



Bay Area  
Climate Change  
Council

Bay Area Climate Change Council  
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Mohawk College, 135 Fennell Avenue West  
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February 27, 2026

**To: City of Burlington Committee of the Whole**

**Subject: BACCC Comments Regarding City of Burlington Community Strategic Plan – Horizon 2050 (Report TRN-03-26)**

The Bay Area Climate Change Council (BACCC) represents a collaborative voice for climate action in the Hamilton-Burlington region. Members of the Council and our implementation teams span the region and represent organizations in the municipal, non-profit, education, and private sectors, and include citizen representatives.

We are writing to you today regarding the "Horizon 2050" long-term planning framework.

We applaud the City of Burlington for embedding climate mitigation and resilience as central requirements in Horizon 2050. It is essential that any long-term strategies for the City of Burlington ensure that we collectively drive action to reduce our polluting emissions and adapt to a changing climate.

### **Our Region's Climate Priorities**

The City's mitigation priorities should be to reduce emissions from the transportation and buildings sectors by (1) accelerating the modal shift from fossil-fuel powered vehicles to low-emissions transportation options, like walking, cycling, public-transit, and e-mobility, and (2) reducing emissions from the construction and operation of both new and existing buildings.

Climate resilience is also fundamental to ensure the region can withstand the increasingly severe impacts of a changing climate, safeguarding our community for future generations.

### **Horizon 2050 Successfully Advances Those Climate Priorities**

We are pleased to see that the proposed strategic directions and objectives embed the following critical actions:

- Advancing the established net-zero commitments for municipal operations and the broader community
- Preserving and expanding natural areas and urban green spaces to maintain biodiversity and ecological resilience, support climate adaptation, and improve community well-being
- Enhancing municipal resilience to climate-related risks
- Advancing the integrated mobility network with accessible and low-emission options
- Enhancing connectivity and reducing car dependency through transit and active transportation
- Advancing creative and adaptive city planning and development, including future-oriented community hubs supporting diverse needs. This aspect can be essential



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for equity-deserving communities in the face of climate-related risks like floods or power outages, as BACCC uncovered in our Equity Workshops of 2025 - our report on which [can be found here](#).

By embedding these priorities into Horizon 2050, the City of Burlington is not only planning for growth but is actively investing in the systems-level transformation necessary to secure a resilient, low-carbon future for all residents.

We are committed community partners for the City, with shared responsibility, for catalyzing the necessary climate action to achieve our climate and community goals. We look forward to continuing to resource and action this critical work in the years ahead.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns.

Sincerely,

**Bay Area Climate Change Council**