

Markham's greenprint

Sustainability
Plan

**“Leading the way together to liveable
neighbourhoods, healthy people and
continuing prosperity”**

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greenprint

General Committee Presentation – March 21, 2011

Purpose:

- To briefly go over revisions to recommendations as requested at working session on March 7, 2011
- To clarify the recommendation on tree and vegetation coverage under Ecosystem Integrity
- To complete review of remaining Greenprint general recommendations
- To seek approval of recommendations in order to work with Council, staff and the community on timing, responsibilities around implementation

Individual Health

Identity + Culture

Shelter

Food Security

Access + Mobility

Education + Skills

Economic Vibrancy

Materials Management

Water Efficiency

Ecosystem Integrity

Energy + Climate

Social Equity

Social & Cultural Well-Being

Environmental Health



Environmental Health
Social & Cultural Well-Being
Economic Vitality

RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Individual Health - Objective: Promote & support physical and mental health of Markham citizens		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
1	Maintain access to all public facilities and programs for Markham citizens regardless of means or ability	X		
2	Adopt the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Cities initiative	X	X	
3	Continue to build or complete accessible sidewalks, pathways, trails and bicycle networks that connect to all destinations	X	X	
4	Maintain sidewalks, pathways, trails and bicycle routes year round	X	X	X
5	Identify locations for, and work toward, establishing water stations, washrooms, storage and locking for bicycles along sidewalks, pathways, trails, bicycle routes, and transit stops and in the public realm	X	X	
6	Continue to design, retrofit, and build context appropriate streets focused on the needs and comfort of pedestrians, cyclists, and persons with disabilities	X	X	
7	Develop strategies for building parks, playgrounds, connected pathways and bicycle routes ready for the first phase in new communities	X	X	
8	Develop and implement policies to ban smoking all at Markham municipal sites, such as parks and areas outside of municipal buildings (parking lots, etc)	X		
9	Continue to promote and enhance policies to restrict sales and marketing of high-calorie, low-nutrition food/drink from Markham public facilities	X		
10	Build upon and enhance partnerships with school boards to continue using school facilities as community resources	X		
11	Develop and deliver healthy eating and lifestyle curriculum and provide programs for those with mental health issues with Markham libraries, Community Centres and school boards	X		
12	Partner with others to support affordable and accessible child care throughout the community	X	X	
13	Create opportunities for growing food and establishing healing gardens in parks and appropriate municipal facilities	X		
14	Develop a plan where community facilities act as heating or cooling centres during times of need	X	X	

15	Encourage school boards to design and promote safe routes to schools and walking school bus programs	X		
16	Provide public with information about outreach programs for isolated residents	X		
17	Establish intergenerational programs that build bridges between and within various communities	X	X	
18	Partner with community groups to support and monitor seniors living alone	X		
19	Build on programs and partnerships to support those with mental health issues	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Social Equity - Objective: Reduce the impact of household poverty		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
20	Continue to work with the Region and Provincial/Federal governments to facilitate an affordable housing strategy		X	
21	Continue to promote and enhance active transportation in all municipal facilities, parks and infrastructure	X		
22	Support programs that allow seniors to continue living with family and within the family home for as long as possible	X	X	
23	Continue to support a range of accessible creative arts, cultural and heritage opportunities to residents and visitors	X		
24	Reinforce Markham's commitment to creating compact and complete communities through the Official Plan and guidelines. Development should include work, live, play opportunities for all neighbourhoods	X	X	
25	Coordinate social planning within Markham. Integrate social services not currently being delivered by the municipality with the Region and other service providers	X		
26	Help create 10,000 new jobs, at all levels, in partnership with other organizations through local economic development activities specifically aimed at reducing poverty		X	
27	Build on work with partners to create employment opportunities for unemployed, underemployed and low-income individuals who reside in Markham, including youth and	X	X	
28	Build on financing and other supports to establish new jobs and businesses in partnership with others		X	
29	Establish places within schools, libraries and community centres where goods and services can be exchanged, reclaimed or recycled	X		

30	Work with partners to welcome, support and build programs and social networks for seniors, women, and minorities	X		
31	Work with partners to develop and deliver classes about how municipal government functions and how to get involved in making decisions	X		
32	Coordinate social planning efforts with partners to deliver services within neighbourhoods	X		
33	Continue to develop a community engagement policy that encourages the participation of all demographic groups	X		
34	Continue to nurture volunteerism throughout the community	X		
35	Promote and build on neighbourhood organizations responsible for fostering interaction, neighbourhood pride, empowering local decision-making, food growing, and local program and services delivery	X	X	
36	Continue to recruit and support individuals that represent the Town's demographic diversity for Town committees and staff	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Social Equity - Objective: Promote greater youth involvement in decision-making and participation		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
37	Continue and build on social media tools to communicate with youth	X		
38	Build on role of Mayor's Youth Task Force and develop opportunities for greater youth involvement and volunteerism in the political process, such as a shadow youth council or the provincial page program, where members of council and staff serve as mentors to engage youth in the political process	X		
39	Continue and build on opportunities to seek youth input in planning decisions and other decisions that shape the community	X		
40	Continue to provide space and programs that cater to the needs of youth at community centres and the Civic Centre	X		
41	Examine the feasibility of financially supporting the campaigns of youth who want to serve in elected government but lack financial resources or networks		X	
42	Continue to engage at-risk youth with targeted services and opportunities, including volunteer opportunities and connecting youth with employers	X		
43	Create mentorship opportunities for youth in Markham, including peer-to-peer and adult-to-youth	X		

44	Encourage youth to celebrate the community and their neighbourhoods through the establishment of youth-driven committees, programs and initiatives	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Education & Skills - Objective: Facilitate LIFE-LONG Learning & Skills Development		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
45	Build on partnerships with other organizations to attract, provide and promote accessible lifelong learning opportunities, including additional post-secondary opportunities		X	
46	Continue to integrate Seneca College Campus into Markham Community by offering real world experience partnerships	X		
47	Support and promote community interactive learning opportunities through speaker series, conferences, post-secondary courses and community forums, online and at local facilities	X		
48	Support access to language skills development to ensure barrier-free access to education, training and skills development	X	X	
49	Work with partners, including the Markham Library and the school boards, to develop and deliver a sustainability curriculum for residents, businesses, including re-skilling programs, learning about home/business energy, water efficiency and food growing	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Identity & Culture - Objective: Promote and celebrate all that makes Markham great		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
50	Continue to promote and support a sustainable tourism strategy for Markham in partnership with York Region and others	X	X	
51	Continue to implement Markham's Integrated Leisure Master Plan	X	X	
52	Continue to build on and promote urban design and place making guidelines that reflects the community's heritage, natural setting and cultural diversity for all new Markham	X	X	
53	Continue to build on and support a Public Art Policy that encourages public art in commercial and large residential projects including funding for public art in all Town new construction and retrofit projects	X		
54	Continue to build on and support festivals, community events and engagement exercises that aim to foster cross-cultural understanding and experiences	X		
55	Double the 2010 floor area of Markham cultural venues by 2030			X

56	Continue to promote and capitalize on Markham's history, natural heritage and diversity for marketing and branding	X		
57	Continue to support a range of affordable, accessible, and meaningful creative arts and other cultural opportunities, that contribute to the local economy, to residents and visitors	X	X	
58	Build on diverse programs and events that celebrate and explore those aspects of Markham that all cultures share (e.g. growing culturally diverse foods, food celebration, stories of settlement, music, etc.)	X		
59	Continue to encourage new residents to retain traditional arts and culture practices in community facilities	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Food Security - Objective: Support education and engagement in the local food system		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
60	Create an advisory group of representatives from many sectors of the food system to identify opportunities in Markham, educate the community, including youth, about healthy eating, food growing and waste reduction	X		
61	Continue to educate the community to avoid food waste and divert food from the waste stream, including promoting home and small-scale composting and/or large scale biofuel	X	X	
62	Support training and education around soil health, food preparation, cooking, nutrition, ethical and environmental choices, and growing at existing facilities or create new facilities (community kitchens, community food centres)	X		
63	Support training, jobs, mentorship and land-access opportunities for youth and immigrants who want to farm or work in the food industry		X	
64	Assist gardeners and support farmers' markets and others in sharing knowledge and resources through events, workshops and resources	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Food Security - Objective: Significantly increase food-producing opportunities		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
65	Establish requirements for community garden plots or other food growing opportunities for higher-density developments that meet the needs of residents	X		

66	Continue to promote and build on healthy eating and living opportunities by promoting local food, home-based food growing, farmers' markets, developing demonstration gardens and implementing food-growing educational programs at town facilities	X		
67	Set soil standards in new communities so that yards and boulevards are "garden-ready" and provide assistance to existing neighbourhoods to amend soil	X		
68	Review all Town by-laws and policies to ensure the support of food production within the urban boundary	X		
69	Plan and implement community-based orchards as part of enhancements to the urban canopy		X	
70	Continue and build on community gardens and other food-growing opportunities on town-owned land, private land and vacant land wherever possible	X		
71	Foster a forum for residents to share available land and gardening knowledge	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Food Security - Objective: Significantly increase the viability of local commercial food growing and processing		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
72	Create an Energy Descent Food strategy, which speaks to the end of cheap food, to respond to peak oil effects upon the food system		X	
73	Implement the recommendations from the adopted Agricultural Assessment Study, including ongoing consultation, advocating long-term leases, financial incentives, land-use policy, farm-friendly infrastructure, and innovative programs	X		
74	Promote existing and support further food events, including agri-tourism and farmers' markets, that focus on local, seasonal, and culturally diverse foods	X		
75	Continue to support and build on locally produced, seasonal, and sustainable foods at Town facilities and functions, and promote healthy vending in local schools and institutions	X		
76	Further incorporate the production and processing of local food into Markham's future economic plans		X	
77	Establish small plot intensive (SPIN) farming and home-based food growing support networks that encourage residents to grow their own and share their food		X	
78	Encourage chemical-free, organically grown food produced locally availability year-round at a price affordable to community members	X		

79	Consider the impact of climate change on agriculture in mitigation and adaptation studies and strategies	X		
80	Work with other levels of government to promote and support on-farm food growing, processing and infrastructure	X	X	
81	Encourage local food processing to be highly water and energy efficient	X		
82	Support roadside food sales at farms, farmers' markets , kiosks in high-traffic areas, local independent stores, and Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) to increase opportunities for farmers to sell food locally	X		
83	Plan and promote the development of a food precinct as a means for local food brokerage, vending, processing and consumptions to create greater connections between local farmers and their markets, including farmers' markets	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Energy & Climate - Objective: Net zero, Energy, Water, Waste and Emissions by 2050		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
84	Create an Energy Descent Strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, transportation, waste and agriculture	X		
85	Reduce dependency on the potable water system by implementing dual and distributed water systems and cisterns to supply harvested rainwater and recycled waste water	X		
86	Promote locally sourced durable building materials, including reclaimed and sustainably harvested materials and plentiful metals, that can be recycled	X		
87	Grow and install climate adaptive plant material	X		
88	Prepare for new disease vectors and invasive species as Markham's climate warms	X	X	
89	Create, promote and maintain carbon sinks to capture greenhouse gas emissions by planting and protecting trees, increasing natural areas, open space and agriculture	X	X	
90	Align the Integrated Leisure Master Plan to respond to climate change threats	X		
91	Build on community emergency management strategy to anticipate and respond to climate change-related events and natural disasters	X	X	
92	Develop a Climate Action Plan framework for the Community (residents and businesses) and the Corporation of the Town of Markham focused on reducing Markham's green house gas emissions and preparing for climate change-related shocks and changes	X	X	X

93	Promote ongoing community outreach, education and understanding as well as climate change research and development in Markham	X	X	
94	Seek opportunities to reduce air, water and land pollution from transportation, buildings and industry	X		
95	Identify energy and water conservation/generation and carbon reduction/sequestration and food production/processing opportunities based on geographic conditions	X		
96	Continue to treat storm and wastewater and control quantity and quality released to streams using best practices at sites, such as bioswales, green roofs and permeable surfaces	X		
97	Support community opportunities for reducing, reusing and recycling materials	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Materials Management - Objective: Achieve Zero Waste Material		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
98	Create a procurement policy that includes policies for closed-loop materials management	X	X	
99	Advocate with the Province of Ontario for extended producer responsibility regulations for waste materials	X		
100	Ensure service agreements for municipal services include sustainability provisions such as requirements for energy efficiency, renewable energy generation, zero-waste management, reuse of recycled materials, and/or achieving social objectives such as local employment targets	X	X	
101	Ensure zero waste in Libraries, Parks, Community Centres, Fire and all other Markham facilities	X		
102	Establish fees for collecting materials not readily recyclable at a rate commensurate with safe disposal cost	X		
103	Develop alternative energy source, such as waste biofuels for Markham District Energy		X	
104	Work with local businesses to adopt zero-waste strategies and encourage local business to accept waste materials generated by consumer goods purchased at the business	X		
105	Leverage partnerships with other organizations to reduce supplier waste	X	X	

106	Create policies that achieve diversion opportunities for 'non-residential' waste such as commercial and small businesses, government operations and others	X	X	
107	Consider alternative technologies for managing waste materials, such as "Pipe Technology" for large-scale new developments	X		
108	Develop a culture of conservation and waste minimization– water, energy, materials, and other resources through education, social marketing, and access to real-time information	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Economic Vitality - Objective: Facilitate and Support Markham's existing businesses		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
109	Implement Markham 2020 Strategic Directions economic development plan	X		
110	Implement and buy a local campaign for locally produced or packaged goods and services	X	X	
111	Work with trade and commerce organizations to engage businesses to work together to identify local business growth	X		
112	Develop Eco-Business Districts that promote business networking and information sharing that aim to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, greenhouse gases, energy consumption (from buildings and transportation) from individual businesses or business parks.		X	
113	Support and encourage businesses that emphasize employee work-life balance, healthy lifestyles, and active mobility	X		
114	Continue to promote, and build into economic development opportunities, community and business mentorship programs for Markham's youth, underemployed and new Canadians that seek to create awareness of workplace skill	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Economic Vitality - Objective: Promote green business development and business greening strategies of existing and new employers		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
115	Adopt the United Nations definition of and specifically target "green jobs"	X	X	

116	Work with partners to create a demand for local employment in the green energy sector, eco-tourism and local food production and processing by developing purchase agreements - amend purchasing by-laws as necessary	X	X	
117	Promote viable local food businesses and services	X		
118	Target 25,000 green jobs as part of Markham's Vision 2020		X	
119	Work with industry to develop a Markham-based centre of excellence serving the green, social and creative sectors	X	X	
120	Continue to create and build on "new economy" incubators and mentorship opportunities for new businesses	X	X	
121	Create demand for local employment in sectors that rely on local resources and that improve resilience, such as agri-tourism, canning, preserving, cooking or baking, home and clothing repair	X		
123	Continue to promote employment activities within areas that are served by higher-order transit	X	X	
124	Create the conditions that support market-viable businesses within walking distance of residential land uses through land use controls	X	X	
125	Support work-from-home businesses	X	X	
126	Support businesses that contribute to local food growing	X	X	
127	Encourage re-skilling in order to ensure the ongoing evolution of a low carbon economy	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Access & Mobility - Objective: Create a culture of walking, cycling, and transit usage		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
128	Create the regulatory framework for focusing redevelopment and new development around pedestrian needs	X	X	
129	Increase funding and seek partnerships to implement transportation -demand management initiatives	X	X	
130	Support the implementation of pricing policies, such as toll roads and congestion fees that encourage transit use and active transportation	X	X	
131	Reinforce policies ensuring development is primarily focused on pedestrian and cycle circulation	X		

132	Shift spending and planning priorities to promote greater walking, cycling and transit	X	X	
133	Continue to shift community planning and development to place a greater emphasis on optimizing land use and public-realm design to increase the viability of multi-modal transportation	X	X	
134	Expand multi-modal network improvements by creating dedicated and integrated pedestrian and cycling routes that connect housing areas to employment areas, amenities and institutions	X	X	X
135	Create transit opportunities for high demand destinations such as restaurants and entertainment precincts, tourist destinations and services	X		
136	Connect cycling and bus networks and install bicycle lockers at bus stations and bicycle racks on buses	X		
137	Continue and build on partnerships with schools and employers to reduce automobile trips by implementing transportation-demand initiatives	X		
138	Continue and build on work with employers and others to spread out peak use of roads	X	X	
139	Integrate multi-modal transportation exchanges in neighbourhood centres, including bus stops, bicycle storage, share cars, and private vehicle and taxi parking	X	X	
140	Continue and build on promoting the use of car sharing, offsetting vehicle ownership	X		
141	Continue to build on opportunities to make walking, cycling and transit use safe, convenient and usable for all of Markham's residents	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Access & Mobility - Objective: Create roads for all users		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
142	Increase transportation system capacity through policies focused on creating network efficiency, increasing modal split, incentives for private sector transit operators, intelligent transportation technology	X	X	
143	Follow guidelines provided by the Ontario Road Ecology Group's "A Guide to Road Ecology in Ontario"	X		
144	Place the priority on the comfort of pedestrians, cyclists and transit users on all streets, through the use of optimized traffic signalling and other measures	X	X	
145	Focus efforts on main streets in regeneration areas	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		

Access & Mobility - Objective: Connect Communities		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
146	Take a 'habitat enhancement' approach to park, right of way and road planning, maintenance and management to create connected wildlife corridors	X	X	X
147	Continue the Trees for Tomorrow tree-planting program and funding, with additional focus in areas susceptible to the effects of urban heat island	X		
148	Continue and build on eco-education resources for homeowners and businesses to raise awareness of landscape planting and management practices that promote habitat creation	X		
149	Continue to coordinate the use of public lands, hydro corridors and utility right-of-ways for planting and growing food in partnership while respecting their role in wildlife habitat	X	X	
150	Build on the urban forest by setting achievable targets for urban canopy coverage in order to provide wildlife habitat	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Shelter - Objective: Regenerate existing neighbourhoods through sensitive evolution		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
151	Coordinate regeneration efforts focused on infrastructure modernization, public engagement, and socio-cultural aspects of neighbourhoods to respond to issues related to climate change and increasing energy costs		X	X
152	Geographically define neighbourhoods within existing communities	X	X	
153	Focus regeneration on pedestrian needs	X	X	
154	Create and redevelop neighbourhoods that include a maximum 15-minute walk to a "main street", recreation, viable local-serving retail, varied housing choices, including low-rise apartments, access to services/community facilities, and rapid or frequent transit	X	X	
155	Define planning units within larger, existing communities by identifying new neighbourhoods	X	X	
156	Continue to develop neighbourhood-appropriate urban design and architectural character guidelines that promote placemaking, and general Markham guidelines that promote built form focused on liveability and walkability to support community development and gathering	X		
157	Focus redevelopment upon creating resiliency	X	X	

158	Promote live-work development within neighbourhoods and along major roads	X	X	
159	Leverage transit through active transportation infrastructure investments for areas within a 5 minute walk from existing or planned rapid transit stations, create compact, mixed-use/pedestrian-friendly neighbourhood centres	X	X	
160	Promote sensitive redevelopment of existing housing to higher intensity-grade-related housing, semi-detached, town- or row-housing, and low-rise apartments where appropriate and market conditions dictate	X	X	
161	Focus on water, energy, and socio-cultural resiliency in neighbourhood regeneration through the use of smart systems, monitoring, and communication		X	
162	Continue to develop high-quality public realm, including heritage preservation, as a means to identify the distinct neighbourhoods	X	X	
163	Strategically intensify underutilized areas such as brownfields, greyfields (auto-oriented retail places, strip malls, large-format retail sites) and undeveloped sites in and around existing neighbourhoods to serve as neighbourhood centres and to increase residential densities to support transit	X	X	
164	Ensure a co-creative and engagement communication model of neighbourhood planning, with public consultation, for regenerating neighbourhoods		X	
165	Work with residents to create more complete neighbourhoods through identifying and creating new buildings, streetscapes, landscaping, and infrastructure measures that will increase vegetation and food-growing opportunities, reduce greenhouse gases, waste generation, and improved energy and water efficiency	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Shelter - Objective: Plan, design & construct high performance new neighbourhoods		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
166	Continue to prioritize intense mixed-use development for new neighbourhoods	X		
167	Ensure residential densities and other uses support pedestrian-oriented activities and are transit-supportive at all scales	X		
168	Continue to pursue more mixed-use models of community planning and design that integrates business, industry and residential development in one neighbourhood at appropriate locations	X		

169	Integrate parks and open spaces, such as actively programmed parks and plazas that promote community gathering and physical activity for all users, with emphasis on families, youth and seniors	X		
170	Make full use of policy and regulatory tools and pursue partnerships and government funding to deliver housing tenure diversity, and non-market affordable and supportive housing options in large-scale redevelopment	X	X	
171	Plan new neighbourhoods using appropriate modeling and analytical tools, including asset mapping, that demonstrate optimized neighbourhood design that delivers minimum energy consumption and greenhouse gas generation and responds to socio-cultural needs	X	X	
172	Maintain the health and quality of soils throughout the development of new neighbourhoods and the regeneration of existing neighbourhoods	X		
173	Work with natural topography and hydrology to preserve native vegetation, improve storm water management and maintain water quality	X		
174	As a condition of approval, new neighbourhoods should include a plan that identifies key elements of the public realm and social assets (galleries, recreation centres, libraries, parks, plazas, squares, etc., both public and private), and how they will be made accessible to residents	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Shelter - Objective: Develop an Affordable Housing Strategy		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
175	Adopt annual housing targets for new development according to the Markham Preferred Growth Alternative with 27% singles/semis, 19% townhouse, and 54% apartments for new residential units to 2031. This target helps to accommodate households experiencing increased affordability challenges including singles, youth, seniors and new immigrants	X	X	X
176	Adopt strategies to promote and retain rental accommodation in new and existing housing developments	X	X	
177	Work with builders and developers to construct a range of built forms including small lot singles, stacked townhouses, linked homes, apartment buildings and other innovative housing options	X	X	

178	Work with York Region, developers, builders, and other community partners to increase the supply of subsidized and social housing; and alternative forms of affordable housing models such as rent-to-own, and home ownership cooperatives	X	X	X
179	Develop affordable and flexible community based rental housing options as well as an income opportunity for home owners	X		
180	Promote with local builders and developers the principles of flex housing/design features, and improved accessibility to accommodate evolving and different needs of residents	X	X	
181	Continue to work with York Region and other partners to increase the supply of special needs housing for persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, and for frail elderly	X	X	
182	Continue to work with York Region to plan for a housing help centre and emergency shelter in Markham	X	X	
183	Provide incentives such as cost offsets, density bonusing, fee waivers, fast-tracked approvals, alternative development standards to help meet affordable housing and special needs targets	X	X	
184	Investigate adding social/affordable housing as a charge under the Town's or Region's development charges by-laws in order to provide funds necessary to provide grants for affordable housing	X	X	
185	Partner with the Region and housing service providers to prepare an education and awareness program to highlight the economic and social advantages of affordable and special needs housing in Markham	X	X	
186	Work with Welcome Centres and other immigrant support service providers to provide housing and related information to new immigrants	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Water - Objective: Develop a water systems plan that integrates all water functions		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
187	Promote drinking Markham's high quality potable (drinking) water within the community	X		
188	Develop a networked district non-potable water system where waste water is efficiently and safely recycled, and harvested rainwater can be used for non-potable uses like irrigation, cleaning and toilet flushing	X		

189	Continue to develop watershed-based management approaches and policies to guide and integrate overlapping land and resource development, infrastructure, forests, habitat, recreation, fisheries and aquifers	X		
190	Protect, restore, maintain and enhance natural hydrological systems and functions as much as possible	X		
191	Work with partners such as the TRCA to continue to maintain flood control systems at a high level of emergency preparedness, where risks are managed proactively, effectively, and efficiently	X		
192	Optimize potable water supply source protection using a multi-barrier approach	X	X	
193	Continue to protect, enhance and maintain healthy streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands to support wildlife	X		
194	Continue to manage and rectify inflow and infiltration of rain and groundwater to the sanitary sewer system	X	X	
195	Consider the energy dependence of water infrastructure when making decisions	X	X	X
196	Develop potable water, waste water and storm water rates that ensure long-term conservation and financial sustainability of integrated infrastructures and incent safe and efficient water recycling and reuse	X		
197	Educate residents, businesses and visitors about water as a vital resource	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Ecosystem Integrity - Objective: Increase biodiversity		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
198	Implement public and private development landscaping standards that integrate plant species and planting strategies that contribute food, attract songbirds, insects and other urban animals, including vertical landscaping, green roofs and other innovative landscapes	X	X	
199	Adopt Fatal Light Awareness Program's Bird-Friendly Guidelines for all new and existing buildings, including an agreed-upon timeframe for existing buildings	X	X	
200	Revise standards and make use of green building rating programs (such as LEED) to advance native landscaping requirements and site-canopy coverage	X		
201	Establish edible landscape strategy for public and private spaces that includes targets and timeframe	X		

202	Continue to actively acquire lands that enhance, create or connect wildlife habitat within the urban and rural context	X	X	
203	Ensure minimal impact and displacement of wildlife when development and redevelopment occurs and provide wildlife rehabilitation services within the community	X		
204	Provide wildlife habitat through green roofs and green spaces in or on buildings	X	X	
205	Establish a dark sky policy	X		
206	Create a strategy using vacant land as flexible open space for recreation, gardening, food growing or wildlife habitat	X	X	
207	Work with partners to communicate the benefits of wildlife in the community and improve education related to wildlife in the community			
208	Establish a strategy to increase biodiversity on agricultural lands	X	X	
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Ecosystem Integrity - Objective: Thirty percent tree canopy and vegetation coverage Town-wide		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
209	Continue to promote and maintain an urban-forest planting strategy and plan		X	X
210	Continue to improve natural processes in urban areas by using native and resilient plant species	X	X	
211	Work with partners to establish a native tree-and-plant nursery to supply the Town and resident's needs		X	
212	Develop guidelines with academic and industry experts for tree type and placement for homeowners and developers, maximizing biodiversity, energy efficiency and take into consideration issues such as climate change when making species selection	X	X	
213	Establish fruit and nut trees within street right-of-way as local food opportunities	X		
214	Develop a plan to establish edible landscapes across the Town in both public and private lands	X	X	
215	Work with York Region and other partners to incorporate and implement the Local Food Strategy as part of the planning, design and development framework	X	X	
216	Provide education/assistance programs for homeowners to care for and manage their trees, extending their lives as long as possible	X		

217	Ensure new native , trees are planted to replace aging trees in mature areas	X		
218	Harvest end-of-life tree materials for recycling/reuse within Markham.	X		
RECOMMENDATIONS		PROPOSED TIMING		
Ecosystem Integrity - Objective: To develop and support wildlife habitat		2011-15	2015-25	2025+
219	Develop and implement an interconnected Natural Heritage Network, working towards connectivity between existing green spaces and ensure they are of sufficient quality and size to support wildlife	X	X	X
220	Deliberately connect disconnected spaces to allow wildlife movement across the Town	X	X	
221	Protect and enhance existing wildlife habitat and provide green spaces that are biodiverse, climate-adaptable and flexible and for all creatures' enjoyment	X		
222	Define a physical urban/rural boundary that preserves green spaces and agriculture by utilizing strong land use and design tools	X	X	
223	Continue to work with local partners to develop a local wildlife refuge, shelter and rehabilitation centre	X		
224	Continue to renaturalize streams and habitats that have been built over by restoring watersheds and subwatersheds of the Don and Rouge Rivers	X	X	X
225	Work with local partners and the community to establish wildlife stewardship and education programs	X	X	
GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS				
226	Measure and report indicators every two years to determine progress			
227	Continue to build and facilitate partnerships among governments, agencies, non-governmental organizations, institutions, and the business community to align common goals and objectives and to avoid duplication of services			
228	Continue to seek out funding opportunities for implementing the strategies			
229	Continue to build capacity in partnership with staff and the community to achieve sustainability			
230	Continue to provide strong leadership within and beyond local government, working with partners to share learning and experiences			
GOVERNANCE				

231	Develop a sustainability checklist for Council and staff to use to consider decisions			
232	Revise the Council report system to include a sustainability lens and evaluation tool with Sustainability Office sign off until sustainability is embedded in the organization			
233	Work with other partners to establish an initial series of working groups			
234	Establish a Capacity Building fund, funded by Gas Tax, to implement the Greenprint and inspire collaboration, partnerships and innovation			
235	Establish a reward and recognition initiative that celebrates the successes of Greenprint implementation and encourages collaboration, partnerships and innovation			
236	Incorporate systems thinking and Greenprint recommendations into corporate business plans			
237	Link Greenprint with staff performance reviews and provide ongoing training and support			
238	Identify sustainability impacts when creating staff award reports for purchasing			
239	Assess and hire staff that demonstrate systems thinking and collaborative approaches to working			
240	Promote volunteerism in the community			
241	Create and support a culture of sharing common resources			
FINANCIAL				
242	Establish a revolving fund to be used to implement the Greenprint			
243	Ensure a collaborative and integrated approach for pursuing grants from different levels of government, non-governmental, business and philanthropic organizations			
244	Continue to build collaboration and partnerships to create efficiencies around purchasing, financing, and borrowing			
245	Leverage new financial tools and opportunities resulting from the renewable energy production, energy and water conservation, and carbon pricing to implement the Greenprint			
246	Ensure a sustainability lens is used as a decision making tool in the budget process			
247	Partner with service delivery agencies to reduce duplication of services			

Next Steps

- Work with Council, staff, community on implementation, timelines, monitoring and reporting
- Report back to General Committee seeking approval of Greenprint after consultation with staff and the community on implementation
- Final report to FCM Green Municipal Funds by June to receive final grant allocation

Markham's
greenprint
Sustainability
Plan

