

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2012

Item 19, Report No. 48, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 11, 2012.

19 CLEAN AIR COUNCIL 2012 INTERGOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Strategic and Corporate Services, dated November 27, 2012:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Strategic and Corporate Services, in consultation with the Manager of Environmental Sustainability recommend:

1. That the City of Vaughan commit to the Greater Toronto Clean Air Council 2012 Intergovernmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change; and
2. That the City Clerk be requested to advise the Greater Toronto Clean Air Council accordingly.

Contribution to Sustainability

The City of Vaughan is committed to reducing emissions that contribute to climate change and which adversely affect the local air quality. This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in *Green Directions Vaughan*, the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan:

- Objective 1.1 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and move towards carbon neutrality for the City of Vaughan's facilities and infrastructure
- Objective 5.1 to share sustainable best practices and ideas between and among municipal staff and the community

Economic Impact

No immediate economic impact. All of the actions covered by the declaration match up with actions documented in *Green Directions Vaughan*. Should any of the actions go beyond established budgets the regular budgeting process of submitting additional resource requests will be utilized.

Communications Plan

A communications plan is not required at this time. The Clean Air Partnership, the organization that administers the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Council (GTA-CAC), will be posting 2012 Intergovernmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change on their website.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is seek Council approval to demonstrate the City of Vaughan's support for taking meaningful actions to address air quality and climate change

Background - Analysis and Options

The GTA-CAC is made up of 26 local and regional governments in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area along with representatives from the provincial and federal governments. The City of Vaughan is a member municipality. The GTA-CAC promotes the reduction of air pollutants and

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greenhouse gas emissions and increased awareness of regional air quality and climate change issues through the collective efforts of all levels of government. The GTA-CAC regularly reports back on the progress being made to address these issues. The Clean Air Partnership, an environmental non-governmental organization based in Toronto, provides secretariat and administrative support to the GTA-CAC.

2012 Clean Air Council Inter-governmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change

The GTA-CAC has been working collaboratively since 2001 to deliver GTA-CAC Inter-governmental Declarations. The Declaration outlines a statement of common understanding in the form of actions and targets as well as a progress update for ongoing work on commitments made in previous declarations and any new commitments.

The actions in the Declarations are identified and prioritized by member jurisdictions. Internal staff from the City of Vaughan collaborated to determine these priorities. The GTA-CAC takes the individual jurisdiction prioritizations to develop the final Declaration. The 25 actions in the 2012 will be signed off by all 26 members of the GTA-CAC.

By showing support for the 2012 Declaration in the form of a letter, the City of Vaughan demonstrates its commitment to continued collaboration across the region to undertake action on clean air and climate change issues.

The work plan of the GTA-CAC is determined by the final Declaration. The 2012 Declaration is found in Attachment 1.

City of Vaughan Clean Air and Climate Change Actions

The City of Vaughan continues to meet the targets and actions outlined in previous Declarations through various initiatives including the implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan*, the Transportation Master Plan, the Green Fleet Strategy, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, transportation demand management activities, green building commitments, energy efficiency projects and various other clean air and climate change initiatives. Other commitments already confirmed by Council such as participation the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners for Climate Protection and Energy Management Planning mandated by the Province of Ontario will also assist the City in addressing targets and actions.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the Vaughan Vision 20/20 strategic goal of providing service excellence to citizens and the strategic objective to lead and promote environmental sustainability. This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

The Regional Municipality of York is also a member municipality of the GTA-CAC and actively pursuing actions and targets addressed in the Declaration.

Conclusion

The GTA-CAC is made up of 26 local and regional governments as well as provincial and federal government representatives. The 2012 Clean Air Council Intergovernmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change outlines a common understanding of actions and targets, a progress update on the commitments made in previous years as well as new commitments as agreed to by members of the of the GTA-CAC. By signing the Declaration, the City of Vaughan shows its commitment to continued collaboration across the region to undertake action on clean air and climate change issues.

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Attachments

1. Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area Clean Air Council 2012 Intergovernmental Declaration on Clean Air and Climate Change

Report prepared by

Chris Wolnik, Manager, Environmental Sustainability

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – NOVEMBER 27, 2012

CLEAN AIR COUNCIL 2012 INTERGOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Recommendation

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Report prepared by

Chris Wolnik, Manager, Environmental Sustainability

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Pittari
Commissioner, Strategic and Corporate Services



GREATER TORONTO AND HAMILTON AREA CLEAN AIR COUNCIL 2012 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR & CLIMATE CHANGE

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Council (GTA-CAC) has been working collaboratively from 2001 – 2012 to deliver on annual GTA-CAC Inter-governmental Declarations, convene annual Summits, to pursue issues raised at previous Summits, to explore opportunities for joint initiatives, and to liaise with other municipalities to share best practices information on smog reduction and climate change;

AND WHEREAS Summits are a part of the on-going efforts of our respective governments to address air pollution and climate change opportunities and challenges;

AND WHEREAS the GTA Clean Air Council has determined that its work will concentrate on moving along an Awareness Building → Knowledge Transfer → Leadership & Action → Promotion, Recognition & Transfer → Monitoring & Reporting approach to clean air and climate change actions made by members of the GTA-CAC;

AND WHEREAS this **2012 Summit** marks the evolution of the previous Summits, with much having been accomplished, and much remaining to be done;

AND WHEREAS GTA Clean Air Council representatives of the local and regional municipal governments in the GTA and the Government of Ontario, have gathered on October 26th, 2012 to pursue opportunities to foster greater collaboration on green policies and green economic development across the Region; to report on progress of past Declarations and to sign onto the 2012 Inter-governmental Declaration and commit to continuing to undertake action on clean air and climate change issues;

ACKNOWLEDGING the City of Toronto and Greater Toronto and Hamilton area Clean Air Council member jurisdictions for providing financial and in-kind support for the GTA Clean Air Council work program and assistance in developing and implementing annual Summits and the ***GTA Clean Air Council Inter-governmental Declarations on Clean Air and Climate Change***; and

THANKING the non-governmental organizations and other partners who assisted in planning the Summit, and thanking the Clean Air Partnership and the City of Toronto for organizing the Summit.

WE DO HEREBY DECLARE:

ARTICLE 1 – STATEMENT OF COMMON UNDERSTANDING

- 1.1 Scientists and physicians have linked air pollution levels commonly experienced in the GTA to premature deaths, hospitalizations, increases in chronic heart and lung diseases including lung cancer, and acute respiratory diseases. Even a small increase in air pollution elevates the risk of health impacts, particularly among those who are vulnerable and sensitive to air pollution such as young children, the elderly and those with pre-existing diseases.
- 1.2 Climate change scenarios project an increased risk of extreme weather and other climate-related events in Canada such as floods, drought, forest fires, increased air pollution and heat waves – all of which increase health risks to Canadians.
- 1.3 Research has also indicated that air pollution has a detrimental impact on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.
- 1.4 Air pollution, through health effects, environmental degradation, building and property damage and reduced visibility, adversely impacts the economy and quality of life.
- 1.5 Land use and transportation planning decisions that encourage sustainable urban development can have multiple benefits on air quality and human health.
- 1.6 A number of sources are responsible for a large proportion of the emissions of major air pollutants in the GTA. The major air pollutants include nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), fine particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) and carbon monoxide (CO). The primary sources of these pollutants are:
 - On-road vehicles and off-road equipment that use diesel and gasoline;
 - Residential and commercial use of oil, natural gas and wood;
 - The generation of electricity;
 - Industrial operations;
 - Road dust and construction activities; and
 - Use of solvents and surface coatings such as paints.
- 1.7 Transportation is a major source of the emissions that contribute to both air pollution and climate change. Transportation is responsible, according to 2005 Environment Canada data, for about 27% of PM_{2.5}, 18% of SO₂, 75% of NO_x, 34% of VOCs, 87% of CO and

30%¹ of CO₂ (carbon dioxide) emissions within the area represented by the member jurisdictions of the GTA Clean Air Council.

- 1.8 Air pollution and climate change are two atmospheric problems sharing common sources. For example, fossil-fuel combustion is a key contributor to air pollution, producing smog precursors and greenhouse gas emissions.
- 1.9 Actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are often associated with reductions of other atmospheric emissions that contribute to smog and its associated health, economic and ecosystem effects. In some cases, a co-benefit of reducing smog precursors is to reduce some greenhouse gas emissions.
- 1.10 Addressing key sources of major air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions requires collaboration between all orders of government. By sharing the best practices from jurisdictions across the GTA, southern Ontario and beyond, we can support one another in achieving improvements in air quality and climate change at a local and regional level for the benefit of all.

ARTICLE 2 – SIGNATORIES TO THE 2010 INTER-GOVERNMENTAL DECLARATION ON CLEAN AIR

Ajax, Town of
Aurora, Town of
Brampton, City of
Burlington, City of
Caledon, Town of
Clarington, Municipality of
Durham, Regional Municipality of
East Gwillimbury, Town of
Halton, Regional Municipality of
Halton Hills, Town of
Hamilton, City of
King, Township of

Government of Ontario

Government of Canada

Markham, City of
Mississauga, City of
Newmarket, Town of
Oakville, Town of
Oshawa, City of
Peel, Regional Municipality of
Pickering, City of
Richmond Hill, Town of
Toronto, City of
Vaughan, City of
Whitby, Town of
York, Regional Municipality of

¹ Carbon dioxide percentages are based on 2003 Environment Canada data.

ARTICLE 3 – CALL FOR GTA CLEAN AIR COUNCIL ACTION

In view of the long-term nature of the air quality problems in our common airshed, the GTA Clean Air Council agrees to on-going work on the commitments made in the Inter-governmental Declarations signed at previous Summits.

The GTA Clean Air Council commits to continue its work to address smog and greenhouse gases, to share information and, where possible, to share resources and undertake appropriate research and actions.

The 26 members of the GTA Clean Air Council commit to work collaboratively to develop healthy, lower carbon and sustainable communities through the following:

Community Planning and Public Health

1. Monitor progress on the implementation of community Bicycle/Pedestrian/Complete Streets Plans and Policies to create a modal shift from single occupancy vehicle use to active transportation.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET - Results: Progress Reports on Implementation of Bicycle/Pedestrian Plans, Review of Provincial Requirements and Guidelines

Approved Plans: Ajax, Brampton, Burlington, Caledon, Durham Region, Halton Hills, Halton Region, Hamilton, Markham, Mississauga, Newmarket, Oakville, Pickering, Richmond Hill, Toronto, Vaughan, York Region.

Plans In Progress: Aurora, Clarington, East Gwillimbury, Oshawa, Region of Peel, Whitby.

2. Work collaboratively with members and partners to identify the connection between public health and land use planning to share, document and act on opportunities to improve public health via land use planning and development.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET – Public Health and Planning Training Program; Healthy Development Index Tracking

Greening Development

3. Monitor progress on the implementation of corporate and community green development policies and practices and identify results and best practices.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET - RESULTS: number, square feet and/or percentage of green municipal buildings; resulting energy and water savings.

Approved corporate green development policies/standards: Ajax, Burlington, Durham Region, East Gwillimbury, Halton Hills, Markham, Mississauga, Newmarket, Oakville, Pickering, Richmond Hill, Toronto, York Region.

Corporate green development policies/standards in progress: Aurora, Caledon, Region of Halton, Halton Hills, Hamilton, King, Region of Peel.

Approved community development policies/standards/incentives: Brampton, Caledon, Clarington, East Gwillimbury, Halton Hills, Hamilton, Markham, Mississauga, Pickering,

Toronto, Vaughan (residential), York Region.

Community development policies/standards/incentives in progress: Ajax, Aurora, Burlington, King, Oakville, Region of Peel, Richmond Hill.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: number, square feet and/or percentage of new buildings that are “green” (above and beyond building code/LEED);

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Action on energy efficiency retrofits

4. Provide recommendations and keep informed on updates to the Province of Ontario’s energy and water efficiency Building Code standards.

Energy

5. Participate in an Energy Efficiency, Green Energy and Emissions Inventory Community of Practice to share resources, experience, expertise and lessons learned.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Report on actions of COP annually.

6. Work collaboratively with the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Power Authority and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to develop a more efficient mechanism for gathering energy use data.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Annual Corporate Inventories; Community Inventories every 2 – 4 years; Regional Community Inventories every 2 – 4 years

7. Corporate energy Inventories, Plans and Reduction Targets.

RAISING THE BAR TARGETS: Inventories/Plans Approved/In Progress/Implementation Results

8. Community energy Inventories, Plans and Reduction Targets.

RAISING THE BAR TARGETS: Inventories/Plans Approved/In Progress/Implementation Results

9. Increase the implementation of renewable energy purchasing or production.

RAISING THE BAR TARGETS: Amount of Green Energy Produced/percentage of green energy purchased

Green Energy Purchasing: Aurora, Caledon, Mississauga, Oakville, Region of Peel, Toronto, York Region.

Green Energy Production: Ajax, Brampton, Burlington, Caledon, Region of Halton, Halton Hills, Hamilton, King, Markham, Mississauga, Oakville, Region of Peel, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Toronto, York Region.

Air Quality

10. Monitor progress and outcomes of the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada’s proposed Air Quality Management System.

Action Planning and Policy Development

11. Develop and implement Corporate and Community Action Plans² outlining actions aimed at reducing energy use and mitigating air pollution and climate change.
Approved Corporate Plans: Ajax, Aurora, Burlington, Caledon, East Gwillimbury, Halton Hills, Hamilton, Mississauga, Oakville, Pickering, Richmond Hill, Toronto, York Region.
Corporate Plans in Progress: Brampton, Durham Region, King, Oshawa, Markham, Newmarket, Peel Region, Vaughan.
Approved Community Plans: Caledon, East Gwillimbury, Halton Hills, Hamilton, Mississauga, Oakville, Oshawa, Pickering, Richmond Hill, Toronto, York Region.
Community Plans in Progress: Ajax, Brampton, Clarington, Durham Region, King Township, Markham, Peel Region, Vaughan.
12. Undertake a Monitoring and Reporting Scan to identify strategies being used by CAC members to report on progress of corporate and community Action Plans.
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Implementation Results/Updates: Reported/In Progress
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: CAC identifies and reports on selected common indicators/strategies that will enable the CAC to report on results/progress collectively.
13. Sustainability Training provided to municipal staff and all municipal departments required to report on sustainability actions and implications on Council reports.
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Development of a Sustainability Training Program
14. Develop and implement corporate Green Procurement Policies that increase the implementation of environmental, energy efficiency zero-waste and sustainable criteria in purchasing, lease and contract decisions.
Approved Green Procurement Policies/Procedures: Burlington; Brampton (Energy Star and EcoChoice label criteria); Oakville (green procurement procedure); Hamilton (life cycle costing policy), Toronto (green procurement procedure).
Green Procurement Policies in Progress: Brampton, Caledon, Halton Region, Region of Peel, Markham, Mississauga, Oshawa, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Whitby, York Region
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Green Procurement Actions and Results reported annually.
Green Procurement Progress Report based on agreed upon survey/criteria that is completed every two years.

Urban Forests

15. Develop Urban Forestry Plans that identify actions aimed at increasing, protecting and maintaining the urban forest.
RAISING THE BAR TARGETS: Canopy cover targets; Standards for soil in new developments; Private tree by-laws; Plants and Insects Infestation Action Plans (Results/Approved/In progress)

² A "Plan" must list out actions that the jurisdiction commits to undertaking in order to reduce its corporate/community energy use. Actions must be approved by council and have a department that is responsible for implementation and a mechanism in place to provide updates on implementation.

16. Work with the Province of Ontario to build awareness of the economic and ecological value urban forests provide and development of mechanisms to ensure the increase, protection and maintenance of urban forests.

Food Sustainability

17. Develop municipal urban agriculture strategies that minimize barriers and actively promote and support increased urban food production.
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Amount or percentage of public land dedicated to urban agriculture; Report on Results of Urban Agriculture Actions
18. Develop Local Food Procurement actions and policies that set local food targets for day cares, long term care centres and/or municipal cafeterias and food services.
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Local Food procurement results/policies/actions.

Climate Change Adaptation

19. Develop Climate Change Adaptation Plans and integrate climate change adaptation into existing and future municipal plans, in order to identify potential climate change risks and incorporate short term and long term opportunities for increasing community resilience into decision making.
RAISING THE BAR TARGET: Development of a climate change adaptation business case/ Climate Change Adaptation Results/Plans/Actions

Green Economic Development

20. Develop business cases for clean air and climate change actions most likely to move from pilot to mainstream taking into account costs of continuing business as usual as well as externalities.
RAISING THE BAR Target: Develop at least two business cases by end of 2013.
21. Increase coordination and cooperation between economic development and environment/sustainability departments.
RASING THE BAR TARGET: Development of a Green Economic Development Actions Scan and the development of a Regional Green Economic Strategy

Transportation

22. Identify and prioritize municipal opportunities to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from personal vehicles.
RAISNG THE BAR TARGET: CAC members tracking and reporting modal split
23. Develop a Green Fleets Actions and Results Scan to highlight actions aimed at reducing emissions through municipal vehicle purchases, operations and behaviours and to support the transfer of lessons learned and actions.

RASING THE BAR TARGET: Green Fleets Plans (Results/Approved/In progress) – Amount of fuel used/versus size of fleet/total mileage of fleet vehicles)

Community Engagement

24. Develop and deliver a Clean Air Council social marketing campaign to increase the public's and politician's knowledge of clean air and climate change actions being implemented across the Region.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: CAC members to promote CAC social media outreach; # of Followers; # of forwards/shares/overall traffic/comments

25. Build collaboration with community partners to engage them in supporting the development and implementation of Actions Plans and share lessons learned with Clean Air Council members on how to develop and foster community partnerships.

RAISING THE BAR TARGET: CAC members engaged in community outreach and partnerships in the implementation of Action Plans; Case studies of strategies used, lessons learned and results of community engagement activities on the implementation of Action Plans.