

Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM REGION ROUNDTABLE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

May 21, 2021

A regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change was held on Friday, May 21, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 10:00 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
Councillor Crawford, Works Committee
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Highet, Planning & Economic Development Committee
J. Koke, Citizen Member
Councillor Leahy, Finance & Administration Committee
G. MacPherson, Citizen Member
C. Mee, Citizen Member
R. Plaza, Citizen Member
K. Senyk, Citizen Member
K. Shadwick, Citizen Member
M. Vroegh, Citizen Member, Vice-Chair left the meeting at 10:30 AM
***all members of the committee participated electronically**

Absent: E. Baxter-Trahair, CAO
C. Desbiens, Citizen Member
T. Hall, Citizen Member
J. Kinniburgh, Citizen Member
J. Taylor, Citizen Member

Staff

Present: S. Austin, Director of Strategic Initiatives
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Kawalec, Climate Change Coordinator, CAO Office
A. Bathe, Senior Planner, Planning & Economic Development Department
I. McVey, Manager of Sustainability, Office of the CAO
S. Glover, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Chapman, Seconded by Regional Chair Henry,
That the minutes of the regular Durham Region Roundtable on
Climate Change meeting held on April 16, 2021, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. Presentations

A) Envision Durham Proposed Policy Directions: Climate Change and Sustainability – Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner

Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Envision Durham Proposed Policy Directions: Climate Change and Sustainability.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Presentation Overview
- Background
- Discussion Papers
- Policy Review Approach
- Proposed Policy Directions Report
- Healthy Communities
 - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions
 - Climate Resilient Development
 - Nature Based Solutions
- Protected Greenlands System
 - Regional Natural Heritage System
- Supportive Infrastructure
- Connected Transportation System
- Next Steps

A. Bathe responded to a question from the Committee regarding the direction being taken with regards to the Protected Greenlands System and that revisions to this system would be fundamental for climate change resiliency.

Discussion ensued regarding the Natural Heritage policy and whether staff could come back to the DRRCC with specifics or a brief synopsis on the Natural Heritage policy. A. Bathe advised that staff are targeting the Fall with an update on the policies and would return to the DRRCC at that time with an update.

A. Bathe advised that comments are being accepted until June 30, 2021.

B) Municipal Actions to Reduce GHG Emissions by Electrifying Urban Delivery – Maddy Ewing, Transportation Analyst, Pembina Institute

Maddy Ewing, Transportation Analyst, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding Municipal Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions by Electrifying Urban Delivery.

Highlights from the presentation included:

- Leading Canada's Transition to Clean Energy
- Thank You to our Partner TAF
- Agenda
- COVID-19 and Online Shopping
- The State of Urban Deliveries
 - Battery Electric Vehicles (EVs) for Urban Deliveries
- Outstanding Questions
- Our Latest Research
- Modelling Urban Deliveries in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA)
- Key Vehicle and Routing Parameters
- Findings
 - Vehicle Power Requirements are Low
 - DC Fast Chargers Likely Not Required
 - EVs Save Money and Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
 - Payback Period of 7-8 Years
- Study Limitations
- How Can Companies Make the Switch?
- Barriers to Electrification Remain
- Recommendations for Municipal Policymakers

Discussion ensued regarding the biggest challenge for electrifying urban delivery being the lack of vehicles available in North America; and what will happen post-pandemic with respect to residential deliveries becoming the new norm.

Chair Hoornweg advised that he would get in touch with M. Ewing within the next week with respect to an Ontario Tech submission to the Climate Action Advisory Fund. He added that Durham Region would be the best place in Canada to try this new approach of making delivery systems more efficient. He further advised that the proposal is due June 10, 2021.

I. McVey suggested there would be good value in convening a workshop that included Planners, Economic Development staff and others across the Greater Toronto Hamilton Area (GTHA) to brainstorm what a supportive policy infrastructure could look like.

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

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

I. McVey provided updates on the following projects:

- Energy & Emissions
 - Corporate Climate Action Plan
 - Durham Home Energy Savings Program – Implementation Timeline
 - Clarington Energy Park & Courtice GO MTSA – District Energy Analysis
 - Draft Scope of Work – Key Elements
- Adaptation & Resilience
 - Flood Risk Assessment
 - Tree Planting Programs

I. McVey responded to a question from the Committee regarding the LEAF program and how it will roll out in the future, and whether there is a potential for expanding the capacity in certain municipalities.

Discussion ensued regarding the District Energy Program that Durham Region is working on in collaboration with the Ontario Tech University. J. Koke suggested that Durham Region staff may be interested in the Dorsay Development Corporation's proposed Veraine Community in North East Pickering and would be more than happy to participate in a similar program for the whole community for district energy. I. McVey requested that J. Koke review the scope of work that has been developed with regards to the District Energy Pre-feasibility study.

6. Items for Information and Discussion

There were no information items to be considered.

7. Correspondence

There were no communication items to be considered.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change will be held on Friday, June 18, 2021 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 Councillor Leahy,
That the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM.

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

S. Glover, Committee Clerk