



**City of Hamilton**  
**CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**AGENDA**

**Meeting #:** 003  
**Date:** March 25, 2025  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Room 264, 2nd Floor, City Hall (hybrid) (RM)  
71 Main Street West

Beatrice Ekwa Ekoko, Project Manager - Climate Change Initiatives (905) 546-2424 ext. 6885

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**Pages**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

5.1 February 25, 2025

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**6. DELEGATIONS**

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

7.1 Biodiversity Action Plan Update

7.2 Office of Climate Change Initiatives Updates

7.2.a Climate Change Reserve Update

7.2.b Office of Climate Change Initiatives Annual Update Report

7.3 Climate Change Advisory Committee Working Groups Update

7.3.a Buildings Working Group

7.3.b Community Engagement and Climate Justice Working Group

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7.3.c Technical and Governance Working Group

7.3.d Nature-Based Solutions Working Group

7.3.e Transportation Working Group

**8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**9. MOTIONS**

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**11. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS**

11.1 Voluntary Advisory Committees Review Update

**12. ADJOURNMENT**



Hamilton

**CLIMATE CHANGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES CCAC 25-002**

**6:00 p.m.**

**February 25, 2025**

**Room 264**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall**

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**Present:** Councillors C. Kroetsch (virtually), and A. Wilson  
I. Borsuk (Co-Chair), G. Kalapos (Co-Chair), B. Akomolafe, G. Casimirri,  
J. Harti, S. Heenan, J. Hudecki, A. Khetan, Z. Kuszczak, F. Lenarduzzi,  
T. Maclaurin, S. Rempel, M. Scanlon, M. Sergeant and M. Velasco

**Absent with**

**Regrets:** Councillor C. Cassar – City Business / Personal  
J. Boyer, G. Henry, M. Tutty, E. Smoke.

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Co-Chair, I. Borsuk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES**

**2.1 Land Acknowledgement**

Co-Chair I. Borsuk read the Land Acknowledgement.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**(Heenan/ Rempel)**

That the agenda for the February 25, 2025, Climate Change Advisory Committee meeting, be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**5.1 January 28, 2025**

**(Heenan/Kalapos).**

That the Minutes of the January 28, 2025, Climate Change Advisory Committee, be adopted, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**6. DELEGATION**

There were no delegations.

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**7.1 Urban Forest Strategy Update**

Robyn Pollard, Manager, Forestry and Horticulture, Public Works provided an update on the Urban Forest Strategy.

**7.2 Green Building Standards: Update**

Antoni Paleshi, WSP and Mallory Smith, Planner, Zoning By-law Reform, Planning and Economic Development addressed Committee respecting an update on the Green Building Standards with the aid of a presentation.

**7.3 Office of Climate Change Initiatives Updates**

Lynda Lukasik, Director, gave updates and sought advice from the Committee regarding the Climate Change Reserve priority lists.

**7.4 Climate Change Advisory Committee Working Group Updates**

Shelley Rempel provided updates from the Community Engagement and Climate Justice Working Group.

Giuliana Casimirri provided updates from the Nature Based Solutions Working Group.

**(Heenan/Kalapos)**

That the following Items for Information, be received:

- (a) Urban Forest Strategy Update (Item 7.1)
- (b) Green Building Standards Update (Item 7.2)
- (c) Office of Climate Change Initiatives Updates (Item 7.3)
- (d) Climate Change Advisory Committee Working Group Updates (Item 7.4)

**CARRIED**

**8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no Items for Consideration.

**9. MOTIONS**

There were no Motions.

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

There were no Notices of Motion.

**11. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS**

**11.1 Building Climate Awareness: The Role of the Climate Change Advisory Committee**

The Committee discussed identifying climate action implementation in the community; building relationships with community partners; exploring opportunities with community partners and hosting a Climate Fair event in the fall.

**11.2 Climate Change Advisory Committee: Seats**

**(Kalapos/Heenan)**

WHEREAS, the Climate Change Advisory Committee currently has two vacancies as a result of resignations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Climate Change Advisory Committee requests the two vacancies be filled as soon as possible.

**CARRIED**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Climate Change Advisory Committee adjourned at 7.56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beatrice Ekoko  
Staff Liaison  
Climate Change Advisory  
Committee

Ian Borsuk  
Co-Chair,  
Climate Change Advisory Committee

**Community Engagement and Climate Justice Working Group**

**DATE: Wednesday March 5, 2025 12:00pm-1:00pm**

**LOCATION: TEAMS**

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	Shelley Rempel, Su Heenan, Tran Nguyen
<b>REGRETS:</b>	Mary Ellen Scanlon, Giuliana Casimirri, Jeff Harti, Adan Amer, Jordyn Boyer, Tristan MacLaurin, Aditya Khetan Transportation Working Group - Ian Borsuk, Bayode Akomolafe, Gaby Kalapos, Frank Lenarduzzi, Zach Kuszczak
<b>GUEST(S):</b>	

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility	Description/Discussion	Decision(s) & Actions
1.	<b>Agenda Review/Minutes</b>	All		
2.	<b>Agenda Item #2</b>	Su Heenan	The Transportation Working Group was invited to discuss LRT governance models from a Climate Justice perspective.  Written feedback should be sent to me and Shelley by March 8th if they wish to contribute to the document	If Transportation working group sends written feedback, Su will compile feedback and submit it to Beatrice by March 10th

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility	Description/Discussion	Decision(s) & Actions
3.	<b>Agenda Item #3</b>	Su Heenan Shelley Rempel	-briefly reviewed new mandate, terms of reference, objectives -in order to support the work of OCCI and HCAS, in alignment with the terms of reference for the Climate Change Advisory Committee, document sent to OCCI asking for tasks/timelines	Su, Shelley, and Tran in agreement
4.	<b>Agenda Item #4</b>	Su Heenan Shelley Rempel	-Reviewed LRT governance model documents and supporting information -Tran, Shelley, and Su reviewed all four governance models, providing feedback in a google document	Shelley and Su will review the document for submission to Beatrice. They will accept written submissions from all members of the Community Engagement and Climate Justice Working Group, as well as the Transportation Working Group, until March 8th. Feedback will be submitted to Beatrice by March 10th
5.	<b>Agenda Item #5</b>	Su Heenan Shelley Rempel	-Feedback for Climate Change Reserve Funding due March 10th -discussion around OCCI sharing priority deadlines and documents further in advance -will try to arrange a meeting over weekend	Su to ask all of CCAC if they would like to meet over the weekend to compile feedback for OCCI on Climate Change Reserve Funding
6.	<b>Agenda Item #6</b>			

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility	Description/Discussion	Decision(s) & Actions
7.	<b>Agenda Item #7</b>			
8.	<b>Other Items:</b>			
	<b>Adjourn</b>	All		
<b>Next Meeting Dates</b>				
<i>Urgent weekend meeting request to be made</i>				



Community Engagement and Climate Justice Working Group  
March 5th, 2025  
Feedback provided by: Su Heenan, Shelley Rempel, Tran Nguyen

## **Subject: Recruiting Additional LRT Sub-Committee Advisors in Order to Facilitate Consideration of Climate Justice**

Review of the four proposed governance options for the recruitment of additional LRT Sub-Committee Advisors:

### **Option 1: Recruit Additional non-voting Community Advisors to the LRT Sub-Committee**

- Recruitment of Non-Voting Community Advisors is limited to 6. It is important to note that there are 10 Frontline Communities listed, and the diversity within these communities cannot be sufficiently represented by only 6 individuals.
  - Increasing the cap to 10 advisors would allow for better representation and coverage of the diverse Frontline Communities
  - No evidence that a cap of 6 advisors is “best practice” for engagement.
  - This forum can be intimidating and a potential barrier to participation from persons who haven’t had experience serving on committees or boards, and therefore not reflective of the diversity that is needed on the LRT Sub-Committee
  - These representatives do not have real power.
  - Non-voting status might affect their level of engagement.
  - Compensate non-voting members.

### **Option 2: Establish a Working Group**

- While working groups can meet at their convenience, their effectiveness depends on members’ commitment. Active scheduling and engagement strategies are necessary to maintain high participation levels.
- The success of a working group in retaining members will depend on the perceived impact of their work and the support provided to them.
- Working groups have a step-removed influence since they report to the LRT Subcommittee. However, well-documented reports and recommendations can still significantly impact decisions.
- Working groups often meet regularly, which requires advisors to commit a significant amount of time to attend these meetings.

- Advisors are often responsible for drafting reports, summarizing discussions, and documenting decisions. This administrative work can be extensive.
- Working groups may require advisors to conduct research on specific topics, analyze data, and develop recommendations. This research can be time-consuming and demands a high level of expertise.
- Multiple workgroups might be needed to address various focus areas within the LRT project, such as environmental impact, community engagement, and technical aspects. Each group would require specialized knowledge and expertise.
- Having multiple workgroups means that advisors with expertise in multiple areas might be involved in several groups simultaneously, leading to a higher overall workload.
- The barriers to participation and high workload might lead to low levels of diversity representation, and high levels of burnout.
- Compensate non-voting members.

**Option 3: Recruit additional Non-Voting Community Advisors to LRT Sub-Committee and establish Working Group in future if deemed necessary**

- Non-voting advisors can participate actively, but their engagement might be influenced by their non-voting status.
- While non-voting advisors cannot directly influence votes, their input can still significantly impact discussions and decisions. The success of this option depends on how well their contributions are valued and integrated into the decision-making process.
- This option supports procedural equity by including diverse voices in the advisory process. It aligns well with the Climate Justice Framework, ensuring that climate justice considerations are integrated into LRT decisions.
- If needed, a working group can be established in the future based on the effectiveness and feedback from the non-voting advisors.
- Questions: Is there flexibility to the number of advisors as 6 advisors is not enough to capture the diversity in the community for an LRT sub-committee
- Compensate non-voting members.

**Option 4: Strike a Task Force**

- Representation of frontline communities and marginalized groups in the advisory process
- Establishing a Task Force can effectively enhance inclusivity by involving representatives from frontline communities and marginalized groups. This option ensures that diverse voices are formally included in the discussions.
- Task Forces typically have a strong influence on decision-making processes. Their structured approach and formal reporting mechanisms ensure that their input is considered in the LRT Sub-Committee's decisions.

- Alignment of LRT Sub-Committee actions with the Climate Justice Framework, ensuring that climate justice considerations are systematically integrated into LRT decisions.
- The formal nature of a Task Force can enhance community trust and support. Regularly seeking and addressing community feedback can further strengthen this relationship.
- Compensate non-voting members

We like this option, and suggest the following to create a task force that would enhance consideration of climate justice:

- Ensure that Task Force meetings are scheduled at various times, including evenings and weekends, to accommodate community members who may have daytime commitments.
- Make it more accessible for new advisors by simplifying the application process and providing clear, easy-to-understand guidelines for participation.
- Offer resources and support for volunteer members, such as training and logistical support for attending meetings.
- Actively engage with frontline organizations and residents to ensure diverse representation on the Task Force. This could involve targeted outreach efforts and partnerships with community groups.
- In addition to formal Task Force meetings, establish informal spaces (e.g., community forums or workshops) where community members can discuss issues and provide input in a more relaxed setting.
- Provide behind-the-scenes information to the community to enhance transparency and build trust.
- Strive to get input and participation at the neighborhood level to ensure grassroots perspectives are included.