



CITY OF ORILLIA **COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE (CIP)**

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Environment and Infrastructure Services Department
DATE: November 29, 2021
SUBJECT: Climate Change Action Plan – Project Update #6



As part of the 2021 Budget Process, Council approved the Climate Change Action Plan capital project, funded in the amount of \$120,000. Broader public engagement is well underway and an update on recent efforts is provided below for Members of Council.

- The Community Survey launched the public engagement process on the project. At the time of the survey closing on September 20, 2021, 245 survey responses were received from the community.
- The results of the Community Survey have been compiled in the document titled “What We Heard: Orillia’s Climate Future Community Climate Action + Vision Survey Summary” and has been included as an attachment.
- Community Survey information will also be incorporated into the Draft Community Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP).
- Following the Virtual Open House in September 2021, staff in coordination with the consultant, Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) hosted another set of workshops for both the Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans.
- On October 22, 2021, the Draft Corporate Climate Change Action Plan (CAP) was presented at a Special Meeting of Council through Report No. EIS-21-14. The Draft Plan presented a Business as Usual (BAU) scenario along with several Low Carbon scenarios and suggested targets to achieve Net Zero carbon emissions as a corporation.
- Targeted focus groups are being held during the week of November 29 - December 3. This process has been developed by staff in coordination with SSG to engage sectors of the population who were underrepresented through the Community Survey results.
- The dedicated project webpage, [Orillia’s Climate Future](#), has been updated to include an FAQ section as well as additional content that highlights the great work already being undertaken by the City in its commitment to sustainability.
- Once public engagement on community climate action is complete, SSG will consolidate the information and incorporate as part of the Draft CCAP.
- To allow Members of Council an opportunity to understanding the findings of the Community BAU scenario as well as Low Carbon actions to achieve future reduction targets, a Special Meeting of Council will be planned to occur in January 2022.

- Following that meeting and input, both the Corporate and Community Plans will be finalized and brought forward to Council for approval along with setting emission reduction targets.

Staff will continue to circulate updates on this project to Members of Council by CIP.

Please call Renee Recoskie (705-325-2395) or Andrew Schell (705-325-7551) should you have any questions.

Attachments:

- What We Heard: Orillia's Climate Future Community Climate Action + Vision Survey Summary (November 2021)

What We Heard: Orillia's Climate Future Community Climate Action + Visions Survey Summary

Prepared by SSG

November 2021



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Survey Background

The City of Orillia is developing a new climate action planning process to provide concrete climate policy and action recommendations as well as a target for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions. This planning process will result in comprehensive Corporate and Community Climate Change Action Plans (CAP and CCAP, respectively).

As identified in the Engagement Plan, the community survey supports the fourth community engagement objective to involve the community to inform the modelling, select appropriate low-carbon actions, and determine how to implement the CCAP. The Chippewas of the Rama First Nation and City staff were specifically engaged to gather their feedback and input. This will ensure that the CCAP is customized to Orillia's operational realities, strategic vision, expertise, and culture. It will also ensure the Chippewas of the Rama First Nation impacts are considered.

Survey Overview

The online survey asked community members to respond to multiple choice, rating, ranking, and open response questions related to the proposed Community Targets, Climate Action "Big Move" Areas, and Community Vision Statements. The survey was analysed using both qualitative and quantitative methods to develop a thematic analysis.

Survey Results

Who Participated

245 community members¹ participated in the survey.

Participants were asked five key identifier questions to verify participation from a variety of residents and target participation from underrepresented communities. The identifiers include: first three digits of postal code, age range, gender, household income, and self-identification in groups. Key findings are summarised below.

Age ranges with the highest participation were 65 to 74 years old, 25 to 34 years old, and 55 to 64 years old. These groups, respectively, made up 25%, 18% and 16% of the participants. Women had the highest gender participation rates; 60% of participants identified as women, 33% identified as men, 5% preferred not to identify, and 1% identified as non-binary.

Household income of \$100,001 or greater had the highest participation (23%), and \$20,000 or less had the lowest participation (7.7%). Participation from household incomes between \$20,001 to \$100,000 was similarly distributed across the ranges.

Indigenous responses were under-represented, as only 2% of participants identified as Indigenous. These responses were cross-referenced with other self-identified groups:

- 6 individuals identified as Indigenous;
- 5 Indigenous individuals identified as women, and 1 preferred not to identify;
- 3 Indigenous women identified as First Nation, and 2 Indigenous women identified as Métis; and
- 2 Indigenous individuals identified as part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

Community Target

There was widespread support for a science-based approach to align with the UNFCCC Paris Agreement; 86% of respondents selected either strongly agree or agree. Of the respondents, 7.7% either disagreed or strongly disagreed, while 4.5% were neutral, and 1.6% needed additional information.

¹ Community members were identified by the first three digits of their postal codes; only community members' responses were analysed.

Among the respondents who either disagreed or strongly disagreed, the following open responses themes emerged:

- Distrust toward information provided by governments (6 comments);
- A need for increased transparency between government and public (2);
- Responses were sceptical or denied human-induced climate change (5);
- Concerns about the cost to taxpayers (4); and
- Climate action is out of scope of municipal governments (11).

Climate Action “Big Move” Areas

“Big Move” questions were designed to understand the community priorities and needs, and to develop a CCAP that can be implemented successfully across the community based on these identified priorities and needs.

Transportation Big Move

88.4% of respondents selected personal vehicles as their primary transportation. Walking, cycling, and public transit made up the remaining, at 6.2%, 3.3%, and 2.1%, respectively.

52.2% of respondents selected equally 1) increasing EV use, and 2) active transportation to reduce transportation emissions as the City’s main transportation priority. 23.7% of respondents prioritised active transportation over EVs and 12.7% prioritised EVs over active transportation.

Electric vehicles: 53.5% of respondents are interested in purchasing or leasing an EV in the next five years. Whereas 35.2% are not interested, and an additional 6.6% would prefer a carsharing program to owning an EV. The most common identified barriers to purchase are:

- Cost (69.4% of respondents);
- Accessibility to charging stations (57.2%); and,
- Availability of EVs on the market (18.3%).

A few respondents selected that they already own an EV, however it was not determined if they would be interested in purchasing an EV again or if there were barriers to current and/or future use.

Public transportation: Among the three transportation categories, public transit had the lowest usage and when prompted to provide ideas for encouraging transit many respondents provided barriers for use instead. Of the respondents, 83.7% do not take public transit. These

respondents identified that the following ideas could encourage them to use transit in the future: stops closer to origin or destination (56.2% of respondents), greater frequency of busses (46.2%), and lower costs (15.4%).

In addition, the following themes emerged from the open response question:

- Improve accessibility for individuals with disabilities by providing smaller and more comfortable buses (2 comments);
- Improve accessibility, including for seniors (3);
- Incorporate active transportation options in transit, e.g. bike racks (3); and
- Concern of riders' safety during the pandemic (1).

Cycling: 53.9% of respondents ride their bikes in Orillia, either as their primary or alternative mode of transportation. Among those who do not ride their bikes, the following ideas were prioritised for encouraging use:

- Increase separated and protected bike lanes (41.3% of respondents);
- Better protection against bike theft (17.5%); and
- Electric bike incentive program (16.5%).

In addition, 35.9% of respondents selected that they are unable to ride a bike, so cycling is not an option for them. While participants were not required to provide additional information on this answer, improved cycling education and skills courses could potentially reduce this barrier.

Renewable Energy Big Move

Majority of respondents were in full support of increasing renewable energy generation in the community. Respondents selected that they may support an increase in renewable energy generation with more information about the:

- Personal and household financial impacts (17.0% of respondents);
- Technology (9.1%); and
- Benefits (6.2%).

Only 4.6% of respondents did not support an increase in renewable energy. The key themes include:

- Distrust toward information provided by governments and/or scientific community (4 comments);
- Prioritisation of Orillia's current energy portfolios (4); and
- Concern of the investment costs and impacts on taxpayers (5).

Waste Big Move

There was widespread support (93.3%) for the development of a waste-to-renewable fuel facility. In addition, Landfill Gas Energy and Biofuel Energy were referenced five times in the Vision Statements' open responses. At the household level, 37.9% of respondents find it relatively easy to reduce waste, whereas 25% find it difficult. The most commonly used waste information tools are online resources, and the City sorting guide document.

Of all survey participants, 86% used the open response question to provide ideas to reduce waste. Survey participants referenced the need to manage pet waste disposal and diaper disposal, and to reduce single-use plastics. These responses suggest that disposal and reduction of these items could be improved. While many participants provided specific actions for reduction, the common themes among these actions are:

- Providing incentives for reduction and reuse programs such as refill incentives;
- Policy to ban single-use plastics;
- Increased public recycling infrastructure;
- Increased home recycling and compost programs, including education; and
- Support for increased business regulations to limit waste. Specific quotes on business regulations are included below:

"I believe Orillia must make it more affordable to be eco-conscious. Incentivizing people to stop using single-use plastics by reducing the cost are all important ways to make this happen."

"Prevent local businesses from providing plastic waste, we want paper bags and boxes. Including grocery and restaurants."

Buildings Big Move

Interest in energy efficiency improvement is high among all potential projects:

- Installing more efficient windows and doors (69.2% of respondents);
- Installing solar panels on property or in a community setting for shared use (63%);
- Replacing older appliances (54.2%);
- Installing low-flow showers, faucets, and toilets (50.7%); and
- Converting to a heat exchange system (42.7%).

Of respondents, 84.5% selected that they support training programs to ensure workers have the proper skills to support the transition to a low-emissions future. Interest was also high across all support categories to support individual households' transition, including:

- Financial support (80.1% of respondents);
- List of recommended professionals and contractors (48.7%);
- Education on potential projects and systems (42.0%); and
- Information on how to make the changes themselves (42.0%).

Similar priorities emerged for the next five years; 38.8% of respondents selected financial support programs to help residents and businesses transition as their first priority. The second and third priorities—partnerships and/or grants to fund implementation, and new building development guidelines and/or standards to ensure low to zero emissions—were closely ranked with 17.2% and 15.9% of respondents selecting these, respectively.

Land Use Big Move

More than half of respondents, or 58.4%, support the implementation of a “15-Minute Neighbourhood,” while 18.0% neutral and 23.9% in disagreement. Although the neutral and not-supportive respondents were higher than other Big Moves, there were no follow-up questions to further understand the reason and perception for this ranking. However, four open responses in the Vision Statements section expressed concern about the achievability of the 15-minute neighbourhood.

Respondents were asked to rank their support for several land use priorities. Based on these responses, the following priorities have been ranked from most important to least important:

1. Install more safe bike paths and walking trails to places of interest;
2. Increase the number of trees planted throughout the city;
3. Have more schools, stores, services, and businesses closer to homes;
4. Change land use and planning bylaws to reduce car traffic; and
5. Expand and improve public transportation.

Additional Considerations for the CCAP

The open response question provided participants with the opportunity to add additional ideas to make the CCAP a success. Out of the 245 survey responses, 139 participants provided a response to this question. While most of the ideas and themes were already addressed in the Big Moves, the following new themes emerged:

- Consideration and inclusion for Indigenization and marginalised groups in climate planning (5 comments);
- Consideration for local food security and support for local agriculture and community gardens (19); and
- Improved sustainability and climate change standards for development projects (23).

“Sustainable Agriculture and Food Production. Orillia's outsource a significant quantity of GHG emissions through the import of food produced from across the world... The entire food system represents a significant component of our overall GHG emissions, yet isn't mentioned at all in this survey.”

Community Vision Statements

The community-based climate action steering committee drafted vision statements into the following six categories: community (overall visions for the community's future), economy, energy, green and blue spaces (natural areas), transportation, and waste. The statements were presented, according to category, for community feedback. Participants were asked to indicate their level of support for the visions and feedback on each statement. The feedback will inform the final versions of the vision statements for the CCAP.

Feedback from open responses—which were open to all respondents, regardless of their initial support toward the vision statements—were analysed for general tone and themes.

Non-supportive comments were categorized by income and gender. Across all Vision Statements, majority of the non-supportive comments were from participants who identified as men. As well, the majority of the non-supportive comments were from individuals—regardless of gender—in the household income ranges of \$80,001 or greater.

Themes for non-supportive comments were consistent across the vision statement categories; these include:

- Not supportive of the CCAP development;
- Not supportive of use of vision statements;
- Climate action is out of scope of the municipal government;
- Doubt toward the achievability of the goal and distrust in government; and
- Concern over the impact on taxpayers and economic viability.

Community

Draft vision statements:

1. We acknowledge climate justice as central to decision-making, and we strive to do our fair share to eliminate GHG emissions. Orillia's climate action will enact principles of equity, accessibility, diversity and inclusion.
2. We will be a community that fosters community resilience to the impacts of climate change through mitigation and adaptation strategies.
3. We will be a community that meets the needs of current residents without compromising the ability of future residents to meet their needs.

80.5% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statements. Only 10% of respondents were neutral, and 9.6% either did not support or strongly did not support the statements.

Open responses analysis:

Among the 89 participants who provided feedback through the open response, 77 of the comments were either supportive or neutral, where neutral responses did not outwardly express support or disapproval for the statements but provided feedback for improvement. Of the remaining responses, 11 expressed that they were not supportive of the statements and eight were not applicable as they did not provide enough information to code.

Neutral responses were provided either as general feedback applied to both vision statements or vision statement-specific feedback. The first vision statement received more statement-specific feedback than the second and third statements.

General themes include:

- Improve structure of statements for consistency and conciseness (4 comments);
- Immediate action is needed (3);
- Include IPCC report findings in statements (2);
- Needs to be more aspirational (2);
- Statements include too much technical jargon (1); and
- Include Indigenous and marginalised communities (5).

Feedback on the first statement was consistent across themes; themes include:

- Respondent requested removal of the statement (4 comments);
- Remove "fair share" and replace with "more than fair share" or a measurable amount (10);

- Copy-edit statement to increase clarity (4); and
- Replace “climate justice” with “climate change” as it’s more meaningful to people (5).

“Do more than fair share, set an example, be a leader. Consult with professionals, including Indigenous leaders.”

The second vision statement received requests to include resilience, mitigation and adaptation, and to improve clarity with copy-editing. There was less overlap in the feedback for statement 3, where half of the comments prioritised the needs of current residents above future residents and the other half prioritised future residents. There was potential confusion in the third vision statement's meaning, as four respondents stated they didn't understand the statement, and three suggested that the statement needed to be written to make it measurable.

Economy

Draft vision statement:

The City of Orillia and the Community will strive to achieve a sustainable circular economy that will protect the environment, drive future economic growth, and encourage green investment immediately.

84.% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statement, while only 8.7% of respondents were neutral, and 7% either did not support or strongly did not support the statement.

Open responses analysis:

The economy vision statement received the least feedback through the open response question; only 57 participants provided responses. In general, the tone of these comments were either neutral or supportive. Only 15 of the responses expressed that they were not supportive of the statement and seven were not applicable as they lacked enough detailed information to be coded.

Many neutral responses provided specific actions for improving waste diversion and management. The themes include:

- Statement should be copy-edited to remove technical jargon and academic language (2 comments);
- Replace “strive” with more binding word (3);
- Consider self-reliance, resource sustainability, and mitigation risk (2); and

- Add timeline of 2030 (1).

*"Lighten up with jargon. Instead of adding the *, incorporate the description. Who are you aiming these vision statements at?"*

Energy

Draft vision statements:

1. The City of Orillia and the community will reduce their energy use and strive to achieve 100% renewable energy and energy conservation before 2050.
2. The City will strive to fuel switch 100% of its heating sources ahead of 2050, choosing electric sources or non-emitting sources including green hydrogen.

75.9% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statements, while 11.2% of respondents were neutral, and 12.9% either did not support or strongly did not support the statements.

Open responses analysis:

Among the 88 participants who provided feedback through the open response, the tone of 66 responses was either neutral or supportive, while 14 of the responses expressed that they were not supportive of the vision statements and eight were not applicable.

One respondent stated that they were not supportive of the statements as they felt the targets were not aggressive enough. The themes from neutral responses that were applied to both statements are:

- Shorten implementation timeframe (37 comments);
- Clarify the difference between city goal and community goal (1); and
- Use binding terms (2).

"1. Add - and we will set annual targets to ensure that we can flatten the emissions curve and hence reduce heating impacts between now and 2050."

Majority of the feedback for statement 1 was around reducing the timeframe to either 2035 or 2040. One comment recommended the inclusion of energy conservation in the statement.

Statement two received more feedback with more diverse themes, including:

- Respondent does not understand green hydrogen (3 comments);

- Remove green hydrogen (3);
- Add solar and heat re-capture (1); and
- Add LFG (1).

"I'm not clear at this time what green hydrogen is. I'm wondering why solar and wind are not written instead of green hydrogen."

Natural Areas (Green and Blue Spaces)

Draft vision statements:

1. The City will increase its tree cover by 5% per year over the next 20 years. The natural landscapes will become a place of learning for all of Orillia's citizens.
2. The City will preserve, protect, and enhance a variety of connected green and blue spaces that are equitably distributed and accessible to all people.

86.7% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statement, with 58.1% strongly supporting the statements. Only 6.2% of respondents were neutral, and 7% either did not support or strongly did not support the statements.

Open responses analysis:

Among the 88 participants who provided feedback through the open response, 75 responses were either neutral or supportive. Only 7 of the responses expressed that they were not supportive of the statements and six were not applicable.

The first vision statement caused confusion among the majority of neutral respondents, with most participants interpreting the statement as a 5% increase in the next 20 years instead of a 5% per year increase over the next 20 years. As a result, many of the comments suggested increased targets and changes to the implementation timeframe. It is recommended that this statement be re-written to improve clarity of target.

"What is the current canopy cover in Orillia? 5% seems low by 2050. Where does that figure come from?"

"I think more than 5% increase in tree cover is needed."

Additional themes include:

- Prioritise planting of native trees (1 comment);

- Prioritise tree retention (5);
- Decrease the use of technical jargon in the statements (4); and
- Did not understand “place of learning” (4).

The second vision statement received the following feedback:

- Does not agree with the use of “Blue and Green Spaces” (3 comments);
- Add habitat rehabilitation and connections (2); and
- Concern over equitability distributed and accessible (2).

Transportation

Draft vision statements:

1. By 2050 the community will have a transportation system consisting of primarily zero-emission vehicles.
2. By 2050 Orillia and the community will have a transportation system that will feature 50% or higher non-vehicle modes which contributes to zero emissions, a healthier population, and lower health care costs.
3. Orillia will focus the majority of development to build complete communities, prioritizing infill, and further, consider growing up rather than out after 2025.

71.8% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statements, with responses evenly split between support and strongly support. Of all respondents, 12.9% were neutral, and 15.3% either did not support or strongly did not support the statements.

Open responses analysis:

Among the 88 participants who provided feedback through the open response, 70 these comments were either neutral or supportive. Only 11 of the responses expressed that they were not supportive of the statements and seven were not applicable.

The key themes applied to all three statements for neutral comments include:

- Reduce the use of technical jargon;
- Shorten the implementation timeframes; and
- Concern of the ability of technology to keep up with these targets.

All comments for the first statement either requested that all transportation systems be EVs (6 comments), and shorten the timeframe (7).

The themes for statement 2 include:

- Did not understand non-vehicle modes (3 comments);
- Shorten implementation timeframes (6); and
- Accessibility consideration for impact of weather on non-vehicle modes and impact on seniors with limited mobility (7).

Statement 3 themes include:

- Does not understand the terms “growing up” and/or “infill” (2);
- Consideration toward repurpose of empty buildings before growing up (4);
- Concern of social implications for growing up (5);
- Concern about growing up impact on urban landscape (9); and
- General support for growing up (5).

“I agree with infill IF it involves minor changes (maybe allowing 5 stories where 4 is now allowed). Allowing a developer to build an 8 story building where only 3 is currently allowed changes the entire community around it, and should not be allowed.”

Waste

Draft vision statement:

The City of Orillia will achieve zero waste by 2050 through community-driven leadership, the development of a circular economy, regenerative agriculture practices and education actions. The city will assist community members, businesses, and organizations who may struggle to reach these goals.

77.2% of respondents either strongly support or support the proposed vision statement, while 10.4% of respondents were neutral, and 12.5% either did not support or strongly did not support the statement.

Open responses analysis:

Among the 85 participants who provided feedback through the open response, 74 of the responses were either neutral or supportive. Six of the responses expressed that they were not supportive of the statement and five were not applicable.

Themes in neutral comments:

- The statement included too much technical jargon (26 comments); and
- Shorten time frame from 2050 (30).

*"The community needs to go to zero waste before 2050. Aim for much lower. Lead the way.
We are a small town with a lot of environmental activists. We can do better than 2050"*

Additional comments included specific word changes, including language that should be more committal and binding, and need for partnerships with manufacturers and businesses.

Next Steps

The feedback from the survey will help the City understand the community priorities and needs to help develop a CCAP that can be implemented successfully across the community. The feedback will help influence Orillia's Community target, climate actions and community vision statements that will be presented to Council this fall.

Appendix 1: Community Climate Action + Visions Survey

Community Climate Action + Visions Survey

Orillia Climate Action Target Setting

Climate change refers to the average long-term changes in weather patterns over the entire Earth that are the result of greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere increasing from the burning of fossil fuels (e.g. gasoline and coal).

These changes include rising temperatures and changes in precipitation (e.g. rain/snow), as well as effects from Earth's warming, such as:

- Rising sea levels
- Heavy rainfall
- Drought and heat
- Ice melting at a faster rate than usual in the Arctic
- Changes in flower and plant blooming times

Cities around the world, like Orillia, are creating (or have adopted) climate action plans in order to slow down or halt rising [greenhouse gas emissions](#), created by human activity, that are responsible for climate change.

All climate action plans require a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target to be chosen. Best practices in climate action planning have what is known as a science-based target.

A science-based target is designed to effectively align with the global agreement known as the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's \(UNFCCC\) Paris Agreement](#) to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (globally we are already at about 1.2 degrees warmer than the pre-industrial period, making climate action urgent). Canada is a signatory to the Paris Agreement.

While time is narrowing to halt the dangerous effects of climate change, the [latest United Nations report](#) points out that urgent action now will help.

1. Please indicate your level of agreement with using a science-based target for Orillia's Community Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP):

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Neutral
- d. Disagree
- e. Strongly Disagree
- f. Don't know/need more information

2. Trigger: You chose the option "Don't know / need more information," please let us know what additional information you would like to receive:

[OPEN TEXT]

3. Trigger: You chose the option "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree," please let us know why:

[OPEN TEXT]

Orillia's Climate Future: Climate Actions Survey

There are five sectors that need to make "Big Moves" when it comes to emissions reduction: transportation, renewable energy, buildings, land use, and waste. This section will help the City understand your priorities and needs, and develop a Community Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) that can be implemented successfully across the community.

Transportation Big Move

Reducing emissions in this sector requires that fewer trips be taken in transportation that uses fossil fuels for energy (e.g. personal cars and trucks). This can be achieved in a number of ways, including walking and biking, and switching to electric transportation.

1. What is your **main mode** of transportation to get around Orillia?
 - a. I own my own vehicle
 - b. I take public transportation
 - c. I bicycle
 - d. I walk

e. Other [OPEN TEXT]

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

2. Are you interested in purchasing or leasing an electric vehicle (EV) in the next 5 years?
- Yes
 - No
 - I would prefer a carsharing* program to owning an EV.
 - I already own an EV.

*Carsharing is a type of car rental. What makes it different from traditional car rentals is that this service is membership or co-op based where vehicles can be booked on demand by the hour or day and available to all qualified drivers in a community 24/7.

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

3. Are there any barriers to you purchasing an electric vehicle (EV)? Please select all that apply.
- Cost
 - Availability - It's hard to purchase an EV in Orillia.
 - Charging stations - I'm unsure if there are enough charging stations for me to drive an EV comfortably without risking running out of power.
 - Maintenance - There is a lack of mechanics to service and maintain EVs locally
 - There are no barriers.
 - I'm not interested in purchasing an EV.
 - I already own an EV.
 - Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[CHECKBOXES]

4. Would you rather the City focus on increasing the use of EVs in Orillia (e.g. by installing charging stations) or on increasing active transportation (e.g. by installing

and maintaining more walking, cycling, in-line skating, and skateboarding infrastructure)?

- a. Electric Vehicle (EV)
- b. Active Transportation
- c. The City should focus equally on increasing EV use and active transportation.
- d. I have a different suggestion: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

5. Do you take public transportation in Orillia?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

6. If you **do not** take public transportation, what would encourage you to take it? Please check all that apply.
 - a. Greater frequency of busses
 - b. Lower cost
 - c. Stops closer to your origin or destination
 - d. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[CHECKBOXES]

7. Do you ride your bike in Orillia?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

8. If you **do not** ride your bike in Orillia, what would encourage you to ride? Please check all that apply.
 - a. Separated and protected bike lanes.
 - b. An electric bike incentive program.
 - c. Offering safe cycling courses.

- d. Better protection against bike theft (e.g. more secure parking facilities, police-supported bike identification and return services, etc.).
- e. Nothing will incentivize me to ride a bike.
- f. I am unable to ride a bike, so it is not an option.
- g. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[CHECKBOXES]

Renewable Energy Big Move

One of the most significant opportunities the community can pursue to reach our GHG reduction goal is to increase renewable energy generation. This means investing in community-scale wind, solar, etc.

Moving to these sources will allow the community to decrease emissions from the electricity grid, which is directly related to emissions levels from electricity use in homes and businesses. It also provides a less emissions-intensive alternative to other energy sources used in buildings such as natural gas and oil.

9. How supportive are you of increasing the renewable energy supply in Orillia? Please select all that apply.
- A. I am fully in support of increasing renewable energy generation in the community
 - B. I may support an increase in renewable energy generation if I had more information about the technology
 - C. I may support an increase in renewable energy generation if I had more information about the benefits
 - D. I may support an increase in renewable energy generation if I had more information about the financial impacts on me and my household
 - E. I do not support an increase in renewable energy generation
 - F. Other:

[CHECKBOXES]

If you chose 'I do not support an increase in renewable energy generation' please explain why you do not support this action.

[OPEN TEXT]

Waste Big Move

Zero-waste means not sending anything to the landfill. This means reusing where we can, recycling, and reducing the total amount of material that ends up in the landfill.

10. Would you support the creation of a facility that would convert waste to “renewable fuel”? One example of this is an anaerobic digester that would convert compost to renewable natural gas. These are common in other parts of the world, and there are a number in Canada, such as the [Surrey Biofuel Facility](#).
- Yes
 - No

[OPEN TEXT]

11. How easy do you find it to **reduce** your waste?
- Very difficult
 - Difficult
 - Neither easy nor difficult
 - Relatively easy
 - Very easy

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

12. What are some ideas you have for helping Orillia reduce its waste?

[OPEN TEXT]

13. Where do you go to get answers to your questions about *sorting* waste?
- Online
 - Phone
 - Sorting guide documents
 - Social media
 - From family and friends
 - I do not seek answers to my waste sorting questions

- g. I'm unaware of resources to help me sort my waste
- h. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

Buildings Big Moves

The category of “buildings” includes emissions from the energy used to heat and cool space, to run appliances and equipment, and to operate machinery inside all types of buildings - from homes to schools to offices and industrial warehouses.

Reducing these emissions requires using less energy, making better use of energy that is currently wasted, and switching to non-emitting energy sources for our electricity and for our heating and cooling needs.

14. Which of the following energy efficiency improvements are you interested in making to a property (i.e. your home, or workplace, rental properties) or learning more about? Please select all that apply.
- a. Improving the insulation to prevent the loss of heated or cooled air.
 - b. Converting to a heat exchange system (supplemented by electricity) that provides both heating and cooling by transferring heat back and forth between a building and an external source. For example, in an air-source system, the air outdoors or in a ground-source system, the ground.
 - c. Installing more efficient windows/doors to prevent the loss of heated or cooled air.
 - d. Installing low-flow showers, faucets, and toilets to reduce the amount of a) water that requires treatment, b) energy used to treat the water, and c) wastewater that emits methane, a greenhouse gas.
 - e. Replacing older appliances with more efficient options
 - f. Installing solar panels on the roof, on the ground, or in a community setting for shared use.
 - g. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[CHECKBOXES]

15. What support would you need to make the above changes? Please select all that apply.

- a. Education about the system and how well it works in our community.
- b. Financial support.
- c. Information on how to make these changes myself.
- d. A list of recommended professionals and contractors.
- e. The agreement of a building owner.
- f. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[CHECKBOXES]

16. Please rank the priorities you think the City of Orillia should focus on in the next five years, with 1 being the top priority and 5 being the lowest priority:

- a. Establish programs to help residents (i.e. renters, homeowners, non-homeowners) and businesses, especially those who cannot afford to make improvements to their buildings in order to improve energy efficiency
- b. Seek partnerships and/or grants (e.g. federal, provincial or private) to fund the implementation of climate actions.
- c. Support for renters and/or landlords to rapidly transition their buildings and transportation options to lower emitting alternatives.
- d. Expanded transit across Orillia.
- e. Electrifying city buildings and the city fleet.
- f. Decarbonizing regional services such as transit.
- g. Expanding and maintaining active transportation infrastructure that is secure and comprehensive.
- h. Creating building development guidelines and/or standards that ensure new buildings produce very low to zero emissions.
- i. Other: (Provide ability to enter another answer here.)

[SCALE]

17. The City could support training programs to ensure Orillians have the skills to support the transition to a sustainable future. For example, reducing building emissions will require building energy auditors and carpenters who are familiar with energy efficient building standards and equipment. Given Canada's commitment to

reducing emissions, there is significant potential for job growth in industries such as these.

Should the City support programs that train people to have these and other skills that will be required to help Orillia transition to a low emissions future?

- a. Yes
- b. No

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

Land Use Big Move

Making neighbourhoods denser with multiple types of buildings and services reduces urban sprawl and the need for long journeys. For example, in a “15-Minute Neighbourhood”, you can access everything you need within 15 minutes of your home through transportation such as walking, biking, or public transit.

18. To what extent do you agree with developing “15-Minute Neighbourhoods” in Orillia?

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Neither agree nor disagree
- d. Agree
- e. Strongly Agree

[MULTIPLE CHOICE]

19. Please rank the priorities related to land use you think the City of Orillia should focus on within the next 5 years, with 1 being the top priority and 5 being the lowest priority.

- a. Have more schools, stores, services and businesses closer to homes.
- b. Change land use and planning bylaws to reduce car traffic.
- c. Install more safe bike paths and walking trails to places of interest.
- d. Increase the number of trees planted throughout the city.
- e. Expand and improve public transportation.

[RANKING]

20. Please share any additional thoughts you have on making the entire Community Climate Action Plan (successful at this time.

[OPEN END]

Vision Statements

Finally, let's discuss Vision statements. Vision statements are like descriptions of future destinations for the community; they are meant to inspire everyone toward collective climate action. These statements serve as a “North star” when working on actions. Climate actions, when implemented over time, get you to your vision (or destination).

The community-based climate action steering committee tasked with helping create the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) has drafted the vision statements that appear in this survey.

The draft vision statements have been organized into six categories:

- Community (visions for the community's future overall)
- Economy
- Energy
- Green and Blue Spaces (Natural Areas)
- Transportation
- Waste

The following vision statements are presented, according to category, for your feedback. In the questions below, please indicate your **level of support or whether you feel there should be any changes**. Your feedback will inform the final versions of the vision statements that will appear in Orillia's Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP).

Community

The following vision statements were established for community:

- We acknowledge climate justice as central to decision-making, and we strive to do our fair-share to eliminate GHG emissions. Orillia's climate action will enact principles of equity, accessibility, diversity and inclusion.
- We will be a community that fosters community resilience to the impacts of climate change through mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- We will be a community that meets the needs of current residents without compromising the ability of future residents to meet their needs.

4. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statements:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support
- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

[MC]

5. I would like to change the following community vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]

Economy

The following vision statement was established for economy:

- The City of Orillia and the Community will strive to achieve a sustainable circular economy* that will protect the environment, drive future economic growth, and encourage green investment immediately.

*A circular economy employs reuse, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing and recycling to create a closed-loop system, minimizing the use of resource inputs and the creation of waste, pollution and carbon emissions.

6. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statements:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support

- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

7. I would like to change the following economy vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]

Energy

The following vision statements were established for energy:

- The City of Orillia and the community will reduce its energy use and strive to achieve 100% renewable energy and energy conservation before 2050.
- The City will strive to fuel switch 100% of its heating sources ahead of 2050 choosing electric sources or non-emitting sources including green hydrogen.

8. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statements:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support
- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

9. I would like to change the following energy vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]

Green and Blue Spaces (Natural Areas)

The following vision statements were established for green and blue spaces:

- The City will increase its tree cover by 5% per year over the next 20 years. The natural landscapes will become a place of learning for all of Orillia's citizens.
- The City will preserve, protect and enhance a variety of connected green and blue spaces that are equitably distributed and accessible to all people.

10. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statements:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support
- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

11. I would like to change the following natural areas vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]

Transportation

The following vision statements were established for transportation:

- By 2050, the community will have a transportation system consisting of primarily zero-emission vehicles.
- By 2050, Orillia and the community will have a transportation system that will feature 50% or higher non-vehicle modes which contributes to zero emissions, a healthier population and lower health care costs.
- Orillia will focus the majority of development to build complete communities, prioritizing infill, and further, consider growing **up** rather than **out** after 2025.

12. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statements:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support
- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

[MC]

13. I would like to change the following transportation vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]

Waste

The following vision statement was established for waste:

- The City of Orillia will achieve zero waste by 2050 through community-driven leadership, the development of a circular economy, regenerative agriculture practices and education actions. The city will assist community members, businesses, and organizations who may struggle to reach these goals.

14. Please indicate your level of support for the above draft vision statement:

- a. Strongly support
- b. Support
- c. Neutral
- d. Do not support
- e. Strongly do not support

[MC]

15. I would like to change the following waste vision statement (please indicate the statement and your changes to it in your response):

[OPEN TEXT]