

PURPOSE

The Climate and Environment Advisory Task Force is being established to work with City staff, consultants and other stakeholders to provide guidance and support on policy and actions required to achieve the City's new greenhouse gas reduction (GHG) targets and to protect and enhance the City's natural habitat and ecosystems.

On February 25, 2019, Council passed a Notice of Motion adopting more ambitious GHG reduction targets of 80% below 2007 levels by 2040 and net zero or 100% emissions reductions by 2050 and directed staff to incorporate the targets into forthcoming updates to City plans, policies and practices. The Notice of Motion also directed that a Climate and Environment Advisory Task Force be struck to provide guidance and support for this work.

In response to this Notice of Motion, and in conjunction with the City's integrated planning process currently underway, the City will be developing progressive avenues for deep emissions reductions and enhancement of ecological health through the new Environment Strategy. The Strategy will identify specific policy direction, implementation actions and priorities to achieve net zero emissions, protect and enhance natural assets and ensure resilience to climate change impacts. The Strategy scope includes the following areas: building energy & emissions, renewable energy, zero emissions transportation, zero waste, natural areas & ecosystems, urban agriculture, green infrastructure, and corporate practices.

OBJECTIVES

- Review the City's existing environmental policies, plans and programs to identify opportunities for further development and advancement
- Generate proposals for key actions to achieve the City's emissions reduction targets and environmental protection goals
- Provide a forum for sharing information among various community stakeholders and encourage positive community engagement
- Assist staff with analysis of best practices and consultant recommendations
- Participate in topic-specific workshops with staff and/or consultants
- Provide guidance and support towards development and implementation of the City's Environment Strategy

TIME FRAME OF TASK FORCE

The Climate and Environment Advisory Task Force will be established by Council and remain active through to the conclusion of the Environment Strategy development.

MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION

The Task Force will be comprised of up to nine (9) community representatives appointed by Council, ideally with experience in one of more of the following areas, and including at least one youth (age 15-24) representative:

- Building energy efficiency and renewable energy (P. Eng. preferred)
- Zero emission and active transportation
- Zero waste
- Climate adaptation and resilience
- Natural habitat and ecosystems (RPBio preferred)
- Green infrastructure
- Urban agriculture

In addition, a council member will be appointed by the Mayor to serve as Chair of the Task Force and a City staff member will be appointed as a staff liaison. A City staff clerk will provide support to the Task Force, including preparing and distributing agendas, attending the meetings, and preparing minutes of the meetings.

TERM OF MEMBERSHIP

The community representatives will serve on the Task Force from their appointment by Council through to the conclusion of the Environment Strategy development. However, should any member no longer wish to serve on the Task Force, they may be replaced by City Council as applicable.

Any member who fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the Task Force shall cease to be a member and their appointment shall be automatically terminated.

MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at City Hall generally on a monthly basis, or as required at the call of the Chair. The agenda will be distributed the week prior to the meeting. A quorum of the Task Force will be fifty percent (50%) of filled voting memberships.

MEETING MINUTES

A record of the meetings will be prepared by the clerk to the Task Force. The record will include key discussions and an action log. City Council will be provided with a copy of the minutes.