

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2010

Item 1, Report No. 1, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on February 16, 2010.

1 PARKS AND FORESTRY OPERATIONS – WORKING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

The Environment Committee recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Community Services, dated January 26, 2010, be approved;
- 2) That staff be requested to bring forward a report on initiatives such as the creation of a community gardens pilot project and the education strategy for the Vaughan B'leaves program;
- 3) That staff be requested to prepare a report with respect to banning all electronics from on-street waste pick-up and that proper information on this initiative be provided to residents, including locations where these items can be properly disposed;
- 4) That as part of its 2010 work plan, staff report back on a plan for a public garden to demonstrate sustainability measures that may be employed by owners of private residential properties, including but not limited to the following features:
 - (i) the inclusion of native species only
 - (ii) drought resistant plant types
 - (iii) lawn-less gardeningand the identification of potential sites on public lands or private property (at negligible cost) that are highly accessible and visible to both pedestrian and motor traffic, e.g. the new Civic Centre; and
- 5) That the presentation material submitted entitled, "Parks & Forestry Operations 2010 Work Plan, Working Towards a Sustainable Future", be received.

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Parks and Forestry Operations recommends:

- 1) That the presentation by the Parks and Forestry Operations Department titled "Working Towards a Sustainable Future" be received; and,
- 2) That the attached report be received as information.

Contribution to Sustainability

The initiatives outlined in the presentation support the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Park Plan, specifically:

- Goal 2, Objective 2.2: To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum green space and an urban form that supports our expected population growth; and,
- Goal 5, Objective 5.1: To share sustainable best practices and ideas between and among municipal staff and the community; and,
- Goal 6, Objective 6.1: To fully support the implementation of Green Directions at all levels of City Operations.

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Economic Impact

There is no economic impact associated with this report.

Communications Plan

The promotion of the Parks and Forestry Operations work plan will include the City website, brochures, media releases, flyers and our community partners.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the status of the ongoing Parks and Forestry Operations sustainability initiatives.

Background - Analysis and Options

Council approved the "Green Directions" Vaughan Community and Environmental Master Plan on April 14, 2009. Green Directions is a component of *Vaughan Tomorrow*, the City's comprehensive growth management plan. *Vaughan Tomorrow* is mandated by *Vaughan Vision 2020* which includes the preparation of a new official plan and a series of master plans that address the delivery of services and infrastructure.

Objective 2.2 of the Green Directions document states that Vaughan will be developed as a City with maximum greenspace and an urban form that supports our expected population growth and will *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*. The Parks and Forestry Operations Department is responsible for implementing this objective. This is demonstrated through initiatives such as Urban Forest Effects (UFORE) and implementation of the LEAF program in Vaughan, as well as continuing with the tree dedication program.

The report will further highlight accomplishments by the Parks and Forestry Operations Department such as Greening Vaughan Environmental Days, Private Tree Bylaw, recycling in parks and efficient ways to reduce water consumption as reservoir baskets and rain gauges.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020 / Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the initiatives included in this report demonstrate:

- STRATEGIC GOAL:
Service Excellence - Providing service excellence to citizens.
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:
Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery; Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness - To deliver high quality services and to promote health and wellness through design and program; and, Lead and Promote environmental sustainability.

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

Regional Implications

The City of Vaughan is partnering with the Region of York through the UFORE study of urban canopy.

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Conclusion

This report is provided for the information of Council.

Attachments

Not Applicable.

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Item 2, Report No. 1, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on February 16, 2010.



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CREATION OF A STAFF WORKING GROUP

The Environment Committee recommends that, on a meeting to meeting basis, a schedule be developed and implemented by staff to present each Department's sustainability activities, events and plans in order that the members of the Committee can understand what degree progress is being made on the objectives of the City's sustainability plan.

The foregoing matter was brought to the attention of the Committee by Regional Councillor Frustaglio.

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Item 3, Report No. 1, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on February 16, 2010.

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INVITE A SPEAKER TO A FUTURE MEETING

The Committee requested staff to invite Mr. Bernie McIntyre, Manager of Community Transformation Programs, Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA), to speak at a future Environment Committee meeting.

The foregoing matter was brought to the attention of the Committee by Regional Councillor Frustaglio.