



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	July 12, 2017
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Our Future Hamilton (CES15010(c)) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
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<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## Council Direction:

The General Issues Committee at its meeting of February 17, 2016 approved the following (CM15001(b)/CES15010(b)):

- (a) That Our Future Hamilton, attached as Appendix A to Report CM15001(b)/CES15010(b), be endorsed;
- (b) That staff be directed to use Our Future Hamilton to guide the development of the 2016-2025 Strategic Plan for the City of Hamilton;
- (c) That staff continue further engagement with residents and community stakeholders in line with the project plan, to share Our Future Hamilton, develop tangible actions and establish a community implementation plan; and,
- (d) That staff report back to the General Issues Committee annually the progress made by community stakeholders and the City of Hamilton in implementing Our Future Hamilton.

## Information:

### Background

The Our Future Hamilton community vision was built on the legacy of Vision 2020, Hamilton's first community vision endorsed by City Council in 1992. In 2014, the City initiated a process to update Vision 2020 and create a new 25-year community vision for Hamilton.

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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.*

The engagement process for the community visioning, called “*Our Future Hamilton: Communities in Conversation*,” began by bringing together a group of over 50 residents to form Hamilton’s Engagement Committee. The key deliverables of the committee included the creation of Hamilton’s first Public Engagement Charter and a community-rooted strategy that guided engagement tactics for the visioning initiative.

### **Our Future Hamilton Community Vision**

In April 2015, staff initiated a multi-faceted community visioning process informed by the eight core principles of the Hamilton Public Engagement Charter. Public engagement activities utilized for the new 25-year community vision were broad and inclusive, integrating traditional, online, and creative approaches.

Over the span of one year, Our Future Hamilton engaged with nearly 55,000 residents and community partners to create a shared community vision. Six community priorities emerged for Hamilton’s new 25-year vision. They include:

1. Community Engagement and Participation
2. Economic Growth and Prosperity
3. Healthy and Safe Communities
4. Clean and Green
5. Built Environment and Infrastructure
6. Culture and Diversity

The Our Future Hamilton Community Vision reflects the values and aspirations of the thousands of residents who participated in the year-long community visioning process. It defines our residents’ expectations for the next 25 years and provides 81 key directions and 57 signs of success to guide long-term planning.

### **Progress to Date**

Since Council approved Hamilton’s new community vision in February 2016, progress made towards implementing Our Future Hamilton includes:

- Development of a new 10-year Strategic Plan for the City of Hamilton informed by the community vision’s six priorities.
- Creation of Our Future Hamilton Community Vision final report, with an implementation process (attached as Appendix A to Report CES15010(c)).
- Formulation of 226 community-suggested actions for realizing the vision through targeted community engagement and workshops (attached as Appendix B to Report CES15010(c)).
- Commitment of over 60 major organizations and community partners to moving the community vision forward through their institutional initiatives.

## **Our Future Hamilton Implementation Plan**

Over the past year, residents and community partners have collectively formulated, endorsed, and participated in creating a shared plan and process for implementing the Our Future Hamilton Community Vision. Four implementation plan components have been identified to guide efforts to collectively achieve a shared community vision.

These include:

1. Engaging residents and partners as key contributors to the success of the Our Future Hamilton community vision.
2. Identifying, tracking, and encouraging collective efforts and key initiatives that contribute to Our Future Hamilton.
3. Recognizing and celebrating residents and partners for their contributions in making the community vision a reality.
4. Measuring and evaluating progress towards implementing Our Future Hamilton.

## **Selected Key Partnership Initiatives**

Through ongoing engagement efforts, over 60 major community institutions and organizations have identified strategic and operational actions that directly align with community vision priorities and key directions. Community partners from various sectors are actively working towards making Our Future Hamilton a reality as evidenced by building a neighbourhood weather station, teaching youth computer programming skills, and hosting a national conference on Indigenous health.

This year, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the City of Hamilton partnered together to launch “Chase the Future: 2041”, an exciting initiative that encouraged students to explore the future through Hamilton’s six new community vision priorities. The project engaged over 50,000 students across 103 schools to envision how to make Hamilton an even better place to live.

## **2017 Priorities and Next Steps**

Over the course of 2017 and beyond, staff will continue to work collaboratively with residents and community partners to implement Our Future Hamilton. Key implementation priorities and activities will include:

- Ongoing public engagement across all 15 municipal wards including participating in city-wide events and providing community presentations.
- Developing web-based communications, including a new quarterly Our Future Hamilton e-newsletter and refreshing Our Future Hamilton webpage.
- Launching a Community Champion campaign to inspire, capture, and share resident-driven community actions supporting the vision.

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- Creating an Our Future Hamilton Membership Charter to recognize community partners for their efforts in supporting the vision.
- Identifying and measuring community actions and key initiatives that are aligned with the community vision by establishing a Community Implementation Committee and creating online surveys and tracking tools.
- Hosting an annual Our Future Hamilton Summit to inform Council, community partners, and residents on the progress of the community vision. The Summit attracts over 250 participants annually. The 2017 Summit will take place in Q4 of 2017.

Informed by the voices of our community, Our Future Hamilton will continue to support and exemplify the integral roles and responsibilities municipal government, community partners, and residents play in making our community vision a reality.

#### **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix A to Report CES15010(c): Our Future Hamilton Community Vision Final Report

Appendix B to Report CES15010(c): Our Future Hamilton Community-Suggested Actions