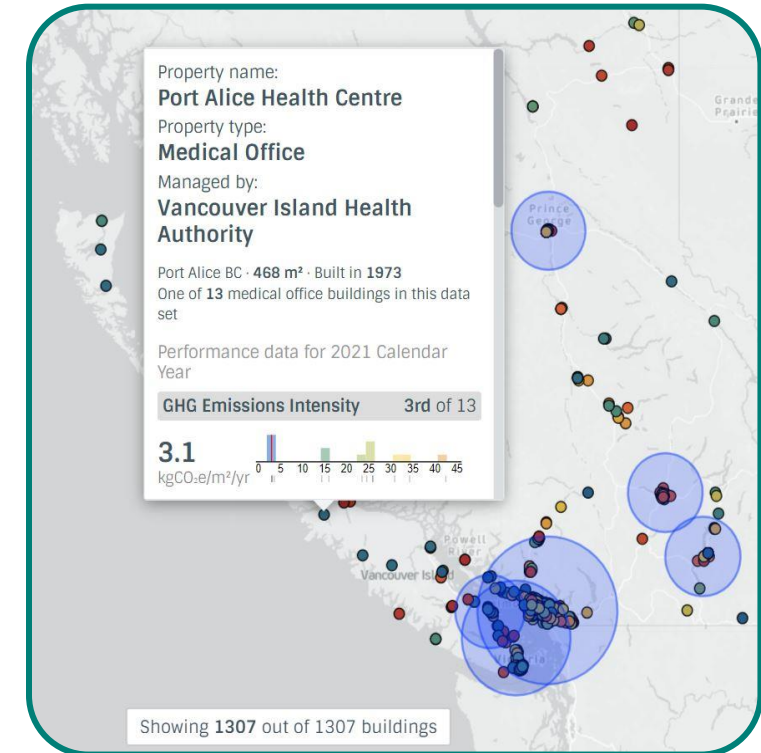
Building Benchmark BC's Public Disclosure Map

WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

You can't manage what you don't measure.

Policy goals:

1. Develop a better understanding of GHG emissions from buildings

2. Support adaptation of buildings to a changing climate

3. Use data to support and <u>inform development of programs, policies and incentives</u> to enhance climate action

4. Provide building owners and managers <u>with the data</u> needed to support improvements to their building's energy and carbon performance; and

5. Enhance industry and public <u>awareness</u> of building energy and emissions performance
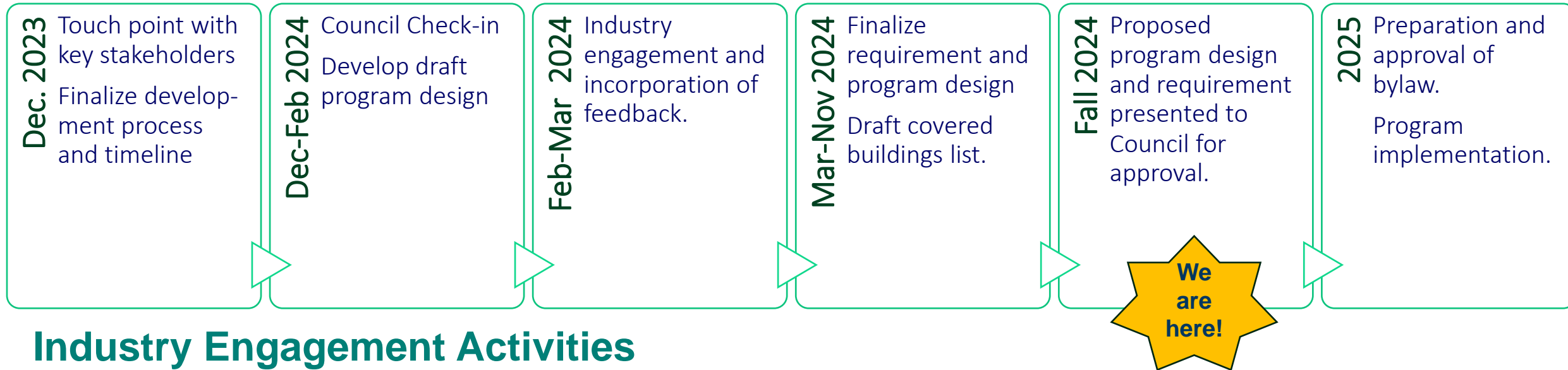
Studies have shown that benchmarking and disclosure drive action and yield **cumulative average energy savings of 7% over 3 years.**

PROCESS AND TIMELINES

Overview of the policy development process and timelines

➤ Undertaken in collaboration with the Capital Regional District and City of Victoria

Dec. 2023	Dec-Feb 2024	Feb-Mar 2024	Mar-Nov 2024	Fall 2024	2025
Touch point with key stakeholders Finalize development process and timeline	Council Check-in Develop draft program design	Industry engagement and incorporation of feedback.	Finalize requirement and program design Draft covered buildings list.	Proposed program design and requirement presented to Council for approval.	Preparation and approval of bylaw. Program implementation.

We are here!

Industry Engagement Activities

➤ Touch point meetings with stakeholder associations

➤ Four focus groups, by building type

➤ Two Information Sessions

ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Key Themes:

- General familiarity with benchmarking
- Acknowledgement of the benefits;
- Desire for harmonization;
- Concern about capacity;
- Desire for support services;
- Concern around data access, quality and/or maintenance; and
- Concern with mandatory public disclosure.
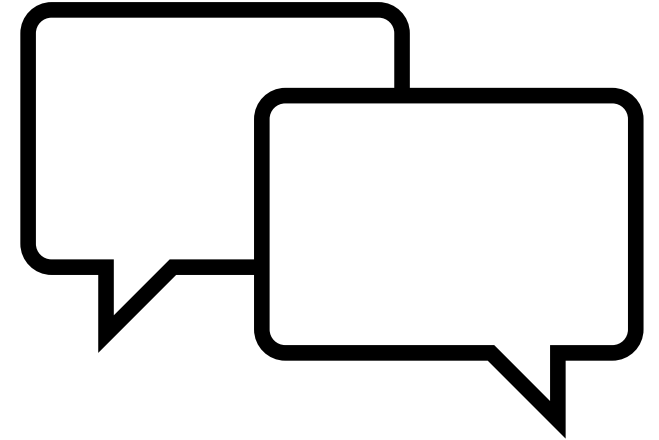
ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Amendments and/or Program Design:

- Option to opt out of public disclosure;
- Establishing regional harmonization (CRD);
- Using free Federal industry standard software, Energy Star Portfolio Manager;
- Developing covered buildings list that provides floor area for all buildings required to report;
- Providing support services (e.g. Help Desk) for troubleshooting, automatic data uploads, data aggregation, etc.
- Greater clarity on exempt buildings and conditions where exemption may be considered; and
- Language on adaption goals

PROPOSED REQUIREMENT

✓ **Would apply to all buildings 10,000 sq.ft. or larger.**

✓ **Annual reporting deadline of June 1** (for previous calendar year data)

The following are exempt from the requirement to report:

× Buildings smaller than 10,000 square feet;

× Single family detached or single family attached buildings including rowhouses, townhouses, houseplexes, triplexes and duplexes;

× Buildings with a single residential occupancy and four or fewer residential units; and

× Mixed use buildings where the primary occupancy (i.e. 50 per cent or more of gross floor area) is residential and containing four or fewer residential units.

PROPOSED REQUIREMENT

- Requirement would be phased in, based on building size

- First year would be a voluntary reporting year

2025	2026	2027	2028
Voluntary Reporting, all Buildings	30,000 square feet or Larger Mandatory Reporting	10,000 square feet or Larger Mandatory Reporting	
Voluntary Disclosure, all Buildings	Voluntary Disclosure, all Buildings	30,000 square feet or Larger Disclose by default, opt out available	10,000 square feet or Larger Disclose by default, opt out available
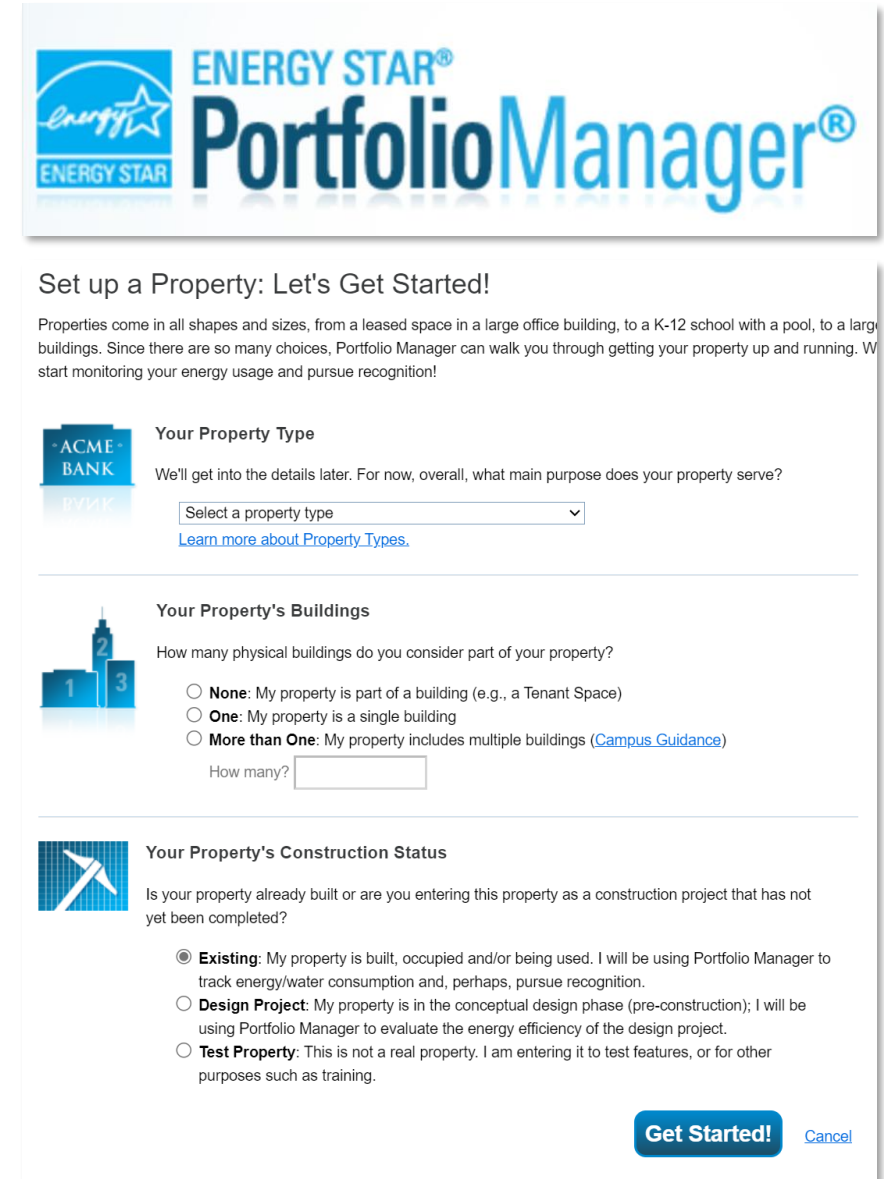
HOW IS ECE REPORTING DONE?

Initial Setup (first year of reporting only):

✓ Create an Energy Star Portfolio Manager Account

✓ Fill out building details

✓ Connect utility accounts

✓ Add local government as "read only" on the account

Annual Reporting:

✓ Data issues are flagged for participant

✓ Data must be complete & accurate before reporting deadline

✓ Automated outputs available to Saanich: annual and monthly energy and GHG emissions (totals and intensity)

PROPOSED REQUIREMENT

Disclosure:

✓ Anonymized information will be made publicly available

✓ An option to opt out of the public disclosure map will be provided to all properties
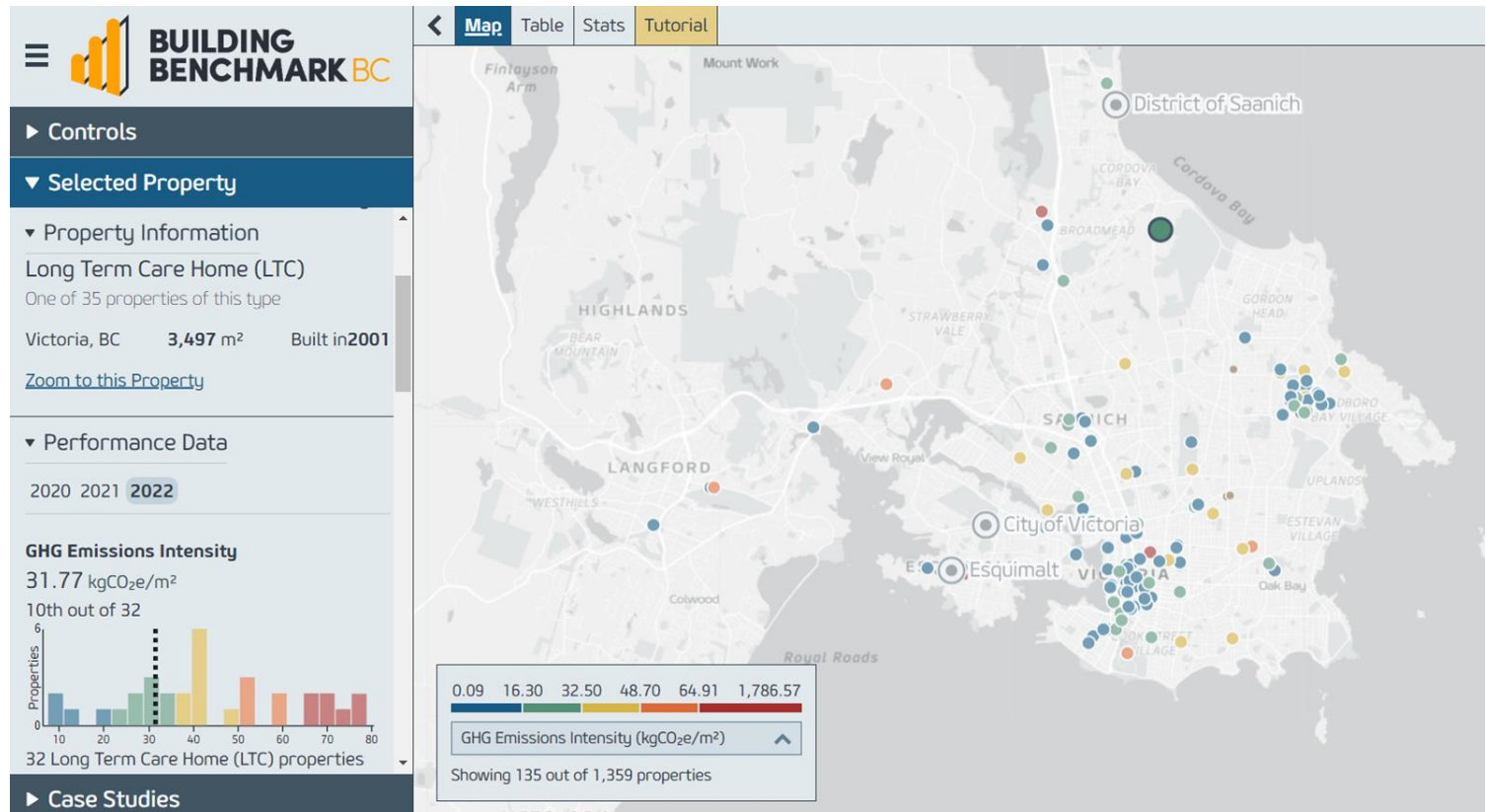
PROPOSED REQUIREMENT

Support Services

1. **Help Desk/Help Centre:** You can ask questions or get help if you're having trouble following the rules. They can help you find the information you need, set up an account and fix any problems with the data.

2. **Resource Library:** There will be a collection of written materials to help you understand rules. This includes fact sheets, checklists, guides, FAQs and links to other helpful resources.

3. **Webinars and Training:** You can attend online or in-person sessions to learn about the rules, how to follow them, and what support and resources are available. You can also ask questions during these sessions.

4. **Data Interpretation Tools:** Tools will be provided to help building owners understand the benchmarking information and make smart decisions about improving their building's performance. This might include maps, yearly reports, or plans with information on other programs and incentives.

PROPOSED REQUIREMENT

Administration and Financial Considerations

- CRD is intending to administer and operate an ECE Reporting Program on behalf of municipalities that adopt the requirement

- On October 30, 2024, CRD Board endorsed the budget, subject to final budget approvals in the spring

- Development of the program bylaw, and assistance to the CRD in establishing and administering the program will be done with existing staff resources

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council endorse the proposed Energy and Carbon Emissions Reporting Requirement, and associated program supports for large buildings; and,

2. That Council direct Staff to bring forward a bylaw for consideration to establish the requirement and prepare for the program launch.

Thank you!

Saanich