



Bay Area
Climate Change
Council

Bay Area Climate Change Council

bayareaclimate.ca

info@bayareaclimate.ca

October 15, 2024

Mayor and Members
General Issues Committee
City of Hamilton

Support for Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy 2024 Annual Update (PED24166)

On behalf of the Bay Area Climate Change Council, we would like to commend the significant efforts behind the Climate Action Strategy Annual Update and the actions outlined to address the climate crisis. The hard work and collective dedication of this Council and staff are clear, and we should all be proud of the progress made within our city and community so far.

From progress on the carbon budget to the launch of the Better Homes Hamilton project and the expansion of sustainable transportation infrastructure, these actions are concrete steps forward. We acknowledge the city's commitment to community engagement and collaboration with diverse stakeholders, and the development of a climate justice framework – essential steps to ensure an equitable response to the climate crisis.

At the same time, we must also recognize that significant work and investment remains. The climate crisis is a growing challenge that requires us to be even more ambitious in our goals and innovative in our responses. Our emissions haven't risen despite our efforts to date, and we require a rapid and immediate acceleration of climate action. As we look ahead, we encourage this Council to be bold in its empowerment of staff, investment in climate action, and advocacy at all levels of government.

To that end, staff's recommendation to explore the acceleration of our city's net zero target demonstrates strong climate leadership. Toronto recently advanced its net zero goal from 2050 to 2040, supported by a strategy to accelerate its climate action. Toronto assessed that acceleration was not only necessary, but also would result in greater community-wide net savings. As our city explores a similar acceleration, BACCC is here to support in the assessment of the corresponding co-benefits and requirements. We look forward to further discussion on this issue.



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Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this important discussion, and congratulations again on the efforts made to date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Koroscil'.

Richard Koroscil

Chair, Bay Area Climate Change Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesse Elders'.

Jesse Elders

Manager, Bay Area Climate Change Council