

Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored: December 8, 2014

SUBJECT:

Markham's Municipal Energy Plan Update

PREPARED BY:

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RECOMMENDATION:

1) That the report entitled "Markham's Municipal Energy Plan Update" be received;

2) And that Staff report back on Markham's Municipal Energy Plan stage two in 2015 and stage three in 2016, prior to their completion;

And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Markham's Municipal Energy Plan process.

BACKGROUND:

Markham has been a leader in Municipal energy through an organic process of developing Markham District Energy, providing leadership with energy efficient retrofits of existing buildings, setting standards for efficient new buildings and renewable energy development.

A Municipal Energy Plan seeks to set baseline energy consumption for the City through a collaborative consultation and research process by developing a long term vision for energy in the community and the resultant goals, targets, strategies, actions, partnerships, pilot projects and monitoring and reporting mechanism to achieve the vision.

In Markham, the long term energy objective of 'net zero energy, water, waste and emissions by 2050' was set by Council via its adoption in 2011 of the Greenprint, Markham's Municipal Sustainability Plan under the Energy & Climate priority.

At the September 18th meeting of the Greenprint Steering Committee, Sustainability Office Staff outlined the Municipal Energy Planning process and its desired outcomes, Appendix # 1 is that portion of the presentation.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Markham's Municipal Energy Plan seeks to document existing energy consumption, and adopt planning practices, projects and policies by developing a comprehensive long term energy plan. Energy in Markham is considered to be electricity, natural gas, vehicle fuel and indirectly the energy consumed for water supply and waste water treatment.

The Greenprint objective of 'net zero energy, water, waste and emissions by 2050' is the working target of the Municipal Energy Plan. This means that by 2050 we hope that enough energy is produced in Markham to, on an annual basis balance the energy consumed in Markham.

The Province of Ontario seeks to encourage communities to develop their own Municipal Energy Plans and will match funds up to \$90,000. In late 2013 the Sustainability Office applied for funding from the Province to take our Municipal energy projects and ideas and document them to map our path toward the Greenprint's goal of 'net zero energy, water, waste and emissions by 2050'

Through the 2014 Budget process Council approved the Integrated Municipal Energy Plan as project 14065 with \$91,600 of funding contingent on matching Provincial funds.

In July 2014, we executed the \$90,000 funding agreement with the Province. The project is funded for \$181,600 with \$90,000 from the Province and \$91,600 from the City.

There are three stages in the two year development of the Municipal Energy Plan according to the Ministry of Energy's Municipal Energy Plan Program. These stages include:

- Stage 1: Stakeholder Engagement (August 2014 January 2015)
- Stage 2: Energy Mapping & Study (February 2015 July 2015)
- Stage 3: Energy Plan Development (August 2015 August 2016)

To begin the stakeholder engagement a Stakeholder Working Group was formed with our partners from utilities, industry and the broader public sector. Markham residents were requested to participate from our partners wherever possible. The Markham Action Group for Improved Community (MAGIC), Markham Environmental Advisory Committee (MEAC) and the Markham Board of Trade were also asked to join the Stakeholder Working Group.

Appendix # 2 is a list of the current Stakeholder Working Group members.

As part of the adoption by Council of the Municipal Energy Plan in 2016, Staff will recommend to Council the establishment of a permanent Council appointed Advisory Committee to guide our implementation of the plan.

In stage two of the project we will complete the baseline energy mapping process and set goals, targets and strategies to achieve net zero 2050. Staff will report back to the Greenprint Steering Committee at critical points in the development process including prior to the completion of phases two and three to secure input.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE: (external link)

This project is currently fully funded and any future capital projects will be considered as part of the annual capital process.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Municipal Energy Plan supports the Greenprint's goal of 'net zero energy, water, waste and emissions by 2050. It also supports goals of Transportation/Transit and

Growth Management via lower energy transportation options and compact and complete communities.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Graham Seaman, P.Eng., LEEP AP, CEM

Senior Manager, Sustainability

Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix # 1 – Municipal Energy Plan presentation for Greenprint Steering Committee on September 18th, 2014

Appendix # 2 – Markham's Municipal Energy Plan Stakeholder Working Group