



SUBJECT: Sustainable Development Committee Annual Report

TO: Environment, Infrastructure & Community Services Cttee.

FROM: Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services

Report Number: EICS-02-20

Wards Affected: N/A

File Numbers: 130-02

Date to Committee: May 12, 2020

Date to Council: May 25, 2020

Recommendation:

Receive and file Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services report EICS-02-20 regarding the Sustainable Development Committee annual report for 2019.

PURPOSE:

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- Improve integrated city mobility
- Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
- Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture

This report is written on behalf of the Burlington Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) to present their 2019 Year End Report and 2020 Objectives.

Background and Discussion:

This year the Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) celebrates 30 years as an advisory body to Burlington City Council as the city declared itself a Sustainable Development Community in 1990. The SDC fosters dialogue on sustainability initiatives by participating on stakeholder committees, attending public meetings, hosting special

events such as their library events, participating in community environmental events, and by providing comments and guidance to staff and council.

The attached reports were prepared and approved by the SDC. Appendix A includes the 2019 Year End Report and Appendix B includes the 2020 Objectives. The reports are broken down by the SDC Committee of the Whole and each of the two sub-committees - Awareness, and Policy and Development.

In 2019 the Committee reviewed and commented on the Downtown Policies in the Adopted Official Plan and the Downtown concepts, as well as a number of development applications. They hosted a Climate Action public event at Central Library featuring city staff as guest speakers; responded to the Take Action Burlington 2019 Environmental Report completed by city staff with recommendations; and supported the Climate Emergency Declaration.

In 2020, the Committee will continue to be actively engaged in reviewing policy documents and development applications, as well as participate in other initiatives such as the Bay Area Climate Change Council, the Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the Climate Action Plan and the Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee.

For all the details on the SDC's 2019 initiatives and 2020 objectives, please refer to Appendices A and B to this report.

Financial Matters:

In 2019 the committee remained within their allocated operating budget for their activities.

Climate Implications

Climate change is one of the more significant issues that the city is dealing as was highlighted in the Climate Emergency Declaration approved by Council earlier in 2019. The SDC has an important role to play in supporting the city and community to take action. The committee has representatives on both the Community Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the Climate Action Plan as well as on the Bay Area Climate Change Council.

The SDC is engaged by fostering dialogue on the links between sustainable development and climate change action, whether its reducing the community carbon footprint and working towards the goal of becoming a net carbon zero community. As noted above the committee hosted a Climate Action public session in the fall of 2019

and is planning an event to promote electric vehicles in 2020 featuring Plug'n Drive (pending whether public gatherings will be permitted). The committee will also be involved in the development of the city's Climate Adaptation Plan and can assist in promoting climate change adaptation measures.

Engagement Matters:

The committee continues to be active in participating on stakeholder committees, attending public meetings, engaging the community by hosting special events, and by providing comments and guidance to staff and council.

Conclusion:

The Sustainable Development Committee is pleased to present their 2019 Year End Report and 2020 Objectives for Council's information. They look forward to continue their efforts to advise city staff and council, and engage the public on a variety of sustainable development and climate change related initiatives in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Robichaud

Sr. Sustainability Coordinator (and clerk to the Sustainable Development Committee)

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Appendices:

- A. Sustainable Development Committee 2019 Year End Report
- B. Sustainable Development Committee 2020 Objectives

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Council. Final approval is by the City Manager.