
Environmental Action Committee

Date

2018/04/17

Time

9:30 AM

Location

Civic Centre, Committee Room A - Second Floor,
300 Civic Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1

Members Present

Councillor Matt Mahoney, Ward 8 (Chair)
Councillor George Carlson, Ward 11 (Vice-Chair)
David Cook, Ward 1
Britt McKee, Ecosource
Brad Bass, Citizen Member
Chelsea Dalton, Citizen Member
Melanie Kramer, Credit Valley Conservation
Pujita Verma, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance
Lea Ann Mallett, Citizen Member
Minal Waqar, University of Toronto Mississauga
Andrew Roblin, Citizen Member

Members Absent

Dianne Zimmerman, Partners in Project Green
Sheila Storey, Sawmill Sid Inc.

Staff Present

Michael Cleland, Director, Environment
Mary Bracken, Supervisor, Environment Initiatives
Julius Lindsay, Climate Change Specialist
Diana Suzuki-Bracewell, Environmental Outreach Coordinator
Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant
Trish Sarnicki, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services
Raj Sheth, Director, Facilities & Property Management

Find it online

<http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/environmentalactioncommittee>

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – 9:32 a.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Approved (A. Roblin)

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST** – Nil.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

4.1 Environmental Action Committee Minutes – March 20, 2018

Approved (M. Kramer)

5. **DEPUTATIONS**

5.1. Dr. Chelsea Rochman, Professor, University of Toronto spoke regarding plastic contamination in the environment

Dr. Rochman provided an overview of plastic contamination in the environment, noting that 8 million metric tons of plastic enters the oceans annually, with 80% coming from land based sources. Dr. Rochman spoke to the abundance of micro plastic abundance in Lake Ontario, noting it contaminates the environment as well as over 800 species of wildlife, leading to contamination of seafood products and even drinking water. Dr. Rochman spoke to Canada as a leader in environmental policy, noting that the federal government had banned plastic microbeads found in toiletries. Dr. Rochman suggested an international agreement on marine plastic pollution, as well as a cities initiative, noting it would empower cities to take leadership on the issue and prevent measurable emissions of plastic waste. Dr. Rochman proposed several solutions to pursue: improved waste management and infrastructure, transition towards a circular economy, incentivize return of fishing gear, reduce single-use plastics, incentivize recycling, and clean-up. Dr. Rochman noted that she would be meeting with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to discuss these issues.

Questions from Committee Members arose with regard to the following:

- Recycling of black plastic;
- Whether the contamination of wildlife includes microfibers;
- Growing number of U.S. cities banning single-use plastics;
- Banning of plastic straws;
- Whether chemical recycling is a viable option;
- Education is key, as well as empowering cities;
- Concerns regarding ease of recycling enabling usage of more plastic;
- Over packaging of products.

In response to these questions, Dr. Rochman explained that black plastic cannot be recycled in automated facilities due to the scanner not recognizing the color, and that

microfibers are the most common material found in the stomachs of animals. Dr. Rochman noted that when a number of cities in the U.S. implement bans, the state will feel pressure and implement a ban as well. Dr. Rochman explained that the technology around chemical recycling is improving, but that it is only applicable to recycle code #1. Dr. Rochman spoke to the fact that only 5 to 10% of items are recycled, even though large amounts are placed in bins, and noted while education is key, so is having products on the market that can be recycled, filters on washing machines and waste harmonization procedures in place.

Councillor Mahoney, Chair requested that Dr. Rochman update the Committee with details of the meeting once she has met with the Minister.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation and associated presentation by Dr. Chelsea Rochman, Professor, University of Toronto with respect to plastic contamination in the environment be received.

Received (B. Bass)

Recommendation EAC-0013-2018

5.2. Sumeet Jhingan, Energy Management Coordinator spoke regarding the Municipal Green Building Standard

Mr. Jhingan provided an update regarding the Municipal Green Building Standard, noting that between 1990 and 2014, energy intensity reduced 11% due to buildings being built better, but energy use increased 32%, which speaks to growth in development and buildings outpacing energy efficiency. Mr. Jhingan spoke to LEED Silver, the current standard that was approved by Council in January 2010 for all new municipal buildings over 10,000 square feet and noted that while the City follows the principles, they do not certify. Mr. Jhingan noted that Green House Gases Reduction goals are coming soon and that stringent building codes are eminent, and proposed an update to the Municipal Green Building Standard to create a stepped-approach for future net-zero by having absolute targets, being net-zero “ready”, having systems be mutually supportive, lower maintenance, financial sustainability, and spatial programming.

Questions from Committee Members arose with regard to the following:

- Technology available to cut energy in existing buildings as they are;
- Clarification on energy usage;
- Comparative municipalities that have adopted similar programs;
- Impending greenhouse gas emissions requirements with respect to applications for federal infrastructure funding.

In response to these questions, Mr. Jhingan responded that the biggest issue in the industry is the lack of synergy in equipment, noting different equipment operators make for integration issues. Brad Bass, Citizen Member, added that the technology available is 10 years old, and that a local vendor is available with Mr. Jhingan requesting that the information be provided to his department. Mr. Jhingan clarified that with respect to

energy use, on a building basis, the City is doing better, but with regard to the total number of developments, the pace of growth is outpacing energy efficiency. Mr. Jhingan noted that Toronto has developed its own custom standard, specific to the challenges and issues that they see in their city, and have adopted green roofs, and that Vancouver is beginning to use passive houses, which have more shading and better insulation, as well as a reduction in energy usage. Mr. Jhingan noted that having proper infrastructure in place is key to achieving net zero.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation and associated presentation by Sumeet Jhingan, Energy Management Coordinator with respect to the Municipal Green Building Standard be received.

Received (M.Waqar)

Recommendation EAC-0014-2018

5.3. Edward Nicolucci, Urban Designer provided an update on the Green Development Strategy and speak to the Mississauga Urban Design Awards (Green Component)

Mr. Nicolucci provided an update with respect to the Green Development Strategy (GDS), referencing the Mississauga Strategic Plan, the Living Green Strategic Pillar, as well as City of Mississauga Initiatives, such as the One Million Trees Campaign, Stormwater Charge, the Mississauga Transitway, the Hurontario LRT, and the Cycling Master Plan. Mr. Nicolucci spoke to the challenges of incentivizing best practices for green development, noting there are no securities paid for green features in order to encourage them, and that long-term maintenance of green features must be considered. Mr. Nicolucci spoke to tracking green features, noting the collaboration between departments and agencies, and discussed the findings. With respect to the Mississauga Urban Design Awards, Mr. Nicolucci spoke to the judging criteria, noted past winners, and added that the design awards are the longest running in Ontario.

Questions from Committee Members arose with regard to the following:

- Possibility of tours from developers to encourage others to follow suit;
- Difference in processes between City of Mississauga and City of Toronto;
- Expressed appreciation for success and progress of GDS.

Mr. Nicolucci noted that as the goal posts are always changing for green standards, tours are not given, but that developers are informed early on of others who have undertaken green standards to encourage their use. Mr. Nicolucci also added that the City of Toronto has had a process in place for a number of years, and noted that they have a mandatory process at the beginning of the project, with incentives added as well. Mr. Nicolucci added that with more authority, more green features can be added, and that additional legislation surrounding green features is imminent.

RECOMMENDATION

That the update by Edward Nicolucci, Urban Designer with respect to the Green Development Strategy and the Mississauga Urban Design Awards (Green Component)

be received.

Received (L. Mallet)
Recommendation EAC-0015-2018

5.4 Julius Lindsay, Climate Change Specialist, and Paul Stewart, Planner spoke to the Climate Change Land Use Study

Mr. Lindsay provided an overview of the Climate Change Project, and noted his presentation was a response to Cameron McCuaig's deputation from the last Environmental Action Committee meeting.

Mr. Lindsay spoke to the Provincial Policy Statement, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and spoke to Bill 68, which introduced changes to the Municipal Act, 2001. Mr. Stewart spoke to the Strategic Plan and the Mississauga Official Plan, and provided an update regarding Inspiration Lakeview, Inspiration Port Credit, and the former Imperial Oil Site redevelopment. Mr. Stewart noted that with respect to the waterfront community, policies pertaining to climate change and protecting the environment are being explored. Mr. Lindsay spoke to the City of Mississauga's Climate Change Action plan and noted 4 recommendations: strengthening policy & programs, climate change lens, monitoring and evaluation, and increasing capacity.

Councillor Cook spoke to the Inspiration Lakeview and impending developments and noted that a community engagement event will take place on April 18, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Waterside Inn. Councillor Cook also spoke to the former Imperial Oil Site redevelopment and noted discussions regarding improvements to transportation in the surrounding area.

Councillor Carlson requested that Mr. Lindsay touch base with Cameron McCuaig to provide him follow-up information.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation and associated presentation by Julius Lindsay, Climate Change Specialist, and Paul Stewart, Planner with respect to the Climate Change Land Use Study be received.

Received (Councillor Cook)
Recommendation EAC-0016-2018

6. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD**

No members of the public requested to speak.

7. **MATTERS CONSIDERED**

7.1. Climate Change Engagement Events

Leya Barry, Climate Change Coordinator, spoke to the memorandum and noted that

Celebration Square is the confirmed location for the July 14, 2018 After Dark Earth Market taking place between 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

RECOMMENDATION

That the memorandum dated April 6, 2018 from Leya Barry, Climate Change Coordinator, Climate Change, Environment Division with respect to Climate Change Events be received.

Received (B. McKee)
Recommendation EAC-0017-2018

7.2. EAC Environmental Actions Summary

No discussion took place on this item.

RECOMMENDATION

That the EAC Environmental Actions Summary updated for the April 17, 2018 meeting of the Environmental Action Committee, be received for information.

Received (C. Dalton)
Recommendation EAC-0018-2018

7.3. Environmental Action Committee Work Plan

No discussion took place on this item.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Environmental Action Committee Work Plan updated for the April 17, 2018 meeting of the Environmental Action Committee, be approved.

Approved (B. Bass)
Recommendation EAC-0019-2018

8 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

8.1. Updated Corporate Policy & Procedure: Respectful Workplace and Workplace Violence

RECOMMENDATION

That the Updated Corporate Policy & Procedure: Respectful Workplace and Workplace Violence be received for information.

Received (A. Roblin)
Recommendation EAC-0020-2018

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Lisa Urbani, Environmental Research Assistant advised that the litter cleanup that was to take place at 1:00 p.m. today at Union Park is cancelled due to the week's inclement

weather, and will be re-scheduled.

Brad Bass, Citizen Member, and Councillor Mahoney, Chair, congratulated Pujita Verma, Peel Environmental Youth Alliance on her new position as the City of Mississauga's new Youth Poet Laureate.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Tuesday, May 15, 2018 - 9:30 AM, Committee Room A
11. **ADJOURNMENT** – 11:07 AM