



Item # 8.1

Hamilton

Air Quality Task Force (AQTF)
ACTION PLAN

December 2013

Background

- Air Quality Task Force (AQTF) was established as a result of the motion passed on December 3rd, 2012 BOH with the mandate to:
“...investigate and make recommendations to the City on actions that can be taken to reduce air pollution in Hamilton.”
- This motion was brought forth as a result of local citizen concern about: *“...residing in neighbourhoods in close proximity to Hamilton’s industrial core as they relate to air quality.”*



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Background

- Clean Air Hamilton (2013) reports that despite long-term reductions over recent decades, the annual values for pollutants known to be hazardous to human health - PM10, PM2.5, SO2, benzene and benzo[a]pyrene - have all shown modest increases over the past three to four years.
- In Hamilton, mobile air monitoring studies report higher pollutant exposures measured along arterial roads, major highways and intersections due to emissions from automobiles, light-duty and heavy-duty trucks.



[Hamilton](http://www.hamilton.ca)

Air Quality Task Force (AQTF)

- Participation open to interested members of Clean Air Hamilton
- The task force Chairperson, a member of Clean Air Hamilton, led the group toward satisfying the mandate from the Board of Health
- AQTF met on a monthly basis in 2013
- AQTF consulted with stakeholders in order to develop its recommendations to the Board of Health about what actions should be taken to improve air quality



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AQTF Vision

- AQTF supports: “*actions that can be taken to reduce air pollution in Hamilton*” and that have the potential to result in:
 - Improved human health due to decreased exposure to air pollutants
 - A sustainable environment which receives fewer and lower emissions and produces less detriment to the local airshed
 - A higher quality of life for individuals who live and/or work in the City of Hamilton
 - A legacy for future generations that includes a cleaner environment



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AQTF Members

Denis Corr	Corr Research Inc.
Matthew Lawson	City of Hamilton, PHS
Karen Logan	Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association
Lynda Lukasik	Environment Hamilton
George McKibbon	McKibbon Wakefield Inc.
Brian Montgomery	City of Hamilton, PHS
Sally Radisic	City of Hamilton, PHS
Andy Sebestyen	U.S. Steel Canada



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AQTF Recommendations

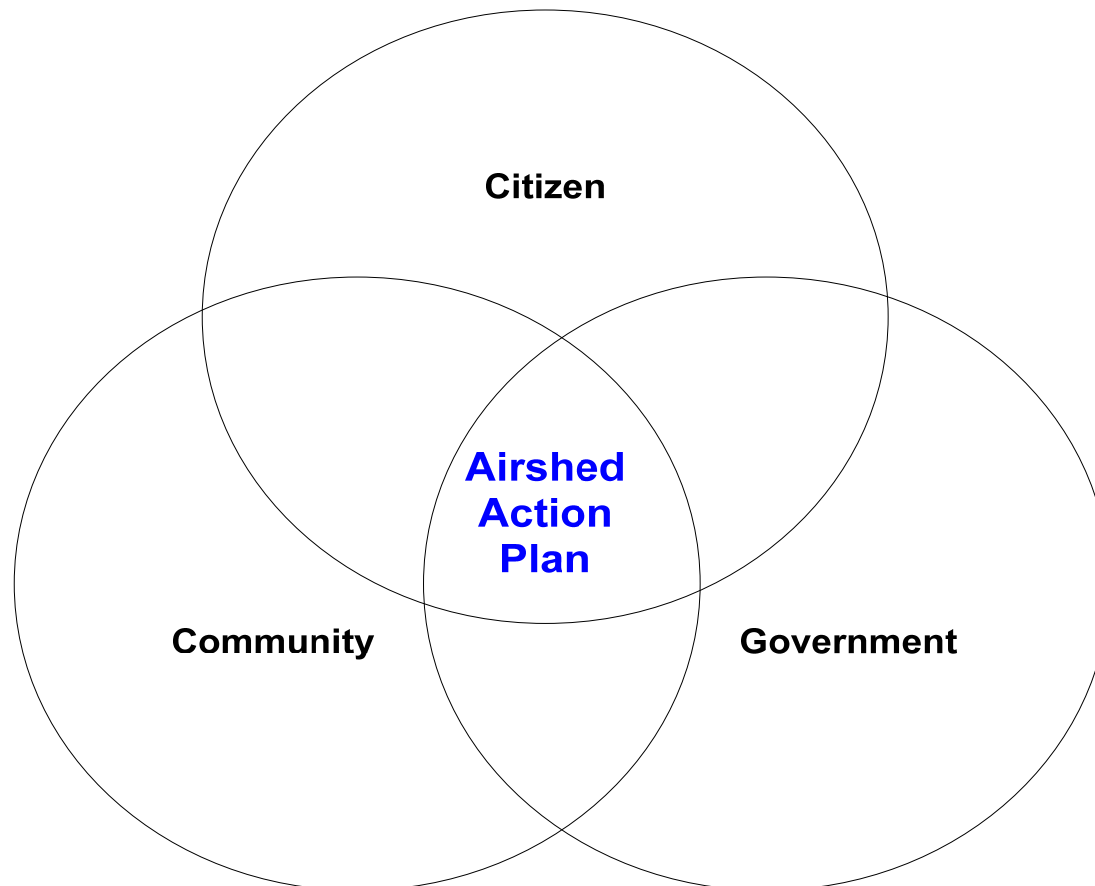
- Recommendations: “on actions that can be taken to reduce air pollution in Hamilton.”
- Recommendations based on a suite of different actions to address the complicated interaction of Hamilton’s:
 - Unique geography
 - Multiple sources of air pollution
 - Distribution of land uses and transportation infrastructure



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AQTF Recommendations

- AQTF recognizes that an integrated approach with citizens, community and government is essential



AQTF Recommendations

- Recommendations built upon:
 - i. Air monitoring and modelling;
 - ii. Planning;
 - iii. Education & outreach; and
 - iv. Municipal action
- Recommendations expected to work synergistically to achieve air pollution reductions



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RECOMMENDATION: Advanced Airshed Model

That Public Health Services (PHS), in partnership with Clean Air Hamilton (CAH), be directed, pending identification of a funding source, to procure the development of an **advanced airshed model** for the City of Hamilton as described as recommendation 1 of the Air Quality Task Force (AQTF) Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION: Neighbourhood Mobile Monitoring Surveys

That PHS staff, in partnership with CAH, be directed, pending identification of a funding source, to procure **neighbourhood mobile monitoring surveys** in identified neighbourhoods, as described in recommendation 2 of the AQTF Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION: Air Quality Related Guidelines

That PHS staff work with Planning staff to develop **air quality-related guidelines** for new and redeveloping neighbourhood land use planning, as described in recommendation 3 of the AQTF Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION:

Review the Town of Oakville's Particulate Matter Reduction By-law

That PHS staff work with Municipal Law Enforcement Staff, with assistance from Legal Services to **review the Town of Oakville's Particulate Matter Reduction By-law**, and report back on how it could be adapted for a similar by-law in Hamilton



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RECOMMENDATION: Review Existing By-Laws & Enforcement Processes

That PHS staff, with support from Municipal Law Enforcement Staff, **review existing by-laws and enforcement processes** (ie Streets By-Law) that serve to lower the generation and dispersion of particulate matter and report back to Board of Health on possible areas of improvement, as described in recommendation 9 of the AQTF Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION:

Support Street Sweeping Program enhancement

That BOH **support the recommendation in the Street Sweeping Program enhancement** recommendation referred to the 2014 budget deliberation to address corresponding budget requirements for the service level increase to the Industrial Zone Neighbourhoods as recommended in Report PW13055, and as described in recommendation 10 of the AQTF Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION: coordinate education programming

That Clean Air Hamilton continues to coordinate education programming among community partners with regard to promote:

- green infrastructure to citizens, organizations and government;
- Air Quality Outreach Program within Hamilton schools;
- community-based environmental monitoring, as described in recommendations 4, 7 and 8 of the AQTF Action Plan



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RECOMMENDATION: Develop and Conduct Particulate Matter Control Workshops

That PHS staff work with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Clean Air Hamilton to **develop and conduct particulate matter control workshops** for local businesses and industries, as described in recommendation 6 of the AQTF Action Plan



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