

CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

То:	Chair and Members of the General Issues Committee
From:	Climate Change Advisory Committee
	Gaby Kalapos, Co-Chair
Date:	December 17, 2024
Re:	Recommendation Respecting Climate Change Advisory Committee 2024 Surplus Funds

Recommendation

(a) That any surplus funds from the Climate Change Advisory Committee Budget Dept ID 300309 be transferred back to the Climate Change Reserve 108062 fund.

Background

The Climate Change Advisory Committee Terms of Reference was approved by General Issues Committee January 18, 2023 (PED23028).

The Climate Change Advisory Committee was exempted, given recruitment was already underway, within the Council approved motion from the July 13th, 2023, Audit, Finance and Administration Committee (Minutes 23-011) respecting the pausing of all Volunteer

Advisory Committees in order for Staff to complete a review of best practices of resident engagement.

The Climate Change Advisory Committee was created following the Council approved selection review process in February 2024. It held its first meeting on April 30th, 2024. The Advisory Committee met a total of seven times during 2024.

The Climate Change Advisory Committee mandate is to provide advice to Council and City Staff on the prioritization, implementation and monitoring of Hamilton's Climate Action Strategy, through an equitable and inclusive manner and a climate justice lens, that responds to the perspectives and needs of all, while transitioning to a prosperous, healthy and vibrant net-zero greenhouse gas community that is a national leader in climate adaptation.

Analysis/Rationale

The Office of Climate Change Initiatives Staff Liaison to the Climate Change Advisory Committee consulted with Finance and Corporate Services Staff and it was determined that Council approval is required to transfer any 2024 surplus funds in the Advisory Committee's budget back to the Climate Change Reserve. Therefore, the Climate Change Advisory Committee at its meeting held September 24, 2024, approved the following motion:

"(a) That any surplus funds from the Climate Change Advisory Committee Budget Dept ID 300309 be transferred back to the Climate Change Reserve 108062 fund."

The funding to support Climate Change Advisory Committee 2024 activities was taken from the Climate Change Reserve 108062 fund. Therefore, it is reasonable to put any remaining 2024 surplus budget funds back into that reserve.

The budget was created before the Climate Change Advisory Committee was established and because the Climate Change Advisory Committee did not begin to meet until April of 2024, there are surplus funds remaining at year end.