# HAMILTON'S CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY



Towards a Community Liaison Group May 27, 2025

Re-Charge.



## **Overview**

- Why the transition to Community Liaison Groups (CLG)?
- What is a CLG?
- Some areas of consideration
- Discussion: What do we want to be?



#### Why Community Liaison Groups?

- Last Volunteer Advisory Committee review (2015)
- Council Motion and Direction for Review (2023)
- Findings shared in updated Report to GIC Feb. 2025
- Guided by Term of Council Priorities. Priority 3: Responsiveness & Transparency Get more people involved in decision making & problem solving

View Staff reports, and presentation shared at GIC Committee on February 26, 2025: <u>CM23025(b) - General</u> <u>Issues Committee - February 26, 2025</u>



Office of Climate Change Initiatives Planning & Economic Development Department

3

#### **Why Community Liaison Groups? Continued**

- Guided by municipal best practices:
- Recommendations to align with Hamilton's 5 Public Engagement Principles:
  - Building Trust and Relationships
  - Every Voice is Valued
  - Clear, Timely and Transparent Information
  - Adapting Along the Way
  - Continuously Improving



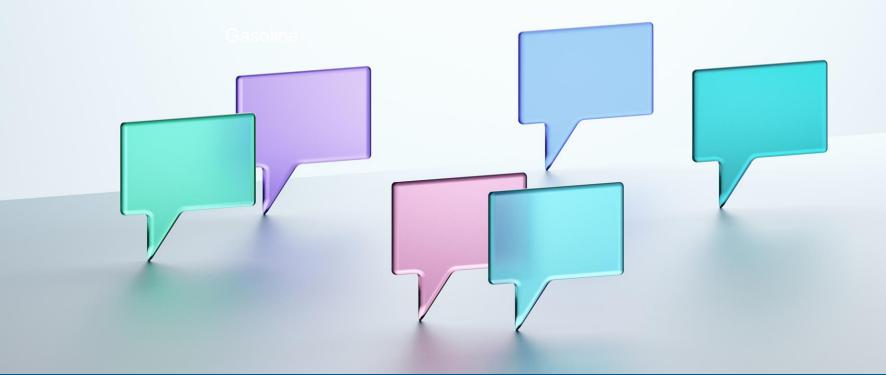
#### What is a Community Liaison Group?

- Resident-led, Staff supported
- Councillors can be involved
- Can be more formal, informal
- Sizes can vary
- A mandate is optional
- OCCI directed to create and report back



#### **Staff Supporting City-Wide Effort**

Project Lead: City Manager's Office, Communications and Community Engagement Division

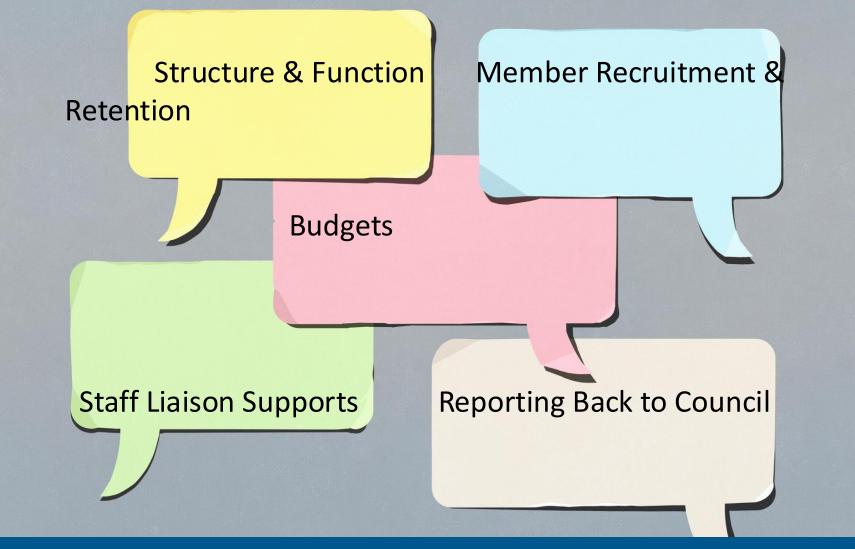




Office of Climate Change Initiatives Planning & Economic Development Department

6

#### **Some Areas of Consideration**





#### **Structure & Function - FAQ**

Will Community Liaison Groups (CLG) still be able to submit reports to Committees of Council?	Yes. More like: Delegation submissions; Memos – appendices as attachment to a staff report
Can an Advisory Committee maintain its structure and reporting to Council?	Can be the recommended format (to maintain it), but the report back must consider earlier feedback heard in the staff recommendation report (flexibility, inclusion, support, etc)
Cohesion? Accountability? Is there a shared vision for this model?	No one size fits all (some will need more structure, like current ACs – formal - others will need more flexibility- informal)





#### **Member Recruitment & Retention - FAQ**

Will existing Volunteer Advisory Committee (VAC) members be given priority as volunteers for the CLGs?	No requirement, but if AC requests, Staff can investigate further Recruitment will come after the model is approved by the Committee of Council
Who does the recruitment of Community Liaison Group members?	Depends on the model chosen and its make-up. May look like Staff putting a call out through organizations that exist already. May be Council appointed.
What about compensation?	Can be considered in a report back on our preferred model. Options could include an honorarium or another form of assistance. Funding for this purpose would need to be approved and secured
Will there be a corporate wide policy for a volunteer member compensation framework, as in other municipalities?	It is under consideration as a potential option



#### **Reporting Back to Council - FAQ**

What is the timeline for reporting back to Council on the transition process?

March 2026 for the CCAC.

The implementation will come once the model is approved, or direction for an alternative is provided by Council.



Office of Climate Change Initiatives Planning & Economic Development Department

10

#### **Budgets - FAQ**

Will the budgets for the advisory	Budgets for each Committee for 2024 has
committees be maintained as they	been shifted to the department of the City
were before the recommendation to	that is responsible for supporting the
transition to Community Liaison	work. For CCAC, funding will shift away
Groups (CLG)?	from the CCR to PED.
Will every CLG have the same budget to work with?	Existing budgets will be maintained. Additional funding beyond what is already allocated would need to come as a budget request.



### Discussion

**BIG PICTURE:** How should the CLG be engaged for feedback and reporting back to Council?

## What/who do we want to be?

- Formal/Informal, Councillor involvement etc.
- What is important to the CCAC to preserve?
- What isn't?

## Is there anything missing from current structure?

• Voices? Budget?

## Next Steps?

• Staff draft structure? Who involved? Engagement first or structure first?

12





## THANK YOU