

Public Feedback Suggestions for Burlington's First Climate Action Plan

- Submissions have been collected through direct submissions to city staff as well as comments collected within an online survey that was posted from the summer to early fall 2019 as the Climate Action Plan was being developed.
- Names have not been included to protect privacy.
- Comments have been grouped by themes and sub-themes.
- It is recognized that many departmental staff have contributed their expertise to provide a response to most suggestions. Comments which relate to Halton Region operations and services will be shared with regional staff.

January 9, 2020

Contents

Adaptation - Resiliency.....	3
Advocacy to Sr. Levels of Government	4
Air Quality Initiatives.....	5
Buildings - Land Use	6
Greening Businesses - Industry	12
Community Engagement.....	13
Electric Mobility & Equipment.....	16
Energy	18
Green Procurement.....	19
Integrated Mobility	19
Local & Sustainable Food	25
Natural Heritage	26
Other	34
Renewable Energy	40
Targets & Monitoring	41
Waste	42
Water.....	49

Adaptation - Resiliency	Response
Develop a resilience program (including a resilience checklist and city review) in order to assist developers in ensuring new builds are equipped to deal with the changing climate. Additionally strengthen current Sustainable Development Guidelines and elevate the requirement of significant components of the guideline from voluntary to required.	The Sustainable Development & Building Guidelines are scheduled to be updated in 2020 and completed in 2021. A Climate Adaptation Strategy is scheduled to be completed in 2021.
Engage the City of Toronto and the Insurance Bureau of Canada for learnings from the Home Resilience pilot program. Develop homeowner resilience strategy based on learnings.	The city has engaged both entities and was a leader in developing a home flood assessment program delivered by the Intact Centre for Climate Adaptation at Waterloo University.
Capitalize on existing local and regional partnerships to create opportunities and gain efficiencies. Build stronger networks with all community sectors including industry, organizations and faith groups.	The City will be undertaking a Climate Adaptation Strategy in 2020 to be completed in early 2021 which will assess the actions that the city and key stakeholders such as the Region and Conservation Halton are involved in and identify gaps to reduce risks and vulnerability in the community.
Encourage businesses to assess how resilient they are to shocks and stresses caused by climate change	
Complete an updated risk assessment for the community. Create and implement an action plan. Consider how adaptation measures can be completed in conjunction with mitigation measures.	
Perform an updated risk/vulnerability assessment for the community and create and implement an action plan.	
Perform an updated (flood) risk assessment for the community,	
Please remember that it shouldn't be a privilege to be environmentally friendly, and the poorest people are the most effected by climate change (and can do the least about it!).	

Provide up-to-date floodplain maps to residents	Floodplain mapping is available to residents by contacting the City's Capital Works Department or through Conservation Halton. Conservation Halton Regulates any building or site alteration within the Regulatory Floodplain.
Advocacy to Sr. Levels of Government for:	Response:
Advocate for carbon pricing	A carbon tax has been implemented in Ontario by the federal government.
Update the Building Code	The city will advocate for updates to support low carbon new buildings and major retrofits.
Advocate for the use of sustainably harvested biomass as fuel supply	The city is a member of the QUEST network and the Clean Air Partnership organization, which works with key stakeholders and senior levels of government to support renewable natural gas.
Increase renewable energy generation	Accelerating renewable energy is a key action in the Climate Action Plan.
Advocate for the Province to align with the Federal Energy Code	To be considered.
Encourage minimum EV charging station infrastructure	The provincial government has eliminated requirements to support EV charging stations in new buildings.
Foster higher density, complete neighbourhoods and active transportation and transit.	The City's adopted Official Plan was developed in recognition of the need to continue the City's evolution into a sustainable, resilient and complete community. A complete community offers and supports opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access the necessities for daily living, providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, shopping and personal services, housing, transportation options and public service facilities such as recreation and open space.

Improve cycling network to increase connectivity to transportation hubs and amenities.	Integrated mobility is a key program area in the CAP. The city will continue to advocate to senior levels of government for support for sustainable transportation.
Reduce available parking spots for fossil-fuel fired vehicles in City parking lots and in new multi-unit buildings	An idea to consider.
Long-term - Require businesses to use renewably powered vehicles	The city will be encouraging electric vehicles as a key program area of the Climate Action Plan.
Air Quality Initiatives	Response:
Strictly enforce Idling by-law	Idling is enforced by the city's parking enforcement officers and their level of service is to enforce parking first and the idling bylaw as required. A key program area of the CAP is to encourage residents and businesses to switch to electric vehicles.
Additional monitoring and online listings of air quality in various city areas	Air quality monitoring is a service delivered by the province. Information is found at www.airqualityontario.com
Discourage the establishment of new drive-thru facilities	There are no plans at this time to restrict drive thru facilities other than the downtown core.
Zero emission festivals – putting tighter restraints on giving out permits to festival creators to follow strict guidelines. Ie food truck emissions as they run for three days straight: Ribfest	This is an issue that could be reviewed by staff.
Allow connections to power grid to avoid use of generators (food trucks, events)	

<p>Every day city buses are idling at bus terminals what amounts to several hours of polluting the air each and every day. They have a bumper sticker that says IDLING GETS YOU NOWHERE. TURN YOUR ENGINE OFF!but they idle at bus terminals forcing us to breathe their diesel fumes. I don't get it. There is nothing easier as a first step to fighting climate change than to simply trying to minimize the need to burn fossil fuels. WE may not be able to take all cars off the roads 100% but we can easily tell people to use common sense and only use their engines to move the car and turn it off otherwise. The easiest thing to do is simply turn off engines when not using it. It is annoying that the city spends so much time talking about being green but doesn't do the simplest common sense things.</p>	<p>Transit buses play an important role in reducing overall emissions in our city. Burlington Transit provides anti-idling information to drivers and will monitor idling at bus stations.</p>
Buildings - Land Use	Response:
Insist on higher, 'greener' standards on new building construction	<p>Low carbon new buildings are a key program area of the Climate Action Plan. The Sustainable Development & Building Guidelines are scheduled to be updated in 2020 and completed in 2021 as per Vision to Focus. Staff will be reviewing best practices to incorporate into the guidelines.</p>
LEED building requirements for all new builds	
Test and review emissions after building/construction completion	
Communicate development plans with neighbourhood residents before construction	
Establish a smart community development project that provides all features and elements of sustainable development and realizes the missing middle vision of moderate intensification	
Strengthen the permitting and application process to mandate climate mitigation measure	

Implement scorecard approach on Sustainable Building Development Guidelines and expedite building permits for companies that meet a threshold score	(See response above)
Criteria in the Sustainable Building Development Guidelines include tree canopy requirements, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and availability of bicycle storage. Sustainable Building Development Guidelines should also incorporate LEED or comparable Certification.	
Set interim targets for new construction to be zero emissions and for deep retrofits of existing buildings	
Build buildings solar-ready.	
Set target date after which new buildings must have zero emissions heating sources and a high-quality building shell.	
Recommend Passive House Standard and Net-Carbon Zero buildings (vs. LEED)	
Advocate for tiered energy efficiency approach building standards in building permit approvals (on the municipal level)	
Cities to prioritize construction of zero carbon buildings or projects	
Set minimum renewable energy target	
Reduce available parking spots for fossil fuel fired vehicles in City parking lots and in new multi-unit buildings	
Create 'green' roofs on bus shelters	
Bylaw for new builds to have to include green roofs/grey water catching	

Consider putting a green roof on some structures e.g.park pavilions, bus shelters to help with both water absorption and carbon capture	(see above response)
I'd like to see more incentives for developers to build green roofs.	
I think a green roof program for new developments in the city would be a great idea. Green roofs in Burlington would help sustain a diverse urban environment while creating intriguing architecture!	
Change zoning to encourage 2nd units, 'granny-flats', rental units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Zoning By-law currently permits 2nd units (accessory units) in some low density residential zones subject to regulations and obtaining appropriate approvals. The requirements will be reviewed as part of the Comprehensive Zoning By-law review to implement the new Official Plan. • The City intends to complete a Housing Strategy by 2022. This review should include assessing opportunities for laneway housing and tiny homes. • Garden suites are permitted in the current Official Plan but require a site specific rezoning. New Provincial legislation will permit accessory units on a second floor of a detached garage. The City will need to amend the Zoning By-law to conform to the new Provincial standards. • The Official Plan has policies to encourage rental housing but tenure (rental vs ownership) is not something that is implemented by the Zoning By-law. The Housing Strategy will consider other tools that can be used to encourage rental housing. The Vision to Focus document includes completion of the Housing Strategy by 2022 (but is unfunded at this time).
Change zoning to allow alley houses and tiny houses	

Develop policy that reflects 'smart growth' principles	<p>The city's new OP directs growth in to the existing urban area in accordance with provincial policy. Halton Region's OP review is under way and includes an integrated growth management strategy that will further assess where growth will occur in Halton region. The city's adopted Official Plan was developed in recognition of the need to continue the city's evolution into a sustainable, resilient and complete community. A complete community offers and supports opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access the necessities for daily living, providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, shopping and personal services, housing, transportation options and public service facilities such as recreation and open space.</p>
Set and ensure reasonable development intensification rates	
Update the OP policies to align with a Burlington Climate Action Strategy and a more compact urban form of development	
Prioritize location and proximity of services and amenities to be more accessible and available to residents	
Increase density in appropriate areas to gain efficiencies and feasibility	
Strengthen Development agreements; incentivize zoning and subdivision applications to impose requirements to facilitate mitigation interventions in new development areas.	
Include greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets in the OP and align the OP to the Burlington Climate Action Strategy at the earliest opportunity	
Encourage Mobility Hubs and connectivity	
Maintain Greenbelt	
Stay within planning boundaries	
Foster higher density, complete neighbourhoods and active transportation and transit.	
I have a two year old son. I also have a constant feeling of anxiety because we are leaving such an ugly world for him. I wish the Council could prioritize his future rather than the selfish demands of citizens who are afraid of change. For my family to stay in Burlington, I want to see investment in livable, walkable, transit-friendly infrastructure and I would need more affordable housing options.	

Do not remove the Mobility Hub designation from the downtown. We need to move more people in and out of downtown and removing this designation will hurt residents, businesses and the environment.	(See response above)
Don't allow developers to threaten our neighbourhoods with over-intensification which hinders the environment greatly in many, many cases!	
Personally, to the point, stop building high rises downtown! It's going to be packed and filthy and I will guarantee you right now, most people will go elsewhere; people are already starting to move out of the city, which is supposed to be quant , nice little city, not like Mississauga or Toronto- I don't know ONE person who has agreed that the downtown needs more. The north does!	
Rebates for condos to transfer to greener initiatives	Development of the deep energy retrofit program is a key action area in the Climate Action Plan. Developing this program will be a priority once the CAP receives final approval. Staff are looking at options to implement the program in partnership with other organizations and municipalities. The Ontario Building Code is provincial legislation and the city does not have authority to change it.
Existing buildings to replace equipment when retrofitting.	
Support development and/or promotion of education tools and resources for conducting and financing retrofits	
I urge you to change building codes immediately to make mandatory non-carbon sources of home heating and air conditioning in new home and commercial constructions. Going forward, retrofits of existing homes or businesses must be non-carbon emitting. This may result in increased one-time costs but Climate Change costs much more. City Hall would be a good place to start.	
Reward sustainable building demolition/ re-use of materials	Many of the large builders already follow sustainable demolition practices. This may be an area that should be regulated at the provincial level.

Provide incentives and/or financing mechanisms such as green bonds	Incentives and financing options will be reviewed to support certain program areas, particularly deep energy retrofits.
Promote ongoing building performance tracking and maintenance	The provincial government does require certain building owners to report on energy consumption, including the MUSH sector.
On the housing side, changes will be even more challenging. Most homes are heated by natural gas and we continue to develop the distribution infrastructure to feed both existing and new construction. Switching to renewable based electric heat will likely only happen at the bleeding edge, and city will need to demonstrate that this makes economic sense for more than just a few keen early adopters. New construction will have to be 100% passive home + heat pump / solar with efficiency standards well above the provincial requirements.	Low carbon measures for new and existing buildings is a key program area of the CAP.
I'd like the city to get rid of parking minimums	The City just finished reviewing parking standards and determined appropriate rates based on current operations, future planning goals and a comparison to other municipalities. It did not conclude that eliminating minimums was appropriate. It is not recommended that the minimums be eliminated without a larger review. Eliminating the need for development to provide parking would put pressure on the municipality to develop solutions which has major consequences both operationally and financially.

While I see the need to target homeowners, there needs to be other programs and incentives that cover all residents. If my apartment building updated everyone's units to solar etc, they would download the costs to us via. above guidelines rent increases. Low income people want to help the environment, but we cannot afford to pay more for things. Loopholes need to be closed to ensure landlords can't download costs of eco-friendly upgrades to tenants.	Noted: Improving energy efficiency of older apartment buildings can improve comfort and save money.
Step up the notification process for development projects to ensure public engagement and input	The city has recently made changes to support pre-application to improve public engagement on the development application process.
Greening Businesses - Industry	Response:
Prioritize the sectors that have the highest carbon and energy footprints to green their business and provide them with incentives to change.	The IESO and Enbridge are the lead entities to support businesses to improve energy efficiency. The city can help promote their services. Sustainable Hamilton Burlington also works with local businesses to support improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions.
Connect businesses with low cost energy savings opportunities	
Provide businesses carbon assessments and recommendations for reducing their carbon footprint that also reduce their expenses and put them on a path to greater sustainability.	Sustainable Hamilton Burlington works with local businesses to provide this service.
Mandate water conservation assessments for water intensive manufacturing businesses.	Thank you - this has been shared with Halton Region who is the lead on water conservation.
Provide businesses a guide to energy-efficient lighting solutions that businesses that can buy from local Burlington suppliers.	The IESO supports small businesses interested in implementing lighting retrofits.
Prioritize incentives for companies to create green spaces on their properties, including on the land as well as on the roof where appropriate.	Incentives and programs to increase tree planting on private property will be considered through the update to the Urban Forest MP.

Establish a roundtable between BurlingtonGreen, the Bay Area Climate Change Council, City of Burlington and local industry to establish dialogue and create awareness of opportunities to improve efficiency, waste diversion and create green industry	The workplan for the Bay Area Climate Change Council is focused on buildings, transportation and local food. Burlington's position at this time is to focus on buildings, transportation and renewable energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Burlington.
Provide incentives to have green industries establish a business presence in Burlington: Renewable energy supply and installation (solar and wind); Sustainable building design; Wastewater management; Sustainable engineering; Green finance and venture capital; Low impact development design/landscaping.	Incentives will be reviewed that support deep energy retrofits and low carbon new buildings.
Provide property tax incentives to companies that operate on a net zero carbon basis	
Ensure that the Burlington Climate Action Strategy provides existing businesses with the tools to be more efficient in resource use and disposal.	An action is included in the CAP focusing on industrial processes, however, there are other entities supporting industry and their efforts to improve energy efficiency including Enbridge and the IESO.
Need to immediately address problems associated with manufacturing and retailing, i.e. excessive use of plastics for packaging, and environmental impacts from factory and shipping emissions.	The province is moving to make producers responsible for waste. Information found here: https://www.ontario.ca/page/producer-responsibility-ontarios-waste-diversion-programs
Community Engagement	Response:
Dry clothes naturally	Community engagement for the CAP will focus on those program areas and actions that reduce the use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions. Many of the initiatives listed here can be included in the CAP community engagement strategy for what people can do at home. Some of the initiative relate to deep energy efficiency retrofits for existing buildings, such as insulation
Replace showerhead	
Replace faucet aerators	
Cut your lawn with solar or push mower	
Wash clothes in cold water	
Leave grass clippings on lawn	
Drive better/smarter	

Use toaster oven for small meals	and tankless water heater, which is a key program area of the CAP. Community engagement will require different tactics and will be an ongoing exercise. There are many organizations involved in engaging the community on energy and climate change initiatives, including the Halton Climate Collective, BurlingtonGreen, the Bay Area Climate Change Council, and HACEN (Halton Action for Climate Emergency Now).
Set house thermostat lower	
Open and close blinds seasonally	
Use fans instead of air conditioning	
Start composting	
Weatherproof your home	
Retrofit drain with DWHR unit	
Purchase a tankless water heater	
Switch to LED lightbulbs	
Insulate basement	
Purchase efficient washer/dryer	
Replace stove with induction top	
Vacation locally instead of abroad	
Insulate walls	
Install hi-efficiency furnace	
Buy green power	
Purchase solar panels for home	
Install solar panels on roofs	
Upgrade roof insulation	
Retrofit building envelope	
Use materials with recycled content	
Support re-use centres and repair	
Establish online registry of community activities that reduce emissions	
Use low VOC (volatile organic compound) solvents and paint (& COMMUNITY)	
Keep lawn mowers, off-road vehicles well maintained	
Sustainable living education seminars	
Improved and increased public education and outreach	
User friendly (relatable), benefit-focused messaging	

Incorporate use of Burlington specific modeling as one example of user friendly effective engagement	(See above response)
That the cities' CAP include communications that clearly describe for residents how the initiatives tie to action on climate, adaptation and GHG reductions.	
Increase stakeholder engagement (youth, faith groups, industry, public sector etc.)	
Encourage community adoption of EV's	
Install and increase public awareness of infrastructure for corporate and community EV's.	
Work with local businesses and educational institutions to increase the supply of skilled tradespeople	
Gardening in back yard and solar panels on the roof	
To make climate initiatives more than "aspirational" relate the costs of Climate Change to real impacts on city and its citizens. Give examples of long term cost and damage if we do nothing.	
Provide the analysis of the benefits, direct and indirect, of implementing these changes to help people understand the importance of making these changes.	
Develop & distribute infographics designed to clearly outline the desired results of making one of the above changes and annually publish benchmark year over year change. E.g. infographic as to the value of a planting a typical native deciduous or coniferous tree species in terms of annual carbon capture & other benefits i.e. cleaning the air & stormwater mgmt Compare the benefits to offset annual typical house, apartment or use of an electric/hybrid/gas vehicle the same year.	
Commute sustainably year-round	

Work and play close to home	(See above response)
Communicate Strategy/Calls for Action via a city-wide campaign that engages the community	
Increase public education and awareness programs to improve communications on community energy reductions and progress on the Burlington Climate Action Strategy.	
Electric Mobility & Equipment	Response:
Purchase electric vehicle	A strategy to engage the community on electric vehicle adoptions will be developed.
Encourage community adoption of EV's	
Set aggressive targets for electrification of vehicles.	
Align local budgets to provide and deploy more public charging infrastructure	Electric mobility is a key program area of the Climate Action Plan. An electric mobility strategy will be completed to support increased electric vehicle adoption in Burlington including the expansion of EV charging stations. The city just approved additional funding in the 2020 capital budget of \$180,000 to support the installation of additional charging stations in Burlington and \$20,000 in the base budget. There are currently 27 level 2 charging stations in Burlington's downtown core and a level 3 station is under consideration.
Install infrastructure for corporate and community EV's	
The city needs to concentrate on infrastructure development that will help people make the switch to more environmentally friendly technology. In particular, in association with Burlington Hydro, there needs to be a dramatic expansion of electric vehicle charging stations - particularly level 3 chargers.	
Thirdly, please encourage the installation (private and public) of EV charging stations especially adding FAST charging stations that will give cars an 80% charge in 20 minutes. These are widely available for Tesla's (installed by Tesla) but not for non-Tesla cars, of which I am an owner (Chevy Bolt EV). I live in a condo and charging stations are not available in my building.	
To promote use of electric vehicles in the city it is important to have some for of fast speed charging infrastructure available. I strongly suggest that the city	

invest in building a fast speed charger in both the north and south sides of Burlington in order to increase accessibility.	(See above response)
Add charging systems for vehicles and e-bikes	
Discounted parking for Electric vehicles	
Encourage solar EV charging stations on site	
Electric vehicles could be heavily incentivized with steps like charging at Go Transit lots, free city parking, more charging in city lots	
Don't like how: - province clawed-back EV incentives - condo corps are slow to add EV infrastructure to their buildings	
Transition buses to all-electric	Burlington Transit is monitoring the electric bus market/industry and is reviewing the opportunity to add e-buses to its fleet.
Zero emission busses	
Move to accelerate the shift to electric buses	
I urge you to replace any existing buses with electric ones.	
Electrify City fleet	The city's Green Fleet Strategy is scheduled to be updated and completed in 2021. Some city facilities do have solar panels installed on them and expansion is planned under the Corporate Energy & Emissions Management Plan.
Advocate for uptake of EV's in municipal fleets	
City Vehicles could be hybrid & City Buildings should have solar panels!	
Insist that all new multi-residential buildings supply charging stations for vehicles	The Sustainable Development & Building Guidelines is scheduled to be updated in 2021 and support for EV charging infrastructure will be considered.
Strengthen electric vehicle supportive building regulations.	
Insist that all new multi-residential buildings supply charging stations for vehicles	
Rebates on battery powered lawnmowers, snow blowers, leaf blowers. Reduces emissions and sound pollution.	A key program area in the CAP is to encourage a transition to electric equipment like leaf blowers, trimmers and lawn mowers.
Ban gas-powered leaf blowers and hedge trimmers	

I'd like the city to ban gas-powered leaf blowers	
Restrict or ban the use of leaf blowers to reduce air and GHG emissions	
Support implementation of e-scooters in Burlington	To be considered under the Electric Mobility and Equipment strategy. The city is also working on an Integrated Mobility Plan.
I'd like to see our city push hard to get the green incentive back so electric vehicles are more affordable. Incentives/solutions for solar panels and electric vehicles are necessary for people like myself in the lower/middle class.	There is a federal incentive for electric vehicles in the amount of \$5,000. The city can advocate for the provincial government to re-instate the EV incentive.
Electric cars are not yet fully practical for a number of reasons. It can cost \$6000 to replace an electric car battery. Also limited range.	Electric vehicles may not meet the needs of everyone but are often cheaper over the lifecycle of the vehicle than an internal combustion engine due to minimum moving parts and significantly less maintenance costs. Most car batteries are warrantied for 8 years.
Energy	Response
Encourage 'distributed energy' throughout the city	The city is interested in the development of distributed (district) energy systems and will continue to look for opportunities through the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
Develop district energy at high density hubs or make district energy ready	
Develop district energy at high density nodes.	
Develop district energy	
New development neighborhoods should use large scale geothermal to heat home's like Sweden has rather than relying on home owners to choose heat pumps.	
Install motion sensors on indoor lights in all municipal buildings	Motion sensors have been installed in many city facilities and there are still some opportunities to be implemented as energy audits are completed for city facilities.
Analysis of existing City operations to determine maximum energy	

Pursue opportunities for community-based power generation	Sustainable power generation opportunities will be pursued through the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
Rebates/incentives for companies to get LED lights or smart lighting sensors (LED lights pay for themselves in energy savings, length between changing bulbs and labour to change bulbs but many companies refuse to pay the upfront costs, as I have been met with this challenge in my previous jobs)	The IESO (Independent Electricity Supply Operator) provides incentives for lighting upgrades for small businesses.
LED City lights	Most city street lights have been converted to LEDs; decorative streetlights will be changed in the near future. Parking lot lights are in progress.
Green Procurement	Response:
Sustainable purchasing at the city. Printer paper, ink usage, libraries.	The city does have a sustainable procurement policy and guideline for staff.
Update and mandate the City's Green Procurement Policy	
Green procurement & require sign off on tender documentation.	
Establish collective purchases of efficient vehicles/equipment with Regional municipalities	The city does have procurement co-op with Halton Region and the other local municipalities.
Integrated Mobility	Response:
Widen sidewalks to encourage walkability	Active and sustainable transportation is a key program area in the Climate Action Plan. Different strategies will be considered as part of the Integrated Mobility Plan, as part of a large scoped analysis of the future of mobility for Burlington. This plan will consider many alternatives which will help us move towards a more sustainable transportation network.
Create car-free zones	
Close down the downtown core to traffic so it is walking only	
Car share	
Parking zones for car-share vehicles	

Install segregated bicycle lanes to encourage bike riders	Active transportation is a key program area in the Climate Action Plan. Transportation staff will be bringing an updated Cycling Master Plan to committee on March 10th. This plan will detail an improved network of protected facilities and policies to encourage and grow cycling in Burlington. These recommendations also include updated design guidelines, which are consistent with new trends in active transportation.
Increase and connect cycle lanes	
More bicycle lanes, more bike lock areas	
Implement a local public bike sharing program	
Provide bike stations with high-security parking and other amenities in the downtown and at transit stations	
Improve cycling network to increase connectivity to transportation hubs and amenities.	
Bike Racks - how can you find out (easily) where there are bike racks? I tried to see if there are any at the Mapleview Mall, online, but couldn't. I can't remember seeing any. It would be good if there was a central online place to find out where there are bike racks (bike "parking"), so you can plan before you go.	
Improve cycling network to increase connectivity to transportation hubs and amenities.	Integrated mobility and sustainable transportation options are key program areas of the Climate Action Plan. Burlington Transit is completing a Five Year Business Plan to guide investments in the transit system. This includes reviewing fare strategies, including free fares for Seniors and Children, and reviewing options for low carbon buses including fleet electrification. The goal of the business plan is to make transit a viable transportation option within the City of Burlington by creating network efficiencies, improved reliability and enhanced connections with other transit systems including GO Transit.
Free public transit for all	
Safe bus shelters with emergency communications	
Reduce cost of busses. Far too expensive for families/couples (2 people, round trip = \$12 dollars which is far more than the cost of parking, especially when its highly available and virtually free most places in Burlington). Offer family pricing - ie: 1.5x the cost, or high ridership reduces to 1.2x the cost vs 2x the cost of 2 riders	
Extend transfer times on the busses	
Advance new and improved local transit.	
Improve transit reliability and speed using transit priority measures	

Provide easy connections and comfortable waiting areas throughout the network	(See above response)
Support effective fares that encourage transit use	
Collaborate with relevant partners to achieve improved interregional transit within the GTHA	
Make it easy to combine cycling and transit trips	
Make Transit Free - Pay for it with congestion tolls on busy city streets	
I'd like transit service to continue to improve and expand (more frequent service/later hours/better connectivity to Oaville) I'd like our councillors to support the building of significantly better cycling infrastructure including protected bike lanes, even if means a reduction in automobile lanes	
Switching our city buses and transit from diesel to natural gas would also be optimal as these are constantly running, but would set a forward example such as the city of Mississauga.	
Transit initiatives for teens and children so parents can use the bus without paying fares for them. Also helping teens get to work helps save parents driving them, saving gas and wear and tear on vehicles and roads. Helps them learn the skills needed to ride the bus efficiently.	
Public Transit - I wish it was more reasonable for students (i.e. it's much cheaper for me to drive my 14 year old daughter and her friends to the mall, then for them to take public transit). The inconvenience factor needs to be mitigated by better cost.	Industry data does not support the idea that shortening parking times results in less vehicle trips/emissions as
Limit on-street parking to one hour	

	drivers can always move their vehicles. A more relevant strategy would be to manage the parking availability which is part of balancing the transportation network.
Raise cost of parking at meters and change free parking times. Generates more revenue to fund green initiatives and deters people from driving.	Parking Pricing Strategies are outside the scope of the Integrated Mobility Plan but a review of parking fees and variable pricing is to be undertaken in 2020 by Parking Services with the lens of parking demand / utilization and how fees influence demand.
Reduce available parking spots for fossil fuel fired vehicles in City parking lots and in new multi-unit buildings (reduce “parking ratio”)	<p>Please refer to our recently completed Burlington City Wide Parking Standards Review. In this document, we have updated our parking rated to reduce the over supply of parking spaces, and promote multi modal transportation.</p> <p>Paid parking facilities operated by the City of Burlington have been updated to include EV Chargers with plans to expand the number of spaces over the next decade. This includes installing faster ‘level 3’ chargers to provide an incentive for those driving electric vehicles.</p>
Align land use policies to locate major trip generators near rapid transit stations or along transit corridors.	<p>The City’s adopted Official Plan was developed in recognition of the need to continue the City’s evolution into a sustainable, resilient and complete community. A complete community offers and supports opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to conveniently access the necessities for daily living, providing convenient access to an appropriate mix of jobs, shopping and personal services, housing, transportation options and public service facilities such as recreation and open space.</p>
Stronger implementation of sustainable design guidelines that support an interesting and safe streetscape for people travelling on foot or bicycle, especially around major transit hubs	
Set targets in the municipal plan for driving distances and targets for trips under 5 km	
Transportation - complete communities and increase active and low-carbon transportation through engagement, policies and infrastructure.	

Foster higher density, complete neighbourhoods and active transportation and transit.	
There are approximately 13 traffic lights from North Service Rd to Lakeshore and on most days if you go downtown you are forced to stop at each one. I am sure there are more examples where improved traffic light synchronization would improve traffic flow and reduce idling to support Burlington's Climate Action plan.	<p>The system maintains coordination between adjacent traffic signals based on the posted speed limit. Many factors can influence coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume of traffic • Direction of the major traffic flow • Distances between traffic signals <p>When coordination for both directions of travel is not possible, the direction with the highest traffic volume is coordinated. Different timing plans are used throughout the day to reflect changing traffic patterns and volumes.</p>
'-please concentrate on actual issues that affect our lives like the dreadful traffic, maybe some type of stop light system that recognizes traffic patterns better	
Need to synchronize the traffic lights. Far too many routes are constant red lights when driving the speed limit.	
This city would benefit in terms of Climate Action by implementing a comprehensive vehicular traffic management system. Hours of productivity and litres of fuel are expended sitting at major intersections, waiting on a traffic light, whether traffic is light or otherwise. Go with roundabouts to keep vehicles moving. Roundabouts need more land to be sure, but remove the incidence of 90degree collisions with light violators and do away with much of the fuel burn wasted with signalized intersections.	Roundabouts are generally considered when undertaking Environmental Assessment studies for intersection improvements. Property constraints are a factor that is weight heavily when examining the use of a roundabout vs. conventional traffic signals, irrespective - alternate intersection designs are considered through the EA process and evaluated based on a number of
Pedestrian crosses downtown should be 'Stop for Pedestrians' vs 'Wait for a Gap' to make it more inconvenient for drivers to go through the core	Currently planning on implementing PXO's (Pedestrian crossovers) in the Downtown to improve pedestrian safety. Funds have been allocated in the 2020 budget
Undertake gap analysis to determine efficiency of modal connections	Meaning of comment is unclear.

Toll roads	Noted. At the provincial level, concepts such as congestion pricing are being examined as part of the Greater Golden Horseshoe Transportation Plan
Encourage/Incentivize City staff to use public transit, car pooling	City staff are incentivised to use public transit. A program recently ran for staff to 'Try Transit' week. Car poolers are eligible for a prime parking spot downtown Burlington.
Use crusher rock vs pavement/asphalt for city trails as this is better on peoples feet/heat in the city/and allows for more permeable ground to absorb the large rainfalls we now see/snow melt	Crushed rock and wood chips are used in certain locations for city paths and trails, however, paved trails support accessibility for all abilities.
Support transportation demand programs that are employer, institutional and district based	Halton Region administers the Smart Commute Program for Halton Region businesses. The city of Burlington is a member of Smart Commute Halton for its city staff.
Direct the Dept of Transportation to release the City's Transportation Plan and ensure it aligns with the proposed Burlington Climate Action Strategy and includes actions and associated measures to achieve sustainable transportation options.	The city is beginning the development of the first Integrated Mobility Plan. Sustainable and integrated mobility are key program areas of the CAP.
Encourage Cities to explore regulatory/fiscal measures to incentivize fleet conversions.	Depending on resources, the city could explore this action with business stakeholders under the CAP.
need my car as I am unable to walk any distance, or stand for any longer than a few minutes. But I would be interested in the other options to help save our planet.	Electric mobility is a key program area of the Climate Action Plan and may be an option to consider.

After complaining about traffic and parking issues that will be exacerbated by over development I'm starting to think that this may be what we need. Making it as difficult to drive and park in the congested areas of our city (as we are currently doing) is the only way to get people out of their cars. In that regard I would add that I'm puzzled by the fact that I know of no pedestrian cross walk in our whole city? That makes our push to get people walking more a tougher sell - we need them, lots of them!	Comment is noted. Congestion is sometimes the driving force that inspires people to try alternate modes that are more reliable in terms of travel times. The city is beginning the development of the Integrated Mobility Plan. Sustainable and integrated mobility are key program areas of the CAP. Cross walks do exist in the community particularly where the multi-use trails cross busy arterial roads.
I think a main focus needs to be on changing the car culture in Burlington - particularly on educating residents on why this is important. That seems to filter down to so many other aspects of addressing the climate emergency	Agreed. Burlington has developed over the years with a focus on automobiles. It will be difficult to change the culture over-night but this is a key program area of the CAP.
Lead by example with respect to telecommuting.	The city does have a telecommuting policy for its staff.
Local & Sustainable Food	Response:
Build (and encourage) more Community Gardens	Funding is in the capital budget to install a new community garden in 2021.
Promote of local food sources	There are many entities promoting local food. The city supports local food through its community garden program; the Lions Club through its Farmers Market; Halton Region promotes local agriculture and Ontario has a program to promote local food.
Provide community education on nutrition and food waste	Community education on food nutrition is provided by the Halton Food Council. The council developed a tool kit in 2017 to reduce food waste.
Encourage greater participation in Community Shared Agriculture (CSA)	CSA cooperative farms are one option for residents to procure local sustainable food. Staff can look at options to promote local CSA, such as the Halton Fresh Food Box program.

Free classes for citizens to learn about food gardening	Support is provided to residents through the city's Community Gardening program. The Sustainable Development Committee has hosted public sessions in the past about growing your own food.
Encouraging the schools and their vendors to do Meatless Mondays (as New York is doing)	There are many organizations promoting meatless meals, including the Canada Food Guide.
There is so much good press out there when places make the first move – ie when a university in London UK banned the sale of beef on their campus there was a ton of positive press, set an example	
I often bike with my family on the Centennial bike path from Walkers to Appleby. I noticed a large area where a couple of fruit trees grow like pears and apples. People in the area and people passing by love picking the fruit. We sometimes see families picking baskets and filling them. Would it be possible to plant more fruit trees in the area? Perhaps fruit trees that mature fruit at different times of the year? That way the path won't be saturated with one type of fruit once a year. Also, the extra shade on the path would be a nice welcome on the hot summer days. The tree line further away does not block any sun.	The hydro corridor where the multi-use trail is located is owned by the Hydro One utility and it has restrictions about planting trees in the corridor to ensure access to the transmission lines.
Work with Agriculture Committees to promote low carbon food strategies.	Staff can look into this.
Natural Heritage	Response
Plant native trees and shrubs	The city will be updating the Urban Forest Management Plan in 2020 and options to increase tree planting in Burlington will be considered. The city focuses on planting native species in Parks & Open Space projects. The city
Initiate community and/or employee based tree planting projects	
Plant native trees and shrubs on City property	

Plant more trees – more trees = more shade = reduced heat in the downtown areas. Ex. The hydro lines need more shade, the walking path is SO hot in the summer	supports community and corporate tree planting e.g. Trees Canada, Hydro One owns these corridors and restrict planting for safety and operational requirements in active transmission line corridors. The city is currently intensifying tree planting areas in existing parks that continue to respect ongoing recreational needs e.g sport fields. An additional \$100k was added to the base budget this year for tree planting on public and private land. The Forestry Section is looking into a program similar to ReForest London's Neighbourhood ReLeaf Program.
Introduce a tree planting program to engage Burlington residents in achieving the city's tree canopy target by partnering with regional organizations. One example includes: Leaf's backyard tree planting program	
Give away trees to residences	
We need to concentrate on clean water, reducing plastic. We can plant more trees in the city which will help	
I see trees being replaced all of our city and I appreciate that to keep our city looking beautiful. However, in order for Burlington to make an impact on climate change and reducing our carbon footprint, we need to plant trees on a mass level. We need to create more urban forests rather than planting a tree here and there to just make our city pretty.	
Trees are of paramount importance at the best of times; with the loss of all the white ash, it is imperative that we replace. as it is, it will take decades for trees to reach any significant height	
Need to increase tree planting program to offset heat island effect and to cleanse the air.	
I'd like to see incentives for residents to plant new trees/replace diseased trees. I'd like more trees/less cement in public spaces.	As part of the Parks Master Plan update, Ecosystem Services will become a focus for which Biodiversity is one
Maintain, or increase, biodiversity throughout neighbourhoods	

Develop and execute a biodiversity action plan (adaptation)	element in the Supporting ecosystem services categories. Applying the Ecosystem Services Framework as part of our Parks Master Plan is a start toward the Biodiversity question
Climate change is one of three serious environmental problems. The other two are the Biodiversity Crisis and Environmental Toxification. Burlington is home to 48 endangered species. What is the city plan to address these other problems?	
Update City's urban tree policy	The Urban Forest Management Plan is scheduled to be updated in 2020. \$200k funded through the budget process to complete the UFMP in 2020. UFMP Goals: 1) Complete an Urban Tree Canopy Assessment through remote sensing 2) Update policies and procedures (includes biodiversity and IPM policies) 3) Complete a Woodland Management Strategy (Never completed before). The Parks Master plan update will inventory municipality owned parks and green space. Recommendations to develop a plan for prioritization and projects may come as recommendations in this update. The City is also participating in a Natural Asset study in
Develop an accurate green space inventory and a comprehensive plan to prioritize and protect it.	
Update and release a new Urban Forest Management Plan that incorporates a tree canopy inventory; an evaluation of losses expected due to disease, damaged trees and development; a firm urban tree canopy target within the range of 30-40%; a comprehensive plan to replace lost trees and grow the canopy; ensures varied biodiversity that sustains habitats for a range of native fauna and flora; identify resources, budget and potential income sources to implement the plan	

Direct appropriate staff to conduct a natural assets and green space, tree inventory, and update and release the Urban Forest Management Plan. Ensure that funding is provided to accomplish this as well as the actions that are identified in the updated Plan	partnership with Hamilton, the Royal Botanical Gardens and Conservation Halton for the Grindstone Creek Watershed. The City is an active partner in the Cootes to Escarpment Ecopark System. Burlington parks in the system were inventoried and management plans developed for each park/openspace. The next step is to review recommendations and develop an implementation plan e.g invasive species control & identification of species at risk/endangered to ensure any development plans avoid sensitive areas. The capital budget and forecast is the funding source for implementation.
Make a public commitment to establish an urban tree canopy target of 30-40% with a specific target to be formally set as part of the next Urban Forest Management Plan	A tree canopy target of 35% has been included in the document 'From Vision to Focus'.
Set urban canopy targets	
Protect the tree canopy.	
Implement a practical effective city-wide private tree by-law no later than 2020	A tree protection by-law was approved by council in December, 2019 - to be finalized in January 2020. Halton Region also has a tree by-law for woodlots.
Prioritize city-wide tree protection adopting effective best practice education and policies.	
Revise by-laws to protect greenfield and assembled lands in established neighbourhoods from clear-cutting or excessive tree removal prior to development applications: 2019/20	

Revise site plan guidelines to better protect mature trees on land to be developed. This can include providing adequate setbacks from existing trees to protect tree canopy and root zone, and requiring developers to replace removed trees with a 20 year equivalent canopy at their cost.	<p>Currently A Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan and Arborist Report is required for all existing trees greater than 10cm DBH on site and on adjacent properties within 3 m of the property lines for Site Plan applications. All public and private trees to be retained require tree protection fencing per the City of Burlington Tree Preservation and Protection Specification SS12A (to be shown on plans and installed as a condition of Site Plan approval prior to the commencement of construction). The SS12A specifies the required Minimum Tree Protection Zone (setback to protect tree canopy and root zone) and we ask that the MTPZ in addition to tree protection fencing are shown on plans.</p> <p>Currently staff can only request that trees on private property be retained and recommend replacement at a 1:1 caliper replacement, meaning that each caliper removed should be replaced, as determined by the 'aggregate caliper ratio'. The private tree by-law will strengthen the city's ability to require additional replacement trees and will prevent clear cutting.</p>
Encourage pollinator gardens – look into the 8cm front lawn bylaw as lawns do not help climate change action to the same level as pollinator gardens	<p>The use of Hydro corridors for pollinator gardens, public vegetable gardens would be subject to Hydro One permissions. The city could participate with the industry to promote and supply native plants as part of Michell or Forestry programs. We could also partner with Conservation Halton who actively promote native plants and sale through their programs and partnership with Carolinian Canada organization</p>
Public Land - can we make butterfly/bee gardens around the Hydro Trails? Could we let more land out for public vegetable gardens?	
Free classes for citizens to learn about pollinator gardens, bee and bat houses plus a sale of native plants and bee/bat houses	

<p>I belong to an organization that sponsors a boulevard garden every year. I think it would be one small step to plant native grasses (drought resistant) and pollinator-friendly perennial flowers, rather than annuals that require increased maintenance and watering.</p>	<p>Due to significant salt contamination, many perennials (in particular pollinators) will not survive in the roadway environment where we plant the majority of our annuals. The reality we face is that the lower the bed height, the higher the contamination and the more difficult it is to grow pollinators and perennials that cannot survive long term salt damage; hence the use of annuals. There are height restrictions in these beds that limit what can be planted; that is to say, annuals do not get so large as to create ongoing sightline issues. Perennial beds require as much as, if not more, maintenance by staff than annual beds. Wherever staff are able to include pollinator/native perennials that can survive in our boulevards, we do so.</p> <p>One more note; planting pollinator plants in the middle of a roadway would not be the best location as vehicular traffic would likely affect the ability of pollinators to access the plants in a meaningful way.</p>
<p>I am curious about the plants/flowers that are planted by the City between the roads, at stop lights, along the road medians etc. These plants are primarily annual plants which don't last more than a season. I wonder why the City hasn't planted perennials instead. These have a lower long term cost (reduced cost to purchase each year as well as plant). Not to mention the carbon footprint involved in their production at the nursery, transport to the City and resources to plant each year. Surely there must be perennial options instead?</p>	
<p>Discourage artificial lawns that are seen around the city as this is more plastic waste and turf cannot absorb carbon</p>	<p>Artificial turf lawns are restricted to back and side yards but are not permitted in the front yard.</p>
<p>Help market/promote at Christmas when the RBG is taking Christmas trees and help pick up trees and deliver them, as many people may not have known or couldn't bring them (there were so many out for garbage that seemed to have not made it to the RBG)</p>	<p>Residents do have the option to support the RBG and Conservation Halton's efforts to collect Christmas trees to be used in habitat restoration efforts.</p>

Convert vacant land into parks	In Burlington the majority of vacant land is usually owned by private landowners. The city has and will continue to look for opportunities to enter into an agreement with the property owners to utilize the land for park purposes. For example we have over 200 acres of Ontario Hydro Corridors under license agreements with Hydro One/the Province to use the corridors as linear parks; we also have park license agreements with Pipeline corridors, Lions Club Park, Leighland Park and Kerncliffe Park and a trail agreement with the Waldorf School. The City has comprehensive open space and park dedication policies in its Official Plan.
Expand tree pits for city trees to improve drought and pest tolerance	Street boulevards are a harsh environment for trees. The city is starting to utilize a new suspended system of silva cells to support the growth of large trees. The expansion of tree pits and use of engineered planting pits provided additional Ecosystem benefits in the Cultural, Supporting and regulating ecosystem services categories. The Forestry Section is working on a Soil Volume Policy to be applied to hard surface tree plantings
Initiate Top-Soil protection by-law (prevent soil removal)	The Site Alteration By-law doesn't specifically have any statements related to protection of topsoil, however any site that is proposing to strip topsoil and transport it off site is required to apply for a permit. One of the requirements for the issuance of a permit is that the applicant ensure there is no detrimental effect to soil permeability. If topsoil was to be removed, it could detrimentally affect soil permeability on the site. With regards to development, Subdivision Agreements and Site Plan Agreements specifically state what depth of topsoil is required to be replaced on the completed site.

<p>Initiate a user friendly widespread campaign of public education and information dissemination which can also include information about Emerald Ash Borer, the new Urban Forest Management Plan and Private Property Tree Protection By-law</p>	<p>The community engagement piece is one that is front of mind for the Forestry section, and one that weaves itself through a number of projects that we are embarking on in 2020. For example,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The UFMP will be moving forward in 2020, which will have a very strong component for community engagement that incorporates tenets of IAP2 into the overall completion of the project. 2) Council's recent direction at the December: "Direct the Director of Roads, Parks and Forestry to establish a Mayor/Council Task Force on improving the tree canopy. The group would research canopy growth precedents world-wide that have been effective which include trees of all ages, and consider also biodiversity, tree size, and operational maintenance considerations. 3) Staff conduct annual community tree planting events at least twice per year, as well as a maintenance day which focusses more on the upkeep side, rather than planting side of tree care. This program is constantly evolving. 4) One sector that lends itself for growth potential is engaging with our partners in our school systems throughout the City. Not only is there an opportunity for education and engagement, but schools offer some of the best locations for tree planting, given available soil volumes, and an increasing need and desire for shade by students and parents. 5) For all operational work, staff conduct 1 on 1 community engagement on a daily basis either face to face or via email. This includes, EAB removals, tree plantings, pruning work, and high profile removals.
--	--

Develop a comprehensive parkland dedication strategy that includes a plan to prioritize and protect existing green space and secure additional green space to meet the evolving needs of the city as it transitions to a more compact urban form.	This work will be accomplished through the Park Master Plan update.
Why does the city not have a plan to manage our ravines as ecological systems that clean our air and water, while providing habitat for nature, including some of Burlington's 48 endangered species?	Under the 'From vision to Focus' document, the City has made a commitment to protect and enhance the city's creeks, streams and waterfront. A key action includes: Use city growth, infill and redevelopment as an opportunity to enhance creeks, streams and water quality. These areas are regulated by Conservation Halton.
Other	Response:
Support cities in developing countries to grow without relying on fossil fuels	This is beyond the mandate and resources of a local municipality.
Establish regular and ongoing meetings with senior levels of government to align policies	The city participates in networks such as the Clean Air Council and FCM's Partners for Climate Protection program where senior levels of government are engaged; these networks will often advocate on behalf of participating cities for policy changes that will support environmental initiatives.
Offer bursaries to students taking environmental courses	Most post-secondary institutions offer burseries and scholarships to students as well as 3rd party organizations.
Provide 'clean rooms' for the public during days of poor air quality	The city does open facilities, including pools, later during heat alerts, which is when air quality tends to worsen. However smog alerts have decreased since the province phased out the coal fired generating stations for electricity.
Provide temporary cooling measures and facilities accessible to those living in older buildings	
Home/car rebates (however this puts the ownership on the citizens, not the city and can add up in costs for citizens extremely quickly)	The federal government offers a \$5000 rebate for electric vehicles. A key program area in the Climate Action Plan involves the city will be looking into developing a program to support deep energy retrofits of existing buildings.

Green the police force - Vancouver is currently in the process of doing this	Staff will share these comments with Halton Region.
Teach environmental education in elementary school through class visits seminars - The greenest city in the EU (Vaxjo, Sweden) teaches this as early as possible to their citizens	BurlingtonGreen does provide environmental programs to elementary school programs. People and Places in Halton - staff do speak to secondary students on request about environmental initiatives.
Coming up is the Eco City World Summit in Vancouver where they are discussing how to green cities. Includes a non profit corporation called Eco City Builders.	Two city staff attended the Eco City World Summit.
GreenScore City Index rated Burlington the best in 2016 for medium cities and we should continue with this amazing score and make an example for other Canadian cities	GreenScore City Index does not appear to be operational anymore.
Replace current CEP with a broader Burlington Climate Action Strategy that is carbon focused and better reflects the current challenges.	This is being done.
Create a task force to periodically review and update the progress on the Burlington Climate Action Strategy, including publishing publicly available user-friendly reports.	City staff worked with a group of community stakeholders who assisted on reporting on progress of the implementation of the Community Energy Plan. This is expected to continue with the new Climate Action. Options to review the framework will be available.
Update and strengthen supporting plans on special matters, for example: Urban Forest Management Plan, Transportation Plan, and Parks and Cultural Assets Master Plan among others.	As per the Vision to Focus document, these plans and others are scheduled to be updated.
That the city prioritize strategies by assessing them via a GHG reduction lens, and secondarily considering cost, feasibility, etc.	A climate lens has been created for decision making and is currently a work in progress as staff engage with other municipalities to share best practices on how to improve the application of a climate lens on decision making. The
Use climate lens for reporting and decision making	

The Climate Action Plan needs to be integrated into EVERYTHING the city does and every decision council makes. Council needs to be informed on the long term impacts (positive or negative) on the environment for each decision. This should be part of every report.	template for staff reports has been updated to include a section on 'climate implications'.
Municipalities provide staff resources to assist with execution of Climate Action Plans.	Council has approved an additional staff complement to assist with the implementation of the Climate Action Plan.
Municipalities and Mohawk College provide at least an ongoing, minimum level of funding as well as in-kind support to BACCC.	Council has committed to providing two years of funding to support the Bay Area Climate Change Office (\$32,000/year).
Explore project-specific grant opportunities with foundations, etc.	Staff will assess options.
We have excellent social media and print media in our City, so why so much paper? Everything is duplicated with printed pamphlets etc.	The city is relying more and more on print and digital resources. Printing documentation has been minimized and usually is done on demand and as needed.

<p>Can't just rely on citizens making lifestyle changes without making the changes to all the systems and layered incentives that drive current behaviours. Right now our city is set up to require heavy fossil fuel usage. Over 40% of GHG emissions are for transportation. Burlington residents are buying fewer compact vehicles, almost zero electrically powered vehicles and more heavy trucks & SUVs which makes the problems worse every day. Reducing incentives for that behaviour will be very hard. Especially when doing easy things that have no upfront costs at all such as eliminating parking minimum requirements, were dismissed outright by Staff and Council as unworkable. Where are you going to find the political will for more difficult actions like congestion charges, taxation by emissions level, repurposing road space to transit & active transportation and banning the sales of ICE vehicles? All of which will be necessary in the next 10 years if we are really serious about reducing our emissions sufficiently.</p>	<p>Council is supportive of the implementation of the Climate Action Plan but there are a number of challenges to achieve positive behaviour change. Programs and incentives will be developed and recommended as part of the Climate Action Plan.</p>
<p>I would like to add that this declared emergency is ridiculous. Canada is already one of the lowest emitters of carbon. If you want to change the world start with China, India and the USA. How about an initiative to buy local where the regulations are far more friendly to the climate? Every time we purchase from one of these countries we support mass pollution.</p>	<p>The IPCC is an organization of governments that are members of the United Nations or WMO. The IPCC currently has 195 members. Thousands of people from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC. For the assessment reports, IPCC scientists volunteer their time to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is</p>

I read the Climate Emergency Declaration with dismay. I am 50 years old and rest assured, extreme weather events happened before industrialization and will continue. Burlington city council fully expects the population of the city to grow and at the same time believes we can reduce CO2 emissions. Heat pumps and solar hot water heaters are a great idea in temperate climates, but not Burlington. There is no emergency here; you will know in 12 years.	known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks. The IPCC notes that warming greater than the global annual average is happening in many regions around the world and impacts from a changing climate are being observed with a warming climate. Burlington is experiencing these impacts through more intense rainfalls and extreme weather events, as well as increased freeze thaw events which occur more often than in the past, significantly impacting infrastructure. With respect to the comment about sustainable purchasing, there are many organizations that encourage buying local, supporting small businesses, as well as the circular economy (second hand shops and repair cafes).
Do not lie. There is no climate emergency. If you really Care, you shouldn't take airplane. You may burn one tone gasoline for a single trip.	
We need to take this seriously. Your suggestions are just the beginning. Encourage residents with very limited money things they can do to participate and help. This initiative should not be how much money we have to make the changes - let it be something everyone can participate in!	Programs and incentives will be important to support adoption and behaviour change, including alignment with senior levels of government for additional support.
This is important! Thanks for taking the initiative.	Thank you!
We need to be proactive as a community to support change to ensure our long term global survival; I support the City's initiatives in this matter	
SO happy you are Proactive! Thank you!	
I would really like to see a LONG list of possible actions - not just the few presented here. Those these may be high impact, lots of people doing small daily things is too!	The actions in the plan are the key program areas that will need to be implemented to reduce the use of fossil fuels in the community, the main contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Through the implementation of the programs

Are these really your only suggestions for helping climate change ? There needs to be more. So hard to believe the city is committed to climate action when I have been waiting 3 years for a tree to be replaced.	to be developed will include a number of different actions and initiatives that residents can participate in. A full community engagement program will be required.
I encourage the city to try to implement real solutions, not just the current popular environmental trend (ie. plastic straw bans while ignoring all other forms of plastic waste) that makes virtually no difference. Ensure that all vulnerable populations are consulted when changes are being made (ie disabled community that need plastic straws) so that no hardships are created by changes being implemented on already vulnerable populations.	
Passionate about this for the future of my children and grandchildren - want to know how to help and what needs to be done on a national and global level.	Choosing sustainable transportation options, completing deep energy retrofits, utilizing renewable energy options where possible and reducing waste will be important measures to help reduce the impact on climate change.
<p>I don't understand this survey. You are asking what I'm committing to do, which is okay. But I want to know what the city is planning to do. The survey is too narrowly scoped. What is the city considering on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reduction of high carbon emitting construction materials? - elimination of single use plastics? - ensuring appropriate greenspace setbacks on new developments? - ensuring appropriate tree coverage on new developments? - retrofitting city buildings? - improving pedestrian amenities? - elimination of vast asphalt surface parking lots? -improving regional transit connections? 	The city has its own Corporate Energy & Emissions Management Plan that it is following to work towards a target for city operations to be net carbon neutral by 2040. This includes energy audits, retrofits of city facilities and the use of renewable energy, as well as greening the city fleet. A Green Fleet Strategy is scheduled to completed by 2021. In addition, Integrated Mobility is also a key program area in the CAP and Transportation staff will be working on an Integrated Mobility Plan in 2020, supporting sustainable active transportation options and transit.

I think the biggest hurdle is cost. I cannot afford an electric car. Transit currently is not practical enough to get me to work. I live in an apartment building that I feel is unlikely to care about the environment if to do so would mean a loss or profits. I want to achieve these goals. Burlington—you carve the path and help all citizens like myself follow.	Thank you! It makes a difference for all of us to do as much as we are able to do.
Renewable Energy	Response
Encourage local production of RNG when feasible (e.g. from waste and wastewater etc.).	RNG will be considered as an option under the renewable energy actions in the CAP. The City does not own or control sources of biofuels and would have to partner with other entities.
Transition use of NG to RNG.	
The long-term target should be to transition fossil fuels to biofuels/RNG, increase the use of renewable power and use offsets (for industry).	
Set minimum renewable energy target	Emission reduction targets and energy production targets are included in the CAP for renewable energy installations.
Re-examine wind turbine moratorium	Burlington does not have a moratorium on wind energy however Burlington is not the best location for traditional wind turbines due to inconsistent wind conditions.
We are surrounded by highways including the pearl of strings. Let's develop with McMaster Innovation highway wind turbines.	Wind turbines using highway based wind energy would have to be investigated. Any installation along the QEW would require approval from the provincial Ministry of Transportation.
Can the city commit to a discovery process that investigates the potential for community-owned solar gardens in our great city?	A key action in the CAP is to investigate a community renewable energy cooperative, which could facilitate the development of community based solar gardens.
Homes to be built solar and EV ready	To be considered with the update of the Sustainable Development & Buildings Guideline; however, the city is restricted by what it can require under the Ontario Building Code.

City Buildings should have solar panels!	Solar panels have been installed on some city facilities with plans to expand under the Corporate Energy & Emissions Plan.
Encourage net-metering	Net metering is available to support renewable energy projects. Staff will be working with Burlington Hydro to support an increase in renewable energy projects in Burlington.
Targets & Monitoring	Response
Current CEP emissions reduction targets are not ambitious enough	CEP targets are being replaced by targets in the CAP. The overall community target is to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2050. Interim targets are being considered. There is also a target for city operations to be net carbon neutral by 2040.
Establish interim targets (e.g. 2020, 2025, 2030, 2040).	
Establish targets both for GHG emissions as well as for adoption of technologies (e.g. retrofit of buildings).	
Please set targets for GHG emission reductions for the City and please actively support and celebrate steps taken by individuals, communities, businesses, etc. for taking action	
Align the Burlington Climate Action Strategy targets to those of the latest IPCC report.	The net carbon neutral target has been compared with the IPCC target.
Align both community and corporation (City) targets with the most up-to-date IPCC targets as the science supports this level of reduction.	
Targets aligned with IPCC at each of the community* and the corporate levels	
Review targets every 5 years based on IPCC updated reports.	Targets will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Set goal to have all new buildings net zero emissions by 2050. Limits to be put on emissions for new builds in the short-term – the limits would be reduced annually until hitting net-zero by 2050. Incentives should be introduced to realize builders' adoption in order to achieve net zero target.	Targets are included in the CAP for new net zero buildings. The Sustainable Development & Building Guideline will be updated with consideration of incentives to encourage new low carbon buildings.
Mandate greenhouse gas reduction targets in the OP	The community reduction target is reflected in the city's OP.
Annual reporting to the community on both corporate and community progress	Staff report annually on progress on both plans.
Create and track a carbon budget	A carbon budget has been created as part of the CAP.
Industrial fixed process emissions will likely need to have technology-based reductions, leading to lower feasible targets in the shorter term (e.g. 2030)	Actions related to industrial processes are part of the CAP.
Waste	Response
Ban single-use plastics and plastic	The City does not have plans at this point to ban single use plastics. The federal government has announced plans to phase out the use of single use plastics starting in 2021. Further information can be found here: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/zero-plastic-waste.html
Create a bylaw banning single use plastic bags at stores. Currently legal in Jasper, Wetaskiwin, Courtenay BC, and city of Victoria is currently fighting in appeals court	
Medium term: Other municipalities have imposed a ban on single use plastics. We are calling upon Burlington to show leadership and do the same. A ban could be phased in, beginning with plastic shopping bags and straws in 2020/21 to allow time for widespread public engagement and campaign adoption. This fits well with the thrust of the Region's June 2018 amendment to the short term solid Waste Management Strategy report, calling for a range of measures to reduce plastics pollution, including banning of some products.	

Reduce plastics entering the waste stream through targeted bans on single use plastics.	(See above response)
I think we should ban selling single use plastic bags. As well ban selling disposable water bottles and plastic straws.	
Single Use Plastics/Disposables - we need to ban as much as possible, and encourage the use of re-usable containers, bags, etc... Where possible, put up compost bins in public areas, to accept paper cups, etc... from Starbucks/Tims/etc... if they can be composted, with clear signage as to what can go in with examples.	
What is the city doing about single use plastic and disposable water bottles?	
I'd like to see action following by declaring a state of climate emergency. Ban single-use plastics in Burlington and hold large business accountable. Work and collaborate with local orgs on the ground already doing this work.	
I would like it if Burlington created a ban on all single-use plastics, which includes plastic bags of all kinds, straws, etc. Climate action doesn't just involve global warming, it also involves diminishing waste.	

<p>The city needs to start cracking down on businesses that continue to go against progress and initiative. Incentives should be given to entice businesses to offer their customers more environmentally friendly solutions, aka reusable bags and containers, self serve produce. This also goes for transit (eliminating unnecessary traffic and congestion), public events and festivals such as SOM where styrofoam food containers are still distributed and used, and general incentives for more people and businesses to cut back on harmful environmental behaviours such as over salting, over watering, use of bug sprays and pesticides, etc. Holding companies accountable for ensuring their garbage is properly sorted and dealt with in an environmentally conscious manner (aka construction companies, developments, etc).</p>	<p>(See above response)</p>
<p>We need to concentrate on clean water, reducing plastic. We can plant more trees in the city which will help</p>	
<p>Have the waste management facility host public meetings with citizens so they can ask questions about what they can/cannot recycle, compost etc. We did this at a previous company and it was SO helpful to understand why so much recycling goes to garbage (contamination) and how to prevent it, and items we thought we could recycle but can't or thought we couldn't recycle but can</p>	<p>Halton Region is responsible for waste management services. These comments will be shared with Halton Region Waste Management staff.</p>
<p>Include climate change mitigation in the Solid Waste Management Strategy vision statement and throughout strategy. Consider climate change urgency when determining the timing of strategies that target its mitigation.</p>	

Short term: Determine the current level of local food waste and set a reduction target. Raise awareness on the issue of local food waste and its direct link to climate change through targeted, solution focused educational campaigns. Implement local food waste diversion programs that divert food waste from the landfill to residents facing a food crisis.	(See above comment)
Short term: Increase customer service resources to implement a broadly based as well as targeted outreach and public education campaign to supplement the existing online and telephone resources and waste calendar tools. In particular, dedicated resources are needed for multi-residential customers.	
Short term: Educational/outreach strategies could include providing signage to multi-residential units, working with such buildings to implement an ambassador program to help residents sort waste correctly, increasing regional presence at events and festivals, pop up booths at libraries to people can speak to regional representatives etc. and increasing social media presence and engagement.	
Short term: Implement a curbside inspection program and consider a Gold Box program to better evaluate waste stream contamination, provide educational feedback to residents and award recognition to residents who are 100% compliant in correctly sorting their waste.	
Short term: Increase capacity at the waste management site to inspect loads, ensure various waste products go to the correct depots and help educate and direct customers.	

Medium Term: Explore options for developing recycling and organic waste composting sites in Halton and /or investigate possible co-investment partnership with other nearby regions. This would give the Region the opportunity to expand both capacity and control over the types of waste that can be diverted, in addition to decreasing emissions (and operational cost) from collection trucks.	(See above comment)
Long Term: Develop a long term phased in approach to aligning waste management and diversion practices in these sectors through municipal by-laws that target the multi-residential and ICI.	
Long Term: Convert (waste management) fleet to hybrid/electric vehicles.	
Enhance the Region's public education program to include and broadly promote circular economy, reducing consumerism, food waste, and ongoing improvements to help residents sort their waste correctly.	
Advocate at the regional table to secure recycling/composting facilities in Halton to align with the Burlington Climate Action Strategy.	
Introduce legislation to improve diversion rates in the multi-residential and ICI sectors.	
Ensure all communications/education materials highlight the link between waste management and climate action.	
I have spoken to several people involved in disposal of refuse and recyclables and time after time I have been told that it is a real waste (No pun intended) of time. This has been repeated to me by people involved in several levels of authority. I find this rather concerning.	

Mandate that all apartments and tenants recycle and compost. Incentives may be needed for some tenants.	(See above comment)
Recycling/Composting - improving the items that can be taken and communicating how they should be sorted. It bothers me when I see people just chucking anything in their recycling bin :/ (probably not a city thing but a region thing)	
Understanding how the actions we take can make a difference. Is recycling effective or is reducing waste a better plan	
Increase proportion of re-cycled aggregates in road construction	The City of Burlington has recently increased the amount of recycled asphalt (RAP) in their granular base material as well as creating and implementing a recycled granular specification for recycled concrete (RAC). We continue to look at the use of RAP in our asphalt, but constantly end up with quality control issues and premature failure which has a larger carbon impact in the production and placement of asphalt
Bylaw that forces all companies to have to recycle and compost – make private waste disposal companies required to offer this to be in business within the city – and allow companies and employees an email/phone number they can call and report non-compliance. Recyclables in the landfill create large amounts of GHGs, as does food waste.	There is provincial legislated requirements for recycling in commercial buildings of a certain size.
Rain barrels at more affordable prices, better marketing of the sale. Help citizens with installation as that may be holding them back.	Halton Region hosts annual events in each municipality to sell discounted rain barrels, usually in June.

Create a 'second hand festival' or a community yard sale down at Spencer Smith to encourage the city to shop second hand. Have consignment stores as vendors, as well as places like Fashion Takes Action to teach about the major emissions that is caused by consumerism – it is a huge thing the citizens of Burlington can action on to help reduce emissions without spending large sums of money.	Good idea. There are many community organizations involved in re-selling second hand clothing and goods. Any organization wishing to host a festival in a city park or facility should contact the city's Festivals and Events office about requirements.
Bottle return for refund	This is an action that the provincial government could implement.
Host annual seminars with companies in the city, create a compliance certification if possible, to educate businesses and stakeholders on the importance of waste management/cost savings	Sustainable Hamilton Burlington works with local businesses to assess operations and identify actions to reduce emissions and now includes waste reduction.
Have the city focus on REDUCING waste, then reusing, then recycling	The city's green procurement guideline does advise staff to consider purchases to reduce waste.
Create incentives to bring in low waste stores into the city (ie bulk grocery stores or places like 'A Greener Place' in Waterdown or refillery markets where you can get all kinds of household cleaners and shampoos etc in bulk	The city can encourage these activities through some of its communications.
Ensure waste receptacles are provided in all public places and clearly marked as to what items go into which receptacles.	Waste and recycling stations are located in most parks and facilities.
Mandate a limit on amount of garbage at the curb for municipal pick-up. Ensure fines or other means to control this.	There is a 3 bag limit for waste pick up regulated by Halton Region. Bag tags must be purchased for additional bags of garbage.

A plan for helping restaurants go green. A plan to source plant based compostable containers and cutlery, a phasing out of single use plastics to landfill, less food waste, ie a special program to help with their composting, distribution of extra food to food banks, a rating system to let them demonstrate their progress. A couple of young student activists, are working with the Halton Chapter Council of Canadians, are researching for such a plan. You should hear what these 12 year olds have to say! Who would be the appropriate contact person at the city?	Great ideas. As noted the federal government is developing a plan to ban single use plastics. Perhaps the Chamber of Commerce could assist its restaurant members to share information on these issues.
Identify opportunities to reduce food waste from restaurants/stores/markets	Good idea but the city does not have the resources to implement this type of program at this time.
The City should include BRING YOUR OWN BAGS for all communications for festivals and events.	Good idea - the city can include this in communications and encourage festival organizers to do the same.
Water	Response
Recycle 'grey-water' from municipal and Parks & Recreation facilities	The use of grey water from city facilities and parks will be investigated on a case by case basis at the time of renewal of building systems.
Grey water catching to water city gardens	
Regulate alternate water days year-round	Water restrictions are imposed by Halton Region. More information can be found here: https://www.halton.ca/For-Residents/Water-and-Environment/Water-Conservation/Outdoor-Water-Use-and-Restrictions
Offer rebates/incentives to households installing water-saving features	Halton Region has been offering rebates to replace toilets with new efficient versions for several years. More information is found here: https://www.halton.ca/For-Residents/Water-and-Environment/Water-Conservation
Separate all sewer and waste water mains	Sewer and stormwater systems are separate in Halton/Burlington.

<p>'Daylight' buried creeks and streams</p>	<p>Day lighting of creeks refers to taking a creek that has been historically enclosed and reestablishing it as an open creek with a natural design. In Burlington there are a number of enclosed remnant creeks in the downtown, south of the Rambo Hager Diversion Channel. As well there are a few other locations where creeks were historically enclosed, for example Roseland Creek is enclosed under the Burlington Mall Parking lot on the east side of Guelph line, Indian Creek downstream of Plains Road under Warwick Park and Falcon Creek from Enfield to just south of Townsend. Daylighting creeks would be costly and very disruptive to existing infrastructure, private property and buildings. For these reasons opportunities to day light historically enclosed creeks would be reviewed on a case by case basis typically in conjunction with a major redevelopment plan or as part of a more comprehensive infrastructure renewal program.</p>
<p>Reduce road salt usage</p>	<p>The city utilizes a mixture of salt and water (brine) to apply to roads to help manage the build up of ice and reduce the need for salt. Combo units are calibrated and selected spread rates are used to control the amount of salt used. Salt is pre-wetted in order to reduce the bounce and scatter while spreading material, thus allowing us to apply less salt. Training is conducted for all operators annually. We conduct a tandem plow of our primary and secondary roads in order to plow more snow/slush thus reducing the amount of salt used.</p>
<p>We need to concentrate on clean water, reducing plastic. We can plant more trees in the city which will help</p>	<p>See below re: water protection. Reducing the use of plastic is a key message many organizations are promoting to reduce consumption. The city is committed to planting more trees within the community and continues to partner with other community groups and businesses.</p>

Protect our fresh water.	Protection of water sources is a key responsibility for all levels of government. A combined source water protection plan has been developed for both Hamilton and Halton watersheds. Further information is available here: https://www.conservationhalton.ca/source-water-protection
Green Streets (current Toronto initiative)	This comment refers to the use of low impact development stormwater management measures utilizing natural and human made elements. The city continues to assess the feasibility of utilizing green infrastructure where conditions warrant their use, such as the Aldershot neighbourhood where soil is generally sandy. In addition, the city is actively promoting the planting of street trees as part of our construction projects and is piloting innovative ways of promoting tree root health in hardscaped urban environments through structured root cell systems that have the added benefit of helping manage storm runoff.