



**City of Hamilton  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
AGENDA**

**Meeting #:** 20-008

**Date:** December 7, 2020

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Location:** Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall

All electronic meetings can be viewed at:

City's Website:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/council-committee/council-committee-meetings/meetings-and-agendas>

City's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton> or Cable 14

Loren Kolar, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2604

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**1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with \*)

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1. November 16, 2020

**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

**6. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

**7. CONSENT ITEMS**

**8. VIRTUAL DELEGATIONS**

8.1. Anja Dragicevic, respecting Mandatory Masks During Physical Activity

WITHDRAWN

**9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS**

9.1. Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Annual Report (BOH20023) (City Wide)

9.2. Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to Present (to be distributed)

**10. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

10.1. Food Advisory Committee 2021 Budget Request (BOH20024)

**11. MOTIONS**

**12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS**

**14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**



## **BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES 20-007**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Monday, November 16, 2020**

**Council Chambers**

**Hamilton City Hall**

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**Present:** Mayor F. Eisenberger  
Councillors M. Wilson (Vice-Chair), J. Farr, N. Nann, S. Merulla, C. Collins, T. Jackson, E. Pauls, J.P. Danko, B. Clark, M. Pearson, B. Johnson, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek and J. Partridge

**Absent with  
Regrets:** Councillor T. Whitehead – Personal

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### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**1. 2020 Board of Health Self-Evaluation (BOH20021) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

**(Ferguson/Clark)**

That Report BOH20021, respecting the 2020 Board of Health Self-Evaluation, be received.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**2. Radon Prevalence in Hamilton (BOH20022) (City Wide) (Item 9.1)**

**(Clark/Pauls)**

That Report BOH20022, respecting Radon Prevalence in Hamilton, be received.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)**

There were no ceremonial activities.

**(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)**

The Committee Clerk advised the Board of the following changes:

**5. COMMUNICATIONS**

5.2 Correspondence from Margarita De Antunano respecting the Mandatory Mask By-law.

Recommendation: Be received.

5.3 Correspondence from John Neary, MD, respecting tighter measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 in the City of Hamilton.

WITHDRAWN

- 5.4 Correspondence from the Ministry of Health respecting AIDS & Hepatitis C Programs This item has attachments.

Recommendation: Be received.

**(Pearson/Ferguson)**

That the agenda for the November 16, 2020 Board of Health be approved, as amended.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

**(i) October 19, 2020 (Item 4.1)**

**(Pearson/VanderBeek )**

That the Minutes of the October 19, 2020 meeting of the Board of Health be approved, as presented.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann

YES	-	Ward 4	Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5	Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10	Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

**(e) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)**

**(Danko/Nann)**

That the following Correspondence items be received:

- (i) Correspondence from Stephanie Draper respecting Mandatory Masks During Physical Activity (Item 5.1)
- (ii) Correspondence from Margarita De Antunano respecting the Mandatory Mask By-law (Added Item 5.2)
- (iii) Correspondence from the Ministry of Health respecting AIDS & Hepatitis C Programs (Added Item 5.4)

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**(f) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)**

**(i) Delegation Request from Anja Dragicevic, respecting Mandatory Masks During Physical Activity (for a future meeting) (Item 6.1)**

**(Pearson/Johnson)**

That the Delegation Request from Anja Dragicevic, respecting Mandatory Masks During Physical Activity (for a future meeting), be approved, for a future meeting.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**(g) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS / VIRTUAL DELEGATIONS (Item 8)**

**(i) Kaley Metler respecting 5G Roll-out in the City of Hamilton (Item 8.1)**

Kaley Metler addressed the Board with concerns respecting a 5G roll-out in the City of Hamilton.

**(Ferguson/Clark)**

That the delegation from Kaley Metler respecting a 5G roll-out in the City of Hamilton, be received.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla

YES	-	Ward 5	Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10	Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
ABSENT	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

**(h) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)**

**(i) Radon Prevalence in Hamilton (BOH20022) (City Wide) (Item 9.1)**

Kevin McDonald, Director, Healthy Environments Division; and Dr. Bart Harvey, Associate Medical Officer of Health, addressed the Board with an overview of Radon Prevalence in Hamilton (BOH20022) (City Wide).

**(Johnson/Ferguson)**

That the presentations respecting Radon Prevalence in Hamilton (BOH20022) (City Wide), be received.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 2.



**(ii) Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to Present (Item 9.2)**

Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health and Stephanie Hughes, Epidemiologist, Healthy and Safe Communities, addressed the Board with an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to present, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

**(Clark/Pauls)**

That the Presentation respecting an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to present, be received.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
ABSENT	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

**(i) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL (Item 14)**

**(i) Closed Session Minutes of October 19, 2020 (Item 14.1)**

**(Jackson/Farr)**

That the Closed Session Minutes of October 19, 2020, be approved as presented.

**Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:**

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins

YES	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
ABSENT	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10	Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

**(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

**(Jackson/Clark)**

That, there being no further business, the Board of Health be adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger  
Chair, Board of Health

Loren Kolar  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk



Hamilton

# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Board of Health
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 7, 2020
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Annual Report (BOH20023) (City Wide) <b>(Outstanding Business List Item)</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Trevor Imhoff (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1308
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Kevin McDonald Director, Healthy Environments Division Public Health Services
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## COUNCIL DIRECTION

Clean Air Hamilton reports annually to Board of Health on the trends of local air quality and the actions undertaken by members of Clean Air Hamilton to address local air quality in Hamilton.

## INFORMATION

Clean Air Hamilton is a community initiative to improve air quality in the City of Hamilton. It has a diverse membership with representation from environmental organizations, industry, businesses, academic institutions, citizens and different levels of government (federal, provincial and municipal).

Initiated in 1998, Clean Air Hamilton works to improve air quality throughout the City of Hamilton and meet all ambient air quality criteria. Public Health Services' Air Quality and Climate Change team supports the work of Clean Air Hamilton and other work related to air quality and climate change.

Clean Air Hamilton continues to follow the previously developed five strategic themes related to air quality improvement:

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

1. Governance & Structure;
2. Air Zone Management;
3. Transportation;
4. Air Monitoring; and,
5. Dust and Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) Mitigation.

In 2019 Clean Air Hamilton agreed to actions identified by the Air Quality Task Force's (AQTF) 2018 workshop which identified three main areas of focus including:

1. Education;
2. Air Quality Monitoring; and,
3. Hamilton Airshed Modelling System.

These actions were assigned responsibility and created a three-year workplan for completion. By the end of 2019 Clean Air Hamilton has completed five of the fourteen actions within the 2019-2022 work plan. These actions included:

- Completion of a Communication and Education Awareness Strategy for Clean Air Hamilton to implement;
- Fresh Air for Kids 2019 program. More details on page four of this report;
- Friendly Streets Initiative 2019 program. More details on page four of this report;
- Trees Please 2019 program. More details on page five of this report; and,
- Hamilton's Airshed Model Sub-Regional Analysis. This information was presented to Board Health (BOH19039). More information can also be found at <http://cleanairhamilton.ca/>.

Further details can be found in Appendix "A" to Report BOH19039.

### **Air Quality in Hamilton**

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) monitors air quality across Hamilton using the network of air quality monitoring stations across Hamilton. This network consists of provincially owned air quality monitoring stations, air quality stations through the Hamilton Air Monitoring Network (HAMN), as well air pointers owned and operated by the City of Hamilton.

Air quality data is submitted to Clean Air Hamilton and Hamilton Public Health Services annually which is reported to Board of Health and the community. The air quality data submitted shows a significant reduction in many of the monitored air pollutants since 1996. Concentrations of air pollutants are still much lower than compared to 20 years ago. However, based on the 2019 air quality data submitted, there appears to be increase concentrations, as compared to previous years, from the following criteria air contaminants:

- Suspended Particulate Matter Trend – two Industry Stations increasing between 2017-2019;

- Respirable Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) – Mountain Station increasing between 2016-2019;
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) – Industry and Downtown Stations above new annual average air standard;
- Benzene – Industry 1 and Industry 2 Stations increasing between 2018-2019; and,
- Benzo(a)pyrene – Industry 2 and Industry Stations increasing between 2018-2019.

In 2018 the Province of Ontario approved decision (EBR# 013-0903) to reduce annual average air standard for SO<sub>2</sub> to 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, based on vegetation damage with exposure to this substance. This decision contains a phase-in period and the air standard will take effect on July 1, 2023<sup>1</sup>.

In recent years Hamilton has experienced reduced concentrations of the following criteria air contaminants:

- Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) – at Hamilton Downtown, Hamilton Mountain and Hamilton West Stations, including the annual average between 2018-2019
- Inhalable Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) – at 2 Industry and 2 City Stations between 2018-2019
- Respirable Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) – at Hamilton Downtown and Hamilton West Stations between 2018-2019

Although PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations were reduced at several air quality stations across Hamilton, MECP data shows that Hamilton continues to have the highest concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> relative to other municipalities across Ontario that have air quality stations measuring PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

### **2019 Air Quality Alerts**

Two different air quality alerts are issued during periods of poor air quality. A Special Air Quality Statement will be issued when the Air Quality Health Index is a high risk (>6) and is forecast to last for one to two hours. If the high-risk Air Quality Health Index is forecast to be a persistent duration of at least three hours, then a Smog and Air Health Advisory will be issued by the Province of Ontario.

In 2019, Hamilton did not experience any Special Air Quality Statements or Smog and Air Health Advisory instances. For more information on current and historical air quality concentrations in Hamilton and across Ontario see: <http://www.airqualityontario.com/>.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Environmental Registry (2018). Regulatory amendments related to air emissions of sulphur dioxide and other items. Retrieved from: <https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMyOTQ1&statusId=MjA1MjUz>

Clean Air Hamilton notes that air pollution concentrations can be different at a local neighbourhood level and some areas of Hamilton can and do experience higher air pollution concentrations than others across the City.

### **Clean Air Hamilton Programs 2019**

#### **A. Fresh Air For Kids:**

Throughout the 2019-2020 Fresh Air For Kids (FAFK) school year, five schools participated which had the MECP mobile air monitoring van visit, neighbourhood air monitoring, safe routes to school planning, and idling behaviour monitoring. The objectives of the program include:

1. To learn about air quality issues in Hamilton by taking an active role in collecting and analyzing data, and inspiring the scientists of the next generation;
2. To observe a reduction in engine idling at local schools and reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions through education and student-led campaigning; and,
3. To reduce our impact on the environment by taking deliberate action to affect behavioural change.

Although the number of schools participating was lower in the Winter 2020 Term than the Fall 2019 Term due to the strike and COVID-19 pandemic, the FAFK programs still had 181 students participate with great signs and other engagement tools created.

#### **B. Friendly Streets Hamilton:**

Friendly Streets Hamilton is a collaborative initiative between Cycle Hamilton and Environment Hamilton. The program encourages active, safe travel and aims to secure safer streets. The program piloted in 2017 with great success. In 2019, the program received Clean Air Hamilton funding to continue their work from 2018 to combine street-level air quality monitoring with their street audits.

Due to concerns raised from local neighbourhood residents from previous street audits, Friendly Streets and the Truck Route collaborative conducted industrial truck counts over a total of eight days, with each truck counting day lasting for twelve hours. These counts were made possible from the dedicated list of volunteers. Count results ranged from 78 to 388 trucks per count with the highest frequency of trucks occurring at Queen St and York Blvd.

The Friendly Streets program also conducted walking and cycling audits around parts of Hamilton including Hamilton General Hospital and the Gibson and Landsdale neighbourhood. Community reception was very positive with approximately twenty-five participants, including a very young child on training wheels.

The Friendly Streets program completed several education and awareness strategies including local media, delegations to City Council and community surveys. Air quality continues to be of critical concern to residents and community members.

**C. Trees Please:**

Trees Please is a citizen science project with all data collected being completed by teams of volunteers who have been trained. The project comprised two main parts:

1. Tree inventorying (measuring, identifying and noting any challenges on trees); and,
2. Collecting air quality data, specifically particulate matter levels.

The tree inventory is completed using iTree Eco, a free software program from the USDA Forest Service that calculates tree benefits. For air quality data the project uses Dylos air quality monitoring device that measures levels of particulate matter.

The goal of this project is to engage residents on local issues around air quality and urban forest health, by helping community members to understand that trees can help improve air quality and provide many other benefits. This project focused on the Parkview Neighbourhood where 411 trees were inventoried that included species identification, tree size and tree health/damage assessment. A number of air monitoring walkabouts in the neighbourhood also took place. To promote the walkabouts over 600 flyers were handed out in the neighbourhood.

Other tree planting initiatives took place to increase the native tree canopy which included:

- Free trees giveaway that gave out thirty-one trees in total; and,
- Community tree planting in partnership with City of Hamilton Forestry Division, which planted 250 native trees with help from 45 volunteers.

**Air Quality Programs in 2020**

Clean Air Hamilton through third party adjudication of funding applications identified two programs to improve air quality in 2020:

1. Green Venture and Corr Research Inc. Fresh Air for Kids (\$10,700); and,
2. Environment Hamilton's – Trees Please (\$14,168).

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there has been delays in releasing the funding. Funding agreements have been extended with final reports due to Clean Air Hamilton by July 31, 2021. The results of these programs will be reported in the Clean Air

Hamilton 2020 Air Quality Progress Report and presented to the Board of Health in 2021.

### **Future Actions**

There has been substantial improvement in Hamilton's air quality since the 1970s; however, air pollution continues to create adverse health impacts to Hamilton residents. Continued, concerted actions are imperative to further improve air quality in the City of Hamilton. Collaboration from individuals, organizations, industries, the City of Hamilton and other levels of government are required to reach our goals. In the future, Clean Air Hamilton will:

- Continue to support and undertake all the recommendations of the Air Quality Task Force (BOH13029) and Board of Health report (BOH18016) in the areas of air modelling and monitoring, planning education and outreach, green infrastructure and advocating for municipal policies that encourage and facilitates behavioural change to active and sustainable transportation and alternative forms of efficiency and renewable energy for buildings;
- Continue to support and encourage Hamiltonians to reduce their transportation emissions through the use of alternatives including: public transit, bicycles, walking, hybrid or electric vehicles, etc. and support policies such as complete streets and transportation demand management; and,
- Encourage the continued efforts of the MECP and industry to reduce air borne contaminants in the City of Hamilton and the Province of Ontario.

### **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix "A" to Report BOH20023: Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Air Quality Progress Report





# Clean Air Hamilton

## 2019 Air Quality Progress Report

### November 2020



# Table of Contents

Message from the Chair.....	3
Strategic Activities & Meeting Dates.....	4
Clean Air Hamilton - 2019 Funded Projects.....	5
Fresh Air for Kids.....	5
Friendly Streets.....	7
Trees Please.....	8
The Importance of Land Use Compatibility .....	9
Best Management Practices for Building Demolition .....	9
Ambient Air Quality Trends and Comparisons .....	10
Conclusions.....	17
References .....	17
Air Quality Additional Resources.....	18
2019 Members.....	19
Acronym List .....	20



Top Row (left to right): Brian Jantzi, Nico Strabac, George McKibbon, Bruce Newbold (Chair), Dan Dobrin, Andrew Sebestyen, Ed Cocchiarella

Bottom Row (left to right): Trevor Imhoff, Denis Corr, Tiffany Singh, Shelley Rogers, Joel Kaushansky, Lynda Lukasik, Waverley Birch, Karen Logan

Missing: Giuliana Casimirri, Robert Clackett, Rob Conley, Natalie Stacey, Charles Hostovsky, John Lundrigan, Fran Scott, Sara Yonson

## Message from the Chair

I am pleased to provide the Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Report which provides annual air quality data and highlights our on-going work to improve air quality in Hamilton. For previous years' activities please go to:

<http://www.cleanairhamilton.ca>

Over the past year, we continued our work to make improvements to Hamilton's air quality. We now enjoy cleaner air more than in the past, and 2019 Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) data (see pages 10-17), show reduced concentrations of several monitored air pollutants across a number of the study locations. Reductions were seen in ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), inhalable particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) and respirable particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

Nevertheless, there were occasional accidents such as demolitions in Hamilton in 2019 that resulted in a dense dust cloud that spread through north Hamilton, raising health concerns among local residents. Public Health's toxicological analysis of the dust collected by the MECP concluded low risk for exposure or long-term concerns with health. As a result, the city's Dust and Particulate Matter Committee, with active participation from industry has developed beneficial resources and guidance materials for construction and demolition projects that will be supplied with any city issued permits.

The Provincial government has also continued to recognize the need to improve air quality, with the province releasing the cumulative effects assessment maps for Hamilton (benzene and benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) in 2019). The maps help businesses see where the cumulative effects policy

applies and informs additional requirements within these areas through the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) process. Air quality monitoring data shows there has been ongoing improvement in both BaP and benzene levels in recent years (see page 16).

Clean Air Hamilton's mandate includes involving and informing our citizens of all these issues and giving sound, science-based advice and recommendations. Reflecting this, we had begun planning for our bi-annual Upwind-Downwind conference. Planned for June 2020, a sub-committee of Clean Air Hamilton met regularly to begin planning for the event. Unfortunately, COVID -19 disrupted those plans, and the 2020 event was cancelled, although we are proceeding with alternate, virtual options.

We thank Healthy and Safe Communities and Hamilton City Council for their ongoing support of Clean Air Hamilton and its special projects. Funding has allowed us to work closely with local partners including Environment Hamilton, Corr Research, and Green Venture on projects that have raised awareness amongst local citizens about air quality issues, as well as working to improve local air quality. Together, Clean Air Hamilton and its various partners are working to reduce emissions as well as our personal exposures and live healthier lives. Clean Air Hamilton's special projects and this report helps us to do that.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. B. Newbold".

Bruce Newbold, Ph.D.  
Chair, Clean Air Hamilton

## Strategic Activities

Clean Air Hamilton is dedicated to improving air quality across the City of Hamilton. This is accomplished through sound science-based decision making, using the most up-to-date information and tools available, such as the Hamilton Airshed Model (HAMS) and air monitoring data from the MECP and Hamilton Air Monitoring Network. Clean Air Hamilton focuses on education and outreach, air quality monitoring, and continues to update the HAMS and identify major sources of pollution to prioritize action for maximum air quality improvement and exposure reduction. Clean Air Hamilton has identified the following issues for research, communication and program activities in collaboration with our partners.

### Governance & Structure:

Remain a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to improving air quality by increasing public perception and expanding Clean Air Hamilton membership while providing communication and promotion of realistic, science based decision making and sustainable practices.

### Air Zone Management:

Comply with the MECP and Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards. This is done using a systematic approach aligning with the federal Air Zone Management Framework (AZMF) and support for a mandatory industrial air emission monitoring regulation.

### Transportation:

Encourage and facilitate more use of public and active transportation through commentary on transportation-related matters, supporting educational programs and localized monitoring leading to detailed information to encourage changes in behaviour.

### Air Monitoring:

Improve air monitoring activities across the City of Hamilton by providing support for additional portable air monitors and fixed air monitors that provide real-time monitoring for contaminants of concern in Hamilton.

### Dust & PM<sub>2.5</sub> Mitigation:

Lower concentrations of PM<sub>2.5</sub> across the City of Hamilton below Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards by effectively utilizing the airshed model to create partnerships and pollution inventory specific to street sweeper and dust mitigation program.

### 2019 Meetings

January 14, 2019  
February 11, 2019  
March 11, 2019  
April 8, 2019  
May 13, 2019  
June 10, 2019  
August 12, 2019  
September 9, 2019  
October 7, 2019  
November 18, 2019  
December 2, 2019

### 2020 Meetings

January 13, 2020  
February 10, 2020  
March 9, 2020  
n/a  
\*May 11, 2020  
\*June 8, 2020  
\*July 13, 2020  
\*September 14, 2020  
\*October 19, 2020  
\*November 9, 2020  
\*December 14, 2020

### Clean Air Hamilton Meetings

Clean Air Hamilton meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month located at 71 Main Street West, City Hall, Room 192/93. As of May 11th, 2020 and until further notice, all meetings are being held virtually. (\*Denotes virtual meetings )



Photo courtesy of Tourism and Culture Division, City of Hamilton

# Clean Air Hamilton (CAH) - 2019 Funded Projects

Clean Air Hamilton is an innovative, multi-stakeholder agent of change dedicated to improving air quality in our community. In 2019, Hamilton Public Health Services provided \$35,000 to fund projects resulting in air quality improvement and awareness. These projects

provide benefits that have reached hundreds of citizens and contributed to improving Hamilton’s air quality through monitoring, promotion and increasing awareness. Clean Air Hamilton is proud to support the 2019 funded projects.

## Fresh Air for Kids

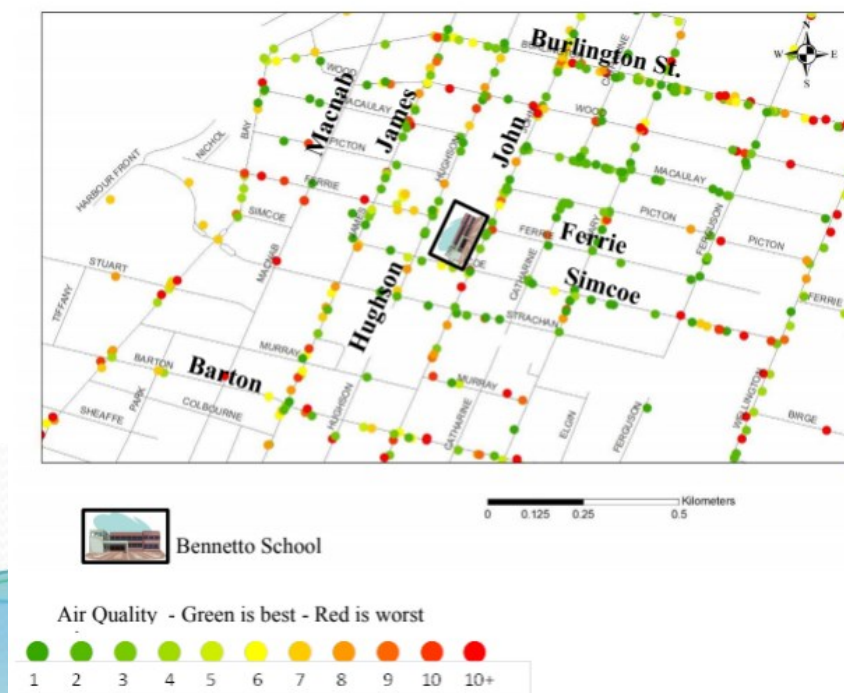


In 2019, Green Venture and Corr Research teamed up to provide the Fresh Air for Kids program to four Hamilton elementary schools. The focus is educating students, teachers and the public about air quality around schools and the detrimental

impact of engine idling. The program took place over a series of four visits and was delivered to Allan A. Greenleaf, Bennetto, and Strathcona Elementary Schools, and Our Lady of Peace Catholic Elementary Schools. The program included classroom work, in-the-field air monitoring and anti-idling awareness, and reached 181 children.

Students were taught about the importance of air quality and about the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI). They also gained an awareness of how their actions can impact and improve the air in their neighbourhoods. Students were able to measure local PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>. The MECP Mobile Air Monitoring van was also used to monitor air quality near the participating schools. This baseline data was developed into air quality maps which students used to decide the best route to travel to and from their school.

### Air Quality in the neighbourhood of Bennetto Elementary School



## Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Funded Projects Cont'd...

### Enhanced Fresh Air for Kids

#### Post Participation Comments

*“My favourite part when was we got to time people idling.”*  
– Student at Allan. A. Greenleaf Elementary School

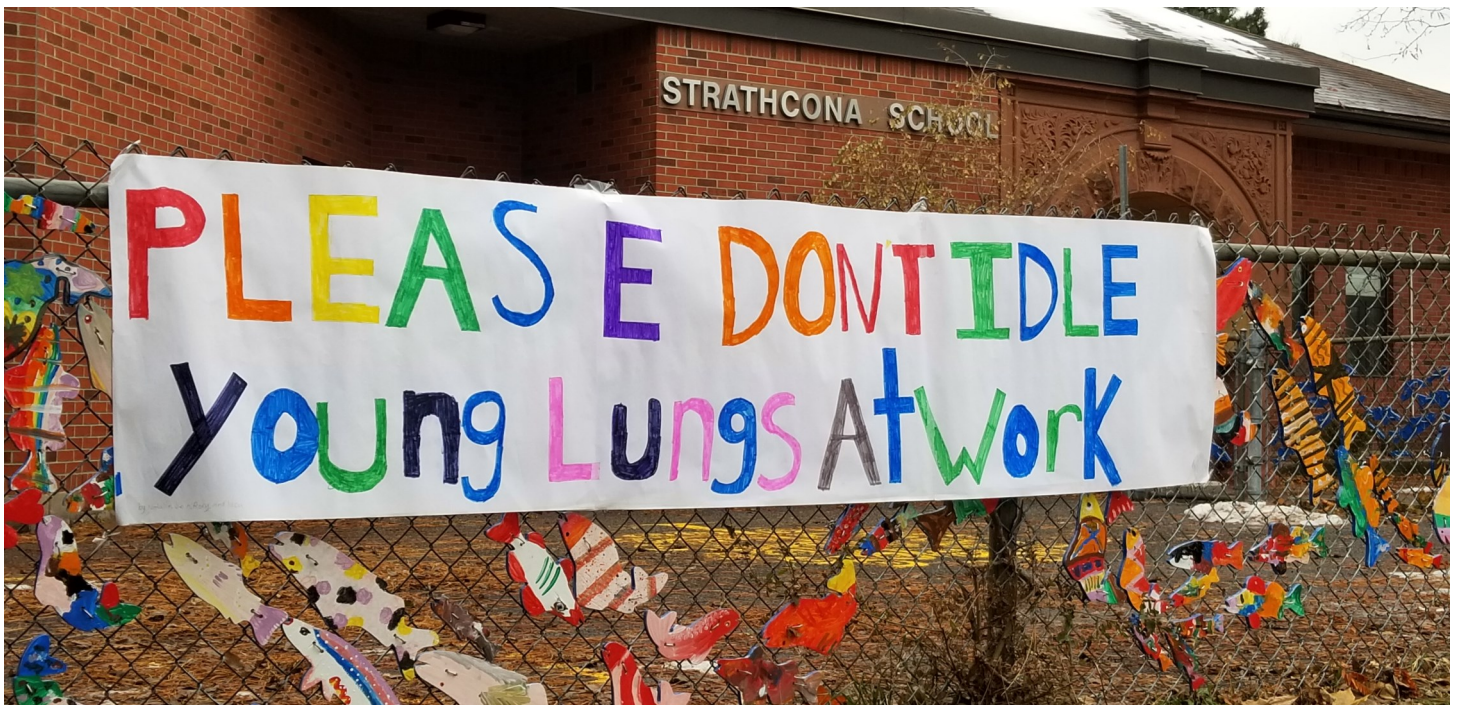
*“My favourite part of the program was the idling campaign.”*  
– Student at Bennetto Elementary School

*“All of it [was my favourite part of the program].”* – Student at Strathcona Elementary School

*“[The program provides] hands on activities that build learning over multiple sessions. Very engaging.”* – Teacher feedback from Strathcona Elementary School.



Above: A student from Strathcona Elementary holds up a quilt made in class



The City of Hamilton [Anti-Idling By-law No. 07-160](#) can be found on the City's Bylaw website at:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/government-information/by-laws-and-enforcement/city-hamilton-by-laws>

## Friendly Streets Hamilton

Working together towards more walkable, bikeable neighbourhoods, Friendly Streets is a collaborative between Environment Hamilton and Cycle Hamilton, designed to engage community stakeholders in securing safer cycling and walking conditions in urban Hamilton. The program piloted in 2017 with great success. In 2018, the program received Clean Air Hamilton funding to conduct street-level air quality monitoring with street audits. In 2019, renewed support from Clean Air Hamilton allowed air quality-focused work in these neighbourhoods to both continue and increase.

The 2018 street audits raised concerns from local neighbourhood residents propelling a Friendly Streets and Truck Route collaborative in 2019 to conduct industrial truck counts over a total of eight days, across 12 hour periods. These counts were made possible from the dedicated group of volunteers. Count results ranged from 78 to 388 trucks per count with the highest frequency of trucks occurring at Queen St and York Blvd.



Above: Industrial truck counter volunteers

The Friendly Streets program also conducted walking and cycling audits around parts of Hamilton including Hamilton General Hospital and the Gibson and Landsdale neighbourhood. Community reception was very positive with approximately 25 participants.

The Friendly Streets program completed several education and awareness strategies including local media, delegations to Hamilton City Council and community surveys.



Above left: Participants of the Ward 3 cycling audit with Ward Councillor Nrinder Nann. Above Right: Participants cycling down Barton Street

## The Importance of Land Use Compatibility

Coordinated municipal land use planning and the MECP (Ministry) air quality policy and regulation are needed to create healthy communities. The Ministry created land use compatibility policies in the 1980s. These policies buffered and separated industry from sensitive land uses like schools and residences. In the 1990s, responsibility for application of these land use policies in Official Plans and Zoning Bylaws was delegated from the Ministry to municipalities such as Hamilton.

This delegation separated the responsibility for applying land use compatibility policy from the Ministry's air quality management and regulation responsibilities. While the Ministry innovated new air computer modelling techniques and air standards regulations, land use compatibility policy didn't evolve in sync with these changes. For example, no compatibility policy was developed to address the Ministry's new policies and regulations for air quality in Ontario including:

- New air zone management and cumulative effects policy;
- Application of site specific and technical air quality standards; or
- New and intricate provisions of *Ontario Regulation 419/05: Air Pollution – Local Air Quality*.

The City of Hamilton has also recently developed Hamilton's Airshed Modelling System that needs to be taken into consideration as well along with these new policies and regulations.

Hamilton's Planning Act decisions must be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement 2014 (PPS 2014).

In 2019, Clean Air Hamilton commented on Ontario's proposed land use compatibility revisions to the PPS 2014. These revisions strengthen land use compatibility requirements. Clean Air Hamilton believes strengthened land use compatibility policy and regulation will improve community health and strengthen our industrial sector.

Our challenge now is to help innovate and integrate Ministry air quality policy on cumulative effects, air zone management, and alternative standard setting procedures into Hamilton's Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw.

## Best Management Practices for Building Demolition

Hamilton's building demolition approval process should be updated to ensure demolitions for higher risk commercial and industrial demolitions follow best practice for dust management - when the Planning Act does not apply. The province can empower municipalities the authority to regulate dust mitigation plans and/or Designated Substance Surveys for non-residential and residential demolition permit application by updating the Ontario Building Code, 1992 to reflect *Ontario Regulation 419/05: Air Pollution – Local Air Quality*.

Together with Hamilton's new Airshed Model, renewed land use compatibility policies and an improved building demolition process, we will create healthier Hamilton communities and stronger viable industries!



## Clean Air Hamilton 2019 Funded Projects Cont'd...

### Trees Please!

Trees Please! is a citizen science project that collects data with a team of volunteers trained to use specialized equipment. The project comprises a tree inventorying (measuring, identifying and noting any changes on trees) and collecting air quality data, specifically particulate matter levels. The goal of this project is to engage residents on local issues around air quality and urban forest health, by helping community members understand that trees can help improve air quality among many other benefits.

When air quality data is layered with tree maps, strategic tree planting areas can be determined based on those areas with high particulate pollution as well as poor urban canopy tree cover. The main goal is to plant native trees in these vulnerable areas. By working with the neighbourhood residents, tree canopies can be increased through a variety of ways, including an organized free tree giveaway and by partnering with the City's Forestry Division in a community tree planting.

#### Main goals achieved:

1. Inventoried 411 existing trees in the Parkview Area. This included measuring, identifying and noting any challenges the trees faced
2. Organized air quality monitoring walkabouts and distributed over 600 flyers
3. Increased the native tree canopy through a Free Tree Giveaway (31 trees in total)
4. Organized a community tree planting in 2019, planting 250 native trees with 45 volunteers



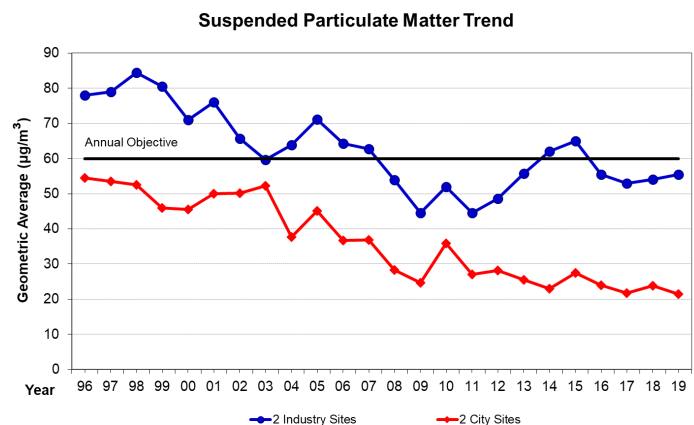
Above: Tree measurement for inventory; Parkview neighbourhood; City's Forestry division and a volunteer during the 2019 community tree planting event

# Hamilton's Ambient Air Quality Trends 2019

## Particulate Material: Total Suspended Particulate (TSP)

Total suspended particulate (TSP) includes all particulate material with diameters less than about 45 micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ ). A substantial portion of TSP is composed of road dust, soil particles and emissions from industrial activities and transportation sources.

There has been a steady decline in TSP at municipal and industrial sites. The 2019 emissions at industrial sites are below the annual objective (AO). The AO is the desired concentration established by the MECP as documented in the Ontario Ambient Air Quality Criteria (AAQC).



Included in the TSP category are inhalable particulates ( $\text{PM}_{10}$ ) and respirable particulates ( $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ).

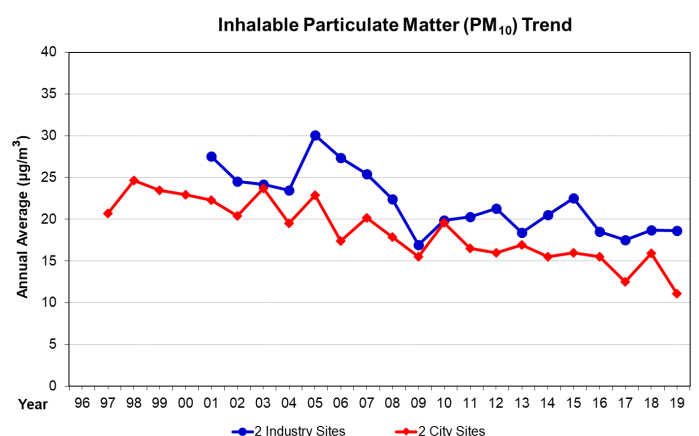
## Particulate Material: Inhalable Particulate Matter ( $\text{PM}_{10}$ )

Inhalable particulate matter ( $\text{PM}_{10}$ ) has a diameter of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.  $\text{PM}_{10}$  makes up 40-50% of TSP in Hamilton and has been linked to respiratory, cardiovascular and other health impacts in humans.<sup>1</sup>

$\text{PM}_{10}$  is primarily derived from vehicle exhaust emissions, industrial stack and fugitive dusts (non-stack), and the finer fraction of re-entrained road dust.

$\text{PM}_{10}$  at City sites has steadily decreased over the past two decades. This is likely a combination of:

- Better performance of vehicle fleets
- Improved process emissions
- Increased management of dust track-out by industries, and
- The use of better street sweepers and street sweeping practices by the city

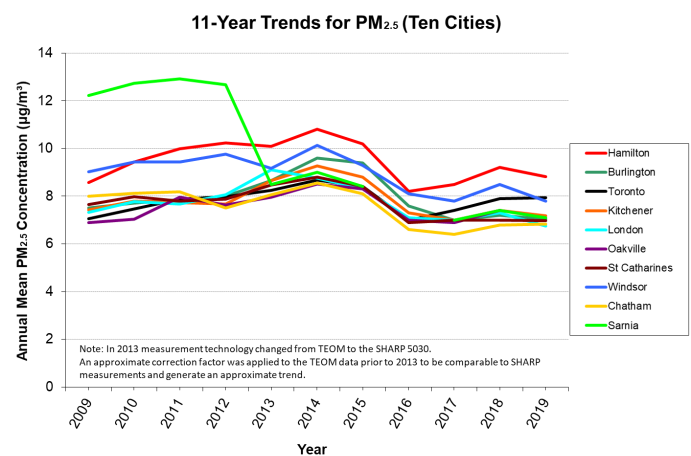
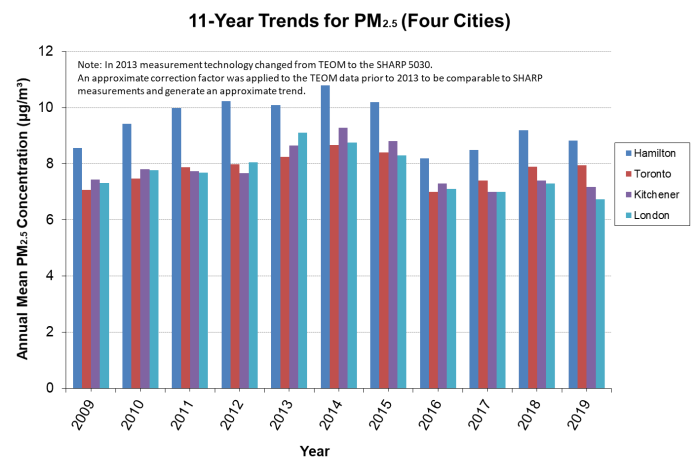
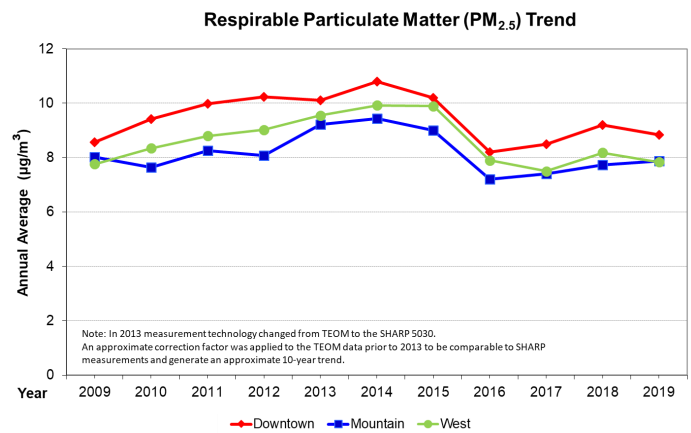


## Particulate Material: Respirable Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)

The Ontario government started measuring PM<sub>2.5</sub> across Ontario in 1999. PM<sub>2.5</sub> makes up about 60% of PM<sub>10</sub> and in cities is mostly derived from residential and transportation sectors. Another significant portion of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is regionally generated emissions that can travel hundreds of kilometers via wind from where they originated. These transboundary flows play a significant role in Ontario's air quality.

Exposure to fine particulate matter has been associated with hospital admissions and several serious health effects, including premature death<sup>2</sup>. The trend in PM<sub>2.5</sub> showed a 3.5% decrease per year since 1999 until 2009 at the downtown and mountain air quality health index sites.

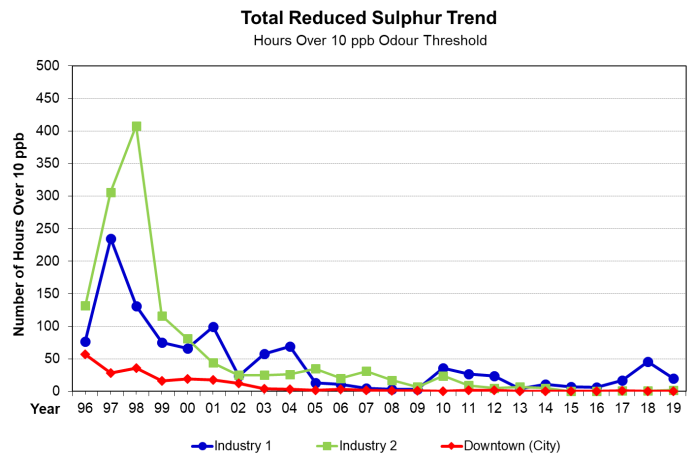
The apparent increase in 2013 is not reflective of a change in air quality but is a result of change in monitoring to a more sophisticated and sensitive PM<sub>2.5</sub> monitoring technology. There has been a decline in PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations across Hamilton with a slight peak in 2019. The Mountain and West remain below the Annual Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standard (CAAQS). CAAQS became more stringent in 2020 (decreasing from 10.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 8.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>) and therefore more work will be needed to meet the standards for Downtown.



## Total Reduced Sulphur (TRS)

Total Reduced Sulphur (TRS) is a measure of the volatile, sulphur-containing compounds that are the basis of many of the odour complaints related to steel mill operations. TRS compounds are not normally considered a health hazard. An odour threshold has been set at 10 parts per billion (ppb) TRS because at this level about one-half of any group of people can detect an odour similar to the smell of rotten eggs.

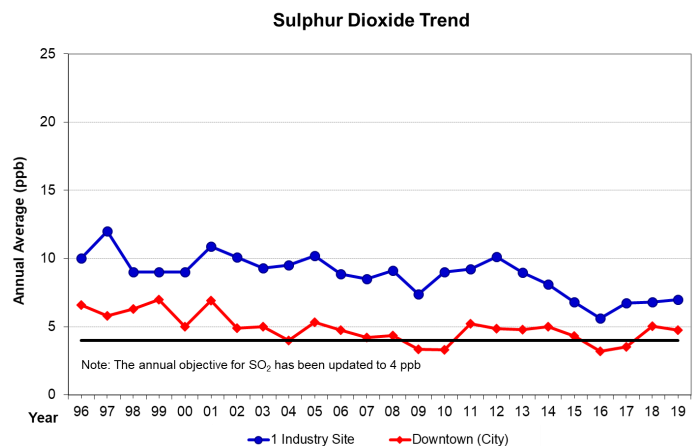
The number of hours per year in which measurements exceed 10 ppb have been reduced by over 90% since the mid-1990s. This is due to significant changes in the management and operation of the coke ovens, blast furnaces and slag quenching operations associated with steel mill operations.



## Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)

Sulphur Dioxide is the product of industrial activity with over 90% generated within the City. SO<sub>2</sub> is not only a respiratory irritant but is converted in the atmosphere over several hours to sulphuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), which is then converted to sulphate particles. These particles tend to be acidic and cause lung irritation.

Significant reductions in air levels of SO<sub>2</sub> were made in the 1970s and 1980s. Since 1998, there has been a gradual and continuous decline in air levels of SO<sub>2</sub> besides the recent increase in 2016 and 2017 and very slight increase for industrial site 1 in 2019.



## Ground Level Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)

Ozone is regional in nature and not emitted directly into the atmosphere but is formed from precursor emissions including NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs. O<sub>3</sub> is a colourless, odourless gas at ambient concentrations and is a major component of smog<sup>3</sup>.

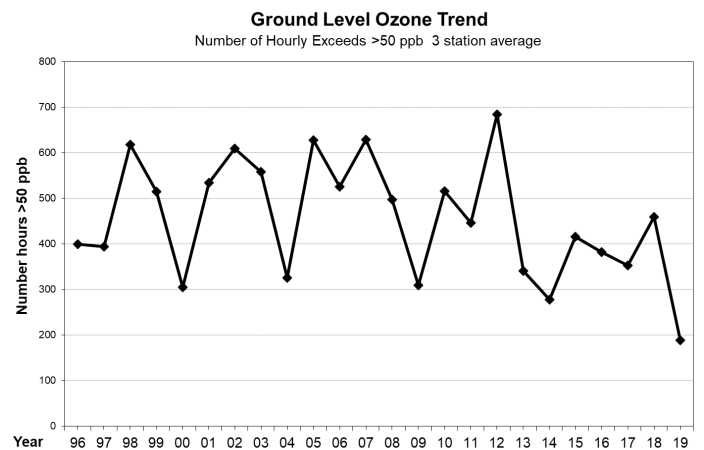
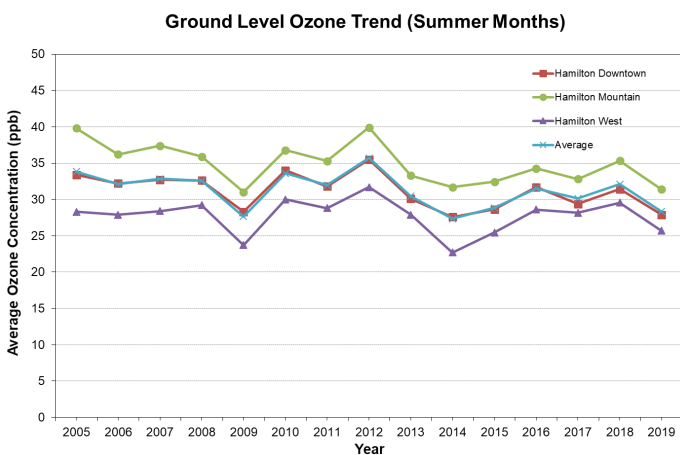
Ground-level ozone is not emitted directly into the atmosphere. It results from photochemical reactions between oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the presence of sunlight<sup>3</sup>. This is why O<sub>3</sub> concentrations are higher during summer months, generally from May to September.

Sources include:

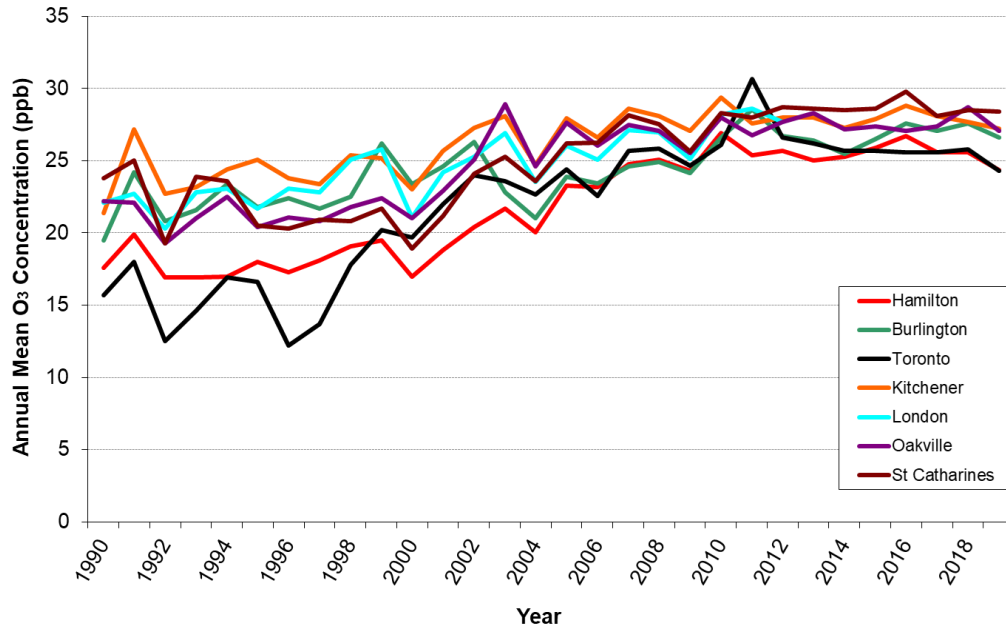
- coal-fired power plants
- vehicles
- urban activities

The trend in O<sub>3</sub> shows that concentrations have been highly variable in the past 20+ years and showed a marked decrease for 2019 for almost all seven cities (see page 14). O<sub>3</sub> is a main contributor for Hamilton’s Special Air Health Advisories (SAHA) and Special Air Quality Statements (SAQS), and unlike other pollutants, the majority of O<sub>3</sub> comes from precursors emitted by sources upwind of Hamilton such as the Midwest Ohio Valley region. Sources from Hamilton contributing to O<sub>3</sub> pollution will affect areas downwind of Hamilton which makes lowering O<sub>3</sub> very important.

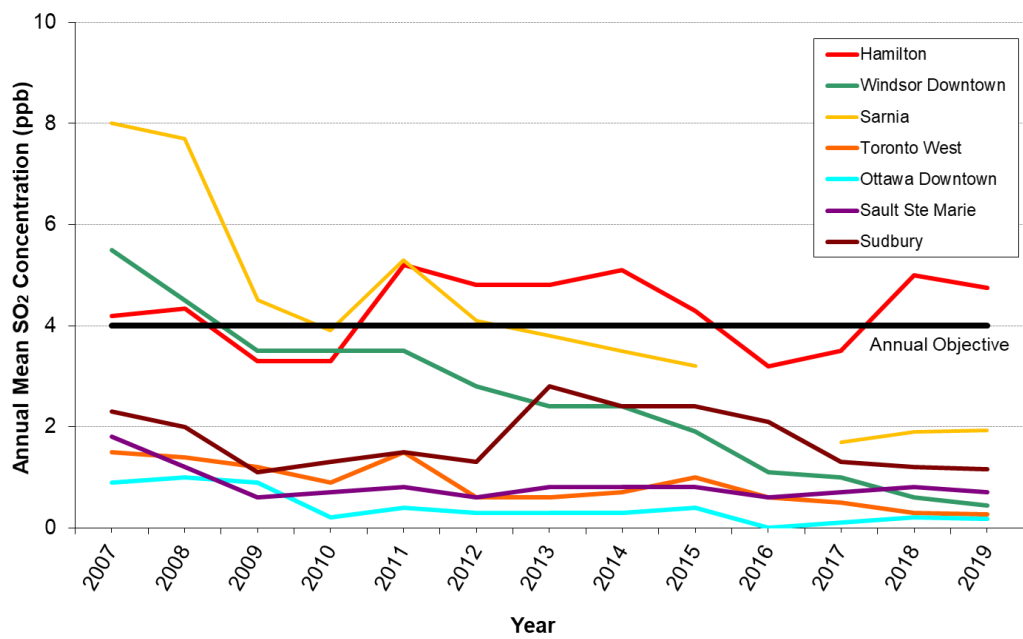
The number of hourly exceedances greater than 50 ppb decreased in 2019 in part because O<sub>3</sub> is formed from precursor emissions of NO<sub>x</sub> and VOCs which decreased in that time period.



29-Year Trends for Ozone (Seven Cities)



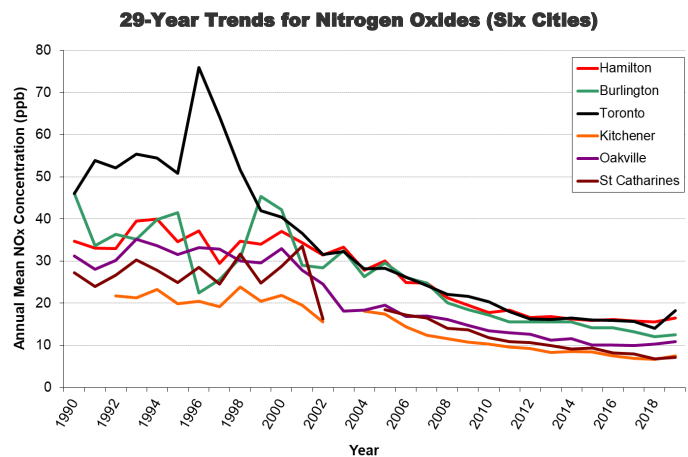
12-Year Trends for Sulphur Dioxide (Seven Cities)



## Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)

Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) are the collective term and combined total of Nitrogen Monoxide (NO) and Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>). NO and NO<sub>2</sub> are routinely measured and their sum reported as NOx to reflect the presence of both species in urban areas.

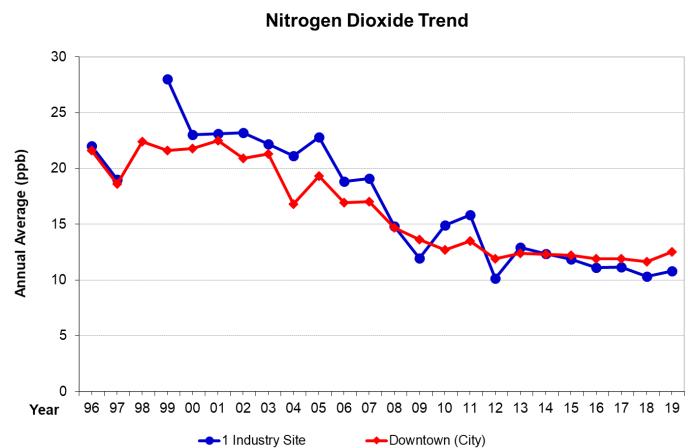
This chart displays the steadily decreasing trend of NOx in six cities in Ontario, including Hamilton. Since the 1990s Toronto has seen reductions in NOx levels of approximately 60%. Hamilton's NOx levels have decreased by approximately 46% since 1990. The slower decrease of NOx levels in Hamilton is presumably due to the fact that Toronto does not have other sources (for example, industrial emissions) that contribute to overall NOx levels that Hamilton has. The



decrease in NOx levels is a reflection of Improvements in emission performance of the vehicle fleets in Ontario over the past decade as well as industrial process improvements.

## Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>)

NO<sub>2</sub> is formed in the atmosphere from NO which is produced during combustion of fuels (i.e. gasoline, diesel, coal, wood, oil and natural gas) and is responsible for a significant share of the air pollution-related health impacts in Hamilton. The leading sectors producing these emissions are the transportation and industrial sectors. The level of vehicle use across Hamilton has increased slightly during the past decade, however overall NO<sub>2</sub> levels have decreased most likely due to improved engine technologies.



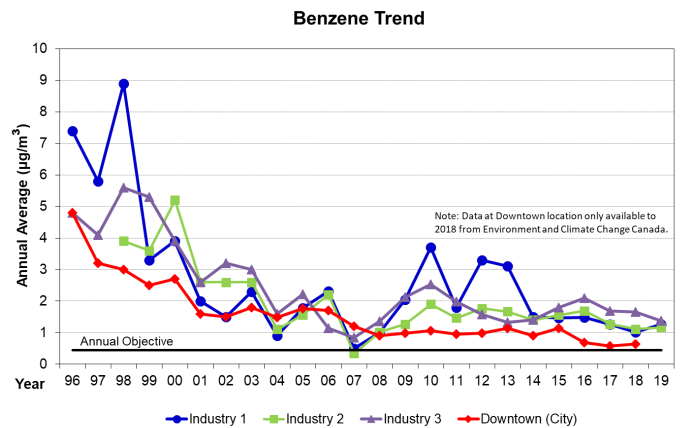
## Nitrogen Oxide (NO)

NO is ultimately converted to NO<sub>2</sub> which reacts with water in the atmosphere to produce nitric and nitrous acids (HNO<sub>3</sub> and HNO<sub>2</sub>, respectively); these acids are converted into nitrate salts that constitute about 25% of the mass of fine particulate matter or PM<sub>2.5</sub>.

## Benzene

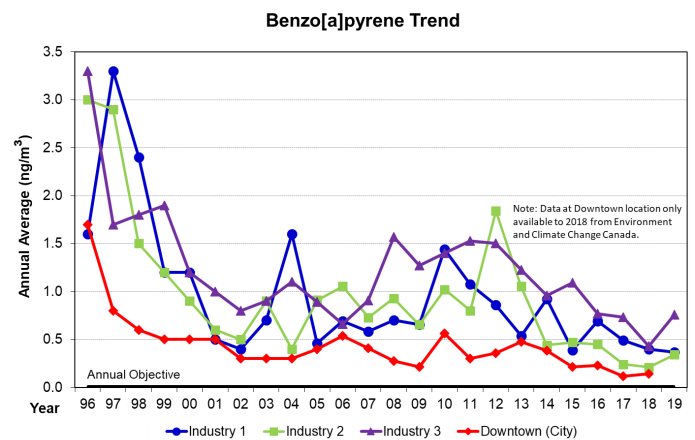
Benzene is a carcinogenic (cancer causing) VOC that is emitted from some operations within the steel industry, specifically coke ovens and coke oven by-product plant operations. Benzene is also a significant component of gasoline, which can be up to 5% benzene. Vapours containing benzene are released during pumping at gasoline stations.

Air levels of benzene have been reduced dramatically since 1990's, due to significant upgrading of coking plant operations, improved operating procedures and improved control of release of benzene vapours from the coke by-products. More work remains to be done to reduce exposures to benzene.



## Benzo[a]pyrene

Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) is also a carcinogen. BaP is a member of a larger class of chemical compounds called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are emitted when carbon-based fuels such as coke, oil, wood, coal and diesel fuel are burned. The principal sources of BaP in Hamilton are released from coke oven operations within the steel industry. Additional activities including any incomplete combustion producing smoke such as vehicle traffic, burning of refuse, cooking, tobacco smoking, and wood burning. There have been significant decreases in BaP levels since the late 1990s and further decreases since 2013. BaP concentrations for downtown for 2019 were not available.





## Conclusions

In 2019, the City of Hamilton provided financial and in-kind support to Clean Air Hamilton and its activities. Descriptions of some of the programs supported by Clean Air Hamilton can be found on pages 5 - 8 in this report.

This annual funding is leveraged significantly in two ways: first, Clean Air Hamilton uses these funds in partnership with funds provided by other agencies and institutions to develop programs related to air quality; second, since all of the members of Clean Air Hamilton donate their time and expertise, there is a significant amount of in-kind support provided. It is estimated that Clean Air Hamilton's partners provide well over \$200,000 in in-kind support.



Bruce Newbold, Ph.D.  
Chair, Clean Air Hamilton



**Hamilton Air Monitoring  
Network Beach Strip Station 29102**

## Public Health Services Airpointer



For more information contact Public Health Services (905) 546-2424 ext. 5288

## References

- <sup>1</sup> SENES Consulting Ltd. (2011), *Health Impacts Exposure to Outdoor Air Pollution in Hamilton, Ontario*. Retrieved from <http://cleanairhamilton.ca/air-quality-trends/> (i.e. Inhalable particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) is the airborne particles that have diameters of 10 µm or less. PM<sub>10</sub> makes up 40-50% of TSP in Hamilton and has been linked to respiratory, cardiovascular and other health impacts in humans.)
- <sup>2</sup> Air Quality Ontario, <http://www.airqualityontario.com/science/pollutants/particulates.php>
- <sup>3</sup> Air Quality Ontario, <http://www.airqualityontario.com/science/pollutants/ozone.php>

## Air Quality - Additional Resources

To learn more about Clean Air Hamilton and our work visit [www.cleanairhamilton.ca](http://www.cleanairhamilton.ca).

For annual air quality trends provided by the MECP, please see pages 10 through 16 of this report.

### Air Quality and Health

To learn about how to protect your health visit:  
[www.airhealth.ca](http://www.airhealth.ca)

To learn about Hamilton Public Health Services and actions on air quality visit:  
<http://preview.hamilton.ca/public-health/health-topics/air-quality-pollution-smog>

### Government Actions on Air Quality

To learn about the Province of Ontario's actions on

air quality visit: [www.airqualityontario.com/](http://www.airqualityontario.com/)

To learn about the Government of Canada's actions on air quality visit: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/Air/default.asp?lang=En&n=14F71451-1>

### Air Quality Monitoring

For a detailed model of hourly concentrations for a variety of pollutants across Hamilton visit:  
<http://www.hamiltonaqhi.com>

To check our air pollution levels in Hamilton and Ministry run air monitors visit:



Who we are:

"Clean Air Hamilton is an innovative, multi-stakeholder agent of change dedicated to improving air quality in our community. We are committed to improving the health and quality of life of citizens through communication and promoting realistic, science-based decision-making and sustainable practices."



## 2019 MEMBERS

- Bruce Newbold, *Chair -McMaster University*
  - ArcelorMittal Dofasco
  - Citizens
  - City of Hamilton - *Community Initiatives\**
  - City of Hamilton Planning - *Community Planning*
  - City of Hamilton Public Works - *Office of Energy Initiatives*
  - City of Hamilton Public Works - *Transportation Demand Management\**
  - Corr Research
  - Cycle Hamilton Coalition Inc.
  - Environment Canada\*
  - Environment Hamilton
  - Green Venture
  - Hamilton Conservation Authority
  - Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association
  - Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority
  - Hamilton Public Health Services
  - Health Canada\*
  - The Lung Association
  - McKibbin Wakefield Inc.
  - McMaster Institute for Healthier Environments
  - Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks
  - (MECP) - *Hamilton Regional Office*
  - Mohawk College\*
  - Ontario Environmental Assessment Corporation (OEAC)
  - Stelco
- \* indicates "observing member"



This report and the work of our members is dedicated to the memory of Clean Air Hamilton member  
Peter Chernetz  
(1949—2019)

## Clean Air Hamilton, October 2020

Production: Public Health Services  
City of Hamilton

### For further information, please contact:

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Public Health Services,  
Healthy Environments Division,  
Healthy & Safe Communities Department  
City of Hamilton  
110 King St. W. 3rd Floor Hamilton, ON, L8P 4S6  
Robert Thompson Building

Phone: 905-546-2424 Ext. 1275  
Email: [cleanair@hamilton.ca](mailto:cleanair@hamilton.ca)  
or visit our website:  
[www.cleanairhamilton.ca](http://www.cleanairhamilton.ca)

## Acronym List

**AO:** Annual Objective

**AAQC:** Ambient Air Quality Criteria

**AQHI:** Air Quality Health Index

**BaP:** benzo[a]pyrene

**CAAQS:** Canadian Ambient Air Quality Standards

**ECA:** Environmental Compliance Approval

**HAMS:** Hamilton Airshed Model

**HNO<sub>3</sub>:** Nitric Acid

**HNO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrous Acid

**MECP:** Ministry of Environment, Conservation  
and Parks

**NO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrogen Dioxide

**NO<sub>x</sub>:** Nitrogen Oxides

**O<sub>3</sub>:** Ozone

**OEAC:** Ontario Environmental Assessment  
Corporation

**PPB:** Part per Billion

**PAH:** Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons

**PM:** Particulate matter

**PPS:** Provincial Policy Statement

**SO<sub>2</sub>:** Sulphur Dioxide

**SAQS:** Special Air Quality Statement

**TRS:** Total Reduced Sulphur

**VOC:** Volatile Organic Compound

---

This report was prepared for Clean Air Hamilton with contributions from :

- The Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association (Heidi Levitzky)
- The City of Hamilton (Trevor Imhoff),
- McMaster University (Dr. Bruce Newbold), and
- McKibbin Wakefield Inc. (George McKibbin)





# CLEAN AIR HAMILTON 2019 PROGRESS REPORT

December 7, 2020

Hamilton Board of Health



**Clean Air Hamilton**  
**2019 Air Quality Progress Report**  
**November 2020**

**Bruce Newbold, Ph.D.**  
Chair  
Clean Air Hamilton

**[www.cleanairhamilton.ca](http://www.cleanairhamilton.ca)**

*Photo courtesy of Tourism and Culture  
Division, City of Hamilton*

# Clean Air Hamilton

## Members:

Local Citizens

Ontario MECP

Health Canada

Environment Canada

ArcelorMittal Dofasco

Stelco

Friendly Streets

Green Venture

McMaster University

MIHE

Mohawk College

Environment Hamilton

City of Hamilton

Public Health

Planning

Public Works



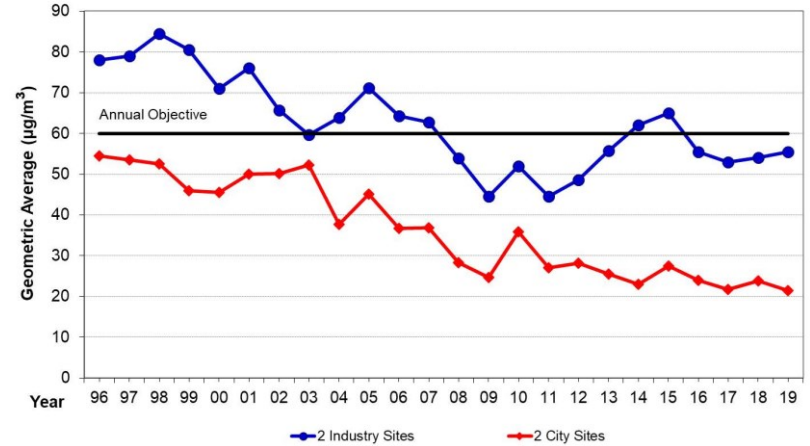
- Science based / Diverse / Inclusive / Facilitated Consensus
- CAH established as an implementation committee to act on recommendations contained in 1997 Hamilton Air Quality Initiative Reports
- Community based initiatives
- Internationally recognized
- Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month

# Hamilton's Air Quality Trends

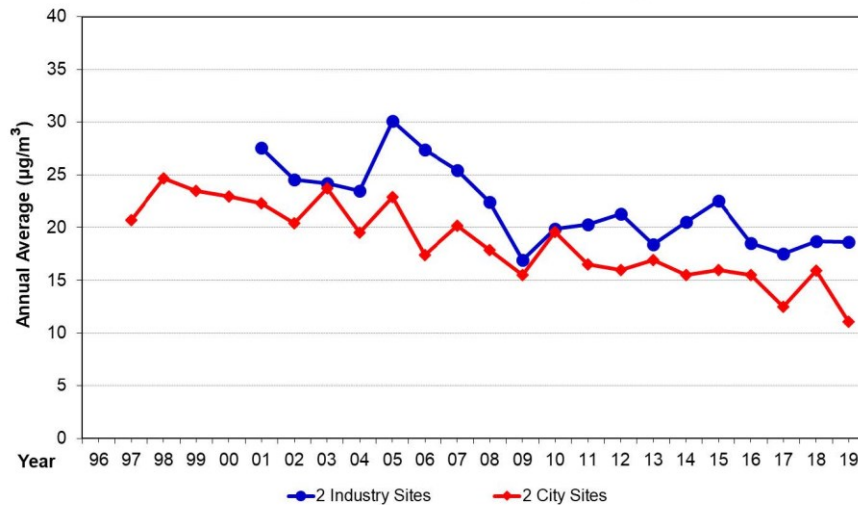
## Particulate Matter (TSP, PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>)



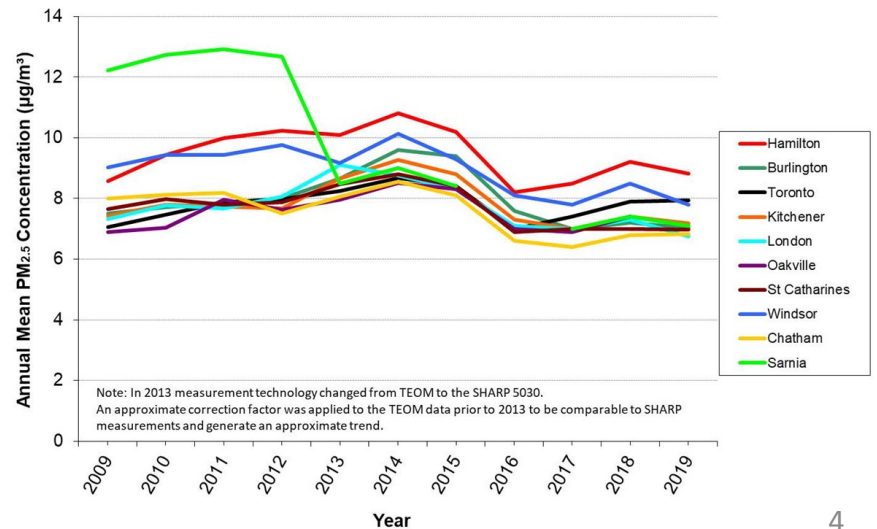
Suspended Particulate Matter Trend



Inhalable Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) Trend



11-Year Trends for PM<sub>2.5</sub> (Ten Cities)

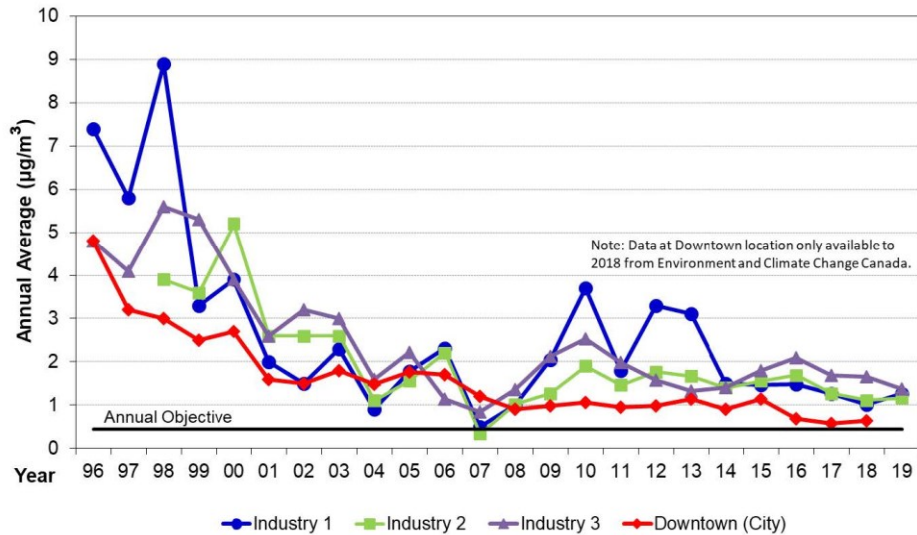




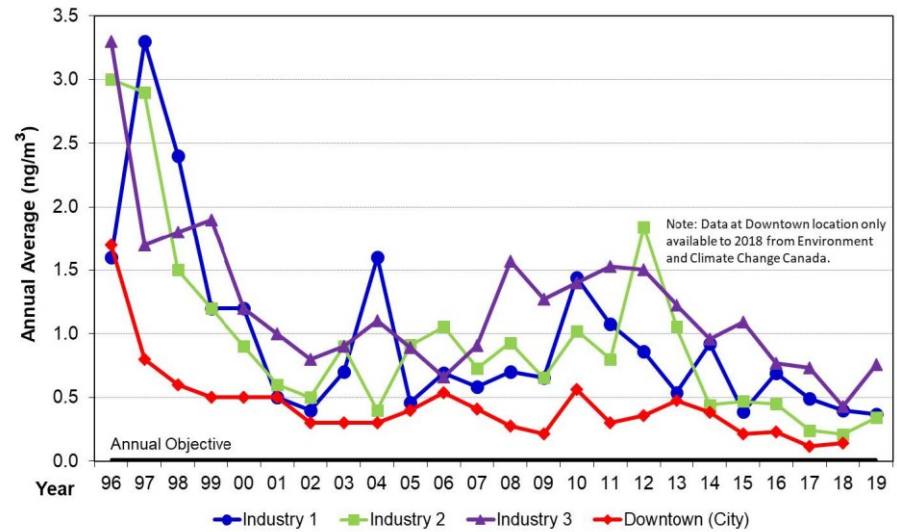
# Hamilton's Air Quality Trends

## Benzene and Benzo[a]pyrene

### Benzene Trend



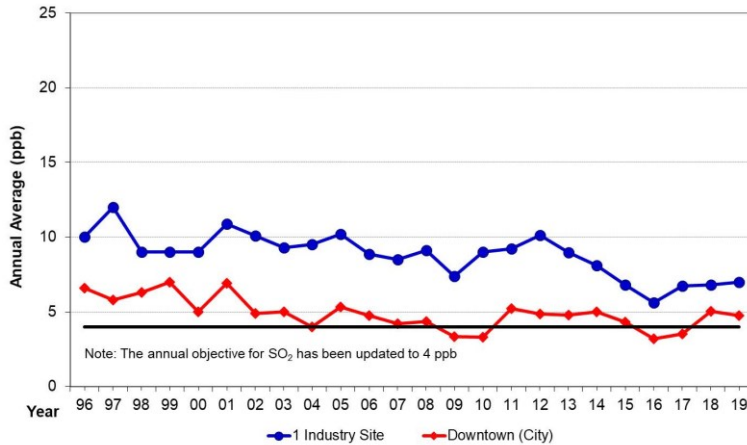
### Benzo[a]pyrene Trend



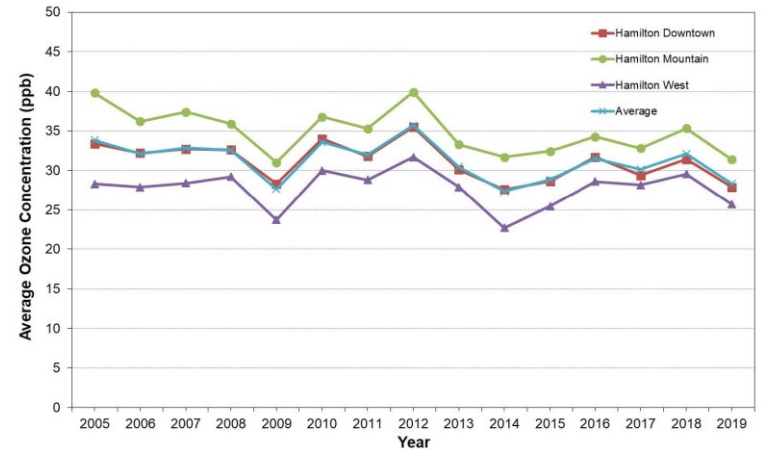
# Hamilton's Air Quality Trends

## Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)

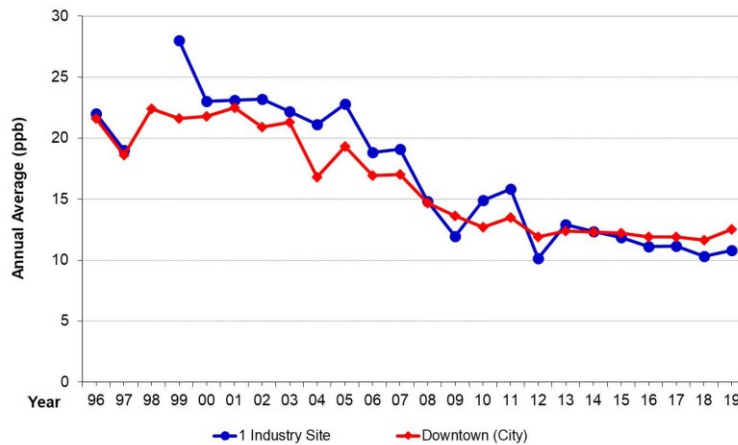
Sulphur Dioxide Trend



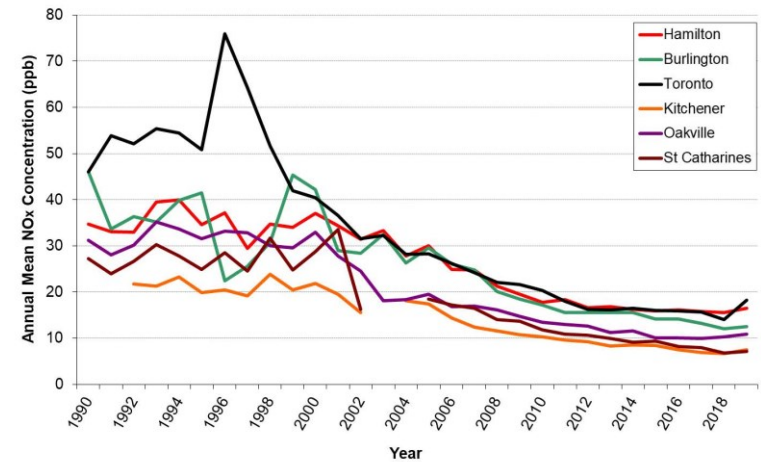
Ground Level Ozone Trend (Summer Months)



Nitrogen Dioxide Trend



29-Year Trends for Nitrogen Oxides (Six Cities)



# 2019 Community Projects Supported Through Clean Air Hamilton

- **Enhanced Fresh Air for Kids** (Green Venture and Corr Research)
  - Famous Fresh Air for Kids program with anti-idling engagement and campaign at participating schools.
- **Friendly Streets Hamilton** (Cycle Hamilton and Environment Hamilton)
  - Conducting street-level audits within a one km radius of the General hospital while educating the public about air quality challenges and measuring PM<sub>2.5</sub>.
- **Trees Please** (Environment Hamilton and the Hamilton Naturalists Club)
  - Collection of air quality and tree inventory data and planting 500+ trees in Ward 4.



# 2020 Community Projects Supported Through Clean Air Hamilton

Approved 2020 Projects through Healthy Environment Division's Operating Budget

- **Fresh Air for Kids** (Green Venture and Corr Research)
  - Mobile air monitoring around four schools across Hamilton, virtual class presentations on results and importance of Air Quality Health Index.
- **Trees Please** (Environment Hamilton)
  - Tree Giveaways, Particulate Matter Monitoring, and introduction of heat sensors in Ward 4 and lower City neighbourhoods.



# Future Actions

- Continue to support education and outreach, air quality monitoring, and using the Hamilton Airshed Modeling System to identify major sources of pollution to prioritize action for maximum air quality improvement and exposure reduction.
- Support initiatives aimed at reducing transportation related green house gas emissions such as expansion of bike lanes and SoBi.
- Support expansion of electric vehicle charging station infrastructure in Hamilton.
- Continue to support groups like Clean Air Hamilton aimed at improving air quality and public health across the City of Hamilton.

## Why?

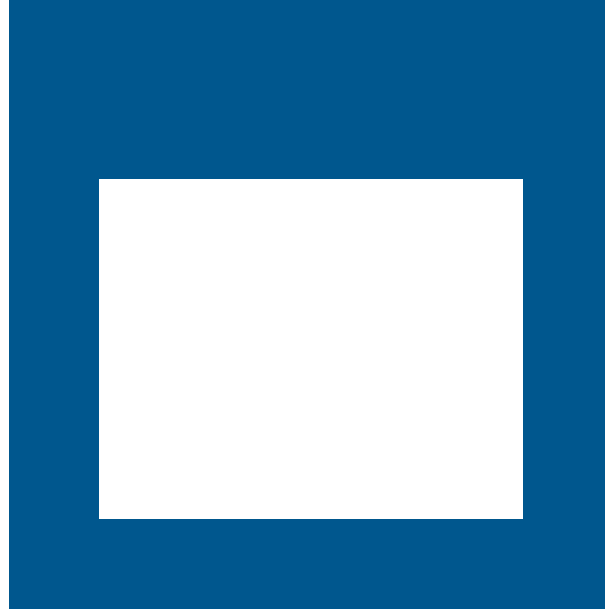
To ensure the health and well-being of the citizens of Hamilton.





Thank you,  
On behalf of  
***Clean Air Hamilton***





# Public Health Services COVID-19 Situation Report & Status of Programs






Board of Health  
December 7, 2020

# Overview

1. Provincial Response Framework
2. COVID-19 Situation Report
  - Case Activity
  - Outbreak Activity
3. Further Restrictions
4. Hamilton COVID-19 Response Table Updates
5. COVID-19 Vaccination Plan
6. Unintended Consequences of COVID-19
7. Staffing & Recruitment Update



# Provincial Response Framework Indicators

 <b>PREVENT</b> (Standard Measures)	 <b>PROTECT</b> (Strengthened Measures)	 <b>RESTRICT</b> (Intermediate Measures)	 <b>CONTROL</b> (Stringent Measures)	 <b>LOCKDOWN</b> (Maximum Measures)
<p><b>Epidemiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly incidence rate is &lt; 10 per 100,000</li> <li>% positivity is &lt; 0.5</li> <li>Rt &lt; 1</li> <li>Outbreak trends/ observations</li> <li>Level of community transmission/non-epi linked cases stable</li> </ul> <p><b>Health System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital and ICU capacity adequate</li> </ul> <p><b>PH System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case and contact follow up within 24 hours adequate</li> </ul>	<p><b>Epidemiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly incidence rate is 10 to 24.9 per 100,000</li> <li>% positivity is 0.5-1.2%</li> <li>Rt is approximately 1</li> <li>Repeated outbreaks in multiple sectors/settings OR increasing/# of large outbreaks</li> <li>Level of community transmission/non-epi linked cases stable or increasing</li> </ul> <p><b>Health System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital and ICU capacity adequate</li> </ul> <p><b>PH System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case and contact follow up within 24 hours adequate</li> </ul>	<p><b>Epidemiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly incidence rate is 25 to 39.9 per 100,000</li> <li>% positivity is 1.3-2.4%</li> <li>Rt is approximately 1 to 1.1</li> <li>Repeated outbreaks in multiple sectors/settings, increasing/# of large outbreaks</li> <li>Level of community transmission/non-epi linked cases stable or increasing</li> </ul> <p><b>Health System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital and ICU capacity adequate or occupancy increasing</li> </ul> <p><b>PH System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case and contact follow up within 24 hours adequate or at risk of becoming overwhelmed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Epidemiology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly incidence rate <math>\geq</math> 40 per 100,000</li> <li>% positivity <math>\geq</math> 2.5%</li> <li>Rt is <math>\geq</math> 1.2</li> <li>Repeated outbreaks in multiple sectors/settings, increasing/# of large outbreaks</li> <li>Level of community transmission/non-epi linked cases increasing</li> </ul> <p><b>Health System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital and ICU capacity at risk of being overwhelmed</li> </ul> <p><b>PH System Capacity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public health unit capacity for case and contact management at risk or overwhelmed</li> </ul>	<p>Trends continue to worsen after measures from Control level are implemented.</p>

# Provincial Response Framework Indicators

## Epidemiology

	Previous (20 Nov)	Previous (27 Nov)	CURRENT (4 Dec)	Trend
Weekly incidence rate/100,000	41.5	59.7	79.7	↑
% positivity	2.5	2.8	3.2	↑
Effective reproductive number ( $R_t$ )	0.85	1.19	1.20	↑
% of community-acquired cases	26.5%	27.9%	21.9%	↓
Increasing number of outbreaks among Long Term Care Homes and workplaces. Total of 22 active outbreaks; 7 outbreaks > 10 cases.				

## Public Health System Capacity

	Previous (20 Nov)	Previous (27 Nov)	CURRENT (4 Dec)	Trend
% newly reported cases reached within 1 day of reported date	90%	76%	58%	↓
% newly identified close contacts reached within 1 day of contact ID date	80%	81%	55%	↓

# Provincial Response Framework Indicators

Health System Capacity		
	Hospital	CURRENT (4 Dec)
Overall adult acute medicine & surgical hospital occupancy/funded acute beds	SJHH	94%
	HHS	100%
Overall adult acute Alternate Level of Care (ALC) hospital occupancy/funded acute beds	SJHH	23%
	HHS	15%
Overall adult critical care occupancy/funded Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds	SJHH	78%
	HHS	88%

\*SJHH = St Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton

\* HHS = Hamilton Health Sciences

# COVID-19 Situation Report

## Overview:

1. Case activity
2. Outbreak activity

# 1. Case activity

# Phases of COVID-19 in Hamilton

## Wave 2

### Phase 1: Pre-Peak Sept

- 179 cases reported
- Infections due to direct contact with other cases and undetermined sources
- 2 outbreaks
- Ongoing household spread, socialization, and those feeling ill not staying home
- 6 hospitalizations and 1 death
- 25,220 tests completed at Hamilton Assessment Centres

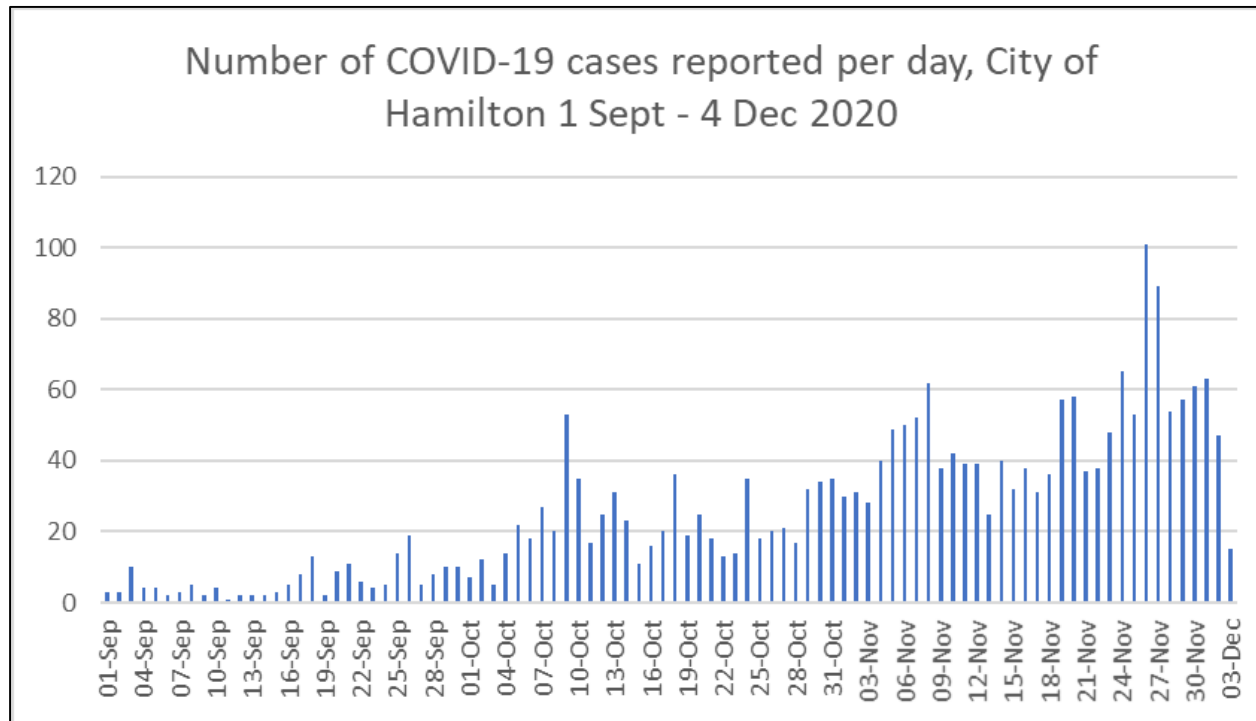
### Phase 2: Peak 1 Oct

- 693 cases reported
- Infections due to outbreaks, direct contact with other cases, and undetermined sources
- Public health guidance still being ignored
- 27 outbreaks
  - one large and notable: SPINCO, triggered early Oct peak
- 14 hospitalizations and 2 deaths
- 27,943 tests completed at Hamilton Assessment Centres

### Phase 3: Peaks 2+ Nov – 4 Dec

- 1,545 cases reported
- Infections due to outbreaks, direct contact with other cases, and undetermined sources
- Public health guidance still being ignored
- 44 outbreaks
  - one large and notable: Willowgrove, triggered early Nov peak
- 74 hospitalizations and 46 deaths
- 29,509 tests completed at Hamilton Assessment Centres

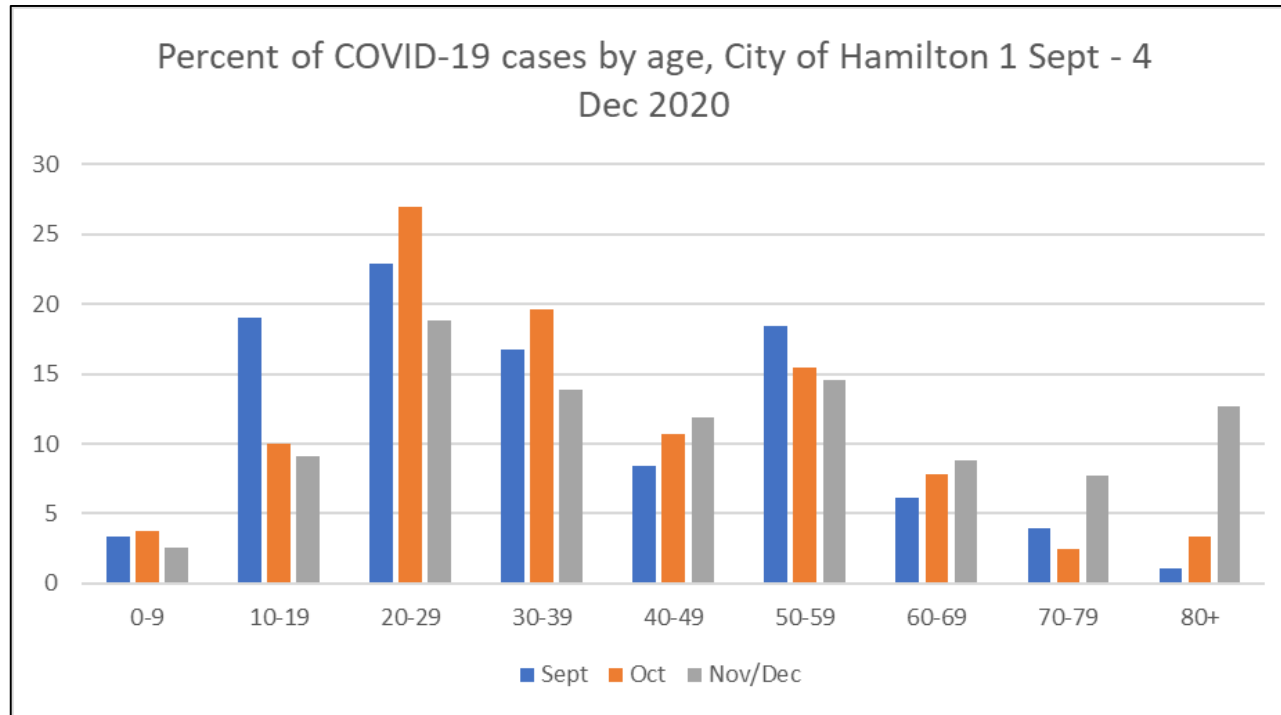
# Reported cases



## Key Messages

- COVID-19 case activity has increased drastically in the City of Hamilton since Sept 1, 2020
- Since Sept 1, 2020, the average number of cases reported per day has increased from ~1 to 67

# Age distribution



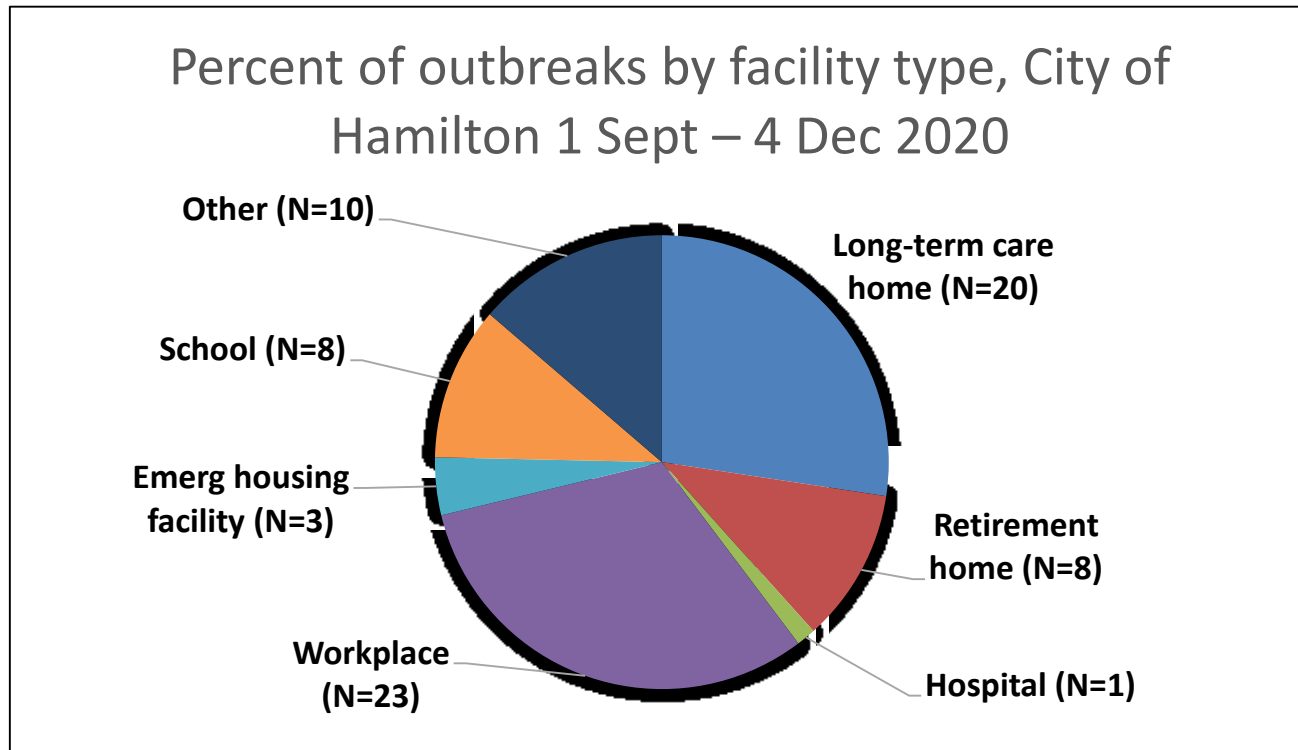
## Key Messages

- During Sept 1 – Dec 4, 2020 the highest percentage of cases occurred in the 20-29 year age group
- In Nov/Dec 2020, there has been a rise in the 80+ year age group



## 2. Outbreak activity

# Outbreaks (Sept 1 – Dec 4, 2020)



## Key Messages

- Most outbreaks have been in long-term care homes or workplaces
- Several notably large outbreaks

# Outbreaks (Sept 1 – Dec 4, 2020)

Facility type	Total cases	Staff cases	Resident/ patient cases	Visitor/other cases
Long-term care home	359	146	211	2
Retirement home	36	11	22	3
Workplace	86	86	0	0
Hospital	7	7	0	0
Emergency housing facility	4	3	1	0
School	24	17	7	0
Other	83	16	67	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>5</b>

## Key Messages

- There have been a total of 599 outbreak-associated cases of COVID-19
- The total number of resident/patient cases is greater than staff cases

# Further Restrictions to Decrease Local COVID-19 Transmission

- Reducing capacity and limits at shopping malls and retail establishments
- Active screening at workplaces, shopping malls and retail businesses
- Posting capacity limits based on physical distancing requirements
- Appointing a manager to develop, implement and actively monitor a Safety Plan in workplaces, shopping malls and retail businesses



**CONTROL**  
(Stringent Measures)

# Hamilton COVID-19 Response Table Updates

- Continuing to work with Chamber of Commerce and broader business community to support compliance with Provincial Response Framework and IPAC measures
- Launched Remote Patient Monitoring and COVID Care@Home to provide care for mild/moderate COVID-19 cases
- Ongoing support to congregate settings, including education, prevention and support for those in outbreak
- Hiring dedicated Hamilton COVID-19 Regional Table (HCRT) Communications Officer to increase awareness and support unified messaging across all partner organizations

# COVID-19 Vaccination Plan

- Planning underway in Hamilton
- Being done in collaboration with family medicine and hospital partners
- Anticipate a limited supply of vaccine in Q1 2021 and further supply throughout 2021 into 2022
- Expect prioritization of vaccine recipients based on Federal & Provincial guidance

# Unintended Consequences of COVID-19

- Continue to monitor unintended consequences of COVID-19, particularly in vulnerable populations

## Examples

- Food insecurity
  - Increased substance use
  - Negative mental health impacts
  - Negative impacts of delayed healthcare
  - Negative Impact of isolation on infant socialization
- Working with health sector & community partners to develop actions to address/mitigate unintended consequences

# Unintended Consequences of COVID-19

## School Immunization Catch-Up Clinics

- Due to COVID-19 related school closures in Spring 2020, several students missed vaccine doses
- Catch-up clinics began in November and will continue into February 2021
- To date, approximately 600 students have attended catch-up clinics and 1300 vaccine doses have been administered
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) measures are in place to ensure a safe space for students and staff



# Unintended Consequences of COVID-19

## Mental Health of School-Aged Children

- Working with school board partners to support mental health of school-aged children
- Recognizing COVID-19 is a communal trauma, using a trauma-informed approach
- Restarted previously planned programming schools
- Implemented rapid response framework to support mental health in schools experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks
- Adapting programs for virtual delivery

# Staffing & Recruitment Update

## Overall

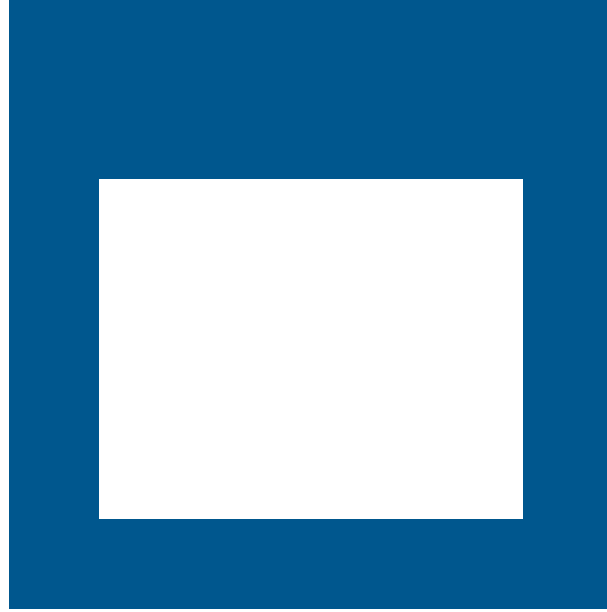
- 244 Public Health Services staff and 5 City staff supporting COVID-19 response
- Demands on staff continue to be significant

## Recruitment

- 99% of the 75 FTE approved to hire +23 school nurses have been recruited

## Additional Support from Ministry of Health

- 3 Contact Tracing teams (12 staff each)
- Recruitment in progress for another Case Management team (~ 16 staff)



QUESTIONS?



**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**  
**Healthy Environments Division**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Board of Health
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 7, 2020
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Food Advisory Committee 2021 Budget Request (BOH20024) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Kevin McDonald (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1985
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Kevin McDonald Director, Healthy Environments Division Public Health Services
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- (a) That the Food Advisory Committee 2021 Budget Submission attached as Appendix "A" to Report BOH20024, in the amount of \$1,500, be approved and referred to the 2021 budget process for consideration; and,
- (b) That the unspent 2020 approved funding for education, training and events, in the amount of \$1,000, be transferred to the Food Advisory Committee's 2021 reserve.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Food Advisory Committee requests that a total budget of \$1,500 be referred to the 2021 budget process for consideration. This budget request consists of the Food Advisory Committee's annual base budget of \$1,500 to cover basic committee expenses, plus the reallocation of unused one-time budget funds

## **Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 2**

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The Food Advisory Committee was created as a result of the City's 2014 advisory committee review process and the City's 2016 endorsement of the Hamilton Food

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Food Advisory Committee 2021 Budget Request (BOH20024) (City Wide) - Page 2 of 4**

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Strategy. This committee consolidated attention toward food issues that were previously addressed on two separate advisory committees. The Food Advisory Committee can accommodate 13 to 18 members who are appointed by Council. Membership includes a range of food system expertise in farming and food businesses, food literacy, food access and waste, policy, non-profit/community-based food programs, and a non-voting Staff Liaison from Public Health, Healthy Environments Division.

Since 2016, the Food Advisory Committee has advised the Board of Health on Hamilton's Food Strategy actions and focused on community food security with a broader health-promoting food system lens. Since May 2019, when this term's membership started, they have informed and participated in two Food Strategy events and intend to continue to advise and support the implementation of Food Strategy actions in 2021.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

No policy implications or legislated requirements.

**RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

Corporate Finance Services were consulted regarding the process and template to use for submitting Advisory Committee budget requests, along with ensuring adequate funds were available in the Food Advisory Committee's Reserves.

**ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Food Advisory Committee has put forward a base budget request of \$1,500 to cover basic expenses in 2021. The one-time budget allocation of \$1,000 from the Food Advisory Committee Reserve approved for use in 2020 (Report BOH20001) was not utilized due to service disruptions around COVID-19 in 2020, and as a result is requested to be returned to the Food Advisory Committee's Reserve in 2021.

The Food Advisory Committee budget request is attached as Appendix "A" to Report BOH20024.

The Food Advisory Committee's full mandate is outlined in their Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix "B" to Report BOH20024.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

Council could choose not to refer the Food Advisory Committee budget request to the budget process for Advisory Committees.

**Financial:** The Food Advisory Committee would not have a budget to operate.

**Staffing:** Not Applicable.

**Legal:** Not Applicable.

**Policy:** Community engagement was undertaken in 2016 to develop this Committee's mandate; discontinuing funds for the Committee could be seen as not adhering to the City's commitment to community engagement.

**Pros:** Not funding the Committee may leave additional funds in the Food Advisory Committee Reserve to be used another year or allocated elsewhere.

**Cons:** Not funding the Committee may result in lower or inequitable engagement and potential loss of volunteer members if base funds to cover the committee's parking reimbursement, refreshments, training/education and meeting supplies are not available. Not increasing the Committee's budget from the Food Advisory Committee Reserve restricts their ability to fulfil their mandate in any meaningful manner to support and advise the Hamilton Food Strategy implementation. In addition, the Advisory Committee Review recommendations of reforming and amalgamating food related committees would not be followed if budget was not assigned to the Food Advisory Committee.

## **ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **Community Engagement and Participation**

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

### **Economic Prosperity and Growth**

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse local economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

### **Healthy and Safe Communities**

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

### **Clean and Green**

Hamilton is environmentally sustainable with a healthy balance of natural and urban spaces.

**SUBJECT: Food Advisory Committee 2021 Budget Request (BOH20024) (City Wide) - Page 4 of 4**

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**Built Environment and Infrastructure**

Hamilton is supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

**Culture and Diversity**

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrated.

**Our People and Performance**

Hamiltonians have a high level of trust and confidence in their City government.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix “A” to Report BOH20024: 2021 Food Advisory Committee Budget Submission

Appendix “B” to Report BOH20024: Food Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

## **FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Committee Mandate**

As a volunteer advisory committee to the Board of Health, the Food Advisory Committee will support and advise on the implementation of Hamilton’s Food Strategy, and the development of inclusive and comprehensive food related policies and programs at the individual, household, and community/population level based on internationally recognized principles of healthy public policy and best practices/available evidence.

More generally, the Food Advisory Committee will:

- Identify and inform, where appropriate, innovative community food security policies and programs that align with the vision and goals of the Hamilton Food Strategy, Hamilton Food Charter, and other City strategies;
- Identify and advise on emerging issues affecting Hamilton’s food system;
- Facilitate connections and share information and resources between members, the Board of Health, City staff, and as appropriate, further disseminate these lessons and resources among community organizations, businesses, citizens, and other groups that have an impact on community food security;
- Support research, monitoring, and evaluation efforts, and identify gaps and opportunities that may inform community food security policies and program modifications; and,
- Facilitate the cross-promotion of community food security within existing programs, events, policies, services, and other actions.

#### **Membership**

The Food Advisory Committee will be comprised of 13 to 18 voting members, striving for a balance of representation from all the components within the food system as follows:

- Food Production: 2-3 members (e.g., representation from rural and urban agriculture, including large- and small-scale farmers, gardeners, soil specialists, horticulturalists);
- Processing & Distribution: 2-3 members (representation from large- and small-scale food production and distribution, including food entrepreneurs, managers/operators of incubators, food banks, food hubs, food box delivery programs, warehousing, storage, etc.);
- Buying & Selling: 2-3 members (e.g., representation from large- and small-scale food retail, including grocers, restaurateurs, Farmers Markets managers, social enterprise food entrepreneurs, specialty food stores owners, street vendors, etc.);
- Consumption: 2-3 members (e.g., representation from community and



- neighbourhood based food programs and cultural groups, including food literacy educators, consumers, chefs, food enthusiasts, etc.);
- Food Waste Management: 2-3 members (representation from food waste management, including researchers/consultants, managers, operators of environmental groups, gleaning programs, experts/experienced individuals in composting/resource management, etc.);
  - 3 members at large (citizens at large, local food advocates, etc.); and
  - 2 City Councilors (non-voting, one representing urban and one representing rural wards).

Committee members will be selected through the City of Hamilton’s standardized application process for Advisory Committees. New members will be formally appointed by the Board of Health at the beginning of each term of Council, or as needed. Individuals who do not live in Hamilton but work in the City of Hamilton in a food-related business or organization would be eligible for membership on the Food Advisory Committee based on their ability to provide valuable expertise to advise on food policies and programs in the City.

Food Advisory Committee members are appointed based on their individual qualifications in the following areas:

- Their professional or community work reflects the values and principles within the Hamilton Food Strategy, Hamilton Food Charter, Food Advisory Committee, and Public Health Services;
- They bring skills and experience (including lived experience) in at least one aspect of community food security that allows them to contribute to progressive and innovative policy and program development within the Committee;
- They have skills, knowledge, experience, or a genuine interest in at least one area of Hamilton’s food system;
- They represent at least one element of the rich diversity of the Hamilton population’s food security skills, talents, and needs;
- They can help the Food Advisory Committee facilitate dialogue and partnerships with at least one distinct population grouping in Hamilton’s urban, suburban, and rural communities;
- They respect the complexity and sensitivity of the Food Advisory Committee’s work with diverse partners, and appreciate the need for personal and group skills, problem-solving, and “getting to yes;” and,
- They can attend monthly meetings of the Food Advisory Committee on a regular basis and can participate in occasional working group meetings.

## **Roles & Responsibilities**

Members of the Food Advisory Committee shall endorse the Vision, Mission, Goals, and Values of the City of Hamilton Food Charter and make themselves familiar with the committee’s Terms of Reference and mandate. General expectations of members include the following:

- Submit an annual progress report of the Committee's activities by November of each calendar year to the Board of Health and consider various options to keep Council up to date on the committee's activities;
- Demonstrate a respect for governance and protocol;
- Active participation and a commitment to attend meetings on a regular basis;
- Be accountable to other members and to citizens;
- Work as a team and follow through with commitments;
- Communicate appropriately and be clear about which interest are represented when speaking;
- Communicate all information occurring at the Food Advisory Committee to contacts within their sector, as appropriate; and
- Bring issues/concerns and represent their sector's interests at the Committee.

### **Chair/ Co-Chair**

Members will, at the beginning of each term, elect from its membership two Co-Chairs, one of which shall be a Citizen member and one a Councilor Liaison member.

In addition to the general roles and responsibilities, Co-Chairs are expected to:

- Build the meeting agendas following the City of Hamilton template;
- Invite guests, in consultation with members and Staff Liaison;
- Preside at meetings;
- Facilitate dialogue among members between meetings;
- Liaise with City Staff Liaison and keep them informed of all Committee issues and actions; and
- Act as spokespeople on behalf of the Food Advisory Committee, as per Standard Operating Procedure #08-001.

### **Secretary**

Members will, at the beginning of each term, elect from its membership a Secretary, which shall be a Citizen member.

In addition to the general roles and responsibilities, the Secretary is expected to:

- Provide relevant information, ideas, and opinions as a participant in the meeting;
- Record without note or comment all resolutions, decisions, and other proceedings at the meeting (as per the Municipal Act, 2001);
- Keep an accurate set of minutes of each meeting;
- Keep an up-to-date membership/contact list;
- Distribute minutes to members and notifying them of upcoming meetings;
- Keep a list of all advisory committees and members;
- Help the Chair with preparing the agenda, advise on meeting procedure, and reference materials and information retrieved from the records; and
- Make meeting and physical set-up arrangements (Note: room bookings with City

Facilities will be coordinated through the Advisory Committee’s Staff Liaison).

### **City Staff Liaisons**

City of Hamilton staff will be assigned to this committee as non-voting members to provide technical and content expertise and support, including:

- Public Health Services: 1 - 2 with expertise in nutrition, food systems, policy, and health protection;
- Emergency and Community Services: 1 - 2 with expertise in social policy and community programs;
- Planning and Economic Development: 1 – 2 with expertise in land use planning, licensing, and economic development related to agriculture and food; and
- Public Works Department: 1 – 2 with expertise in urban agriculture and food waste management.

### **Staff Liaison Role**

The role of the Staff Liaison is to function as system experts. The City of Hamilton Public Health Services will appoint personnel with knowledge of nutrition policy, community food systems, and food security to provide support and coordination to the Food Advisory Committee.

The duties of the staff liaison include

- Coordinate, develop, and deliver the Orientation Session for the Advisory Committee;
- Liaise with Food Advisory Committee members, providing technical advice from Public Health Services for the preparation of reports, correspondence, etc.;
- Assist with the preparation of reports to the Board of Health, including an annual progress report of the Committee’s activities by November of each calendar year;
- Assist with agenda preparation, review minutes, and ensure approved minutes are submitted to the Board of Health; and
- Provide background information, advice, and context for implementation of priorities.

City of Hamilton may assign staff to work on specific projects for a specific period.

### **Councilor Liaisons**

Two (2) members of City Council will be appointed as representatives to the Food Advisory Committee with a requirement for each Councilor to attend a minimum of (but not limited to) one (1) meeting per year. Council members who are appointed as liaisons would not count toward the committee’s quorum and do not have voting privileges.

### **Staff Clerk/ Other Staff Support(s)**

The duties of the staff clerk include providing procedural process advise to the Staff Liaison and Co-Chairs as needed.

### **Term of Membership**

Food Advisory Committee members are appointed for four (4) year terms with the possibility of renewal. Effort will be made to stagger appointments to ensure continuity.

- Members who miss three (3) consecutive meetings without Committee approval shall be considered as resigning from the committee;
- Any member who is absent for more than fifty percent (50%) of the meetings during their term shall not be eligible for reappointment; and
- Upon appointment to the Food Advisory Committee, members are required to sign an Acknowledgement (Declaration) Form and return it to the Office of the City Clerk prior to attending the first meeting of this committee.

### **Meeting Frequency**

Meetings will occur monthly, except for the months of July, August, and December (minimum of five and maximum of nine times per year). At the call of the Co-Chairs, additional meetings can occur on an 'as-needed' basis.

Should the Food Advisory Committee not meet a minimum of three times during a Council term, the Committee will be automatically disbanded at the end of the Council Term.

### **Decision Making**

Food Advisory Committee members value and will make every effort to reach consensus in decision making, including a full discussion of the issue, review of all relevant information, discussion of possible solutions or actions, and the formulation of a statement of general agreement/consensus, or develop a motion and vote on it. The Committee requires consensus to make formal decisions and must follow the procedural processes outlined in the Advisory Committee Procedural Handbook, May 2015.

City of Hamilton staff are non-voting members.

### **Quorum**

Quorum consists of half the voting members plus one. In order to ensure a broad range of perspectives are included in discussions and decision making, this minimum threshold must include a representative from each of the food system components, plus

a minimum of one member at large.

### **Code of Conduct/Conflicts of Interest**

All members shall adhere to all City of Hamilton policies, including those respecting code of conduct and conflict of interest. At a minimum, it is expected that members are to:

- Maintain an atmosphere of respectful discussion and professionalism;
- Respect the confidentiality of all matters before the Food Advisory Committee;
- Actively contribute their expertise, resources, and individual experiences to further the mandate of the Committee; and
- Declare a conflict of interest when it arises so it may be recorded in the minutes.

### **Reports to**

- Board of Health

### **Review of Terms of Reference**

- To be reviewed on an annual basis, at a minimum.

### **Approved on**

- May 2016

# **CITY OF HAMILTON**

**2021**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**BUDGET SUBMISSION FORM**

**FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**PART A: General Information**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

<b>Vivien Underdown (Chair)</b>	<b>Biniam Mehretab</b>
<b>Elly Bowen (Co-Chair)</b>	<b>Mary Ellen Scanlon</b>
<b>Maria Biasutti</b>	<b>Jennifer Silversmith</b>
<b>Krista D'aoust</b>	<b>Barbara Stares</b>
<b>Vicky Hachey</b>	<b>Frank Stinellis</b>
<b>Laurie Nielsen</b>	<b>Kyle Swain</b>
<b>Jordan Geertsma</b>	<b>Andrew Sweetnam</b>
<b>Drew Johnston</b>	<b>Brian Tammi (Secretary)</b>

**MANDATE:**

As a volunteer advisory committee to the Board of Health, the Food Advisory Committee will support and advise on the implementation of Hamilton's Food Strategy, and the development of inclusive and comprehensive food related policies and programs at the individual, household, and community/population level based on internationally recognized principles of healthy public policy and best practices/available evidence.

**PART B: Strategic Planning**

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**

- Identify and inform, where appropriate, innovative community food security policies and programs that align with the vision and goals of the Hamilton Food Strategy, Hamilton Food Charter, and other City strategies
- Identify and advise on emerging issues affecting Hamilton's food system
- Facilitate connections and share information and resources between members, the Board of Health, City staff, and as appropriate, further disseminate these lessons and resources among community organizations, businesses, citizens, and other groups that have an impact on community food security
- Support research, monitoring, and evaluation efforts, and identify gaps and opportunities that may inform community food security policies and program modifications
- Facilitate the cross-promotion of community food security within existing programs, events, policies, services, and other actions

**ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE GOALS:**

Please check off which Council approved Strategic Commitments your Advisory Committee supports			
1) Community Engagement & Participation	X	2) Economic Prosperity & Growth	X
3) Healthy & Safe Communities	X	4) Clean & Green	X
5) Built Environment & Infrastructure	X	6) Culture & Diversity	X
7) Our People & Performance			

**PART C: Budget Request**

**INCIDENTAL COSTS:**

Parking	600.00
Materials, supplies & printing	400.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1000.00</b>

**SPECIAL EVENT/PROJECT COSTS:**

Training/Education	500.00
Event(s)	1000.00
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1500.00</b>

<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 2500.00</b>
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<b>Funding from Advisory Committee Reserve (only available to Advisory Committees with reserve balances)</b>	<b>\$ 1000.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL 2021 BUDGET REQUEST (net of reserve funding)</b>	<b>\$ 2500</b>
<b>PREVIOUS YEAR (2020) APPROVED BUDGET (2020 Request \$ )</b>	<b>\$ 2500</b>



**CERTIFICATION:**

Please note that this document is a request for a Budget from the City of Hamilton Operating budget. The submission of this document does not guarantee the requested budget amount. Please have a representative sign and date the document below.

**Representative's Name:** Vivien Underdown, Chair

**Signature:** 

**Date:** November 19, 2020

**Telephone # :** (289) 683-2843