

**ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE
APPOINTMENT**

Recommendation

Regional Councillor Frustaglio, Chair Environmental Task Force recommends:

That Councillor Alan Shefman be appointed to the Environmental Task Force.

Economic Impact

N/A

Purpose

To request that Councillor Alan Shefman be appointed to the Environmental Task Force.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Environmental Task Force was established by Council in February 2004. This Task Force was set-up to advance its strategic goal of environmental leadership as set out by Vaughan Vision 2007. You will note that the Mayor and two Members of Council are included under "Membership" in the attached Terms of Reference. The current members are:

- Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio, Chair
- Regional Councillor Mario Ferri, Vice-Chair
- Mayor Michael Di Biase

Staff participants include the City Manager and Commissioners or assigned representatives from Building & Facilities; Bylaw Enforcement; Public Works; Parks Development; Purchasing; Human Resources; Community Planning; Urban Design; Engineering; Corporate Communications and Economic / Technology Development Departments, Vaughan Public Libraries and PowerStream.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Conclusion

Councillor Shefman has indicated an interest to be a member of the Environmental Task Force and therefore it is recommended that he be formally appointed.

Attachments

Attachment # 1 - Terms of Reference, Environmental Task Force

Report prepared by:

Adelina Bellisario, Assistant City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Regional Councillor Frustaglio,
Chair Environmental Task Force

CITY OF VAUGHAN
TASK FORCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Terms of Reference

Reporting Structure

The Task Force on the Environment will be facilitated through the Office of the Commissioner of Economic / Technology Development and Communications.

Mission

To encourage activities targeted to reduce emissions of harmful pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and which minimize the potential harm to human health and the environment, with the view that environmental policies and practices can create economic opportunities for our local businesses.

Mandate

To assist and advise the City on "green" improvements to municipal operations, which will allow the City to be a leader in environmental stewardship; and to promote awareness and encourage green or environmental practices in homes, work places and open spaces.

Duration

The Task Force will be dissolved when an Environmental & Business Leadership Action Plan is developed. On dissolution of the Task Force, an Environmental Advisory Group will be established to provide advice and collaboration to the Environmental Co-ordinator.

Goals & Objectives

- To develop an Environmental & Business Leadership Action Plan that identifies specific, measurable and achievable targets in municipal operations that improve air quality, reduce GHGs and other waste generation.
- To act as environmental ambassadors and advisors thereby encouraging residents, industry and other organizations to incorporate environmental initiatives into daily activities and operations.
- To assist the City to expand representation from the environmental, residents and business sector in the City's environmental initiatives.
- To work in co-operation with all levels of government, education, industry and environmental associations to create greater awareness and implement the Kyoto Accord principles.

The above goals and objectives will be accomplished through the following process:

- Identify current practices in municipal operations, which are environmentally friendly.
- Identify current practices working in conflict with environmentally friendly initiatives.
- Identify opportunities for improvements in municipal operations and develop an Environmental & Business Leadership Action Plan.
- Set policies and timelines for completion, implementation and incorporation of the Environmental & Business Leadership Action Plan in Vaughan Vision 2007.
- Set up an evaluation and audit mechanism for monitoring the Environmental & Business Leadership Action Plan.

Activities by the City of Vaughan will require collaboration and consultation with external stakeholders and may include:

- Participation in future Smog Summits and GTA- Clean Air Council,
- Exploring participation in the ICLEI/Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection Program,
- Monitoring and sharing Best Practices through the FCM Knowledge Network and the Association of Canadian Municipalities;

- Investigating financial opportunities through FCM's Green Municipal Funds and other government programs to assist in developing and implementing environmental initiatives
- Incorporating green technologies and green construction practices in the new Civic Centre, including: LEEDS certification,
- Establishing a Kyoto Access Centre in the new Civic Centre, in cooperation with Vaughan Public Libraries,
- Investigating opportunities in municipal operations for energy efficiency; alternative fuels; pesticide management, etc.,
- Developing programs for increasing public awareness and participation in energy efficiency, waste diversion, water conservation, alternative transportation programs, etc.
- Implementing a review of environmental policies and their incorporation in Official Plans,
- Working with the Ontario Centre for Environmental Technology Advancement (OCETA) to assist local business to implement pollution prevention plans and improve economic and environmental performance,
- Identifying environmental technologies and assisting businesses to access or commercialize applications,
- Expanding the City's website to include Environmental Stewardship.

Membership

- Mayor and two Members of Council
- City Manager and Commissioners or assigned representatives from: Building & Facilities; Bylaw Enforcement; Public Works; Parks Development; Purchasing; Human Resources; Community Planning; Urban Design; Engineering; Corporate Communications and Economic / Technology Development Departments
- Vaughan Public Libraries
- Hydro Vaughan Distribution
- Environmental Coordinator

Stakeholders for Consultation

- Vaughan Chamber of Commerce
- Toronto & Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto Environmental Alliance
- Black Creek Regional Transportation Management Association
- York University Centre for Sustainable Development
- York Region Health Department
- York Region School Boards
- Transportation Sector
- Non-Government Environmental Organizations

Structure of the Task Force

Chair: Member of Council to be appointed by Council
 Vice Chair: Member of Council to be appointed by Council
 Facilitator: Commissioner of Economic / Technology Development and Communications

Frequency of Meetings

Meetings of the Task Force on the Environment, facilitated by the Clerks Department, will be held on a semi-annual basis or at the call of the Chair.