

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 1, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008.

**1 PRESENTATION BY DPRA INC.
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLAN**

The Environment Committee recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Manager, dated September 29, 2008, be approved;
- 2) That the presentation by Mr. Jim Micak and Ms. Amanda Kennedy, DPRA Inc., 7501 Keele Street, Suite 300, Vaughan, L4K 1Y2 and presentation material entitled, "Environmental Master Plan – Presentation to the Environment Committee, September 29, 2008" and "Tracking the Evolution of Defining Terms for the Environmental Master Plan", dated September 29, 2008, be received;
- 3) That the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation June 2008 document entitled, "Research Highlight", submitted by Councillor Carella, be received and referred to staff and the consultants for review; and
- 4) That the deputation of Mr. Adriano Volpentesta, 74 Mediterra Drive, Vaughan, L4H 3B8, be received.

Recommendation

The City Manager recommends that:

1. This report and the presentation by DPRA Inc. be received;
2. A workshop with Senior Management and members of the Environment Committee be convened to build on the input received at this meeting;
3. The draft Environmental Master Plan be amended prior to the next phase of public consultation, incorporating:
 - a) The comments of the Environment Committee received at this meeting;
 - b) Input obtained at the proposed workshop.
4. The resulting revised draft of the Environmental Master Plan be made available for public comment during the week of October 20-24, (posted on the *Vaughan Tomorrow* website) in advance of the Stakeholder Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 and the Public Information Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2008; and
5. The Environmental Master Plan proceed to finalization on the basis of the proposed schedule set out in section b) of this report - "Next Steps".

Economic Impact

Direction to proceed with the preparation of the Environmental Master Plan has been obtained and was included in the 2007 Capital Budget.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 1, Environ Report No. 7 – Page 2

Communications Plan

The communications plan for the Environmental Master Plan forms part of the overall Growth Management Communications Strategy, which will also encompass the Official Plan Review and the Master Plan studies. It is the intention that the revised draft of the Environmental Master Plan be placed on the Vaughan Tomorrow website, with an invitation to comment.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- Facilitate the consulting team's presentation of the first draft of the Environmental Master Plan;
- Provide the Environment Committee with the opportunity to make its initial comments on the draft and identify the measures to secure any follow-up input from the Committee members;
- Set out the proposed steps leading to the finalization of the EMP.

Background – Analysis and Options

a) The First Draft of the Environmental Master Plan

The first draft of the Environmental Master Plan was distributed to the members of the Environment Committee on September 22, 2008. The plan was developed with the benefit of earlier input from the following sources:

- City Staff and the Environment Committee;
- Two meetings of the Stakeholder Committee;
- The five public Visioning Sessions held in conjunction with the Official Plan Review as part of the *Vaughan Tomorrow* growth management exercise;
- The Official Plan review team and Technical Advisory Committee.

The version before the Committee represents a working draft focusing on the introductory sections and the goals, objectives and action plans. It will provide the basis for further review and modification. The immediate objective is to use this draft, subject to its modification, for further public consultation. The revisions will be based on the input of the Environment Committee and staff, with the intention of providing a draft document that will give the public an understanding of the issues and the potential actions as its basis for commenting. It is intended that the revised draft be posted on the *Vaughan Tomorrow* website during the week of October 20, 2008. A Stakeholder Committee meeting has been scheduled for October 30 and public meeting has been scheduled for November 20.

It is noted that staff is recommending that a workshop be held with members of the Environment Committee and Senior Management during the first half of October as a means of facilitating input into the preparation of the revised draft.

b) Next Steps

The proposed schedule for the finalization of the EMP is summarized below:

- **September 29, 2008:** Environment Committee meeting, presentation by the consulting team with discussion and comment;

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 1, Environ Report No. 7 – Page 3

- **September 30 – Mid-October 2008:** Receive follow-up input from committee members and staff (a workshop with senior staff and the committee members, facilitated by DPRA may be scheduled in this period) and redraft for public review;
- **Week of October 20, 2008:** Make EMP available for public comment on-line and to those who have requested review copies;
- **October 28, 2008:** Provision for an update to Committee of the Whole (Working Session) – Scheduling to be discussed;
- **Thursday, October 30, 2008:** Present plan at a Stakeholder meeting for comment and input;
- **Thursday, November 20, 2008:** Public meeting to present the plan;
- **Friday, November 28, 2008:** Last day for public input;
- **Week of December 1st to 5th:** Complete revisions to the plan;
- **December 8, 2008:** Submit the final draft of the EMP to the Environment Committee for consideration at its scheduled meeting;
- **January 2009:** Council ratification of the Environmental Master Plan.

c) Characteristics of the Environmental Master Plan

In reviewing the draft EMP, some key considerations should be noted.

- i. The Environmental Master Plan is an integral part of the City's *Vaughan Tomorrow* Growth Management Strategy – 2031. *Vaughan Tomorrow* and the EMP originate with the City's Strategic Plan, *Vaughan Vision 2020*. The Environmental Master Plan is designed to work as part of the City's Strategic Plan and the other components of the growth management strategy to ensure that Vaughan will continue to be an attractive place to live and work.
- ii. The Environmental Master Plan is a "Sustainability" plan which embraces the "Triple Bottom-Line" concept of a healthy natural environment, attractive and liveable communities with strong social, cultural and educational opportunities and a solid economic and financial foundation. All City actions should achieve positive outcomes in each of these areas.
- iii. The City acts through its operational and regulatory functions. It provides infrastructure and services to its communities and operates as a regulator through such processes as *Planning Act* approvals. The plan focuses on these areas as being the ones that the City will have the greatest opportunity to obtain positive results. However, it does identify a significant role for the City as an advocate, an innovator and a partner promoting change in areas beyond its jurisdiction. The City can also play an important role as an educator of our staff, residents and the business community.
- iv. The plan was strongly influenced by the public consultation process which took place in the spring of 2008. While the public was very supportive of measures that would address environmental issues like greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, air quality, the preservation of green space and waste-reduction, they also saw sustainability as a broader concept, in a manner consistent with both the triple-bottom line approach and the Province's *Places to Grow* plan (Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe) objective of developing "Complete Communities". Complete Communities meet peoples' needs for daily living throughout an entire lifetime. As such the plan includes elements that support the provision of the community, social, cultural and economic infrastructure, services and amenities necessary to achieve this objective.
- v. The EMP contains a broad range of goals, objectives and actions. When taken together they reflect the City's comprehensive position on sustainability and how a more sustainable future will be achieved. Many of the initiatives will be under the jurisdiction of

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 1, Environ Report No. 7 – Page 4

the Environment Committee. Others, like the new Official Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, will be the responsibility of other committees. Since the EMP represents the City's approach to sustainability it will be necessary to monitor and periodically report on the progress that is being made in implementing the entire plan. This would include all of the initiatives identified in the EMP, while recognizing that some will have a separate reporting track.

- vi. A critical consideration is the need to maintain a sustainable financial position when identifying services, setting service levels and evaluating the various master plans. There will be costs incurred in the planning and implementation processes set out in this plan. This must be carefully planned and staged in such a manner so as not to place a burden on either the short or long-term financial health of the City. Ultimately, the City must live within its means.
- vii. A sustainable environment is important, but sustainability is more broadly defined. The approach entails the careful balancing of the mix of investments in all areas within reasonable spending limits, which will need to be established after the evaluation of both the short and long-term implications. If one aspect or sector is consistently neglected over time it could result in Vaughan becoming a less attractive place to live, work and invest, which would compromise the City's financial sustainability and competitive position in the GTA and beyond.
- viii. In supporting complete, sustainable communities the EMP should also be considered as an integral part of the City's economic development strategy. Vaughan is in a transitional phase. It is becoming an increasingly urban municipality, moving away from the post-1945 suburban forms of development. In addition, one of the City's primary economic bases, the manufacturing sector, is under pressure. For the City to continue to prosper it will need to adapt to these changing conditions and attract the businesses and industries that will be successful in the first half of the 21st Century. With the planned transportation investments (e.g. Spadina and Yonge Subway Extensions, the Viva Bus Rapid Transit Service on Highway 7 and the Highway No. 427 Extension) and supportive land use policy, the city will be well-positioned to succeed.

Quality of community and quality of life will be a major consideration for businesses in deciding where to locate or expand, if already located in Vaughan. This will have a direct impact on businesses' ability to attract the employees they need. Long-term, there are indications that the labour market will be tightening. A competitive municipality will increasingly be seen as one that is both complete and sustainable with a healthy environment, strong communities and financial and economic strength. This would be an enduring competitive advantage in attracting the businesses of the future and the necessary human capital that will be one of the sources of Vaughan's long-term success.

- ix. Currently, the plan includes many on-going initiatives. However, the City is somewhat restricted in its ability to move forward with a number of plans because of the lack of baseline information. This would include areas like energy consumption and the control greenhouse gas emissions. Progress will be slow on climate change actions until this information is captured as a basis for calculating the effectiveness of future actions. Benchmarking will need to be an early priority if the plan is to be successfully implemented and monitored.
- x. It is the intention that the EMP be a living document, which evolves when new challenges arise or when new opportunities appear. However, it will be necessary to give careful consideration to new initiatives to ensure that additional commitments will not exceed the City's financial or staffing capacity.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 1, Environ Report No. 7 – Page 5

- xi. It will be important to adopt an administrative structure to support the implementation of the Environmental Master Plan and the operations of the Environment Committee. This will include ensuring sufficient staff and budget are assigned, with the appropriate reporting relationships. The solution will be advanced as the plan approaches its final form.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the Vaughan Vision 2020 objective to “Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability” by developing and implementing an Environmental Master Plan as part of the Growth Management Strategy 2031.

Regional Impact

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

The version of the Environmental Master Plan, which is the subject of this report and the consultant’s presentation, is a working draft. Over the next two months, the intention is to refine the EMP based on the input of the Environment Committee, the Stakeholder Committee, the public and on-going staff review. The objective is to bring the final draft of the Environmental Master Plan to the Environment Committee meeting of December 8, 2008 for approval in principle. This would lead to Council ratification in January of 2009.

The initial step in moving toward finalization is obtaining the Environment Committee’s input on the working draft. This will help provide direction on priorities and content that will assist in preparing the next version of the EMP, which will form the basis for public discussion and comment. The proposed plan for finalizing the Environmental Master Plan is set out in this report.

Therefore, to move toward completion of the EMP, it is recommended that the recommendations of this report be approved.

Attachments

N/A

Report Prepared by:

Roy McQuillin, Manager of Corporate Policy, ext. 8211

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 2, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008.

2 **EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (“PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP”)**
(Referred from the Council meeting of September 22, 2008, Item 4, Report No. 44)

The Environment Committee recommends:

- 1) **That the recommendation contained in the following report of Councillor Carella, dated September 15, 2008, be approved; and**
- 2) **That the document entitled, “How the companies line up”, submitted by Councillor Carella, be received.**

Council, at its meeting of September 22, 2008, adopted, in part, the following:

That the report be referred to the Environment Committee.

Report of Councillor Carella, dated September 15, 2008

Recommendation

Councillor Tony Carella recommends:

1. That staff undertake the development of an extended producer responsibility (or product stewardship) purchasing policy, and that a draft version of such a policy be reviewed in context of the Environment Master Plan; and
2. That the report be referred to the Environment Committee.

Economic Impact

To be determined in the policy report.

Communication Plan

A communication plan would be premature at this time.

Purpose

To continue the process by which the Corporation of the City of Vaughan demonstrates it is an environmentally friendly place. Lead and Promote Environmental Sustainability.

Background - Analysis and Options

Product stewardship is a concept that has taken root in North America, first in British Columbia and then in California. Briefly, it reflects the belief that the manufacturer of any product has the responsibility not simply to create it from raw materials and sell it to the consuming public, but to provide the means by which, once the product has reached the end of its useful life, it can be disposed of in a way that is most friendly to the environment.

A century ago, when local governments first assumed responsibility for solid waste, it consisted mostly of coal ash left over from heating and cooking. The rest was mainly food, with a small amount of manufactured products like paper and glass. Today, manufactured products and associated packaging make up 75% of what we throw out.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 2, Environ Report No. 7 – Page 2

According to the Product Policy Institute, “One easy step government entities, businesses and institutions can take to implement extended producer responsibility (EPR) is to buy from manufacturers what agree to collect and recycle their products when they get to the end of their useful life”. That goal is what is contemplated in this recommendation, and the resources in place to help the City develop such policies are extensive, and indeed international. The end result of such efforts is that product recycling will become an extension of every company’s marketing system, mirroring the production and distribution process in a kind of “reverse retail” process as part of excellent customer service.

The attached “Purchasing Best Practices / Contracting for Producer Responsibility” published by the Product Policy Institute, based in Athens, Georgia, is but one example of such resources. Another is the Greenpeace Foundation, whose website contains ratings of international manufacturers in respect of their EPR policies and practices. Upon Council approval of this recommendation, additional resources from the California Product Stewardship Council will be furnished by the recommender to appropriate staff.

Regional Implications

None

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

The development of corporate purchasing policies that promote producer responsibility for the entire life cycle of their products will demonstrate the City of Vaughan’s commitment to the health of our environment.

Attachments

“Purchasing Best Practices / Contracting for Producer Responsibility”, published by the Product Policy Institute

Report prepared by:

Councillor Tony Carella

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 3, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008.

3

**PRESENTATION – ecoENERGY HONORARY PLAQUE
AWARDED TO THE CITY OF VAUGHAN BY NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA**

Regional Councillor Frustaglio was presented with the ecoEnergy honorary plaque awarded by Natural Resources Canada to the City of Vaughan in recognition of Vaughan Fire Station 7-9 building's high energy efficiency, and for Vaughan's efforts in helping Canada meet its international commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 4, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008.



4

NEW BUSINESS - REUSABLE BAGS

The Environment Committee considered the matter of reusable bags and directed staff to explore opportunities for using alternative colours, co-branding with the private sector and reconfiguring the bags to provide for longer handles.

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

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 5, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008.

5 NEW BUSINESS – BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS GREEN INDUSTRY WORKSHOP

Staff informed the Environment Committee that the above noted workshop was being scheduled in October. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the current Energy Star[®] Program and other related initiatives and explore opportunities for further expansion of the program.

The foregoing matter was brought to the attention of the Committee by the City Manager.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2008

Item 6, Report No. 7, of the Environment Committee, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 27, 2008, as follows:

By approving that the phrase “for a report containing appropriate recommendations” be added to the Environment Committee recommendation, following the word “staff”.



6 NEW BUSINESS - WELLINGTON COUNTY'S GREEN LEGACY PROGRAMME

The Environment Committee recommended that the information on Wellington County's Green Legacy Programme with respect to tree planting, submitted by Councillor Carella, be received and referred to appropriate staff.

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