



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Thursday, February 13, 2025

5:30 p.m.

Charlie Ward Room, Brantford City Hall

58 Dalhousie Street, Brantford

This meeting will be held in a hybrid format (virtual and in-person). A request to delegate can be completed by visiting the City's webpage [Speaking at a Council Meeting](#).

To join this hybrid meeting, please call 1-647-374-4685 and enter the Meeting ID 976 7670 7913 or join via [Zoom Meetings](#).

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Pages

1. Roll Call
2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest
3. Presentations/Delegations
4. Items for Consideration
 - 4.1 2025 GreenER Awards Promotional Campaign [Financial Impact: None], 2025-58 4

THAT Report 2025-58 "2025 GreenER Awards Promotional Campaign" BE RECEIVED.
 - 4.2 2025 Community Engagement and Events [Financial Impact: None], 2025-57 7
 - A. THAT Report 2025-57 "2025 Community Engagement and Events" BE RECEIVED; and
 - B. THAT ESPAC members VOLUNTEER at _____ event.

- 4.3 2025 ESPAC Budget [Financial Impact: None], 2025-93** 11
- A. THAT Report 2025-93 “2025 ESPAC Budget” BE RECEIVED;
and
- B. THAT \$_____ BE ALLOCATED to use for _____.
- 4.4 Home Energy Savings Guide [Financial Impact: None], 2025-56** 15
- A. THAT Report 2025-56 “Home Energy Savings Guide” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT the following comments from the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee regarding the Home Energy Savings Guide BE INCLUDED in the Home Energy Savings Guide:
- i. _____; and
- ii. _____; and
- iii. _____.
- 4.5 Invasive Species Management Plan [Financial Impact: None], 2025-55** 19
- A. THAT Report 2025-55 “Invasive Species Management Plan” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT the following comments from the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee regarding the Invasive Species Management Plan BE INCLUDED in the Invasive Species Management Plan:
- i. _____; and
- ii. _____; and
- iii. _____.
- 5. Consent Items**
- 5.1 2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan [Financial Impact: None], 2025-76** 23
- THAT Report 2025-76 “2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan” BE RECEIVED.
- 5.2 Minutes**
- 5.2.1 Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee -** 28

December 12, 2024

6. Resolutions

7. Notices of Motion

7.1 Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee Vacancy

- A. THAT the position of committee member Kiana Ferreira on the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee BE DECLARED vacant in the accordance with Section 26.2.12 of Chapter 26 of the City of Brantford Municipal Code; and
- B. THAT the Appointments Committee BE REQUESTED to fill the vacant position.

8. Adjournment



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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-58

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item

Item For Consideration

2.0 Topic 2025 GreenER Awards Promotional Campaign [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

A. THAT Report 2025-58 “2025 GreenER Awards Promotional Campaign” BE RECEIVED.

4.0 Background

At the January 28, 2013 City Council meeting, approval was granted for the annual Green Environmental Recognition (GreenER) Award program. Since 2013, the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee has annually advertised, reviewed, and recommended recipients of the awards which have been presented annually at City Council meetings. Awards are chosen based on specific evaluation criteria across several categories including: Lifetime Achievement, Green Non-Profit in Brantford, Green Business in

Brantford, Greenest Family, Environmental Volunteer, and Young Environmental Champion Awards. Nominations are accepted all year and are reviewed annually every March or April with the awards being presented at a City Council meeting near Earth Day.

5.0 Analysis

Staff is recommending the following promotional campaign for the GreenER Awards:

- Social media posts on the City of Brantford's social media channels (static posts and videos) at least once a week from February to April
- Media releases announcing the award categories and nomination deadline
- City of Brantford website update

To help promote the awards, ESPAC members can share and interact with the City's social media posts; spread the word to colleagues, friends, and family; post on social media, etc.

6.0 Financial Implications


There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

There are no climate and environmental implications as a result of this report. The Green Environmental Recognition Awards is an opportunity for Brantford residents and businesses to showcase their environmental work being done in the community.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provided members of ESPAC with an update on the promotional campaign for the GreenER Awards.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Report No. 2025-58
February 13, 2025

Page 3

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no



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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-57

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item

Item For Consideration

2.0 Topic 2025 Community Engagement and Events [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

- A. THAT Report 2025-57 “2025 Community Engagement and Events” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT ESPAC members VOLUNTEER at _____ event.

4.0 Background

The mandate of the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee (ESPAC) includes promoting and undertaking educational, outreach, and other activities related to the environment and municipal sustainability, as approved by City Council. Over the years, ESPAC has completed several environmental and sustainability public engagement activities that has helped educate and raise the

community's awareness on climate action. In June 2023, ESPAC used a portion of their allocated budget to purchase promotional materials to be used at City events. In March 2023, ESPAC finalized environmental and sustainability educational videos that the City posted on its social media channels throughout the year. In June 2023, Staff provided [Report 2023-428](#), titled "Calendar of City Events" to ESPAC identifying potential events and opportunities in which the community could be engaged.

5.0 Analysis

During their meeting on December 12, 2024, ESPAC expressed interest in volunteering at community events to help raise awareness and education on climate action. There are many community events that take place throughout the year that ESPAC would be able to volunteer at to promote and provide education for climate and environmental initiatives. A list of community events can be found on the City of Brantford's website located at <https://calendar.brantford.ca/>.

The following is a list of annual events hosted by the City where ESPAC would be able to set up a booth:

- Wheels on the Pavement (end of May)
- Canada Day (July 1)
- Mayor's Welcome Week BBQ (early September)
- Scare in the Square (early October)
- New Years Eve (December 31)

The Committee is encouraged to set up a booth alongside City staff at the community events organized by the City to provide educational pamphlets, branded merchandise, environmental giveaways, interactive climate and environmental activities (trivia wheel, sorting challenge, environmental plinko), etc.

With the 2023 ESPAC budget, staff purchased "Brantford Climate Action" promotional materials and giveaways to be used during engagement at City events. This included tablecloths, retractable banners, lanyards, pencils, stickers, and t-shirts for ESPAC members.

To volunteer at City events and set up a booth, ESPAC is required to coordinate with the City's Communication and Community Engagement and the Parks and Recreation Community Recreation and Events team to align on objectives/messaging as well as to coordinate the application process for the booth appearing at each event. It is recommended to initially reach out to the ESPAC staff liaison who will coordinate with City departments on behalf of ESPAC. Staff and ESPAC will then work collaboratively to develop messaging to promote City climate and environmental initiatives at the events.

To ensure an ongoing process and continued engagement in the future, it is recommended that ESPAC and staff volunteer at recurring large-scale City led events such as Wheels on the Pavement and Canada Day. It is also recommended that ESPAC have two to three representatives for each event to avoid quorum since ESPAC is a Committee of Council.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to this report. However, should ESPAC choose to participate in the Canada Day event, there would be a vendor fee of \$66.37 + HST.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

There are no climate and environmental implications resulting from this report. However, ESPAC's participation at City community events will help to educate and raise awareness among community members about climate action and environmental initiatives.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provided ESPAC an update on the promotional materials that were purchased from the 2023 budget as well as suggestions where ESPAC could volunteer and set up a booth at City community events to provide support on climate action education and community engagement.



Gagan Batra

Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Report No. 2025-57
February 13, 2025

Page 4

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

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By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no



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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-93

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item	<input type="checkbox"/>
Item For Consideration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2.0 Topic 2025 ESPAC Budget [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

- A. THAT Report 2025-93 “2025 ESPAC Budget” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT \$_____ BE ALLOCATED to use for _____.

4.0 Background

At their meeting on February 25, 2020, in Report 2020-18 titled "Acceptance of Donations by Advisory Committee Members", Brantford City Council allocated \$5,000 to the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee (ESPAC) from the Council Priorities Reserve for 2020. Brantford City Council also approved a budget allocation for ESPAC in the amount of \$5,000 to be included in the 2021 operating budget as an unavoidable increase. Since then, ESPAC has received a budget of \$5,000 as part of the City’s operating budget.

This budget was allocated because the Committee was looking for funds to carry out various Committee initiatives such as advertising and promoting environmental and climate initiatives, events, tree planting, etc.

In 2023 the Committee used \$3,000 to provide residents with a free tree giveaway and \$2,000 for promotional materials for events as directed in [Report 2023-426](#) titled “Uses for ESPAC Budget”. In 2024, the Committee used \$5,000 of funds as directed in [Report 2024-389](#) titled “2024 ESPAC Budget” to support a second free residential tree giveaway in Fall 2024 which was widely successful.

5.0 Analysis

The following is a list of projects for which ESPAC would be able to provide financial support:

- Purchasing trees to host a free residential tree giveaway. The average price for a tree is \$13 per tree in a two gallon pot. With a budget of \$5,000, approximately 380 trees could be purchased. This has been an initiative ESPAC has supported since 2023 and has been widely successful to promote environmental sustainability.
- Purchasing trees to plant a mini forest at a park in the City. The City’s first mini forest was planted at Holmedale Park in November 2023 and is a small, densely planted, diverse collection of 21 Ontario native tree and shrub species representing all layers of a usual forest that requires no maintenance. With a budget of \$5,000, ESPAC could plant a mini forest of 200 tree and shrub species and have a plaque indicating ESPAC’s contribution.
- Marketing for the Green ER Awards. Marketing could be done via social media, newspaper ads, YouTube ads, digital billboards, RootsTV, etc. with a budget between \$1,000 to \$5,000.
- Purchasing additional “Brantford Climate Action” giveaways and promotion supplies for public outreach and education at City and community events. The items purchased in 2023 are still available and it is recommended that those be used first before additional items are purchased.
- Assisting the City with community outreach and engagement on the Climate Action Plan update. Funds could be used for creating

storyboards, community room rentals, flyers, media campaign, etc. This budget could be anywhere between \$500 to \$2,000 depending on the level of engagement ESPAC wants to achieve through the paid materials.

6.0 Financial Implications

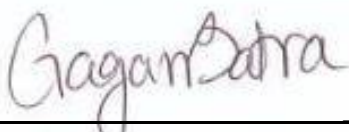
There are no financial implications as a result of this report as the \$5,000 ESPAC budget has already been approved.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

There are no climate and environmental implications resulting from this report. However, ESPAC can use their budget to help with implementing the Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans such as expanding the City's tree canopy and providing education and outreach materials.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provided information for ESPAC's consideration for how they could use their annual budget.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

Report No. 2025-93
February 13, 2025

Page 4

By-law required	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no
Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council?	<input type="checkbox"/> yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no



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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-56

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item	<input type="checkbox"/>
Item For Consideration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2.0 Topic Home Energy Savings Guide [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

- A. THAT Report 2025-56 “Home Energy Savings Guide” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT the following comments from the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee regarding the Home Energy Savings Guide BE INCLUDED in the Home Energy Savings Guide:
 - a. _____;
 - b. _____; and
 - c. _____.

4.0 Background

As part of the Community Climate Change Action Plan, approved in July 2022 in [Report 2022-428](#), titled “Brantford Community Climate Change Action Plan”, City staff were directed to explore options to support residents in reducing their utility bills and reducing their energy consumption. At their City Council meeting held on March 26, 2024, City Council approved Resolution 12.6.13 titled Home Heating Sustainability that read:

WHEREAS 3.8 million households in Ontario currently use natural gas for home heating, representing about 70 percent of Ontario households; and

WHEREAS the carbon tax charged on heating bills is highly dependent on the amount of natural gas used and accounts for 20-25% of the utility bill; and

WHEREAS Canadians have no choice but to heat their homes throughout the winter....

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

B. THAT the Federal and Provincial Governments reinstate home energy retrofit rebate and grant programs to help Brantford residents retrofit their homes to be more energy efficient and provide barrier-free options for switching to less carbon-intensive fuel sources to lower their utility bills and avoid the carbon tax;

This report provides the outline of a Home Energy Savings Guide that aims to provide homeowners with an easy-to-follow guide to saving energy year-round.

5.0 Analysis

This vision and goal of the Home Energy Savings Guide is to provide a comprehensive list of energy efficiency measures, tools, and information that will help homeowners lower their utility bills and energy consumption. The Guide will outline a range of energy conservation measures from low/no cost measures to larger retrofit measures. Energy saving tips will be broken down into different categories such as heating and cooling, water heating, home appliances, home lighting, clean energy, and information for renters. The following is the proposed outline for the Guide:

- Understanding energy use
- What is a home energy retrofit
- Top 10 easiest money-saving tips

-
- Heating and cooling measures – this will include adjusting space temperatures, thermostats, weatherstripping, sealing ductwork, sealing leaks, etc.
 - Water heating measures – this will include reducing water use, reducing water flow, water fixtures, insulating pipes, fixing leaks, etc.
 - Home appliances measures – this will include tips on using appliances more efficiently, new appliances, cleaning appliances, appliance settings, etc.
 - Home lighting measures – this will include types of lighting to install, using lighting, natural lighting, lighting sensors, etc.
 - Building envelope measures – this will include tips on improving the home’s envelope such as roof, windows, doors, insulation, walls, etc.
 - Clean energy measures – this will include measures that incorporate clean energy such as heat pumps, heat recovery systems, solar panels, etc.
 - Energy savings tips for renters – this will include lighting, device use, thermostat settings, sealing gaps, etc.
 - Funding and incentive opportunities

Staff have partnered with Clean Air Partnership and submitted an application to complete a Home Energy Retrofit Program Feasibility Study. This study will assess options for a local home energy upgrade financing program. The Home Energy Savings Guide proposed in this report will support the future Home Energy Retrofit Program as it will provide homeowners with measures they can implement as part of a home energy retrofit. The Home Energy Savings Guide will also support homeowners in the meantime with low/no cost measures they can implement now to start saving on their utility bills.

As the Home Energy Savings Guide is in the early stages of development, staff are looking for feedback from ESPAC on the approach and content to be included in the Guide. To give ESPAC an idea of what the Home Energy Savings Guide could look like, examples are provided from the [City of Edmonton](#), [City of Fredericton](#), [County of Huron](#), and [London Hydro](#).

6.0 Financial Implications

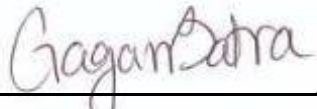
There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

Residential housing accounted for 142,563 T of CO₂e, or 35% of community building emissions in the 2022 Community Emissions Inventory. With the City of Brantford’s goal to be net-zero by 2050, community buildings need to be retrofitted to become more energy efficient and reduce emissions. A Home Energy Savings Guide will help homeowners identify measures to reduce their energy consumption and therefore lower the greenhouse gas emissions from the residential sector.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provided an outline and a plan of approach for the Home Energy Savings Guide. Staff have asked ESPAC members to provide feedback on what should be included in the Guide.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

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By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-55

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item

Item For Consideration

2.0 Topic Invasive Species Management Plan [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

- A. THAT Report 2025-55 “Invasive Species Management Plan” BE RECEIVED; and
- B. THAT the following comments from the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee regarding the Invasive Species Management Plan BE INCLUDED in the Invasive Species Management Plan:
 - a. _____;
 - b. _____; and
 - c. _____.

4.0 Background

The City of Brantford is experiencing increasing numbers of invasive plant and insect species. The previous Invasive Species Program focused on addressing the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) but funding for that program ended in 2022. Staff have developed a new program that will implement direction provided by the Native Species Policy, approved by City Council on February 28, 2023 in [Report 2023-16](#) titled "Native Species Planting Policy". The new program aims to combat invasive species like EAB, Spongy Moth, Giant Hogweed, and Phragmites through direct intervention (eradication and mitigation), public education, and monitoring. As part of this program and to help guide the management of invasive species, staff are developing an Invasive Species Management Plan.

5.0 Analysis

The Vision for the Invasive Species Management Plan is to create a sustainable future for Brantford that includes healthy ecosystems, people, and animals as well as a vibrant economy protected from new and established invasive species populations. This will be achieved through a comprehensive community approach to environmental stewardship led and supported by City of Brantford staff working in partnership with others.

The goal of the Invasive Species Management Plan is to prevent, reduce, control, and mitigate the effects of invasive species on natural ecosystems, human health, and the economy.

For the purposes of the City of Brantford Invasive Species Management Plan, invasive species are defined as the non-native terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna and pathogens whose introduction and spread can pose significantly greater harm to the environment, economy, and society compared to any potential benefit they might provide.

To guide the management of invasive species in the City of Brantford, staff are recommending the following process as the approach to meet the goals of the Invasive Species Management Plan:

- Inventory and mapping of existing priority invasive species: to identify and record existing invasive species and to create a benchmark for future management activities and monitor the spread and reduction of priority invasive species.
- Early detection and rapid response to new invasions: to identify new, priority listed invasive species as early as possible to prevent

establishment and future spread and to use Best Management Practices when costs are lowest.

- Management of established invasive species: control established invasive species using published Best Management Practices for removal and control.
- Restoration of native communities: reintroduce native species to management areas following invasive species removal to restore native vegetation.
- Prevention of new invasions: reduce the risk of reintroduction and spread of invasive species through monitoring to prevent delayed treatment of invasive species.

Currently, staff have submitted a grant application to the Invasive Species Action Fund to support the creation of the Invasive Species Management Plan and to conduct mapping and creating an inventory of current invasive species. From there, priority species will be targeted for removal. Management of established invasive species will be done according to Best Management Practices developed by the Invasive Species Centre and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council.

As the Invasive Species Management Plan is in the early stages of development, staff are looking for feedback from ESPAC on the approach and outline of the Plan.

6.0 Financial Implications

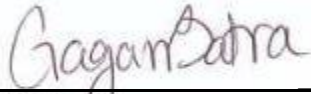
There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

Invasive species impact species diversity and species richness by competing heavily for resources such as light, moisture, and soil nutrients that native species require to establish and grow. Invasive species affect the intricate linkages that make ecosystems strong and resilient. Therefore, an Invasive Species Management Plan will guide actions in the removal and control of invasive species and allow native species of Brantford to thrive.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provided an outline and a plan of approach for the Invasive Species Management Plan. Staff have asked ESPAC members to provide feedback on what should be included in the Plan.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

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By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no



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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-76

To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee

From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Item For Consideration	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.0 Topic 2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

A. THAT Report 2025-76 “2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan” BE RECEIVED.

4.0 Background

In December 2019, Brantford City Council declared a Climate Emergency, committing the City, in principle, to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. With this declaration, staff were directed to develop a carbon reduction strategy, in collaboration with the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee, that details the following:

- A process to ensure that every matter coming before City Council will quantify and report its impact relative to the climate emergency and Brantford's carbon reduction strategy;
- A public reporting framework regarding the climate emergency that includes quarterly updates on the impact of municipal actions and decisions on Brantford's carbon reduction strategy.

In response to the above, a carbon reduction strategy was developed which is the Corporate Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) and was approved in November 2020 in [Report 2020-472](#) titled "Corporate Climate Change Action Plan and Climate Lens Assessment". This plan includes emissions reduction targets and a list of action items identified to reduce emissions from Corporate sources. Additionally, the carbon reduction strategy was further developed through the Community CCAP and was approved in July 2022 in [Report 2022-428](#) titled "Brantford Community Climate Change Action Plan". This plan includes a list of action items to reduce emissions from community sources. Following the approval of the capital budget, staff prepare a report outlining the climate action items that will be targeted for that year.

5.0 Analysis

The upcoming year aims to be another productive period for climate action in the City of Brantford as actions from the Corporate and Community CCAPs are being implemented. Table 1 provides an overview and approximate timeline for Corporate CCAP projects that staff will undertake in 2025.

Table 1: Corporate Climate Change Action Plan projects planned for 2025

Item	Completion Timeline	Description
Convert HPS Bulbs to LED	Q1-Q4	Continue retrofitting HPS streetlights to LED to reduce electricity consumption.
Fleet EV Chargers	Q1-Q4	Install EV chargers to support the electrification of City fleet at the Operational Services Yard, Environmental Services, and Transit Yard.
Convert light duty auto to EV	Q1-Q4	Replace and expand fleet with electric vehicles for Operational Services, Environmental Services, and Fleet and Transit Services.

Energy Conservation Initiatives	Q1-Q4	Explore installing BASs at City facilities and implementing measures from the Energy Audits at various facilities.
Building Operation and Maintenance Guidelines	Q2	Prepare and provide internal guideline for the operation and maintenance of buildings to regulate internal controls.
Natural Asset Inventory and Management Plan	Q2	Update Asset Management Plan to include natural asset inventory.
Tree Canopy Expansion	Q2-Q3	Continue programs such as residential tree giveaway and high volume tree planting to increase urban tree canopy.
Invasive Species Management Plan	Q3	Conduct inventory and mapping of invasive species in Brantford. Develop a Management Plan for the control and removal of invasive species.
Climate Change Adaptation Plan	Q4	Complete a community-wide climate risk assessment and develop a plan for the City to adapt to climate change.
Updating the Corporate CCAP	Q4	Redevelop the Corporate CCAP with updated action items and emission reduction targets.

Table 2 provides an overview and approximate timeline for Community CCAP projects that staff will support in 2025.

Table 2: Community Climate Change Action Plan projects planned for 2025

Item	Completion Timeline	Description
Climate and Environmental Engagement and Education	Q1-Q4	Develop educational materials (website, brochures, newsletters, etc.) to educate residents on energy, water, waste, climate adaptation. Host workshops, Public Information Centres, lunch and learns.
Home Energy Retrofit Program Feasibility Study	Q4	Work with Clean Air Partnership to conduct a feasibility study on the development of a Home Energy Retrofit Program.

Public EV Chargers	Q4	Install EV chargers for public use.
Updating the Community CCAP	Q4	Redevelop the Community CCAP with updated action items and emission reduction targets.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of this report. The projects being undertaken in 2025 have approved funding sources through the City's capital and operating budgets and therefore, no further funding is required.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

The projects outlined for 2025 will result in reduced GHG emissions from Corporate and Community sources. With the continuation of replacing HPS streetlights to LED and converting light duty auto to electric, the City can expect to reduce its emissions by approximately 150 T of CO₂e, which is equivalent to taking 45 cars off the road. Additionally, with the Tree Canopy Expansion project, approximately 0.022 T of CO₂e will be sequestered per tree.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provides a Climate Action Implementation Plan for 2025 identifying projects from the Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans. The proposed projects will result in reduced GHG emissions and have a positive impact on the environment.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

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By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 12, 2024

5:30 p.m.

Charlie Ward Room, Brantford City Hall

58 Dalhousie Street, Brantford

1. Roll Call

Chair Straisfeld called the meeting to order and roll call was confirmed.

Present: Andy Straisfeld, Councillor Samwell, Taylor Edwards, David Kielstra, Councillor Sullivan, Lee Lawrence

Regrets: Gregory Kempa, Eric Meliton, Keith Paridy

Absent: Derek Hewitt, Kiana Ferreira

2. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

No declaration of pecuniary interest was made regarding items appearing on the agenda.

3. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations/delegations.

4. Items for Considerations

4.1 2025 Schedule of Reports [Financial Impact: None], 2024-634

Gagan Batra, Manager of Business Support and Sustainability provided opening remarks.

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer, provided a verbal presentation and answered questions from the Committee.

Moved: Councillor Samwell

Seconded: Taylor Edwards

THAT Report 2024-634 “2025 Schedule of Reports” BE RECEIVED.

Carried

5. Consent Items

5.1 2024 Climate Change Action Plan Annual Update [Financial Impact: None], 2024-633

Gagan Batra, Manager of Business Support and Sustainability provided opening remarks.

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer, provided a verbal presentation and answered questions from the Committee.

Moved: Taylor Edwards

Seconded: Lee Lawrence

THAT Report 2024-633 “2024 Climate Change Action Plan Annual Update” BE RECEIVED.

Carried

5.2 2025 Meeting Schedule

Moved: Councillor Samwell

Seconded: Taylor Edwards

THAT the 2025 Meeting Schedule BE APPROVED.

Carried

5.3 Minutes

5.3.1 Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee - August 15, 2024

Moved: Lee Lawrence

Seconded: Taylor Edwards

THAT the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee minutes from August 15, 2024 BE APPROVED.

Carried

6. Resolutions

7. Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Andy Straisfeld, Chair

Kristen Demeulemeester,
Committee Coordinator