

Hello Chair, Mayor, Councillors, Staff and attendees,

My name is Marianne Workman - I am a member of Burlington's local Green Party associations. We are a dedicated group with a significant social media following and over 100 (70) active volunteers. During October 2019 federal election, Burlington received one of the highest percentages of Green votes in all of the ridings in the GTA. We have a strong presence here in Burlington.

We would like to express our support for the city's Climate Action Plan AND to thank all the other local groups who have helped keep focus on this important issue.

We appreciate the courage and effort taken to craft this detailed, comprehensive plan to start Burlington on a sustainable path. We are proud that other cities are now looking to Burlington as an example.

The Green Party endeavors to promote a healthy planet, respecting all creatures that call this planet home. Party policy encourages action at all levels of government in a non-partisan way. Therefore, we **not only support** the Burlington Climate Action Plan but **we would like to offer** our help.

In looking through the city's action plan - there are many goals common to both the Green Climate Action Plan and the City's. Here are a few-

- The first - Declare a climate emergency - this was our first goal: you have done it thank you!
- You might not know this about the Green Party but we will work across party lines - regardless of political interest - we need to work with all willing groups as this is an.....**Emergency Call for all hands on deck -**
- **one of our goals taken right from our plan is to** engage every municipality and community organization, as well as every school and university to step up and plant trees, install solar panels, heat pumps, and assist in retrofitting buildings to maximize energy efficiency.
- **We believe in evidence based solutions and are happy to see evidence-based solutions mentioned in the City's Climate Action Plan**
- **Our goal is to ensure all new cars are electric by 2030. This mirrors the city's plan**
- **Another one of our targets is to complete a national building retrofit - we are in line with the City's plan targeting building retrofits as one of the first important steps.**
- The City's plan talks about creating 21,300 person-years of employment. We promote taking advantage of the 26 trillion dollar global clean economy. In Ontario alone, there are already 5,000 cleantech companies employing 130,000 people and contributing \$19.8

billion to Ontario's economy. We are happy that the City's plan will root some of these jobs right here in Burlington.

**Next I would like to list a few examples of where and how we can help.**

City Goal	How we can help
<p>The Plan mentions:</p> <p>Community engagement.</p> <p>Early and widespread notification</p> <p>Every citizen has opportunity to participate</p>	<p>We can-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host events</li> <li>• Use social media</li> <li>• Carry out Phone canvasses</li> <li>• Use our Email database</li> </ul> <p>to educate and engage citizens</p>
Where the plan identifies challenges in implementing certain goals.	We can be a think tank for solutions. We have expertise and dedicated citizens within our membership.
The plan speaks to encouraging youth engagement	We have a growing Young Greens group here in Burlington of people aged 14-29. We can help engage youth through this group.
<p>The city plan mentions hosting EV events</p> <p>City transit and fleet all EV by 2040</p> <p>Public all new passenger - EV by 2030</p> <p>2050 - All commercial vehicle</p>	<p>Last fall we hosted 2 successful EV events.</p> <p>We can offer to assist or plan more events. Within our membership there are several hybrid and Electric vehicle owners that would be willing to participate.</p>
There is a goal to increase active transportation and transit use	<p>We can use our social media platforms to highlight the benefits of walking and biking. Perhaps we could host a 'take the bus tour'.</p> <p>We also support a focus on increasing safety for pedestrian and bike traffic.</p>
The plan mentions education on low- energy buildings	This past summer, we hosted a successful eco house tour. Providing education on :

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pumps</li> <li>• Eco gardening</li> <li>• Insulation</li> <li>• Solar panels</li> <li>• Low energy new builds</li> </ul> <p>We can continue to host similar events</p>
The plan mentions collaborative research	We can help by getting input from members on a variety of issues. WE could also organize think tank events with local groups to allow all stakeholders to collaborate. This is when we will get the best ideas.

**There are 5 areas in the plan where we would like to highlight suggestions at this time:**

CAP states a target of 15,000 residential building retrofits by 2021 - we appreciate that this is an ambitious target -	We would suggest starting with the 4000 electrically heated homes, condos and apartments in Burlington - these units should have access to free upgrades through what is called the Affordability Fund - we suggest to move on these units as quickly as possible. We could assist.
Electric Vehicles	We suggest researching the use of plug in hybrids as a transition vehicle. Infrastructure might not be there to support all electric right now. We would also suggest the use of BIO FUEL.
Solar <b>thermal</b> water heaters	The current thought in the industry is that <b>Solar electric water heaters</b> are the most cost effective in most cases.
Milestones	We would like to see milestones, interim goals to help us <b>step our way</b> to targets. Short term goals will keep us on track.
The city's plan speaks to having <b>all</b> buildings carbon neutral by 2050	We can help think tank this to see if there is a way to reach the Green target of having <b>all buildings</b> carbon neutral by

	2040. Considering <b>hybrid heat pumps</b> as a transition to full electric heat pumps is one way to help speed this along.
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We are specifically interested in the three sections of the plan dealing with

- ActiveTransportation / Transit,
- Electric Mobility and
- Existing Buildings.

We would like to use our social media, phone solicitation, door canvassing and event planning to engage and educate citizens to understand the benefits, both environmental and financial, of embracing these changes.

The Party is planning to conduct several events during the next year to achieve these objectives.

We would ask that Council encourage staff to move as quickly as possible implementing the Plan. We also ask that you support our offer to help and contact us regarding how we can work together.

Thank you,

Marianne Workman

Burlington Federal Green Party Association