



# City of Barrie

70 Collier Street  
P.O. Box 400  
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

Final

## Sustainability Advisory Committee

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Thursday, January 8, 2026

5:30 PM

Sir Robert Room

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### SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

#### For consideration by Infrastructure and Community Investment on January 28, 2026.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Councillor S. Morales at 5:38 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

**Present:** 9 - Chair – Councillor S. Morales  
Councillor, B. Hamilton  
J. Bourne  
N. Flinn  
L. Hoffarth  
D. McKeown - Nature Barrie  
J. Northcote  
S. Schwartz - Living Green  
E. vanWesenbeeck

**Absent:** 3 - K. MacLeod - SMDHU  
W. Steimle  
D. Waters

#### STAFF:

Coordinator of Elections and Special Projects, T. McArthur  
Legislative Coordinator, C. Payne.

The Sustainability Committee met and reports as follows:

#### COMMITTEE MANDATE

Members of Committee discussed several proposed goals and initiatives to accomplish under the Committee's mandate, including both emerging and previously visited ideas.

The members considered ways Barrie can continue to work towards higher levels of certification as a Bird-Friendly City. The Committee discussed

bird-window collisions and the implementation of bird-friendly design standards to prevent them, such as window demarcations, for new construction and future retrofits of city-owned buildings. The Committee members agreed to gather more information on the approximate cost and what a potential pilot project would look like.

Chair, Councillor S. Morales also brought forward ideas regarding electric vehicle chargers and more electric vehicles within the City's fleet. The Committee discussed the possibility of installing electric conduits and/or upgrading electrical panels in tandem with future city-owned parking lot and infrastructure rehabilitations to encourage and support greater electric vehicle usage.

The Committee members agreed to revisit the outstanding mandate items previously discussed at the next meeting.

### **SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR**

The Committee discussed the possibility of a Sustainability Coordinator position. They noted that the benefits of having a central resource for all matters related to sustainability. Members acknowledged the challenges in proposing the creation of a new position and will consider drafting a recommendation to Council for further investigation on the position's feasibility at the Committee's next meeting.

### **MIXED RECYCLING**

The Committee discussed recent changes to the recycling structure in Ontario, namely the transfer of the responsibility for collection and processing from the City to a third-party not-for-profit, and the exclusion of commercial properties that no longer receive regular collection.

The members noted concerns regarding the implementation of single-stream recycling, and its relative inefficiency compared to dual-stream recycling. They agreed to stay informed on any further changes to residential recycling, and promote dual-stream recycling where possible.

### **TURF GRASS**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IN BUILDING**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

### **CHAIRMAN**