Hamilton

CORPORATE CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

UPDATE: December 2021

City of Hamilton
December 8, 2021

We acknowledge the City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas for the Credit First Nations.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.

Table of Contents

Introduction 4

About the Corporate Climate Change Task Force 5

Hamilton's High Impact Climate Change Goals 6

Hamilton's Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory 2006 – 2019 7

Goal 1: Buildings 8

Goal 2: Active and Sustainable Travel 10

Goal 3: Transportation 11

Goal 4: Planning 12

Goal 5: Procurement 14

Goal 6: Protect and Restore the Natural Environment 15

Goal 7: Climate Adaptation 16

Goal 8: Diversity, Health and Inclusion 20

Goal 9: Education and Awareness 22

Conclusion 24

References 25

Introduction:

In March 2019, Hamilton City Council approved the motion declaring a climate change emergency. This directed City staff to investigate corporate and community-wide actions, policies and plans to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions to reach net carbon zero by 2050, aligning with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special 2018 Report. The contributing authors of the IPCC report comprised of expert scientists around the world concluded with high confidence that if global GHG emissions are not reduced by 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2050 that impacts will be **irreversible, including the loss of some ecosystems** (IPCC, 2018).

The most recent IPCC, 2021 report has now clearly stated that human influence through the burning of fossil fuels is unequivocally causing climate change. This report further warns that we are getting closer to irreversible climate tipping points and that we need to rapidly reduce GHG emissions now for the world to stay within 1.5 ˚C of warming (IPCC, 2021).

Figure 1.0 below is the countdown from https://climateclock.net/ which counts down the time the world has to remain within 1.5 ˚C and prevent wide-spread species level extinction, soaring flood damages and displacement of hundreds of millions of people around the world. The time to act is now.

The City of Hamilton is on a mission to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The report provides an update on the City's actions to reduce GHG emissions and how the City is supporting the community to reduce GHG emissions through creation of actions, policies, plans and incentives. In addition this report provides updates on how the City is preparing both the corporation and the community for impacts of a changing climate.

Figure 1.0 | Climate Clock

The City of Hamilton's climate change goals and objectives were created using relevant scientific data and information. The City continuously looks to improve these goals and objectives based on available scientific information and technology.

About the Corporate Climate Change Task Force

The Corporate Climate Change Task Force (CCCTF) is an internal City of Hamilton working group established following City Council's Climate Emergency Declaration. This declaration directed staff to to form a multi-departmental working group and includes the following members:

Trevor Imhoff (Chair)
Senior Project Manager Air Quality & Climate Change, Healthy and Safe Communities

Chris Herstek
Director Recreation, Healthy and Safe Communities

Christine Newbold
Manager Community Planning & GIS, Planning and Economic Development

Marty Hazell
Director Strategic Initiatives, Planning and Economic Development

Arlen Leeming
Senior Project Manager, General Manager's Office, Public Works

Tom Chessman
Manager, Energy Initiatives, Public Works

Kirk Weaver
Manager Budgets and Fiscal Policy, Corporate Services

Patricia Vasquez
Procurement Analyst, Corporate Service

Thank you to all of the staff across the City of Hamilton that helped in the creation of this report and ongoing work you all do on a daily basis to make Hamilton the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

The CCCTF continues to use evidence informed decision making based on most recent scientific and technical data available. The CCCTF meets on a regular basis to collect information, inform and coordinate climate change action across the Corporation.

For information and any requests to the CCCTF please contact Trevor.Imhoff@hamilton.ca or at (905) 546-2424 ext. 1308.

Hamilton's High Impact Climate Change Goals

Goal 1 **Buildings**

To increase the number of new and existing high-performance state-of-the-art buildings that improve energy efficiency and adapt to a changing climate.

Goal 2 **Active and Sustainable Travel**

To change the modal split and investigate strategies so that more trips are taken by active and sustainable transportation than single use occupancy vehicles.

Goal 3 **Transportation**

To accelerate the uptake of modes of transportation that are low and/or zero emissions.

Goal 4 **Planning**

To ensure a climate change lens is applied to all planning initiatives to encourage the use of best climate mitigation and adaptation practices.

Goal 5 **Procurement**

To procure goods, services and construction from vendors who conduct their business in a sustainable and ethical manner that considers equity, diversity and inclusion that contributes to the greater good of the community.

Goal 6 **Protect and Restore the Natural Environment**

To increase our carbon sinks and local food production through the preservation and enhancement of the natural environmental, including local farmland.

Goal 7 **Climate Adaptation**

To improve Hamilton's climate resiliency by decreasing our vulnerability to extreme weather, minimizing future damages, take advantage of opportunities, and better recover from future damages.

Goal 8 **Diversity, Health and Inclusion**

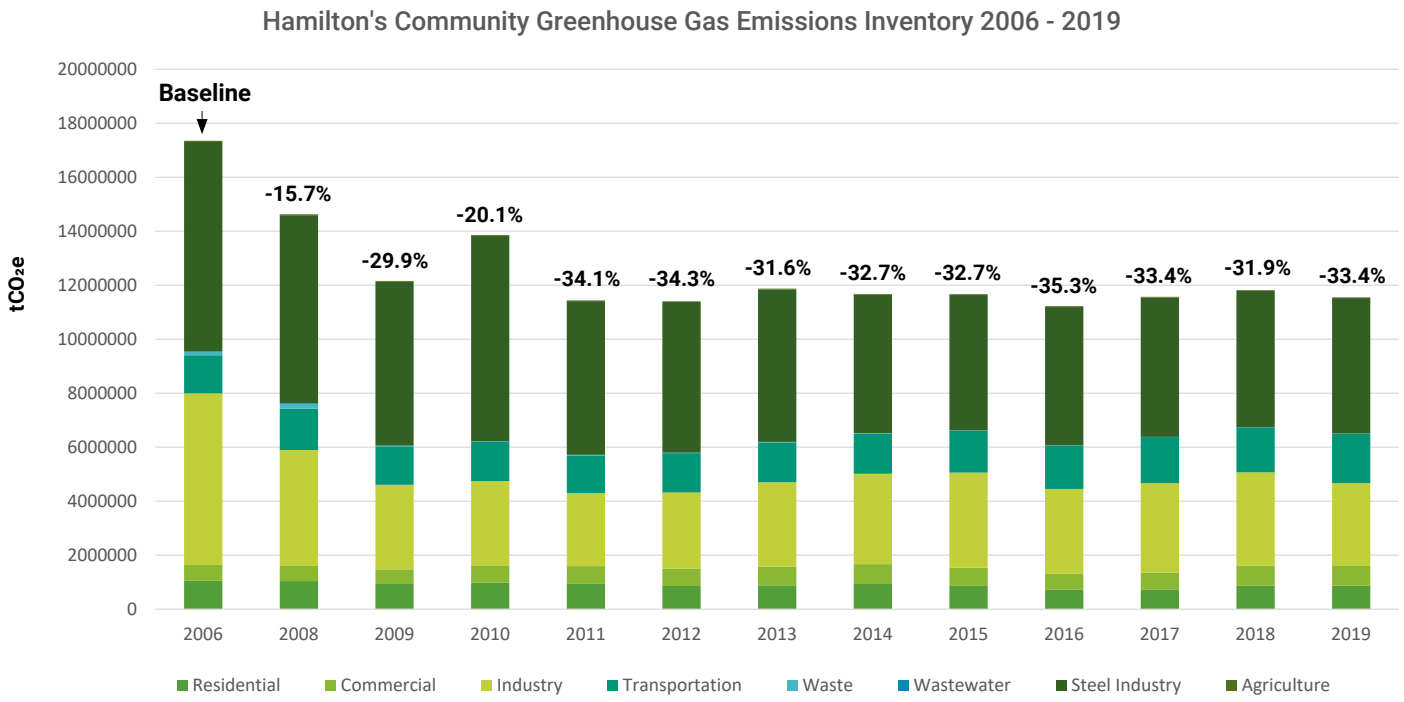
To ensure all our work promotes equity, diversity, health and inclusion and improves collaboration and consultation with all equity seeking groups, including local Indigenous Peoples.

Goal 9 **Education and Awareness**

To increase the knowledge and empower City staff and the Hamilton community including business, NGO's and individual citizens while advocating to higher levels of government to take action on climate change.

Hamilton's Community-Wide Greenhouse Gas Inventory 2006-2019

The City of Hamilton has been tracking and reporting annually community-wide Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from sectors including; Buildings (broken down by Residential, Commercial and Industry), Transportation, Industrial Emissions, Waste, Wastewater, and Agriculture since 2008. Using the year 2006 as a baseline and the most recent GHG inventory year of 2019 it is estimated Hamilton's community-wide emissions have been reduced by approximately 33.4%. This equates to 11,548,509 tCO2e in 2019 compared to 17,349,813tCO2e in 2006.



Hamilton's Actions on Climate Mitigation and Adaptation 2020-2021

The following is an update on the work the City of Hamilton has completed since the last climate change update to Council in November 2020. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and reduced staff capacity throughout the pandemic the City continues to make important strides forward towards achieving the nine high impact goals. The following are updates on climate change actions that have been completed and/or are actively being worked on by City staff. Please note although great care was taken to provide this information and updates, this may not represent the full list of climate actions across the City of Hamilton and the status may have changed since writing this report.

Goal 1: Buildings

To increase the number of new and existing high performance state-of-the-art buildings that improve energy efficiency and adapt to a changing climate.

Corporate Energy and Sustainability Policy (CESP) (formerly Corporate Energy Policy):

Updated Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Corporate targets to align with City Council's Climate Emergency Declaration:

- **50% reduction corporate-wide GHG emissions by 2030; and**
- **100% reduction corporate-wide GHG emission by 2050.**

The CESP provides the framework for operational plans and strategies (for City owned assets) and operations to achieve the updated targets.

Learn more about the City's Energy Initiatives

Revitalizing Hamilton Tax Increment Grant (RHTIG) Program:

The City updated sustainability and climate change minimum requirements to include high performance and green buildings certifications as eligibility for the City to provide grants including:

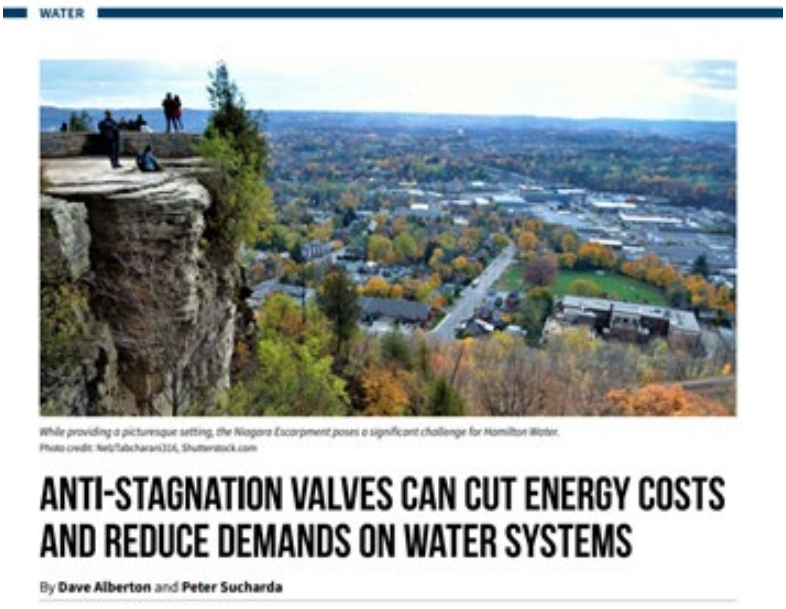
- Canadian Home Builders Association (CHBA) Net Zero Home Labelling;
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) R2000;
- Passive House Canada;
- Built Green to a Gold or higher standard in Energy and Envelope category;
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) to a Gold or higher standard; and
- Buildings are also eligible for RHTIG program by enabling current and future district energy connections.

Progress on Hamilton's Home Energy Retrofit Opportunity Detailed Design Study:

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has approved the City's initial application and staff have submitted the full application to receive 80% of the total $200,000 cost for the detailed study design. The intent of the HERO program will be to provide low interest loans to homeowners to retrofit their buildings to improve energy efficiency, reduce GHG emission and live more comfortably.

Completion of Hamilton's Anti-Stagnation Valve project and Pumping Station Upgrades:

These projects reduce flow and energy costs from pumping stations with energy savings to date of approximately 3,099,948 kWh, or 93 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (tCO2e). That's equivalent to providing electricity to 323 houses on average annually.



WATER

While providing a picturesque setting, the Niagara Escarpment poses a significant challenge for Hamilton Water.
Photo credit: Neil/Tabcharani316, Shutterstock.com

ANTI-STAGNATION VALVES CAN CUT ENERGY COSTS AND REDUCE DEMANDS ON WATER SYSTEMS

By **Dave Alberton** and **Peter Sucharda**

View a feature article about this project in Environmental & Science Engineering Magazine

Goal 2: Active and Sustainable Travel

To change the transportation modal split so that more trips are taken by active and sustainable transportation than single use occupancy vehicles.

Installation and Upgrades to Bicycle Lanes and Multi-Use Trails:

Throughout 2021, the City of Hamilton has worked hard to provide active and sustainable travel options for Hamilton residents including:

4.8 Km

of multi-use trails installed throughout 2021 (compared to 675 metres in 2020)

11 Km

of new bicycle lanes and paved shoulders installed;

5.4 Km

of upgrades to existing bike lanes completed

25

ongoing cycling projects

being implemented throughout 2021

Completed Parking Master Plan

City Council approved Parking Master Plan with recommendations that include:

- Creation of a comprehensive Electric Vehicle (EV) strategy,
- Low impact material and sustainable design such as permeable pavers, perforated storm sewers, and bioswales; and
- Expanding Parking Reserve and Cash-In-Lieu policies to support sustainable mobility.

Environmental Sustainability – Reduce Climate Impact by Supporting Sustainable and Environmentally Friendly Transportation Mode Choices

Hamilton Fire Department Innovative Online Training Resources:

- Received $137,000 provincial grant to purchase hardware and software to pilot online training resources saving a total of 21 travel days and reducing transportation GHG emissions thus far.

City of Hamilton Pilot Floating Carshare Program

- Council approved an 18-month free-floating carshare parking pilot in Wards 1, 2, and 3.
- This is in addition to Hamilton's existing 50 station-based carshare vehicles (pre-COVID) operating in Hamilton since 2009.

Goal 3: Transportation

To accelerate the uptake of modes of transportation that are low and/or zero emissions.

Hamilton's Corporate Green Fleet Strategy:

In May 2021, City Council approved $2.5 M incremental capital requirements related to the following actions being completed between 2022 and 2024:

- Replacing 90 internal combustion vehicles with battery Electric Vehicles (EV) ($1.9 M); and
- Installing 49 EV charging stations ($600 K).

City staff are applying for Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) grant and if successful will receive $300 K to offset the $600 K capital costs of the EV charging stations.

Additional actions of the Green Fleet Strategy include but not limited to:

- Pilot the use of biodiesel to identify highest blend possible;
- Eco-Driving and Anti-idling training for all fleet operators; and
- Anti-Idling awareness campaign focusing on current technologies in fleet vehicles staff can take advantage of.

Once implemented it is estimated these initiatives, combined with the conversion of 90 vehicles to Battery Electric Vehicles can **reduce the City's corporate GHG emissions by 18.4% by 2024**

Hamilton's Piloting Ontario's First Carbon Negative Bus:

In partnership with Enbridge Gas the City of Hamilton is piloting Ontario's first ever carbon negative bus. It is estimated this bus will:

- Divert 450 tonnes of organic waste from landfill; and
- Displace 36,000 litres of diesel generated CO2 emissions.

Learn more about the HSR Carbon Negative Bus

Goal 4: Planning

To ensure a climate change lens is applied to all planning initiatives to encourage the use of best climate mitigation and adaptation practices.

Flooding and Drainage Master Servicing Study:

In the last decade, the City has experienced a number of severe storm events significant enough to lead to sewer backups and basement flooding.

The City of Hamilton is in the process of developing a Flooding and Drainage Master Servicing Study which is a long-range plan to improve the performance of the combined sewer network to reduce flooding, including basement flooding.

Learn more about the City's Flooding and Drainage Master Servicing Study

City of Hamilton's Planning & Economic Development Department's Initiatives with a Climate Change Lens:

Review and approval of development applications is undertaken in accordance with the climate change policies of the *Provincial Policy Statement (2020)*, relevant provincial plans, and the local policies in effect in Hamilton's official plans. Other on-going initiatives that include a climate change related evaluations and/or lens are highlighted in the table below:

Initiatives	Climate Lens / Evaluation
Community Energy and Emissions Plan	Formally titled the Community Energy Plan this key long-range plan includes low carbon scenario modeling of actions and GHG reduction targets, that will help the community achieve a net zero future by 2050.
COVID-19 Mobility Plan	Prioritizes the implementation of key active and sustainable infrastructure that can reduce reliance on personal vehicles reducing GHG emissions.
GRIDS2 and Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR)	Established a decision framework to collect qualitative and quantitative climate change data on Hamilton's growth options including transit and bicycling infrastructure connectiveness, ability to either help or hinder a net carbon zero future, and identification of any climate risks and/or opportunities. An additional component of the MCR is the review and update of the Urban Hamilton and Rural Official Plan's to align with climate change policies in the *Growth Plan (2019)*, (as amended) and the *Provincial Policy Statement, 2020*.
Bayfront Industrial Strategy	This long term strategy to support the continued success of the Bayfront includes objectives for brownfield redevelopment, adaptive reuse of buildings, employment land intensification; promotion of private industiral investment to reduce GHG, and establishment of green infrastructure elements to support air, soil and water quality.

By including a climate change lens the outcomes of these initiatives can result in greater reduction of GHG emissions and better prepare Hamilton for the impacts of a changing climate.

Ongoing Rain Gauge & Sewage Flow Monitoring:

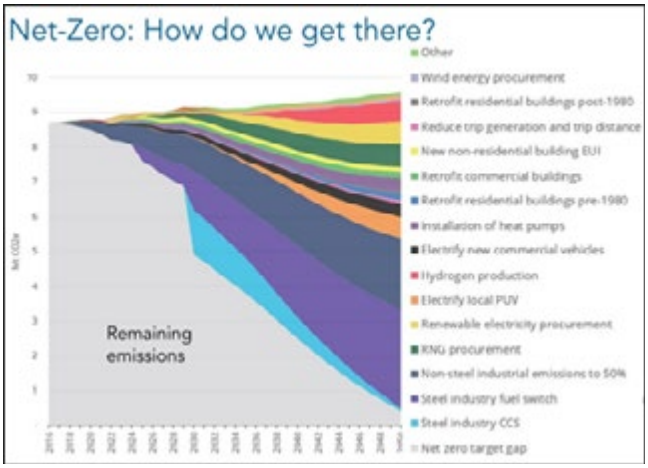
The City of Hamilton Public Works Department continues to collect preciptiation data from rain gauges across Hamilton in order to inform best infrastructure planning practices. Ongoing sewer flow monitoring data is also collected to quantify the effect of climate change on the sewer collection system and allow for appropriate planning.

Hydraulic Modelling for Separate Storm Sewer System:

The City is developing a system-wide dual drainage stormwater model for Ancaster. The model will faciliate the prediction of flooding during wet weather to plan appropriately for future projects.

Climate Action Highlight

Hamilton's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) is a long-term plan to meet Hamilton's future energy needs while improving energy efficiency, reducing GHG emissions and fostering local sustainability and community-supported energy solutions. The CEEP includes a technical analysis that includes:



1. Energy use and emissions data collection;
2. Establishing the Baseline & Business-as-Planned Scenarios;
3. Identify low carbon actions for modelling;
4. Technical model for low carbon actions;
5. Plan development including Implementation Strategy; and
6. Finalizing the CEEP for City Council approval.

The City has been working with a consultant team and stakeholder group and has completed both Business-as-Planned and Low Carbon Scenario models. A draft plan which layouts modelled actions for how Hamilton can reach a net carbon zero emissions target is being developed, along with an implementation strategy that identifies financial implications and resources required.

The Draft Plan is scheduled to go Hamilton's General Issues Committee in Q1 2022. Once approved final public-wide engagement will take place before finalizing the CEEP including the implementation strategy, financial implications and resources required.

City staff thank all existing and ongoing collaboration from external stakeholders from sectors including but not limited to academia, business, industry, non-government organizations, education and health care institutions, utilities and individual public participation.

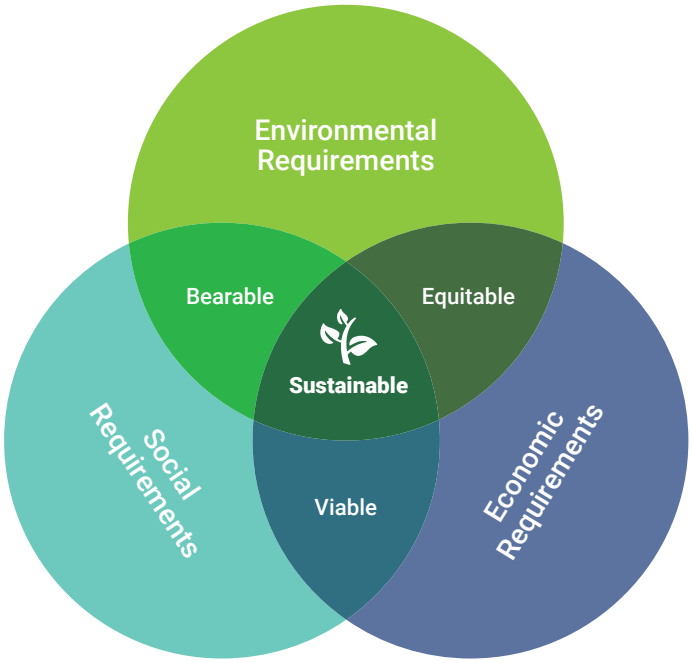
Goal 5: Procurement

To procure goods, services and construction from vendors who conduct their business in a sustainable and ethical manner that considers equity, diversity and inclusion that contributes to the greater good of the community.

Environmental Requirements in City Roster:

The City of Hamilton has updated its City Roster document issued to the public and includes Request For Proposals (RFP) criteria to address sustainable procurement and climate change. Ongoing work to include similar criteria in other RFP documents is ongoing.

This sends a clear message to all potential vendors the City of Hamilton works with that the City requires sustainability measures and helps to ensure vendors continuously think about their own sustainability and climate change objectives.



Landscape Architectural Services Specifications:

The Landscape Architectural Services (LAS) Division in the Public Works Department continuously looks to alter their specifications to include the use of low carbon products, recycled and re-use of materials on all their projects.

This directly works to reduce GHG emissions by avoiding the use of virgin materials and high carbon emitting products on each project and emissions involved with manufacturing and shipping.

Goal 6: Protect and Restore the Natural Environment

To increase our carbon sinks and local food production through the preservation and enhancement of the natural environmental, including local farmland.

City-Wide Tree Planting

The City's Forestry Division in Public Works completed several tree planting and tree giveaways throughout 2021 including:

trees planted through 50 Million Tree Program

trees were given away to residents throughout Wards 3 & 5

large callipers between November 2020 and September 2021

By planting more trees across Hamilton, especially in Wards that need them the most the City is growing its carbon sequestration sink as trees can filter not only carbon dioxide but also other harmful air pollutants improving local air quality. Trees also have many other benefits including decreasing urban heat island effect, providing shade and cooling relief for people and buildings.

Urban Forest Strategy

The City of Hamilton understands all the benefits trees can provide to our city, to our residence and to our infrastructure. The Urban Forest Strategy (UFS) studied Hamilton's existing urban forest tree canopy and provides a high-level plan and roadmap for a sustainable urban forest for the next 20 years.

The UFS completed a detailed baseline study of Hamilton's existing urban forest and the many social and financial benefits it provides including but not limited to:

- **$3.63 M** annually in energy savings.
- **$1.9 M** annually in stormwater management services.
- **256 tonnes** of air pollution removed annually.

The UFS will be presented to Planning Committee for approval in the coming months.

Learn more about the City's Urban Forest Strategy

Goal 7: Climate Adaptation

To improve Hamilton's climate resiliency by decreasing our vulnerability to extreme weather, minimizing future damages, take advantage of opportunities, and better recover from future damages.

Climate Impact Adaptation Planning

The City of Hamilton is building on its existing work through ICLEI Canada's Building Adaptive and Resilient Communities (ICLEI-BARC) five milestone framework.

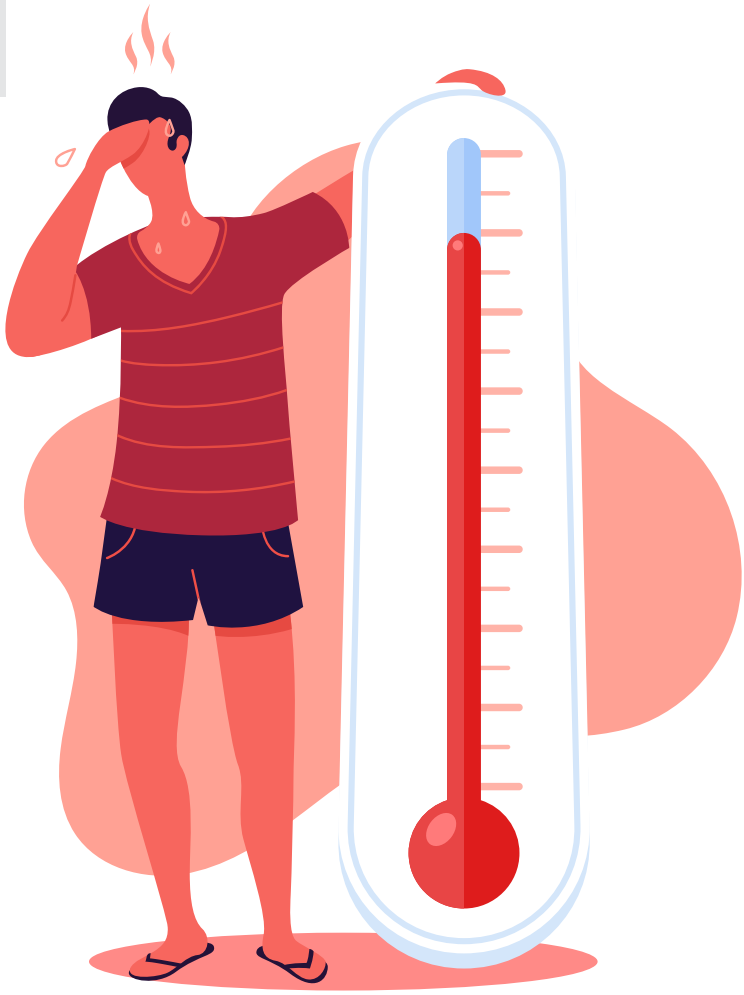
The City is revisiting corporate and community Risk and Vulnerability Assessments, through a combination of workshops, meetings and surveys. This work is being conducted on the basis of an updated (2021) Hamilton's Science of Climate Change using downscaled climate model predictions.

Learn more about
Hamilton's Climate Impact Adaption Plan

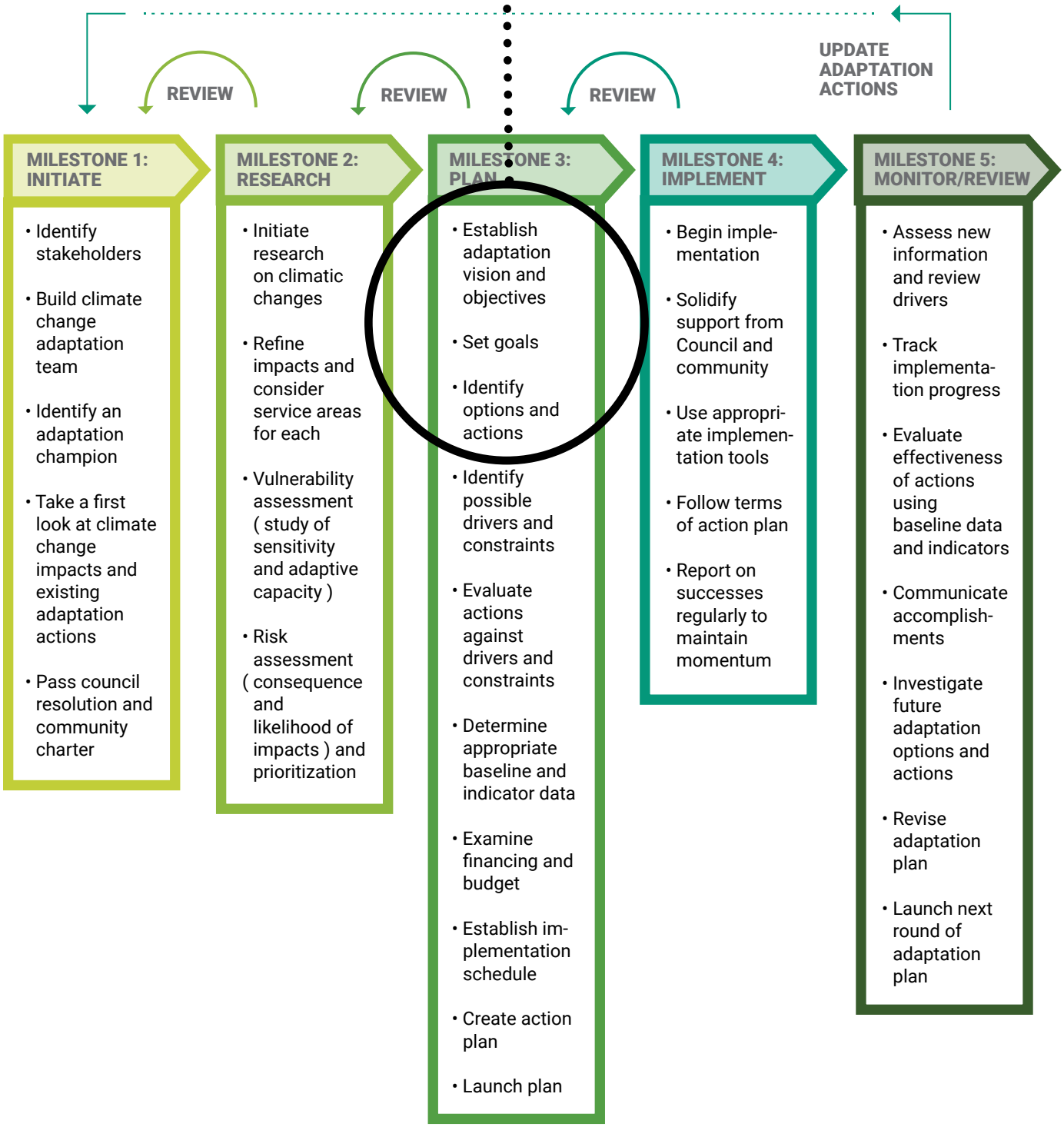
Advancing Climate Adaptation to Extreme Heat

The City of Hamilton has received a $15,000 grant from ICLEI Canada to pilot innovative climate adaptation actions to extreme heat for those populations that are most vulnerable to these impacts. Interventions will be piloted in the community for those who do not have air conditioning and who cannot access cooling centres. This project is in collaboration with community partners including:

- ACORN;
- Environment Hamilton
- Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction
- Social Planning and Research Council (SPRC)



We are here:


REVIEW
REVIEW
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UPDATE ADAPTATION ACTIONS
MILESTONE 1: INITIATE
• Identify stakeholders
• Build climate change adaptation team
• Identify an adaptation champion
• Take a first look at climate change impacts and existing adaptation actions
• Pass council resolution and community charter
MILESTONE 2: RESEARCH
• Initiate research on climatic changes
• Refine impacts and consider service areas for each
• Vulnerability assessment (study of sensitivity and adaptive capacity)
• Risk assessment (consequence and likelihood of impacts) and prioritization
MILESTONE 3: PLAN
• Establish adaptation vision and objectives
• Set goals
• Identify options and actions
• Identify possible drivers and constraints
• Evaluate actions against drivers and constraints
• Determine appropriate baseline and indicator data
• Examine financing and budget
• Establish implementation schedule
• Create action plan
• Launch plan
MILESTONE 4: IMPLEMENT
• Begin implementation
• Solidify support from Council and community
• Use appropriate implementation tools
• Follow terms of action plan
• Report on successes regularly to maintain momentum
MILESTONE 5: MONITOR/REVIEW
• Assess new information and review drivers
• Track implementation progress
• Evaluate effectiveness of actions using baseline data and indicators
• Communicate accomplishments
• Investigate future adaptation options and actions
• Revise adaptation plan
• Launch next round of adaptation plan

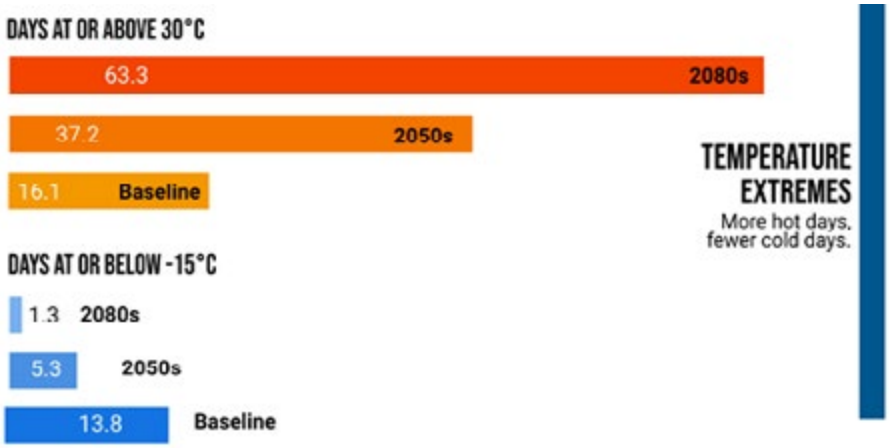
Examples for Hamilton's Climate Projections:

Heatwaves

Heatwaves are a growing public health concern due to the potential of heat related illness and in some cases mortality. Many urban centres across the world have already experienced extreme heat events leading to death.

In the City of Hamilton the average heatwave length is projected to increase from 3.8 days to 8.4 days by the year 2080.

Temperature Extremes



Environment and Climate Change Canada issues Heat Alerts and Heat Warnings when two or more consecutive days are forecasted with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31˚ C and night time lows greater than or equal to 20˚ C or two or more consecutive days with Humidex of 40˚ C or greater. Hamilton's Medical Officer of Health relays this information across the City which triggers additional actions to help protect Hamilton residents.

In the City of Hamilton days at or above 30˚ C are projected to increase over 290% from a baseline of 16.1 days per year to 63.3 days by 2080.

Learn more about Hamilton's Climate Science Report **and** Hamilton's Climate Impact Adaptation Plan

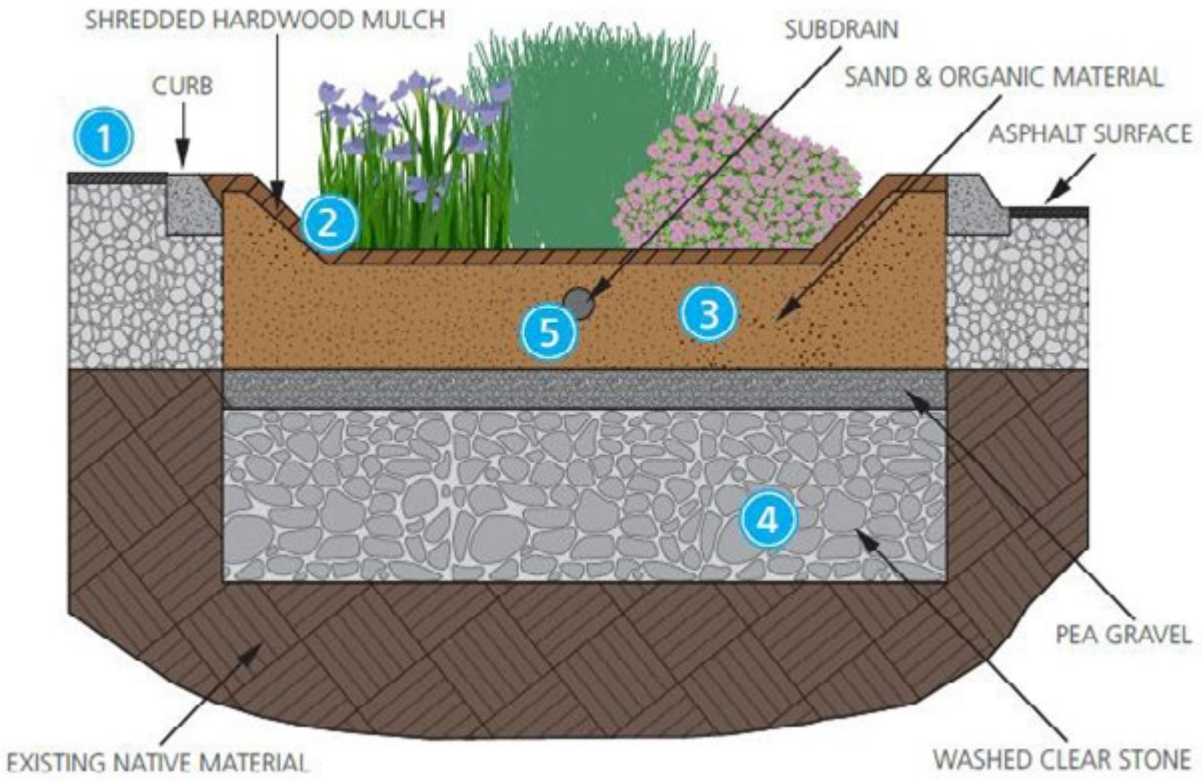
Rosedale Neighbourhood Flood Protection Works

As part of the City's commitment to help protect residents from the impacts of flooding, Hamilton Water completed an Environmental Assessment for the control of surface water flows to mitigate basement flooding in the Rosedale area.

Low Impact Development (LID) Bump Out at Bay Street & Simcoe Street

Low Impact Development (LID) is an innovative approach to land development that mimics the natural movement of water in order to manage stormwater (rainwater and urban runoff) close to where the rain falls. LID benefits include but not limited to:

- Stormwater volume control;
- Flood reduction;
- Infrastructure savings;
- Water quality protection and improvement; and
- Reduce urban heat island effects



These benefits will directly help Hamilton adapt to climate change that results from more frequent and intense precipitation events.

Learn more about the City's Low Impact Development Design and Best Practices

Goal 8: Diversity, Health and Inclusion

To ensure all our work promotes equity, diversity, health and inclusion and improves collaboration and consultation with all equity seeking groups, including local Indigenous Peoples.

Indigenous Natural Heritage Assessment Policy

City staff are in the process of developing the Natural Heritage Assessment Policy in consultation with Indigenous communities. This builds improved relationships with the Treaty Nations and identifies ways to educate the public on the Indigenous ecological knowledge in Hamilton. This policy will be in addition to the previously approved Indigenous Archaeological Interim Monitoring Policy approved in January 2020.

Cultural Capacity Training

As outlined in the Urban Indigenous Strategy, City staff education is a key component for further awareness and education on Indigenous culture, history and traditions. In Public Health Services (PHS) there are 108 staff who have completed San'yas online Indigenous Cultural Competency Training, including two PHS Leadership Forums focusing on Indigenous health and other issues, which included Blanket Exercises. City-wide program development and implementation is anticipated throughout 2022.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Climate Adaptation Planning

It has been thoroughly documented that climate change disproportionately affects disadvantaged and marginalized populations, and that the nature and severity of those impacts varies depending on the community. Therefore, City staff invited participation from a wide variety of community organizations that have established relationships with those populations including:

- Black, Indigenous, and other people of colour;
- Immigrants and newcomers;
- Women;
- Disabled people;
- Low-income;
- Homeless/houseless;
- Young people.

City staff recognize the incredible burdens placed on all our community organizations which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Participation in the community engagement was as flexible as possible and tailored to these organizations to help accommodate their participation. As a result, the Project Manager thus far has received detailed, in-depth information from:

- Six Environmental Non-Government Organizations;
- Seven Institutional and Commercial Partners; and
- Fourteen Community and Social Organizations.

External organizations that are interested in learning more about the project to date and participating going forward are encouraged to contact the Project Manager at **Andrea.McDowell@hamilton.ca**

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Framework

City Council identified Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) as a key priority for the 2018-2022 Term of Council. On September 22, 2021 City staff submitted the EDI Framework which was unanimously approved by City Council on September 29, 2021. This EDI Framework includes but not limited to the following recommendations:

- Directed Senior Leadership Team to implement the EDI Framework and Roadmap;
- Ensure respective staff are required to attend mandatory EDI training;
- Approved $200,000 maximum be funded towards EDI training in 2022 and 2023; and
- Equivalent of three Full-Time Employment (FTE) and associated budget be added to the Human Rights Division in 2022.

For a more information and a summary see: EDI Roadmap and Implementation Plan

Corporate-Wide Public Engagement Policy and Administrative Framework

Public engagement is essential for the development of robust, meaningful, and inclusive climate change actions, plans and policies. It is also a key component of many City staff's work. City Council has approved and directed staff to develop a robust public engagement policy and framework and report back to General Issues Committee in the spring of 2022.

Learn more about the
City's Public Engagement Policy and Framework Scope of Work and Project Activity Plan

Goal 9: Education and Awareness

To increase the knowledge and empower City staff and the Hamilton community including business, Non-Government Organizations and individual citizens while advocating to higher levels of government to take action on climate change.

CityLAB Hamilton Collaboration

CityLAB is an innovative hub that brings together student, academic, and civic leaders to co-create a better Hamilton for all. Throughout 2020/2021 CityLAB and Hamilton City staff partnered on the following projects that relate to Hamilton's 9 High Impact Climate Change Goals:

Project Description	Benefits (realized or expected)	Project Links
Resilient Works: Academic Partnership and Engagement Program	Initial scoping completed for a partnership and engagement program with academic institutions for Resilient Works – Public Works Climate Resiliency Program	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/winter-2021-projects-blog/resilientworks
Resilient Works: Best Practices in Climate Resiliency Worldwide	Completed the collection and analysis of data that helped inform best practices on climate resiliency in cities around the world.	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/fall-2020-blog/climatechangeresiliancyprogram
Resilient Works: Scenario Analysis for Climate Solutions	In partnership with McMaster University, co-develop and deploy a scenario analysis tool capable of determining possible climate resiliency futures for Public Works stemming from different policy, planning and investment decisions.	N/A
HSRnow Accessibility	Completed AODA compliance scan for HSR suite of digital trip planning tools	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/fall-2020-blog/2020/10/21/completestreets
Animating Community-Driven Open Streets	Engaged community members in design of safe intersections	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/fall-2020-blog/2020/10/21/completestreets
Covid-19 Effects on Parkland	Gathered comparative park usage data from citizens	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/fall-2020-blog/2020/9/11/covid-19-effects-on-parkland?rq=parkland
Test and Trace: Urban Waters Edition	Designing a system to monitor and track Chedoke Creek water quality in real time	https://www.citylabhamilton.com/fall-2020-blog/2020/9/15/testing-and-tracing-contaminants-in-chedoke-creek

Hamilton's Climate Change Action Website

City staff have created the City's Climate Change Action website. With a quick Google search it is the first search result in order for anyone to easily navigate and get information on Climate Action the City is doing. This website will be ever changing and evolving with updated reports, information and data to better inform the community.

Learn more about the City's Climate Change Action Website

Conclusion

The City of Hamilton is committed to ongoing climate action both corporately and across the community. While there is work being done across all City departments with respect to climate change, the City recognizes that a more concentrated and holistic implementation and reporting strategy is needed to advance our progress. The Senior Leadership Team comprised of the City Manager and the General Managers of each City departments are committed to integrating the targets, actions and indicators from the forthcoming Community Energy and Emissions Plan and Climate Impact Adaptation Plan into their multi-year budget and business plans. In addition the City recognizes there are many additional climate positive actions in existing and forthcoming plans, policies and strategies including but not limited to:

- Corporate Energy and Sustainability Policy
- Public Work's Resiliency Program;
- Flooding and Drainage Master Plan
- Transportation Master Plan
- Green Fleet Strategy;
- Urban Forest Strategy;
- Urban Indigenous Strategy
- Hamilton's Economic Development Action Plan 2021-2025
- Equity Diversity and Inclusion Framework;
- Biodiversity Action Plan; and
- Other key actions and initiatives across the Corporation and community

By combining all of these climate actions into a multi-year implementation strategy, this will allow identification of short-term, mid-term and long-term financial and staffing resource requirements. The development of targets and key annual indicators will also be committed into departmental multi-year business plans to allow City Staff to report corporate-wide progress and outcomes of climate change actions.

It is equally important for external stakeholders including businesses, non-government organizations, industry, academia and individual citizens to commit and contribute where identified in the implementation of climate actions. External stakeholders will also need to do their part by committing to targets, actions, indicators and reporting on progress so that Hamilton can collectively achieve its climate change goal which is to become a zero-carbon thriving, fair and prosperous community. This will ultimately contribute to the achievement of Hamilton's mission "To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully".

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