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MEMORANDUM

TO: Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
FROM: Peter Duncan, Manager, Infrastructure Planning
DATE: October 26, 2018
SUBJECT: **Information on Community Energy & Climate Action Plan Presentation**

Climate Change in Halifax:

How does Halifax as a community effectively prepare for and adapt to the changes to energy sources and climate change realities in the next 30 years? What does progress look like in 2025, 2031 or 2040? These are some of the questions Energy & Environment staff will explore over the next 18 months through Halifax's Community Energy & Climate Action Plan (CECAP) process.

What is CECAP?

The CECAP provides an inclusive, collaborative opportunity to address community-wide climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in all sectors. This is also an opportunity for the municipality to update existing plans and strategies related to climate change adaptation, mitigation, and hazard, risk and vulnerability assessments. This approach will establish short and long-term goals for energy transformation and greenhouse gas reductions for the community looking out to 2050.

A core project team has been established along with an internal municipal leadership team and an external community leadership team. The core project team, led by HRM Energy & Environment staff, will guide the process for the two leadership teams to scope and determine meaningful and realistic climate change mitigation targets and adaptation objectives, creating a common vision for Halifax out to 2050. The community team includes civil society organizations, government departments, utilities, business and industry representatives and academics. More than 80 stakeholders have been invited to participate. The internal team will also focus on ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to municipal buildings, fleet and outdoor lighting, and ways to increase resiliency through corporate adaptation efforts.

As part of this process, the municipality plans to hire a consulting firm to model how different mitigation pathways (e.g., net-zero emissions by 2040) interact with the region's social, economic and environmental capacity to adapt to changing climate hazards over time. The modelling will incorporate climate change projections based on the global scenarios by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

How can the public become involved?

A draft plan will be completed by late spring 2019. At that time, the draft will be ready for public input and the core project team will embark on broad public consultation to have a meaningful, inclusive conversation with the wider community in the summer and fall.