



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Committee of the Whole

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: December 5, 2016

Subject: Report CSD16-031
Adoption of the Climate Change GHG Reduction Targets and
Action Plans

Purpose

A report to recommend adoption of the revised Greater Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSD16-031 dated December 5, 2016 of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That the revised Greater Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan be adopted and that the City's portion be implemented as budgets permit; and
- b) That the City of Peterborough's Community Sector and Corporate Sector greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 30% and 30% respectively, and associated local action plans, be adopted and implemented as budgets permit.

Budget and Financial Implications

There will be financial implications with the approval of the Great Peterborough Area's Climate Change Action Plan, which will be reflected in future decision-making and associated capital and operating budgets, subject to Council approval.

As a condition of the Federal Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund, all ten municipal partners must adopt their Corporate and Community Sector greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction emission targets and local action plans. Supporting council resolutions are required for Peterborough Economic Development to receive their final funding installment of approximately \$66,000.

Background

Council received Report CSD16-024 and the associated Climate Change Action Plan presentation from Lura Consulting on November 7, 2016. As outlined in the presentation, the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) for the Greater Peterborough Area follows the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection five-milestone framework. The objective of the CCAP is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the use of fossil fuels, lower our energy consumption, and adapt to our changing climate.

The Plan will identify goals, actions and emission reduction targets that fit with and address the needs of each of the ten participating municipalities and the two First Nations within the Greater Peterborough Area. Each of the twelve partners will have their own unique plans – one for their municipal/First Nations operations and another for their broader community.

Unlike a traditional plan, a target is something that you aim for. If you hit it great, if you don't then you adjust your sights and shoot again. The targets are set from 2011 to 2031, providing 20 years to make change happen, to advance technologies through life cycle replacement, and secure the opportunity that establishes the viable business case.

Milestone 1 – GHG Inventory

The greenhouse gas inventory, using 2011 as the base year, was received by Council, revised in August 2016 to better reflect that transportation sector, and is attached as Appendix C.

Milestone 2 – Set Emission Reduction Target

Following extensive staff and community engagement, greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and action plans were developed that align with the Transportation Master Plan, the Waste Management Master Plan, the Building Code and its anticipated changes, the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan, and the Official Plan. Targets were originally set to be quite aggressive, surpassing the Ontario Climate Change Action Plan, as shown in the Lura presentation. GHG emission reduction potentials were established for each action, as illustrated in the Chapter 1 - City of Peterborough Community and Corporate Climate Action Plans, September 30, 2016, attached as Appendix B.

Since that time, staff met to review the feasibility of the draft targets and proposed actions, specifically related to the alignment of City Plans and future cost and budget implications. Following this meeting, the targets have been revised to align with the Transportation Master Plan rather than push aggressively beyond. Recognizing that the targets must accommodate future growth, progress, and development until 2031, staff are recommending that the targets be reduced to 30% for both the Corporate and the Community Sectors rather than originally recommended targets of 40% and 39% respectively. The revision to the targets still place the City of Peterborough within the leadership range but at a slightly more conservative end, while recognizing the ongoing pressure in balancing operating and capital budgets.

City of Peterborough	Community Sector (CO₂ equivalent)	Corporate Sector (CO₂ equivalent)
2011 tonnes of GHG (estimated)	349,743	15,129
2031 GHG Forecast, based on population growth if nothing is done	389,587	16,852
Original GHG % Reduction Target	39%	40%
<i>Revised GHG % Reduction Target</i>	30%	30%

Milestone 3 – Develop the Action Plan

The action plan was modelled in partnership with the targets to ensure that a comprehensive strategy was in place to guide implementation. Just like the targets, the actions have been aligned with City Reports and Plans, as well as the Ontario Climate Change Action Plan and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The Greater Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan, September 30, 2016 and Chapter 1 - the City of Peterborough Community and Corporate Climate Action Plans, September 30, 2016, are attached as Attachments A and B, respectively. A condition of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund is that each of the partners must pass a Council resolution to adopt both the Community Sector and the Corporate Sector targets and associated action plans.

Milestone 4 – Implement the Action Plan

Following the adoption of the Community and Corporate Targets and Action Plan, we will transition from planning to implementation. To coordinate the implementation, a CCAP Implementation Coordinator has been hired on a one-year contract through Lura Consulting. This position will be based out of the County of Peterborough, assisting the twelve partners and their communities. Further external funding will be sought to support extending this contract position.

One of the first projects will be to quantify the Corporate and Community actions implemented between 2012 and 2016. The Coordinator will work with ICLEI Canada to quantify where the City currently stands on its GHG reduction targets based on action accomplished in the early years. Within a year, staff will update Council on the progress of their actions and where they currently stand on their Corporate and Community GHG reduction targets.

Milestone 5 – Monitor Progress and Report Results

The CCAP Implementation Coordinator will assist with monitoring progress, tracking results and reporting out.

Ontario Climate Change Action Plan

The Ontario Climate Change Action Plan is a five-year plan that will help Ontario fight climate change over the long term by reducing pollution and growing the low-carbon economy. With the launch of Ontario's cap and trade program on January 1st, 2017, this program will be instrumental in generating the revenues to finance the fight against climate change.

The Greater Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan has been strategically aligned to match the direction set by the province. By adopting our local Climate Change Action Plan sets the Greater Peterborough Area ahead of the curve when it comes to expected changes directed by the Province in future years. It also strategically places the City of Peterborough and the Greater Peterborough Area in a position to be able to apply for the various funding programs proposed for 2017-2018.

Already the County and the City of Peterborough have been able to take advantage of funding projects with the award of an EcoCanada Grant and two Great Lakes Adaptation Projection Grants.

Summary

The City of Peterborough has demonstrated leadership and sustainability through the adoption of the Sustainable Peterborough Plan and now with adoption of the Great Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan. Developed as a regional collaboration, the Climate Change Action Plan provides the targets, the actions and the approach to guide the City of Peterborough and the Greater Peterborough Area towards a sustainable and resilient future.

Submitted by,

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Attachments:

- Appendix A – Greater Peterborough Area Climate Change Action Plan - September 30, 2016
- Appendix B – Chapter 1 – City of Peterborough Community and Corporate Climate Action Plans - September 30, 2016
- Appendix C – City of Peterborough – Corporate and Community Emissions Inventory Partners for Climate Protection Milestone 1 – revised August 1, 2016