

Legislation Text

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COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN AND GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION PLAN

Adam McMullin, Manager of Energy Management, provided an update on the Community Energy Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan.

Mr. McMullin advised that the City was successful in receiving funding from the Province to assist in moving forward with the Plan. He discussed the data gathered over six months to map out energy and greenhouse gas emission intensity within the community and will be used to come up with activities and strategies to reduce emissions in energy consumption. Mr. McMullin commented on the Project Team for the Community Energy Plan and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan and that a Stakeholder Advisory Group was established to shape the Plan with their expertise and specific knowledge and perspectives.

Members of the Committee provided feedback and suggestions such as increasing ridership and different incentives for individuals on limited income and seniors as a strategy and the possibility of green roof installations as an initiative. Mr. McMullin advised that transportation is a huge source of greenhouse gas emissions and moving from the personal vehicle to public transit will be a future activity.

Councillor Aylwin discussed the Council's direction to investigate the possibility of free transit for high school students and discounted or free transit for people with disabilities on Ontario Disability Service Plan (ODSP) or Ontario Works (OW). He suggested a future agenda item to have staff in Transit and Parking Strategy to provide an update to the Committee.

ENERGY RETROFITS USING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT CHARGES

Mr. McMullin, Manager of Energy Management discussed the energy retrofits by using local improvement charges in which allows municipalities to establish programs that residents can afford. He commented on programs to implement retrofits in residential homes with the cost to be applied to their property taxes. Mr. McMullin discussed the Clean Air partnership wherein the City would participate in a market characterization study, that it is a prerequisite of the Green Municipal Fund to apply for future funding to support the program.

The Committee discussed the meaning of a deep retrofit, the jurisdictions targeted for certain types of retrofits such as replacing old windows or inefficient attic insulation. Mr. McMullin explained the difference between a deep retrofit and a traditional retrofit noting that a deep retrofit is looking at a building, more particularly the heating, and reducing the heating requirements of that building. He advised that incentive programs are available.