



**C30**  
**COMMUNICATION**  
**COUNCIL – June 28, 2022**  
**CW (1) - Report No. 27, Item 28**

**DATE:** June 23, 2022

**TO:** Mayor and Members of Council

**FROM:** Haiqing Xu, Deputy City Manager, Planning & Growth Management  
Vince Musacchio, Deputy City Manager, Infrastructure Development

**RE: COMMUNICATION – COUNCIL - JUNE 28, 2022**

**Report #27, Item #28**

**MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**  
**THINKING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY IN VAUGHAN**

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of this Communication is to respond to Councillor Carella's Member's Resolution – Thinking Globally, Acting Locally in Vaughan submitted at the Committee of the Whole (1) meeting on June 7, 2022. In order to address global warming through mitigation and adaptation of climate change, staff provide the five following quick wins for consideration.

## **Quick Wins and Emerging Opportunities**

1. The Updating the Sustainability Threshold Scores report, February 2022, recommends establishing a minimum building performance standard. Setting a minimum building performance standard could increase the percentage of renewable energy installations, and would limit the creation of additional building stock that would need to be retrofitted in the near future.
  - **Quick Win:** Direct staff in Policy Planning and Special Programs (PPSP) to mandate a minimum building energy performance target for all new developments to increase on-site energy generation. It would also help Vaughan transition to a low carbon community, reach its greenhouse gas reduction goals and, implement the city's Municipal Energy Plan, 2023. This will be implemented through the Sustainability Metrics Program update (i.e. make metric IB-12 Building Energy Efficiency, GHG Reduction, and Resilience – "Good" level mandatory).
2. The Sustainability Metrics Program awards points for new development applications that are solar-ready and awards additional points for on-site energy generation. Metric IB-10 Solar Readiness is an optional metric among the suite of metrics. A solar-ready structure has the appropriate electrical conduits and space for a

generator to support the future installation of solar PVs, and may at times include solar infrastructure.

- **Quick Win:** Direct staff in PPSP to mandate on-site energy generation equivalent to 5% through installation of renewable energy technologies, such as but not limited to solar panels for all Industrial, Commercial, Institutional (ICI) and Multi-Unit Residential Buildings (MURB). This will be implemented through the Sustainability Metrics Program update (i.e. make metric IB-10 Solar Readiness– "Excellent" level mandatory), where feasible.
3. Energy benchmarking is essential for cities to understand their energy landscape. Although energy reporting is mandated Provincially, the City of Vaughan can encourage energy benchmarking reporting for all buildings, excluding ground-oriented residential. City staff can continue work with [Climate Wise](#) Business Network and other partners to extend the Provincial benchmarking requirement to all buildings under 50,000 sq.ft, not including ground oriented residential.
- **Quick Win:** Direct staff in PPSP to work with Climate Wise through renewed membership to retrieve Energy and Water Reporting Benchmarking data and investigate software or programs for benchmarking such as, but not limited to [RETScreen® Clean Energy Management Software](#).
4. Establishing LEED Gold and CACBG's Net Zero Carbon Building™ as the City standard for new builds will strengthen the City's commitment to environmental stewardship and energy conservation by reducing carbon emissions and its carbon footprint. City staff will also continue to explore the retrofit of public buildings.
- **Quick Win:** Direct staff in Facilities Management to develop Vaughan's Green Building Policy to support the retrofit and new development of public buildings meet City's goals.
5. Recognizing the importance of providing alternate forms of transportation for residents and businesses to reduce carbon emissions in Vaughan's transportation sector is consistent with the findings of the Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force's Recommendations #4, 5, 6, 8 and 12. This can be streamlined, where resources permit, by accelerating the routine accommodation and implementation of active transportation infrastructure as planned in the Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan, 2020 during Q2 to Q4 2022.
- **Quick Win:** Direct staff in Infrastructure Planning & Corporate Asset Management (IPCAM) to develop a plan to be brought forward to Council as part of the 2023 budget cycle to accelerate the routine accommodation and implementation of active transportation infrastructure throughout Vaughan.

## Conclusion

Overall to implement all these quick wins and influence future works with partner departments, a budgetary commitment to hire a full-time permanent Climate Change and Energy Specialist to join the PPSP team is required. This staff person would lead

and implement energy and climate change priorities such as the Municipal Energy Plan, Sustainability Metrics Program, Community Energy Plans required by Vaughan Official Plan 2010, and actions in the Climate Change Emergency Declaration, 2019 etc. The staff member would guarantee specialized expertise needed to implement climate change and energy priorities.

Staff from PPSP, Facilities Management and IPCAM are available to provide additional information if needed.

**For more information**, contact Ruth Rendon, Senior Environmental Planner, ext. 8104.

**Attachment**

1. Member's Resolution – Thinking Globally, Acting Locally in Vaughan

**Approved by**



Haiqing Xu,  
Deputy City Manager,  
Planning & Growth Management



Vince Musacchio  
Deputy City Manager,  
Infrastructure Development

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole Report**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, June 07, 2022

**TITLE: THINKING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY IN VAUGHAN**

**FROM:**

Councillor Tony Carella

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***Whereas***, global warming is an accepted fact by the bulk of the world-wide scientific community and

***Whereas***, to be successful in addressing of the problem of global warming, every sector of society in every part of the world must make its contribution to that effort; and

***Whereas***, the exhortation to “Think globally, act locally” makes the best sense in the context of reversing global warming;

***It is therefore recommended:***

1. That appropriate staff of the City of Vaughan bring forward to the Council meeting of June 28, 2022, a list of five “quick wins” appropriate at the municipal level to address the issue of global warming.

**Attachments**

None