



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

**November 15, 2024**

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# About Report PED24087(a) (City Wide)

The purpose of this report is to offer recommendations to the LRT Sub-Committee on tangible steps to facilitate the process of recruiting representatives of frontline communities to serve as non-voting advisors to the LRT Sub-Committee.

# Climate Justice: Overview

- Involves outcomes that address equity challenges surrounding climate change.

## Three dimensions of Climate Justice:

- **Recognitional Equity**—recognizing and prioritizing the needs of and opportunities for those communities and groups who are at risk of increased vulnerability or who have been historically ignored or underrepresented
- **Distributive Equity**—distributing climate action benefits and diminishing burdens across different equity-owed communities; and,
- **Procedural Equity**—factoring in municipal decision-making processes and who is involved in these processes to ensure the project reflects the needs, aspirations and knowledge of impacted communities.

[Equity Strategy for Municipal Climate Action Planning \(davidsuzuki.org\)](#)

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# Frontline Communities

- Populations that are disproportionately impacted by climate change.
- Includes Indigenous people, communities of colour, disabled people, low-income people, unhoused people, 2SLGBTQQIA+...
- Face heightened climate vulnerability due to the cumulative impact of environmental harms and socio-economic inequality, which limits their capacity to adapt to, resist, or recover from climate impacts. Furthermore, existing disparities mean that unless the City equitably directs resources to frontline communities, they are less likely to share the benefits of climate action.

*Oakland's 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan*

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## Frontline Community

## Local Organization

Urban Indigenous

Circle of Beads (Members such as Hamilton Indian Regional Centre)  
Coalition of Hamilton Indigenous Leadership

Low-Income

Acorn Hamilton  
Hamilton Community Legal Clinic  
Neighbour2Neighbour  
Hamilton Urban Core

Black

HOPE Project  
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion  
Hamilton Anti Racism Resource Centre

Persons with Disabilities

Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities

Women & gender-diverse individuals

YWCA Hamilton

2SLGBTQIA+

Spectrum Hamilton

Youth

Empowerment Squared

Seniors

Hamilton Council on Aging

New immigrants/newcomers

Immigrant Workers Centre

Cycling Advocacy/Mobility Justice	Local Organization
	Everyone Rides Initiative Cycling Hamilton

# Additional Sources of Support for Recruitment

- Office of Climate Change Initiatives
- Indigenous Relations Office
- City's Public Engagement Team

Relevant City of Hamilton advisory committees such as:

- Climate Change Advisory Committee
- Seniors Advisory Committee
- Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities

## Recommendation (a)

That the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee's Terms of Reference be amended to include additional non-voting community advisors to ensure that the Sub-Committee's composition reflects the community from a climate justice point view, as follows:

### **Membership**

Membership of the committee will consist of the Mayor and Councillors along the B-Line corridor.

Additional Councillors that represent various interests should be on the sub-committee. These include (a representative of the mountain and the rural/suburban wards as well).



## Recommendation (a) continued

Other representatives of the community – key stakeholders will be asked to attend as advisors to the sub-committee. These can include but are not limited to (Chamber of Commerce, BIA's, HHHBA, institutional and business partners).

Non-Voting Community Advisors that reflect the community from a climate justice point of view. These Advisors can include but are not limited to the Urban Indigenous community, Black community, women, gender diverse individuals, 2SLGBTQIA+, youth, seniors, newcomers/refugees, persons with disabilities, and low-income Hamiltonians.

## Recommendation (b)

That staff be directed to proceed with efforts to recruit Non-Voting Community Advisors that reflect the community from a climate justice point of view to the Light Rail Transit Sub-Committee, including reaching out to local organizations that offer support to frontline communities.