

## Committee of the Whole (1) Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE:** ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP TASK FORCE – APPROVAL  
OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

**FROM:**

Wendy Law, Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek approval of the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Leadership Task Force, and to seek direction regarding the appointment of its Chair and Vice-Chair.

**Report Highlights**

- The draft Terms of Reference for the Environmental Leadership Task Force is contained in Attachment 1 of this report.
- The Environmental Leadership Task Force will discuss and propose innovative, yet achievable, environmental initiatives which the City could adopt to further green the City.
- The term of this taskforce shall be from November 2021 – June 2022.

**Recommendations**

1. That Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Environmental Leadership Task Force (Attachment 1);
2. That Council provide direction regarding the appointment of the Chair and Vice-Chair to this task force; and
3. That staff be directed to proceed with recruitment of citizen members for the Environmental Leadership Task Force.

## **Background**

The Environmental Leadership Task Force was one of the Council-initiated Task Forces announced in the Mayor's Inaugural Speech for the 2018-2022 Term of Council. It supports the City's commitment to environmental stewardship, which is a key priority in the 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan to promote Vaughan as a green city. There are many examples of the City's achievements on this front, including establishing the Green Directions Vaughan strategy; opening of Phase One of the 900-acre North Maple Regional Park; and hosting the City's first Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Program (SNAP) in the Thornhill community.

Vaughan strives to create a healthy, sustainable, and resilient city while furthering the City's long history of environmental leadership, policy and stewardship, both as a community and as a municipal government. The Environmental Leadership Task Force will discuss and propose innovative, yet achievable, environmental initiatives which the City could adopt to further green the City.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

None.

## **Analysis and Options**

The Terms of Reference was drafted by the Office of Transformation and Strategy with input from various departments. The mandate and objectives of this task force include:

1. Serve as a forum for the discussion of improving environmental stewardship strategies among residents, businesses and stakeholders.
2. Improve neighbourhoods through environmental enhancement in both public and private spaces.
3. Provide more opportunities for environmental community groups to network and co-ordinate efforts with each other and with the City of Vaughan.
4. Align the work of the task force members with the Council-approved priorities identified in the 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan.
5. Share updates and presentations with advice and recommendations related to the Task Force, culminating with a final report of recommendations no later than June 2022.

Members shall include **two (2) Members of Council and a total of ten (10) citizens and stakeholders**, as follows:

- a) Two (2) Members of Council, selected by Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua, will represent Council as Chair and Vice-Chair of the task force.

- b) The Mayor will serve as an ex-officio member of the task force.
- c) The task force will be made up of no more than five (5) citizen members, plus one representative from TRCA, BILD, Alectra, Chamber of Commerce, Heritage Vaughan for a total of 10 citizen members

These external agencies are proposed by the Office of Transformation and Strategy and Corporate and Strategic Communications, with input from Planning & Growth Management and Public Works Departments, as industry experts in environmental stewardship and policy that can provide valuable input on green initiatives for the City.

**Financial Impact**

There are no financial impact associated with the report.

**Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

There are no broader regional impact associated with this report.

**Conclusion**

Staff is seeking Council's approval of the draft Terms of Reference and appointment of two (2) Members of Council as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Environmental Leadership Task Force. Staff will proceed to advertise and recruit for citizen members to serve on this task force. Applications received will be submitted for Council's consideration for appointment.

**For more information**, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk, Ext 8281.

**Attachment**

- 1. Draft Environmental Leadership Task Force Terms of Reference

**Prepared by**

Isabel Leung, Deputy City Clerk & Manager, Administrative Services, Ext. 8190

**Approved by**



Deputy City Manager  
Administrative Services & City Solicitor

**Reviewed by**



Nick Spensieri, City Manager