

## **PRIORITIES AND KEY INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – JUNE 11, 2012**

### **GREEN DIRECTIONS VAUGHAN COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Manager and Manager of Environmental Sustainability in consultation with the Senior Management Team recommend:

1. That Attachment 1, outlining progress to date in implementing the actions prescribed in Green Directions Vaughan be received for information purposes; and,
2. That a presentation on community sustainability and environmental indicators be received for input and discussion and that staff report back on a set of indicators for *Green Directions Vaughan*; and,
3. That Council provide a letter of support to the Canadian District Energy Association and its partners who are working to raise the importance of integrated community energy systems, including district energy, with the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

Objective 6.1 of *Green Directions*, “To fully support the implementation of Green Directions at all levels of City operations”, provides under Action 6.1.6 that, an annual report to the Environment Committee be prepared on the status of existing programs and accomplishments for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the plan. This web based report will provide a status update on implementation of the community sustainability and environmental master plan.

#### **Economic Impact**

There will be no economic impact resulting from the adoption of this report.

#### **Communications Plan**

Following the third year of implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan* it would be appropriate to issue a News Release and a website posting highlighting this milestone. This is consistent with Goal 5 of *Green Directions Vaughan*, “To be leaders in advocacy and education on sustainability issues”, where “Vaughan is committed to sharing its successes with the community. . .” Staff will prepare a News Release and a website posting of the highlights of the staff report to illustrate some of the major advances the City has made in implementing *Green Directions Vaughan*.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee with an update on the implementation of the *Green Directions Vaughan*.

## **Background - Analysis and Options**

### **Background**

In April 2009 Council approved the *Green Directions Vaughan*, our Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan. As the City's sustainability plan, *Green Directions* contains a set of recommended actions that address the range of municipal responsibilities including both operational and regulatory functions. It also serves as the City's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP). The ICSP is a long-term plan designed to guide the community toward a more sustainable future by addressing environmental, cultural, social and economic issues.

On May 25, 2010, a report was received on the implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan* following the first anniversary of its approval. The report highlighted the status of existing programs, key accomplishments, new initiatives and further opportunities for the purposes of monitoring the implementation of the plan. The primary focus of the report was directed to projects that are identified in the 2009-10 timeframe or those that were targeted as "on-going".

On April 5, 2011, a report was ratified by Council on the implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan* following the second anniversary of its approval. A media release and web based report highlighting specific actions under each of the six goal areas were generated as a result of the report recommendations.

*Green Directions* establishes a definition of "sustainability", an "environmental ethic" and a set of "principles" to guide the implementation of the plan. The definition of sustainability reflects the breadth of municipal responsibilities, where, "Sustainability means we make decisions and take actions that ensure a healthy environment, vibrant communities and economic vitality for current and future generations."

The plan identifies six categories that classify Vaughan's functions. These are further broken down into goals, objectives and a series of actions, which describe how each of the goals can be achieved. The categories and goals include:

#### **What We Use:**

Goal 1: To significantly reduce our use of natural resources and the amount of waste we generate.

#### **How and Where we Grow:**

Goal 2: To ensure sustainable development and redevelopment.

#### **How We Get Around:**

Goal 3: To ensure that Vaughan is a city that is easy to get around with low environmental impact.

#### **How We Live:**

Goal 4: To create a vibrant community where citizens, businesses and visitors thrive.

#### **How we Lead:**

Goal 5: To be leaders in advocacy and education on sustainability issues.

#### **How we Operate:**

Goal 6: To ensure a supportive system for the implementation of *Green Directions*.

The objectives are more specific statements of the general goals and they describe how the goals will be achieved. Each of the goals has multiple objectives. The actions refer to tasks that need to be undertaken to achieve the prescribed objective. There can be multiple actions attached to each objective. Actions are assigned to a Commission for implementation within a specific timeframe.

### Report format

A significant portion of the success of *Green Directions Vaughan* will depend on the internal operations and functions that support its implementation. In order to monitor the implementation of the plan, action 6.1.6 indicates that the City should prepare an annual report addressing, among other things:

- The status of existing programs
- New Initiatives
- Accomplishments
- Further opportunities.

Continuing with the approach established with the previous reports, this report will focus on the measures taken to date to implement the plan's action items. As a result, this report will focus predominantly on the action items that have been implemented, planned within the initial timeframe of the plan or classified as ongoing.

As of March 2012, over 94 % of the eighty five actions outlined in *Green Directions Vaughan* have been initiated. Fourteen of the forty-four action items which have established time frames are completed. This represents a positive improvement from the previous year when 90 % of the actions were initiated and six of the forty-four action items which have established time frames were completed.

Attachment No.1 is based on the section within *Green Directions* that summarizes actions for each action item; the Goals, Objectives, Time Frames and Project Responsibility have been noted. A final column summarizes the update for each action item as of March 2012.

In order to highlight the implementation progress of *Green Directions*, a few initiatives have been selected to report back on. These select projects are currently underway or have been recently completed. These representative projects also correspond to the three main tenets of sustainability; healthy environment, economic vitality and vibrant community. In addition, there is at least one example from each of the six goal areas.

### Highlights

#### New initiatives/Status of existing programs

- i) Educating stakeholders on sustainability issues by using Vaughan City Hall as a learning centre

Sharing sustainable best practices between and among municipal staff and the community is one component of the goal of leading and advocating on sustainability issues. Action 5.1.3 commits the City to use sustainably constructed facilities such as the Vaughan City Hall as learning centres by providing tours about sustainable construction and energy conservation.

An on-site tour complete with stand-up banners emphasizing key Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design (LEED) aspects of City Hall was established. To date, over 500 visitors including residents, various associations, international business delegations and other external stakeholders have had tours of City Hall. The tour is complimented by an interactive learning tool hosted on-line.

ii) Promoting Energy Efficient Building standards for new developments

Objective 2.3 of *Green Directions Vaughan* involves creating a City with a sustainable built form. Growth Action 2.3.5 makes reference to continuing to apply energy efficiency standards to low density, residential new developments.

The City of Vaughan Building Standards Department planned and hosted an educational session for developers, neighboring municipalities and staff on meeting the challenges of SB-12 in the Ontario Building Code. The session, which was conducted in partnership with Home Ratings Ontario, a Natural Resource Canada licensed service organization, focused on the energy efficiency changes in the 2012 Ontario Building Code, what those changes mean and how they affect key stakeholders.

iii) Support enhanced standards of stormwater management and work with others to care for Vaughan's watersheds

One of the actions under this objective involves assessing the Engineering Department design criteria and strategy for storm drainage and storm water management facilities to manage the anticipated impacts of climate change, be consistent with emerging legislation, and ensure protection from significant flooding.

Significant activity is underway to support this action. The Black Creek Optimization Study Master Plan has been completed allowing for implementation of storm water quality retrofit improvements and erosion restoration projects in conjunction with the development review and approvals process. The follow-up and more detailed Schedule 'C' Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study is required to facilitate flooding improvements to the existing Black Creek and related road crossings, this study will be completed by Q1 of 2013. The Engineering Design Criteria Review Study is currently underway, anticipated completion is Q1 of 2013. These studies will assist in the development of supportive criteria, policies and programs to augment sustainability initiatives. A climate change sensitivity analysis will also be completed as part of these studies. Staff has recently become part of a Ministry of Natural Resource initiative entitled "Weather-Water Information Gateway". This project will allow local levels of government easier access and sharing of data and information required for critical business functions including flood & drought management, source water protection, water management, and municipal infrastructure management

iv) Work with Partners to develop and implement a trip reduction/active transportation strategy for the community

Objective 3.3 of *Green Directions Vaughan* makes reference to reducing single occupancy vehicle trips by supporting active transportation, car pooling and public transit. The action under this specific objective involves implementing transportation demand initiatives within the community with various partners.

Travel Demand Management (TDM) is a set of tools to offer people better travel information and opportunities with underlining objective to reduce their need to travel especially by car. TDM uses tools and techniques ranging from land use planning to workplace education.

New development standards have been implemented requiring Travel Demand Management (TDM) Plans / Programs be submitted in conjunction with high-density site development applications for review and approval by the City. A Vaughan Cycling Forum has been established to inform and promote cycling within communities and to solicit suggestions from avid cyclists throughout the City. Capital budget approval for a TDM Policy

Study has been secured for 2012 to further explore local incentives and opportunities to minimize growth in travel demand throughout the City.

The City participated in the Personal Travel Planning pilot project in the later part of 2010 and throughout 2011 coordinated by Region of York's Infrastructure Planning, Planning and Development Services. The Personal Travel Planning (PTP) employs a community based social marketing approach to behaviour change which identifies a key barrier to a desired behaviour and implements a strategy to mitigate that barrier. In this pilot, PTP addressed residents' lack of information about transportation alternatives as a barrier to increased use of sustainable travel modes.

The target area of the pilot in Vaughan was 2,500 households in Thornhill bounded by Yonge, Bathurst and Centre Streets, The results of the pilot in Thornhill showed a 17 percent drop in single occupant vehicle trips and an overall doubling of transit trips attributable to a strong transit infrastructure in the area.

- v) Develop a civic engagement strategy to help citizens become aware of and participate in municipal processes and community Volunteer opportunities.

Objective 4.1 of *Green Directions Vaughan* references the need to foster a city with a strong social cohesion, engaging arts scene and a clear sense of its culture and heritage. Action 4.1.7 targets the social cohesion component by proposing the development of a civic engagement strategy. The City completed a citizen survey in February 2012 to obtain feedback from residents on strategic priorities and City services. Further, a social media policy was adopted by Council on February 21, 2012. This policy and the accompanying communications plan guide City public engagement initiatives using social media. These activities are strongly linked to the 2012-13 strategic initiative on public engagement which references the need for a citizen focused communication initiatives, establishing a more effective model for citizen engagement and enhancing the City's public consultation strategy.

- vi) Implement initiatives to reduce water run-off in park facilities, trail systems, and selected City of Vaughan parking facilities

Objective 2.2.5 makes reference to addressing initiatives to ensure park facilities, trail systems, and selected City of Vaughan parking facilities are constructed to minimize storm water volume levels. This work is continuous & ongoing and is being implemented throughout both new and existing parks. It may include developing permeable paving standards, created wetlands, bio-swales and/or polishing areas.

Initiatives to reduce run-off have been implemented in the following parks:

- Ohr Menachem Park - bioswale in combination with infiltration areas (use of low flow swales and rip rap.planting)
- Freedom Trail Park - infiltration areas (use of low flow swales and rip rap.planting)
- Hillside Park - implementation of bioswales
- Carville Mill Park - low flow swales, polishing areas
- Eagles Landing Park - Rain Garden (infiltration area)
- Twelve Oaks Park - infiltration areas (use of low flow swales, rip rap, planting for infiltration)
- Venice gate Park - low flow bioswale with planting
- Southview Park Retrofit

Another five parks either in construction or planned are including measures to reduce water run-off. These efforts will ensure Vaughan green spaces are contributing to improving storm water quality.

#### District Energy

Action 1.2.2. of *Green Directions Vaughan* specifies that the City consider strategies to reduce energy use on a community basis by applying measures such as district energy systems. District energy systems create a centralized location for residential/ commercial heating and cooling systems. The plan also indicates that the City evaluate all major development areas for the potential of this type of system.

District energy systems reduce the production of greenhouse gases, especially with the use of combined heat and power systems. They are also an effective economic development tool. Building owners can potentially gain a cheaper means of commercial heating and cooling, lower capital costs, and more usable floor space compared to traditional mechanical systems. These eco-friendly systems can also provide municipalities with a competitive edge when it comes to attracting new investment. An extensive effort has been underway to educate the developers in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre on the benefits of district energy systems. An information exchange opportunity was provided on district energy to staff to increase awareness and understanding of such systems.

The Canadian District Energy Association (CDEA) is working with the Toronto Region Conservation Association Community Transformation Program, Municipal QUEST (Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow), and the Canadian Green Buildings Council (CaGBC) Greater Toronto Chapter as well as several Ontario municipalities to support their desire to change the way energy is created and distributed in communities.

CDEA and its partners have identified that the Ontario legislative and regulatory framework is focused on conventional forms of energy and their delivery and in many cases present barriers to communities achieving their own energy goals. It was further noted that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing could play an important role in helping municipalities to achieve their energy goals and that the Provincial Policy Statements could be used to provide some of that important direction and support. The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) is issued under the Planning Act to provide policy direction for land use planning and development across Ontario. The latest PPS was issued in 2005 and is currently under review by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Although the formal consultation period has ended, the review process continues and Minister Kathleen Wynne has invited the Canadian District Energy Association (CDEA) to provide a submission on what a PPS policy for district energy, as a key component of integrated community energy systems (ICES), would look like.

The City of Vaughan participated in a workshop hosted by CDEA and its partners to develop consensus on the approach for referencing district energy, as an integral component of an integrated community energy systems, in the Provincial Policy Statement. Municipalities supporting this effort are being encouraged to provide a letter of support to this effort or write Minister Wynne directly expressing their interest in an Ontario policy and program framework for integrated community energy systems.

#### Indicators

Core indicators help to measure the impact of the outcomes and outputs of *Green Directions Vaughan*. In section 4.2 of *Green Directions Vaughan*, reference is made to reporting on changes in sustainability/environmental indicators for the purposes of reporting on implementation progress. Sustainability Indicators are also referenced in Appendix C of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan as the City of Vaughan's

funding agreement with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario on Federal Gas Tax Revenues noted that indicators related to cleaner air, cleaner water and lower greenhouse gas emissions should be established. With implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan* well underway, it is important to establish indicators in order to monitor the changes that have occurred as a result of implementing the Master Plan.

Any set of indicators established for Green Directions Vaughan must be aligned with the strategic framework of the City. Discussions between the Environmental Sustainability Office and the Senior Manager of Strategic Planning have, and will continue to occur, to ensure the alignment of indicators. Broader strategic indicators need to be established before finalizing *Green Direction Vaughan* indicators. The core indicators should be easily tracked, meaningful to the departments responsible for tracking the indicator and compatible with existing benchmarks. The indicators should correspond to the goal areas of Green Directions Vaughan which are referenced on page 2 of this report.

In terms of benchmarking, there are a number of initiatives, including the Global City Indicators, the Living City Report Card and the Green Cities Index, which could provide useful comparators for *Green Direction Vaughan* indicators.

The City of Vaughan is a member of the Global City Indicators which provides an established set of city indicators with a globally standardized methodology that allows for global comparability of city performance and knowledge sharing. A few of the indicator categories including air quality and energy resonate with the goal areas and actions within *Green Directions Vaughan*

The Living City Report Card is an assessment of the Greater Toronto Area environmental performance. The area of interest comprises the geographic area covered by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority. Although many of the indicators were tracked on a regional basis, several of the areas of interest of within the Living City report card correspond to similar areas within *Green Directions Vaughan*. These areas include air quality, water, waste, transportation and land use.

The Green Cities Index, which was released in September 2011, measures and rates the environmental performance of 27 cities in the US and Canada. The Index scores cities across nine categories – carbon dioxide, energy, land use, buildings, transport, water, waste, air quality and environmental governance – and is composed of 31 indicators. Sixteen of the Index's 31 indicators are derived from quantitative measurements and the remaining 15 indicators are qualitative assessments of cities' environmental policies, aspirations and ambitions – e.g., a city's commitment to consuming energy produced from green and local sources, the extent to which it promotes the usage of public transport and makes efforts to reduce road traffic, the ambitiousness of its waste reduction and water management policies, and the stringency of its environmental strategy.

All of the benchmarking initiatives noted in previous paragraphs should be given some consideration as the indicators for Green Directions Vaughan are established. These programs have topical indicators of interest and would enable the City of Vaughan compare its progress in addressing key areas of interest with other jurisdictions.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report is consistent with the *Green Directions Vaughan* objective to lead and promote environmental sustainability and implement the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan.

## **Regional Implications**

There are no Regional implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

## **Conclusion**

The implementation phase of *Green Directions*, the City of Vaughan's Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan continued throughout the 2011. A number of the major initiatives have progressed significantly which has helped generate momentum for the implementation of the Plan.

The integration of the concept of sustainability continued through the assimilation of terminology into other City policy and planning documents. With a strong foundation of sustainability in the policy framework of the organization it is evident sustainability is a dominant theme and an explicit corporate priority. A continued effort is required to sustain the momentum achieved in implementation of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan.

Since the last update in April 2011 progress has been made on a number of major initiatives identified in *Green Directions*. This report has identified some significant examples, which will have a lasting impact on the City. The status of all the Actions prescribed in *Green Directions* is set out in Attachment 1.

Generally, these initiatives will require inter-departmental cooperation; in some instances the participation of senior levels of government and the private sector may be necessary; and staff or other resources have or may need to be assigned. Those cited include:

- Sustainably constructed facilities as learning centres
- Promoting Energy Efficient Building standards for new developments
- Support enhanced standards of stormwater management and work with others to care for Vaughan's watersheds
- Work with Partners to develop and implement a trip reduction/active transportation strategy for the community
- Develop a civic engagement strategy to help citizens become aware of and participate in municipal processes and community Volunteer opportunities
- Implement initiatives to reduce water run-off in park facilities, trail systems, and selected City of Vaughan parking facilities

Work on these initiatives is on-going and they represent a significant progress in the implementation of *Green Directions Vaughan* and three main tenets of sustainability; healthy environment, economic vitality and vibrant community. Therefore, it is recommended that Attachment No. 1 be received for information purposes.

District energy is continuing to generate interest as a future community energy planning tool within Vaughan and Ontario in general. A number of municipalities are supporting the effort of the Canadian District Energy Association and its partners to provide an approach to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to include district energy in the revisions being contemplated for the Provincial Policy Statement.

The tracking of quantitative indicators is required to measure the impact of the outcomes and outputs of *Green Directions Vaughan*. Indicators tracked should be aligned with the strategic framework of the City and correspond to the relevant core indicators being tracked in the Global City Indicators project that the City is involved in. The indicators should be easily tracked, meaningful to the departments responsible for tracking the indicator and

compatible with existing benchmarks. It is recommended that the presentation on community sustainability and environmental indicators be received for input and discussion

**Attachments**

1. Green Directions Vaughan  
Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan  
Implementation Update  
March 2012

**Report prepared by:**

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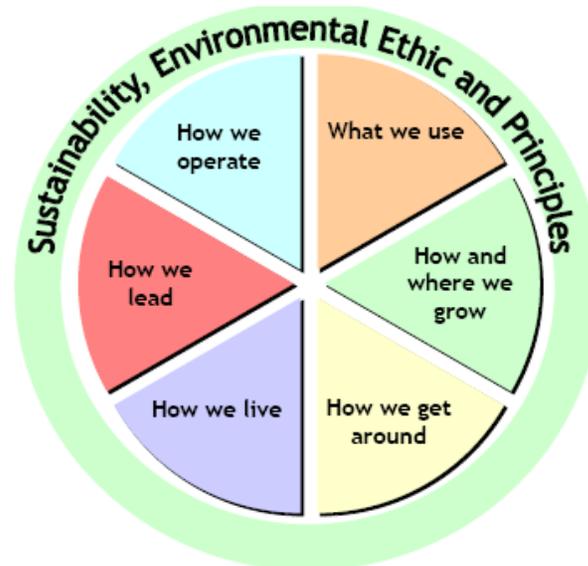
Respectfully submitted,

Clayton D. Harris  
City Manager

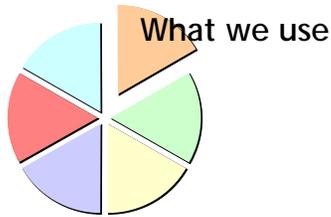
Chris Wolnik  
Manager of Environmental Sustainability



## COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE



Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee  
as of March 2012



## Goal 1: To significantly reduce our use of natural resources and the amount of waste we generate

The City of Vaughan, as a leader in sustainability, is committed to making prudent choices about its consumption of goods and resources. The action plans related to “what we use” in Vaughan focus on sustainable energy use to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, a more conservative approach to water use in our facilities and a commitment to reducing the amount of garbage generated in our own facilities and a 100% waste diversion target as part of the Greening Vaughan strategy. In addition, the City encourages sustainable procurement and the use of local, renewable energy sources. The action plans associated with this goal were created with a recognition of global climate change, implementation of the Energy Conservation Leadership Act, and the need to monitor and reduce energy consumption.

### Objective 1.1: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and move towards carbon neutrality for the City of Vaughan’s facilities and infrastructure

Actions	Time Frame	Project Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
1.1.1. Seek creative funding for energy saving projects in municipal facilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing an energy savings policy to ensure that the funds recouped from energy savings are reinvested into energy-related initiatives; and</li> <li>Applying to the Municipal Eco Challenge Fund (MECF).</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Deputy City Manager	Community Services Manager & Engineering and Public Works	Facility Energy Audits to be conducted as part of action 1.1.3 will help identify actions that will result in potential energy savings opportunities. Funding sources such as the Ontario Power Authority are being evaluated for potential opportunities.
1.1.2. Evaluate the city’s greenhouse gas emissions by completing an energy audit on all City facilities (Partners for Climate Protection Milestone 1) by building upon the ongoing work of other municipalities (i.e., templates).	2009-2010	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	A RFP is in final stages to be issued Q1-2012 with updated data. Staff found it advantageous to enhance the audit scope to include water and data from Public Works Water Pumping Stations in order to make it more appealing to potential outside funding sources and address forthcoming provincially mandated responsibilities.

### Objective 1.1: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and move towards carbon neutrality for the City

of Vaughan's facilities and infrastructure, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Project Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.1.3. <i>Prepare an annual energy conservation plan pursuant to the Energy Conservation Leadership Act, 2006, S.O. 2006, C3. Such plan shall be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>An itemized description of significant energy consuming technologies and operations;</i></li> <li>• <i>Annual energy usage of each of the technologies and operations;</i></li> <li>• <i>Current and proposed activities and measures to conserve energy used by the technologies and operations and otherwise reduce the amount of energy used;</i></li> <li>• <i>A summary of the programs and achievements in energy conservation and other reductions since the previous plan; and</i></li> <li>• <i>Any such information as may be prescribed.*</i></li> </ul>	<p>As determined by the regulations (not yet issued by the Province)</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works &amp; Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services</p>	<p>Research has been done to establish baseline numbers. Further work will continue once the audit identified in 1.1.2 has been completed.</p>
<p>1.1.4. In preparation for the provincially-mandated responsibilities associated with 1.1.3, join Partners for Climate Protection (PCP is a network of 166 Canadian municipal governments who have committed to reducing greenhouse gases and acting on climate change) as a way of showing leadership on climate protection issues.</p>	<p>Based on the timing of the implementation of 1.1.3. and 1.1.2.</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>City has obtained membership following approval of Council in March 2011.</p>

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

**Objective 1.1: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and move towards carbon neutrality for the City of Vaughan’s facilities and infrastructure, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Project Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.1.5. Develop an emissions reductions plan (PCP Milestone 2) for City facilities. This reduction plan should examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving towards carbon neutrality;</li> <li>• Potential savings in new buildings and existing infrastructure (retrofits);</li> <li>• Implementing a “lights-out” initiative for municipal buildings;</li> <li>• Energy conserving streetlight pilots; and</li> <li>• Support for local, renewable sources of energy.</li> </ul>	Based on the result of the audit performed in 1.1.2.	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	<p>Following the greenhouse gas emission inventory process which will be aided by the audit identified in 1.1.2, a formal emissions plan will be documented.</p> <p>In the interim, several initiatives continued to evolve. Processes of energy efficient replacement is on-going, and are part of standard specifications. Two Parks have had walkway lighting fully converted to LED lighting. Pilot projects are continuing, including the consideration of solar-powered lighting (Q2-2012). Conversions have been completed in recreation facilities and fire station 7-1 to higher efficient T5 lighting.</p>
<p>1.1.6. Develop a comprehensive green fleet strategy</p>	2011-2014	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works & Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services	<p>The strategy was presented to Committee of the Whole, and adopted by Council in October of 2011. Implementation of actions to date have included review of annual replacement vehicles being "right-sized" and driver training.</p>

## Objective 1.2: To promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Vaughan

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.2.1. Demonstrate support for renewable energy use and generation by businesses and citizens, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying partnership opportunities with business, industry, utilities and agencies in the implementation of new and alternative energy sources or systems (including options for landfill gas);</li> <li>Reviewing City by-laws to minimize, where appropriate, obstacles to the development of alternative energy sources and where regulation is necessary (subject to the proposed <i>Green Energy Act</i>), develop the necessary standards;</li> <li>Advocating, where appropriate, for the use of existing infrastructure to allow citizens and businesses to share excess capacity to the energy grid; and</li> <li>Providing access to education about alternatives and grants (e.g. The Community Power Fund to support community-owned renewable energy projects in Ontario).</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Economic Development		The Economic Development Department has been involved in the District Energy project for the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre. Support to the lead including identifying land ownership and creation of maps/materials. In addition the District Energy concept is being marketed as a value proposition for the VMC
	2009-2010	Planning	Legal	Preparing draft RFP for zoning by-law review which will address of these new <i>Green Energy Act</i> requirements.
	On-going	Deputy City Manager		Work continues on facilitating the development of renewable energy within the City. In a unique arrangement with PowerStream, rooftops on several City facilities will house solar photovoltaic units in order to maximize opportunities under the Green Energy Act Feed in Tariff Program (FIT). Staff continue to evaluate opportunities to expedite the regulatory process involved with installing and operating renewable energy systems on residential and business properties..
	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	Corporate Comm.	The City of Vaughan continues to provide a means to disseminate information regarding renewable energy. During the development of the <i>Green Direction Vaughan</i> citizen and business engagement strategy, renewable energy information was added to the external website.

## Objective 1.2: To promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Vaughan, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.2.2. Through partnership, consider the opportunities for developing community energy strategies for new development areas for the purpose of reducing energy use on a community or neighbourhood basis, by applying such measures as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy conservation measures applied to community and building design, implemented through the planning process;</li> <li>• District energy systems;</li> <li>• Co-generation and distributed power generation; and</li> <li>• Photovoltaic, geothermal and wind systems.</li> </ul> <p>The City evaluates all major development areas for their potential for district energy systems and other appropriate alternative energy forms. As a pilot program, initiate a feasibility study to examine the opportunities for developing a district energy system in the Vaughan Corporate Centre, concurrent with the review of the Vaughan Corporate Centre Secondary Plan.</p>	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	Engineering and Public Works & Planning	Following up on the Vaughan District Energy Study (VDEFS) which focused on the Metropolitan Centre, further work was done to educate the developers in the area on the benefits of district energy systems. The Planning department provided additional training on district energy to staff to increase their capacity on such systems.
<p>1.2.3. Identify and work with partners to evaluate the community's greenhouse gas emissions (PCP Milestone 1)</p>	2011-2014	Deputy City Manager		Staff has been working to retrieve and organize data required for GHG emissions evaluation. In advance of the energy audit of City facilities identified in action 1.1.2, an effort has been made to electronically access all energy accounts held with PowerStream. Discussions with other partners continue as the collection of energy consumption data continues.

1.2.4. Develop an emissions reductions plan (PCP Milestone 2) for, and in partnership with, the community.	2011-2014	Deputy City Manager	Results from Energy Audit, from action 1.1.2, of City owned-facilities will be used to develop emission reductions plan. On target to create emissions reductions plan in 2012.
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### Objective 1.2: To promote reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Vaughan, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility Owner Resources	Status March 2011
1.2.5. Complete PCP Milestones 3, 4 and 5 of the Partners for Climate Protection Framework in partnership with the community, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a local action plan;</li> <li>• Implementing the local action plan or a set of activities; and</li> <li>• Monitoring progress and reporting results; evaluate and report annually on changes in energy use.</li> </ul>	2011-2014	Deputy City Manager	Targeted for the latter part of the timeframe (2011-14). This action is also consistent with a corresponding policy set out in Section 8.5.1.2 of the Official Plan. The completed plan will be presented for Council approval.

### Objective 1.3: To support enhanced standards of stormwater management at the City and work with others to care for Vaughan's watersheds

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility Owner Resources	Status March 2012
1.3.1. <i>Continue pilot programs to examine various technologies and techniques to improve winter road maintenance (e.g. salt reduction).</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works	Testing of alternative de-icing materials in 2012 with the use of "Thawrox", a treated salt product continues. A new tandem axle salter has been approved, which will have on-board liquid pre-wet capabilities. This will allow for a full review of all current technologies and

<p>1.3.2. <i>Through the development of the City's new Official Plan, and in partnership with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, ensure protection of remaining natural features and explore opportunities for habitat restoration in headwater areas, along riparian corridors, and around wetlands.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works &amp; Community Services</p>	<p>materials, with a view to setting a long term course for reduced salt usage in the City. The annual submission to Environment Canada shows that salt usage for the 2010 - 2011 winter season was 31,999 tonnes, which is under the running 3 year average of 33,000 tonne Report brought to Committee of the Whole in December, 2011 of proposed approach – Report for R.F.P. award for first phase of Natural Heritage Network (NHN) scheduled for April, 2012. Council approved the budget for Phases 2 to 4 of the NHN Study.</p>
<p>1.3.3. <i>Continue to work with other partners (such as the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) to implement policies and undertake activities that support high water quality in Vaughan's watersheds.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>The removal of sediments from storm ponds continued in 2011, with ponds 15 and 105 being cleaned, and full capacity being restored. The number of ponds cleaned annually will vary, depending on the condition of the pond, and available funding.</p> <p>Erosion &amp; Sediment Control (ESC) Study has been completed in conjunction with TRCA and other partners. Inspection staff have are now recognized as Certified Inspectors of Sedimentation &amp; Erosion Control (CISEC). Refinements to the subdivision agreement / development process have been made to better safeguard the environment.</p> <p>The Storm Water Management Retrofit Implementation / Funding Study has not yet been funded. Revised strategy options will be developed and reviewed in 2012.</p> <p>Staff will be participating in the Ministry of the Environment's "Collaboration on Water Sustainability Plan" to consider end-to-end solutions and governance</p>

1.3.4. *Review and assess the Engineering Department design criteria and strategy for storm drainage and storm water management facilities to manage the anticipated impacts of climate change, be consistent with emerging legislation, and ensure protection from significant flooding (adapted from Vaughan Vision 2020)*

2009-2010

Engineering  
and Public  
Works

issues for delivering and managing municipal water, wastewater and storm water.

The Black Creek Optimization Study Master Plan has been completed allowing for implementation of storm water quality retrofit improvements and erosion restoration projects in conjunction with the development review and approvals process. The follow-up and more detailed Schedule 'C' Class EA Study is required to facilitate flooding improvements to the existing Black Creek and related road crossings, this study will be completed by Q1 of 2013.

The City-Wide Storm Drainage / Storm Water Management Master Plan Study is currently underway, anticipated completion is Q1 of 2013. The Engineering Design Criteria Review Study is currently underway, anticipated completion is Q1 of 2013. These studies will assist in the development of supportive criteria, policies and programs to augment sustainability initiatives. A climate change sensitivity analysis will also be completed as part of these studies.

Staff have recently become part of a Ministry of Natural Resource initiative entitled "Weather-Water Information Gateway". This project will allow local levels of government easier access and sharing of data and information required for critical business functions including flood & drought management, source water protection, water management, and municipal infrastructure management. As a stakeholder the City will have access to the latest available data from other municipalities,

\* *Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City*

<p>1.3.5. <i>Complete a local water, wastewater and storm sewer assessment system model for the purpose of optimizing flows (adapted from Vaughan Vision 2020).</i></p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>government agencies and educational institutions.</p>	<p>The City-Wide Water / Wastewater Master Plan Study is currently underway, anticipated completion is Q1 of 2013. This study will look at optimizing the City's existing watermain and sanitary sewer systems and will identify infrastructure improvements necessary to support the City's projected growth to a planning horizon of 2031.</p>
<p>1.3.6. Update the sanitary sewer by-law</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Legal and Finance</p>	<p>Staff participation continues on joint Regional and Local committees / initiatives to reduce inflow and infiltration and to reduce water use. Capital budget funding has now been approved for a more detailed and local focused inflow and infiltration reduction study, anticipated study completion 2013.</p> <p>The on-going Phase 2 Drainage Study and Storm Water Management Master Plan Study will provide a storm sewer system assessment model for the Thornhill area and a detailed assessment of remedial works required within the Rainbow Creek sub-watershed. Anticipated completion is Q1 of 2013.</p> <p>Staff are now drafting revisions to the City's sanitary sewer by-law.</p>
<p>1.3.7. Create a stormwater by-law</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Legal and Finance</p>	<p>The Storm Water Management Retrofit Implementation / Funding Study has not yet been funded. Revised strategy options will be developed and reviewed in 2012. The proposed storm water by-law is necessitated by the need to</p>

implement a sustainable and adequate funding source for long-term operation, maintenance and retrofit of storm water management ponds throughout the City.

## Objective 1.4: To ensure efficient and appropriate use of potable water in City facilities

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
1.4.1. Evaluate the City's use of potable water by completing an audit on all City facilities (this could be part of energy audit as defined in Action 1.1.2.)	2009-2010	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	The audit identified in action 1.1.2 has been enhanced to include potable water at City facilities.
1.4.2. Develop a target for the City's efficient water use and develop an action plan to move towards the lower target, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education programs for employees (including lessons learned from York's Water for Tomorrow program);</li> <li>• Evaluating the feasibility of grey water treatment and delivery in municipal buildings;</li> <li>• Making better use of captured water for lawn and garden watering; and</li> <li>• Infrastructure retrofits.</li> </ul>	2010-2011	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	Following the audit identified in 1.1.2, an action plan will be documented.  In the interim, several initiatives continued to evolve. Low-flow fixtures have been become the required standard for new buildings, and during retrofits where applicable. Motion-activated / no-touch faucets have been retrofitted into existing buildings to reduce wasting of water. Drought-resistant landscaping has become the standard for new buildings, reducing or eliminating the need for irrigation.
1.4.3. Evaluate and report annually on changes in water use at the City.	2009-2011	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	Research has been done to establish baseline numbers. Further work will continue once the audit identified in 1.1.2 has been completed.

### Objective 1.5: To reduce the amount of waste generated in City owned facilities and procure sustainable products for the City's use

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
1.5.1. <i>Continue to recycle and reuse construction material using the LEED building criteria where possible. Costs would be built into future construction tenders under the direction of an overall procurement policy.</i>	Ongoing	Community Services		This has been established as a standard practice for all projects.

### Objective 1.5: To reduce the amount of waste generated in City owned facilities and procure sustainable products for the City's use, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
1.5.2. Calculate the amount of waste that the City of Vaughan's facilities generate annually by completing a waste audit.	2009-2010	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	A waste audit has not been completed to date. However, Building and Facilities staff work closely with Public Works staff to monitor waste quantities managed by a third party waste management company,
1.5.3. Develop a waste management strategy for City facilities with a few smaller, but high profile initiatives such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting the six Rs (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Renew, Recycle, and Recover) in facilities through an education campaign;</li> <li>Eliminating or reducing PET water bottles, plastic cutlery and Styrofoam in City facilities; and</li> <li>Introducing three stream waste diversion in all municipal buildings and facilities.</li> </ul>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works	Community Services & Human Resources	Staff developed a waste management strategy for the new City Hall. This included sourcing the containers, sourcing the bags, education of cleaning staff, and assessing waste collection services.
1.5.4. Evaluate and report annually on the amount of waste generated and track progress in achieving the waste reduction target.	2011-2014	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	Targeted for the latter part of the timeframe (2011-14)
1.5.5. Develop and implement a policy to purchase more sustainable products; including preferences for cleaning products with low VOCs (volatile organic compounds), recycled paper, reusable	2009-2010	Purchasing	All	The Green Procurement Policy has been drafted and incorporated into the Purchasing Services Manual. Committee of the Whole is considering the draft policy at a March 2012 working session with the

office supplies, office equipment, etc. Build on the work of other municipal governments (i.e., reference to Governments Incorporating Procurement Policies to Eliminate Refuse (GIPPER)) to create a "Made in Vaughan" solution.

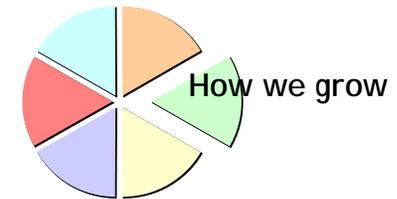
final policy set to be presented to Finance and Admin Committee prior to the summer session 2012.

## Objective 1.6: To continue to reduce the amount of waste generated by Vaughan citizens, businesses and institutions

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<i>1.6.1. Continue to work with the Ministry of the Environment to support the enforcement of regulations to encourage waste audits, waste reduction work plans and source separation programs for Industrial, Commercial and Institutional waste generators in Vaughan.</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works		As part of the Region's Long Term Waste Strategy, advocated with the MOE for improved enforcement. The City is a key player in the development of this joint strategy.
<i>1.6.2. Through advocacy efforts and in partnership with the Region of York, aim for a 100% residential waste diversion target; this will be accomplished in accordance with the Greening Vaughan strategy and an evaluation of the potential for high rise residential waste collection.</i>	2011-2014	Engineering and Public Works		The 2011 curbside diversion rate was 69%.

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

## Goal 2: To ensure sustainable development and redevelopment



*Vaughan is committed to sustainable land use. Vaughan Tomorrow, our consolidated Growth Management Strategy - 2031, has a central focus on creating a cutting-edge Official Plan that will provide for increased land use densities, efficient public transit, considerations for employment lands and open space systems, as well as walkable, human scale neighbourhoods that include services, retail, and an attractive public realm. The completion of the City's New Official Plan is expected in 2010 and it will address all elements of effective, sustainable and successful city-building while managing projected growth over the next 25 years. The plan will guide the creation of the physical form that will reflect a "complete" community. The policies in the Official Plan, and the actions associated with this goal, will be strongly influenced by the Province's Places to Grow program to manage growth and development in Ontario through regional growth plans.*

**Objective 2.1: To achieve sustainable growth and development by completing and implementing Vaughan Tomorrow, the City's Consolidated Growth Management Strategy-2031, and by ensuring that the strategy is subject to periodic review and renewal**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>2.1.1. <i>In accordance with the requirements of the Strategic Plan, Vaughan Vision 2020, complete and implement Vaughan Tomorrow, the City's Consolidated Growth Management Strategy – 2031. Such strategy will fulfill the requirements for an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. The strategy will be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Places to Grow plan and will be in conformity with the Region of York Official Plan. The Consolidated Growth Management Strategy will be composed of the following elements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Green Directions Vaughan, the City's first Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>The new Official Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>The Transportation Master Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>Water and Sewer Master Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>The Drainage and Stormwater Master Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>Employment Sectors Strategy;</i></li> <li>• <i>The Fire and Rescue Services Master Plan;</i></li> <li>• <i>The Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Libraries Master Plan; and</i></li> <li>• <i>The Long Range Financial Plan.</i></li> </ul>	Ongoing	City Manager's Office	All	<p>The Official Plan Vaughan Tomorrow has been adopted by Council and is awaiting approval from the Region. Other Master Plans such as Green Directions, the VFRS Master Plan, the Active Together Master Plan, Long Range Financial Plan and the Employment Sectors Strategy Study are in various stages of implementation. The Consolidated Growth Management Strategy encompasses all of the above noted projects as well as other appropriate strategic initiatives which are part of the Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic plan.</p>

**Objective 2.1 To achieve sustainable growth and development by completing and implementing Vaughan Tomorrow, the City's Consolidated Growth Management Strategy-2031, and by ensuring that the strategy is subject to periodic review and renewal, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
2.1.2. <i>Review the City's Growth Management Strategy at five-year intervals concurrent with the statutory five-year review of the Official Plan and such review shall be coordinated with the periodic review of the Strategic Plan.</i>	2015-2020	City Manager's Office	All	To commence in 2015
2.1.3. <i>At the time of initiating the review referred to in 2.1.2, develop a comprehensive framework for reviewing the strategy. This will include the evaluation and updating where necessary, of the plans cited in 2.1.1.</i>	2015-2020	City Manager's Office	All	Would provide the basis for the 2015 Growth Management Review..

**Objective 2.2: To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum greenspace and an urban form that supports our expected population growth**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
2.2.1. <i>Through the policies in the new Official Plan, create a Vaughan in 2031 that has more intensification with increased height and density and mixed use in thoughtfully developed nodes and along transit corridors.</i>	Ongoing	Planning		Volume 1 and 2 modified Official Plan policies approved by Vaughan Council in early 2012 subject to review and approval by Region of York and OMB.
2.2.2. Undertake an Urban Forest Strategic Plan that will identify targets for the urban forest in the City and provide strategies for achieving it including planning, maintenance, species and planting recommendations.	2009-2011	Community Services		Parks and Forestry Operations are implementing the steps in the Departments Five Year Plan to Expand the Urban Forest. The Vaughan B'Leaves brochure was launched in 2010 highlighting these initiatives. The results of the Urban Forest Effects

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

<p>2.2.3. Continue to develop a Parkland/Open Space Acquisition Strategy</p>	<p>2011-2014</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Legal &amp; Planning</p>	<p>(UFORE) study in partnership with York Region and the TRCA will be forthcoming in April 2012. The department is preparing to present an update to this master plan at a Priorities and Key Initiatives committee meeting in April 2012.  RFP12-017 Park land and environmental land acquisition strategy to be released by end of Q2/2012</p>
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**Objective 2.2: To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum greenspace and an urban form that supports our expected population growth, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status
		Owner	Resources	March 2012
<p>2.2.4. Develop a comprehensive Natural Heritage Strategy that examines the City's natural capital and diversity and how best to enhance and connect it. As part of this action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an inventory of Vaughan's natural heritage, and identify opportunities for habitat restoration;</li> <li>• <i>Ensure that policies in the City's new Official Plan protect all ecological features and functions as per current provincial and regional policies, and also include consideration for locally significant natural features and functions</i></li> <li>• <i>Develop policies to create opportunities for near urban agriculture within Vaughan's rural areas, through policies described in the City's new Official Plan</i></li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Planning</p>		<p>Procurement of Phase 1 of Natural Heritage strategy completion. Recommendation on preferred consultant being prepared for Committee of the Whole.</p>
<p>2.2.5. Implement initiatives to reduce run-off in park facilities, trail systems, and selected City of Vaughan parking facilities; this may include developing permeable paving standards, created wetlands, bio-swales</p>	<p>2011-2014</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>This work is continuous &amp; ongoing and being implemented throughout both new and existing parks. Initiatives implemented include:2.2.5. Implement initiatives to reduce run-off in park facilities, trail</p>

and/or polishing areas.

systems, and selected City of Vaughan parking facilities; this may include developing permeable paving standards, created wetlands, bio-swales and/or polishing areas. This work is continuous & ongoing and being implemented throughout both new and existing parks. Initiatives implemented include:

- Enhance pedestrian, bicycle, transit and universal accessibility modes of access into park and open space facilities;
- Provide bicycle and pedestrian linkages between parks and open spaces;
- Provide waste and recycling bins for park users, location and alignment of bins should allow for easy maintenance and pick-up services;
- Specify quality products and materials that are durable and can be recycled, e.g. Synthetic materials, engineered wood products, vegetable fibers, reclaimed metals and concrete;
- Specify materials with low production costs, recycled components and alternative material/construction types
- Implement Xeriscaping – water efficient landscaping;
- Include carpool parking spaces and bicycle parking;
- Restore and create wetlands to increase flood control and to enhance water quality;
- Reduce water pollution by treating storm water through the use of: bioswales, storm water planters, rain gardens, polishing areas, infiltration trenches and eco-roofs/green roofs;
- Reduce impervious surfaces through the use of porous concrete, porous asphalt, permeable pavers and granular/wood chips surfacing;
- Consider turf substitutes to reduce the amount of mowing needed; and
- Specify organic fertilizers and compost.

Continue to provide leadership in sustainable, cost effective parks and open

space design through the application of creative landscape architecture and science.

## Objective 2.3: To create a City with sustainable built form

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
2.3.1. <i>Develop sustainable development evaluation criteria, supported by provisions in Bill 51 and Places to Grow, that can be applied from neighbourhoods to sites and include these five areas: (1) development form/sustainable sites; (2) resource efficiency; (3) transportation; (4) public realm ; and (5) greenspace and wildlife.</i>	Ongoing	Planning	All	The Partner MOU with the Town of Richmond Hill and the City of Brampton was signed in January 2011. The RFP for Phase 2 of the project, Measuring Sustainability Performance of New Development in Brampton, Richmond Hill and Vaughan, was issued in December 2011. The City of Brampton, as Lead Applicant on the FCM proposal, is the financial administrator of the project and will take a report to the Council of the City of Brampton in April to recommend the winning bidder of the RFP for Phase 2. The City of Vaughan is the Project Manager for Phase 2 of the project and work with the winning consultants will start in April 2012.
2.3.2. <i>Redefine the maximum amount of impermeable area permitted on a building site. Work with developers to create alternative surfaces with the objective of increasing overall site permeability.</i>	Ongoing	Planning & Engineering and Public Works		Development Engineering Staff are working with Policy Planning Staff to look at feasible policies and programs around the implementation of sustainable technologies that promote groundwater recharge and/or a reduction in storm drainage flows. Such low impact development measures may include green roofs, infiltration trenches within public right-of-ways, porous pavement materials and grey water reuse. Assessment of impervious thresholds and alternate surfaces is an aspect of the project to develop sustainability guidelines. See Action Item #2.3.1
2.3.3. <i>Through the policies to be developed in the new Official Plan, ensure that a mix of housing types are provided in</i>	Completed	Planning		Conducting research and review of best practices and policies on affordable housing/secondary suites.

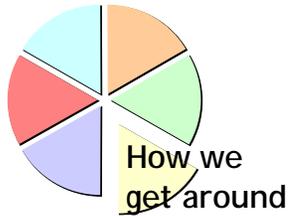
<p><i>Vaughan and that affordability is a consideration in planning.</i></p> <p>2.3.4. Conduct a review to ensure that Official Plan policies and zoning by-laws do not unreasonably restrict the application of building technologies and uses that will promote conservation measures and/or the production and distribution of energy.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>(Zoning by-laws to be initiated after the completion of the Official Plan)</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>Preparing report from other jurisdictions proposed approach to addressing secondary for summer 2012</p> <p>Preparing draft RFP for zoning by-law review which will address of these new <i>Green Energy Act</i> requirements.</p>
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### Objective 2.3: To create a City with sustainable built form, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status
		Owner	Resources	March 2012
<p>2.3.5. <i>Based on the lessons learned from the implementation of Energy Star standards for new low density residential homes, continue to apply energy efficient building standard options for new developments in the City, including other building forms (i.e., townhouses, condominiums) and building standards (i.e., EnerGuide, LEED, etc.).</i></p>	<p>2011-2014</p>	<p>Planning</p>		<p>SB 12 Workshop held by Building Standards Department to help address environmental requirements in new Building Code.</p>
<p>2.3.6. Develop and implement a Vaughan green building policy, which will ensure that all new and existing municipal buildings perform to the highest environmental standards that are practical taking into account such considerations as energy efficiency, greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption, waste management, site design, landscaping, etc.</p>	<p>2009-2011</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>The City has adopted a standard of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification where practicable. LEED Gold is being pursued for Station 7-10</p>

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

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## Goal 3: To ensure that Vaughan is a city that is easy to get around with a low environmental impact

*Vaughan is committed to making choices that will reduce automobile dependency, traffic congestion and transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions. Vaughan, as an active partner with the Region of York, surrounding municipalities, the Province and the Federal government, commits to supporting the development of a public transit network that is responsive to our population's needs. As well, Vaughan promotes active transportation options for its employees and citizens such as walking and biking. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing congestion, active transportation has corollary health benefits and enhances social cohesion. The actions associated with this goal will be influenced by the policies in the City's new Official Plan, the Active Together Master Plan, new provincial accessibility policies, the forthcoming Transportation Master Plan from York Region and the City of Vaughan and the Metrolinx Regional Transportation Plan ("The Big Move").*

**Objective 3.1: To develop and sustain a network of sidewalks, paths and trails that supports all modes of non-vehicular transportation**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
3.1.1. <i>Develop an implementation plan for the initiatives described in the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan through a phased and budgeted implementation program.</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works & Community Services	Planning	<p>An update to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan was completed, presented to Council and adopted in October 2011 in conjunction with the City-Wide Transportation Master Plan. 68km of bicycle route signage was installed in 2011. Funding continues to be secured via yearly budget deliberations in partnership with York Region. With funding approved in the 2012 Capital Budget, the City will install an additional 6km of bicycle routes, new bicycle parking, and design and implementation of the City's first bike lanes. Staff is also developing the Vaughan Cycling Forum (VCF) to help shape and provide input into future cycling initiatives. Staff is planning the first forum to occur in 2012.</p> <p>Teston Road multi-use path (from Jane St to Keele St) was completed. Staff are currently engaged in design of multi-use paths on Teston Road (from Dufferin St to Bathurst St) as well as Highway 27 (from Hwy 7 to Langstaff Road</p>
3.1.2. <i>Through policies to be described in the new Official Plan, develop a more walkable and transit-friendly community with adequate public spaces and a finer grain network of streets.</i>	Ongoing	Planning	Engineering and Public Works	<p>Implementing urban design policies in block plan processes for Block 40/47, Block 61 (Kleinburg)</p>

## Objective 3.2: To develop and sustain a network of roads that supports efficient and accessible public and private transit

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
3.2.1. <i>Continue to work with York Region Transit to develop appropriate local routes to serve users' needs.*</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works		The City's on-going Transportation Master Plan Study has reinforced the need to promote and plan for effective transit services throughout the City and the Region. Development / Transportation Engineering (DTE) Department staff continue to ensure the identification and installation of sidewalk links on arterial roads as part of the development / Block Plan review process. DTE staff continue to lead the review and coordination of all Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension and York Region Bus Rapid Transit projects and initiatives. DTE staff continue to liaise with York Region Transit on local service routes, bus pad / shelter installations and pedestrian linkages
3.2.2. <i>Continue to support the maintenance, repair and renewal of the existing road network.</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works	Finance	The City's Pavement Management Program was updated and approved by Council. Pavement preservation activities will also be strategically utilized to extend the service life of the roads and ensuring the appropriate level of service for the road network
3.2.3. <i>Continue on-going comprehensive review and update of engineering standards and design criteria including lighting, sidewalks, road cross-sections, etc. consistent with the intent of other City policies including the new Official Plan.</i>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works		Staff continue to explore and implement alternative construction methodologies. Some of the processes included expanded asphalt (that reduced the requirement for exporting and importing granular material), warm asphalt (that reduced greenhouse gas emissions in asphalt production), and trenchless technologies in watermain installation (that reduced the need to excavate,

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

<p>3.2.4. <i>Conduct the City-wide Parking Standards Review (as per Vaughan Vision 2020).</i></p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works &amp; Legal</p>	<p>haul and import material; this also reduces greenhouse gas emissions).  The Engineering Design Criteria Review Study is currently underway. Completed IBI Study to address parking standards and implementing new standards in applications. Zoning By-law review will address new Standards on a City-wide basis</p>
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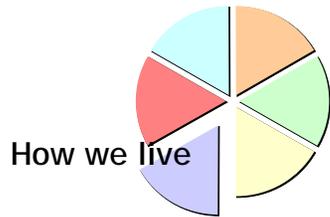
**Objective 3.3: Reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips by supporting active transportation, car pooling and public transit**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status
		Owner	Resources	March 2012
<p>3.3.1. <i>Develop and implement an Employee Trip Reduction/active transportation strategy for <b>City staff</b>.<sup>*</sup> This may include such initiatives as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing incentives and opportunities for car pooling;</li> <li>Participating in public transit promotions with incentives; and</li> <li>Exploring work arrangements to reduce SOV travel such as flex time and tele-work options for employees.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Deputy City Manager</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works &amp; Finance &amp; Planning &amp; Human Resources</p>	<p>The <i>Smart Commute North Toronto-Vaughan Employee Trip Reduction</i> program continues to be a cornerstone of our Employee Education strategy. The current program includes an online ride-matching service, emergency ride home program, yearly events and education campaigns. Improvements in the past year have included installing carpool spots at JOC and City Hall, and increasing staff participation in the program.</p>

<sup>\*</sup> *Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City*

**Objective 3.3: Reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips by supporting active transportation, car pooling and public transit, continue**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<p>3.3.2. Work with partners to develop and implement a trip reduction/active transportation strategy <b>for the community</b> (including businesses and institutions). This may include such transportation demand management initiatives as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with transit authorities to ensure bicycle parking and supportive infrastructure (e.g. GO Transit, VIVA YRT);</li> <li>• Promoting public transit with incentives, creative advertising and a focus on youth;</li> <li>• Ensuring mobility options for those unable to use cars (elderly, those with physical limitations, etc.);</li> <li>• Working with the Region of York on accessibility issues related to the Ontarians with Disabilities Act;</li> <li>• Supporting regional initiatives such as high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane expansions;</li> <li>• A pilot project with Active &amp; Safe Routes to School; and</li> <li>• Establishing City-wide parking standards to promote alternatives to SOV trips.</li> </ul> <p>This action may be supported by a series of policies to be developed in the new Official Plan, the upcoming Transportation Master Plan, and the Employee Trip Reduction plan under development at the City.</p>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works	All	<p>New development standards have been implemented requiring Travel Demand Management (TDM) Plans / Programs be submitted in conjunction with high-density site development applications for review and approval by the City. A Vaughan Cycling Forum has been established to inform and promote cycling within communities and to solicit suggestions from avid cyclists throughout the City. Capital budget approval for a TDM Policy Study has been secured for 2012 to further explore local incentives and opportunities to minimize growth in travel demand throughout the City.</p> <p>The City participated in the Personal Travel Planning pilot project in late 2010 and throughout 2011 coordinated by Region of York's Infrastructure Planning, Planning and Development Services. The Personal Travel Planning (PTP) employs a community based social marketing approach to behaviour change which identifies a key barrier to a desired behaviour and implements a strategy to mitigate that barrier. PTP addresses residents' lack of information about transportation alternatives as a barrier to increased use of sustainable travel modes.</p> <p>The target area of the pilot in Vaughan was 2,500 households in Thornhill bounded by Younge, Bathurst and Centre Streets, The results of the pilot in Thornhill showed a 17 percent drop in single occupant vehicle trips and an overall doubling of transit trips attributable to a strong transit infrastructure in the area.</p>



## Goal 4: To create a vibrant community where citizens, business and visitors thrive

*As described in our Strategic Plan, Vaughan Vision 2020, our city will continue to be a community of choice that promotes diversity, innovation and opportunity for all citizens, fostering a vibrant community life that is inclusive, progressive, environmentally responsible and sustainable. This vision for Vaughan was confirmed through the Vaughan Tomorrow Visioning sessions for the new Official Plan and Green Directions. Citizens, staff and Council are clear that they want Vaughan, now and in 2031, to be a complete community where citizens, businesses and visitors thrive. This goal addresses the social, cultural and economic aspects of a sustainable community. Many of the actions suggested in the goal are ongoing and will be brought to fruition through existing City plans such as Vaughan Vision 2020, the Active Together Master Plan, and the new Official Plan.*

**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
4.1.1. <i>Develop an implementation plan for the initiatives described in the City's Active Together Master Plan through a phased and budgeted program.</i>	Ongoing	Community Services	Planning	<p>Year three objectives were completed in 2011.</p> <p>In progress for 2012: Currently working on year four objectives as outlined in the plan.</p> <p>Objective One-Plan Identity and Recognition: To create an identity and launch for the "Active Together" strategy that will serve to draw attention to the physical activity issue, create a sense of urgency and prompt residents to respond to the call to action.</p> <p>Objective Two -Strengthening Community Partnerships: To develop and strengthen community partnerships with organizations who can play their part in increasing the level, intensity and duration of physical activity in Vaughan.</p> <p>Objective Three - Active Programs and Initiatives: To boast an abundant inventory of physical activity opportunities in Vaughan and create programs and initiatives to prompt physical activity where there are apparent gaps.</p> <p>Objective Four- Infrastructure: To support the maintenance and development of infrastructure and amenities that can increase the capacity and range of choice that enables the enjoyment of safe physical activity.</p> <p>Objective Five - Social Environments and Support</p> <p>Objective Six - Including Under-represented Groups</p> <p>Objective Seven - Workplace Initiatives</p> <p>Objective Eight - Policy Support Considerations</p>

4.1.2. <i>Develop a strategy to increase support for and promotion of the arts and culture in the community (from Vaughan Vision 2020).</i>	Ongoing  June 2010	Community Services	
4.1.3. <i>As planned through the Official Plan update, develop maps of archeological sites, cultural landscapes and built heritage resources; build on Vaughan's unique assets by developing policies to preserve and promote these features.</i>	Ongoing	Planning & Community Services	Arts and culture exhibits and programming initiated for the City Hall Atrium Gallery and the Vaughan Arts Space at the Maple Community Centre. This programming includes new partnerships to create exhibits and programs for youth, community cultural groups and local artist Study completed. Policies in Vaughan Official Plan 2010.

**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility Owner Resources	Status March 2012
4.1.4. <i>Through creative urban design, as to be described in the new Official Plan, enhance social cohesion by creating more (1) common indoor and outdoor public spaces; (2) public art; (3) parks and open space; and (4) central, accessible hubs for arts, culture, and recreation.</i>	Ongoing	Planning & Community Services	Completed. Specific policy planning measures regarding public spaces have been developed and incorporated into the new Official Plan
4.1.5. <i>Provide access to, and information about, the City's services at community centres.</i>	Ongoing	Community Services Deputy City Manager (IT)	All multi use initiatives implemented and no further action required.  In progress for 2012: Youth pocket guide which outlines all recreation and culture information for youth. Newcomers package about active opportunities in Vaughan. Updated active together webpage which features all active together opportunities

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

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**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
4.1.6. <i>Provide more partnership opportunities for existing non-profit and volunteer groups to meet the community's social, cultural and recreational needs.</i>	Ongoing	Community Services		<p>"Through new initiatives partnered with TACCA and VACCA to help celebrate Black History Month in the Community. Other celebrations that were partnered with community groups include Asian Heritage and Italian Heritage Month.</p> <p>Partnership to offer special needs programming established with Vita Community Living Services.</p> <p>Currently working with members of the Coalition of Community Partners for Active Together to increase active opportunities for Vaughan residents.</p> <p>New Community Service Organization (CSO) groups in 2010, include: Vaughan Football Association New CSO in 2011 include: Canadian Young Judaea; Vaughan Community Health Centre; Na'amat Canada Toronto; Vaughan Yeoman Rugby; Safehaven Project for Community Living; Giant Steps Toronto "</p> <p>Through new initiatives partnered with TACCA and VACCA to help celebrate Black History Month in the Community. Other celebrations that were partnered with community groups include Asian Heritage and Italian Heritage Month</p>

**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
4.1.7. <i>Develop a civic engagement strategy to help citizens (including youth and newcomers) become aware of, and participate in, municipal processes and community volunteer opportunities (related to the Diversity Strategy in Vaughan Vision 2020).</i>	Ongoing	City Manager's Office		The City completed a citizen survey in February 2012 to obtain feedback from residents on strategic priorities and City services. Further, a social media policy was adopted by Council on February 21, 2012. This policy and the accompanying communications plan guides City public engagement initiatives using social media. Please reference public engagement strategic initiative #7 as per the strategic initiatives list being tabled at the March 26, 2012 PKI Committee
4.1.8. <i>Provide continued support for the development of a future hospital for Vaughan and continue to work with other levels of government and the Vaughan Health Campus of Care to provide comprehensive and integrated health care to citizens (from Vaughan Vision 2020).</i>	Ongoing	City Manager's Office		The Ontario government approved Vaughan's Hospital in 2011 and in early 2012 provided approval for Stage Two Planning. The hospital is to be planned, developed and operated by York Central Hospital (YCH) and is scheduled to go to tender in 2014/15. Stage Two Planning will allow YCH to further define the size and scope of services, service volumes and technical parameters used by architects to develop and refine the architectural plan and prepare tender documents. The Official plan includes policies relating to sustainability consistent with Green Directions, including, among other things, support for green building and community design, opportunities for district energy and application of renewable energy technology. In addition, the development of the hospital will provide a focus for investment and opportunities for jobs in the healthcare sector and related fields. It will help diversify the city's employment base and provide a potential venue for educational institutions supporting health care.

**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
4.1.9. <i>Support outdoor recreation activities that engage citizens and visitors in our natural and green spaces as described in Vaughan's Active Together Master Plan.</i>	Ongoing	Community Services		<p>Completed in 2011: Signs are located at the Maple Nature Reserve and Elder Mills Nature Reserve. Signs include motivational signage to encourage cycling and walking along City of Vaughan trails. Other signage will include historical and environmental/bio diversity information. A family event will be held during recreation and parks month to promote the use of the Maple Nature Reserve Trails Vaughan Liveable City: Walk to School Campaign - Recreation is worked together with other City of Vaughan departments and York Region staff to develop a walk to school campaign to encourage walking, wheeling and/or cycling to school.</p> <p>In Progress for 2012 Walk to School Pilot project: Working with City and Regional staff to implement School Travel Plans at Maple High School. Looking to expand the program in Fall 2012 Celebration of Recreation and Parks Month activities - June 2012. Active Together Photo Contest - Great outdoor category - photos taken around Vaughan promoting families getting active outside.</p>

**Objective 4.1: To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<i>4.1.10. Develop accessible service standards as part of compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.</i>	2009-2010	Community Services	All	<p>The 2010 Updated Accessibility Plan approved by Council on January 2011.</p> <p>The final draft of Integrated Accessibility Standards developed include Transportation, Employment, Information and Communication are posted for public review until March 2011.</p> <p>Best Practices are being situated in new construction and building retrofits.</p>

**Objective 4.2: Ensure that the City of Vaughan attracts businesses and investment that will result in well-paying jobs for Vaughan citizens, a sustainable tax base and continuing prosperity into the 21st Century**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<i>4.2.1. Complete the Employment Sectors Strategy Study as part of the Vaughan Tomorrow program and implement its recommendations through the adoption of a new Official Plan.</i>	Ongoing	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)	Planning	Economic Development Strategy completed in Q3 2010.
<i>4.2.2. Revise and update the City's Economic Development Strategy (Vaughan Vision 2020) taking into consideration the results of the Employment Sector Strategy Study.</i>	2009-2010	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)		Economic Development Strategy completed in Q3 2010.

\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

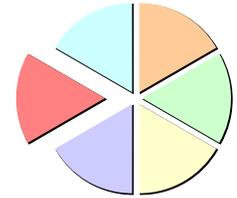
### Objective 4.3: To encourage the establishment of green businesses and sustainable business practices

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2011
		Owner	Resources	
4.3.1. <i>Develop a business attraction and retention strategy to encourage environmentally-friendly or progressive businesses to set up in Vaughan (with clear definitions, and through the update to the Economic Development Strategy).</i>	2009-2010	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)		Initiated meetings with TRCA/Kortright, York Region and others to discuss establishing a Centre of Excellence focussed on green technologies and advanced manufacturing in the building products sector
4.3.2. Undertake an eco-industrial park feasibility study.	2009-2010	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)	Planning	Through the International Business Development Program 2012. Staff will have the opportunity to investigate Eco "industrial" parks in Italy and Israel. Staff will also be able to speak with a number of park tenants at the Cleantec Trade Show in Tel Aviv.
4.3.3. Investigate opportunities for farmers' markets at civic facilities to establish support for urban and near urban agriculture.	2011-2014	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)		Initiated meeting with Eric Rosencrantz, a local near urban farmer to discuss opportunities to support his venture at the Kortright Centre. In addition, the Economic Development Department has taken a lead role in supporting the Woodbridge Farmers' Market.

## Goal 5: To be leaders in advocacy and education on sustainability issues

### How we lead

*Vaughan is committed to providing leadership by implementing sustainable best practices in its own municipal operations and through its regulatory functions. In addition to internal leadership, Vaughan is committed to sharing its successes with the community and learning from others. Vaughan has an active role to play in advocating for the needs of our community. In addition, community members, of all ages, are encouraged to participate actively in civic affairs and to contribute to the enhancement of our community. Vaughan is committed to facilitating opportunities for citizens to come together to strengthen our City.*



### Objective 5.1: To share sustainable best practices and ideas between and among municipal staff and the community

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
<i>5.1.1. Continue to seek the advice and opinion of our citizens, businesses and partners on significant policies, plans and programs (for example, builder and developer involvement in the drafting of sustainable development criteria.)</i>	Ongoing	Deputy City Manager	All	Consultation with citizens, businesses and partners will continue in an effort to enhance transparency related to sharing sustainable best practices. Over the past year, an effort was made to consult external stakeholders on the development of a citizen and business engagement strategy (5.1.7),

*\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City*

<p>5.1.2. <i>Work with the Region of York to support residential water reduction activities through the Water for Tomorrow program, encouraging downspout disconnections and the potential sale of rain barrels.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Staff continue to work with the Region on a Region-wide Water Conservation Strategy, as well as a Wastewater Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Strategy. Together, these initiatives reduce demand for potable water, and reduce treatment requirements. The strategy includes such things as rain barrel sales and downspout disconnect programs, but also may include such things as rain water harvesting, grey water re-use and conservation based pricing to reduce water consumption. Current I&amp;I works performed by the City include manhole repairs and lining, mainline repairs, lateral repairs, CCTV inspections etc.</p> <p>The City-Wide Water Audit has been completed. Recommendations include follow-up analysis of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) volume consumption and associated trending</p>
<p>5.1.3. <i>Use the Vaughan Civic Centre and other sustainably constructed facilities as learning centres by providing tours about sustainable construction and energy conservation.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Deputy City Manager Community Services</p>	<p>A tour has been created that focuses on educating visitors as to the LEED aspects of the City Hall. To date, over a 500 visitors have had tours of City Hall. This activity is linked to Action 5.1.7 which provides for the development of a broader public education strategy addressing businesses and citizens.</p>
<p>5.1.4. <i>Include a climate change planning strategy for all City master plans. The strategy shall assess vulnerability to climate change and develop plans for mitigating impacts and remedial responses.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>City Manager's Office All</p>	<p>The Environmental Sustainability Office is reviewing all City Master Plans to identify the climate change related activities. Review will identify both climate change mitigation measures and adaptation measures.</p>

<p>5.1.5. Develop an environmental education strategy to familiarize <b>staff</b> with the provisions of Green Directions expanding into an on-going education program.</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Deputy City Manager</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>A cross departmental advisory team continues to meet regularly to provide strategic advice on the development of an employee environmental/sustainability strategy and core programs/campaigns. In 2011, delivery of core programs such as the 20 Minute Makeover, Smart Commute and Lunch'n' Learns continued. New initiatives such as the Take the Stairs Challenge, The New Normal information sheet and LEEDing by example were also added. A formal launch of Green Directions Vaughan Employee Education occurred .</p>
<p>5.1.6. Develop an information kit and provide copies of Green Directions for use in Vaughan's schools.</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Deputy City Manager</p>	<p>Corporate Communications</p>	<p>This action will be coordinated with the development of the education strategy for citizens (Action 5.1.7). Staff have been working to engage school's by offering assist</p> <p>Work has begun on establishing relationship with schools by participating in projects on sustainable transportation and anti-idling projects that target schools. Staff will continue to investigate with school boards the appropriate content for kits, the target audience, the level of distribution and the feasibility of an on-line kit.</p>

5.1.7. Develop an environmental education strategy for **businesses** and **citizens**. This strategy will highlight the steps that citizens and businesses can take to create a more sustainable Vaughan. This might include examples from the city, other businesses, schools boards or other communities around the world. This strategy could also focus on highlighting the ongoing work at the City on these issues. This might include calculating the ecological footprint of an average Vaughan citizen or business.

2011-2014	Deputy City Manager	All	<p>The Citizen and Business Engagement strategies were presented at the Nov 11, 2011 Priorities Committee meeting and subsequently ratified by Council. The Green Directions Vaughan Business Education Strategy consists of five initiatives. Two of the proposed initiatives, the 20 minute makeover and Earth Hour, are existing initiatives and the remaining three focus on awareness, information sharing and recognition. The Green Directions Vaughan Citizen Education Strategy consists of nine initiatives. Two of the proposed initiatives, the 20 minute makeover and Earth Hour, are existing initiatives that will be continued. Another two proposed initiatives, the Citizen Education web page and the City Hall LEED Gold promotion, build on the work that has been initiated previously. The remaining five initiatives focus on awareness, volunteer engagement and community based social marketing.</p>
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**Objective 5.2: To continue the City’s role in advocacy and information sharing on environmental issues**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
5.2.1. <i>Continue Vaughan’s participation in regional initiatives such as the annual Environment First Symposium for the purpose of fostering ongoing education, and discussion of sustainability issues.</i>	Ongoing	Deputy City Manager	All	The Environmental Sustainability Office, the Vaughan Business Enterprise Centre(VBEC) and the Youth Environmental Network of York Region partnered to host the 6 <sup>th</sup> York Region Youth Environmental Network Ecological conference at Vaughan City Hall in Oct 2011. Other Region led initiatives we participated in included citizen environmental advisory committee, climate change municipal committee, urban forestry forum. The City of Vaughan continues to participate in the Greater Toronto Area Clean Air Partnership.
5.2.2. Develop an advocacy policy to identify, evaluate and select the environmental issues that the City wishes to take a formal advocacy role, including such matters as level of involvement and resources required.	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	A report on this subject is expected to be prepared in 2012
5.2.3. Create an inter-government relations strategy ensuring that the City of Vaughan participates in provincial, national and international forums and collaborates with neighbouring municipalities to share best practices (adapted from Vaughan Vision).	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	Although a formal strategy has not been developed, there were several occasions where we were able to share environmental best practices provincially and nationally. We were one of eleven municipalities across Canada that provided examples for a collaborative publication “Embedding Sustainability into the Culture of Municipal Operations”. We also participated in the Natural Step Exchange forum,, and took part in the Canada- Nordic Networking breakfast hosted by ICLEI –Local Governments for Sustainability.

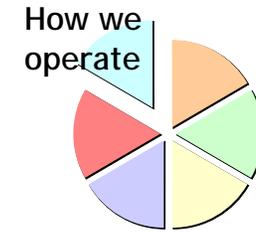
\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

5.2.4. Develop a policy for the consideration of partnering opportunities that may be initiated by the City, other governments and the private sector or public agencies (e.g. Green GTA Initiative, Eco-schools).	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	Although a formal strategy has not been developed, partnerships continue to be explored. Working relationships were established with Seeds for Change, York Region Environmental Alliance, Toronto Region Conservation Authority to name a few.
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**Objective 5.2: To continue the City's role in advocacy and information sharing on environmental issues, continued**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status
		Owner	Resources	
5.2.5. Identify organizations for which the City should obtain membership. Participation in such initiatives should improve the City's profile, offer contact opportunities, provide for the beneficial exchange of information and opportunities for advocacy in areas of strategic importance.	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	Further analysis of membership opportunities continued with a memo to the City Manager summarizing some options. These opportunities were budgeted for with participation commencing in 2012.
5.2.6. Explore opportunities to work in partnership to create a public Vaughan Community Sustainability Forum to gather interested stakeholders together to share best practices in environmental and sustainability issues and facilitate the implementation of the outcomes.	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	Clerks	Other means, such as the Partners for a More Sustainable Vaughan and the York Region Environmental Advisory Committee have been pursued to gather perspectives of citizens on environmental and sustainability issues. Evaluation of a Vaughan Community Sustainability Forum warrants further evaluation in the later portion of this timeframe.

## Goal 6: To ensure a supportive system for the implementation of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan



A large portion of the success of Green Directions will depend on the internal operations and functions that support its implementation. Therefore, Vaughan commits to a series of administrative, oversight, and monitoring actions to ensure Green Directions is fully integrated into our day-to-day municipal operations.

### Objective 6.1: To fully support the implementation of Green Directions at all levels of City operations

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
6.1.1. <i>Ensure, through on-going hiring practices, that the City retains staff with the necessary expertise in environmental/sustainability measures, standards and practices (as per Vaughan Vision 2020)</i>	Ongoing	All	Legal and Admin (Human Resources)	Human Resources will continue to support this initiative through the City's recruitment practices. Recent example includes the hiring of a Commissioner of Planning with a strong background in environmental planning as well as hiring of a planner in Policy Planning with a Masters in Environment and Sustainability Degree,
6.1.2 <i>Continue to work with York Region and other area municipalities to coordinate policies, where beneficial, and to develop common and coordinated monitoring criteria.</i>	Ongoing	All		Continued working through forums such as the GTA Clean Air Council, York Region Environmental Advisory Committee, York Region Partnership Urban Forestry Studies, and the York Region Climate Change Adaptation Working group to help to develop a coordinated approach to addressing key issues of interest to municipalities.
6.1.3. Review and confirm the Mandate, Terms of Reference and Membership of the Environment Committee, in consideration of the approval of Green Directions. Also assess the future role of the Greening Vaughan Advisory Committee - GVAC.	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	Engineering & Public Works (GVAC component) & Clerks	Completed. All matters related to Green Directions are being directed to the Priorities and Key Initiatives Committee. Further evaluation of the Greening Vaughan Advisory Committee has yet to occur.

6.1.4. Make required organizational and staffing adjustments to support the Environment Committee and the implementation of Green Directions which will include additional resources.

2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	Completed. The Manager of Environmental Sustainability has been in place since June 2010 and the Sustainability Coordinator since Oct 2010. A cross functional work team from across the organization continues to meet quarterly to advise on the implementation of the Green Directions Vaughan Employee Education strategy
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### Objective 6.1: To fully support the implementation of Green Directions at all levels of City operations, continued

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status March 2012
		Owner	Resources	
6.1.5. Prepare annual environmental/ sustainability project plans for endorsement by the Budget Committee.	Annually	Deputy City Manager	All	Each affected department prepares project plans on an annual basis for approval through the budget approval process.
6.1.6. Prepare an annual report to the Environment Committee on, among other things: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The status of existing programs (milestones);</li> <li>Accomplishments;</li> <li>New initiatives; and</li> <li>Further opportunities</li> </ul> For the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the plan.	Annually	Deputy City Manager	All	The annual update in 2011 was brought forward to Priorities & Key Initiatives Committee and released to the public on Earth Day. The public report highlighted one action item from each of the six areas of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan as well as provided access to the table with updates to all the action items.