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Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

January 21, 2022

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, January 21, 2022 in the Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 10:01 AM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was permitted for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: D. Hoornweg, Citizen Member, Chair
Councillor Chapman, Health and Social Services Committee
P. Cohen, Youth Citizen Member, attended the meeting at 10:20 AM
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee, left the meeting at 11:12 AM
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member, attended the meeting at 10:04 AM
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Hight, Planning & Economic Development Committee
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member
C. Mee, Citizen Member
K. Senyk, Citizen Member, left the meeting at 11:12 AM
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member
J. Taylor, Citizen Member, attended the meeting at 10:04 AM
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Barton

Absent:

E. Baxter-Trahair, CAO
T. Hall, Citizen Member
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee
R. Plaza, Citizen Member

Staff

Present: R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Kawalec, Climate Change Coordinator, Office of the CAO
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
J. Sochacki, Superintendent, Facilities Maintenance, Works Department
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by K. Senyk, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on
Climate Change meeting held on November 19, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. Presentations

- A) 2019-2020 Carbon Emissions Inventory for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area – Bryan Purcell, Vice President Policy and Programs & Maryam Shekarrizfard, Carbon & Co-Benefits Quantification Manager, The Atmospheric Fund

Bryan Purcell, Vice President Policy and Programs & Maryam Shekarrizfard, Carbon & Co-Benefits Quantification Manager, The Atmospheric Fund, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Carbon Emissions Inventory 2019-2022.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- About The Atmospheric Fund (TAF)
- GTHA Emissions
- Durham Region Emissions
- 2020 Durham Emissions by Sector
- Durham has high agricultural and low waste emissions
- Residential Buildings in Durham
- Active Transportation change 2019-2020
- Durham compared to GTHA regions
- Emissions 2019 and 2020 per capita
- Emissions 2015-2020 by region
- Change in Durham's Emissions from 2015 to 2019
- Emissions tracking 1990-2050: Where we are and where we need to be
- Help us improve this inventory
- Thank you

B. Purcell and M. Shekarrizfard responded to questions from the Committee regarding whether calculations related to agriculture take into account carbon capture and the distance to Toronto.

Discussion ensued with respect to how this information will be shared with Regional Council, the possibility of The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) making a presentation to Regional Council, and the possibility of adding scope 3 data. I. McVey agreed to include a future report in the Council Information Package and to review the possibility of adding to a future Finance & Administration Committee or Regional Council agenda.

J. Taylor advised that in December 2021, Natural Resources Canada released the Energy Innovation Program, Clean Fuels and Industrial Fuel Switching Expression of Interest. A question was raised with respect to whether the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) would be able to support St. Marys Cement in this regard. I. McVey agreed to follow-up with R. Plaza and see if there is any support the DRRCC could provide.

B) Durham Greener Homes (Home Retrofit) Program Update – Brent Kopperson, Executive Director, Windfall Ecology Centre

Brent Kopperson, Executive Director, Windfall Ecology Centre, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Durham Greener Homes Initiative Progress Report.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Windfall Centre
- The Durham Home Energy Savings Program is now Durham Greener Homes
- Project Development Team
- Scope of Work
 - Market characterization and target market
 - Brand and creative development
 - Program website and client portal
 - Database and administration system
 - Durham incentive program design

B. Kopperson responded to questions from the Committee regarding the enrolment process and if there will be a phone number; whether this will be connected to the new myDurham 311 program; whether consideration has been given to including a project manager to manage the retrofit; and the ability to coordinate with the Canada Greener Homes Grant.

C) Climate and Sustainability Program Update – Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Durham Region

Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding a Climate and Sustainability Program Update.

I. McVey provided updates on the following projects:

- Update Items
- 2020 Corporate GHG Inventory Update
- 2025 Carbon Reduction Forecast by Operating Area
- 2022 Corporate Climate Priorities
- Durham Local Energy Efficiency Partnership (LEEP) – Context
- Durham LEEP Cost Benefit Analysis
- Durham LEEP – next steps
- DCEP Implementation Governance – Context
 - Examples from other Regions
- Municipal Comprehensive Review/Land Needs Assessment
- Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan – Implementation Update

I. McVey responded to questions from the Committee regarding building industry interest in Durham LEEP; and whether any incentives have been offered.

Discussion ensued with respect to the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan and restoration components. It was suggested that a presentation be provided at a future Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) meeting on the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Natural Capital Restoration. I. McVey agreed to reach out to the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

6. Items for Information and Discussion

A) LEAF Backyard Tree Planting Program Year 2 Interim Report - July 2021-December 2021

A copy of the LEAF Backyard Tree Planting Program Interim Report - July 2021-December 2021 was provided as Attachment #2 to the agenda.

B) Durham Region Transit – E-Mission Zero Emission Transit Program Update

A copy of Report #2021-DRT-21: E-Mission Zero – Towards Zero Emission Public Transit in Durham Region was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

C) City of Toronto – TransformTO Net Zero Strategy – A climate action pathway to 2030 and beyond

A copy of the City of Toronto – TransformTO Net Zero Strategy was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

- D) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Free Climate Leadership Course for Elected Officials – applications due January 26, 2022

A link to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Climate Leadership Course for Elected Officials was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

- E) Call for applications – Agents of Change Program, ICLEI Canada – funding and resources to develop a local government volunteer engagement program for climate action

A copy of Agents of Change Project Brochure, ICLEI Canada, was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

8. Other Business

There was no other business to be considered.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, February 18, 2022 starting at 10:00 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by C. Desbiens,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 AM.

D. Hoornweg, Chair, Durham Region
Roundtable on Climate Change

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk