

# Community Engagement on the Draft Climate Mitigation Plan

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## SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

23 June 2022 - 05 July 2023

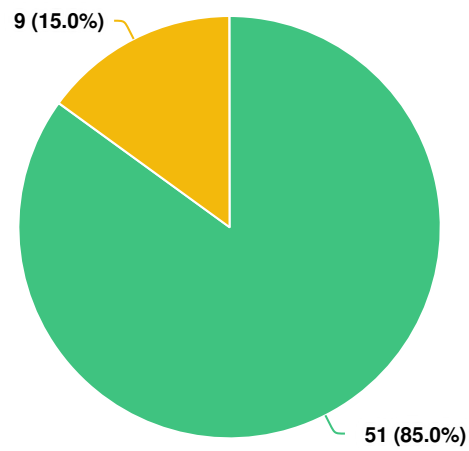
### PROJECT NAME:

Climate Action Strategy



SURVEY QUESTIONS

**Q1 | Have you read the Draft Climate Mitigation Plan?**

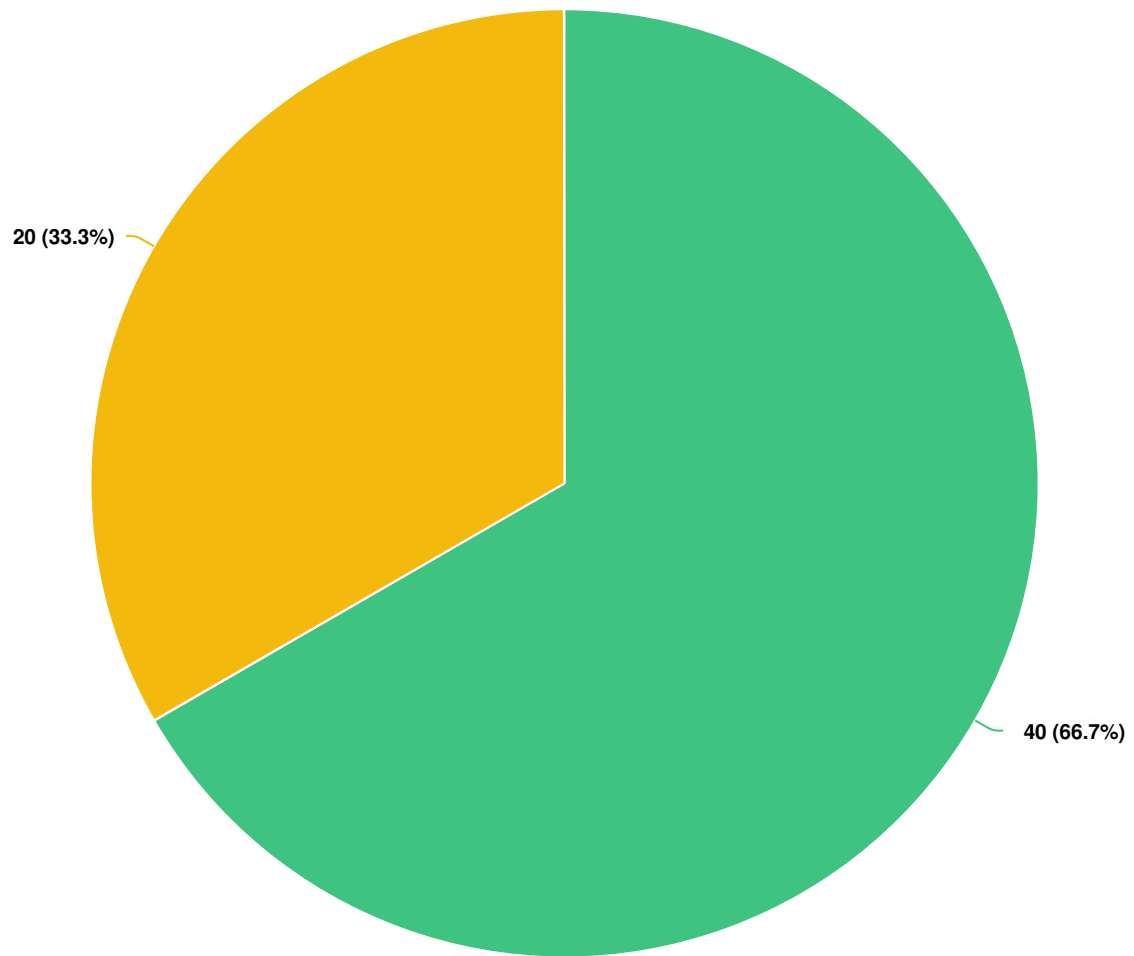


**Question options**

- Yes
- No

*Mandatory Question (60 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question*

**Q2** | If yes, do you feel that the Draft Climate Mitigation Plan resonates with you?

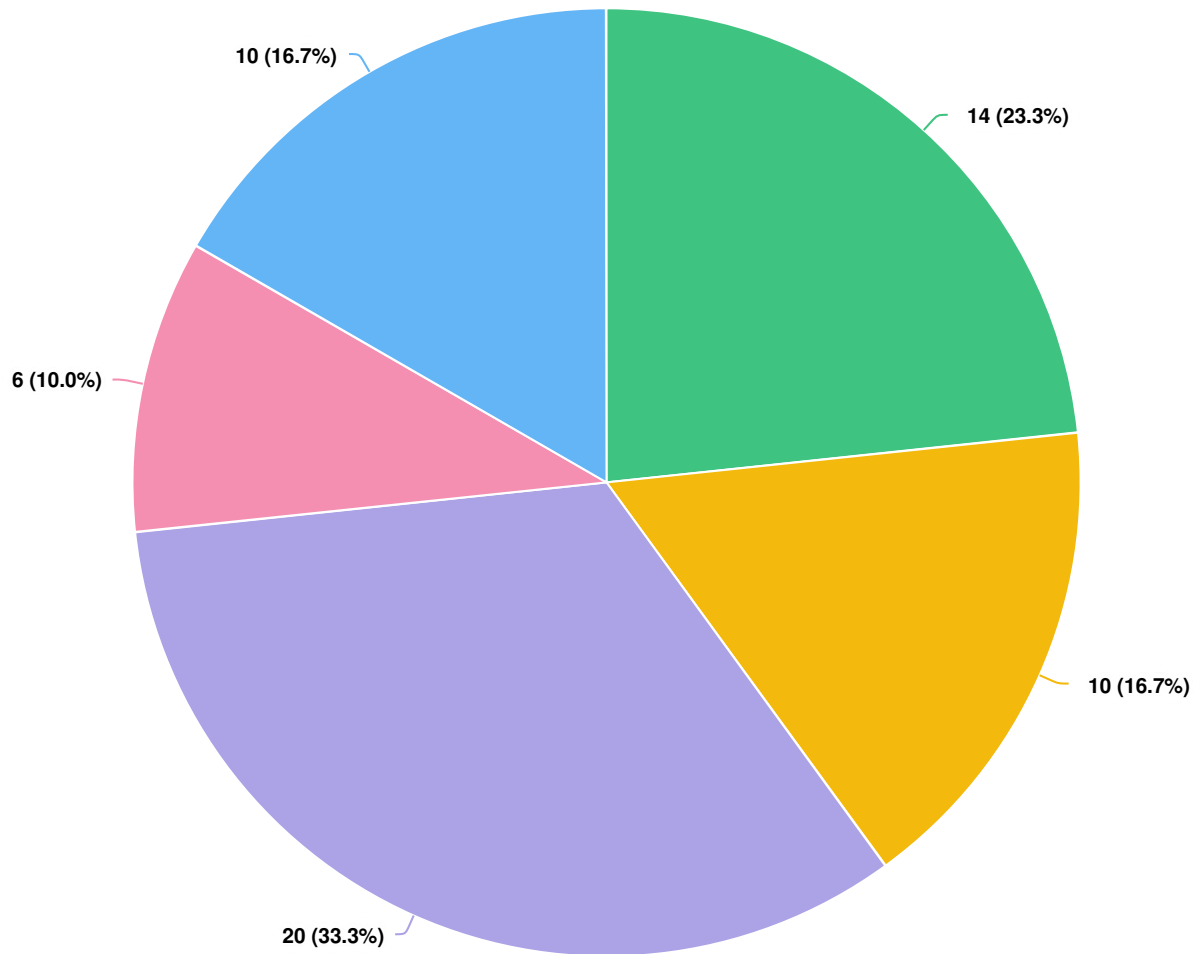


**Question options**

- Yes
- No

Mandatory Question (60 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q3 | Are you aware of Grey County's Going Green in Grey Climate Action Plan? Rate your level of awareness from 1-5, where 1 is not at all aware and 5 is very aware**



**Question options**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Mandatory Question (60 response(s))  
Question type: Dropdown Question

**Q4 | Action 1: Energy Efficient New Buildings/Facilities** Build new City-owned buildings/facilities to net-zero ready standards Incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure and solar photovoltaic technology into new builds where feasible Integrate green infrastructure such as green roofs, low impact development (LID) landscaping, permeable pavements and tree and native species planting Explore new construction funding opportunities What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Cannot open your draft to look at it. All this effort to change over to electricity will involve using fossil fuel. The city will not be able to handle to amount of electricity needed to run efficiently. Please stop jumping on the bandwagon just to look good.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 02:04 PM

retrofit buildings to better energy conservation standards such as heat pumps, more attic insulation, other insulation, change all lighting to LED

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Minimize new builds

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Fiscally responsible. Your priority is to minimize tax increases.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

Proper waste collection. Green bins so food waste does not go into the garbage then landfill adding more gases

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

get rid of garbage bag tags and people would stop dumping garbage everywhere we already pay for the service via property tax it's like buying a burger then having to pay a fee to eat it.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

Update the Firehall.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Better waste options

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove all of the above

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 PM

Maintain existing the urban forest in the city through regulation and oversight, particularly mature trees on undeveloped land.

Anonymous

4/24/2023 12:32 PM

Encourage higher density development in order to create more walkable cities and lessen the necessity for car use.

Anonymous

4/24/2023 07:25 PM

-make city events sustainable. Eg reduce plastic waste, eliminate or reduce fireworks/silent fireworks, shuttles to reduce traffic, etc.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Explore and invest in local carbon capture technologies.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

encourage zoning for denser residential areas balanced by more accessible common space- parks and facilities

Anonymous

4/28/2023 01:43 PM

There is a whole range of action the city can take through policies and best practices introduced to the whole municipality through zoning and building requirements. The first is to complete the requested rezoning for the Glassworks project which will become a landmark for creative land use that is carbon neutral. It includes mixed housing, affordable housing, a creative approach to senior "aging in place" that reduces the need for institutional care, and commercial and business establishments. This project is the 'poster project' for innovation in land use, residential building, and the concept of the triple bottom line.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

The city should install more ground source heat pumps for building heat. Solar panels do not make much difference. The electricity in Ontario has very little CO2 emissions. Most of it is nuclear and hydro. The money spent on solar panels should be put into heat pump systems to stop natural gas heating.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

Provide annual updates for city residents and those living in adjoining townships on each of these components of Action 1. Include answers to question such as "how many" and "where".

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

They do what they're told from head office.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Expanding Public Transit so citizens are less dependant on personal vehicles Monitor exhaust fumes in residential areas from Vehicles, and monitor fumes/oil spills from water vehicles and skidoos.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 09:01 PM

better bicycle lanes and better walkways

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

Grants for people to upgrade their homes to accomplish energy savings. Better transit options to make using transit a no brainer verses what we have today.

Anonymous

5/14/2023 06:54 PM

Prohibit building/development plans for residential and commercial buildings that intend do incorporate natural gas heating.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Incorporate passive solar heating for winter, passive cooling for summer

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Consider how the building and surrounding land encourage active and collective transportation. Is there bike parking? Are there bus / car pool drop off zones?

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

Reward system for those that comply with green energy standards.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Use the highest level of LEED as established by the Canada Green Building Council. This includes initiative such as collecting grey water and rain water from permeable outdoor surfaces for toilet flushing etc in new builds. Make ground source heating and heat pumps mandatory in new builds. Upfront costs will be higher but will benefit the bottom line and the environment over time

Anonymous

5/19/2023 01:44 PM

Get rid of the 4 inch high only lawn by-law, and allow people who are keen on creating pollinator and wildlife habitat to grow plants and trees without being victimized by the by-law. Guelph has signs that citizens can place on their lawns to show that they are working towards helping pollinators and climate mitigation. I would like Owen



Sound to use pollinator supporter signs like this as an incentive for gardeners to help reduce emissions by not using gas mowers, and planting for diversity. Some City sanctioning of wilder-looking lawns would help educate passerbys and youth.

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Purchase products for use in those buildings that are made by climate action conscious suppliers.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 06:45 AM

Expand availability of public transport (using electric vehicles where feasible)

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

Always look at reduction as the first option.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

all new buildings need to be off natural gas for heating and hot water, and be equipped with heat pumps.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

Work from home where possible to reduce office use, transport use.

Anonymous

5/23/2023 05:29 PM

Please include green walls.

Anonymous

5/25/2023 09:09 AM

Ensure new build codes will protect from more severe storms and in no way negatively effect what is already here.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

Good plans, as facilities are the greatest corporate emitters. Including native species planting creates biodiversity and habitat restoration for pollinators and wildlife. The city should create policies and review practises in order to enhance native plantings. An overall action should be added to ensure accountability and follow through using a climate lens.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 02:41 PM

Nothing. It is a waste of resources. Feed the poor. House the homeless

Anonymous

5/27/2023 08:13 AM

Plan new buildings to minimize necessary travel between structures - efficiency.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

Do as much as you can as often as you can.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 03:32 PM

Make Main Street 10 th street to 7th street a walk mall. Let cars park in the lots.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

In all of these actions, build in a way to communicate these actions to residents

Anonymous

5/29/2023 07:54 AM

good plan

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

rain water collection (like Public Health building), infrastructure to ease active transportation (ie. bike/gear storage, showers)

**Optional question** (44 response(s), 16 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q5 | Action 2: Energy Efficient Retrofits in Existing Buildings/Facilities** Continue to upgrade/retrofit City-owned buildings/facilities with energy efficient systems; explore upgrades to heating, ventilation, and cooling (HVAC) systems, interior lighting, building climate control, upgrades to water meters Conduct building condition assessments (BCAs)/energy audits across corporate facilities to determine priority order for retrofits, beginning with the least energy efficient facilities, and to determine areas in buildings with the greatest opportunity for energy efficient improvements Incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure and solar photovoltaic technology into retrofits where feasible Integrate green infrastructure such as green roofs, low impact development (LID) landscaping, permeable pavements and tree and native species planting into retrofits where feasible Explore potential reuse of heritage buildings/sites, with energy efficient systems Explore energy efficient building retrofit funding opportunities What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Grid will not be able to handle the output

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:13 PM

Tax dollars for minimal benefit

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Explore opportunity for community use of city-owned spaces (doing more with less space)

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Only upgrade if there is an ROI that will find the cost.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

Take care of the buildings now that are in disrepair. Rotting before our eyes. I feel there is such an apathy in this town

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

i disagree can't afford to do this kind of work and because of the incompetence of counsel spending already pay enough taxes focus on fixing infrastructure like roads, then go from there

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

New HVAC

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove all the none sense listed above

Anonymous

4/24/2023 12:32 PM

Narrow roadways by adding protected bike lanes in order to promote environmentally friendly transport and traffic calming.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Invest in a community geothermal systems. This could include ground source, waste water heat collection and lake source geothermal loops.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

Attract businesses dealing with energy efficient and upcycling expertise,

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

I'll just repeat my geothermal heat pump comment.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

As with Action 1, provide annual updates for city residents and those living in adjoining townships on progress answering key questions such as "how many" and "where".

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Sounds like more government intervention which we absolutely do not need. Just keep infrastructure healthy.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Add Green recycling/ organic waste to household pick up ASAP.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 09:01 PM

consider building up - over existing buildings to avoid using more green space (cities like Toronto and New York. have done this everywhere) do not build on wetlands ever - at all

Anonymous

5/14/2023 06:54 PM

Prohibit retrofit plans for residential and commercial buildings that intend do incorporate natural gas heating.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

There are a lot of empty buildings in Owen Sound, I would like to see them upgraded and retrofitted for green energy, and turned into affordable housing for marginalized people.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Make conversion to EV mandatory, and make installation of charging points mandatory, not "where feasible". Make the use of sheet pumps and ground source heating mandatory on mandatory on retrofits. The upfront costs will be high but the saving over time will compensate and the environment impact will be enormous.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 01:44 PM

Keep encouraging people not to idle their cars and trucks.

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Again source products from climate conscious companies. Re-use furniture, recover, etc. as necessary.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

explore strategies to move away from natural gas wherever possible and retrofit with heat pumps

Anonymous

5/24/2023 04:31 PM

Who is providing extra electricity and paying for the extra costs for what is essentially vanity projects

Anonymous  
5/25/2023 09:09 AM  
encourage refurbishing older homes/buildings ie. with a small property tax credit on homes older than ...is if older than 1950 , small % tax rebate.

Anonymous  
5/26/2023 07:28 AM  
same comment as #4

Anonymous  
5/26/2023 02:41 PM  
Nothing. It is a waste of resources. It is already too late. Feed the poor and house the homeless.

Anonymous  
5/27/2023 08:13 AM  
Automate heating and cooling systems to maximize energy efficiency.

Anonymous  
5/28/2023 07:05 AM  
Keep going with it.

Anonymous  
5/28/2023 03:32 PM  
Make Main Street 10 th street to 7th street a walk mall. Let cars park in the lots.

Anonymous  
5/28/2023 04:23 PM  
In all of these actions, build in a way to communicate these actions to residents

Anonymous  
5/29/2023 07:54 AM  
retrofit funding from who ?

**Optional question** (34 response(s), 26 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q6 | Action 3: Exploration of Renewable Energy Opportunities in Buildings/Facilities** Continue to explore opportunities to integrate solar photovoltaic systems into corporate buildings/facilities Continue to explore solar lease options What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous  
4/21/2023 11:48 AM  
Only good when the sun shines

Anonymous  
4/22/2023 08:43 AM  
Do not add solar if the cost to generate is higher than current costs for energy.

Anonymous 4/22/2023 09:51 AM	Take a look at what Toronto did using lake water for cooling. Great idea
Anonymous 4/22/2023 11:31 AM	too costly and the batteries are not eco-friendly takes more energy to mine the material for batteries, then the battery saves search counterproductive
Anonymous 4/22/2023 12:50 PM	N/A
Anonymous 4/22/2023 03:04 PM	Na
Anonymous 4/23/2023 05:43 AM	Agree
Anonymous 4/23/2023 05:03 PM	Yes
Anonymous 4/23/2023 05:38 PM	Remove all policies
Anonymous 4/25/2023 03:55 PM	Heat pumps. Geothermal and air source for new and existing buildings.
Anonymous 4/25/2023 07:45 PM	explore energy storing opportunities -encourage energy supplier to increase off and peak energy differential in price
Anonymous 4/28/2023 01:43 PM	The Julie MacArthur Recreation Centre was loudly proclaimed to have a creative integration of ice-making machinery on one side that reduces costs and emissions for heating on the other side. I don't see that happening. If it actually is operating as advertised in the opening hype, why is the city not using it as an example that is visible to the public? Where is this good story?
Anonymous 4/29/2023 06:47 AM	Start implementing and stop wasting time and funds exploring.
Anonymous	As above, this will not help lower CO2 emissions to a large extent.

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

The money would be better used for other projects. Electricity in Ontario is not a large source of CO2 emissions. Therefore putting up solar panels will not result in a significant reduction of CO2.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

Again, as with Actions 1 and 2, provide annual updates to the people you serve.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

A waste of time unless you can invent net zero energy from H2O or sunlight without having to farm, mine minerals from other countries or our indigenous lands as us being done now.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Consider the use of unused City lands for renewable energy project leases and the ability to incorporate solar projects over city parking lots

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

I would like to see more options for solar powered buildings.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

The use of all renewable energy options should be incorporated, including ground source heating. What is the viability of using the Sydenham river and the harbour?

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

All new facilities should be net zero and absolutely necessary. Upfront costs may be slightly higher but operating costs are significantly lower.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

Good ideas for action.

Anonymous

5/27/2023 08:13 AM

Explore stored energy options to build local resilience during times of grid power outages.

Anonymous

5/29/2023 07:54 AM

don't know

**Optional question** (23 response(s), 37 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

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**Q7 | Action 4: Energy Efficient Lighting Conversion** Continue to convert outdoor lighting,

**including streetlights, traffic signals, decorative lighting, and park lighting, to energy efficient light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs** Explore ways to improve energy efficiency during events What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Better find a proper way of disposing of LED bulbs.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

Program traffic lights at lightly used cross streets and during off peak hours to change based on traffic levels. Example: lights should stay Green on the main thorough fare and only turn red once a car is detected on the cross street. This avoids unnecessary idling at a stop light when there is no traffic crossing.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Reduce decorative, unnecessary lighting to reduce overall energy requirements

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

Also consider down lighting. So the skies stay dark at night

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

I agree, LED lighting, but don't cheap out, avoid the lower cost lighting because they flicker

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree. Reduce the number of streetlights by 50% given the light intensity of LED. We lived in Geneva for two years and street lighting there was about 25% of what is generally installed in Ontario.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove all the above

Anonymous

4/24/2023 07:25 PM

Explore ways to make lighting less detrimental to wildlife.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Help business owners and residents in finding lighting retrofit grants.



Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

re lighting - some LED lighting is too bright and not useful( blinding)  
test for adequate lumen and shades, which project light downwards  
for street lights

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

As LED costs come down, this would save money but it as per my  
comment about Ontario's electricity, it won't reduce CO2 much.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

Set a timeline for this action (#4) as it is "low hanging fruit" and  
should be / could be completed in one year. Report progress to the  
public.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Agreed. Tesla, Edison Invented the light bulb and GE fine tuned it so  
it would burn out.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

I think that Owen Sound could take into consideration light pollution.  
Street lights that follow the Dark Sky directives. New multi-unit  
buildings should also have lower lighting and install lights that are  
non-irritating to wild life, night creatures and community residents

Anonymous

5/15/2023 11:15 AM

Include "dark sky" technology for all outdoor lighting. (reduce light  
pollution from corporate facilities)

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Reduce light pollution at night, use motion sensors to activate indoor  
and outdoor lighting, reduce outdoor lighting to reduce light pollution  
(where feasible), have building lights turned off at night (use timers)

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Include dark sky best practices into public lighting

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

It's 2023, all lighting in this city should be converted to LED. Why is it  
taking so long?

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

Is lighting absolutely necessary and can lighted areas be reduced?

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

explore ways to use less energy by reducing lighting if/when possible

Anonymous

5/23/2023 05:29 PM

Solar panels to support public outdoor lighting

Anonymous

5/25/2023 08:41 AM

Turn off lights indoors when not needed. Ensure that outdoor lighting is designed to facilitate dark night sky.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

Install/replace every street light with downward facing lights to reduce light pollution.

**Optional question** (25 response(s), 35 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q8 | Action 5: Develop and Implement Corporate Fleet Management Strategy** Explore policy/enforcement opportunities to promote anti-idling Promote fleet-sharing Encourage municipal staff to utilize active transportation during site visits when possible What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

What is going to be considered idling? Waiting for a light to go green. Warming up the car in your driveway?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

Ban/eliminate all drive through pick up windows within the city limits.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 02:04 PM

replace gas vehicles with EVs as they age out; add EV charging station hubs for efficient use

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Add maximum mileage allowance to reduce unnecessary travel

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

You cannot expect anti idling when this is necessary for heat. This is Canada!

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

well, it's Canada idling is going to happen, especially during the winter when it's freezing cold

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove from draft

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Along with EV transportation, also look into hydrogen electric hybrid vehicles. Toyota have a new hydrogen fueled vehicle coming to market. Other manufacturers will follow.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

public transportation system could include a neighbourhood UBER app.

Anonymous

4/29/2023 06:47 AM

Have staff use buses.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

You can't go into any parking lot without finding an idling car. Especially at stores and shopping centres. I've pointed out the city bylaw on idling but most people ignore me. Having said that, how much difference will it make?

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

In Grey County??You guys are idiots.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Enforce speed limits. Much pollution in the City is due to motor vehicles/ water vehicles travelling at excessive speed which results in more exhaust.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

The definition of when possible will need to be clear. Managers and staff will also need to develop a culture that recognizes time spent in active transportation as valuable rather than lost time. This should also be rolled out for police and fire specifically as well. Can staff also be encouraged to take the City bus?

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

Idling is a huge problem, fines should be imposed to those that do this. Fleet sharing is a good idea, going to electric vehicles should be top of the list. More charging stations throughout the city.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Buy vehicles that shut down when stationary for a short time. What does "Active transportation" mean. The corporation should prioritize the purchase of electric vehicles at every level of vehicle use.

Anonymous

5/20/2023 08:56 PM

- remote work and videoconferencing should be encouraged

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Not only anti-idling, but energy conscious acceleration. I know in some communities school bus drivers have been re-educated. There must be a program.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

provide a bicycle fleet and other means of active transportation to city staff

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

yes to anti-idling policies and enforcement.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

We need to look at public transportation. It seems virtually non-existent.

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

Carefully evaluate how often staff travel for work. Is it necessary? What can be done to facilitate active transportation? How can staff drive less in a day? (ie. daycare on site?)

**Optional question** (25 response(s), 35 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q9 | Action 6: Fleet Operations Maintenance** Improve fleet maintenance practices and operations (i.e., driving practices) to ensure optimal fuel economy and emissions reduction Analyze gas consumption in existing corporate gas vehicles to determine which vehicles are highest-emitting; use data collected during analysis to guide the implementation of further efficiency opportunities **What would you add to this corporate action?**

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

When a snowplow is driving from one area to another - keep the plow down and clear the road. I often see a city plow driving down a city street with the plow up - I guess because this is not his/her area to plow and they are traveling to their designated area. Bit of a waste/missed opportunity. The same goes for the sidewalk plows. I have seen a sidewalk plow several times driving down the street (not

the sidewalk) to get to another destination and they are not clearing snow. Why not drive on the sidewalk at all times clearing snow..

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Downsize vehicles where possible to reduce energy needed

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Salting/sanding roads frequency is excessive. Reduce frequency. Pick up recycling same day as trash. Pick up home hazardous waste at same time instead of expecting thousands to get in their car and drive it to waste center.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

definitely need to improve on driving practice. I see a lot of municipal workers drive recklessly heavy foot is not eco-friendly and continual driving around without purpose. It's not eco-friendly.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

Use electric or hydrogen. Replace all park equipment like mowers with electric

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Stop screwing with our lives

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Along with EV transportation, also look into hydrogen electric hybrid vehicles. Toyota have a new hydrogen fueled vehicle coming to market. Other manufacturers will follow.

Anonymous

4/28/2023 01:43 PM

That pokey old tractor that spends way too many days going around in circles on the Timber MacArthur Park cutting barely grown grass and spewing exhaust where everyone walks with their pets and plays with their children - there must be a better way (and a better schedule!).

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

Good

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Once again too much governance. See answer to #8..

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

See above. We need speed limits enforced especially as the City expands.

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

go all electric or hydrogen which is coming. Have more sites available for Recharging your vehicles. Involve corporate entities to make recharging available to encourage more people to go this route in buying new vehicles.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

If there were more available charging stations, maybe people would be more inclined to buy electric.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Absolutely essential. Set a date by which all vehicles will be zero emission

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

staff education on driving vehicles more efficiently

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

Curb the desire to up-size to larger vehicles than are really required.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

sounds good.

**Optional question** (20 response(s), 40 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q10 | Action 7: Zero-Emissions Vehicle and Equipment Adoption**  
Purchase electric vehicles and equipment as existing municipal fleet is retired and replaced where it is feasible and beneficial  
Monitor development of electric vehicle and equipment market to identify opportunities for upgrades; explore zero-emissions equipment as it becomes available (e.g., ice resurfacer, lawn mowers, leaf blowers, etc.)  
Explore alternative fuel opportunities  
Explore zero-emissions fleet upgrade funding opportunities  
What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Just make sure you can handle the needed requirements for electricity before you commit.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

Has there been a study on how much electricity is needed to charge leaf blowers, lawn mowers, as well as the cost to replace the batteries or equipment etc? My understanding is electricity is not free, also has a climate cost, electric equipment does not last as long nor does it run long enough on a charge (meaning more trips to get to recharging station - lost productivity which costs). And does the municipality have a plan in place to dispose of all the old fossil fuel equipment and to safely dispose all the batteries at their end of life? Or are we just filling the landfill and causing more toxic pollution?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 02:04 PM

add EV bikes to the fleet as feasible

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Concerned these will just become new toys. Overall, staff need to be driving less

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

No such thing as zero emissions.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

I would wait on this. Get hybrid for now gas and electric. Non of us know how all electric will go. With every one using electric we don't know if the grid can handle it and what the eventual cost would be.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

zero emission vehicle sound great, but the process in which they are manufactured, including batteries is more harmful to the environment than the lack of emissions from the vehicle

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree. Look at smaller vehicles too. Too many city pickup trucks driving around with one person and nothing in the bed.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Right of freedom of choice

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Along with EV transportation, also look into hydrogen electric hybrid vehicles. Toyota have a new hydrogen fueled vehicle coming to market. Other manufacturers will follow.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

Good

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Explore, Explore...WTF. How to waste taxpayers money. Sounds like your investing in China for product which they will build through coal fired hydro.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Ban leaf blowers. They are not are not a necessary item. The use of them cause noise and exhaust pollution

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

Expedite process but also watch what is coming out new. hydrogen might be a better option to hydro.

Anonymous

5/15/2023 11:15 AM

Do not discard or replace working gas/diesel equipment with electric equipment unless the reduction in GHG is calculated as a "win" taking into account the GHGs emitted in mining and manufacturing of the electric powered replacement equipment.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Replace gasoline-powered leaf blowers, pilot the use of grazing animals to replace/complement mowers, reduce mowing where possible, use electric mowers

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Consider the adoption of horse drawn vehicles for appropriate applications. Many French cities have adopted them with various benefits (see an article from the guardian for a quick reference <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/25/france-streets-working-horses-bin-collection-schools>)

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

Go electric, it's the only option.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 01:44 PM

Do not use leaf blowers. Reduce lawn mowers. Use manual, non-gasoline tools (I saw a guy trimming stalks in a city garden with a



chain saw)

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

Natural gas is 75% less carbon emissions over gasoline .if we all went natural gas we would solved the carbon problem for vehicles and industry and cheaper than going electric.

Anonymous

5/20/2023 08:56 PM

- Explore options to increase remote work and videoconferencing to decrease the need for travel

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

Leaf blowers in my opinion are useless machines and totally unnecessary so they could be eliminated. Some areas could possibly be naturalized to reduce lawn mowing.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

yes

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

Instead of looking to "greener options" for everything we already use, carefully consider what is necessary. For example, there are climate benefits to not mowing the lawn, blowing leaves, etc. Instead of only replacing all vehicles with electric options, consider how we can decrease the amount we use vehicles.

**Optional question** (26 response(s), 34 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q11 | Action 8: Development of Corporate Waste Reduction Program** Conduct a corporate waste audit to identify opportunities to limit waste from corporate operations Provision of green bins/compost bins at all corporate buildings/locations to reduce the amount of solid waste being taken to landfill Staff education about best waste diversion/disposal practices and promotion of best practices at corporate locations (encourage reuse of signage when possible, as well as the use of digital files to reduce paper waste, reusable water bottles to reduce plastic waste, etc.) Increase the number of City-provided recycling bins at events What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Composting is very important but I do not have a car to take it to the sited. It should be part of the waste disposal system and be collected.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Provide more locations for people to drop off non-recyclable items for use by others or to ship to alternate recycling companies

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Stop forcing citizens to drive their trash to waste centers.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

Not just corporate. The whole town needs to be doing this.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

more blue bins would be great. Also removing the bag tags program would severely reduce littering. People seem to just dump garbage where they want and I don't blame them because we are literally paying twice for a service. Our taxes already pay for the contract for Miller waste to pick up garbage double dipping? and out of all the policies in this municipality, the bag tags make me the angriest. would be nice to get one service for the crazy amount of tax we pay.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

Green Bin

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree. Organic waste program is missing from the plan.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 09:56 AM

Provide green bins for residents.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Stop enacting freedom dissolving laws

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Investigate the ability to processing and sorting recycling locally. The products could be sold back into the market. Such as metals, plastics and paper products. Rather than contracting it out.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

City events could have return containers and bring your own set of dishes and cutlery to discourage mounts of plastic waste

Anonymous

4/26/2023 06:15 AM

Expand to residential compost collection

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

OK

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Our city industries have been a leader in pollution control since the late 80s early 90s. Afterburners, recycling of oils, solvents, reforestation.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Increase toxic waste pickup. Curb side pick up would alleviate the problem of dumping. Or a drop-off area that is more accessible than what we have now.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 09:01 PM

outlaw single use water bottles

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

eliminate the charge to bring recycling to the dump. This is discouraging people for recycling. Have green bins at the dump if you cannot afford to set up this program for at home. Hazardous waist needs to be available more often or weekly so that it does not end up in the garbage or environment. Monitor corporate recycling as it is not being done now due to staffing issues. Increase by law fines for not recycling and find a way to monitor.

Anonymous

5/15/2023 11:15 AM

Residential "Green Bin" program for all future contracts with waste collection companies. Why are we still ignoring this?!!

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Have water filling stations at municipal buildings, outdoor spaces that are used by staff (i.e., parks) to encourage filling water bottles.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Require staff and council to use real cups, cutlery, and plates at city events.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

If there were more composting/green bins around, people would start to get the idea to use them. Education in schools is invaluable for our future.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Much of the above has been part of our society for some time and should be accepted practice by now. However, there is no composting

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program in Owen Sound at this time, nor recycling of soft plastic such as plastic bags or styrofoam. At this point I take or send my non-Owen Sound recycling programs to Toronto whenever possible. More aggressive policies such as no sale of bottled water, or quasi water (water with a bit of flavouring etc) sold in any city building. Installation of well signed recycling bins.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

We need a styrofoam recycle plant in Owen Sound. Collect all plastic and find somewhere to recycle it

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Where are these green compost bins going to? There is no local program at the moment. Provide recycling bins and encourage their use. More cigarette containers. Make companies, that make smokers smoke outside, provide places for those cigarette butts to go. Penalize companies that do not have a program of some sort to deal with cigarette waste. Penalize community members who do not separate their waste.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 06:45 AM

Provide opportunities to educate the public about best waste disposal practice - especially what to put in blue bins and what to leave out.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

Educate staff about single use items and have competitions between departments to reduce waste.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

provide reusable plates, cups and cutlery at corporate events

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

Make street litter/waste removal more frequent, so we d not have overflowing cans. More street garbage cans that are wind resistant to garbage loss or bird raids. climate change increase winds. More garbage cans in the city, period, and at the top and bottom of hills and stairs in the city. Have a way for citizens to notify city staff of garbage cans that need to be emptied.

Anonymous

5/25/2023 09:09 AM

Ensure that items from blue bins that are supposed to be recycled are not just sent to the dump as waste.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

minimizing waste is an important action and a good educational opportunity for corporate and community actions

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

Where are the resident green bins? Make this a priority!

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

Water filling stations at all city owned facilities to reduce the use of bottled water

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

We need a better recycling program! A styrofoam program, and systems for #4/#5 plastics like West Grey or Meaford would help to divert a lot of waste. Tax corporations who do not put every effort into waste diversion. Composting should be mandatory. We need a green bin program ASAP.

**Optional question** (35 response(s), 25 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q12 | Action 9: Development of Municipal Climate Lens** Continue development of municipal Climate Lens Tool Expansion of Climate/Environmental Impacts section to all staff reports to encourage the consideration of the climate and environment in relation to all ongoing corporate projects Incorporate Climate Lens into corporate policies What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Sounds like a lot of work. Maybe you aren't busy enough or you are going to have to hire a bunch of woke yahoos to come up with rules and fines for all. The you can increase taxes to pay for them.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Reallocate money from other budgets to fund climate action. The percent of money spent on climate action will indicate our commitment to it

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Be fiscally responsible with all changes.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

climate studies are useless they just waste taxpayer money

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

Nothing

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Please continue

Anonymous  
4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous  
4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous  
4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove all above policies

Anonymous  
4/28/2023 01:43 PM

This is where transparency and accountability starts. The city creates 7% of the total emissions. It is however the leader in the community. Involve the 'community' by more than having a citizen on the Operations Committee. Engage all the groups in our community from Waste-Watchers to CAT-OS in a Council members-staff- citizens forum that generates ideas for everyone, that gathers in feedback and educates the whole population through their various networks. This would be a support to staff and the objectives of this plan.

Anonymous  
5/07/2023 06:41 AM

We have to be careful to not spend money and resources on actions that do little to reduce CO2. Sometimes things are done because they look good.

Anonymous  
5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Check our history. Don't waste taxpayers money. Charge fines for polluting, keep infrastructure efficient, and don't believe what your educators tell you without questioning it. If they can't give you an acceptable answer then do more research.

Anonymous  
5/17/2023 02:23 PM

I agree

Anonymous  
5/18/2023 08:37 AM

The environmental impact component of city reports needs to be more thorough and consistent. It would be ideal to have GHG emissions included in capital project forecasts and the RFP assessment process

Anonymous  
5/19/2023 09:09 AM

Education is key, from kindergarten to high school, incentives to climate action. Do some town halls, bring in speakers to discuss ways and ideas on how to make Owen Sound more sustainable. Plan public outdoor activities for the city to learn more about what the city is doing and what we can do individually. In all seasons.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Not encourage, mandate, and have a standard that all initiative needs to reach before approval. Set the bar high, we don't have much time

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

Need to think of the ripple effect of what actions we take as when we choose an action it might effect the environment from killing organisms, insects, birds, animals, flora , fauna, fish, aquatics, etc.

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Require new developments to plant native trees and more trees.  
Require new developments to have better drainage plans to direct water onto green areas and not into the storm water system, permeable paving, permeable strips in the pavement.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

provide ongoing training for staff and council on best practices on implementing a climate lens in all aspects of corporate decision making and practices.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

This city is friendly only to cars. Active transportation is part of the climate action, but does not show in this survey. Private vehicles are big carbon emitters, and alternatives need to be encouraged. I do not ride a bike because cars and trucks are blind to them . There will be many modes of small electric transportation devices in use soon, and they need a separate roadway from cars- not the disappearing bike lanes that do not connect, and do not physically separate the slow, vulnerable devices/bikes from cars. New housing developments are planned in the old, car friendly way. Wake up.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

This is one of the most important recommendations. I would strengthen the second bullet to read: Expansion of Climate/Environmental Impacts section to all staff reports to REQUIRE AND DEMONSTRATE HOW the climate and environment HAS BEEN CONSIDERED in relation to all ongoing corporate projects.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

I don't know what the Climate Lens Tool is.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

Highlight how the climate lens has informed policies and corporate projects in all reports and related media releases

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**Optional question** (23 response(s), 37 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

**Q13 | Action 10: Promotion of Conservation Among Staff** Offer educational opportunities for staff to learn about climate change and the City’s climate action initiatives Promote environmental conservation and emissions reduction with events, rewards, incentives, benefits, and other programs to encourage a shift in the behaviours, practices, and mindsets of municipal staff and operators Encourage sustainable habits among corporate staff and operators such as turning off unnecessary lights, turning down thermostats, use of digital files, etc. What would you add to this corporate action?

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

I would have thought these things were already being done.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Add climate action actions to performance reviews. It’s not a nice to do but a requirement of the job

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Teach kids the urgent need to be fiscally responsible and how our standard of living is damaged when the government is not responsible.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

Give or reward alternate ways to their work

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Good

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Agree

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Yes

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove all above from draft

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

It should be something that is part of the decision tree process.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Agreed



Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Why not educate everyone at the same time?

Anonymous

5/11/2023 09:01 PM

when a major tree planting action is taken, reduce resource waste by properly caring for the trees - 50% or more of the trees planted at Kelso are dead fro black of deep and ongoing watering program - wasteful on all fronts

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

We have a huge water based industry. What can be done with the fuel that is used out in the water? Increased free transportation in the city is the best way to get people to use public transit verses driving across town. It has to be convenient and accessible all day and evening. Presently you are stranded after a certain point in the day. More transit options and free, less traffic and CO2 emissions. Go electric like other cities instead of gas. Close part of 2nd ave east and make it a public walk shopping experience. Less traffic, forced to park and walk so no driving around and around the block looking for a close parking spot.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

I suggest using programmable thermostats and timed lights/motion sensors for lights, to reduce individual responsibility; provide outdoor and nature-based opportunities for staff to connect with nature; increase connection between staff and Saugeen Ojibway Nation - reconciliation is a key part of climate action.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Limiting corporate related travel should also be considered

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

See above..

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

Yes, it needs to be the culture of the corporate environment. To do this staff must believe that the recycling that they do does not end up in a landfill as many believe. This needs to be demonstrated as untrue by closing the recycling circle and have all recycled goods clearly labelled when sold. I saw this recently on numerous occasions while travelling abroad recently, and I don't just mean garden furniture, but throughout many retail stores including supermarkets items such as packaging. All contractors and suppliers to the city should include their climate mitigation plan. This is particularly important in such areas of waste management when contracts are put out to tender, but can even be applied to paper suppliers, furniture

suppliers and at every level of consumable and non-consumable goods, down to paint and floor coverings.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

Good plan

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

What sort of rewards? Tangible physical rewards of useless items should be stopped completely. However, don't reduce the effectiveness of paper communication to citizen, ie, the almost totally confusing garbage schedule, just to save paper. Also ensure that those members of the community who do not have access to a computer are kept informed. Maybe a couple of public notice boards as well as information in the Sun Times.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

Have competitions between departments on a monthly basis. This could translate to individual reductions in staff's personal behaviors.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

No events, rewards that cost money, and are not linked to measured outcomes. Use this money to attend to litter control, and waste pickup. That is a visible use of that money that really benefits the taxpayer and improves the city for all.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

Excellent.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 02:41 PM

The residents of Owen Sound are already overtaxed. Stop this ridiculous dream pipe to funnel money to already wealthy builders.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

Education is always the beginning of any change.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

Work with community groups to provide educational sessions

Anonymous

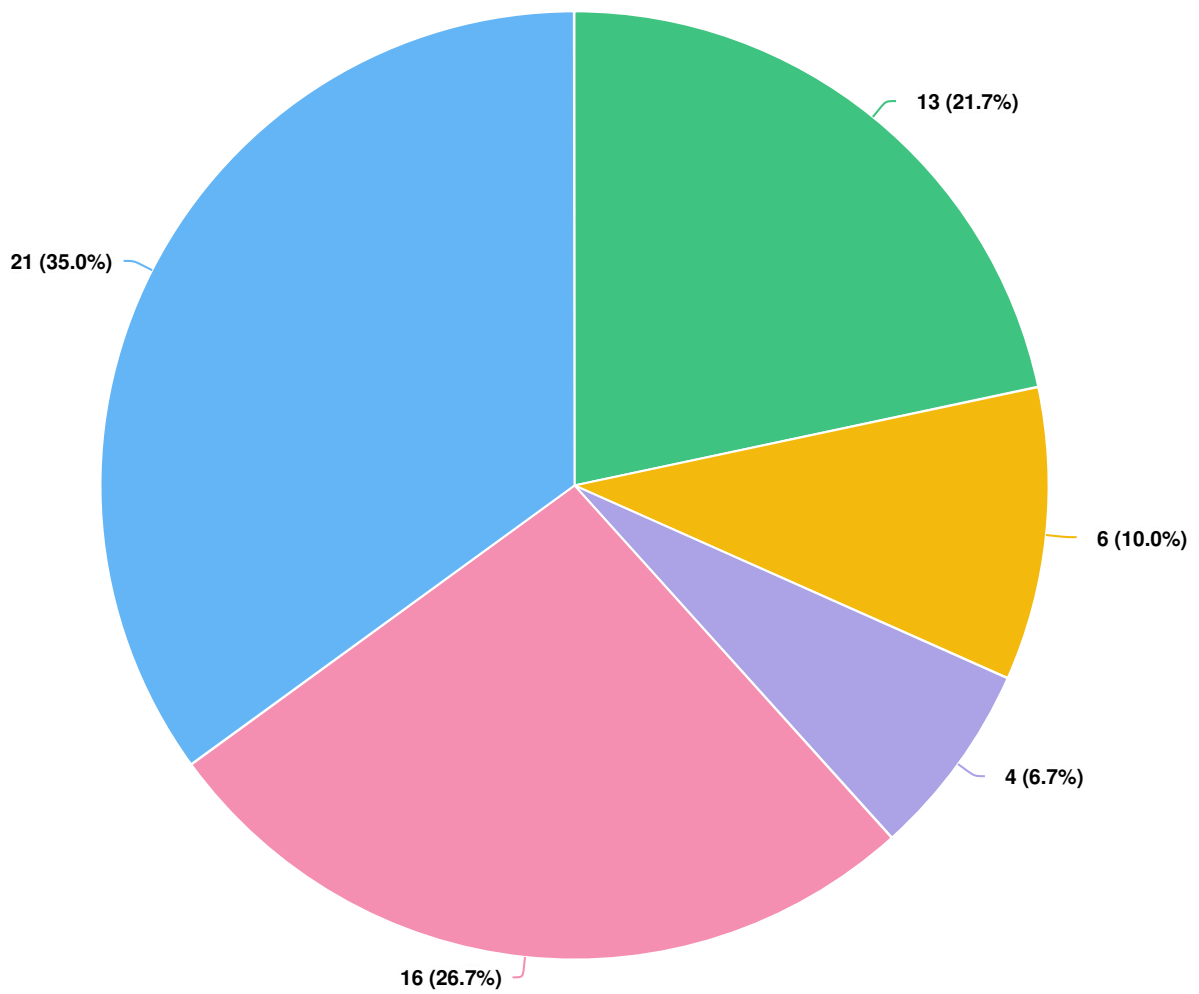
5/29/2023 08:26 AM

Bring children into this.

**Optional question** (26 response(s), 34 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

**Q14** Overall, how supportive are you of these corporate actions that will enable the City to meet its emissions reduction targets? Rate your level of support from 1-5, where 1 is not at all supportive and 5 is very supportive.



**Question options**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Mandatory Question (60 response(s))  
Question type: Dropdown Question

**Q15 | What can be done to increase your confidence that the City's emissions reduction targets will be met?**

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

Realistic attainable ideas. Not just woke speak.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:13 PM

What we do will not matter for climate change...we should wait for the technology to be cost efficient and not decrease our quality of life through tax hikes and useless spending

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

I feel there are some good initiatives here. It will be the implementation that I am concerned about. A concern I have is that some ideas sound great but cannot be necessarily adopted due to our climate in Grey/Bruce. Green roofs and permeable pavement do not work in cold wet climates - has anyone really looked into this or just adopting an idea that sounds good on paper? Another concern is the conflict I see with building. It has been proven that there should be more green space between dwellings, making less hot roofs, but when issuing building permits etc. the city demands more houses per foot, with smaller lot sizes. Why do we not have builders build on minimum 60-70' lots instead of 35-40' lots? With all new subdivisions I see the houses are "crammed" together with no room to plant a tree or grass to prevent runoff into sewers. High density can still be attained by building up.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 02:04 PM

collective ongoing awareness, commitment and execution- monitoring and sharing/celebrating progress & achievements in a timely fashion

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

Adding a climate lens to all areas of action and spending. All elected officials and committee members actively supporting this goal

Anonymous

4/22/2023 08:43 AM

Be fiscally responsible.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 09:51 AM

Actions speak louder than words

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

get rid of bag tags and instate a council that knows how to budget properly

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

DOA reportcard

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

Ongoing measurable metrics reporting. Specific actions launched, in progress & completed plus milestone dates for each initiative.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 09:56 AM

Start now.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 02:20 PM

Regular reports to the community of progress being made

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Don't talk DO IT

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Remove from consideration

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 PM

Create and publish specific goal/timelines for corporate goals.

Anonymous

4/24/2023 12:32 PM

Encourage staff to use the public transport or try biking in order for them to realize how terrible the infrastructure is and how funding should go towards those avenues.

Anonymous

4/24/2023 07:25 PM

When I see results. Needs to happen as fast as possible.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Less talk more action.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 07:45 PM

start with the evaluation now

Anonymous

4/28/2023 01:43 PM

Market the information about progress and challenges with pursuing the climate objectives that only comes out in Council Minutes that include the committee reports. Extract and write about what is happening in readable format. Disseminate through multiple channels.

Anonymous

4/29/2023 06:47 AM

Improve the city transit system. Current hours and routes make it impossible for people to use buses to go to work. Clean the giant hogweed out of Harrison Park. Currently just cut it down, so that it is spreading at an unacceptable rate since the seeds fall to the ground and are left instead of uprooting it and removing it.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

Climate change is a global issue. Canada produces less than 2% of CO2 emissions. Grey County and Owen Sound is even a smaller portion. Therefore, I don't think a lot of money should be spent on this since we won't make any difference to climate change.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

Report annually on each of the Actions - setting out specifics as in "how many" and "where". Each year, set new targets, based on what has been achieved in the past 12 months.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Bi law enforcement that actually works

Anonymous

5/11/2023 11:59 AM

Ongoing reports outlining the progress of steps being taken - and the results.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

Actual action rather than plans

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

I need to see some of these plans executed and followed.

Anonymous

5/14/2023 06:54 PM

Public dashboards on the City website that are easily accessed.

Anonymous

5/15/2023 11:15 AM

Be realistic with targets that are achievable.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Strong communication on progress is critical. Transparency and accountability. Updates should be provided at each Council Meeting on achievements and challenges of reaching goals.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:36 AM

I don't really care if they are met or not.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

Better training and on boarding of council and staff. Inclusion of clearer metrics in the city report sections speaking to environmental impact.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

More education in schools, in corporate, in retail, people need to get serious about this. Our planet is in serious trouble, look around at the weather situation. Increased floods, storms, hurricanes, forest fire, loss of habitat for animals. Stop paving over everything. Protect our forests and wetlands. Animal and bird species are going extinct. Take action..NOW.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

As many of the recommendations are listed as "when feasible" not mandatory it will be very easy to let them slide as often happens when change in corporate behaviour is requested. They need to be kept front and centre by using a standard by which each initiative must reach or exceed. And the public needs to be informed of the progress of the strategic plan

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

Reduction in carbon and emissions is not the only answer .

Anonymous

5/20/2023 08:56 PM

1) Provide a specific date as a deadline for annual reporting of emissions targets from each supporting municipal division. Make sure these are published on social media and on the city's website as an annual Emissions Reduction Report. 2) Encourage communication between supporting division staff and any climate change advisory committee members.

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

Let's hear about progress on these initiatives. Maybe even a Thermometer type progress poster at City Hall, like those used for fundraisers.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

My confidence would be increased if yearly progress reports were published showing progress especially if progress was ahead of schedule.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

Ongoing information sharing on the City's actions, progress etc. providing measurable emissions reductions and how they align with the Mitigation Plan.

Anonymous

What about police vehicles-officers drive around and idle a lot. See

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5/22/2023 08:49 PM

above- waste/litter reduction, and active transportation encouragement and road safety.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

Better communication. Website where we can track progress on actions. Education of staff and council on things like applying a climate lens. Leadership from council. We need a real champion for climate action. Not reacting to the deniers and letting them set policy and practices. The science is clear. Show us the implementation plan and celebrate achievements.

Anonymous

5/27/2023 08:13 AM

Publish regular annual updates of emissions, cost reductions and staff engagement.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

Do it all faster!

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

Education of staff and council members. Developing awareness about how over time costs will decrease by investing in strategies to reduce emissions.

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

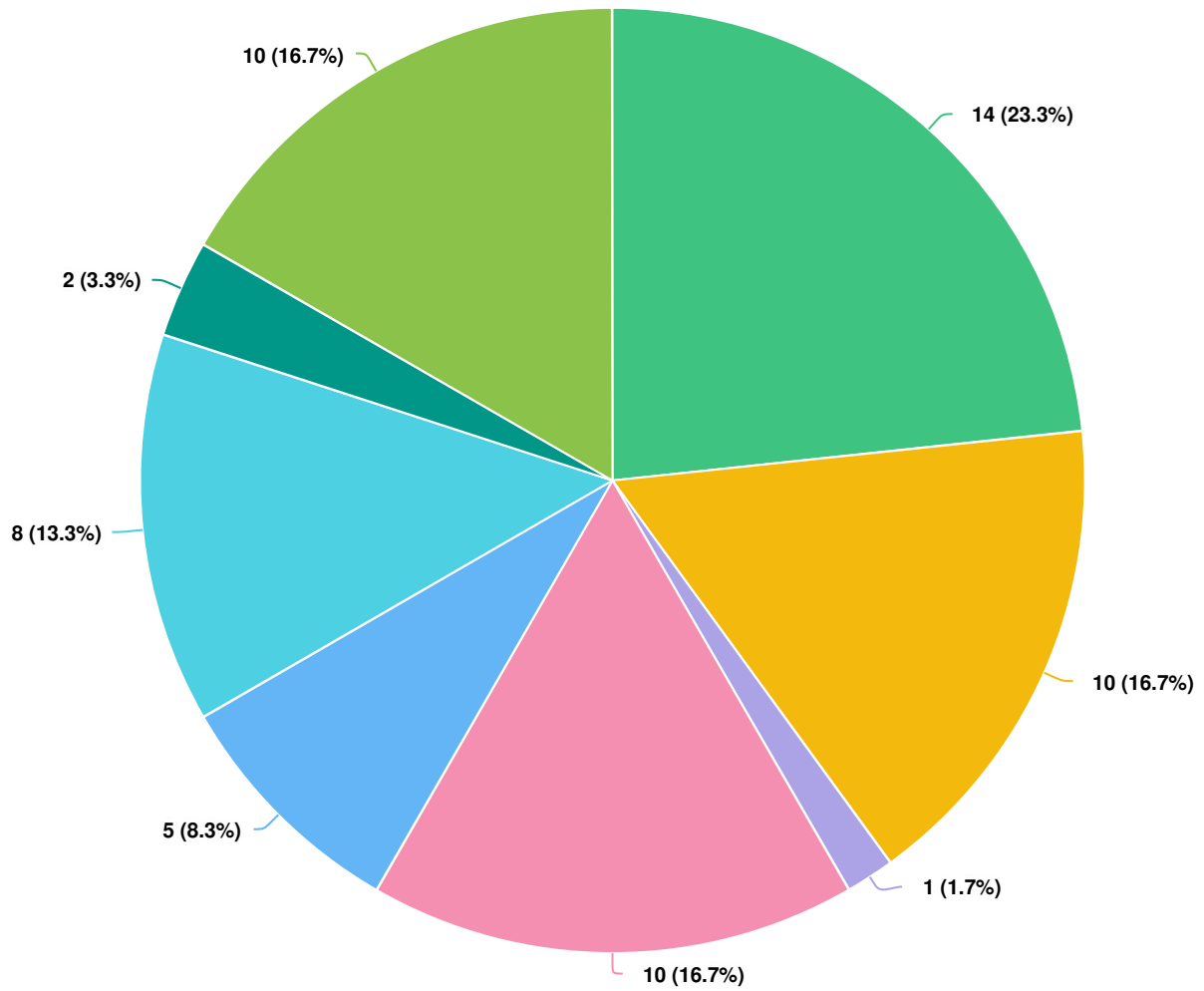
Real action. It is dishearting to not even have a green bin program yet, to not have lids on our garbage containers, etc. Our local MPP doesn't believe we have a climate emergency. I need to see real urgency and commitment from City Hall to feel at all confident that anything will change.

**Optional question** (45 response(s), 15 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question



**Q16 | What is the best way for the City to communicate with the community about our climate initiatives?**



**Question options**

- City website
- Water/tax bill inserts
- Council/Committee meetings
- Direct mail/email
- Social media updates
- News releases
- Radio interviews
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (60 response(s))  
Question type: Dropdown Question

**Q17 | Do you have any other thoughts you'd like to share?**

Anonymous

4/21/2023 11:48 AM

I think I added my thoughts all the way thru this survey. Please take into account that fossil fuels are used in the making and relaying of electricity.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:13 PM

Invest in entrepreneurs who wish to make real change by developing technology and environmental efficiencies on a larger scale. Bring jobs and attract strong leaders to the area. Virtual signalling won't change the climate on from a local level.... All we will do is push the poverty gap. Invest in our people and invest in leaders to join our community.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 12:56 PM

Please think outside the box and decide what works well for our community and the climate, just don't follow what everyone else is doing. Just because everyone is doing it, it doesn't necessarily meant it's right or works for us.

Anonymous

4/21/2023 02:04 PM

just do it!

Anonymous

4/21/2023 09:35 PM

We have been waiting a long time for this plan. Now we need to see enthusiastic and quick action to help mitigate climate change impacts to our community and help in the future. The time to act is now and if we need to make sacrifices to do it, there's no better time than now to start. Thank you for asking for our inout. We are trusting you to put this into action.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 11:31 AM

find ways to lower property taxes so people with real world wages can maybe afford to make improvements to there homes to become greener.

Anonymous

4/22/2023 12:50 PM

No

Anonymous

4/22/2023 03:04 PM

Na

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:43 AM

There is nothing mentioned in the plan to address residential upgrades or new builds. For example our new house has several

upgrades that projects almost a 50% reduction in heat loss so heating and cooling are sized to about half the normal install. Surprisingly a relatively cheap change had the largest impact of reducing the heat loss calculation. Geothermal heating and hot water are 100% electric. These type of updates should be incorporated in all new build applications to the city if we really want to get serious about climate change. For more information please don't hesitate to contact me at [steve\\_jarvis@outlook.com](mailto:steve_jarvis@outlook.com)

Anonymous

4/23/2023 09:56 AM

Not everyone has access to the internet or a computer etc so to keep all residents up to date on cities plan I think a letter to every household should be the only option, in my opinion

Anonymous

4/23/2023 11:30 AM

Electric Vehicles really appreciate the EV Charging Location at the OS Market. Please FINE gas vehicles parked in the Electric Vehicle Charging Location. During Earth Day a large gas vehicle was allowed to park there. How ironic is that?!! Thanks!

Anonymous

4/23/2023 02:20 PM

Promote the tree boulevard program more. And only include native trees to be planted on the boulevards.

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:03 PM

Other cities and municipalities need to DO IT ALSO

Anonymous

4/23/2023 05:38 PM

Stop this climate nonsense

Anonymous

4/24/2023 12:32 PM

Increase funding for public transport and create a network of protected bike lanes. Invest more in biking infrastructure.

Anonymous

4/24/2023 07:25 PM

Anything that can move our sustainability forward as quickly as possible needs to be done. Promoting any services, programs or products that can help us protect the environment would be good too.

Anonymous

4/25/2023 03:55 PM

Let's not put all our eggs in one basket. Diversify the tools such as carbon capture, local modular nuclear reactors, heat pumps, wind, pv, hydrogen and EV's

Anonymous

4/26/2023 06:15 AM

Thank you to Mayor Boddy and all elected councillors For a committed progressive climate action plan

Anonymous

5/07/2023 06:41 AM

Having said that we shouldn't spend a lot of money, I'm involved in an apartment project and I am trying to get funding for geothermal heating / cooling for it. This is for two reasons. One is that the operating costs will be lower. Natural Gas prices are going up. The other is avoiding putting in natural gas heating and a reduction in CO2. The geothermal will cost more to install but save in the long run.

Anonymous

5/07/2023 02:16 PM

The Climate Mitigation Plan is basically a commitment to follow what Grey County is doing (apart from Corporate actions within the city). Perhaps the wording needs to be strengthened to help people understand how serious this crisis is. We need action and we need Annual Progress reports.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 06:23 PM

Sounds like another reason to Warrent another carbon tax hike. Forest fires have been happening for hundreds of thousands of years with no one to put them out. The greenhouse emissions report is so flawed it shouldn't be published. It's only since records have been recorded. 100 years?How old is mother earth? Our planet was a lot warmer 5000 to 8000 years ago according to geological surveys taken in ice at both arctic poles.

Anonymous

5/08/2023 07:16 PM

Spend money on something that is actually a problem. Greener initiatives are great but the homeless and low income are much more important at the moment.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 11:59 AM

Though the community initiatives are being led by Grey County - the city can lead by example by changing some of their practices in green space management. Less grass, more biodiversity.

Anonymous

5/11/2023 07:09 PM

I would really like to see some of these points of action implemented ASAP.

Anonymous

5/14/2023 12:52 PM

In communication to the public, one option is not enough. You need direct mail, social media, news letters in mailings, and any other source of media to get the message out. Not one source is going to reach everyone. I just happened across this plan while reading the weekly events calendar.

Anonymous

5/15/2023 11:15 AM

In the "Ways You Can Help" there is a blatant omission of what the UN (and most other reputable organizations) recommend: "Eating

more vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes, nuts, and seeds, and less meat and dairy, can significantly lower your environmental impact. Producing plant-based foods generally results in fewer greenhouse gas emissions and requires less energy, land, and water. Switching from a mixed to a vegetarian diet can reduce your carbon footprint by up to 500 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (or up to 900 kilograms for a vegan diet)." <https://www.un.org/en/actnow/ten-actions> Why hasn't there been any mention of increasing tree cover on City properties? The loss of so many White Ash trees in our city properties needs to be countered with replacement, and there are many places where opportunities to create new tree cover exist currently. And why hasn't the City implemented a tree-cutting bylaw for private properties within city limits? To my knowledge there is nothing to prevent property owners from cutting and clearing land, removing habitat for existing animals and contributing to biodiversity loss. Climate is not the only crisis facing us. Why is there not an inventory of redundant mown areas of grass that the city currently cuts, and a plan to reduce "lawn mowing" with natural regeneration or tree planting that will reduce GHG emissions from mowing and sequester carbon in the increased vegetation and increase biodiversity? Why isn't there more emphasis on ADAPTATION besides items 17 & 18 in the action plan? Perhaps this is all the City of OS can do? Mitigation is good, but preparation for the inevitable consequences of climate-induced mayhem will be a prudent course of action. Regardless of mitigation efforts, there will be effects that are not preventable, as they are "baked-in" to already emitted GHGs. We are fortunate in our geographic location to be avoiding the brunt of climate-induced impacts...for now. Thank you.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 05:38 AM

Perhaps the best way to have the community participate in climate action is through their pocket books. If service rates were increased, producing more funds for the implementation of the above plans they might start to conserve, repurpose, etc, thus actually contributing to this action plan. Having been raised in remote parts of Canada I have always been a conservationist and always reuse and repurpose. I am appalled at the waste I observe. I would also suggest more bus stops and with rest shelters. As a senior I would use public transport more and give up my auto if there were more frequent pickup points.

Anonymous

5/17/2023 02:23 PM

Please incorporate reconciliation into your climate mitigation strategy.

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:36 AM

I don't really care what's done as long as it doesn't cost \$\$\$\$. The decision to NOT hire a permanent climate change coordinator (or whatever it was called) was a good one

Anonymous

5/18/2023 08:37 AM

I want to see more discussion of the action that the City can take to influence community emissions through things like: street design to support active transportation, improved public transit, adjusted property bylaw standards to promote biodiversity and reduce emissions from excessive manicuring of grass. OS should also be advocating for investments in public transit infrastructure from provincial and federal levels of government. We need better busses and ultimately electric rail transportation to connect us to the province. One immediate first step would be to adjust the property by laws to support 'no mow May'. Incorporating multi solving perspectives into staff training and the on going work would also be helpful <https://www.multisolving.org/>

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:09 AM

If we don't collectively as a city/province/country, there is no hope for future generations. It's up to us.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 09:52 AM

The strategic plan as it applies to the corporation represents only 2% of emissions for the city. 98% is residential. The date for Net-Zero for both the corporation and the city are both set at 2050. This does not seem feasible for the residential target without strong city initiatives in that direction. Aggressive initiative could include: City mandated EV car charging points. Incentives to big box stores to install them for tax consideration, and prominent mentions in city climate mitigation promotions by the city Tax incentives for householders to install charging points in their homes, and mandatory for all new builds. Incentives for motor vehicle incentive to stock and sell electric vehicles, and penalties for those that don't EV designated parking spots in Owen Sound Initiative to fill all stores in downtown Owen Sound, particularly with food stores. There is ample parking in downtown, and it is very walkable from an extensive area of residential areas. Encouraging residents to shop locally in downtown will reduce driving to the hill tops on each side of the city for basic purchases. Increased property taxes could be levied on unfilled stores after a period of vacancy. Legatts Furniture Store has been empty for years, and is a significant block to making the area a vibrant shopping and living area. Make 2nd Avenue E from 11 St W to 8 th St a pedestrian area Make the process of establishing of community gardens less onerous. I was part of a community garden initiative in the "Charlie Parkette" on 2nd Ave E and 6th St. We were stonewalled by the city over concerns about soil contamination, although that was not made explicit, just implicit. Rather than meeting with us to discuss options to create a safe garden, such as raised beds we received a very condescending letter from a city lawyer (copy can be supplied) and all our hard work was destroyed. It is part of the city climate initiative to encourage community gardens but we were treated very

poorly and our efforts certainly not valued. The parkette has been abandoned by the city and is a waste land that no one uses, except probably drug dealers, and has recently been sprayed to kill the dandelions who grew out of the wood chips. It is an eye sore. Dandelions are an important source of nectar for early hatching insects and it is beneficial if they are allowed to thrive. Interestingly, the parkette was formerly used as a play ground by the childcare that used to be located at the YMCA but no issues of soil contamination were raised then, and now it is a wasteland. It could still be a thriving community gardens with protections in place.

Anonymous

5/19/2023 02:34 PM

All bag tags costs should be in taxes so residence wo t dump garbage on sides of roads or in the Bush. Plastic is the worst thing ever invented

Anonymous

5/20/2023 08:56 PM

1) Doesn't the city maintain the roads? You'd think operations like that would be a chunk of emissions too, as construction of asphalt paving is quite emission intensive. Not to mention planning decisions that require us to build more roads e.g. new developments. Have these emissions been missed in the emissions inventory? 2) In order to promote implementation, having all implicated supporting divisions contribute to an annual report, and having it due on a pre-determined and publicized date each year, might improve accountability. 3) I wish that the City's implementation plans were more detailed. With more specific actions. If we are going to achieve a 30% reduction from 2018 levels by 2030, there is no time to waste. We are already halfway through 2023! Perhaps there should be an upcoming and more short term deadline (6 months maximum) for each supporting division to provide a more concrete implementation plan? 4) What I wrote just above is also true for the Community Actions that the City of Owen Sound plans to support in the "Grey County - Climate Change Action Plan". I would like to see a short term deadline (maximum 6 months) for each implicated supporting division to provide a more concrete implementation plan for each Community Action. Other ideas: A) A waste management plan can play a significant role in encouraging people to decrease their waste. For example, bag tag fees can discourage waste. And you could do what many cities are doing and alternate between pick-up of garbage and pick-up of green waste upon launch of the green bin program. Increased public education on what is and what is not recyclable, and what is and is not compostable, would also be of benefit. B) Decreasing parking requirements for new units on transit corridors or within a certain distance to a transit corridor could help increase the number of units in the City without requiring new development, and might increase use of public transportation. C) The City could consider whether the commercial strips on the east and west sides of

town can be made greener, especially along the sidewalk or edge of the road, as well as the commercial strip downtown. Having trees for shade above a sidewalk or bike lane may be the difference between a walkable street and an unbearably hot one.

Anonymous

5/21/2023 09:08 PM

I was very annoyed that I could not fill in the Other section in 16. Here's my other which is also in my comments in 13. Ensure that those members of the community who do not have access to a computer are kept informed. Maybe a couple of public notice boards as well as information in the Sun Times. Renters do not always get water bill inserts. Encourage no mow lawns and front gardens.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 09:15 AM

I have some questions. In 07 Theme Outreach & Engagement Action 21 Why is Owen Sound not a partner in the Climate Action Advisory Group In Corporate actions 01 In a few places you use the term "where feasible" This gives an opportunity to not use a better option possibly because it costs more. I think that terminology should be removed.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:10 PM

Engagement is a very important aspect of climate action. Therefore the City needs to take on the responsibility to show itself a leader on climate action rather than a follower. We need all citizens behind Climate Action in order to work. therefore a climate lens also needs to be reflected in the language the city uses in their communications. The City needs to take greater action in Nature Based Solutions: Pollinator corridor, preserving existing trees, planting a lot more trees etc. We need targets on how many trees we need to plant. when mature trees are cut down it takes about 40 years before new trees will sequester the same amount.

Anonymous

5/22/2023 08:49 PM

See above. This plan is low-hanging fruit and fairly obvious. Where is the vision of a better city? This plan will have costs, and the real value of costly upgrades need to be significant to be implemented. Reducing vehicle traffic in the city by making the roads and pathways safer for bikes and small e-transport may have more impact /dollar than expensive building retrofits and expensive new city vehicles.

Anonymous

5/23/2023 05:29 PM

Need of a stakeholder meeting around results of survey and increased transparency

Anonymous

5/24/2023 04:31 PM

We already live in an essentially green environment. Our taxes are substantial. Our corporations are minimal. Many other city issues



need to be addressed than virtue signaling one

Anonymous

5/25/2023 08:41 AM

Review by-laws such as lawn grass-cutting and maintenance to foster better habitat for pollinators, etc. rather than mindless "cut your grass short". Restrict permits for drive-through services such as coffee shops, etc. Review zoning restrictions regarding the Glassworks coop land/plan to permit their sensible and innovative approach to affordable/shared housing, etc.

Anonymous

5/25/2023 09:09 AM

The questions seem to be aimed at the corporation of Owen Sound but what about the other 98% - I suggest adding bike lanes so people can safely travel during many good months. - Publish a list on the town site saying what are the plants native to this area. Support a few more goods exchange days in the community. Have the city use purchasing power to perhaps bulk buy rain barrels and composters that might be more affordable for individuals to buy and use. Perhaps a pilot project during summer months for e bike rentals but that would likely need bike lanes first. Try to modify transit schedule to account for winter vs summer seasons.

Anonymous

5/26/2023 07:28 AM

Thanks for this opportunity to share our thoughts. This survey is a good start. Will we have a chance to comment on the draft Engagement Strategy?

Anonymous

5/26/2023 02:41 PM

Unbelievable how useless the City Hall continues to be overpaid and underworked. Never a real solution to any problem.

Anonymous

5/27/2023 08:13 AM

Town Hall meetings to discuss climate change and climate action with citizens.

Anonymous

5/28/2023 07:05 AM

I think what is being done is great. I'd personally like to see more info about other areas (more about meat consumption - please don't roll your eyeballs - this is a big part of the problem) and just to do everything faster!

Anonymous

5/28/2023 04:23 PM

I think all the strategies in #16 could be ways for the city to communicate with the community about climate initiatives

Anonymous

5/29/2023 08:26 AM

Please act on this. I have an 18month old child and I am truly worried about his future.

**Optional question** (48 response(s), 12 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question