

NO: R252

COUNCIL DATE: December 13, 2010

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **December 6, 2010**

FROM: **Sustainability Manager  
Deputy City Manager**

FILE: **0512-02**

SUBJECT **Annual Report Related to the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program  
(CARIP)**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the plans for and progress toward meeting the City's climate action goals, which will also serve to fulfill the requirement to publicly report on these activities by the end of each year so as to maintain the City's eligibility for grants under the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP).

## BACKGROUND

The CARIP was introduced at the 2008 UBCM Convention as a means to offset the carbon taxes paid by local governments, who committed under the BC Climate Action Charter to the goal of becoming carbon neutral in their Corporate operations by 2012. To be eligible for the CARIP conditional grant, local governments are required to:

- Sign on to the BC Climate Action Charter, which committed such local government to becoming carbon neutral with respect to its corporate operations by 2012; and
- Report publicly on the plan for and progress toward meeting the climate action goals.

The City of Surrey signed on to the BC Climate Action Charter in 2008 as one of the initial signatories.

The City's Sustainability Charter, which was approved by Council in 2008, includes under Action EN11, a commitment to develop strategies and take action to achieve the goals of the Climate Action Charter.

## DISCUSSION

To assist local governments fulfill their reporting responsibilities under CARIP, a simple reporting template has been developed.

The report for the City of Surrey using the subject reporting template is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. It outlines key actions undertaken by the City to reduce GHG emissions in 2010 and actions the City expects to complete in 2011, in both the corporate and community spheres.

By completing the report in accordance with the template and presenting it publicly by December 31, 2010, the City is deemed to have fulfilled the annual reporting requirement to remain eligible to receive a CARIP grant from the Provincial government that is equivalent to 100% of the carbon taxes paid by the City of Surrey in relation to its on-going operations. The funds derived from the CARIP grant in 2011 will be used to fund sustainability initiatives in 2011.

## SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The City's Sustainability Charter sets out a vision for sustainability in Surrey and acts as an overarching policy document for the City. The City continues to implement sustainability initiatives that further the goals of the Sustainability Charter as highlighted in the attached template.

## CONCLUSION

The report attached as Appendix A highlights the key actions taken by the City of Surrey in 2010 to reduce GHG emissions corporately and within the community and documents the progress that has been made toward meeting the City's climate action goals. This report will serve to satisfy the City's responsibilities in relation to maintaining its eligibility for the annual Provincial grant under CARIP, which is equivalent to the amount of the carbon tax that the City pays annually in relation to expenditures for its corporate operations.

Anna Mathewson  
Sustainability Manager

Dan Bottrill  
Deputy City Manager

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Appendix A: CARIP Report 2010 – City of Surrey

**CARIP Report**

Name of Local Government  
 Member of Regional District (RD)  
 Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) in region  
 Population

*City of Surrey*  
*Metro Vancouver*  
 Yes  
 472,000

**Report Submitted by**

Name  
 Title  
 Email  
 Phone

*Anna Mathewson*  
*Manager, Sustainability*  
*amathewson@surrey.ca*  
 604-598-5833

**Actions Taken to Reduce Energy Consumption and GHG Emissions in 2010****1.1. COMMIT**

The City of Surrey, along with the Province of BC and the UBCM has signed the Climate Action Charter (CAC) pledging to achieve the following goals: Be carbon neutral in corporate operations by 2012; measure and report on our community greenhouse gas emission profile; and work to create compact, more energy efficient communities. In 2008, Premier Gordon Campbell announced that communities that have signed onto the CAC and agree to publicly report on their climate action progress would be eligible for the Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) grant. The following Report meets the CARIP requirements to publicly report on climate actions undertaken by this local government in the current year and intended climate actions for the following year.

**1.2. MEASURE****Corporate Measurement****Answer****Additional information**

Has your local government taken steps towards completing a corporate energy and emissions inventory? Please identify the steps taken.

Yes

*The City of Surrey established a corporate energy and emissions inventory in 2009, including data from the years 2005 through 2009. For this, the City worked with the Pembina Institute and used their "Cool Tool" Excel-based inventory tool. The Surrey corporate energy and emissions inventory was updated in 2010, with data from 2009. The focus of the inventory is on Buildings and Fleet, and the data is recorded based on the "traditional service areas" identified by the Province.*

**Community-wide Measurement Actions****Answer****Additional information**

Has your local government taken steps to review and consider your community-wide GHG emissions profile as provided by the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) or other data sources? Please identify the steps taken.

Yes

*The City of Surrey staff reviewed the updated CEEI data for Surrey early in 2010, and considered this data in establishing GHG reduction targets that were integrated into the Official Community Plan in May 2010. Further work on community GHG emissions baselines, forecasts and targets will be undertaken as part of a community energy and emissions planning process in 2011. The City's Community Energy Manager is also using the CEEI data as the basis for a more detailed energy inventory, based on sector types.*

**1.3. PLAN****Answer****Additional information**

Does your RGS have targets, policies and actions to reduce GHG emissions, as per the requirements under the *Local Governments Act* (LGA)? If yes, please identify the targets set. If no or in progress, please comment.

*Yes/No/In progress*

*N/A*

\*This question is ONLY for Regional Districts with RGSs.

Does your OCP(s) have targets, policies and actions to reduce GHG emissions, as per the requirements under the *Local Governments Act* (LGA)? If yes, please identify the targets set. If no or in progress, please comment.

Yes

*The City of Surrey established the following GHG emission reduction targets in its OCP in May 2010: a 33% per capita reduction from 2007 levels by 2020; and an 80% per capita reduction from 2007 levels by 2050, excluding emissions from agriculture and industry.*

**1.4. ACT**

**CORPORATE ACTIONS**

Please describe the corporate actions you have taken this year and propose for next year to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption. Examples of tools you may have used include:

- a) Planning tools (e.g. Green Fleet Action Plan, Resource Management Plan, Corporate Climate Action Plan)
- b) Policy tools (e.g. Civic Building Policy, Fuel Efficiency Policy, Green Purchasing Policy, Green Infrastructure Policy)
- c) Other (e.g. corporate car share program, civic building retrofits, LED street lighting, building operator training, green driving education, other educational programs and staff awareness initiatives)

Corporate Actions	Actions Taken This Year	Proposed Actions for Following Year
To reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption	<p><i>* The City of Surrey completed a Corporate Emissions Action Plan that will guide GHG reduction activities across the corporation. This Plan includes a corporate target to reduce emissions by 20% by 2020 from a baseline level averaged from 2005 through 2009.</i></p> <p><i>* A number of alternative vehicle technologies are being piloted by the City in partnership with other organizations; these technologies include compressed natural gas (CNG), hydrogen fuel cell and electric vehicles.</i></p> <p><i>* The City continued its program of critical facility retrofits and upgrades, including upgrades to Newton Wave Pool (53% reduction in fuel consumption as a result) and South Surrey Indoor Pool.</i></p> <p><i>* The City continued a number of programs with resulting reductions in GHG emissions, including participation in Ride-Share week and Bike to Work Week for staff; Waste Reduction Week; and the integration of sustainability activities (such as composting and recyclables collection) at major City events such as Canada Day. A pilot composting program at City Hall is under development, as is a staff survey of commuting patterns to establish a baseline of GHG emissions from commuting.</i></p>	<p><i>* Implementation of the recommended actions in the Corporate Emissions Action Plan, including: greening the fleet/alternative fleet pilot projects; continued work on building audits and facility retrofits; energy conservation behaviour programs; and alternative energy pilot projects within the City (e.g., solar hot water installations on new Fire Hall).</i></p> <p><i>* Implementation of the staff survey on commuting patterns and incentives, and analysis of resulting GHG emissions from commuting. Development of strategies to support more sustainable modes of commuting at the current City Hall location, and with a view to the 2013 move to a new City Hall in City Centre.</i></p>

**COMMUNITY-WIDE ACTIONS**

Please describe the community-wide actions you have taken this year and propose to take next year to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption in the sectors below. Examples of tools you may have used include:

- a) Planning and Policy tools (e.g. Climate Action Plan, Energy Plan)
- b) Regulatory tools (e.g. Development Permit Areas, Zoning, Development Cost Charge adjustments)
- c) Incentive tools (e.g. energy audit rebate program, fast tracking green developments)
- d) Other (e.g. Sustainability checklists, development guidelines, educational programs, and public awareness initiatives)

Community-wide Actions	Actions Taken This Year	Proposed Actions for Following Year
To reduce transportation-related GHG emissions and energy consumption (i.e. through both transportation and land use actions)	<p><i>* Developed Sustainable Development Checklist for new developments.</i></p> <p><i>* Undertook major infrastructure projects to connect key greenways and bike routes in the City.</i></p> <p><i>* Developing Cycling and Walking Plans for the City, to improve accessibility and increase transportation choice.</i></p> <p><i>* New transit shelters installed.</i></p>	<p><i>* Finalize Sustainable Development Checklist.</i></p> <p><i>* Further work planned on cycling signage throughout the City.</i></p> <p><i>* Establish appropriate policies as part of Official Community Plan (OCP) update and development of a Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP).</i></p> <p><i>* Continue installation of new transit shelters across the City.</i></p>

<p>To reduce building-related GHG emissions and energy consumption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Hired Community Energy Manager with co-funding from BC Hydro, including a focus on promotion of Power Smart incentive programs for buildings sector.</i></li> <li>* <i>Applied for and became recognized as a Solar Community by Solar BC.</i></li> <li>* <i>Completed the first phase of feasibility study for a District Energy System in the City Centre area, focused on linkages with the new flagship library and the new City Hall. Moved on to more detailed feasibility work.</i></li> <li>* <i>Continued operation and updating of a Green Building Resource Centre at City Hall and on the website, with materials focused on the building and development sector in Surrey.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Implementation of the City's Solar Community program, including building awareness of solar hot water opportunities and installing a solar hot water pilot installation on Fire Hall #14.</i></li> <li>* <i>Establish appropriate policies as part of OCP update and CEEP.</i></li> <li>* <i>Continue progress on the City's District Energy system in City Centre.</i></li> <li>* <i>Continue program of awareness building via the Community Energy Manager, through targeted workshops related to energy and climate change with the building and development sector.</i></li> </ul>
<p>To reduce water and waste-related GHG emissions and energy consumption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Co-funded Sustainability Forum in March 2010 organized by the Surrey Association of Sustainable Communities, which included a session on water conservation measures/actions within the City.</i></li> <li>* <i>Undertook public consultation on planned organics pick up (diversion) beginning in 2012, including implementing a pilot program in selected neighbourhoods to obtain community feedback.</i></li> <li>* <i>Continued implementation of the City's water metering program, including voluntary meters for community residents and mandatory meters on new buildings. Continued operation of "Project H2O" that raises awareness of high water usage and impacts.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Further development of City-wide organics curbside collection program in advance of 2012.</i></li> <li>* <i>Establish appropriate policies as part of OCP update and CEEP.</i></li> <li>* <i>Continue implementation of the City's water metering program, including voluntary meters for community residents and mandatory meters on new buildings. Continue operation of "Project H2O" that raises awareness of high water usage and impacts.</i></li> </ul>
<p>To enhance carbon sink capacity through natural resource protection and enhancement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Ongoing tree planting including through Green Streets Program.</i></li> <li>* <i>Further development of the City's Ecosystem Management Study (EMS).</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Study ongoing of City's tree canopy coverage.</i></li> <li>* <i>Ongoing tree planting including through Green Streets program.</i></li> <li>* <i>Complete the City's Ecosystem Management Study (EMS).</i></li> </ul>
<p>Additional actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Updated Sustainability website, including new section around climate change activities at the corporate and community level.</i></li> <li>* <i>Funded Climate Change Showdown workshops in 33 Surrey Grade 5 elementary school classes (at 10 different schools), through the BC Sustainable Energy Association.</i></li> <li>* <i>Co-funded (With Metro Vancouver) and co-hosted (with Surrey Board of Trade) the first cohort of Surrey businesses in the Climate Smart training program (total of 13 businesses participated in the program).</i></li> <li>* <i>Worked with a community-based Task Force to develop sustainability indicators and targets to monitor and report on progress, including on climate change and energy.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <i>Planned development of a Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP) including modelling and public consultation, and the development of appropriate strategies to achieve GHG reductions in the community through land use, transportation, waste and infrastructure.</i></li> <li>* <i>Further Climate Change Showdown workshops in Surrey schools, as well as Dreamriders theatre presentations related to the environment.</i></li> <li>* <i>Funding High School Climate Challenge workshops in Surrey high schools, via the Clean Air Champions organization.</i></li> <li>* <i>Further work on Climate Smart training with the Surrey business community.</i></li> <li>* <i>Roll-out of the Surrey sustainability "dashboard" of indicators and targets, via the City's website.</i></li> </ul>