Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – June 16, 2021

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – June 2, 2021

Item No. 2 2020 Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan Annual Report

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment and submitted the following to Council:

1. That this report be received as information.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – June 2, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Mayes,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Gillingham, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 2, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On September 20, 2018, Council adopted the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment which included the following:

1. That Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan: Planning for Climate Change – Acting for People (the "Plan"), a copy of which is attached as Attachment "A", be approved for implementation and that the Council decision of September 30, 2009 approving the report titled Corporate and Community-wide Climate Change Action Plans to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Winnipeg, including all subsequent amendments, be rescinded.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service review its departmental administrative objectives and plans to determine how they align with the strategic opportunity areas and priority actions identified within the Plan, and report the results to the interdepartmental Climate Change Working Group, as required by the Climate Change Working Group.

3. That the Winnipeg Public Service identify budget risks for those projects to be implemented in the short, medium and long term, which are currently underfunded or unfunded, within their yearly budget processes.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – June 2, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

4. That the Office of Sustainability apply for external funding, through such funding programs identified in Appendix E of Attachment A, in support of the actions identified in the Plan.

5. That the Winnipeg Public Service undertake detailed greenhouse gas and economic modeling of the Plan to understand the estimated costs and benefits to the City of implementing the Plan.

6. That the Winnipeg Public Service report back annually to Council on the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan beginning in 2019.

7. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: **2020 WINNIPEG'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ANNUAL REPORT**

Critical Path: **Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – Executive Policy Committee – Council**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
B. Raddatz, Acting Manager, Office of Sustainability	M. L. Geer, CPA, CA, Director, Water and Waste Department	N/A	M. Ruta, Interim CAO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This annual report to Council summarizes the accomplishments in 2020, the second year of the Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan (The Plan).

The Plan outlines the City of Winnipeg and the broader community's commitment to work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency in the face of a changing climate.

Of the total of 139 actions described in the Plan, 77 of them have been characterized as short term (2018-2022). The Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Update and a detailed status update of each short-term action under The Plan are found in Appendices 1 and 2.

In 2020 and into 2021, major planning initiatives in alignment with The Plan are underway, including OurWinnipeg 2045, Complete Communities 2.0, the Transportation Master Plan, the Transit Master Plan, Winnipeg's Parks and Recreation Strategies, Winnipeg Urban Forest Strategy, and the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The City also initiated a GHG emissions reduction modeling and financial analysis project, to be completed in 2021. The Community Energy Investment Roadmap will forecast energy use and emissions, and provide an estimation of the costs and benefits of implementing actions needed to meet climate targets.

These major planning initiatives through 2020 and 2021, with an updated policy framework, robust data, modeling and financial analysis, along with national and global climate change action targets of net zero by 2050 will inform the process of updating the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan in 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On September 20, 2018, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment that the Winnipeg Public Service report back annually to Council on the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan beginning in 2019.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no implications associated with the recommendations of this report.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The Winnipeg Climate Action Plan was adopted by City Council in September of 2018. Climate action includes two important aspects: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation actions focus on reducing the use of fossil fuels to lessen the severity of impacts in the long term. Adaptation actions relate to preparing and planning for the impacts on ongoing climate change that is currently being experienced. While the Plan is focused on mitigation, it includes a call to action to develop a climate resiliency and adaptation strategy, to be included as part of the update process in 2022.

The **Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan – Year 1 Update** report included the following recommendation, which was adopted by Council January 30th, 2020:

> That as per Direction 1.2 of Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan (WCAP), the Public Service undertake detailed financial, energy and emissions mapping and modeling to understand the costs and benefits of implementing the Plan. The funding to conduct this modeling, $200,000, be referred to the 2020 Budget process.

Funding was approved for this project and it is now underway. The public service awarded RFP No. 277-2020 to Sustainability Solutions Group Workers Cooperative on July 2, 2020 to model Winnipeg's Community Energy Investment Roadmap, reviewing GHG emissions, energy and financial modelling. The purpose is to update the City's GHG emissions inventory and to identify strategic actions and investments required to achieve the emissions reduction target as outlined in The Plan, and additional actions to meet the goal of net zero by 2050. The work includes:

1. Updated community-wide energy and emissions inventory that aligns with the 2011 baseline year;
2. Determination of additional mitigation measures or refinements to currently planned measures that will be required to take the city beyond 2030 and to net zero by 2050;
3. Forecast of energy and emissions under two different scenarios: a) business as planned; and b) low carbon scenario (*actions identified in The Plan* with additional and refined actions beyond 2030 to reach net zero by 2050);
4. Estimation of the costs and benefits of implementing the Plan (including additional and refined actions beyond 2030) and provision of recommended priorities.

As of December 2020, data collection activities were largely completed and the consultant is preparing to inventory baseline energy and emissions data. Internal and external stakeholder engagement will take place at strategic milestones through 2021, with the entire project expected to wrap up at the end of 2021. The outcomes of this work will inform City decision-making, contributing to departmental planning, programs and policies, and will inform the process of updating the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan in 2022.

Updates on Short Term Actions (2018-2022)

Of the total of 139 actions described in the Plan, 77 of them have been characterized as short term (2018-2022). These short-term actions provide direction on how the City will achieve it's 2030 target of 20 percent GHG emissions reduction. Of the 77 actions identified as short term (2018-2022) priorities:

- 42% of them are accomplished or are underway using existing resources,
- 31% are partially funded;
- 18% require new sources of funding in order to action; and,
- 8% are not yet underway.

A few current City initiatives that align with achieving the actions described in the Plan are highlighted below. A more detailed status update on each short-term action and budget status is provided in Attachment 2.

Strategic Direction #1: Corporate Leadership

In 2020, significant progress was made on GHG and economic modelling of the actions required to reach climate targets through the Community Energy Investment Roadmap. An enhanced methodology was implemented for the City's corporate GHG inventory, increasing the accuracy of the data gathering and reporting. The impacts of COVID-19 in 2020 necessitated advancing food related actions under direction 1.7, including increasing collaboration with the Winnipeg Food Council. An inter-departmental COVID-19 food security working group was established to help meet community needs.

Strategic Direction #2: Empower Community Leaders and Collaborate with Stakeholders

Consultation with a community advisory committee and working group under the Local Energy Access Program (LEAP) continues towards the development of a GHG and energy poverty reduction pilot project. The LEAP pilot project focuses on construction of low carbon energy-efficient affordable housing by selling City-owned lots for $1 and investing the purchase cost savings towards energy efficiency upgrades. This pilot is part of a new program designed after the expired William Whyte Pilot Project for the sale of City-owned lands to affordable housing providers.

Strategic Opportunity #3: Advancing Sustainable Transportation

Development of the Winnipeg Transit Master Plan coming forward in 2021, and the Transportation Master Plan coming forward in 2022, address several transportation related actions, including integration of transportation planning with land use planning, and improvements to transit route planning. Drafts of OurWinnipeg 2045 and Complete Communities 2.0 also coming forward in 2021 include provisions to increase the density of

urban development along key transportation corridors. Additionally, in 2020, work on the 12 to 20 bus pilot and larger electric bus deployment strategy was completed.

Strategic Opportunity #4: Facilitate Compact, Complete Development and Increase Density

The OurWinnipeg 2045 Development Plan in draft includes Environmental Resilience as one of its six localized sustainable development goals and objectives, policy direction that enables transition to a resilient, low-carbon future. The related companion plan Complete Communities 2.0 draft which also came forward in early 2021 aligns development targets with the land use performance indicator of 50 percent of all new residential construction to take place in strategic infill locations. Together with the Residential Infill Strategy also coming forward in 2021 the Residential Growth Study, and drafting neighbourhood design guidelines support complete communities. Further alignment with the Winnipeg Transit Master Plan also serves to support the actions related to transit oriented development.

Strategic Opportunity #5: Low Carbon and Energy Efficient Buildings

The building energy benchmarking, labelling and disclosure program (Building Energy Disclosure Project) launched in June 2020. In the first nine months of the program, 161 buildings registered to participate. This initiative is aimed at helping Winnipeg commercial and institutional building owners better understand the energy performance of their buildings while supporting overall reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption.

Strategic Opportunity #6: Waste Reduction and Diversion

The Residential Food Waste Collection Pilot Program started curbside collection in October, 2020. This pilot program will service about 4,000 homes over two years. As part of the Biosolids Master Plan, over 49 percent of biosolids were diverted from landfill and beneficially used through composting, soil fabrication, and land application. The Summit Soil fabrication pilot project entered year three, using six months' worth of biosolids create enough soil to cover and vegetate approximately 10 hectares of closed landfill.

Strategic Opportunity #7: Community Climate Resiliency

In the Fall of 2019, Mayor Brian Bowman shared a vision to protect and expand our City's immense tree canopy and named it the Million Tree Challenge. The Challenge aims to promote tree planting and make it so Winnipeggers collectively plant one million trees by the time our City's population reaches one million people. In 2020 over 9,000 trees were planted towards this challenge and a grant was provided to Trees Winnipeg to run the Challenge.

In 2020 work began on the Urban Forestry Strategy. The first phase of public engagement was complete in 2020 with the strategy scheduled to come forward at the end of 2021. The development of this strategy addresses key actions of The Plan, including developing canopy cover targets, and indicators that address public health and climate change considerations. In 2020, the City continued support for urban food production through allotment garden plot rentals, and improvements to zoning by laws for urban agriculture. Due to the pandemic, the City also encouraged residents to garden by supporting Harvest Manitoba's Grow-a-Row program.

These initiatives make progress toward action 7.1 to implement opportunities to improve Winnipeg's resilience and adaptability to the effects of a changing climate.

Corporate GHG Inventory

Total corporate emissions for 2019 amounted to 129,154 tonnes eCO_2. This represents an increase of three percent since 2014. After accounting for increased additional emissions sources in the most recent inventory, emissions have actually decreased by eight percent since 2014.

The buildings sector accounted for a significant portion of the City's energy consumption in 2019 (electricity plus natural gas) at about 37 percent of energy use. This translated to about 23 percent of the City's corporate GHG emissions. In 2019, vehicle fleet emissions approximated 61 percent of the City's total emissions. This is a notable increase from previous years that is largely attributable to increased reporting and tracking (e.g., hauling contracts, commuter travel). The waste sector (water, waste water and corporate waste) accounted for about 16% of the City's emissions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** April 30, 2021

Project Name:

2020 WINNIPEG'S CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ANNUAL REPORT

COMMENTS:

No financial implications related to the recommendations of this report

"Original signed by L. Szkwarek, CPA, CGA"
Lucy Szkwarek, CPA, CGA
Manager of Finance and Administration

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

Planning, Property and Development Department
Public Works Department
Winnipeg Transit
Community Services Department

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

This report is in accordance with the OurWinnipeg policies through:

OurWinnipeg reference: Section 02-2 ENVIRONMENT - Reduce the environmental impact of our activities, through strategies such as planning for sustainable energy use and greenhouse gas reduction.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

This report is in accordance with direction provided in the Winnipeg Climate Action Plan and the Council Minute 572, recommendation #6.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Water and Waste Department
Division: Office of Sustainability
Prepared by: B. Raddatz,
Date: May 10, 2021
File No: O-005

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Corporate GHG Update and Forecast Report for 2019 Data

Attachment 2: 2020 Status Update on Short-term Actions (2018-2022)