

## **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – MAY 25, 2010**

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

#### **Recommendation**

The City Manager, in consultation with the Senior Management Team recommends that:

1. This Attachment 1, outlining progress to-date in implementing the actions prescribed in *Green Directions Vaughan*, be received for information purposes; and
2. That a Media Release be issued to inform the public of the advances made in implementing *Green Directions Vaughan* on the first anniversary of its approval.

#### **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.

#### **Economic Impact**

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

#### **Communications Plan**

On the first anniversary of the approval of *Green Directions Vaughan* it would be appropriate to issue a Media Release acknowledging this milestone. This is consistent with Goal 5 of *Green Directions*, “To be leaders in advocacy and education on sustainability issues”, where “Vaughan is committed to sharing its successes with the community. . .” Recommendation No. 2, will provide Staff with direction to proceed with the preparation of a Media Release to illustrate some of the major advances the City has made in implementing *Green Directions*.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Environment Committee with an update on the implementation of the *Green Directions Vaughan* one year after its approval.

#### **Background – Analysis and Options**

##### **Background**

In April 2009 Council approved the *Green Directions Vaughan 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 will also serve 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. Preparation of the ICSP is a requirement of the federal government’s New Deal for cities as a condition of receiving funding from the federal gas tax.

*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.

**The Basis for an Annual Report**

Under Goal 6, “To ensure a supportive system for the implementation of *Green Directions*”, it is emphasized that much of the success of the plan will depend on the internal operations and functions that support its implementation. The plan prescribes a series of administrative, oversight, and monitoring actions that are designed to ensure that *Green Directions* is fully integrated into the City’s day-to-day operations.

Objective 6.1 of the plan is to, “Fully support the implementation of *Green Directions* at all levels of City operations”. Paragraph 6.1.6 provides that the City:

Prepare an annual report to the Environment Committee on among other things:

- The status of existing programs (milestones);
- Accomplishments;
- New Initiatives; and
- Further opportunities

for the purposes of monitoring the implementation of the plan.

This updates the interim report on *Green Directions* that proceeded to the Environment Committee on December 14, 2009.

#### Focus of the Update and the Format

Given the early stage in the lifecycle of *Green Directions* the focus will be on measures taken to-date to implement the plan's action steps. As such, the primary attention will be directed to projects that are identified for the 2009-10 timeframe or on projects that are classified as "On-going". Comments may also be provided for actions planned in the post-2010 period, where preliminary work may have occurred or where additional information is available.

Attachment No. 1 is based on Section 3, "Action Plans", of *Green Directions*. The attachment maintains the plan's format, which sets out the Goals, Objectives, Time Frames and Project Responsibility (Owner and Resource) pertaining to each Action. The update on each Action is set out in a new field entitled, "Status May 2010".

#### Perspective on *Green Directions Vaughan – Year One: Establishing Sustainability as a Corporate Priority - Completion of the Policy Transformation is in Sight*

*Green Directions Vaughan* is part of the City's response to a multitude of challenges and opportunities that the City has and will be facing over the next 20-years. These influences are many and varied; some are specific to Vaughan and others apply much more broadly. They include the environmental (e.g. climate change and air and water quality), the institutional/political (e.g. The Provincial *Places to Grow Plan*), economic competitiveness (e.g. energy prices, the Canadian dollar and the overall health of the economy), the quality of community life (e.g. healthy, attractive and liveable communities) and a number of major infrastructure projects that will shape our future (e.g. the Spadina Subway Extension, the Viva system expansion and the new hospital). How well Vaughan responds to these conditions will have a major impact on the future of the City.

In the broad sense the City's overall response is directed by the City's strategic plan *Vaughan Vision 2020* and the *Vaughan Tomorrow* program. *Vaughan Tomorrow*, which is mandated by *Vaughan Vision 2020*, includes *Green Directions*, the preparation of a new Official Plan and a number of supporting Master Plans dealing with the provision of infrastructure and services.

One outcome, beginning with *Vaughan Vision 2020*, will be the coordination of the City's policy documents so that they reflect common themes and they are mutually supportive. A primary theme is the need for the City to become more sustainable – in how it operates, how it develops and how it reacts to challenges and opportunities. The City was already proceeding in this direction prior to the start of the *Vaughan Tomorrow* program.

*Green Directions*, building on earlier achievements, has advanced the process. It has given the City an overarching perspective on sustainability in terms of definitions, objectives and actions that will lead to a better city. It has provided a comprehensive plan to compete in a world where sustainable behaviour by both the public and private sector is expected. As such, sustainability is an underlying principle of the City's draft Official Plan and the supporting master plans. Once the OP and Master Plans are approved, the concept of sustainability will be fully integrated into the City's policy regime. This is anticipated for the third quarter of 2010.

The years 2005 through 2010 were a period of transition. The perception of what was possible in 2005 is different than what is now expected in 2010. This changing thinking has given rise to the bolder stance taken in *Green Directions*. The inclusive definition of

“Sustainability” used in *Green Directions* is moving Vaughan into new initiatives that will address the triple bottom line objectives of a healthy environment, strong communities and a vibrant economy. With the policy framework nearing completion, the emphasis will increasingly shift to implementation. Becoming a sustainable community will give Vaughan an important competitive advantage for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

#### Fulfilling the Policy Vision

At the one-year milestone it is appropriate to highlight the status of some of the important initiatives identified in *Green Directions*. All of those identified are either underway or will be starting during this time period. While not exhaustive, they will be major contributors to the sustainable Vaughan of the future. In general, they will all involve a continuing commitment of time and resources and will have an enduring impact on the City. They are listed below.

i. Completion of the *Vaughan Tomorrow* Program: Adoption of the New Official Plan

#### **Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Vaughan Tomorrow/OP Review initiated Q1/Q2 2007
- Target Completion: Q3 2010

Objective 2.1 of *Green Directions* is to achieve sustainable growth and development by completing and implementing the *Vaughan Tomorrow* program. The adoption and approval of the new Official Plan, the focussed area plans and the accompanying master plans will be one of the most important steps the City will take over the next 25-years. Land use and urban form and structure are major determinants of a City’s sustainability. The new Official Plan will be a critical influence on how well Vaughan performs environmentally, as a desirable community in which to work and live and from a financial and economic perspective.

Building on the *Vaughan Vision 2020* and *Green Directions*, the Official Plan will be the largest single policy document emerging from *Vaughan Tomorrow*. Its significance is heightened because an approved official plan has statutory authority and its influence extends into all other planning approvals, e.g. subdivisions, site plans and zonings. The new OP and master plans will carry forward the principles of *Green Directions* and the new planning policies will help secure the City’s green policy transformation.

Given the multi-disciplinary/multi-departmental scope of the OP and the focused area plans, the Policy Planning Department has engaged the public, agencies and internal departments in an extensive consultation process. This has allowed for a more complete consideration of the concepts of sustainability, from numerous perspectives, in developing the plan.

Significant advances have been made since the last update. The new Official Plan and the focused area studies have been drafted and are available for public comment. Their adoption is scheduled for the third quarter of this year. The plans embrace the concept of sustainability as defined in *Green Directions*. In addition, they incorporate a number of new initiatives such as the preparation of community energy plans for specific areas (as required in the Regional Official Plan) and implement the Provincial and Regional intensification targets.

ii. Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions – City Facilities and Infrastructure

#### **Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Q4 2009
- Target Completion: On-going (contingent on legislation)

Objective 1.1 is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and move towards carbon neutrality for the City's facilities and infrastructure. This is an ambitious objective, which will ultimately be influenced by provincial legislation. The *Green Energy and Green Economy Act* may require municipalities to prepare Conservation Demand Management plans, which may include: A summary of annual energy consumption for each municipal operation; a description and forecast of the expected results current and proposed activities to conserve energy consumed and to reduce the amount of energy consumed by employing any conservation and demand management measures that may be prescribed; and a summary the progress and achievements in other reductions since the previous plan.

The operational details will be specified by regulation. These have not been prepared. As such, the full implications of this potential requirement cannot be determined. The Act also allows the Province to prescribe standards for demand management and conservation. If and how such obligations are imposed could have implications for municipal budgets.

*Green Directions* recognizes that the regulations may not be in force for some time. However, the City is moving ahead using the Partners for Climate Protection template for reducing carbon output. The first step is to evaluate greenhouse gas emissions by conducting an energy audit on all City facilities. This is prescribed by Action 1.1.2. This is being undertaken by Community Services (Buildings and Facilities). It has participated in an AMO sponsored program to benchmark utilities data (energy/water consumption) for recreation facilities. This information has been assembled and will be incorporated into an RFP for auditing services that is planned for Q3 of 2010.

Potential follow-up activities, leading to an emission reduction plan, are identified in Action 1.1.5. Its preparation could begin once the audit is completed. However, an understanding of the provincial regulations relating to *Green Energy and Green Economy Act* would be beneficial. The initiation of this action would be evaluated in more detail when the results of the audit are available and when the content of the regulations is disclosed.

Meanwhile, the City continues to make advances in the development of sustainable facilities. In April the City received an award from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario recognizing the Chancellor Community Centre indoor pool as province-wide Best in Class for energy efficiency. In addition, work continues on the new City Hall which is designed to achieve LEED Gold Certification. Occupancy of the building is planned for the autumn of this year.

iii. Moving to Energy Conserving Streetlights

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: September 2009 (Pilot Project); May 2010 (Full Program)
- Target Completion: On-going implementation

Action 1.1.5 provides for the undertaking of energy conserving streetlight pilots. Significant advancements have been made in this area. In September 2009 Engineering and Public Works initiated a pilot project to assess the merits of LED, Induction and High Energy Fluorescent streetlights. Based on the test results and subsequent analysis, it was determined that LED luminaires are more energy efficient, produce better quality light, have a lower carbon footprint (considering the manufacturing process, longer life and recycling potential) and lower maintenance and cleaning costs. As a result the City is moving ahead with a streetlight replacement program using LED luminaires.

This project provides a good illustration of how one initiative can embrace several aspects of sustainability. It reduces energy consumption, will minimize the production of

greenhouse gases, it will reduce the City's cost and it will improve community life by introducing a more natural white light source, which will enhance the evening environment throughout the city. On April 13, 2010 the Environment Committee recommended proceeding with an RFP for the supply and installation of the street lights. This will result in an annual replacement program, which will initially target older areas. The phased installation will allow the City to take advantage of potential improvements to LED technology in regard to energy savings and quality of light.

iv. Green Energy Investments: PowerStream's Solar Business

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Council authorization December 2009
- Target Completion: On-going implementation

Consistent with Objective 1.2, to promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Vaughan, Action 1.2.1 provides for the City to demonstrate support for renewable energy by identifying partnership opportunities with business, industries and utilities in the implementation of new and alternative energy sources.

On December 16, 2009 Council passed a resolution authorizing an investment, through Vaughan Holdings Inc., of up to \$27,200,000 in PowerStream's proposed solar business. The solar business will take advantage of the opportunities presented by the *Green Energy Act* in regard to the favourable pricing being offered to providers of photovoltaic power through the Feed-in-Tariff program. PowerStream will generate clean electricity through the installation of roof-top solar panels. This would include both privately held and municipal facilities. City owned buildings have been evaluated.

This represents a strong commitment by the City to the generation of clean and renewable power. This is particularly significant to the City because of the large inventory of flat-roofed industrial/warehouse buildings that characterize the employment areas. As such, the potential exists to accommodate acres of roof-top solar panels. Supporting this measure will further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide building owners with another revenue stream, which will help their overall competitiveness.

v. The Vaughan District Energy Feasibility Study

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: December 2009
- Target Completion: Q4 2010

Action 1.2.2 states that the City should consider opportunities for developing community energy strategies for the purpose of reducing energy use on a community basis, by applying such measures as district energy systems. It further provides for the City to evaluate all major development areas for their potential for district energy systems and that a feasibility study be undertaken for the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre.

On December 16, 2010 the Board of Directors of Vaughan Holdings Inc. authorized the issuance of a Request for Proposal for consulting services to conduct the Vaughan District Energy Feasibility Study. The study will examine the potential for a District Energy System in the Metropolitan Centre and it will also provide for a high-level examination of opportunities elsewhere in the City. The selection process is complete and on May 4, 2010 the Vaughan Holdings Inc. Board of Directors ratified the retention of a consultant to conduct the study. The target for completion is November of this year.

District Energy Systems are efficient users of energy and by displacing autonomous systems they 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 gain a potentially cheaper means of heating and cooling their buildings, lower capital costs, more usable floor space with less space taken up by mechanical systems and decreased maintenance costs. These systems can provide a municipality with a competitive edge in attracting new investment.

vi. Green Businesses and Sustainable Business Practices

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Employment Sectors Strategy Study 2008
- Target Completion: Completed May 2010 (Council Approval)
- Project Initiation: Economic Development Strategy Q1 2010
- Target Completion: Q3 2010

Objective 4.2 of *Green Directions* provides that the City should attract businesses and investment that will deliver well-paying jobs, provide for a sustainable tax base and continuing prosperity. To give effect, *Green Directions* through Actions 4.2.1 and 4.2.2, recognizes the role that the Employment Sectors Strategy Study will play in achieving this objective. The recommendations of the Employment Sectors Strategy Study are supporting the preparation of the new Official Plan and the new Economic Development Strategy. The Employment Sectors Strategy Study was approved by Council on May 4, 2010.

Objective 4.3 of *Green Directions* is to encourage the establishment of green businesses in Vaughan and the application of sustainable business practices. One of the recommendations emerging from the Employment Sector Strategy Study is that environmental and green industries should be targeted for attraction based on Vaughan's location at the centre of a major market for green products and its existing strength in manufacturing, building products and related services.

*Green Directions'* Action 4.3.1 provides for the development of a business attraction and retention strategy to encourage environmentally-friendly businesses and industries to set up in Vaughan. The Employment Sectors Strategy Study contains recommendations in this regard for use in the new Official Plan and in the Economic Development Strategy. Similarly, Action 4.3.2 recommends the preparation of an eco-industrial park feasibility study. The Employment Sectors Strategy Study also confirms this recommendation for implementation through the new Official Plan and the Economic Development Strategy.

The preparation of the Economic Development Strategy is now underway. It will be a key influence in securing investment by green industries and businesses. It is expected to be completed in the third quarter of this year.

vii. Urban Forest Strategic Plan – The Urban Forest Effects Study

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Five Year Tree Planting Strategy – June 2009 (Council)
- Target Completion: On-going; UFORE Study for 2011

The Parks and Forestry Operations Department has undertaken several initiatives to preserve the Natural Areas and foster a healthy natural environment. These initiatives are directly linked to Objective 2.2 of the Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan: "To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum Greenspace and an urban form that supports our expected population growth."

The action item under 2.2.2 states: "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 five year

Tree Planting Strategy was completed and presented to the Environment Committee and approved by Council in June 2009. The Strategy contained the following Recommendations:

1. Complete a UFORE study that provides targets and areas for additional Trees to expand the urban forest
2. Expand the tree advocacy programs in residential and industrial areas
3. Develop a sponsorship programs for businesses
4. Expand the communication and marketing strategy
5. Revised existing programs and Launch under the Brand "Vaughan B' leaves"
6. Improve the tree website
7. Expand the tree reserve account
8. Appointment of a Tree Advocate
9. Partnership backyard tree planting with the LEAF organization

The Parks and Forestry Department has already taken significant steps to implement the above recommendations. The City has entered into a partnership with York Region and the TRCA to undergo a UFORE Study of the urban canopy. This important study is already underway and will identify areas where there is insufficient coverage and will make recommendations on where plantings will have the most positive environmental and economical impact that directly influence the health and well-being of Vaughan's residents. Specifically, the study will make recommendations on the number, species and location of trees to reach an ideal age-class distribution. This will maximize the potential benefits including optimal carbon storage and sequestration; improved building energy use; optimal air pollution removal; minimal release of volatile organic compound emissions; reduced exposure to potential pests; increased urban forest value; targeted leaf area coverage; optimal forestry structure. The results of the study and the recommendations will be available in 2011.

At the May 25, 2010 Environment Committee meeting, staff will present the new branding of **Vaughan B'Leaves**. This brochure included a message from the Tree Advocate that will encourage the community to participate and engage in new and exciting environmental programs to increase trees on both private and public lands. The brochure includes the following programs:

- Planting a tree "Park-side" or dedicate a tree for a special person from a list of preferred native species with a wide range of costs;
- Planting a tree in your own backyard through the LEAF program;
- Vaughan B'Leaves brochure, to educate the public on tree care and provide opportunities to learn more about environmental opportunities and tree planting;
- Business can now participate in tree sponsorship programs to increase business profile

viii. The New Hospital

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation (Official Plan Amendment): Q3 2008
- Target Completion (Official Plan Amendment): Q3 2010

A new Hospital is being planned for the 84 acre site at the northeast corner Highway 400 and Major Mackenzie Drive. This site has the potential to be an important example of sustainable development. *Green Directions'* Action 4.1.8 provides for the City to continue support for the development of a future hospital for Vaughan and continue to work with other levels of government to provide comprehensive care and integrated health care to

the citizens of Vaughan. In August 2009, the City committed \$80 million for the acquisition of the site.

Since the last update, planning for all of the components of the site is now underway. Staff is working with the Vaughan Health Campus of Care and the new York Central Hospital/Vaughan Health organization on the development of the hospital and associated lands. A staff liaison has been appointed. A draft official plan amendment (Jane - Major Mackenzie Land Use Study – The Health Care Campus Centre Plan) has been prepared and a public open house has been held. The statutory public hearing is scheduled for June 1, 2010 with the adoption of the amendment targeted for July, 2010. This site is an example of where the full triple bottom line benefits of a sustainable approach to development could be achieved. This will be subject to all of the supporting documents (e.g. Official Plan and Economic Development Strategy) and resources identifying the appropriate measures and prioritizing actions. Examples of opportunities include:

#### **Environmental**

- Comprehensive stormwater management;
- An energy conservation/sustainability plan encompassing the entire site;
- Potential for a district energy system/combined heat and power;
- Investigation of LEED Neighbourhood certification.

#### **Community/Social**

- A hospital serving the entire city;
- Potential for related health-care and social services (e.g. long-term care, assisted living);
- Plan for comprehensive and attractive community design;
- Ensuring sensitivity to adjacent residential areas;
- Provide a basis to support earlier implementation of rapid transit on Jane St. and Major Mackenzie Drive.

#### **Economic**

- Provide employment in high wage sectors where the City is currently under-represented, e.g.:
  - Health care;
  - Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.
- Attracting a related educational institutions or services;
- Attracting research and development related businesses focusing on the medical, scientific and technical fields.

Applying the principles of sustainability broadens perceptions of what a development can be and how it functions. Given the opportunities available with this site, the planning exercise will be an important learning experience and may emerge as an example for other developments.

#### ix. Initiation of an Employee Education Plan

##### **Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Q1 2010
- Target Completion: Q3 2010

Sharing sustainable best practices and ideas between and among municipal staff and the community is an objective (5.1) of *Green Directions*. Action 5.1.5 provides for the creation of an environmental education strategy to familiarize staff with the provisions of *Green Directions* expanding into an on-going education program. The adoption and approval of the new official plan substantially completes the City's transformation to a policy base that explicitly incorporates the concept of sustainability. To reinforce this shift,

the employee education plan will facilitate the cultural shift to more sustainable operations and behaviour. On March 9, 2010 the Environment Committee gave direction to proceed with the preparation of a plan. A report has been prepared for the Environment Committee meeting May 25, 2010.

x. Hire a Manager of Environmental Sustainability

**Action Status**

- Project Initiation: Q1 2010
- Target Completion: Q2 2010

The purpose of Goal 6 of *Green Directions* is to ensure that a supportive system for the implementation of the plan is put in place. Action 6.4.1 provides for the City to make the required organizational and staffing adjustments to support the operation of the Environment Committee and the implementation of *Green Directions*. In response the 2010 Operating Budget included provision for an additional staff position to fulfill this role. A job description for a Manager of Environmental Sustainability was developed. The recruitment process is nearing completion.

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

This report is consistent with the following objectives and initiatives:

Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability

- Develop and implement an Environmental Master Plan as part of the Growth Management Strategy 2031

Plan and Manage Growth & Economic Development

- Complete and Implement the Growth Management Strategy

**Regional Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

April 2010 was the first anniversary of the approval of *Green Directions*. At the one year milestone, the City is continuing to work on a number of major initiatives that will move the City toward a sustainable future.

The completion of the *Vaughan Tomorrow* program with the adoption of the new Official Plan and approval of the remaining master plans will complete the integration of the concept of sustainability into the City's policy and planning documents. This will be an important transformation that will have a major effect on the future of Vaughan. The adoption of the new Official Plan will signal a shift to a new era where implementation will be the primary focus.

Since the last update in December of 2009 progress has been made on a number of major initiatives identified in *Green Directions*. This report has identified some significant examples, which will have enduring impact on the City. They are by no means the only important initiatives proceeding. The status of all the Actions prescribed in *Green Directions* is set out in Attachment 1.

The highlighted examples were selected because they represent major moves which will have the potential to provide long-term benefits to the City, while promoting greater sustainability. Generally, these initiatives have some degree of complexity; some will require inter-departmental cooperation; in some instances the participation of senior

levels of government and the private sector may be necessary; and staff, consulting or capital resources have or may need to be assigned. Those cited include:

- Completion of Vaughan Tomorrow: Adoption of the New Official Plan;
- Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions – City Facilities and Infrastructure;
- Moving to Energy Conserving Streetlights;
- Green Energy Investments: PowerStream's Solar Business;
- The Vaughan District Energy Feasibility Study;
- Green Businesses and Sustainable Business Practices;
- Urban Forest Strategic Plan – Urban Forest Effects Study;
- The New Hospital;
- Initiation of an Employee Education Plan;
- Retaining a Manager of Environmental Sustainability.

Work on these initiatives is on-going and they represent a long-term commitment to the future. Therefore, it is recommended that Attachment No. 1 be received for information purposes. Given that this is the one-year anniversary of the approval of *Green Directions Vaughan*, it is also recommended that a Media Release be prepared to highlight for the public some of the important accomplishments of the last year, based on some of the examples set out in this report.

#### **Attachments**

1. Green Directions Vaughan  
Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan  
Implementation Update  
May 2010

#### **Report Prepared by**

Roy McQuillin, Manager of Corporate Policy, ext. 8211

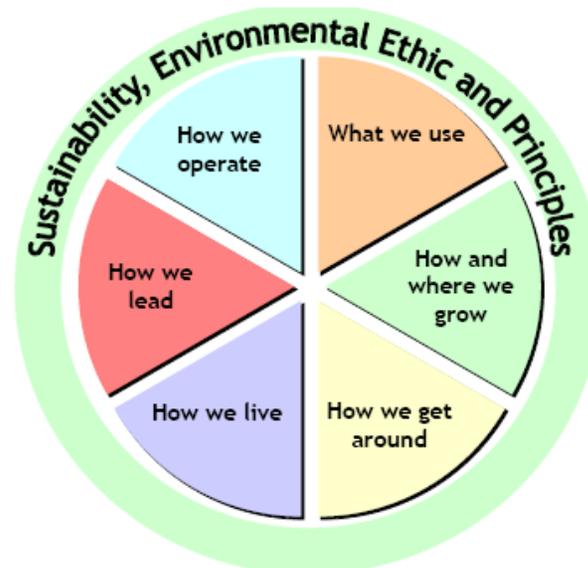
Respectfully submitted,

Clayton D. Harris  
City Manager

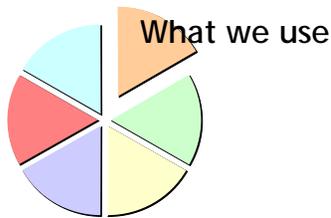
Attachment No. 1



## COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE



Environment Committee  
May 25, 2010



## 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 May 2010
		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	Funding alternatives will continue to be explored in 2010. On April 13, 2010 Council approved a new Corporate Policy, the “Grant Funding Procurement Policy”, which encompasses a comprehensive approach to researching, tracking, applying for and reporting on grant activities to optimize the amount of grant resources available to the City’s strategic initiatives.
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	An RFP for Auditing Services is being prepared for issuance in the 3rd Quarter of 2010. In addition, through an AMO sponsored program, utilities data (energy/water consumption) is being assembled as part of a benchmarking exercise for recreation facilities. Data have been received and will be incorporated into the RFP.

**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 May 2010
		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>	As determined by the regulations (not yet issued by the Province)	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works & Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services	Requirements have now been incorporated into the Green Energy and Green Economy Act. Initiation of the audit program will allow the City to respond in a timely manner. The regulations have not been issued.
<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>	Based on the timing of the implementation of 1.1.3. and 1.1.2.	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	Membership will be pursued Q1-Q2 of 2010.

\* *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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
<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>	<p>Based on the result of the audit performed in 1.1.2.</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Opportunities for the emission reduction plan will be reviewed on completion of the audit. Some initiatives are already underway.</p> <p><u>Retrofits: Community Services</u> Currently testing alternative energy efficient lighting systems: LEDs in Parks and Walkways and high bay fixtures at the JOC.</p> <p><u>Energy Conserving Street Lights: Engineering and Public Works</u> Test installation of three types of new street lights, Induction Lighting (IL), Light Emitting Diode (LED), and High Efficiency Fluorescent (HEF) along Islington Avenue in Kleinburg was completed in 2009. A street lighting consultant was retained to assist in the evaluation of the test lights. LED technology was identified as the preferred alternative for cost and environmental reasons. A report was submitted to the Environment Committee on April 13, 2010 that recommended proceeding with an RFP for a streetlight replacement program using LED lights. This will result in an annual replacement program initially focusing on older areas. This recommendation was approved by the Committee and was ratified by Council on May 4, 2010. This program is being supported by funding from under the Infrastructure Stimulus Funding project for Energy Efficient Street Lighting.</p>
<p>1.1.6. Develop a comprehensive green fleet strategy</p>	<p>2011-2014</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works &amp; Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services</p>	<p>Targeted for the latter part of the timeframe (2011-14)</p>

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		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> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	Economic Development		<p>To be undertaken through the preparation of the Economic Development Strategy targeted for June of 2010. VBEC has entered into a partnership with PowerStream Inc. to conduct small business workshops focusing on energy saving techniques and funding sources.</p>
	<p>2009-2010</p>	Planning	Legal	<p><u>Measures to Date</u>            Planning staff have monitored progress on the <i>Green Energy and Green Economy Act</i>. On May 14, 2009, the Government of Ontario passed the <i>Green Energy and Green Economy Act (GEGEA)</i>. The <i>GEGEA</i> enacts the <i>Green Energy Act</i> and amends over 16 other Acts. Regulations associated with the <i>Green Energy Act</i> are still under development. From a planning perspective, the <i>Green Energy Act</i> limits municipal powers under the <i>Planning Act</i>. Most significantly, the <i>GEGEA</i> creates a new section in the <i>Planning Act</i>, section 62.0.2, which exempts renewable energy generation projects from numerous sections of the <i>Planning Act</i>, including those dealing with official plans, zoning by-laws, demolition control areas, and development permit systems. The exemption of renewable energy generation projects from these sections means that municipalities have limited ability to block, alter or control renewable energy generation projects. Nevertheless, consultation between the project proponent and the municipality will be one of the requirements for a Renewable Energy Approval. Staff will continue to monitor new regulations issued under this Act. Further review will also be possible when the implementing zoning by-law for the new Official Plan is prepared.</p>

- Advocating, where appropriate, for the use of existing infrastructure to allow citizens and businesses to share excess capacity to the energy grid; and
- Providing access to education about alternatives and grants (e.g. The Community Power Fund to support community-owned renewable energy projects in Ontario).

On-going	Deputy City Manager		On December 16, 2009 Council, through its wholly owned subsidiary Vaughan Holdings Inc., approved an investment in PowerStream Inc's Solar Generation Business, which focuses on rooftop solar (photovoltaic) power production through the <i>Green Energy Act</i> Feed in Tariff Program (F.I.T.). The City's investment in the solar generation business requires an equity investment of up to \$27.2 million.
2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	Corporate Comm.	The City currently provides information and education on alternative energy resources and funding opportunities through its website, community events and workshops. The City will continue to partner with appropriate agencies, including the province of Ontario, PowerStream and local non-profits to ensure the most up-to-date information is available to the community. For example: Joint PowerStream-VBEC workshops geared toward the small business community, regarding conservation and generation as they relate to current regulations. The PowerStream-VBEC collaboration is continuing in 2010 with the recent focus being on time-of-use pricing. In addition, VBEC is partnering with York Region and a networking organization (Green Connections) to promote the sharing of "green" practices by businesses.

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		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	<p>The Regional Official Plan has provisions requiring the preparation of Community Energy Plans for Regional Centres and Corridors and New Development Areas and consideration is to be given to adopting them in the new Employment Areas to support economic development. Corresponding policies have been placed in the placed in the City's draft Official Plan amendments. Examples include the draft Official Plan, Sections 8.5.1.2; and Section 10.2 h) of the draft VMC Plan.</p> <p>On May 4, 2010 Vaughan Holdings Inc. approved the retention of a consultant to undertake the Vaughan District Energy Feasibility Study. (VDEFS). Focusing on the Metropolitan Centre, it will also examine opportunities elsewhere in the City (e.g. the Vaughan Health Campus of Care and the Vaughan Enterprise Zone). The study is expected to take approximately 6 months to complete.</p> <p>The District Energy Feasibility study will work with the policies of the new Official Pan and Metropolitan Centre Focused Area Plan to ensure that all opportunities for community based energy production have been explored. (Sections 5.2 and 10.2 h) of draft VMC Plan.</p>
1.2.3. Identify and work with partners to evaluate the community's greenhouse gas emissions (PCP Milestone 1)	2011-2014	Deputy City Manager		In advance of 2011 staff is in discussions with potential partners (e.g. TRCA, PowerStream and Enbridge). Energy consumption data is being assembled (i.e. gas, electricity).
1.2.4. Develop an emissions reductions plan (PCP Milestone 2) for, and in partnership with, the community.	2011-2014	Deputy City Manager		Will take place in first part of 2011-14 timeframe (2011-12).

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.2.5. Complete PCP Milestones 3, 4 and 5 of the Partners for Climate Protection Framework in partnership with the community, including:</p> <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 is also consistent with the policies of the Regional Official Plan, which encourages the creation of a community-wide energy plans. A corresponding policy is set out in Section 8.5.1.2 of the draft Official Plan.

## 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		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p>1.3.1. <i>Continue pilot programs to examine various technologies and techniques to improve winter road maintenance (e.g. salt reduction).</i></p>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works		<p>The Salt Management Plan annual review for 2009 was completed. The Plan was updated and submitted to Environment Canada. Alternative de-icers are still being used, and the anti-icing program was expanded for the 2009 – 2010 winter season. The annual SMP review will be completed by June 2010. Given that the City's road network is still growing, the annual salt use will continue to increase accordingly.</p> <p><u>Budget status:</u> Funds for this type of work and reporting are budgeted through the Operating Budget. For 2010, it is expected that the materials portion of that budget will be on budget due to the mild winter.</p>
<p>1.3.2. <i>Through the development of the City's new Official Plan, and in partnership with the Toronto and Region Conservation</i></p>	Ongoing	Planning	Engineering and Public Works &	<p><u>Measures to Date</u> This action item is related to Action Item 2.2.4 regarding a natural heritage strategy for Vaughan.</p>

<p><i>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>Community Services</p>	<p>Maintaining the health of the City's watersheds is an important component of the growth management exercise. Part 1 of the City of Vaughan Natural Heritage Strategy document has been completed by AECOM. The natural heritage review is a subcontract to Urban Strategies Inc. as part of the OP Review process. Part 2 of the Natural Heritage Strategy will focus on environmental policies to support the natural heritage system and will be developed in the next few months in consultation with AECOM, Urban Strategies Inc. and the TRCA. Gaps remain in the natural heritage system in terms of setting clear biodiversity and ecosystem targets. As a result, ongoing studies will be required to fill the information gaps and develop a natural heritage system strategy with clear targets for habitat protection based on the long-term persistence of select species, wildlife communities and ecosystem functions</p> <p><u>May 2010 Update</u> A Report has been targeted for the June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the natural heritage background study titled, "Natural Heritage in the City". The report identifies future studies to complete the Natural Heritage Network with a focus on further delineating areas of significant wildlife habitat and evaluating headwater streams.</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><u>Storm Water Management Retrofit Study</u> Completed in 2009 prioritizing existing and assumed storm water management facilities with the most potential for retrofit thereby improving water quality to receiving watercourses. The first SWM facility retrofit project is anticipated to commence in 2010 subject to Capital Budget approval. A formal SWM Retrofit Program including funding alternatives and an implementation strategy is currently being studied by staff with the expectation of bringing a report forward on this matter in Q1 of 2010.</p> <p><u>Erosion and Sediment Control Study</u> Currently underway with TRCA and other partners. City has contributed funding in the</p>

<p>1.3.4. <i>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)*</i></p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>amount of \$45,000 towards this initiative. Study includes testing of erosion and sediment control practices during construction, training of appropriate technical and inspection staff, and the development of field manuals. Anticipated completion date Q4 2010.</p> <p><u>Municipal Storm Water Management Discussion Group Participation.</u> Staff continues to attend quarterly meetings to discuss emerging issues, trends and developments in Storm Water Management practices with representation from many other municipalities within the GTA.</p> <p><u>Black Creek Optimization Study Master Plan Class EA</u> currently underway (in close cooperation with TRCA), anticipated completion date Q3 of 2010. The conclusions and recommendations of this study will allow the City to collect funds, protect for (via development applications) and ultimately construct various creek improvements (such as culvert replacements and in-stream erosion restoration works) to improve the level of flood protection within the Black Creek sub-watershed.</p> <p><u>City-Wide Drainage and Storm Water Management Criteria Study</u> Completed in 2009. This study included a comparison of the City's current criteria and standards related to Storm Water Management against other neighboring municipalities. The study also included a high level investigation of various flood prone areas throughout the City with recommendations on next steps and potential improvement works. A more in-depth analysis is planned with the completion of Phase 2 of this study. Phase 2 has been approved in the 2009 Capital Budget. It is anticipated to commence in Q2 of 2010 and will be completed by Q2 of 2011.</p>
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\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

1.3.5. Complete a local water, wastewater and storm sewer assessment system model for the purpose of optimizing flows (adapted from Vaughan Vision 2020).

2009-2010

Engineering and Public Works

Storm Drainage and Storm Water Management Master Plan Class EA Study Commenced in Q1 of 2010. Capital Budget for this study was approved in 2009 in support of the City's on-going Growth Management Strategy for 2031 and OP Review. Development Engineering Staff is currently working with TRCA to protect for more stringent storm water management controls within new urban expansion areas such as Block 61 West (Nashville Heights) and Blocks 34 and 35 (Hwy 400 North Employment Lands OPA 637). This is required in advance of the TRCA completing updated Master Plan Studies for the Humber and Don River Watersheds. TOR approved by Council April 13, 2010.

Water and Wastewater Master Plan Class EA Study: Will commence Q1 of 2010. Capital Budget for this study was approved in 2009. In support of the City's on-going Growth Management Strategy for 2031 and the OP Review.

Sewage Flow Monitoring Program: Currently approved in the 2006 Capital Budget. With funding from City-Wide DCs. Will commence and be completed in conjunction with the Master Plan Update to assess residual capacity within the system, assess the actual sewage generation rates and all overall optimization of the existing system. Start: Q2 2010 – Anticipated end date: Q2 2011.

Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program with York Region. Staff continues to work closely with Regional Infrastructure Planning and Operations Staff to identify and monitor strategic locations throughout the City where extraneous flows may be present within the sanitary sewer system. Once identified appropriate remedial measures may be undertaken to rectify the situation. This work will become more of a priority in the upcoming years due to the MOE requirement to reduce I&I by 10% as part of their approval of the South East Collector Sewer twinning project. A task force is being set up involving staff from all area municipalities and the

				<p>Region to look at this issue and develop a collaborative strategy to reduce I&amp;I. It is expected that by early 2011, staff will have a better understanding of the financial and human resource requirement that a commitment to a 10% reduction will have on Vaughan.</p> <p>Staff continues to develop and update in-house computer <u>SewerCAD and WaterCAD Models</u> of the City's existing sanitary sewer and water distribution systems. These models are used as tool for to monitor system capacity and to facilitate/justify capital improvement projects in support of new development applications.</p>	
1.3.6.	Update the sanitary sewer by-law	2009-2010	Engineering and Public Works	Legal and Finance	<p>The Region is in the processing of updating its own Sewer Use By-law. Once the Region has finalized its by-law, staff will prepare the City's by-law so that it is in line with the new Regional requirements. It is anticipated that a draft will be completed by Q4 2010. <u>Budget status:</u> No expenditures yet. Work to be done in-house, with Legal review.</p>
1.3.7.	Create a stormwater by-law	2009-2010	Engineering and Public Works	Legal and Finance	<p>No action taken to date. Review expected to start Q1 2010. Depending on complexity of the by-law and any associated charges, this work will most likely go beyond 2010. <u>Budget status:</u> No expenditures yet. However, a consultant may be required to determine how storm water charges are calculated.</p>

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		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	This will be completed in 2010 as part of the energy audit identified in Action 1.1.2. The water consumption target and action plan will be developed after the water use audit has been completed. Will be in consultation with Public Works.

<p>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:</p> <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>	<p>2010-2011</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>The water consumption target and action plan will be developed after the water use audit has been completed.</p>
<p>1.4.3. Evaluate and report annually on changes in water use at the City.</p>	<p>2009-2011</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Annual reports will commence post-2010 after the completion of the audit.</p>

**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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
<p>1.5.1. 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.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Community Services</p>		<p>Has been applied in the construction of Fire Station 79, City Hall and the Fire Station 710 and all future projects.</p>

**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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
<p>1.5.2. Calculate the amount of waste that the City of Vaughan's facilities generate annually by completing a waste audit.</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>This exercise is currently underway, using 2009 as a benchmark. It will be assessing the total volume and the breakdown between garbage and recyclables.</p>

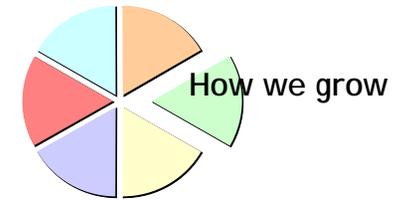
<p>1.5.3 Develop a waste management strategy for City facilities with a few smaller, but high profile initiatives such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the six Rs (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Renew, Recycle, and Recover) in facilities through an education campaign;</li> <li>• Eliminating 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>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Community Services &amp; Human Resources</p>	<p>Under the Commissioner of Engineering &amp; Public Works, a working group has been established involving senior staff from Parks, Planning, Building and Facilities and Public Works to review waste diversion in City buildings and parks etc. To date, an organics recovery program has been started in the cafeterias. The sale of bottled water has been banned in City buildings, with full implementation taking place when the new contracts with the food suppliers start in 2010. To go along with the ban, refillable water bottles were distributed to all City staff. Some 3 stream containers have been purchased for City facilities, and the education/advertising for them are being developed by Public Works staff. Support from HR will be provided as required. <u>Budget status:</u> In-house staff and existing operating budgets being used at this time. Future budget implications not currently identified.</p>
<p>1.5.4. Evaluate and report annually on the amount of waste generated and track progress in achieving the waste reduction target.</p>	<p>2011-2014</p>	<p>Community Services</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Targeted for the latter part of the timeframe (2011-14)</p>
<p>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 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.</p>	<p>2009-2010</p>	<p>Purchasing</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Purchasing is preparing a draft Green Procurement corporate purchasing policy. The anticipated time frame for its preparation is Q4 of 2010.</p>

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p><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></p>	Ongoing	Engineering and Public Works		<p>Public Works staff continues to meet with MOE staff regarding this action. Staff held a workshop for multi-residential building owners and management staff in the Fall of 2009. MOE staff was there to talk about building owners' requirements for waste diversion activities under existing legislation.</p> <p>As part of the 2010 work plan, resources will be produced for multi-residential building owners to assist them in implementing source separation programs.</p> <p><u>Budget status:</u> In-house staff and resources are being used.</p>
<p><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></p>	2011-2014	Engineering and Public Works		<p>Dongara waste pelletization facility is up and running and accepting all of Vaughan's mixed residential waste. The Region's new Community Environmental Centre opened in the summer of 2009, providing additional disposal and recovery opportunities for City residents and businesses. Curbside diversion rate is 68% for 2009.</p> <p><u>Budget status:</u> Collection costs budgeted through the Operating Budget. Program development, monitoring etc., are done through in-house staff and resources.</p>

\* 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 May 2010
		Owner	Resources	

2.1.1. 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:

- Green Directions Vaughan, the City's first Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan;
- The new Official Plan;
- The Transportation Master Plan;
- Water and Sewer Master Plan;
- The Drainage and Stormwater Master Plan;
- Employment Sectors Strategy;
- The Fire and Rescue Services Master Plan;
- The Parks, Recreation, Facilities and Libraries Master Plan; and
- The Long Range Financial Plan.

Ongoing	City Manager's Office	All	The overall growth management plan, Vaughan Tomorrow is, nearing completion. Green Directions, the VFRS Master Plan, the Active Together Master Plan, Long Range Financial Plan and the Employment Sectors Strategy Study are in place. Other Master Plans are underway with expected finalization in Q3 2010. The Official Plan has been drafted and is now available for public review. The statutory public hearing took place on May 17. Follow-up reports are planned for July 28, August 31, with adoption targeted for September 7.
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**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 Owner Resources	Status May 2010
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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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
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		<p><u>Measures to Date</u> Through the Official Plan Review process, a target of 45% intensification has been identified for the City of Vaughan, which is consistent with the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. The draft Official Plan adopts land use and density policies which will fulfill this objective by identifying intensification areas in centres and corridors.</p> <p><u>2010 Work Plan</u> The 2010 work plan follows the milestones for the OP Review process.</p> <p><u>Budget Status</u> The budget for the OP Review process has been approved through to the end of 2010.</p> <p><u>May 2010 Update</u> Various Reports to Council are being prepared regarding the entire Official Plan review process, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 17, 2010, Public Hearing – City-wide Official Plan (Volume 1)</li> <li>• June 1, 2010, Committee of the Whole – Official Plan background</li> </ul>

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

<p>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.</p>	<p>2009-2011</p>	<p>Community Services</p>		<p>studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 14, 2010, Public Hearing – Volume 2 of Official Plan (i.e. all Secondary Plans)</li> <li>• July 28, 2010 Committee of the Whole - City-wide Official Plan (Volume 1)</li> <li>• August 31, 2010 – Committee of the Whole, Technical Reports;</li> <li>• September 7, 2010 - Council adoption.</li> </ul> <p>Parks and Forestry Operations have presented to the Environmental Committee in both June 2009 and January 2010 introducing and providing updates on the Five Year Plan to Expand the Urban Forest. Funds have been budgeted to launch the Vaughan B'Leaves branding and brochure in spring 2010 following the presentation to Environmental Committee on May 25th. The UFORE results will be forthcoming in 2011.</p>
<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>Beyond the 2009-2014 timeframe.</p>

**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
		<p>Owner Resources</p>	<p>May 2010</p>
<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> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p><u>Measures to Date</u> A healthy, functioning greenspace system is critical to achieving the urban form that will support the City's projected population growth. Part 1 of the City of Vaughan Natural Heritage Strategy document has been completed by AECOM. The natural heritage review is a subcontract to Urban Strategies Inc. as part of the OP Review process. Part 2 of the Natural Heritage Strategy will focus on environmental</p>

- 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
- Develop policies to create opportunities for near urban agriculture within Vaughan's rural areas, through policies described in the City's new Official Plan

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 and/or polishing areas.

2011-2014

Community Services

Engineering and Public Works

policies to support the natural heritage system and will be developed in the next few months in consultation with AECOM, Urban Strategies Inc. and the TRCA.

Gaps remain in the natural heritage system in terms of setting clear biodiversity and ecosystem targets. As a result, ongoing studies will be required to fill the information gaps and develop a natural heritage system strategy with clear targets for habitat protection based on the long-term persistence of select species, wildlife communities and ecosystem functions.

2010 Work Plan

Additional studies will likely be identified as an outcome of the current work. MNR's *Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide* and revised *Natural Heritage Reference Manual*, together with York Region information regarding the Regional Greenlands System, will be used as the main resources to develop a work plan and budget. The watershed plans for the Humber River and Don River are also useful guidance documents to prepare a work plan and Terms of Reference for ongoing natural heritage studies.

May 2010 Update

See the update under Action Item 1.3.2. A report to Committee of the Whole is projected for June of 2010.

Measures to Date – In advance of 2011, the Parks Development Division has initiated the development of a Sustainability "Tool Kit." The guiding principles of the "Tool Kit" propose the creation of a set of guidelines that promote responsible environmental practices, enhance social benefits and reduce the cost of management/maintenance of park and open space systems.

2010 Work Plan – Within our parks and open spaces, the Parks Development will be exploring the following sustainable applications where practical. Initiatives include:

- Harvest rain water: reduce the use of potable water;
- Implement Xeriscaping – water efficient landscaping;
- Include carpool parking spaces and bicycle parking;
- Natural & renewable energy sources: wind, solar and geothermal activities;

- 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;
- Specify organic fertilizers and compost;
- 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.

The objective is 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 May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p>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></p>	Ongoing	Planning	All	<p><u>Measures to Date</u> A Report to Council was submitted to the February 24, 2009 meeting of the Environment Committee (Report No. 2, Item #2, "Measuring Environmental Sustainability Performance of Development") for Council endorsement to seek external funds for this action item. The work plan and budget submitted with the Report to Council had a focus on the development of the sustainability performance measures</p> <p>Staff is pursuing a proposal to FCM in collaboration with other municipalities for funding to conduct "field testing. An Intent to Apply letter has been submitted to FCM by the City of Vaughan as Lead Applicant in collaboration with the Town of Richmond Hill, City of Brampton, Clean Air Partnership and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. The Intent to Apply letter is consistent with the City's recently approved Grant Funding Procurement Policy.</p> <p>An update in the form of a Staff Report and presentation is planned for June 2010. It will recommend that, should there be a positive response to the Intent to Apply letter from the FCM Green Municipal Fund, that the City proceed with discussions with FCM and municipal collaborators to develop a detailed proposal, in accordance with the City's Grant Funding Procurement Policy, for inclusion in the 2011 budget deliberations.</p>
<p>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></p>	Ongoing	Planning & Engineering and Public Works		<p>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</p>

<p>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 Vaughan and that affordability is a consideration in planning.*</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>green roofs, infiltration trenches within public right-of-ways, porous pavement materials and grey water reuse.</p> <p>The new Official Plan provides for 45% of future housing needs to be addressed via intensification within the 2006 built boundary. Most of this development can be expected to take the form of medium and high density residential units, some in mixed use form with retail at grade. Many of these units will be more affordable than typical low density units. Most of the intensification areas are located along prime transit corridors, contributing to the affordability objectives by reducing car dependency. Policies are included in the draft Official Plan</p> <p><u>Budget Status</u> The budget for the City-wide OP is approved. Additional studies and budget to address the issue of affordable housing may be required in 2011.</p> <p><u>May 2010 Update</u> The schedule for the review and adoption of the Official Plan is detailed under Action Item 2.2.1.</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  (Zoning by-laws to be initiated after the completion of the Official Plan)</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p><u>Measures to Date</u> The new City-wide Official Plan will integrate environmental sustainability principles and objectives into its policies. These are covered in Section 9.1.3, Sustainable Development". These factors will be taken into consideration when developing the implementing zoning by-law.</p> <p>This action item is related to Action Item 2.3.1 regarding the development of a "Sustainable Development Evaluation Framework".</p> <p>In addition to OP policies and zoning by-laws, engineering standards will need to be reviewed to ensure that they anticipate and do not limit the application of measures such as district energy, waste water heat recovery, green roofs and rainwater</p>

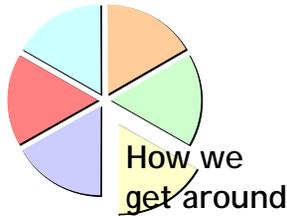
\* Actions in italics represent municipally-mandated responsibilities or initiatives that are already underway (or planned for) at the City

harvesting, among other environmental sustainable technologies.  
Policies and zoning by-laws will need to be reviewed as part of the effort to implement a sustainable development evaluation framework.  
Budget Status  
Staff resources are likely sufficient to complete this action item in conjunction with Action Item 2.3.1.

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
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>	2011-2014	Planning		Section 9.1.3 of the draft Official Plan makes it a policy of Council to develop Green Development Standards, in conjunction with the building and construction industry, that will be applicable to all public and private and private sector developments.
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.	2009-2011	Community Services	Engineering and Public Works	Staff are using as an interim baseline, the approach identified in the April 14, 2008 report to Council, "City of Vaughan Green Building Policy", outlining the use of LEED standards or appropriate alternatives as determined by the situation. Council referred this to staff for a follow-up report. It is understood that a number of changes will be occurring in the LEED program and new certification programs and criteria will emerge. Staff is working to meld and reconcile the various standards to create a policy that can accommodate the range of building types and situations (e.g. new construction, renovation/retrofit and heritage) the City faces. A report on the Green Building Policy is targeted for Q1 of 2010.

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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 May 2010
		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	The Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan is being implemented jointly by the Commissions of Community Services, Finance & Corporate Services, Planning, and Engineering & Public Works. The Development/Transportation Engineering Department is taking the lead on implementing the components of the Master Plan that are located on existing or proposed roadways and the development of the applicable standards and route identification and signage. The Development/Transportation Engineering Department has made application for funding assistance through the Pedestrian and Cycling Municipal Partnership Program developed by the Region of York. The Region developed the Program to encourage walking and cycling by accelerating the implementation of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure

throughout York Region. This capital cost-sharing program is administered and funded by the York Region. Up to 50% of the construction cost of a project under this program will be contributed by the Region. The program was initiated in 2008 (2009 construction) and the Development/Transportation Engineering Department was successful in getting approval in the amount of about \$25,000.00 to implement the first phase of the bike route signage. The submission for 2010 projects was made in April 2009 and includes the cost associated with the installation of the second phase of the bike route signage and a multi-use pathway on the south side of Teston Road between Keele Street and Jane Street. On October 22, 2009 York Regional Council approved the City of Vaughan 2010 projects, The Development/Transportation Engineering Department is seeking approval for the City's share of the phase 1 & 2 projects through the 2010 Capital Budget. The Engineering Services Department is currently undertaking the design works for the implementation of the above-noted multi-use pathway. This pathway will be implemented in 2010. The phase 1 implementation of the bike route signage is scheduled to commence in early Spring 2010.

A multi-year implementation program will be developed once staff has a better understanding of the phasing of the Region's program and available funding.

Update report submitted to Council March 09, 2010.

The Parks Development Department is responsible for the implementation of all off-road trail systems as identified in the Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan.

Annually, through the capital budget cycle, Parks Development has been implementing key sections of the Don River and Humber River trail systems. In 2009, Parks Development was successful in its application for Regional funding (PCMPP) and was awarded \$87,000 to facilitate the

construction of an underpass beneath Rutherford Road on the Humber River. This underpass will allow for a continuous trail from the intersection of Langstaff Road & Islington Avenue north to Bindertwine Park. An additional \$16,000 was awarded through the PCMP to facilitate completion of the trail connections in the Bartley Smith Greenway north of the Langstaff Ecopark. In 2009, Parks Development received a total of \$7,374,000 in off-road multi-use trail funding through the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund Program. \$300,000 in funding is being used to make necessary repairs and upgrades to the Bartley Smith Greenway, including resurfacing, repairs, and the replacement of an existing temporary bridge with one that will accommodate emergency vehicles. \$984,000 in funding is being directed towards Rainbow Creek Park and the replacement of the deteriorated path network with accessible asphalt walkways totalling approximately 3300 linear metres in length. The project also includes several prefabricated metal pedestrian bridges over Rainbow Creek and associated pathway lighting works. An additional \$90,000 has facilitated the completion of the second phase of trail works in the Maple Nature Reserve, connecting the natural open space to the surrounding community. A joint submission was made in 2009 by the Parks Development and Recreation & Culture Departments for funding through the Ontario TDM Municipal Grant Program to support the Active Together Trail Signage Program. This program is intended to build on and add to the standard route signage with Motivational and Educational Signage. In 2009, Capital projects for off-road multi-use facilities extended the off-road multi-use pathway system within Boyd Park to Rutherford Road. Extensive trails were also constructed through the Maple Nature Reserve.

2010 Workplan

Two additional bridge crossings within the William Granger Greenway and construction of a multi-use pathway between Jacob Keffer Parkway and Planchett Road in the

3.1.2. *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.*

Ongoing

Planning

Engineering  
and Public  
Works

Bartley Smith Greenway north to Rutherford Road and extension of the William Granger Greenway south from Boyd Park to Willis Ave.

Measures to Date

The Transportation Master Plan will review Transportation Demand Management measures. Policies in the new City-wide Official Plan address the need to encourage active transportation and transit use. A focus on intensification and mixed use developments in corridors and nodes is one important factor in encouraging active transportation. Public Squares is a specific project of the Policy Planning and Parks Development teams.

Sustainability measures related to mobility, including infrastructure such as intersection densities, neighbourhood connections and implementation of pedestrian and bicycle paths are part of the Sustainable Development Evaluation Framework described in Action Item 2.3.1. The draft City of Vaughan Official Plan also provides urban design policies that support more walkable, transit supportive communities.

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

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility Owner Resources	Status May 2010
<p>3.2.1. <i>Continue to work with York Region Transit to develop appropriate local routes to serve users' needs.*</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>The Development/Transportation Engineering Department as part of the development/ Block Plan process encourages development of a transportation network of continuous, primary roads to efficiently accommodate transit routes with a goal of attracting at least 15% of the peak hour commuters by the completion of the development of the new communities, with a continued growth in transit use in the long term. As part of the Transportation Study for Block Plans, a Transportation Management Plan is prepared, identifying proposed transit routes within the Block. The proposed transit routes are identified using City's current policies where at least 80% of the residences and majority of jobs and other activities should be within comfortable walking distance of transit stops (400 metres). York Region Transit (YRT) staff reviews and approves the proposed transit routes in coordination with City staff. Transit route implementation within each block is coordinated with development and through annual planning cycle whereby YRT staff prepares a transit service plan for the upcoming year. Criteria for the plan are based on an evaluation of current services and overall Region Transit objectives. City staff from various departments participates through regular communications with the YRT staff on the preparation of a transit service plan. Currently, the YRT is preparing a new Five-Year Plan (2010 – 2015) that will incorporate the key principles of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning for easy, convenient and direct connections to future and</li> </ul>

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

			<p>existing rapid transit services (i.e. proposed subway and VivaNext initiatives);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximizing potential for success with new service strategies, with a view to making significant gains in cost recovery and ridership levels;</li> <li>• Developing decision making tools based on a sound Business Intelligence approach.</li> </ul> <p>A new Five-Year Plan is an update to the current Five-Year Plan (2006 – 2010) and follow-up to YRT/VIVA's annual service plan for 2009.</p>
<p>3.2.2. <i>Continue to support the maintenance, repair and renewal of the existing road network.</i></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>The maintenance of roads is an ongoing matter with Public Works. Crack routing and sealing, pothole repairs, curb and sidewalk repair, cold mix patching, grading and gravelling rural roads, are all examples of the maintenance work done by Public Works to ensure the roads are being maintained. Winter maintenance is also considered road maintenance. Similar actions and activities are planned for 2010.</p> <p><u>Budget status:</u> Funds for the scheduled works for 2010 have been approved as part of the 2010 Operating Budget.</p>
<p>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></p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Engineering and Public Works</p>	<p>The Terms of Reference for the Request for Proposal (RFP) in the Review &amp; Update of Engineering Standards and Design Criteria have been drafted. They are to be reviewed by the Department before releasing them in a RFP. The Terms of Reference is scheduled to be completed in 2009. The complete review and update will be completed in 2010. These works have been budgeted under 2009 Capital Budget.</p>
<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>The City-wide Parking Standards Review is nearing completion. A Report to Committee of the Whole (Working Session) is being prepared for June 2010.</p>

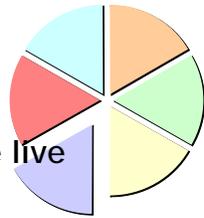
**Objective 3.3: Reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips by supporting active transportation, car pooling and public transit**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p>3.3.1. <i>Develop and implement an Employee Trip Reduction/active transportation strategy for <b>City staff</b>. 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>	Ongoing	Deputy City Manager	Engineering and Public Works & Finance & Planning & Human Resources	Staff continues to work with Smart Commute – North Toronto, Vaughan (NTV) to provide a comprehensive employee trip reduction program for City of Vaughan employees. Smart Commute NTV will report to Environment Committee on progress and updated work plan and new initiatives in Q1 or Q2 of each year. Current program includes online ride-matching service, emergency ride home program, yearly events and education campaigns. HR will continue to support initiatives as required. Consolidation of staff at the New City Hall will provide an opportunity to support measures to reduce single occupant vehicle travel through ride sharing and other means.

\* *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 May 2010
		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>The Development/Transportation Engineering Department is currently undertaking the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) as part of the new Official Plan process. The TMP will include transportation demand management initiatives to support a trip reduction of the peak hour commuters. Supporting policies will be developed and included in the new Official Plan and the TMP.</p> <p>The TMP is scheduled to be completed by the Fall of 2010.</p> <p><u>Budget Status:</u> In-house resources and external consultant working within approved budget.</p>



*As described in our Strategic Plan, Vaughan Vision 2020, our city will continue to be a community of choice*

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

*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
		Owner	Resources	
				May 2010

4.1.1. *Develop an implementation plan for the initiatives described in the City's Active Together Master Plan through a phased and budgeted program.*

Ongoing	Community Services	Planning	<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Active Together Physical Activity Strategy (PAS) was approved and launched and the year one objectives were completed in 2009.</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010</u> Currently working on year two objectives as outlined in the plan.</p> <p><b>Objective One-</b>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><b>Objective Two</b> -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><b>Objective Three</b> - 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><b>Objective Four-</b> 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>
Ongoing			
Ongoing			
December 2010			
December 2010			
Ongoing			<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Youth Strategy approved and launched.</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010:</u> Youth Strategy action items are being updated and monitored. Follow-up report on action items to be prepared.</p>
Ongoing			<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> RecAssist program approved.</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010:</u> Program in place and providing assistance to Vaughan residents that qualify. No new milestones anticipated.</p>

4.1.2. *Develop a strategy to increase support for and promotion of the arts and culture in the community (from Vaughan Vision 2020).*

Ongoing

Community Services

June 2010

Completed in 2009:  
"Creative Together" cultural plan underway.  
In progress for 2010:  
Draft Strategy completed. Some strategies incorporated in Official Plan. To be presented for approval at Committee of the Whole in June 2010.

Completed in 2009:  
New initiatives: Art in community centres, RAVE Awards, Art of Diversity Competition, expanding programming at City Playhouse, Vaughan in Focus: Photography Contest, Exhibition & Art Studio Space Rental Program, Vaughan of a Kind Art Sale.  
In progress for 2010:  
Culture Day Celebration (part of a provincial initiative) planned for September 2010

4.1.3. *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.*

Ongoing

Planning & Community Services

Completed in 2009:  
OP draft policies and associated mapping and studies for built heritage, cultural landscapes, and archaeology are to be completed by Q4/09.  
In progress for 2010:  
Draft Strategy completed. Some strategies incorporated in Official Plan. Archeological and cultural heritage studies are to be presented for approval at Committee of the Whole in June 2010

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

**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 May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<p>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></p>	Ongoing	Planning & Community Services		<p><u>Completed in 2009 – Public Art:</u> OP draft policies study for public art is to be completed by Q4/09. <u>In Progress for 2010:</u> Draft Strategy completed. Some strategies incorporated in Official Plan.</p> <p><u>Completed in 2009 – Public Squares</u> In 2009 the Public Squares initiative was presented by Policy Planning to a Committee of the Whole Working Session outlining the history of public squares. The presentation described the anatomy of public squares and case studies in Ontario where public squares served as anchors to the revitalization of urban districts, promoted intensification and improved the quality of life. Specific policy planning measures are being developed that will be incorporated into the new Official Plan, including designated intensification areas and possible new definitions of parkland dedication. The Public Squares initiative is largely an internal project coordinated with the OP Review and, hence, the work plan follows the milestones of the OP Review process. No additional funding is anticipated to include these measures in the draft Official Plan.</p>
<p>4.1.5. <i>Provide access to, and information about, the City's services at community centres.</i></p>	Ongoing	Community Services	Deputy City Manager (IT)	<p><u>Completed in 2010</u> City of Vaughan Information Boards installed at all community centres (i.e., job postings, meeting notices are examples). Implemented a multi use initiative that includes the selling of blue and green bins at designated centres.</p>

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

**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 May 2010
		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><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Community Service Organization (CSO) policy.</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010:</u> The updated CSO policy will go to Council on July 6, 2010</p>
	June 2010			<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Preparation of Diversity Plan underway.</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010:</u> Draft Strategy completed. To be reviewed and approved by Equity and Diversity Committee Plan to report in June 2010.</p> <p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Fuerza Latina, Vaughan Healthcare Centre, York Support Services, VITA Community Living, Elspeth Heyworth, Human Endeavours, Social Services of York Region – examples of partnerships</p>
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		<p>Preparation of a civic engagement strategy is now underway. On November 16, 2009 a report went to the Strategic Planning Committee on the use of social media to enhance public engagement. This is to be addressed by a social media staff working committee. It reported to the Strategic Planning Committee on May 10, 2010. A phased in approach was approved. Alternative measures will be investigated for future application.</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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
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		Since the adoption of Green Directions, the City committed \$80 million (August 2009) to the acquisition and development of the Vaughan Health Campus of Care. (N.W. Corner of Jane-Major Mackenzie). The City is also conducting a land use (official plan) study for the site to support a campus of care that is sustainable and functional, featuring high quality urban design and complementary and supportive land uses. The statutory public hearing is scheduled for June 1, 2010. The draft 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 renewable energy technology. In addition, the development of the campus care 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. This is consistent with the Places to Grow objective of achieving complete communities and opportunities identified in the approved Employment Sectors Strategy Study.

**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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
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  September 2010	Community Services		<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Camp programs: ECO-kids, ORADACA (Hummingbirds, Orioles, Hawks, Falcons), Zero Gravity Skateboarding (10-13), Triathlon, Soccer Sportacular, Youth Sport Experience, Golf Camp, Camp Corral (Jr. and Sr.)</p> <p><u>In Progress for 2010:</u> The Transportation Demand Management grant of \$30,000 will provide directional and motivational signage at trails to encourage cycling and walking to local transit stops, schools, community centres and businesses; provide additional educational signage panels promoting active lifestyles along the routes; and will help form and support walking campaigns and clubs within the City. Installation of signage in parks.</p>
4.1.10. <i>Develop accessible service standards as part of compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.</i>	2009-2010	Community Services	All	<p><u>Completed in 2009:</u> Customer Service Standards approved in May 2009; training for all staff underway</p> <p><u>In progress for 2010:</u> Accessible Customer Service initial staff training has been completed - going forward training will remain ongoing. On March 10, 2010, staff filed report with government of Ontario re Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, Ontario Reg. 429/07 Future standards being developed, include: Information and Communications, Transportation, Employment, Built Environment. ITM and Corp Comm will be taking the lead with the Information and Communications standard; Engineering and Public Works will be taking the lead with the Transportation standard; Human Resources will be taking the lead with the Employment standard; and Building Standards and Building and Facilities will be taking the lead with the Built Environment standard.</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 May 2010
		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	The Employment Sectors Strategy Study has been completed and was approved by Council on May 4, 2010. Its recommendations are being incorporated into the draft of the new Official Plan.
<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.)		Direction received to proceed with the Economic Development Strategy. Study now underway with completion projected for Q3 of 2010.

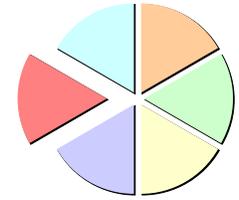
**Objective 4.3: To encourage the establishment of green businesses and sustainable business practices**

Actions	Time Frame	Responsibility		Status May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
<i>4.3.1. 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.)		To be undertaken through the preparation of the Economic Development Strategy
4.3.2. Undertake an eco-industrial park feasibility study.	2009-2010	City Manager's Office (Econ. Dev't.)	Planning	Timing dependent on completion of the Economic Development Strategy and the adoption of the new Official Plan.
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.)		To be undertaken through the preparation of the Economic Development Strategy – Q3 2010.

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

## 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 May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
5.1.1. <i>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	Will be working in conjunction with Policy Planning in the development of evaluation criteria concurrently with the official plan review. This will entail consultation with stakeholder groups throughout 2010 and beyond. Specific outreach programs will be developed. Consideration will also be given to establishing a general advisory committee (6.1.3) and Sustainability Forum (5.2.6) to support outreach.

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

5.1.2. *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.*

Ongoing

Engineering  
and Public  
Works

A downspout disconnection education program was developed and advertised to the public in print and electronic formats

A back-water valve installation subsidy was created to assist homeowners with the cost of installing these devices to prevent basement flooding during heavy storms.

Public Works tried to arrange with York Region to hold another rain barrel sale in the City this Spring. Unfortunately, for 2010, the Region is holding the sale in other municipalities.

Budget status: Work was done by in-house staff and resources.

5.1.3. *Use the Vaughan Civic Centre and other sustainably constructed facilities as learning centres by providing tours about sustainable construction and energy conservation.*

Ongoing

Deputy City  
Manager

Community  
Services

Action 5.1.5 provides for the development of an Employee Education Plan (Report to the May 25 Environment Committee) to familiarize staff with the Green Directions Plan. It also identifies a targeted program to introduce staff to the New City Hall, which will highlight its attributes. This is anticipated for the staff move-in period in the fall of 2010. Once detailed, a budget for this program will be developed. A launch event is also expected in June for the New City Hall. A separate communications package with a public focus will also address the building's sustainable qualities. Action 5.1.7 provides for the development of a broader public education program addressing businesses and citizens. It will be possible to use the Civic Centre and other green buildings in this program.

<p>5.1.4 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.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>City Manager's Office</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Climate change is assumed to be a baseline condition in all of the City's studies. Plans will provide for either measures to limit the advance of climate change (e.g. controlling greenhouse gas emissions) or adaptive techniques to minimize impacts like accommodating higher peaking stormwater flows and conserving water. (e.g. see Actions under Objective 1.3). The draft Official Plan reinforces the need to address climate through policies that provide for the undertaking a risk assessment with regard for the need for adaptive measures and the adoption of such 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 report has been prepared for the May 25, 2010 Environment Committee meeting. It outlines the structure for an employee education plan. Using a Vaughan On Line platform it will familiarize staff with Green Directions; promote a corporate culture change toward greater sustainability and provide the foundation for the implementation of city programs and campaigns aimed at better environmental performance, such as energy conservation (lights out-computers-off) and application of 3-stream garbage disposal in city facilities.</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 businesses and citizens. (Action 5.1.7) In advance, Staff will investigate with the school boards the appropriate content for the kit, the target audience and the level of distribution. In addition, the methods used by other public agencies will be examined to obtain input on their approaches to school outreach. When reporting, staff will also provide an estimate of the printing costs for the number of kits necessary to serve the intended audience; and in addition, the cost of producing an on-line version will be assessed.</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	Expect to report in 2011 on preparing a comprehensive plan for businesses and citizens. Will proceed with individual initiatives in the interim. A report is scheduled for the May 25, 2010 Environment Committee meeting on the development of an Employee Education Plan (Action 5.1.5) and the creation of a supporting Green Directions Vaughan On Line Intranet site. This exercise may serve as the prototype for the development of the business/citizens' plan as similar content would be expected.) A corresponding external business/citizen website may also support this program and possibly provide information developed for schools and students pursuant to Action 5.1.6.
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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 May 2010
		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	Staff will continue to work with the Region at every opportunity and participate in on-going policy development and implementation exercises and educational initiatives.
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 will be timed to coincide with or follow shortly thereafter, the report referred to in Action 6.1.3 regarding the review of the Mandate, Terms of Reference and Membership of the Environment Committee. This would be expected early in the new term of Council.

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

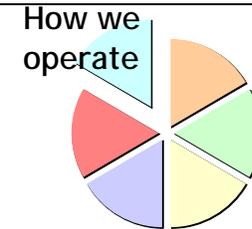
5.2.3. Create an inter-government relations strategy ensuring that the City of Vaughan participates in provincial, national and international forums and collaborates with neighbouring municipalities to share best practices (adapted from Vaughan Vision).	2009-2010	Deputy City Manager	All	A report will be timed to coincide with or follow shortly thereafter, the report referred to in Action 6.1.3 regarding the review of the Mandate, Terms of Reference and Membership of the Environment Committee. This would be expected early in the new term of Council.
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	A report will be timed to coincide with or follow shortly thereafter, the report referred to in Action 6.1.3 regarding the review of the Mandate, Terms of Reference and Membership of the Environment Committee. This would be expected early in the new term of Council.

**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	May 2010
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	Continuing throughout 2010.
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	Exploration of the opportunities for the creation of a Community Sustainability Forum should be prioritized for Q1-Q2 of 2011. A report evaluating the potential role and membership of the Community Forum should be prepared. Accommodation should also be considered in the 2011 budget.



## 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
		Owner	Resources	May 2010
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, most recently on the hiring process for the Manager of Sustainability position.
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		Will continue consultation and interaction throughout 2010. It is especially critical in 2010 given the currency of the Regional and City OP processes. Developing coordinated approaches is a consideration in creating the City sustainability criteria.
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	Staff will report back early in the new (2010-2014) term of Council. Timing will be influenced by any related actions of Council on the City's overall Committee structure. Budget status: The use of in-house resources is anticipated at this time with no budget implications. On November 9, 2009 Committee of the Whole approved a recommendation from GVAC providing for the Committee to remain in place until the end of the current term of Council with updated Terms of Reference. This will also be re-evaluated in the new term of Council

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	The 2010 Operating Budget included a provision for an additional staff position to fulfill this role. A job description was completed for a Manager of Environmental Sustainability and a competition was held. Outcome pending.
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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 May 2010
		Owner	Resources	
6.1.5. Prepare annual environmental/sustainability project plans for endorsement by the Budget Committee.	Annually	Deputy City Manager	All	Undertaken on an annual basis by each affected department.
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	This update is the first anniversary report (from Council's April 2009 approval) on the implementation status of Green Directions. It updates the December 2009 report. Going forward it will be necessary to confirm its regular timing and a standard format will need to be developed. In addition, monitoring criteria or indicators will need to be developed pursuant to Section 4.2 'Monitoring and Reporting on Progress' and Appendix C "Draft Indicators". Section 4.2 recommends that two years after the adoption of Green Directions (April 2011) a report be prepared on baseline sustainability indicators. Thereafter, an indicator report should be published on a minimum 5 year cycle.