

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Environment Committee
Comité de l'environnement
16 February 2016 / 16 février 2016**

**and Council
et au Conseil
24 February 2016 / 24 février 2016**

**Submitted on November 30, 2015
Soumis le 30 novembre 2015**

**Submitted by
Soumis par :
Councillor / Conseiller D. Chernushenko**

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**Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA File Number: ACS2016-CMR-ENV-0001
VILLE**

SUBJECT: CLIMATE CHANGE

OBJET: CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Environment Committee recommend City Council approve:

- 1. That the City continue to work with key stakeholders and community partners to reduce community-wide GHGs produced within the geographic boundary of the City of Ottawa and pursue a new long-term GHG reduction target of 80% below 2012 levels by 2050;**
- 2. The following additions to current activities that address Climate Change:**

- a. That the Mayor, on behalf of City Council and the City of Ottawa, join the Compact of Mayors, a global initiative for local climate action coordinated by the world's leading city networks;
 - b. That the Chair of the Environment Committee be directed to work with the interdepartmental working group established as part of the 2014 Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan and external stakeholders to prepare a recommended implementation plan to reach the above-stated target for Committee and Council consideration; and
 - c. That staff be directed to assess the feasibility of developing and implementing minimum energy performance standards for new residential and commercial buildings and report back to Committee and Council; and
3. That the renaming of the Environment Committee as the Environment and Climate Protection Committee be included as part of the Mid-Term Governance Review process.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité de l'environnement recommande au Conseil municipal d'approuver :

1. que la Ville continue de travailler avec des intervenants clés et des partenaires communautaires en vue de réduire les émissions de GES à l'échelle de la collectivité produites dans les limites géographiques de la Ville d'Ottawa, et poursuive à long terme un nouvel objectif cible de réduction des GES établi à 80 % sous les niveaux de 2012 d'ici 2050;
2. les ajouts suivants aux activités en cours pour lutter contre le changement climatique :
 - a. Que le maire, au nom du Conseil municipal et de la Ville d'Ottawa, se joigne au Pacte mondial des maires (Compact of Mayors), une initiative internationale pour l'action locale en faveur du climat coordonnée par les réseaux des plus grandes villes au monde;
 - b. Que le président du Comité de l'environnement soit invité à travailler avec le groupe de travail interservices mis sur pied dans le cadre du Plan de gestion de la qualité de l'air et des changements climatiques

de 2014, et avec des intervenants extérieurs afin de préparer un plan de mise en œuvre recommandé pour atteindre la cible susmentionnée et de le présenter au Comité et au Conseil à des fins d'examen;

- c. Que les employés municipaux soient invités à évaluer la faisabilité de l'élaboration et de l'instauration de normes de rendement énergétique minimales visant les nouveaux bâtiments résidentiels et commerciaux, et de présenter un rapport au Comité et au Conseil à ce sujet.
3. que le changement de nom du Comité de l'environnement à Comité de protection de l'environnement et du climat soit inclus dans le cadre de l'examen de mi-mandat sur la gouvernance.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of Friday, 27 November 2015, Councillor Chernushenko submitted the following Notice of Motion for consideration by the Environment Committee at its next regular meeting (16 February 2016):

WHEREAS national, provincial, and municipal leaders from Canada and around the world are working to achieve a universal and necessary agreement on climate change and to set a clear pathway for reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs);

AND WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities estimates that municipalities have direct or indirect control over 45 per cent of GHGs generated in Canada;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has committed to reducing province-wide GHGs by 80% below 1990 levels by 2050;

AND WHEREAS the City of Ottawa has identified climate change and renewable energy as priorities for the 2014-2018 Term of Council and is pursuing a variety of initiatives in support of these goals, and major projects that will reduce GHG emissions significantly (such as light rail and conversion of street lights to LED technology);

AND WHEREAS the City of Ottawa has already committed to completing a corporate (municipal) GHG inventory annually and a community-wide GHG inventory every four years as indicated in the 2014 Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan (AQCCMP);

AND WHEREAS City staff are due to provide an update on the 2014 AQCCMP, including a report with recommendations related to the use of a local improvement charge (LIC) financing mechanism for home energy retrofits, in Q1 of 2016;

AND WHEREAS reducing GHGs in the City of Ottawa can also contribute to the reduction of other air-quality contaminants, thereby improving public health outcomes;

AND WHEREAS improving the energy efficiency of municipal operations can produce operating and life cycle repair savings, as well as leverage innovation and economic development;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Environment Committee recommend that City Council approve that its current commitment to work with key stakeholders and community partners to reduce community-wide GHGs produced within the geographic boundary of the City of Ottawa be amended to align with provincial targets, which is set at 80% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Environment Committee recommends that Council approve the following additions to current activities that address Climate Change:

- a. That the Mayor, on behalf of City Council and the City of Ottawa, join the Compact of Mayors, a global initiative for local climate action coordinated by the world's leading city networks;
- b. That the Chair of the Environment Committee be directed to work with the interdepartmental working group established as part of the 2014 Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan and external stakeholders to prepare a recommended implementation plan to reach the above-stated target for Committee and Council consideration; and
- c. That staff be directed to assess the feasibility of developing and implementing minimum energy performance standards for new

residential and commercial buildings and report back to Committee and Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Environment Committee recommend Council include renaming the Environment Committee as the Environment and Climate Protection Committee as part of the Mid-Term Governance Review process.

Subsequent to the submission of the above Notice of Motion at the Environment Committee meeting of 27 November 2015, further research has determined that it would be more appropriate to align with the recent 2012 GHG emission inventory and not use 1990 as originally submitted. Although the province uses 1990 as a base year, the year 2012 is recommended for the following reasons.

- The City's data for 1990 is unreliable and would not provide an accurate baseline for our work. Previous attempts to establish a 1990 baseline were unsuccessful and expensive, and further attempts would likely yield similar results as the availability and level of confidence in the source data is unchanged. Not only was the data used to calculate 2012 emissions more complete and accurate, the methodology employed was more rigorous than what could be used for establishing a 1990 base.
- The move to a 2012 base year does not lessen the significance of the target. GHG emissions in Ontario were approximately 6% lower in 2012 than in 1990. This reduction is likely comparable to what was experienced in Ottawa.

The primary sources of GHG emissions in urban areas like Ottawa are from the heating, cooling, and electrical needs of buildings, and transportation uses. Emissions from buildings are calculated using provincial averages applied to the local population and job numbers. As provincial averages have declined since 1990 (due to the conversion of coal to gas powered electricity generation, and increased energy efficiency of appliances etc.) the reduction seen at the provincial level would apply to Ottawa on a proportionate basis. Similarly, the vehicle mix of Ottawa, the efficiency of those vehicles, and vehicle use patterns of Ottawa were likely comparable to those of the province, and would also see a proportionate change.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Set long-term target to reduce emissions by 80% below 2012 levels by 2050

City's Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan set a target to reduce per capita GHG emissions by 20% below 2012 levels by 2024. The City used the 2012

baseline as it is the City's most accurate and reliable inventory to date. By adopting the target to reduce emissions by 80% below 2012 levels by 2050, the City can track emissions over the short and long term, as well as measure progress against the same baseline. Other Canadian cities have set long-term, 2050 emission reduction targets using baseline levels other than 1990. For example, the City of Calgary uses a 2005 baseline level, while the City of Vancouver uses a 2007 baseline level.

2) Various

a. Join the Compact of Mayors

The Compact of Mayors (the Compact) was launched in 2014 and is a "global coalition of mayors and city officials committing to reduce local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, enhance resilience to climate change and track their progress publicly." Under the Compact, cities have up to three years to complete a GHG inventory, set a GHG reduction target, identify and assess climate hazards, and develop both a climate change mitigation and adaptation plan. Currently, 19 Canadian municipalities have committed to the Compact of Mayors, 10 of which are from Ontario (including Toronto). Staff support the City committing to the Compact as the City has already met the requirements of the Compact through its work on the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan. However, the City will need to assess how best to align with the federal and provincial governments to have consistency throughout all the different reporting mechanisms.

b. Chair to work with the Interdepartmental Working Group

Staff welcome the Chair's involvement with the City's interdepartmental working group that continues to coordinate the implementation of the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan.

c. Residential and commercial building standards

Ontario Building Code and Energy Efficiency

Minimum standards for construction are developed and maintained by the Province, through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The City is responsible for enforcing these regulations and cannot unilaterally impose higher standards of construction.

Amended in 2014, the Ontario Building Code has one of the highest design standards for energy efficiency in Canada. It currently requires all new low-rise residential

buildings to meet improved and prescriptive standards, or comply with EnerGuide or Energy Star.

Energy efficiency requirements for other buildings were also amended, requiring them to exceed current compliance standards found in the American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning or the Model National Energy Code for Buildings.

Commencing in 2017, the Province has indicated that it will again be increasing energy efficiency requirements within the Ontario Building Code.

Green Checklist

The Planning and Growth Management department will work with stakeholders to revise and improve the green checklist, for certain planning application submissions. The checklist will provide the data needed to monitor green development features, including infrastructure. This data will help to inform policy by identifying where there is room to advance and improve green initiatives in land development.

Green Buildings

The Green Building Policy for the Construction of Corporate Buildings, approved by Council on September 28, 2005, and amended on September 26, 2007, requires an annual status update on City of Ottawa capital building projects being designed and delivered in accordance with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification rating system.

As part of the Green Building Policy initiative, internal supports have been put in place to support LEED certification for City-owned buildings. This includes the completion of Green Associate training, as well as the streamlining of the internal administration process, whereby a centralized resource provides better oversight and support for these projects.

3) Committee re-naming

The name Environment and Climate Protection Committee would signal the importance of climate change to the Committee and the city, and further align the municipality with the federal and provincial government departments Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, respectively.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

This report is city-wide in nature. Rural implications will be addressed as any changes are implemented.

CONSULTATION

There were no public consultations undertaken in association with this report.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

This report is City-Wide in nature.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) COMMENTS

Not applicable.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to implementing the recommendations in the report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

This work will assist to achieve our goals of sustainable environmental services.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no technological implications associated with this report.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

This work aligns to the Sustainable Environmental Services (ES) Strategic Priority: To provide sustainable environmental services that balance protection of our natural

resources and support the planned growth of the city with the duty to ensure fiscal sustainability and meet legislative requirements in the delivery of municipal services.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

None

DISPOSITION

Following approval by Council, staff will undertake to carry out the recommendations in this report, as appropriate.