



INFORMATION REPORT

TO: Chair and Members Public Works Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: January 16, 2013	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Clean Air Hamilton 2011 Progress Report - Public Works Response (PW13003)	
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Council Direction:

This report responds to Item 7.2 in Board of Health Report 12-006, Clean Air Hamilton 2011 Progress Report, wherein Public Works staff were directed to review recommendations that impact local air quality and report back on all pertinent items.

Information:

The Clean Air Hamilton report includes a variety of recommendations that refer to policies, programs and strategies to further improve air quality in the City of Hamilton. A subset of these recommendations is specific to the transportation sector and requires a response from Public Works as to how the recommendations can be met through infrastructure renewal, policy, design and future planning. The following highlights the specific recommendation from the Clean Air Hamilton 2011 Progress Report (BOH12015) and how Public Works can help implement strategies related to the recommendations.

1. In the event the Provincial Highway Act is reviewed in the immediate future, *Clean Air Hamilton* and its stakeholders should be consulted to make recommendations on the updating of this legislation, regulation and guidelines.
 - Public Works can take the lead, and consult with *Clean Air Hamilton*, in reviewing any proposed legislative changes.
2. Recognize the health impacts of transportation-based pollutants near major traffic corridors and take steps to implement this recognition into transportation planning and urban design practices. A balance must be found between active transportation, vehicular and goods movement where Particulate Matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}) is concerned.

Public Works is working on various projects that address this recommendation:

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- The upcoming Transportation Master Plan 5-year Review is proposed to have a focus on:
 - a. Complete Streets,
 - b. Multi-modal Level of Service,
 - c. Completing recommendations on street network changes including 1-way to 2-way street conversion,
 - d. Securing funding to complete the recommendations in a timely manner.
 - Update street design guidelines to incorporate complete street design tools.
 - Implementing the recommendations in the Draft Pedestrian Mobility Plan which outlines specific tools to create a more balanced street network.
 - Area specific Transportation Master Plans – currently the Strathcona neighbourhood transportation master plan is underway.
 - Implementing the recommendations of the Truck Route Master Plan.
 - Implementing the recommendations of the Cycling Master Plan.
3. Support and encourage Hamiltonians to reduce transportation-based emissions through the use of transportation alternatives including public transit, bicycles, walking, hybrid vehicles, etc. The City of Hamilton must continue to lead by example through transportation demand management, transportation planning and fleet upgrades.
- Public Works is currently undergoing a community based social marketing pilot project which aims to engage individual households in Ward 2 and Ward 8 helping those households to improve their commutes and travel patterns to reduce costs and improve their health.
 - Public Works manages the Smart Commute Hamilton program which works with employers and employees to encourage them to commute more sustainably. It also provides online and offline tools to facilitate behaviour change. Smart Commute provides the following:
 - a. CarpoolZone.ca ride matching tool,
 - b. EmergencyRideHome.ca commuter insurance program,
 - c. Clean Air Commute and Carpool Week,
 - d. Transportation and Healthy Living Fair,
 - e. Collaborates on events such as Open Streets Hamilton.
 - Public Works initiated a 2 year corporate car sharing pilot project to augment the City's fleet and provide options for employees to use carshare vehicles for work purposes, thereby allowing them to rely less on their own vehicle for work purposes. The main goal of this pilot is to determine the feasibility of

- reducing the permanent fleet and to invest in an 'on demand' fleet, while facilitating sustainable employee commutes to work.
- Public Works initiated a 2-year pilot for a mobile phone application to provide citizens with a Smartphone resource that uses interactive mapping services to help them commute more sustainably.
 - Public Works continuously develops cycling infrastructure and education programs such as *CAN-Bike* (in partnership with Public Health and Recreation).
 - In partnership with Public Health, Public Works implements *School Travel Planning* and *Active and Safe Routes to School* programs.
4. Develop a Complete Streets Strategy for Hamilton that incorporates inventories, the tools and examples that currently exist in Hamilton to accommodate various transportation modes and road users. The strategy can also help link all existing plans and policies together to ensure ease of implementation.
- This recommendation is proposed to be addressed in the upcoming Transportation Master Plan 5-year Review and the Complete Streets Strategy. Overall this involves:
 - a. Policy Review,
 - b. Street inventory,
 - c. Public outreach and education,
 - d. Multi-modal Level of Service,
 - e. Design guideline recommendations,
 - f. Environmental Assessment.
5. Develop Transportation Demand Management guidelines for new developments and redevelopments.
- Public Works will continue the work of the TDM Implementation Coordinating Committee to develop and implement TDM guidelines and TOD guidelines for new and existing developments. This multi-stakeholder group includes staff representation from all departments that are involved in the development application process for private and public developments.
6. Take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduced energy consumption, water and waste generation in City buildings and reduced energy consumption in fleets. Educate and encourage the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy and water consumption and waste generation at home, business and on the road.
- Transit Service improvements, improved cycling infrastructure, Transportation Demand Management programs, and Smart Commute programs help reduce emissions associated with private automobiles by

providing viable options for making sustainable trips to work, school, leisure or running errands.

- Individualized Marketing efforts as part of the community based social marketing pilot program aim to reduce energy consumption associated with household travel by engaging individual households and helping those households use more sustainable modes of travel.
7. Take a broad suite of actions to improve local air quality and combat climate change, and to increase the level of dialogue with community groups on the health impacts of poor air quality and the actions and lifestyle changes that will lead to air quality improvements for all.
- The City's integrated mobility program further addresses this general broad suite of actions through local transit improvements, rapid transit planning, mobility hub planning, cycling network improvements, pedestrian realm considerations and transportation demand management policy and programs.