

Biodiversity Action Plan – Agreement and Progress

General Issues Committee

Sustainable Communities, Planning and Economic Development

Environmental Services, Public Works



April 15, 2026



PED 26082 Biodiversity Action Plan – Agreement and Progress

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Background

Hamilton's Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

- Adopted by Council on June 26, 2024.
- Contains strategic actions to be undertaken by the City together with Collaborating Agencies.

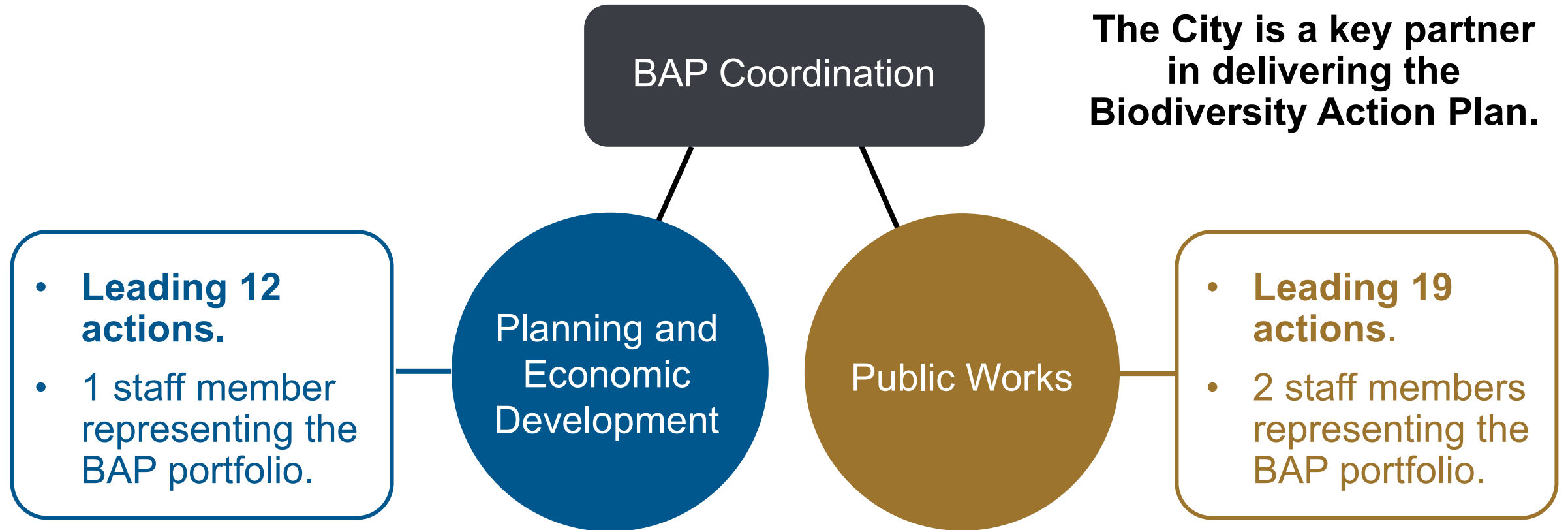
Collaborating Agencies

- Bay Area Restoration Council
- Green Venture
- Hamilton Conservation Authority
- Hamilton Naturalists' Club
- McMaster University.



Background

Out of a total of 68 actions, the City of Hamilton is the lead on 32 actions and supports 24 actions. The remaining actions are led by Collaborating Agencies.



Actions In Progress

Hamilton's Biodiversity Action Plan

An annual report on overall progress between July 2024 to December 2025 is being prepared for presentation to Council in Summer 2026.

To measure impact, a Collaborating Agency action tracking form and a community portal are being developed.



Purpose of the Implementation Agreement

The BAP helps the City accelerate our response to climate change and protect green spaces and waterways.

Execution of the BAP Implementation Agreement will:

- Formalize BAP governance to ensure actions are coordinated;
- Ensure ongoing communication between the City and the Collaborating Agencies; and
- Support the development of long-term governance, financial, and administrative strategies to implement the BAP.

Key Facts

Biodiversity Action Plan partners have developed a governance structure to ensure transparency, inclusivity, and effectiveness. The Agreement and Terms of Reference outline commitments to:

- 1. Delivering BAP Actions:** Each signing agency is a lead for one or more BAP action.
- 2. A framework for joint decision-making:** Management Committee and Steering Committee responsible for overall leadership and implementation support.
- 3. BAP related fundraising, communications, and outreach:** Committees determine the long-term governance, financial, and administrative support to implement the BAP.

Report PED21065(c), Report PED21065(d)/PW24040, and Report PED21065(d)/PW24040 provide an overview of the development and consultation on the BAP and its governance.

Recommendations

The BAP Implementation Agreement formalizes a decision-making process that will enable the development of a long-term governance model, fundraising strategy, and administrative capacity for the BAP.

Council is asked to approve that the General Managers of Planning and Economic Development and Public Works, or the designate of either General Manager, **BE AUTHORIZED** and directed to:

Recommendation 1

1. Execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, the Biodiversity Action Plan Implementation Agreement in substantially the form attached as Appendix A to this Report, which includes the Terms of Reference in substantially the form attached as Schedule “A” to the BAP Implementation Agreement;

Recommendation 2

2. Negotiate, enter into, and execute, on behalf of the City of Hamilton, all agreements, amendments, extensions, renewals, applications, letters, City led or Collaborating Agency led grant applications, or any other documents ancillary to or respecting the BAP Implementation Agreement, the Biodiversity Action Plan, or any BAP related actions, including but not limited to permissions to authorize BAP related work on City owned lands, letters of support, and grant applications and agreements, provided same are on terms satisfactory to the General Managers of Planning and Economic Development and Public Works and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

Recommendation 3

3. Appoint and provide direction to the City of Hamilton's member for the Management Committee and the Steering Committee as required by the BAP Implementation Agreement.

Recommendations

The BAP helps the City accelerate our response to climate change and protect green spaces and waterways.

These recommendations improve City responsiveness and transparency by reducing time needed to seek Council approval for BAP related requests and inviting Collaborating Agencies to contribute to decision making and problem solving.





Questions?

