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Date February 13, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-76
To Chair and Members
Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee
From Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item [X]
Item For Consideration []

2.0 Topic 2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan [Financial Impact: None]

3.0 Recommendation

A. THAT Report 2025-76 “2025 Climate Action Implementation Plan” BE RECEIVED.

4.0 Background

In December 2019, Brantford City Council declared a Climate Emergency, committing the City, in principle, to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. With this declaration, staff were directed to develop a carbon reduction strategy, in collaboration with the Environmental and Sustainability Policy Advisory Committee, that details the following:

- A process to ensure that every matter coming before City Council will quantify and report its impact relative to the climate emergency and Brantford’s carbon reduction strategy;
- A public reporting framework regarding the climate emergency that includes quarterly updates on the impact of municipal actions and decisions on Brantford’s carbon reduction strategy.

In response to the above, a carbon reduction strategy was developed which is the Corporate Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) and was approved in November 2020 in [Report 2020-472](#) titled “Corporate Climate Change Action Plan and Climate Lens Assessment”. This plan includes emissions reduction targets and a list of action items identified to reduce emissions from Corporate sources. Additionally, the carbon reduction strategy was further developed through the Community CCAP and was approved in July 2022 in [Report 2022-428](#) titled "Brantford Community Climate Change Action Plan". This plan includes a list of action items to reduce emissions from community sources. Following the approval of the capital budget, staff prepare a report outlining the climate action items that will be targeted for that year.

5.0 Analysis

The upcoming year aims to be another productive period for climate action in the City of Brantford as actions from the Corporate and Community CCAPs are being implemented. Table 1 provides an overview and approximate timeline for Corporate CCAP projects that staff will undertake in 2025.

Table 1: Corporate Climate Change Action Plan projects planned for 2025

Item	Completion Timeline	Description
Convert HPS Bulbs to LED	Q1-Q4	Continue retrofitting HPS streetlights to LED to reduce electricity consumption.
Fleet EV Chargers	Q1-Q4	Install EV chargers to support the electrification of City fleet at the Operational Services Yard, Environmental Services, and Transit Yard.
Convert light duty auto to EV	Q1-Q4	Replace and expand fleet with electric vehicles for Operational Services, Environmental Services, and Fleet and Transit Services.

Energy Conservation Initiatives	Q1-Q4	Explore installing BASs at City facilities and implementing measures from the Energy Audits at various facilities.
Building Operation and Maintenance Guidelines	Q2	Prepare and provide internal guideline for the operation and maintenance of buildings to regulate internal controls.
Natural Asset Inventory and Management Plan	Q2	Update Asset Management Plan to include natural asset inventory.
Tree Canopy Expansion	Q2-Q3	Continue programs such as residential tree giveaway and high volume tree planting to increase urban tree canopy.
Invasive Species Management Plan	Q3	Conduct inventory and mapping of invasive species in Brantford. Develop a Management Plan for the control and removal of invasive species.
Climate Change Adaptation Plan	Q4	Complete a community-wide climate risk assessment and develop a plan for the City to adapt to climate change.
Updating the Corporate CCAP	Q4	Redevelop the Corporate CCAP with updated action items and emission reduction targets.

Table 2 provides an overview and approximate timeline for Community CCAP projects that staff will support in 2025.

Table 2: Community Climate Change Action Plan projects planned for 2025

Item	Completion Timeline	Description
Climate and Environmental Engagement and Education	Q1-Q4	Develop educational materials (website, brochures, newsletters, etc.) to educate residents on energy, water, waste, climate adaptation. Host workshops, Public Information Centres, lunch and learns.
Home Energy Retrofit Program Feasibility Study	Q4	Work with Clean Air Partnership to conduct a feasibility study on the development of a Home Energy Retrofit Program.

Public EV Chargers	Q4	Install EV chargers for public use.
Updating the Community CCAP	Q4	Redevelop the Community CCAP with updated action items and emission reduction targets.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of this report. The projects being undertaken in 2025 have approved funding sources through the City's capital and operating budgets and therefore, no further funding is required.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

The projects outlined for 2025 will result in reduced GHG emissions from Corporate and Community sources. With the continuation of replacing HPS streetlights to LED and converting light duty auto to electric, the City can expect to reduce its emissions by approximately 150 T of CO₂e, which is equivalent to taking 45 cars off the road. Additionally, with the Tree Canopy Expansion project, approximately 0.022 T of CO₂e will be sequestered per tree.

8.0 Conclusion

This report provides a Climate Action Implementation Plan for 2025 identifying projects from the Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans. The proposed projects will result in reduced GHG emissions and have a positive impact on the environment.



Gagan Batra
Manager, Business Support and Sustainability

Prepared By:

Rebecca Szczepanowski, Climate Change Officer

Attachments (if applicable)

None.

Copy to:

N/A

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no