

### **Committee of the Whole (2) Report**

DATE: Monday, March 8, 2021

WARD(S): ALL

### <u>TITLE</u>: SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE METRICS PROGRAM UPDATE (FILE 22.24.3)

#### FROM:

Jim Harnum, City Manager

#### ACTION: DECISION

#### **Purpose**

To provide Council with an update on the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program and seek endorsement, in principle, of the revised Sustainability Performance Metrics.

#### **Report Highlights**

- Staff revised the Sustainability Performance Metrics between 2018 to 2021, in collaboration with the City's partner municipalities (Richmond Hill, Brampton, and Markham), to address new Provincial and Regional policy and legislation, best practices and standards, and stakeholder feedback.
- Staff and the City's partner municipalities will continue to meet with the Building Industry and Land Development Association (York and Peel Chapters) in 2021 to confirm final updates to the Sustainability Performance Metrics to ensure the Metrics are clear, measurable, and implementable.
- Staff continues to implement and monitor the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program in collaboration with the City's partner municipalities.
- Staff support the development of green roof standards and adoption of a bylaw to further implement the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program and City-wide Urban Design Guidelines.

#### **Recommendations**

- 1. That the recommended revisions to the Sustainability Performance Metrics (Attachment 1) be approved in principle subject to further consultation with building industry stakeholders;
- That staff be directed to review the feasibility of developing green roof standards and by-law to support the implementation of the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program and City-wide Urban Design Guidelines; and
- 3. That staff be directed to continue their work on the Implementation and Monitoring Strategy for the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program, including establishing revised Sustainability Threshold Scores.

#### **Background**

### The Sustainability Performance Metrics Program began as a collaboration between the municipalities of Vaughan, Brampton, and Richmond Hill

The Sustainability Performance Metrics Program ('SPM Program' or 'the Program') was initiated by the City of Vaughan in 2013, in partnership with the cities of Brampton and Richmond Hill (the original partner municipalities). The Program consists of Metrics in four theme areas (built environment, mobility, natural environment and open space, and infrastructure and buildings), a scoring tool, and supportive materials to quantify the sustainability performance of new development projects.

The start of the SPM Program testing stage was approved by Council in 2015. In May 2018, staff reported on the completion of the testing stage and resulted in Council approval of full implementation of the SPM Program and accompanying Sustainability Threshold Scores. Council also directed staff to update the Metrics, as needed, and to provide Council with updates on the SPM Implementation and Monitoring Strategy action items.

#### The Program is flexible and provides a large range of Metrics to achieve Sustainability Threshold Scores

In keeping with the flexibility requested by external stakeholders since 2013, the applicant can tailor the sustainable design features to the site by choosing which Metrics to pursue from a large range of options. Site Plan (excluding minor applications), Draft Plan of Subdivision, and Block Plan Applications submitted after October 1, 2018 are expected to meet or exceed the Bronze Threshold Score, as per

Table 1 below. All applicable development applications within the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (identified as an Urban Growth Centre in the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020) are expected to meet or exceed the Silver Threshold Score, identified in Table 1 below.

Council Endorsed Sustainability Threshold Scores			
Performance Level	Site Plan	Draft Plan of Subdivision	Block Plan
Bronze	31 to 45 points	21 to 30 points	31 to 40 points
Silver	46 to 60 points	31 to 40 points	41 to 50 points
Gold	61 or More points	41 or more points	51 or more points

Table 1: Council Endorsed Sustainability Threshold Scores

#### The Sustainability Performance Metrics Project Update began in 2018 and was led by Richmond Hill, in collaboration with the partner municipalities and consultant Morrison Hershfield

The Sustainability Metrics Project Update ('Project Update') was initiated in the fall of 2018 and was comprised of the following tasks:

- Review and revision of the quantitative Sustainability Performance Metrics ('quantitative Metrics' or 'Metrics') to address new Provincial and Regional policy and legislation, best practices and standards, and stakeholder feedback
- Re-evaluation of the Sustainability Threshold Scores to implement revised quantitative Metrics
- Migrating the quantitative Metrics to a web form/tool for ease of applicant submission and City tracking
- Ongoing stakeholder outreach and education

The revision of the quantitative Metrics was led by Richmond Hill in collaboration with the original partner municipalities to ensure information and cost sharing, and to maintain consistency as requested by external stakeholders since 2013. Richmond Hill retained Morrison Hershfield as the consultant to undertake the update and provide expertise in the implementation and evaluation of sustainable development. The original partner municipalities were joined by the City of Markham in 2019 to form the current partner municipalities.

### The final report outlining the revised quantitative Metrics marks a major milestone in the Project Update

Morrison Hershfield and the partner municipalities have completed the major revisions to the quantitative Metrics; achieving a major milestone in the collaborative Project Update. This work included background research and analysis, internal and external stakeholder consultation, and is detailed in Attachment 1: Sustainability Metrics Update Final Report. This work was funded in part by a Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) grant awarded to Richmond Hill, with the requirement that any major updates be completed by February 2021. The City of Richmond Hill Council endorsed the Project Update on Wednesday January 27, 2021 without any amendments or deputations. The Cities of Brampton and Markham will also seek endorsement from their respective Councils on the revised Metrics in March 2021.

Notwithstanding the FCM grant requirement, the partner municipalities will work with BILD to confirm final Metrics revisions in the immediate future through a working group. After final revisions are confirmed, the partner municipalities will continue to meet with BILD to monitor and improve implementation of the SPM Program.

Some SPM Implementation and Monitoring Strategy action items, specifically, the creation of an SPM web tool and the review of incentives, are postponed until after the revised Metrics are finalized to avoid duplication in effort.

# The Project Update will further support implementation of Vaughan Official Plan 2010 and Green Directions Vaughan 2019 to create a City with sustainable built form

The SPM Program is integrated with the development application review process to implement the City of Vaughan Official Plan 2010 polices in Section 9.1.3 – Sustainable Development. The SPM Program also implements a specific objective of Green Directions Vaughan (GDV), the City's Community Sustainability Plan, to create a City with a sustainable built form; the Project Update will further support implementation of these documents. The Project Update also addresses 2019 GDV updates including alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, stronger emphasis on climate resiliency, and greater recognition of community and stakeholder contributions to sustainability achievements.

#### The Project Update will further advance 14 of 24 Term of Council priorities

The Vaughan 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan priorities that are advanced by the Project Update include:

- <u>Transportation and Mobility:</u> Improve local road network; Support regional transportation initiatives; Advance active transportation
- <u>City Building:</u> Develop the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre; Elevate the quality of life through city planning
- <u>Environmental Stewardship</u>: Protect and respect our environment; Proactive environmental management; Build the low-carbon economy and a resilient city
- <u>Active, Safe and Diverse Communities:</u> Enhance community well-being; Enrich our communities; Maintain safety in our community
- Economic Prosperity, Investment and Social Capital: Attract new investments
- <u>Good Governance:</u> Ensure Transparency and Accountability; Commitment to Financial Stewardship and Sustainability (Demonstrate Value for Money).

### Previous Reports/Authority

The May 23, 2018 report entitled "Final Report on the Testing Stage of the Sustainability Performance Metrics Program File No. 22.24.3" can be accessed via the link below: <u>https://www.vaughan.ca/council/minutes\_agendas/Agendaltems/CW\_0508\_18\_13.pdf</u>

The Sustainability Performance Metrics webpage can be accessed via the link below: <a href="http://vaughan.ca/sustainabilityMetrics">http://vaughan.ca/sustainabilityMetrics</a>

### Analysis and Options

#### PROCESS TO REVISE QUANTITATIVE METRICS

# Changes to Provincial and Regional planning policy and legislation, sustainability best practice, and stakeholder feedback received since 2013 necessitated revisions to the quantitative Metrics

In 2018, Council directed staff to review and update the SPM Program periodically to address any new best management practices. Current stakeholder feedback received during the 2019/2020 engagement efforts, and comments received since SPM Program development in 2013 were used to revise the Metrics. The Metric revisions also address changes to Provincial planning policy and legislation and sustainability best practice, some of which are listed below.

<u>Draft York Region Climate Change Action Plan (March 2020)</u>: Provides actions to "maintain residents' quality of life, minimize disruptions to the natural environment, avoid significant costs over the coming decades and to ensure communities in York Region continue to thrive under changing climate conditions".</u>

<u>Changes to Provincial Plans:</u> Preserving and Protecting our Environment for Future Generations: A Made-in-Ontario Environment Plan, 2018 establishes Greenhouse Gas reduction targets and actions to achieve these targets. The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020 and Provincial Policy Statement, 2020 emphasize green infrastructure, transit-supportive communities, and a mix of housing choices.

<u>Changes to the Planning Act</u>. Bill 73: Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, 2015 amended the Planning Act to establish provisions for the promotion of a built form that is well-designed, encourages a sense of place, and provides for public spaces that are high quality, safe, accessible, attractive, and vibrant.

<u>Energy Efficiency Updates to the Ontario Building Code (January 2017):</u> Revised energy efficiency standards in the Ontario Building Code created redundancies with the 2013 energy efficiency Metrics in the Sustainability Metrics Program. This necessitated an update to the Metrics relative to building code changes.

<u>CTC Source Water Protection Plan (December 2018)</u>: Requires municipalities to implement low impact development techniques for stormwater management in order to retain infiltration on site within Recharge Management Areas.

Ontario Regulation 588/17: Requires green infrastructure to be incorporated into municipal asset management.

<u>Vaughan City Wide Urban Design Guidelines (2018)</u>: The award-winning Guidelines ensure intensification supports compelling, mixed-use communities, active transportation, innovation in sustainability, social/cultural vibrancy, and a high-quality of life for Vaughan residents. Site and building design provide performance standards to guide development. The Urban Design Guidelines complement and support the City's existing policies and guidelines.

# The Technical Advisory Team engaged internal stakeholders in all partner municipalities throughout the process

Staff representation from all partner municipalities formed the Technical Advisory Team (TAT). The TAT attended multiple working sessions to:

- Review Morrison Hershfield's work
- Address stakeholder feedback
- Review and revise the quantitative Metrics

Planners and technical professionals from all partner municipalities reviewed and commented on the original suite of Metrics and standards, draft revisions to the Metrics, and feedback received from external stakeholders. Internal stakeholder feedback informed subsequent refinements to the quantitative Metrics.

# The Consultant and Technical Advisory Team solicited 467 comments from external stakeholders on the original Program

Comments were received from the following agencies and stakeholders:

- Consultation with the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) – York and Peel Chapters
- Consultants and Local Developers
- Clean Air Partnership, Atmospheric Fund, Canada Green Building Council
- York Region and Peel Region
- Clean Air Council, and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

Attachment 1 to this Report provides information on external stakeholder comments received via in-person workshops and through circulation of materials, and how these comments were addressed.

#### BILD was engaged to provide input into revisions to the quantitative Metrics

The Consultant and the TAT engaged BILD as follows:

- January 27, 2020 BILD participated in stakeholder workshop that provided an overview of proposed changes, and solicited comments
- February 21, 2020 BILD provided written comments on the proposed changes circulated by the Consultant
- December 2, 2020 BILD participated in a virtual meeting with the TAT; the TAT provided a status update, the draft revisions to the Metrics and identified how BILD's February comments were addressed through a presentation (Attachment 2)
- December 11, 2020 BILD provided additional comments (Attachment 3) on the May 2020 Sustainability Metrics Update Draft Report
- December 18, 2020 Richmond Hill staff met with BILD on behalf of the TAT. At this meeting, it was agreed the partner municipalities and BILD will form a working group. This working group will meet to confirm final changes to the

revised quantitative Metrics in order to ensure they are clear, measurable, and implementable

The December 11, 2020 BILD comments have been summarized into key themes and addressed below.

#### 1. Sustainability Metrics Program Effectiveness

BILD has commented on the effectiveness of the Program. The Program has been tracked and monitored for effectiveness while being successfully implemented in the original partner municipalities for a number of years. The partner municipalities have addressed specific stakeholder comments regarding effectiveness where appropriate and has improved effectiveness through the revised Metrics. The partner municipalities will continue to work with BILD to ensure the Program is effective, and further the shared goal of better and more sustainable development.

#### 2. Implementation of the Updated Metrics

Through consultation, staff understood there may be confusion surrounding the role and implementation of the Program. Specifically, whether the Metrics and accompanying standards are mandatory, and in particular, Metrics representing improvements beyond current Ontario Building Code requirements. The intention of the Program is to provide a flexible menu of green development standards that exceed mandatory requirements. The applicant is not required to implement all Metrics and is free to choose which Metrics to pursue to meet the Sustainability Thresholds in the respective municipality.

#### 3. Housing Affordability

The Building Industry and Land Development Association has commented that the costs of implementing the Metrics will influence housing affordability. In general, Vaughan is initiating a housing affordability strategy to identify tools to address housing affordability within the City. Many of the individual Metrics address common exterior design elements that are understood and well known in the industry (e.g., landscaping, cladding, neighbourhood design, reduced parking footprint, promoting active transportation, pedestrian amenities) and do not result in a large price premium.

Measures that relate to higher performance under the Ontario Building Code can be more costly. However, even zero carbon buildings (ZCBs) can be achieved with a positive financial return of 1% over a 25-year life-cycle, inclusive of carbon pollution pricing, and require a modest 8% capital cost premium, as per the 2019 Report by Canada Green Building Council entitled "Making the Case for Building to Zero Carbon". This analysis was undertaken by the Canada Green Building Council and assumed an average cost of carbon pollution of \$150 per tonne. As the cost of carbon rises over time, the financial return from ZCBs will only grow. Energy efficiency and climate resiliency Metrics can create long term cost savings or cost avoidance for the homebuyer.

# The partner municipalities will continue to meet with BILD prior to finalizing the revised Metrics to ensure they are clear, measurable, and implementable

The Building Industry and Land Development Association will continue to be engaged through the working group. Feedback from BILD continues to be considered and addressed as for other elements of the development application and approvals process. The SPM Program is a living program, and stakeholder feedback is always welcome at any stage. The partner municipalities will also provide the building community with further informational materials as well as educational sessions and content as requested by BILD.

#### METRICS REVIEW AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES

# Recommended changes include the removal and addition of certain Metrics, the revision of existing Metrics, and organizational improvements

Revisions to the quantitative Metrics reflect internal and external stakeholder feedback, changes to Provincial and Regional policy and legislation, and best practice review of industry standards. New and revised point allocations were based on certain criteria including the following:

- Historical uptake
- Level of complexity
- Perceived cost
- Desire to incentivize Metrics that advance municipal priorities

Overall, eleven Metrics were carried forward with minor changes, eleven Metrics were removed, and twelve new Metrics were added. The consultants looked at opportunities to streamline and reduce submission materials wherever possible and, conducted a review and revised point allocation. Updates were also made to the format, terminology, and the Program guidebook.

Detailed information on revisions to Metrics and organizational changes can be found in Attachment 1 to this Report. The rationale for the revisions to the Metrics are provided

below. A summary of the specific Metrics revisions and new Metrics are found in Attachment 4.

#### Metrics Recommended to be Removed

Several Metrics were determined to be redundant with Official Plan policies and the Ontario Building Code. Others were determined to be no longer relevant based on new industry standards. These Metrics were either removed entirely or incorporated into new or updated Metrics where appropriate.

#### Metrics Recommended to be Carried Forward with Changes

Several Metrics were confirmed to still be relevant and contribute to the variety and flexibility requested by external stakeholders since 2013. Changes to these Metrics range from minor to major, and are based on the following:

- Improve clarity and organization
- Address new sustainability standards
- Advance Council priorities
- Adjust point allocations

Changes to point allocations were made in response to stakeholder feedback and the point allocation criteria referenced above.

#### Metrics Recommended to be Added

Several new Metrics are proposed that:

- Add variety to the current suite of Metrics
- Reflect new sustainability standards
- Support energy efficiency
- Address climate change adaptation and resiliency
- Received support during internal and external stakeholder consultation

The new "Innovation" metric provides additional flexibility in achieving the Sustainability Threshold Scores and allows applicants to present new ideas beyond the Program that result in real sustainability benefits. This new metric is aligned with the spirit of the City-Wide Urban Design Guidelines that allows applicants the flexibility to provide practical alternatives that result in urban design excellence. In addition, the new "Supporting Pollinators" metric advances the objectives of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, approved by Council in 2018.

#### PROJECT UPDATE – INCENTIVES REVIEW

# Morrison Hershfield undertook a review of both financial and non-financial options to incentivize the Program

Members of the building community continue to request an expedited approval process (via special treatment or technical services and exemptions), and financial incentives such as development charges rebates and/or monetary grants. Morrison Hershfield has examined the pros and cons of financial incentives alongside other options. These other options include education and training, recognition, and mandatory requirements. This review will be examined in detail as part of the development of an SPM incentives program. City staff will provide Council with an update in 2022, as part of the overall update.

## The Servicing Capacity Distribution Policy has been updated to acknowledge the Program

Since the endorsement of the SPM Program in 2018, staff has been exploring potential incentives to encourage developments to achieve their sustainability goals including awards-based recognition of high-scoring developments. Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability (PPES), Development Engineering (DE) and Infrastructure Planning and Corporate Asset Management (IPCAM) will be reviewing the Servicing Capacity Distribution Policy to include Sustainability Threshold Scores in decision making. It is noted the Servicing Capacity Distribution Policy has been updated to acknowledge the SPM Program.

On December 17, 2019 a formal Servicing Capacity Distribution Policy (Corporate Policy Number 08.C.01) was approved by Vaughan Council. The 2019 Policy was updated to optimize capacity allocation by identifying best practices for the provision of servicing, mitigation options, and water and wastewater sustainability strategies. The Policy states that development applications are placed in one of two priority categories prior to receiving formal allocation. Development applications are generally prioritized based on the status of planning approvals and anticipated timing of development.

The Policy suggests innovative and sustainable water and wastewater reduction initiatives to be explored:

- York Region's Servicing Incentive Program (SIP)
- York Region's Sustainable Development through Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Incentive Program
- York Region's Developer-funded Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) Reduction Program

As the City's SPM Program is in place, PPES, DE and IPCAM staff will work together to meet the requirements of York Region's servicing capacity allocation measures as they relate to development applications.

#### GREEN ROOF STANDARDS AND BY-LAW

#### Staff support the development of green roof standards and a by-law review

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020 identifies the need to incorporate appropriate low impact development and green infrastructure into the design of complete communities through stormwater management practices. Green infrastructure has also been incorporated into asset management planning as directed in Ontario Regulation 588/17. Green roofs have become a solution for stormwater management and reducing the urban heat island and associated energy use for cooling with a particular focus in intensification areas. As such, Morrison Hershfield updated the current Metrics relating to roof space to reduce heat islands using the City of Toronto Green Standards V.3, 2018 to guide the update.

Morrison Hershfield was also retained by the City of Richmond Hill to conduct a best practice review of green roof standards and by-laws. The City of Toronto's approved Green Roof Program was used as a case study as they have implemented green roof standards and a by-law for several years. Prior to the endorsement of the standards, City of Toronto staff developed a Green Roof Strategy (2006), Green Roof Incentive Program as well as promotional and educational resources.

Spearheaded by high rise development and further intensification in the VMC, the City's new and rapidly growing downtown, the City of Vaughan has quickly transformed to one of the largest and most rapidly growing suburban municipalities in Canada. City staff through the SPM Program have been promoting the implementation of green roofs in the VMC and other intensification projects. However, there has been limited uptake, and staff have identified the lack of standards as one of the main reasons. Therefore, there is a need to review the feasibility of developing green roof standards and a requisite bylaw for the City of Vaughan. This also includes researching the tools needed to approve and secure green roofs in the development review and building permitting processes.

#### NEXT STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Funding has been secured and staff continue to work on the Sustainability Scoring Tool

A budget is in place (PL-9574-19) to replace the existing Excel-based SPM Program Scoring Tool with a web-based scoring tool, which will also function as an automated tracking tool to monitor progress of the Program. The partner municipalities are exploring the development of a universal web-based tool for all four municipalities. This effort will be initiated in 2021 as any future changes to the Metrics will be minor in nature. The work is expected to be completed by Q4 2021/Q1 2022.

#### Brampton, with support from the partner municipalities, will secure a consultant to support the revision of the Sustainability Threshold Scores and develop educational and training tools

The partner municipalities will aim for consistency between municipalities in the development of their respective Sustainability Threshold Scores. This effort will include the following steps:

- Deliver an objective approach toward revised Sustainability Threshold Scores that reflect the revised Metrics, as well as the current environmental sustainability and climate change goals and objectives of the partner municipalities (note that the City of Richmond Hill has already received Council endorsement of their revised Sustainability Threshold Scores)
- Explore the requirement for higher Sustainability Threshold Scores for urban centres and intensification areas
- Garner stakeholder support for the updated Sustainability Threshold Scores and SPM Program overall
- Develop informative and engaging education and training tools that improve implementation of the SPM Program

### Collaboration will continue between partner municipalities to improve the Program

City of Vaughan staff collaborated in the development of the Clean Air Partnership (CAP) study, "Towards Low Carbon Communities: Creating Municipal Green Development Standards (An Implementation Toolkit for Municipal Staff)". This study provides a comprehensive review of Green Development Standards (GDS) and identifies the benefits for both municipalities and the development community.

The Clean Air Partnership study, funded in part by the FCM under the Transformation 2050 program, verified that a GDS program can minimize the burden of additional municipal infrastructure, but also contribute to short and long-term fiscal sustainability. The study also found that the development community prefers that the same GDS requirements would apply cross-jurisdictionally as this would reduce the complexity and

burden of navigating different standards. Therefore, the collaboration between the partner municipalities demonstrates this needed coordination.

City staff will continue to coordinate with the partner municipalities in order to align practices and processes. Staff will be undertaking the following action items:

- Identify possible updates to the Site Plan Control By-law to support the SPM Program
- Perform refinements to the guidebook, verification metric forms and web page, as needed
- Update the City of Vaughan Official Plan 2010, specifically the policies of Section 9.1.3 – Sustainable Development, through the Official Plan Review process to better support the SPM Program
- Provide additional guidance, support, and training to City staff and external stakeholders
- Continue to deliver webinars to municipalities in the Greater Toronto Area and beyond to promote consistent green development standards, in collaboration with the Clean Air Council
- Develop a marketing strategy and campaign to promote the SPM Program

### **Financial Impact**

# The ongoing municipal partnership allows for cost-sharing, and the nature of the Program provides opportunities for partial-funding through grants

<u>Sustainability Metrics Project Update</u>: A memorandum of understanding was signed in 2019 between the partner municipalities that included a \$10,000 contribution from the City of Vaughan (PL-9574-19), and financial contributions from the other partner municipalities, to hire Morrison Hershfield to revise the Metrics. A grant from the FCM was received to fund this work.

<u>Sustainability Metrics Web-Based Scoring Tool</u>: An approved budget is in place (PL-9574-19) for the development of the Web-Based Scoring Tool. The City is exploring a potential collaboration with the partner municipalities to share costs and information.

<u>Sustainability Threshold Scores and Implementation Support Project:</u> The partner municipalities will be examining the feasibility of retaining consultants to develop consistent Sustainability Threshold Scores for all the municipalities. The City of Brampton is taking the lead and is applying for a grant from the Toronto Atmospheric Fund, a modest financial contribution of \$5000.00 (PL-9574-19) from each partner municipality may be required to leverage the grant.

<u>Sustainability Performance Metrics Program Implementation and Monitoring Strategy</u> (Ongoing): A number of financial and non-financial incentives to support the Program are outlined in the Section above, "Project Update – Incentives Review". Future incentive programs and measures recommended by staff will be brought for Council's consideration and their implementation may require additional staffing resources and additional funding. Financing options for incentives strategies will be clearly described in any future report(s) to Council.

Staff will monitor the SPM Program over the next year to evaluate the need for additional financial resources and through the normal budget approvals process.

### **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

### *Vaughan and partner municipalities remain leaders in green development standards*

Vaughan, alongside the partner municipalities, has supported and will continue to support other Greater Toronto Area municipalities in the development of their own GDS to provide for further consistency in standards. Vaughan and the partner municipalities have also supported the non-profit organization Clean Air Partnership in the development of a 2020 GDS toolkit that is available to all municipalities. In addition, York Region has initiated an effort to support municipalities in developing GDS and has consulted with Vaughan staff.

#### **Conclusion**

The recommended revisions to the Metrics address new Provincial and Regional policy and legislation, best practices and standards, and stakeholder feedback. These revisions will further implement the objectives of Green Directions Vaughan and will further support many Term of Council Priorities.

The partner municipalities and BILD have agreed to form a working group to confirm minor revisions to the quantitative Metrics. Staff will to continue work on Implementation and Monitoring Strategy action items in collaboration with the partner municipalities, that includes updating the Threshold Sustainability Scores and developing a web-based scoring tool.

The Sustainability Performance Metrics Program remains an important tool to increase the sustainability of new development City-wide and implement Provincial and Regional policy direction to achieve complete communities.

**For more information,** please contact Ruth Rendon, Acting Manager of Environmental Sustainability at extension 8104.

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Sustainability Metrics Update Final Report by Morrison Hershfield, December 2020
- 2. Technical Advisory Committee Presentation to BILD, December 2, 2020
- 3. Building Industry and Land Development Association York and Peel Chapters Correspondence, December 11, 2020
- 4. Sustainability Metrics Update Summary of Revisions to Metrics, February 2020

#### Prepared by

Ruth Rendon, Acting Manager of Environmental Sustainability, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, ext. 8104

Ash Faulkner, Planner, Long Range Planning, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability ext. 8733

Tony Iacobelli, Acting Director, Policy Planning and Environmental Sustainability, ext. 8630

#### Approved by

Reviewed by

Mauro Kes

Mauro Peverini, Acting Chief Planning Official

Jim Harnum, City Manager