

Briefing Note – For Information

Date: January 17, 2022

Title: HalifACT – Acting on Climate Together: 2020-2021 Annual Report

- Shared Accountability Reference Document

This document and its attachment is provided in response to the motion passed at Halifax Regional Council on January 11, 2022 relative to the [HalifACT – Acting on Climate Together: 2020-2021 Annual Report](#), requesting a briefing note outlining the business unit responsibilities for each HalifACT action.

To be successful in achieving its collective climate targets, HalifACT needs to be integrated into municipal budgeting, work planning and reporting processes. Each business unit (BU) will need to both sponsor and support multiple HalifACT actions to achieve the Municipality's collective climate objectives on time and at scale. To this end, HRM is striving to mainstream climate thinking across the organization so that every relevant decision is climate informed.

In June 2021, the Senior Leadership Team discussed how to align delivery of the 46 HalifACT actions to the appropriate business unit(s). Throughout the summer and early fall, Environment & Climate Change staff met with each BU and Halifax Water to review these proposed accountabilities and solicit feedback. After discussing the state of current action, required resources, supports and barriers, the accountabilities were revised, and are attached as the HalifACT Shared Accountability Reference Document.

While the Environment & Climate Change team is responsible for leading approximately half of the HalifACT actions, it also plays a supporting role to all BUs as they deliver on their actions in a variety of ways, such as by providing training and expertise, securing funding, creating partnerships, assisting with the work as required, and monitoring and measuring progress. It is proposed that each year in October through March, every BU will develop a resource and work plan for their respective HalifACT actions. In April and May, they will provide updates on action progress to Environment & Climate Change to be included in the HalifACT annual progress reports.


Attachment A - HalifACT Shared Accountability Reference Document




Prepared by:








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Legend - Intended Start Date

Immediate: action to begin right away	
Short: action should be initiated within 2-3 years	










Medium: action should be initiated in the next 4-5 years	
Long: action should be initiated in the next 6-10 years	
Ongoing: action has been initiated and will continue throughout the life of the plan	

HalifACT Action Progress Report Card				State of Progress				
				✓ Yes	✗ No	-- N/A		
HalifACT Sub-Areas & Actions (core areas in green)	Target	Intended Action Start Dates	Started	On Track	Adequately Resourced	Business Unit Sponsor	Supporting Business Unit	
EFFICIENT BUILDINGS								
1. Net-zero & climate resilient new construction	Net-zero new construction by 2030	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal, CAO	
2. Residential and non-residential deep retrofit program	Retrofit all existing buildings by 2040	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal, CAO	
3. Industrial coalition and support program	Improve industrial process efficiency 75% by 2040	 2026	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	CAO, GREA	
RENEWABLE ENERGY								
4. Rooftop solar PV and energy storage program	Install 1,300 MW of rooftop solar PV with storage by 2030	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal, CAO	
5. Community scale solar PV and wind generation	Significantly expand local community-scale renewable energy generation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 MW ground mount solar by 2050 280 MW wind by 2050 100% renewable district energy by 2050 	 2022	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal, CAO, CCS	
6. Create Coalition to expand and decarbonize district energy systems		 2026	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	CAO, CCS, TPW	
7. Advocate and support provincial electricity grid decarbonization		 2020	✓	✓	✓	Planning & Development	CAO, Legal	













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DECARBONIZING TRANSPORTATION							
8. Expand transit and active transportation infrastructure	Plan and build the transit and active transportation infrastructure needed to achieve the 2030 mode share targets in the Integrated Mobility Plan	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Halifax Transit – Expand Transit ----- TPW – Active Transportation Infrastructure	P&D, FAM, CCS, CAO
9. Community-wide EV strategy	By 2030, 100% of new vehicle sales are electric	 2024	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	CCS, FAM, TPW, CAO, ICT, Legal
10. EV planning and policy		 2020	✓	✓	✓	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal, CAO
GREENING GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS							
11. Net-zero municipal operations	Achieve net-zero municipal operations by 2030	 2022	✓	✓	✗	Corporate & Customer Services – Municipal Buildings & Fleet ----- Halifax Transit – Transit Fleet ----- Transportation Public Works - Solid Waste	HRP, FAM, Legal, HRFE
WATER							
12. Net-zero water and wastewater operations	Achieve net-zero water and wastewater operations by 2030	 2025	✓	✗	✗	Halifax Water	P&D, TPW
13. Climate-informed water supply strategy	Future-proof water systems and supply	 2024	✓	✓	✓	Halifax Water	P&D, CAO










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14. Climate-informed stormwater management plan and program			2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	Halifax Water, TPW, P&R
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES								
15. High-level risk assessment for(HLRA) for critical infrastructure	Reduce risk to critical infrastructure		2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	CCS, HRFE, FAM, TPW, Halifax Water, ICT, Legal, Transit
16. HRM critical infrastructure risk and vulnerability analysis			2020	✗	✗	✗	Planning & Development	FAM, TPW, Legal, CAO, Halifax Transit, HRFE, CCS
17. Zero emissions back-up power in critical infrastructure			2026	✗	--	--	Corporate & Customer Services	HRFE, Legal, P&D
18. Develop inspection procedures for high risk infrastructure			2026	✗	--	--	Transportation Public Works	P&D, CCS, Legal, FAM, HRFE
19. Updated and climate-informed design standards for new infrastructure			2022	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	TPW, CCS, HRCC, Legal, CAO
NATURAL AREAS AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE								
20. Fund and implement Green Network and Urban Forest Master Plans	Protect, restore, maintain and expand natural areas and green infrastructure assets		2020	✓	✗	✗	Parks & Recreation – Green Network ----- Transportation Public Works – Urban Forest Master Plan	P&D, FAM, CCS
21. Implement region-wide naturalization program			2020	✓	✗	✗	Parks & Recreation	CCS, P&D, TPW
22. Implement region-wide tree planting and re-greening program			2020	✗	✗	✗	Transportation Public Works	P&R, CCS, P&D, FAM, CAO




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PLANNING							
23. Integrate climate into land-use planning	Plan and build a low-carbon resilient region		2022	✓	✗	✓	Planning & Development Legal, Halifax Transit, P&D, HRFE
24. Planning policy to enable district energy and microgrids			2024	✗	--	--	Planning & Development CCS, Legal, CAO
25. Land protection and conservation on private lands			2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development P&D, FAM, Legal, CAO
26. Preservation of natural areas			2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development P&R, Legal, TPW
COASTAL PREPAREDNESS							
27. Detailed coastal risk and vulnerability analysis	Better prepare for climate related coastal changes and impacts		2020	✓	✓	✓	Planning & Development CCS, FAM, HRFE, Legal, ICT
28. Develop coastal adaptation strategy			2024	✗	--	--	Planning & Development CCS, TPW, CAO, HRFE, Transit, HRP, Legal, P&R
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT							
29. Integrate climate into emergency planning	Better prepare for increased climate-related emergencies		2020	✓	✗	✗	Fire & Emergency Services FAM, TPW, CAO, Transit, P&D
30. Improve emergency management communication and coordination			2020	✓	✓	✗	Fire & Emergency Services CAO, CCS, HRCC, ICT
COMMUNITY CAPACITY							
31. Neighbourhood resilience and disaster support hubs	Enhance the capacity of neighbourhoods to prepare for and recover from climate events		2020	✓	✗	✗	Fire & Emergency Services CAO, P&D
32. Widely available emergency management training			2020	✓	✗	✗	Fire & Emergency Services P&D, ICT, CAO
33. Undertake neighbourhood climate planning			2024	✗	--	--	Planning & Development HRFE, CAO, ICT
34. Broad, deep, and collaborative engagement with Mi'kmaq and other groups seeking reconciliation	Engage deeply and collaboratively		2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development CAO, P&R, HRFE

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FOOD							
35. Improve food security and food-systems resilience	Create and implement a Food Action Plan, and include climate change as a core component	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Planning & Development	HRFE, Transit, CAO
BUSINESS AND ECONOMY							
36. Workforce and technology development for building decarbonization and resilience	Prepare and leverage business for the transition	 2024	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	CAO, HRCC, ICT
37. Resilient decarbonized business program		 2026	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	CAO
MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE INTO MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS							
38. Integrate climate into financial decision-making	Integrate climate thinking into municipal decision-making and governance	 2020	✓	✗	✗	Finance & Asset Management	P&D, Legal
39. Establish new mechanisms for financing climate action		 2020	✗	✗	✗	Finance & Asset Management	P&D, Legal
40. Green municipal investments		 2020	✗	✗	✗	Finance & Asset Management	P&D, Legal
GOVERNANCE AND CAPACITY FOR ACTION							
41. Establish a central Climate Change Office	Integrate climate thinking into municipal decision-making and governance	 2020	✗	✗	✗	CAO's Office	
42. Increase staff capacity for implementation		 2020	✓	✗	✗	CAO's Office	HRCC
MONITORING AND REPORTING							
43. Annual Indicators Report	Monitor and report on climate action and impact	 2020	✓	✓	✓	Planning & Development	All BUs

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CARBON ACCOUNTING							
44. Carbon offsets framework	Get ready for neutrality and step up the carbon scope	 2024	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	FAM, Legal
45. Consumption-based emissions inventory		 2026	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	All BUs
46. Include embodied carbon in new construction standards		 2026	✗	--	--	Planning & Development	FAM, CCS, TPW, CAO, Legal