**Progress Update on Community Energy Plan Actions**

**Behaviour Change & a Culture of Conservation**

**Goal:** Create leading edge community engagement in energy initiatives (conservation, generation and security) in order to enhance implementation effectiveness and support sustained quality of life in Burlington.

**Objective A:** Increase community engagement opportunities and uptake of energy programs.

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<td>1. Create dedicated interactive community internet site on community energy.</td>
<td>The current webpage is at <a href="http://www.burlington.ca/cep">www.burlington.ca/cep</a> which provides technical updates on the CEP. Links are provided to energy related resources such as programs (GreenON), and utilities. Sustainability staff also maintain a blog at <a href="http://www.takeactionburlington.ca">www.takeactionburlington.ca</a> to profile city and community initiatives. In 2017, there were 14 energy related postings. Burlington Hydro’s new and updated webpage: <a href="http://www.burlingtonhydro.com/powertoconserve/residential/tips.html">www.burlingtonhydro.com/powertoconserve/residential/tips.html</a></td>
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<td>2. Leverage available funding to promote conservation and demand management programs.</td>
<td>Both Burlington Hydro and Union Gas continue to deliver energy efficiency programs to businesses and residents through their CDM (Conservation Demand Management) and DSM (Demand Supply Management) plans. Burlington Hydro has achieved 28% annual savings growth since 2013 and 13% annual business participation growth since 2011, resulting in cumulative gross energy savings of just under 19 million kWh.</td>
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<td>3. Provide commercial, industrial and institutional facilities with energy assessments to identify conservation opportunities and behavioural-based programs that can reduce energy consumption. Help organizations rationalize longer term payback periods for energy projects.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro (BHI) is actively promoting energy assessments for all interested commercial, industrial and institutional facilities. BHI has a shared roving energy manager with other utilities. BHI has introduced a Small Business Lighting program and will launch the Business Refrigeration Incentive later this year. Sustainable Hamilton Burlington also works with local businesses to help identify actions to improve energy efficiency. They will also be working with Mohawk College to create the Industry Partnerships Office.</td>
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<td>4. Work with local partners to educate community on importance and opportunities for conservation, increasing awareness of energy and</td>
<td>BurlingtonGreen (BG) has the Eco Score on their website for individuals and households to understand their impact on the environment, sponsored by Burlington Hydro. BG launched their Make the Switch program with support from Environmental Defence Canada to raise awareness</td>
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<td>cost savings and GHG emission reductions. Provide comparisons of varying technologies, equipment and appliances, such as heat pumps verses gas furnaces and electric air conditioners.</td>
<td>about EVs/hybrids and heat pumps. BG’s Smart Communities Checklist is a useful tool to promote sustainable site and building design. BG diverted approximately 4,395 kilograms of waste (3,675 kg of organics and 720 kg of recyclables) through their event greening services. 14,300 people participated in BG’s annual Community Clean up event on Earth day. 1,680 trees were planted in the spring of 2017 throughout Burlington at community events hosted by the City, supported by BG. Burlington Hydro presented at a Burlington Chamber of Commerce event in October 2017: ‘Know Your Power, Reduce Your Costs - Navigating energy efficiency programs for business’. A local resident participated in the annual Doors Open event in October to engage the public on how to build an energy efficient home and use of a heat pump. The Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) held an event in October entitled ‘Green Home Renos 101’ showcasing three local homeowners who have completed green renovations. There was a focus on the building envelope, heat pumps and energy generation. The SDC Committee toured Sheridan College’s HMC2 (living laboratory) building in Mississauga which is built to the LEED Gold standard. The SDC learned about the sustainable features of the building and the site.</td>
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5. Implement an energy or climate change recognition program. | In 2017 Mayor’s Sustainable Green Business Award was presented to IKEA at the Burlington Chamber of Commerce’s Business Awards Gala. Burlington Hydro held its Conservation Hall of Fame induction ceremony in November to recognize over 160 local companies who have completed ‘Save on Energy’ conservation programs since 2015. Programs are available for all sizes of businesses. Sustainable Hamilton Burlington hosts an annual recognition ceremony for participating organizations, with the following categories: environmental innovation; social innovation; passion into practice; and, best sustainability report. |

6. Use gamification, contests or reward programs to increase | The Kids Corner link on Burlington Hydro’s page has games for kids to play to learn about energy conservation. |
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<td>participation in conservation programs.</td>
<td>The Ministry of Energy’s <a href="#">emPOWERme</a> site also has a game to play related to matching the supply of energy from different sources to demand.</td>
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| 7. Participate in and promote province wide conservation programs such as Earth Hour. | The city continues to promote and participate in the annual Earth Hour event, including turning the lights off at the pier for one hour as a symbolic sign to support climate change.  
Burlington Hydro participates in Earth Hour each year – promoted on Twitter and the website. Office complex lights are turned out for the hour. BHI then reports publicly on results of the reduction in city consumption during that hour if it is measurable. |
| 8. Use social media and media releases to promote upcoming events and conservation programs | The city and many of the stakeholders involved in the CEP use social media to promote conservation initiatives and events. The TakeActionBurlington blog profiles city and community initiatives, which is promoted through social media channels.                                                                                                                                 |
| 9. Increase community awareness of phantom power efficiency opportunities. | Phantom power occurs when electronics and appliances are turned off but still plugged in as they continue to draw power. Phantom power can be reduced by using advanced power bars with timers or sequenced shut down ability. Information is available on Burlington Hydro’s website.                                                                                     |
| 10. Support school programs to engage community on conservation initiatives. | BurlingtonGreen hosted David Suzuki in November at their ‘Connect the Dots’ event. The daytime event was geared to youth with a public session in the evening, with a call to action for a healthy environment.  
Halton Catholic District School Board has TV dashboards at all schools to display:  
- specific utility information in real time  
- statistics/rankings on various audits (ie. waste) to promote healthy competition between schools  
- both school-based and board-wide sustainability initiatives  
- helpful tips on how to conserve energy and waste  
- school twitter feed  
The classroom energy diet was profiled on the city’s TakeActionBurlington blog.  
Board staff support Eco-team leads for completing Ontario EcoSchool applications, including loaning out Kill-a-watt meters.  
Sustainability staff on occasion makes presentations on request to schools, including information on the |
### Energy Efficiency

**Goal:** Improve the energy efficiency of buildings, in ways that contribute to Burlington’s overall economic competitiveness.

**Objective A:** Improve energy efficiency of existing building stock.

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<td>1. Target conservation programs to older residential building stock,</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro is actively promoting energy assessments for all interested commercial, industrial and institutional facilities. Marketing of programs is currently being directed at those facilities which have historically demonstrated the greatest need and opportunity for conservation in combination with the potential to achieve the greatest amount of conservation cost effectively. Union Gas offers programs such as the Home Reno Rebate and one targeted to Low Income Housing.</td>
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<td>with future consideration for the industrial, commercial and institutional sector, as identified in the energy mapping exercise.</td>
<td>No action has been taken on this initiative. Staff continue to monitor the Toronto HELP program and other municipalities who are attempting to implement a program, such as Guelph and Windsor. However, the</td>
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<td>finance retrofits.</td>
<td>province is providing funding incentives through GreenON for a number of efficiency measures, including windows, insulation, and heat pumps.</td>
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<td>3. Provide every commercial, industrial and institutional building with</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro (BHI) is actively promoting energy assessments for all interested commercial, industrial and institutional facilities. Uptake has exceeded over 50% facilities contacted by BHI.</td>
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<td>an energy assessment to identify opportunities for energy use, water</td>
<td>BHI has a Roving Energy Manager that is shared with Halton Hills Hydro and Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.</td>
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<td>and waste reduction opportunities, and provide financial assistance</td>
<td>BHI has introduced a Small Business Lighting which will target 6,128 small businesses that have monthly electricity demand below 100 kW. Free assessments and retrofits (subject to limits) will be offered along with recommendations to improve lighting and other electrical operating efficiencies.</td>
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<td>through Union Gas and Burlington Hydro Conservation and Demand</td>
<td>Later this year, BHI will be launching the Business Refrigeration Incentive program offering free assessments and up to $2,500 of upgrades to qualifying small businesses.</td>
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<td>Management Programs.</td>
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<td>4. Lobby provincial government to extend conservation programs by</td>
<td>Under Ontario’s Conservation First Framework, the IESO has assigned Burlington Hydro a target of just over 99 million kilowatt hours (kWh) in power savings to be realized between 2015 and 2020. When achieved, this will be equivalent to taking 12,380 average residential households in the community off the grid. The ‘Save on Energy’ business programs are projected to contribute 80 percent of Burlington Hydro’s total target.</td>
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<td>five years or greater, and federal government to reinstate</td>
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<td>residential energy efficiency programs.</td>
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<td>5. Encourage building owners/managers to benchmark energy usage of</td>
<td>The province has adopted legislation, the Energy Statute Law Amendment Act 2016, requiring building owners and managers of large private sector buildings to report on energy and water consumption beginning in 2018, similar to what municipalities are already required to do. Details are available in Ont. Reg. 20/17, Reporting of Energy Consumption and Water Use.</td>
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<td>buildings and develop or use an existing database, such as Portfolio</td>
<td>BOMA is active with its members to promote their BOMA BEST program.</td>
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<td>Manager, for tracking community building energy data and create</td>
<td>The implementation of a Sustainable Building and Development Guideline in the city should assist this action.</td>
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<td>competition.</td>
<td>The Sustainable Development Committee encourages builders to consider 3rd party sustainable building certification programs.</td>
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<td>7. Encourage businesses and</td>
<td>The province of Ontario is providing incentives through</td>
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<td>residents to improve the thermal energy efficiency of their buildings and homes through measures such as increased insulation and weather stripping.</td>
<td>their GreenON program to homeowners to increase insulation – up to $7,200 is available.</td>
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<td>8. Investigate the impact of switching residential heating/cooling systems from natural gas furnace and electric air conditioners to heat pump technologies.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro has developed an assessment tool that can be used to evaluate the economic implications between the use of heat pump technologies and fossil fuel technologies.</td>
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<td>The province is providing incentives for air source and ground source heat pumps through the GreenON program (but exempt switches from natural gas furnaces).</td>
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<td>BurlingtonGreen encourages the use of heat pumps through their ‘Make the Switch’ program in partnership with Environmental Defence Canada.</td>
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**Objective B:** Encourage builders to exceed Ontario Building Code requirements for energy efficiency in new buildings.

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<td>1. Encourage builders to improve energy efficiency and sustainability of new buildings beyond the Ontario Building Code, utilizing third party programs such as LEED™ certification, BOMA BESt, or ENERGY STAR® for new homes.</td>
<td>The draft Sustainable Building and Development Guideline will be considered by council in spring 2018 for approval.</td>
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<td>The Sustainable Development Committee continues to be active in promoting green building measures and commenting on key development applications.</td>
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<td>BurlingtonGreen provided input to the province for requirements to be included in the Ontario Building Code to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the building sector.</td>
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<td>2. Ensure that all new commercial, industrial and institutional buildings, including major renovations, are evaluated for energy and water efficiency improvements, and waste reduction opportunities, and provided with implementation incentives through Union Gas’ and Burlington Hydro’s High Performance New Construction Programs.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro and Union Gas are promoting the IESO’s Save on Energy - High Performance New Construction program to all new projects in the City of Burlington.</td>
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<td>Burlington Hydro reported that a gross electricity savings of 255,347 kWh was achieved in 2017.</td>
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**Objective C:** Decrease energy consumption through efficiencies in appliances and electrical equipment.

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<td>1. Increase participation rates in programs like the Great Refrigerator Round-up which enables residents to part with their inefficient second refrigerator.</td>
<td>The Great Refrigerator Round-up program has been discontinued, primarily due to its success in removing excess refrigerators. Appliances can still be picked up by Halton Region. BHI will be launching a Business Refrigeration Incentive program as noted previously.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Educate people on the benefits of the ENERGY STAR® program, particularly when purchasing new appliances and electronics and the impact of phantom loads.</td>
<td>Use of Energy Star appliances and electronics are being encouraged by Burlington Hydro, the IESO and Natural Resources Canada.</td>
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<td>3. Collaborate with other municipalities and interested organizations to lobby manufacturers, distributors and senior levels of government to improve efficiency standards of electronics to reduce phantom power.</td>
<td>The city continues to promote measures to reduce phantom power. Staff will be looking to promote advanced power bars that have a 'master' plug socket and 'dependent' plug sockets. For example, plug the TV into the master socket and plug all other devices used with the TV, such as DVD players and video game systems, into the dependent sockets. When you turn off the TV, the smart power bar cuts power to the devices plugged into the dependent sockets, automatically saving energy and reducing your electricity costs.</td>
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**Energy Generation & Security**

**Goal:** Increase sustainable local energy generation in Burlington and enhance supply security, in ways that support Burlington’s economic competitiveness.

**Objective A:** Increase capacity for integrated community energy utility infrastructure.

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<td>1. Improve the reliability of the electricity distribution grid through smart grid technologies to support community energy projects, allow greater green power generation interconnections and enhance economic growth through highly reliable power.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro’s 2017-18 Risk Management and Operations Plans address system reliability and provide details of how smart grid technologies are supporting community energy projects. One example: switches have been upgraded and are now fully automated as a result of recent improvements at Burlington Mall and other locations. This allows Burlington Hydro’s control room operators to open and close switches remotely. The upgrades combine to further bolster Burlington Hydro’s award-winning switching automation system that automatically restores power in critical load areas in the downtown. The northeast quadrant of Burlington continues to have restrictions imposed by Hydro One for renewable energy connections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Complete feasibility study for district energy in the downtown core.</td>
<td>Completed – Refer to Reports CW-01-16 and CW-08-17.</td>
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<td>3. Complete long term plan for district energy systems in other locations, such as the Aldershot Mobility Hub and QEW employment corridor.</td>
<td>Policies are included in the Official Plan to support district energy, particularly in the areas of the mobility hubs.</td>
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<td>4. Consider feasibility of alternative technologies to support integrated community energy systems such as storage.</td>
<td>McMaster University’s Institute of Energy Studies, in collaboration with the GridSmartCity (GSC) Cooperative (Burlington Hydro is a founding member), was awarded a $2.7 million grant to study ‘Integrated Community Energy (ICE) and Harvesting Systems’ in late 2017. The GSC Cooperative believes that the research proposal will address many of the challenges facing LDC members, including how to meet peak demands and the impact of mass Electric Vehicle charging. The ICE-Harvest project demonstrates the GSC Cooperative’s broader mandate to promote innovation through research and development partnerships. Central Park is being used as a case study for this project.</td>
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**Objective B:** Develop a long term renewable energy strategy for Burlington.

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<td>1. Identify and mitigate distribution system constraints, particularly related to renewable energy generation.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro has developed a Risk Management Plan and Operations Plan for 2018 which addresses numerous improvements to system constraints. The northeast quadrant of Burlington continues to have restrictions imposed by Hydro One for renewable energy connections.</td>
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<td>2. Provide consumer support to access incentive programs for renewable energy.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro actively assists all consumers who express an interest in renewable energy programs and grid interconnections.</td>
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<td>3. Work with local community groups to support community energy, such as solar, geothermal and storage installations.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro, through its participation in the Community Energy plan regularly informs the community stakeholders on issues regarding renewable energy. Burlington Hydro will connect any renewable energy project to its distribution grid, provided there is sufficient ground fault protection on the feeders and transformer stations. As noted above, the GSC Cooperative (Burlington Hydro is a founding member) is supporting the McMaster University’s Institute of Energy Studies as it studies ‘Integrated Community Energy (ICE) and Harvesting Systems’.</td>
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<td>4. Explore net metering as an opportunity to support renewable energy projects in the absence of a FIT (feed-in tariff) contract where connections to the grid are technically allowable.</td>
<td>The FIT program has ended - net metering is available through Burlington Hydro. The Micro Turbine Cogeneration Plant at BHI’s main office is net metered. Net metering was chosen due to a very insignificant, or lack thereof, of excess power being exported back onto the grid.</td>
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**Objective C:** Enhance reliability of energy grid to ensure energy security.

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<td>1. Ongoing investment in technologies such as automated switching and self-healing grids.</td>
<td>Burlington Hydro has developed a Risk Management Plan and Operations Plan for 2018 which addresses numerous improvements to system reliability.</td>
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### Land Use & Growth

**Goal:** Optimize integrated community energy systems and efficiency opportunities through land use planning.

**Objective:** Ensure land use policies and plans enhance energy efficient and integrated community energy system (including renewable) linkages between land use, buildings and transportation.

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<td>1. Ensure principles to support a healthy and complete community are included in the Official Plan.</td>
<td>Completed – Official Plan scheduled to be approved by council spring 2018. There was extensive community consultation for the new OP. BurlingtonGreen advocated for green space preservation policies and has requested that plans related to Transportation, Urban Forest and Parks, Recreation &amp; Cultural Assets are reviewed and updated prior to 2019.</td>
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<td>2. Where compatible, encourage compact, efficient mixed-use neighbourhoods that optimize infill, redevelopment and densification strategies that integrate residential, office and retail commercial developments.</td>
<td>Specific objectives and actions are included in the new Strategic Plan related to intensification and mixed-use neighbourhoods. The draft Official Plan includes policies related to mixed use intensification areas, comprising urban centres, mobility hubs and mixed-use nodes, designed and oriented to support and facilitate transit and active transportation.</td>
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<td>3. Emphasis on mixed use, higher density development in downtown core, mobility hubs, and along intensification and prosperity corridors that support future district energy options.</td>
<td>See above. An assessment of city policies was completed as part of the district energy feasibility study to ensure support for future district energy systems.</td>
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<td>4. Provide Official Plan policies to support future connections to district energy systems.</td>
<td>Policies have been incorporated into the draft new Official Plan to support future development of district energy systems.</td>
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<td>5. Assess neighbourhoods to determine the ease of mobility for pedestrians and cyclists and access to convenient public transit.</td>
<td>City staff and the Sustainable Development Committee review and comment on development applications to ensure measures are incorporated where possible to support active transportation and transit friendly development.</td>
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<td>6. Use modeling tools to evaluate the energy impacts of large developments and provide recommendations for improvements</td>
<td>At this time, the city lacks the staff resources to effectively review energy modelling reports for new large developments, similar to the City of Toronto.</td>
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### Transportation

**Goal:** Increase transportation efficiency.

**Objective A:** Improve modal split – increase number of people using more sustainable transportation options such as transit, carpooling, walking & cycling.

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<td>1. Support BEDC’s employment strategy to boost local work opportunities for residents and reduce outbound commuting.</td>
<td>In line with the new Official Plan and Mobility Hubs studies BEDC will be developing a mobility hubs employment and attraction strategy. This will help support the growth and attraction of employment to mixed use mobility hubs which will support a wider range of transit and transportation options for companies and employees.</td>
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<td>7. Support BEDC’s strategy to revitalize older employment areas through redevelopment by encouraging updated efficiency standards and ensuring access by sustainable transportation options.</td>
<td>Following up on from the work completed on the BID study, an Innovation District has been identified as part of the new Official Plan. This includes a series of policies to define and support the development of an Innovation District. In 2018 BEDC will work with the department of City Building to begin scoping a Community Improvement Plan (CIP) for Burlington which will include various tools to support the redevelopment and revitalization of employment lands.</td>
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<td>8. Enhance capacity of municipal staff to consider passive energy and sustainable building measures to conserve energy through the planning approvals process where feasible.</td>
<td>Staff are working with the architecture and engineering firm to attempt to plan for a net carbon neutral pavilion facility for City View Park.</td>
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<td>9. Encourage local food production and farm markets.</td>
<td>In 2012, the city established its first community garden in Central Park with 30 plots. As of 2018, the city now has five community gardens located across the city with a total of 168 plots. Thirteen are raised accessible plots for those gardeners who have limited mobility. Local groups such as BurlingtonGreen (BG) and the Halton Food Council also deliver programs that support local food. 1,554 pounds of food were donated through BG’s Grow to Give program. Halton Region distributes a map illustrating where people can find local food. The Lions Club continues to run the seasonal farmers market at Burlington Mall. A local business in downtown Burlington also offers a farmers market on Sundays on a seasonal basis.</td>
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**Actions** | **2017**
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2. Promote Halton Smart Commute (travel demand management) program to increase number of participants in Burlington. | The city continues to participate in the Halton Smart Commute program, specifically bike month, bike to work day and carpool week.
3. Emphasize the importance of sustainable transportation measures, such as transit and active transportation, in the City’s Transportation Master Plan (TMP). | The Official Plan, Integrated Transit Mobility Plan and the Transportation Plan will all include reference to sustainable transportation measures. The Transportation Plan is currently underway … anticipated completion date is 2019.
4. Assess cycling infrastructure network in Burlington to identify gaps for improvement through the TMP. | The Cycling Plan is near completion and will be brought to Council later in 2018. The reimagined plan presents a minimum grid of safe and convenient cycling infrastructure and provides design guidance to support the city’s target mode shares.
5. Consider feasibility of car share and bike share programs. | Inclusion of car share agreements are being built into development conditions as a means to support intensification and provide viable alternatives to the privately owned vehicle. The city continues to advocate for an expansion of the Bay Area Bike Share in order to bring bike share to Burlington in support of the Metrolinx Station Access plans.
6. Support/encourage school oriented programs to increase active transportation initiatives. | The city continues to take an active role in the Halton Hub for Active & Sustainable School Transportation. Supporting winter walk day, bike to school week, bike month, bike to work day, international walk to school day Offering bike racks to local schools and businesses

**Objective B**: Increase fuel efficient vehicles & reduce emissions.

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1. Monitor electric vehicle market and investigate the feasibility of electric charging stations at City facilities, including downtown parking lots. | Funding has been received from the province to expand EV charging in downtown Burlington in a number of the city’s parking lots and the Roads, Parks & Forestry facility – 22 in total. The installations must be complete by September 2018.
2. Promote low and zero emissions vehicles. | Plug’n Drive participated in two local events in 2017 where residents could test drive EVs, including the Sustainable Development Committee’s Let’s Live Green event. The Burlington Car Show’s electric alley was once again a popular attraction with Plug’n Drive test drives, the Golden Horseshoe EV Association and BurlingtonGreen.
3. Encourage adoption of sustainable fleet measures by private and institutional organizations, using local examples to encourage change.

The city has had a number of hybrid vehicles in its light duty fleet over several years, including one heavy duty aerial hybrid truck. Three plug-in hybrid EV vehicles have been added to the city’s fleet to show community leadership. The city’s fleet manager is working with FleetCarma to identify additional vehicles to replace with either BEV (battery electric vehicle) or PHEV (plug-in hybrid electric vehicle).

Burlington Hydro has two full EVs that they share with their stakeholders and partners to experience the benefits of driving an EV. Union Gas is also promoting the benefits of incorporating natural gas heavy duty vehicles (transit buses) into fleets as a lower carbon option than diesel.

Objective C: Support sustainable transportation infrastructure.

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<td>1. Ensure new and reconstructed arterial and collector roads are built as complete streets that are safe and accessible for pedestrians and cyclists of all ages where feasible.</td>
<td>New and reconstructed arterials and collector roads are built to complete streets where possible to encourage safe and accessible cycling and walking.</td>
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<td>2. Ensure new development is transit friendly.</td>
<td>As noted previously, City staff and the Sustainable Development Committee review and comment on development applications to ensure measures are incorporated where possible to support transit friendly development.</td>
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<td>3. Seek opportunity through the Transportation Master Plan study to improve the City’s transportation network and overall connectivity for all modes of transportation, to reduce frequency and duration of automobile trips.</td>
<td>The city’s Transportation Plan is currently underway which emphasizes the need to reprioritize and shift towards sustainable travel modes such as walking, cycling and public transit. GoBold is anticipated to be completed in 2019. The city received funding from the Ontario Municipal Commuter Cycling Program. This funding will go towards Francis Road multi-use path improvements</td>
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<td>4. Ensure linkages and coordination between City’s transportation planning initiatives and regional initiatives (e.g. Halton Region and Metrolinx – the Big Move).</td>
<td>City staff continue to work with the Region and Metrolinx to coordinate transportation planning projects.</td>
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