



# INFORMATION UPDATE

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members City Council
<b>DATE:</b>	May 14, 2020
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Community Energy Plan
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

The purpose of this Information Update is to update City Council on the Community Energy Plan project and introduce the project website.

## Background

In 2018, City Council approved a Terms of Reference for the preparation of a Community Energy Plan (CEP). A community energy plan is an integrated, comprehensive, long-term plan to meet local energy needs while improving energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and fostering local sustainable behaviours. In 2019, staff prepared a Request for Proposal, seeking consulting services to undertake the plan. Staff retained Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) to work with the City to prepare the CEP. The project was initiated in September 2019 with an anticipated completion in Q1 2020. The City applied for funding for the CEP through the Province of Ontario's Municipal Energy Plan Program. The application is currently under review by the Province.

The key elements of the project include:

- modeling current and future energy use and emissions across the city in a 'business as usual' scenario;
- identifying and considering a long list of actions that can be taken to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions to move the community towards City Council's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050;
- determining which combination of actions will result in net-zero emissions by 2050 through future scenario modeling for inclusion in the CEP;
- financial analysis of the implementation of actions; and,

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- public and key stakeholder engagement throughout the process. The project is lead through the Planning Division in the Planning and Economic Development Department. The core project team also includes staff from Public Works (Office of Energy) and Healthy and Safe Communities (Healthy Environments).

The CEP is a major climate change mitigation initiative and forms part of the City's workplan on climate change as coordinated through the Corporate Climate Change Task Force.

### Public Engagement

The CEP is a community plan and will include actions for many different stakeholders across the city including the city corporation, major institutions (health care and education), industry, business organizations, energy providers and environmental organizations. A Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee with representatives from these groups has been formed to provide guidance and input into the development of the Plan. The first meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee occurred in March. A list of organizations represented on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee is attached as Appendix "A" to this Update.

City-wide public engagement to reach all city residents was to begin this spring through a website launch with crowd sourcing surveys, pop up events, and in-person meetings and workshops. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, plans for in-person engagement events were put on hold. Staff are revising plans for engagement to replace some of the in-person events and meetings planned with on-line and virtual sessions.

### Website Launch

The project website, which includes two crowd sourcing surveys, launched this week. The website provides information about the project, an FAQ section providing additional context to energy and emissions planning, links to the City's other climate change and energy initiatives, and two crowd sourcing surveys. The first survey seeks to identify the general preferences in the community on actions that could be taken to help Hamilton achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. The second survey seeks to understand the factors that the community feels are important to consider when choosing actions to include in the plan. The results of the survey will be reviewed and considered by the Advisory Committee and smaller working groups of residents at future on-line and virtual engagement sessions.

For more information on the Community Energy Plan project and to access the surveys, please go to: [www.hamilton.ca/communityenergyplan](http://www.hamilton.ca/communityenergyplan)

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You may also contact the following staff if you have any questions or would like more information:

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Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee

The following organizations have committed to participate on the Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee. Staff continue to follow up with other invited organizations to secure their participation on the Committee.

Alectra Utilities  
Enbridge  
Hydro One  
Hamilton Community Energy  
ArcelorMittal Dofasco  
Stelco  
Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority  
Chamber of Commerce  
Hamilton Halton Homebuilders Association  
Hamilton Burlington Society of Architects  
CityHousing Hamilton  
City of Hamilton  
McMaster University  
Mohawk College  
Hamilton Catholic District School Board  
Hamilton Health Sciences  
St. Josephs Health Care  
Sustainable Hamilton Burlington  
Hamilton Industrial Environmental Association  
Environment Hamilton  
Clean Air Hamilton  
Mohawk Centre for Climate Change Management

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