



## Council Information Package

Members of City Council may request that an information item be placed on the next available Committee of the Whole agenda.

**Date:** February 20, 2026

**Contact:** [clerks@burlington.ca](mailto:clerks@burlington.ca)

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SUBJECT: Climate Resilient Burlington Plan – Year 4 Progress Update

TO: Council Information Package (CIP)

FROM: Public Works  
Transportation

Report Number: PWS-07-26

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: N/A

CIP date: February 20, 2026

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## Executive Summary

### Purpose of report:

- The purpose of this report is to provide progress on the implementation of Climate Resilient Burlington (CRB): A Plan for Adapting to Our Warmer, Wetter and Wilder Weather.

### Key findings:

- Of the 32 CRB plan actions, three are classified as complete, six are started, 19 are continuous improvement, two are not started, and one is delayed/at risk.

### Implications:

- In keeping with a commitment to review and update the plan every five years, staff anticipate assessing the potential to bring forward a business case for consideration in the 2027 budget process.
- Staff from nine City departments, Burlington Hydro and Conservation Halton sit on the CRB Implementation Team and contributed to this report.
- Fifteen of the [Take Action Burlington](#) blog posts published in 2025 touched on climate adaptation.

# Information Report

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## Background

Our climate is changing and the associated financial, social, and environmental impacts are felt around the world. Examples of warmer, wetter and wilder weather in Burlington include:

- Dec. 21, 2013 - A freezing rain event impacted [7,500 Burlington Hydro \(BH\) customers](#). With power still out for 1,550 homes the following day, the City opened three warming stations. The City received over \$2 million from the [Ontario Ice Storm Assistance Program](#).
- Aug. 4, 2014 – 191 mm of rain fell over eight hours in parts of Burlington resulting in riverine and urban flooding. The City activated its Emergency Operations Centre and opened two evacuation centres for residents. Over 3,000 homes reported flooding with [\\$90 million](#) in insured claims. The [Burlington Flood Disaster Relief Program](#) (a combination of community donations and matches of up to a 2:1 ratio by the [Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program](#)) paid \$2.7 million in claims while \$20.4 million was added to Burlington’s existing 10-year stormwater capital budget to help address stormwater issues.
- 2017 and 2019 – The International Joint Commission reported record-breaking seasonal rainfall depths on the Lake Ontario basin in [2017](#) and record high inflows from Lake Erie in [2019](#) caused extremely high Lake Ontario levels resulting locally in beach erosion, damaged pathways, and trail closures.
- May 21, 2022 - A derecho (wind event) impacted [24,566 BH customers \(35.7%\)](#). Utilities from other jurisdictions helped restore power. City tree debris clean-up costs were \$500K.
- July 2024 – Between July 10 and 14, 95 mm of rain fell in Burlington. On July 15, another 74 mm of rain fell, with approximately 50 mm falling in an hour (a 1:100-year storm event). Over 1,600 households and workplaces experienced flooding. Residents living in the parts of the city impacted by the July 15/16 event qualified for the [Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians program](#).

## Taking action on climate in Burlington

In 2019, the City declared a [climate emergency](#) “for the purposes of deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, environment and community from climate change” and that “Council and staff immediately increase the priority of the fight against climate change and apply a climate lens to the plans and actions of the City of Burlington including the Council strategic workplan and future budgets.”

In 2022, the City adopted its first climate adaptation plan called [Climate Resilient Burlington \(CRB\): A Plan for Adapting to Our Warmer, Wetter and Wilder Weather](#). The plan includes a 10-year action plan with 32 actions identified to manage the highest [risks](#) to the City associated with the changing climate. The City also has two plans related to reducing the greenhouse gas emissions (climate mitigation):

- The [Corporate Energy and Emissions Management Plan](#) (2014; updated in 2019 and 2024) with a target to achieve net carbon neutrality for City operations by 2040; and
- The [Burlington Climate Plan: Taking Action to Reduce Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2026-2031](#) (first approved in 2014 as a Community Energy Plan and in 2020 as a Climate Action Plan) with a community target for net carbon neutrality by 2050.

Environmental sustainability staff report progress [annually](#) to City Council to keep momentum on implementation. Staff also report to the Global Covenant of Mayors (GCoM) through the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) and were once again [compliant](#) for GCoM’s climate adaptation badges and received an [“A”](#) score through CDP for climate reporting in 2025.

“Taking action on climate change” is one of five enabling behaviours outlined in Council’s work plan, [Vision to Focus 2022-2026](#). Implementing the CRB plan is one of the supporting actions. In addition, one of the five guiding principles in the January 2026 [draft Horizon 2050](#): Burlington’s 25 Year Vision and Strategic Plan is “Sustainable and Future Ready” where “as a community, we contribute to sustainability by caring for our natural spaces, making climate-minded choices, and supporting a resilient future for generations to come.”

**Status**

The [CRB plan](#) identifies actions to manage the highest projected [local risks](#) associated with the changing climate. While the plan considered [Burlington’s climate projections](#) to the years 2051-2080, it includes 32 actions to focus on over 10 years (2022-2032) under five themes: Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure, Thriving Natural Environment, Health and Well-Being, Disaster Resilience, and Strong and Resilient Economy. Each theme contains one to three subthemes for a total of 10, each with defined goals and key performance indicators where available. The following table shows a high-level summary for all 32 actions.

Status	Definition	2023	2024	2025
Completed	Action has been fully implemented	1	3	3
Started	Implementation has begun	14	13	6
Continuous improvement	Action is continuous and has no end date	11	13	19
Not started	Implementation has not begun	6	2	2

Delayed/At Risk	Funding and/or staff resourcing required to proceed	0	1	1
Total Actions		32	32	32

Appendix A provides a status snapshot on the 32 actions while Appendix B provides a more detailed update on each action including key performance indicators. Appendix C provides a summary of the funding for CRB related initiatives that assist in advancing climate resiliency.

### Key Dates & Milestones

- 2026 – Staff anticipate assessing the potential to bring forward a business case for consideration to renew the Climate Resilient Burlington plan through the 2027 budget review process
- Q2 2027 – Year 5 CRB Progress Update Report to City Council
- Q2 2027 – Work begins to renew the CRB plan including RFP to update Climate Projections for Burlington, Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, and renew the Plan (pending appropriate resources)
- Q2/3 2007 – Global Covenant of Mayors reporting via the Carbon Disclosure Project
- Q2 2028 – Updated CRB plan to City Council (pending appropriate resources)

### Implications

#### Climate Implications

- The City continues to make progress on the actions within the CRB plan to improve resilience to the impacts of our warmer, wetter and wilder weather.

#### Financial Implications

- In keeping with a commitment to review and update the [CRB plan](#) every five years, staff anticipate assessing the potential to bring forward a business case for consideration in the 2027 budget process for staff and financial resources to review and update the plan considering progress made to date; aligning with updated City policies, strategies, and plans; reviewing and if necessary updating [local climate projections](#) (2021) and the [climate vulnerability and risk assessment](#) (2021); and revising existing actions as needed (removal, addition). Third-party funding sources will also be investigated.
- Funding for a wind risk and vulnerability mapping exercise (Action 1-11) will also be assessed for consideration through the 2027 budget process.

#### Human Resource Implications

- The CRB plan is administered, and annual update reports are completed by the Manager of Emergency Management and Environmental Sustainability. In 2025, the 32 actions within the plan were led by staff from seven departments. Staff leading or impacted by action implementation sit on the CRB Implementation Team along with staff from Burlington Hydro

and Conservation Halton. The team meets five times a year to share progress, ensure alignment with other corporate and community initiatives, and contribute to the annual report.

### Engagement Implications

- Environmental Sustainability staff use the [Take Action Burlington](#) blog to provide updates related to the Climate Resilient Burlington plan and other environmental sustainability initiatives. Of the 28 posts published in 2025, 15 had aspects related to climate resilience, including eight related to flooding. Staff also engaged the community at the Rural Summit and Food for Feedback events and through the Better Homes Burlington concierge service.

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### References

- [Climate Emergency Declaration](#) (2019)
- [EICS-03-21 - Climate Adaptation Plan staff report](#), [Climate Projections for Burlington Region](#), and [Climate Impacts Story Map](#)
- [EICS-02-22 - CRB Draft Plan staff report](#) and [CRB Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Technical Report](#)
- [EICS-12-22 - CRB Plan staff report](#) and [final CRB plan](#)
- [EICS-07-23](#) - CRB Plan - Year 1 [staff report](#) and [progress update](#)
- [EICS-05-24](#) - CRB Plan - Year 2 [staff report](#), [progress update](#), and [key performance indicators](#)
- PWS-04-25 – CRB Plan – Year 3 [staff report](#), [progress update](#), [key performance indicators](#), and [expenditures](#)

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### Strategic Alignment

- Designing and delivering complete communities
- Providing the best services and experiences
- Protecting and improving the natural environment and taking action on climate change
- Driving organizational performance

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### Appendices:

- A. CRB Plan Year 4 Progress Update - Status Snapshot
- B. CRB Plan Year 4 Progress Update on 32 Actions and KPIs

## C. CRB Plan Year 4 Progress Update – Funding Sources

### **Report Approval:**

All reports are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner, Head of Corporate Affairs, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.

# Appendix A: Climate Resilient Burlington Year 4 Progress Update – Status Snapshot

This appendix provides a high-level status on the progress of each of the 32 actions within Climate Resilient Burlington: A Plan for Adapting to Our Warmer, Wetter and Wilder Weather.

Table 1 shows a cumulative update of status while Table 2 shows the high-level status of each of the 32 actions in 2025.

<b>Table 1: Status of actions between 2023 and 2025</b>				
<b>Status</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b># of actions 2023</b>	<b># of actions 2024</b>	<b># of actions 2025</b>
<b>Completed</b>	Action has been fully implemented	1	3	3
<b>Started<sup>1</sup></b>	Implementation has begun	14	13	6
<b>Continuous improvement<sup>2</sup></b>	Action is continuous and has no end date	11	13	19
<b>Not started</b>	Implementation has not begun	6	2	2
<b>Delayed/At Risk</b>	Funding and/or staff resourcing required to proceed	0	1	1
<b>Total # of actions</b>		32	32	32

<sup>1</sup> “Started” actions include pilot projects and the initial stages of projects. Additional resources could be necessary which might move some of these actions to delayed/at risk in future years.

<sup>2</sup> “Continuous improvement” actions could still benefit from additional resources.

<b>Table 2: Status of 32 actions in 2025</b>	
<b>Theme 1: Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure</b>	<b>Status</b>
1-1: Expand natural asset data and incorporate priority natural assets into Burlington's Asset Management Plan	Continuous improvement
1-2: Integrate future climate impacts in Burlington's Asset Management Plan for prioritized asset categories and assess long-term infrastructure funding requirements	Continuous improvement
1-3: Review and if necessary, update design standards for City infrastructure to account for future climate conditions in alignment with Federal and Provincial initiatives, and Burlington's net carbon neutral goals	Continuous improvement
1-4: Develop lake shoreline flood management strategy augmenting existing plans to incorporate future climate projections and impacts to protect City assets (parkland and infrastructure)	Continuous Improvement
1-5: Enhance creek flood protection plan	Continuous Improvement
1-6: Enhance emergency preparedness plans and public communication of flood risk with more detailed flood hazard information	Continuous Improvement
1-7: Enhance coordination with partner agencies and higher levels of government to ensure that flood hazard maps and protection measures are up to date to manage flood risks	Continuous Improvement
1-8: Develop tracking for post-storm assessment to inform recovery and future adaptation efforts including data on type and severity of event, type of damage, amount or cost of damage, debris management to improve debris pick-up, etc.	Started (Forestry) (The 2024 flood tracked by other departments)
1-9: Maintain level of service for tree pruning and enhance risk assessment protocol in areas with above-ground powerlines, near major roads, near fire stations, etc.	Continuous Improvement
1-10: Invest in backup power for City infrastructure	Completed in 2023
1-11: Develop wind risk and vulnerability mapping to communicate high risk areas, inform emergency response planning, prioritize maintenance activities, and guide community planning	Delayed/At Risk
1-12: Assess snow management plan to ensure a climate lens is applied to incorporate increased frequency and severity of extreme events (e.g., heavy snow, freezing rain, wind) with consideration of impacts to vulnerable populations	Continuous Improvement

1-13: Assess the impacts of projected climate conditions on all recreation services offered by the City to determine adaptive measures for long term recreational needs, including consideration for impacts on vulnerable populations	Continuous Improvement
<b>Theme 2: Thriving Natural Environment</b>	<b>Status</b>
2-1: Invest in full tree life cycle management balancing amount of planting and ongoing maintenance to improve tree survival outcomes	Continuous improvement
2-2: Incorporate a climate lens in recommendations of management decisions in the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) to maximize co-benefits	Completed in 2024
2-3: Invest and support implementation of UFMP	Continuous improvement
2-4: Invest in green infrastructure to reduce flood risk, enhance habitat connectivity and support other ecosystem services	Continuous improvement
2-5: Establish a City-Wide Biodiversity Plan	Not started
<b>Theme 3: Health and Well-Being</b>	<b>Status</b>
3-1: Develop program to support vulnerable populations in installing and maintaining cooling systems	Continuous Improvement
3-2: Identify gaps in public space cooling by assessing utilization of current cooling facilities and by identifying the type of cooling supports and accessibility needs of the community especially for vulnerable populations	Completed in 2024
3-3: Conduct an Urban Heat Island assessment to inform infrastructure design guidelines, shade structures, cooling facilities and UFMP	Started
3-4: Explore the feasibility of updating the Property Standards Bylaw to include requirements to keep indoor temperatures from exceeding a maximum threshold	Not started
3-5: Incorporate shade (natural and built) and opportunities for cooling with water play as well as water fountains and bottle filling stations for access to free hydration into park development	Continuous improvement
<b>Theme 4: Disaster Resilience</b>	<b>Status</b>
4-1: Enhance emergency notification and communications plan incorporating needs of vulnerable populations	Started
4-2: Develop a Community Climate Resilience Education Program focusing on high climate risks	Continuous improvement

4-3: Enhance funding and supports for community and neighbourhood social resilience programs in urban and rural communities	Started
4-4: Promote and augment existing programs for home and business climate resilience retrofits	Continuous improvement
4-5: Enhance existing policies, programs and education programming for private stormwater management practices	Continuous improvement
<b>Theme 5: Strong and Resilient Economy</b>	<b>Status</b>
5-1: Pursue approval to develop a Burlington Agricultural Action Plan that includes a climate lens and considers opportunities to complement partner agency initiatives	Continuous improvement
5-2: Expand the opportunities to support local food production across the City of Burlington (such as community gardens, rooftop gardens, backyard gardening, etc.)	Continuous improvement
5-3: Assess the feasibility of sourcing and providing preference to local suppliers in contracts to increase resilience with supply chain disruptions	Started
5-4: Investigate the feasibility to develop a business innovation ecosystem where locally developed products can be tested to encourage the development of local supply chains and innovative products	Started

## Appendix B: CRB Year 4 Progress Update on 32 Actions and KPIs

This appendix provides detailed information on the progress of each of the 32 actions and key performance indicators (KPIs) within Climate Resilient Burlington (CRB): A Plan for Adapting to Our Warmer, Wetter and Wilder Weather. The original plan was presented as a draft to City Council in [May 2022](#) and approved in [July 2022](#). Previous updates were provided in [2023](#), [2024](#) and [2025](#).

The 32 actions within the CRB plan are spread out among five themes and 10 subthemes as indicated below.

Theme 1: Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure (13 actions)	Theme 2: Thriving Natural Environment (5 actions)	Theme 3: Health and Well-Being (5 actions)	Theme 4: Disaster Resilience (5 actions)	Theme 5: Strong and Resilient Economy (4 actions)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure Design and Life Cycle Management</li> <li>Flood Management</li> <li>Service Disruption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree Management</li> <li>Natural Area Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extreme Heat and Health</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Capacity Building</li> <li>Citizen and Business Support Programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture</li> <li>Local Economy</li> </ul>

Below is a quick snapshot on progress for the 32 actions.

Status	Definition	# of actions 2023	# of actions 2024	# of actions 2025
Completed	Action has been fully implemented	1	3	3
Started <sup>1</sup>	Implementation has begun	14	13	6
Continuous improvement <sup>2</sup>	Action is continuous and has no end date	11	13	19
Not started	Implementation has not begun	6	2	2
Delayed/At Risk	Funding and/or staff resourcing required to proceed	0	1	1
<b>Total # of actions</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>

<sup>1</sup> “Started” actions include pilot projects and the initial stages of projects. Additional resources could be necessary which might move some of these actions to delayed/at risk in future years.

<sup>2</sup> “Continuous improvement” actions could still benefit from additional resources.

**Theme 1: Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure**

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN AND LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Goal: Manage infrastructure to prepare for future climate conditions and carbon neutral goals</b>	
<b>Indicator:</b> Updated design standards (policy, bylaw, etc.) and programs in progress for City infrastructure incorporating future climate conditions and carbon neutral goals <sup>3</sup> . <b>Target:</b> Increasing	<b>New in 2025:</b> 1 ( <i>Conservation Halton Grindstone Creek Watershed Management Study</i> ) <b>Total since 2022:</b> 12
<p>1-1: Expand natural asset data and incorporate priority natural assets into Burlington's Asset Management Plan.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90;">Continuous improvement</span></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027) - V2F Q4 2025 for AMP update</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Amy Daca, Analyst, Asset Planning, Engineering (Eng.) Dept.</p>	<p>While most infrastructure included in Burlington's <a href="#">2025 Asset Management (AM) Plan (PWS-30-25)</a> is 'grey' (built or engineered structures and networks such as roads, sewers, and facilities), some 'green' assets are included (stormwater management ponds, oil and grit separators, a rain garden, creek infrastructure including erosion control features and the urban forest). Green assets help protect the natural environment by mimicking the natural water cycle and providing additional stormwater control, filtration, and infiltration. Lessons and information gained from the Grindstone Creek Municipal Natural Asset Initiative (MNAI) pilot project in partnership with Conservation Halton will further enhance how the City continues to build green infrastructure into its AM Program.</p> <p>City staff have begun the preparation of a Natural Assets Roadmap through a partnership with Intact Public Entities through its Natural Assets Initiative to build a high-level natural AM roadmap to start integrating natural AM considerations into overall AM practices.</p>
<p>1-2: Integrate future climate impacts in Burlington's Asset Management Plan for prioritized asset categories and assess long-term infrastructure funding requirements.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90;">Continuous improvement</span></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (by the end of 2032)</p>	<p>Burlington's <a href="#">2025 Asset Management Plan (PWS-30-25)</a> aligns with the Climate Resilient Burlington plan identifying natural assets, flood mitigation and green infrastructure as future focus areas and commits to continuous integration of climate goals. The City aims to embed climate resilience into levels of service and risk management frameworks, prioritize vulnerable assets, and use climate projections to inform long-term investment decisions to</p>

<sup>3</sup> Revised indicator and target in 2024 to better reflect the goal. Original indicator was "Percent of prioritized asset categories that have assessed for future climate impacts."

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p><b>City lead:</b> Amy Daca, Analyst, Asset Planning, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>reduce or mitigate service disruptions, extend asset life, and ensure sustainable service delivery in the face of evolving environmental conditions.</p>
<p>1-3: Review and if necessary, update design standards for City infrastructure to account for future climate conditions in alignment with Federal and Provincial initiatives, and Burlington's net carbon neutral goals.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #00FF00;">Continuous improvement</span></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City leads:</b> Janine Yaromich, Manager, Design and Construction, Roads, Eng. Dept.            Cary Clark, Manager, Development and Stormwater Engineering, Eng. Dept.            Tom Pedlar, Supervisor, Energy and Emissions, Transportation Dept.            John Stuart, Senior Planner, Policy, Community Planning Dept.</p>	<p>In 2025, City staff began working with a design professional to help update the City's Urban Tree Standard to achieve healthier street trees and enhanced tree canopies.</p> <p>In 2025, a consultant was awarded a contract to develop Burlington's first comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan (SMP) due in 2027. The Stormwater Management Design Guidelines approved in 2020 will be revisited in 2027 upon completion of the SMP to reflect current design practices, updated regulations and legislation, guidance from partner agencies and other levels of government, and new technologies. Rainfall intensity-duration-frequency (IDF) data will also be reviewed.</p> <p>With a \$1 million investment through Canada's Green and Inclusive Community Buildings program, Skyway Community Centre and Arena, which opened in 2025, was built with a low carbon design (no natural gas) incorporating ice plant heat recovery, a geothermal system, a fully electric, zero emission ice resurfacer, and the future potential (for weight and electrical infrastructure) for solar roofing panels.</p> <p>The <a href="#">bike lane improvements</a> on Prospect Street will receive \$3M (\$704,190 received in 2025) from the Active Transportation Fund under Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada.</p> <p>Recent decisions by the province through Bills 17 and 56 have restricted municipalities' ability to adopt Green Development Standards and Green Roof By-laws that implement mandatory building design standards beyond those required by the Ontario Building Code (OBC). As such, mandatory standards addressing sustainability of buildings in private development applications cannot be introduced or implemented unless they comply with the OBC; this will have implications for how the City may improve or revise current standards and guidelines.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<b>FLOOD MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Goal: Evaluate resilience of infrastructure under future climate conditions.</b>	
<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of City with future climate informed flood mapping for creeks. <b>Target:</b> 95 percent by 2027	<b>2025 update:</b> 41 percent up from 13 percent in 2022.
<p>1-4: Develop lake shoreline flood management strategy augmenting existing plans to incorporate future climate projections and impacts to protect City assets (parkland and infrastructure).</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Continuous Improvement</b></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (end of 2032)</p> <p><b>City leads:</b> Marion Rabeau, Manager, Design and Construction, Eng. Dept.</p> <p>Umar Malik, Stormwater Engineer – Development, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>Shoreline improvement work (maintenance or enhanced) is conducted on a site-by-site basis. Projects are prioritized by current site conditions and risks of shoreline flood impacts.</p> <p>Work continues on the Burlington Beach Regional Waterfront Park, a 20-year master plan approved in 2015. Phase One, Shoreline Protection and Ecological Restoration, received \$995,000 over four years from Canada Water Agency’s Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative in July 2025 to help restore two kilometers of shoreline and dune ecosystems at three areas (Wind Beach, the Strand, and Cobble Beach). Detailed beach restoration planning and designs are underway with construction planned for 2027-2029.</p> <p>The \$1.5M Lake Ontario Coastal Resilience Pilot Project launched in July. The area, which is 95km in length, includes 10 coastal communities from Niagara River in Niagara-on-the-Lake to Joshua’s Creek in Oakville/Mississauga but does not include Hamilton Harbour/Burlington Bay. A regional coastal resilience plan will be developed and include a climate change assessment, shoreline risk and vulnerability assessment, and coastal resilience recommendations. Representatives from the City, Conservation Halton, and Halton Region sit on the committee.</p>
<p>1-5: Enhance creek flood protection plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review and if necessary update regulatory flood hazard maps reflecting future climate risks and integrating the mapping in land use planning studies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Continuous improvement</b></p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p>	<p>In 2025, three flood studies and five creek rehabilitation projects were ongoing.</p> <p>In late 2023, the City in collaboration with Conservation Halton (CH), initiated a <a href="#">Flood Hazard Impacts and Mitigation Assessment</a> providing a high-level evaluation of the stormwater systems in and around the Burlington GO Major Transit Station Area (MTSA), Downtown, and the Hager-Rambo Diversion Channel. In December 2024, recommendations and preliminary costs were provided to City Council. The study identified a need to evaluate the flood mitigation strategies in</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Umar Malik, Stormwater Engineer - Development, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>greater detail in the Lower Rambo Creek watershed. An Environmental Assessment began in 2025 to explore infrastructure upgrade alternatives to find a long-term flood mitigation solution.</p> <p>In 2025, the City began a Flood Hazard Mitigation and Infrastructure Improvements study in Aldershot and Appleby MTSAs using the Housing Accelerator Fund to support future growth.</p> <p>The <a href="#">New Street Bridge Replacement at Tuck Creek</a> project, to replace the existing bridge with a wider span concrete bridge structure designed to improve the creek channel hydraulics and increase flow capacity, began in 2025 and should be completed by Fall 2026.</p> <p>In November 2022, CH's Board endorsed the <a href="#">Spills Flood Hazards Policy Directions Report</a> and in September 2024, they endorsed draft spills <a href="#">policies</a> and a supporting <a href="#">technical companion document</a> and <a href="#">staff report</a> (p. 38) for public engagement. Final policies and a technical guide were approved by the CH Board in April 2025.</p> <p>Modelling for East Burlington Creeks Flood Hazard Mapping including Tuck, Shoreacres, Appleby and Sheldon Creek watersheds is complete and has been incorporated into CH's flood forecasting system. Burlington's climate-adjusted IDF (intensity, duration, frequency) information was applied when determining the future 1:100-year flow. Roseland, Rambo and Hager, Hager-Rambo Diversion, Indian and Falcon Creeks will be added to the flood forecasting system (tentatively in 2026-2028).</p> <p>Modernization of Flood Forecasting and Operations is ongoing at CH with a focus on enhancing Watershed Monitoring and Flood Forecasting and Warning System.</p> <p><a href="#">CH continues to regulate</a> all watercourses, valleylands, wetlands, Lake Ontario and Burlington Bay shoreline, and hazardous lands, as well as lands adjacent to these features within 15 metres from the hazard limit for all valley systems to protect people and property from the risks associated with natural hazards and to prevent worsening of existing hazards or the creation of new hazards. Permission is required from CH to develop in these areas.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>1-6: Enhance emergency preparedness plans and public communication of flood risk with more detailed flood hazard information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop emergency flood management procedures using predictive rainfall information for stormwater infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (by the end of 2032)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Lauren Sokolowski, Specialist, Community Emergency Management, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>A second Specialist, Community Emergency Management staff position was added in 2025 to support the development of hazard specific emergency planning. A flood-specific public education campaign was completed in 2025.</p> <p>CH’s flood forecasting team operates a forecasting and warning system and monitors and advises municipalities on flood conditions. CH currently collects near real-time data from 52 rain gauges within, and immediately adjacent to their jurisdiction. There are 13 rain gauges within Burlington with additional rain gauges located near the municipal boundary. This covers approximately 74 percent of Burlington which meets CH’s strategic objective in Momentum to achieve 70 to 80 percent coverage across their jurisdiction by the end of 2024. They are at 75 percent overall.</p> <p>When CH issues flood messages, they are shared with City staff as appropriate depending on the flood message level, and the City’s Emergency Response Plan activation level is adjusted accordingly. The City also has procedures to request that the Provincial Emergency Operations Centre issue an Alert Ready notification on behalf of the City during emergencies that present threats to life safety.</p>
<p>1-7: Enhance coordination with partner agencies and higher levels of government to ensure that flood hazard maps and protection measures are up to date to manage flood risks.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 5-10 years (by the end of 2032)</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Umar Malik, Stormwater Engineer - Development, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>As noted in staff report <a href="#">ES-25-24</a> “Flood hazards impacts and mitigation assessment,” City staff continue to work to strengthen coordination with 407, Ministry of Transportation, CN Rail, Metrolinx, and Halton Region on the design, maintenance, and upgrades of their infrastructure to mitigate impacts on City residents during extreme weather events. The City collaborated with Halton Region in the completion of a study led by Halton Region related to the July 15, 2024, storm event.</p> <p>CH continues to update their flood hazard mapping to support planning, regulations, and flood forecasting operations. This mapping also informs infrastructure management decisions, emergency planning and response, prioritization of flood mitigation efforts, and infrastructure design. See actions 1-5 and 1-6 above for more CH updates.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<b>SERVICE DISRUPTION</b>	
<b>Goal: Invest in proactive measures to prepare for increased extreme events to avoid post storm reactive costs</b>	
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of new proactive measures (projects, plans, initiatives, etc.) to help increase climate resiliency and reduce damage, costs and service disruption.  <b>Target:</b> Increasing</p>	<p><b>New in 2025:</b> 2 new (<i>Drainage standby team, Conservation Halton Spills Policy</i>)  <b>Total since 2022:</b> 16</p>
<p>1-8: Develop tracking for post-storm assessment to inform recovery and future adaptation efforts including data on type and severity of event, type of damage, amount or cost of damage, debris management to improve debris pick-up, etc.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90;">Started</span> (Forestry) (The 2024 flood was also tracked by other depts.).  <b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)  <b>City leads:</b>                      Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, Roads, Parks and Forestry (RPF) Dept.                      Nadia Blackburn, Manager, Park Operations, RPF Dept.                      Matt Koevoets, Manager, Road Operations, RPF Dept.</p>	<p>Forestry staff track storm damage costs through separate work orders for storms anticipated to cost over \$10K and a combined work order to track smaller storms. In 2025, there were 53 tree removals and 238 limb failures.</p> <p>In 2025, a drainage on-call program was initiated to provide a quicker response to heavy rainfall events. The program runs from April to November with two on-call staff per week that can respond, maintain, and inspect flooding issues during large rainfalls.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>1-9: Maintain level of service for tree pruning and enhance risk assessment protocol in areas with above-ground powerlines, near major roads, near fire stations, etc.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF</p>	<p>In 2025, the City’s grid pruning program annual budget was \$945K, helping to close the gap on the funding shortfall required to achieve a seven-year pruning cycle from the previous eight-year cycle. The Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) includes Action 16.1 to move to a five-year grid pruning cycle for urban street, rural road, and park tree assets. Preventative grid pruning helps keep the public right of way safe by making trees more resilient to extreme weather events, ensures clearance for vehicles and pedestrians and maintains visibility of signage. It also reduces reactive maintenance.</p> <p>Action 19 of the UFMP identifies plans to ‘formalize operational procedures for risk inspection frequency, mitigation priority, mitigation timeframes, qualifications and documentation.’ A Standard Operating Procedure, which will also inform response times based on risk level, was drafted in 2025 and will be finalized in 2026.</p> <p>Burlington Hydro has a rotating three-year <a href="#">tree trimming maintenance program</a> which aims to minimize outages that are caused by tree limb contacts.</p>
<p>1-10: Invest in backup power for City infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assess backup power needs to sustain critical services during a significant power outage including consideration of vulnerable populations.</li> <li>- Develop a plan utilizing permanent and temporary backup power sources and partnering with community stakeholders (moved to Action 4-3).</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed in 2023</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Miranda Fowler, Supervisor, Facilities and Buildings Asset Management, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>The City has three Emergency Operations Centre locations and an evacuation centre for emergencies, two of which can serve as population shelters if needed.</p> <p>The City has a total of 15 generators to provide back-up power for critical infrastructure (facilities) and ensure business continuity. Thirteen of the generators are permanent and automatically start when detecting power failure, and two generators are portable and can be transported and hooked up during emergency situations where needed.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>1-11: Develop wind risk and vulnerability mapping to communicate high risk areas, inform emergency response planning, prioritize maintenance activities, and guide community planning.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Delayed/At Risk</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Robyn Heibert, Specialist, Community Emergency Management, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>During the annual Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) review in 2025 which assessed 55 hazards, high wind was assessed as the 8th highest hazard, representing an overall low level of risk based on the provincial HIRA methodology. In 2023 and 2024, high wind was assessed as the 5th and 9th highest hazard respectively and in 2021, when the CRB plan was being developed, high wind was the 2nd highest community hazard.</p> <p>A wind risk and vulnerability study is intended to identify areas more vulnerable during high wind events. The results will be used to update GIS mapping used during emergencies, prepare proactive public education campaigns, help inform prioritization of maintenance activities on City owned properties, and potentially help inform community planning. Funding requests were deferred in the 2024 to 2026 budget process.</p>
<p>1-12: Assess snow management plan to ensure a climate lens is applied to incorporate increased frequency and severity of extreme events (e.g., heavy snow, freezing rain, wind) with consideration of impacts to vulnerable populations.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Matt Koevoets, Manager, Road Operations, RPF Dept.</p>	<p>Equipment and contractor availability for winter operations were enhanced to deal with population growth (i.e. Alton West) and respond to larger storms (i.e. Feb. 2025) quicker to complete snow clearing operations.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>1-13: Assess the impacts of projected climate conditions on all recreation services offered by the City to determine adaptive measures for long term recreational needs, including consideration for impacts on vulnerable populations.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027) - V2F Q4 2025</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Denise Beard, Senior Manager, Community Development, Recreation, Community and Culture (RCC) Dept.</p>	<p>All camps have access to air-conditioned spaces during the summer.</p> <p>Staffing for outdoor pools was increased in summer 2025 to maintain service and ensure employee well-being in the heat with more frequent breaks out of the heat and sun.</p> <p>The parks bylaw, currently under review, may consider extended hours in the morning to encourage physical activity outside of high heat times.</p>

## Theme 2: Thriving Natural Environment

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<b>TREE MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Reduce damage to trees while increasing the value of the services they provide.	
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of work records regarding tree removals and limb failures per storm, per year<sup>4</sup>.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Decreasing long term trend (depends on type, frequency and severity of extreme storms).</p>	<p><b>New tree removal in 2025:</b> 53</p> <p><b>Total since 2022:</b> 350</p> <p><b>New limb failures in 2025:</b> 238</p> <p><b>Total since 2022:</b> 556</p>
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of tree canopy cover.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> 35 percent by 2060<sup>5</sup>.</p>	<p><b>2025 update:</b> 30 percent (last canopy survey was in 2018) with 22 percent within the urban boundary and 36 percent in rural and North Aldershot Planning area</p>

<sup>4</sup> Indicator modified slightly to improve access to data.

<sup>5</sup> Indicator updated to correspond with a new target identified in the Urban Forest Master Plan.

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>2-1: Invest in full tree life cycle management balancing amount of planting and ongoing maintenance to improve tree survival outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Training young trees" programming for stronger trees to withstand extremes</li> <li>- Forestry on-call program</li> <li>- Coordination with volunteers for tree maintenance</li> <li>- Enhanced pruning</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF Dept.</p>	<p>The Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) includes Action 16.2 to 'establish a five-year young tree structural pruning cycle for new plantings.' This program began in 2025 and will continue annually for five years after planting. Data analysis will be conducted.</p> <p>The Forestry standby program continued with City staff and a supervisor on standby between Apr. 1 and Nov. 30, 2025, to address a tree failure, storm event, etc. In the off-season, staff are put on standby if significant winds are forecast (about three to four times a year).</p> <p>Staff considered "coordination with volunteers for tree maintenance" but will not proceed due to liability concerns.</p> <p>Enhanced pruning – see Action 1-9</p>
<p>2-2: Incorporate a climate lens in recommendations of management decisions in the Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) to maximize co-benefits.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed in 2024</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF Dept.</p>	<p>In April 2024, City Council approved the Urban Forest Master Plan replacing the existing plan first approved in 2010. The first Woodland Management Strategy was also approved (<a href="#">RPF-02-24</a>). The City manages over 85,000 trees within its parks and right of way and is responsible for 285 hectares of woodlands. A total of 46 actions were identified in the 20-year plan, including a couple of actions from the Climate Resilient Burlington plan (biodiversity plan and climate resilience education program).</p>
<p>2-3: Invest and support implementation of UFMP.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (end of 2032)</p>	<p>At the end of 2024, support for the 10-year Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan concluded (<a href="#">PWS-10-25</a>). As per the UFMP, the \$861,000 annual operating budget for EAB was redirected in 2025 to UFMP initiatives to close service level gaps in forestry preventative maintenance, invasive species monitoring/management and planting programs (<a href="#">RPF-02-24</a>). Work included:</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p><b>City lead:</b> Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF Dept.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Naturalized maintenance – regular maintenance (weeding, mulching, watering) of recently planted naturalized plantings. (\$100k)</li> <li>- Caliper tree maintenance (juvenile trees) – regular maintenance (weeding, mulching, stake removal, the installation of a water bag, and watering) of recently planted caliper trees within the municipal right-of-way and parks. There will be a greater focus on watering in 2026. (\$150k)</li> <li>- Woodland maintenance – risk assessment and mitigation at property lines and paths, invasive species monitoring and management (e.g. buckthorn control), and restoration planting, consistent with the recommendations of the City's Woodland Management Strategy (WMS). (\$200K)</li> </ul> <p>In <a href="#">March 2025</a>, the Significant Tree Maintenance Rebate Pilot program launched to help residents maintain established trees on their property. The pilot program subsidizes residents up to 50 percent of tree-related maintenance costs to a maximum of \$1,000 per tree. A maximum of \$25,000 was allocated from the Green Initiatives Reserve fund for this pilot with a commitment to report back to City Council in Q2 2026 regarding the effectiveness of the program.</p> <p>In <a href="#">December 2025</a>, the Public Tree Bylaw was updated with a more efficient framework that aligns with the Private Tree Bylaw and modern practices.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<b>NATURAL AREA MANAGEMENT</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Value, conserve and enhance the multiple services that natural areas provide.	
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of green infrastructure projects<sup>6</sup>.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Increase.</p>	<p><b>New in 2025:</b> 15 (tree planting events)</p> <p><b>Total:</b> 30</p>
<p><b>Indicator:</b> TDB through Biodiversity Plan. <b>Target:</b> TBD.</p>	<p>n/a</p>

<sup>6</sup> This was changed from dollars spent to number of green infrastructure projects.

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<p>2-4: Invest in green infrastructure to reduce flood risk, enhance habitat connectivity and support other ecosystem services.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #00FF00;">Continuous improvement</span></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Umar Malik, Stormwater Engineer – Development, Eng. Dept.</p> <p>Marion Rabeau, Manager, Design and Construction, Parks, Eng. Dept.</p> <p>Janie Yaromich, Manager, Design and Construction, Roads, Eng. Dept.</p> <p>Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF Dept.</p>	<p>In 2024, staff submitted a \$500K funding application under the <a href="#">Growing Canada’s Community Canopies</a> (GCCC), delivered by FCM’s Green Municipal Fund in partnership with Trees Canada, for the Prospect St. project. An announcement will be made in 2026.</p> <p>In 2025, a consultant team was hired to work on tree planting guidelines and soil specifications, and details for structural soil cells and continuous soil trenches for improved healthy and long-lived trees. The staff team includes staff from Urban Forestry and Parks Design and Construction.</p> <p>On average, 5,000 trees are planted on public and private land through more than 15 different events each year. In 2025, \$257,000 was allocated from the Tree Establishment and Enhancement Reserve, which historically funded community supported tree planting initiatives, to the Forestry Operating budget to fund tree planting projects identified in <a href="#">PWS-21-25</a>. In 2025, 1,421 caliper trees were planted on municipal right of ways and manicured parks, and 5,948 small stock trees were planted at community events and given away (i.e. Spring tree giveaway).</p> <p>A 2km <a href="#">trail</a> connecting City View Park through Kerncliff Park to the clubhouse building at Tyandaga Golf Course received \$5,816 from the Zero-Carbon Transformation, Green Municipal Fund to be used as part of the ecological restoration and new plantings.</p> <p><a href="#">Greening the Crosstown Trail (RPF-04-24)</a> updates include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concept plan was completed and submitted to Hydro One and Infrastructure Ontario for approval. The project is stalled until new regulations for the new Species Conservation Act are released.</li> <li>- Conservation Halton (CH) completed all pre-construction monitoring for the location, during which time the area was not mown. Mowing will take place in 2026 under the contracted maintenance for the hydro corridor.</li> </ul> <p>In 2025, CH’s Landscape Restoration and Community Outreach teams carried out the following in Burlington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 47 projects (i.e. tree plantings and other naturalized plantings, invasive species removals, LID projects such as rain gardens and permeable pavement, etc.)</li> <li>- 7,642 plants planted and 79,617 m<sup>2</sup> restored</li> <li>- Seven species of invasives removed (Phragmites, common buckthorn, non-native honeysuckle, Norway maple, Japanese knotweed, dog strangling vine, black locust)</li> </ul>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 0.18 km of stream and 183 m<sup>2</sup> of riparian zone restored</li> <li>- 19 volunteer restoration events (including Garden-in-a-Box packing day, Hidden Valley, Kerncliff Park, From the Ground Up, Healing Garden, Corporate volunteer events, and Nature Stewards)</li> <li>- 196 volunteers active in Burlington</li> <li>- Outreach - Landowner Grants - \$36,511.81 grants awarded to nine projects</li> <li>- 13 education events (Halton Children’s Water Festival, Healthy Neighboursheds webinars, Design Your Native Landscape workshop, guest speakers, displays at various community events, and outreach via publications, mailouts and door knocking)</li> <li>- 35 site visits (support landowner projects and provide stewardship recommendations, information about CH grant, and community stewardship programs)</li> </ul> <p>In 2025, BurlingtonGreen carried out the following in Burlington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordination/execution of three educational community tree planting/care projects with 802 trees and shrubs planted comprised of 35 different species; co-design of new information signs at community tree planting sites</li> <li>- Three educational, skill-building invasive plant removal workshops with about 500 plants removed</li> <li>- Educational programming regarding urban forestry health and benefits via outreach (Ask an Arborist webinar and eight guided tree walks, children’s activities, Burlington Tree Photo Contest, etc.) and <a href="#">online</a></li> </ul>
<p>2-5: Establish a City-Wide Biodiversity Plan that addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- local effects of climate change on wildlife and biodiversity</li> <li>- habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors</li> <li>- ecosystem resilience</li> <li>- invasive species management</li> </ul>	<p>Funding is needed to develop a City-Wide Biodiversity Plan, which is also identified in the Urban Forest Master Plan, and staff continue to seek opportunities through grants. In the interim, data related to biodiversity indicators will continue to be collected, assessed, and made available through various City GIS/IT applications. Staff will continue to leverage relationships with agencies that have ongoing biodiversity projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Biodiversity Strategy for Halton Regional Forests</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Conservation Halton’s (CH’s) Guiding Principles for Supporting Biodiversity</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Effects of Climate Change on Biodiversity within Conservation Halton’s (CH) Watersheds</a></li> </ul>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/Year 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- urban and rural landscaping behaviours and operations and maintenance that can support plants and wildlife</li> <li>- integration of citizen science</li> <li>- habitat restoration</li> <li>- ecosystem services</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Not started</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (end of 2032)</p> <p><b>City leads:</b> Steve Robinson, Manager, Urban Forestry &amp; City Arborist, RPF Dept. John Stuart, Senior Planner, Policy, Community Planning Dept.</p>	<p>The annual road closure for the mating passage of the endangered <a href="#">Jefferson salamanders</a> took place on King Road from North Service Road to Mountain Brow Road from March 12 to April 9, 2025.</p> <p>Educational decals, posters and information on the TV Burlington screens continue to be added at City facilities as applicable to educate patrons about the bird friendly glass treatment (dots) on the windows of those buildings.</p> <p>Conservation Halton (CH) initiated an update of the Grindstone Creek Watershed Management Plan (WMP). A WMP describes watershed-scale key natural resource issues, including ecological integrity (encompassing biodiversity), and identifies management actions to address them. This update is led by CH and guided by a Liaison Committee that includes the City of Burlington.</p> <p>BurlingtonGreen carried out the following activities in Burlington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provided biodiversity-focused educational programming (pollinator teaching garden, bird-friendly window demonstration at the Pump House, monarch butterfly display, hands-on seed ball activities, guided bird walk, local birding webinar, invasive plant removal workshops, pollinator seed packets giveaways, native plant sale)</li> <li>- Eight month long educational shoreline litter and microplastics clean-ups</li> </ul> <p>Additional updates linked to biodiversity are under actions 1-1, 1-3, 1-4, 1-9, 5-1 and theme 2.</p>

### Theme 3: Health and Well-Being

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/ Year 4
<b>EXTREME HEAT AND HEALTH</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Provide City services to support the community during extreme heat events.	
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of aquatic facilities (pools, misters and splash pads) per 10,000 residents.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Maintain the 2024 ratio as the population grows.</p>	<p><b>Indoor Pools:</b> 1:48,525</p> <p><b>Outdoor Pools:</b> 1:64,700</p> <p><b>Splash Pad:</b> 1:2,157</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/ Year 4
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of urban community within walking distance to a public space cooling facility. <b>Target:</b> 100% by 2032.</p>	<p><b>2025 Update:</b> 3.45% of population within 500 m of a library (cooling/warming centre)</p>
<p>3-1: Develop program to support vulnerable populations in installing and maintaining cooling systems.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Continuous Improvement</b></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 5-10 years (end of 2032)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Lynn Robichaud, Manager of Environmental Sustainability (to April 2025); Lauren McAusland, Sustainability Projects Coordinator, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>With the Better Homes Burlington pilot program and staff position ending in June 2025 (<a href="#">PWS-11-25</a>), a stand-alone program for this action will not be developed. However, income eligible programs (<a href="#">Energy Affordability Program</a>, <a href="#">Home Winterproofing Program</a>) are promoted through the Better Homes Burlington (BHB) website and concierge service.</p> <p>Additional material promoted in 2025 included the <a href="#">Canada Greener Homes Loan</a> (prior to being cancelled), <a href="#">Home Renovations Savings Program</a> and the <a href="#">MyHEAT Thermal Map</a> which allows Burlington residents to view a heat loss map of their home until February 28, 2026. The BHB website is updated as programs change.</p>
<p>3-2: Identify gaps in public space cooling by assessing utilization of current cooling facilities and by identifying the type of cooling supports and accessibility needs of the community especially for vulnerable populations.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Completed in 2024</b></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 1-2 years (Q4 2024)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Denise Beard, Senior Manager, Community Development, RCC Dept.</p>	<p>In late 2023, Community Development Halton was retained to engage residents about heat vulnerability including whether they had access to air conditioning where they lived, how they stay cool on heat warning days, whether they have heard of and accessed the City's cooling centres. Between May and August 2024, they connected with older adults, newcomers to Canada, those whose first language is not English, people living in low income, unhoused, and/or living with age related vulnerability and disability or chronic health conditions. The report will help inform communications about cooling centres and potential new sites.</p> <p>In 2024, Halton Region released the <a href="#">Climate Change and Health in Halton Region</a> report. Extreme temperature is one of the seven key climate-related health impact categories of concern highlighted. Actions included how to stay cool and prevent heat-related illness, and a note about accessing municipal cooling centres.</p>
<p>3-3: Conduct an Urban Heat Island assessment to inform infrastructure design guidelines, shade structures, cooling facilities and UFMP.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Started</b></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027 - V2F identifies target as Q4 2026)</p>	<p>The <a href="#">Urban Forest Master Plan story map</a> shows maps with mean surface temperature, impervious surfaces and canopy equity in Burlington. Providing canopy cover and greening within 100 metres of where people live, work and play can reduce the risk of heat related illness and death during extreme heat events. Canopy cover is not equally distributed across the city. As a result, benefits from the urban forest are not experienced equitably across Burlington's neighborhoods. Households with lower incomes, minority groups, older adults,</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/ Year 4
<p><b>City lead:</b> Fleur Storaice-Hogan, Manager, Emergency Management and Environmental Sustainability, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>children, and those with certain health conditions are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change and may benefit more from having trees near where they live and work. Additional information is available in the <a href="#">2022 State of the Urban Forest Report</a>.</p> <p>A component of the Community Development Halton report noted under action 3-2 included some mapping of socio-economic data that will be helpful in completing this action.</p> <p>In 2025, preliminary meetings were held to discuss available data and gaps. Work was stalled due to staff reorganizations.</p>
<p>3-4: Explore the feasibility of updating the Property Standards Bylaw to include requirements to keep indoor temperatures from exceeding a maximum threshold.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Not started</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Adam Palmieri, Manager of Bylaw Enforcement, Bylaw Compliance Dept.</p>	<p>Environmental sustainability staff have been monitoring updates from local municipalities (Mississauga, London, Hamilton and Toronto) to consider potential best practices to apply in Burlington.</p> <p>In 2025, the Climate Action Partnership developed a three-part workshop series and resources related to <a href="#">Accelerating Municipal Climate Change Adaptation to Extreme Heat</a>.</p>
<p>3-5: Incorporate shade (natural and built) and opportunities for cooling with water play as well as water fountains and bottle filling stations for access to free hydration into park development.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Marion Rabeau, Manager, Design and Construction, Parks, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>In 2025, the following projects incorporated shade and opportunities for cooling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Port Nelson Park: two small shade structures and bottle filling station</li> <li>- Skyway Park: two shade structures</li> </ul>

**Theme 4: Disaster Resilience**

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/ Year 4
<b>COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Build capacity in the community to prepare for and respond to more extreme events and long-term climate stresses.	
<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of urban area connected to a resilience hub within walking distance (15 min). <b>Target:</b> 100% by 2040.	<b>2025 update:</b> 0%
<b>Indicator:</b> Key locations for rural resilience hubs established. <b>Target:</b> Two by 2032.	<b>2025 update:</b> 0%
<p>4-1: Enhance emergency notification and communications plan incorporating needs of vulnerable populations.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Started</b></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Robyn Heibert, Specialist, Community Emergency Management, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>In 2025, the City developed and shared a survey with organizations that work closely with vulnerable populations. The survey focused on understanding how these organizations communicate emergency information to their clients, how they currently receive emergency updates from the City, and how emergency communications could be more effective and accessible.</p> <p>The feedback collected through this survey will help the City better understand what is working well and where there are opportunities to improve. This input will be used to inform future enhancements to emergency notifications and communications so that more residents receive clear, timely, and accessible information when it matters most.</p>
<p>4-2: Develop a Community Climate Resilience Education Program focusing on high climate risks.</p> <p>Help residents understand climate science, risks, adaptation actions, funding opportunities and relevant City initiatives</p> <p><b>Status:</b> <b>Continuous improvement</b></p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 1-2 years (Q2 2024 in V2F)</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p>	<p>Flooding prevention communications continues in 2025 through the <a href="#">flood preparedness webpage</a>, City social media posts, and Take Action Burlington blog posts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Prepare for the big thaw: Tips to help protect your home and property.</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Workshops: Plan for flood prevention and design your native landscape.</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Tips to increase your resilience to rain events.</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Insurance: Are you covered for extreme weather events?</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Emergency Preparedness Week 2025: Be prepared for every season</a></li> </ul>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates/ Year 4
<p><b>City lead:</b> Fleur Stora-Hogan, Manager, Emergency Management and Environmental Sustainability, Transportation Dept.</p>	<p>Ongoing promotion of programs: <a href="#">Home Flood Protection Program</a>, <a href="#">Plumbing Permit Fee Grant Program</a>, <a href="#">Halton Region Enhanced Basement Flooding Mitigation Program</a>, <a href="#">Healthy Neighbourhoods series</a> (Spring and Fall), <a href="#">Rainwater Conservation Fund</a>, <a href="#">Home Efficiency Rebate Program</a>, and <a href="#">Home Winterproofing Program</a>. The <a href="#">City's flood prevention webpage</a> also includes links providing homeowners with do-it-yourself maintenance tips.</p> <p>In addition to the activities noted in other sections, BurlingtonGreen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued with their city-wide 200,000 eco-actions by 2030 campaign promoting and tracking local action on climate mitigation and adaptation</li> <li>- Ran community awareness campaigns on climate related facts and local solutions through outreach services and <a href="#">online campaigns</a></li> </ul>
<p>4-3: Enhance funding and supports for community and neighbourhood social resilience programs in urban and rural communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish Resilience Hubs across the City</li> <li>- Establish a help line to support vulnerable populations during and after extreme events</li> <li>- Train residents in emergency preparedness</li> <li>- Develop a plan utilizing permanent and temporary backup power sources and partnering with community stakeholders (moved from action 1-10 as better aligned here when resilience hubs are established)</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90;">Started</span></p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Denise Beard, Senior Manager, Community Development, RCC Dept.</p>	<p>Establish Resilience Hubs across the City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A Manager of Neighbourhoods is required for neighbourhood social resilience programs, such as establishing resilience hubs similar to <a href="#">OakvilleReady</a> and <a href="#">Climate Ready Hamilton</a>, in Burlington. Staff will continue to pursue funding opportunities.</li> <li>- Staff considered applying to a program (Tamarack Adaptive and Resilient Communities Cohort) connected to this action but didn't pursue it due to workloads.</li> </ul> <p>Establish a help line to support vulnerable populations during and after extreme events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The City currently promotes 311 for all residents.</li> </ul> <p>Train residents in emergency preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff led a series of community conversations throughout the summer called the Public Living Room, to learn more about connections with neighbours and support within a neighbourhood during a climate emergency.</li> <li>- The former <a href="#">Emergency Plan Reserve Fund</a>, which included public education initiatives, has been consolidated under the Tax Stabilization Fund.</li> </ul>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 4
<b>CITIZEN AND BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMS</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Encourage climate adaptation actions from citizens and businesses.	
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of citizen and business climate adaptation support programs.  <b>Target:</b> Increase.	<b>Home Flood Protection Program:</b> 25 assessments since 2022; 3 assessments in 2025  <b>Building Permit Fee Grant Program:</b> 535 rebates since 2022; 163 rebates in 2025  <b>Halton’s Enhanced Basement Flooding Prevention Subsidy:</b> 764 subsidies since 2022; 252 subsidies in 2025
4-4: Promote and augment existing programs for home and business climate resilience retrofits.  <b>Status:</b> <span style="background-color: #90EE90;">Continuous improvement</span>  <b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)  <b>City lead:</b> Fleur Storaas-Hogan, Manager, Emergency Management and Environmental Sustainability, Transportation Dept.	Between 2014 and 2025, over \$643K in building permit fees were waived through Burlington’s Plumbing Permit Fee Grant Program, \$76K of which was in 2025.  Between 2014 and 2025, 1,858 subsidies were provided through Halton Region’s Enhanced Basement Flooding Prevention Subsidy Program totaling over \$3.7M, \$593K of which was in 2025 (252 subsidies). An additional 1,170 homes participated in Halton’s Targeted Downspout Disconnection Program which ran from 2016 to 2019. <sup>7</sup>  In September 2025, Halton Region approved the enhanced <a href="#">Basement Flooding Prevention Subsidy Program</a> increasing the maximum eligible rebate amount and backdating to the July 15, 2024 flood. A new program – <a href="#">Exterior Storm Drain Disconnection</a> – was also added.  Ongoing promotions of programs on the <a href="#">City’s flood prevention webpage</a> , <a href="#">Take Action Burlington blog</a> , an information card distributed at events, and through the <a href="#">Better Homes Burlington</a> concierge service.
4-5: Enhance existing policies, programs and education programming for private stormwater management practices.	Encourage increased permeability on public and private sites  - In 2025, Conservation Halton staff hosted online and in-person workshops to plan home landscapes for flood prevention. Information on how floods are predicted and managed in our watershed was shared.

<sup>7</sup> This Data was provided by The Regional Municipality of Halton and the Region assumes no responsibility or liability for its use or accuracy.

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encourage increased permeability on public and private sites</li> <li>- Continue existing program to encourage property owners to remove stormwater from the wastewater system</li> <li>- Encourage ongoing inspection and maintenance of potential flood risks on property</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Original completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>Revised completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Umar Malik, Stormwater Engineer, Development, Eng. Dept.</p>	<p>Continue existing program to encourage property owners to remove stormwater from the wastewater system and encourage ongoing inspection and maintenance of potential flood risks on property.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As noted in actions 4-2 and 4-4, City staff continued to promote multiple programs through various means.</li> </ul> <p>Encourage ongoing inspection and maintenance of potential flood risks on property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2025, the City started a City-wide stormwater masterplan that will assess the flood vulnerability across the City and make recommendations to reduce flood risk. The plan will be presented to Council in 2027.</li> </ul>

### Theme 5: Strong and Resilient Economy

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 5
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Support agricultural community in preparing for climate change	
<b>Indicator:</b> TBD through the Agricultural Action Plan. <b>Target:</b> TBD.	n/a
<p>5-1: Pursue approval to develop a Burlington Agricultural Action Plan that includes a climate lens and considers opportunities to complement partner agency initiatives.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p>	<p>In July 2025, the Burlington Agricultural Action Plan (<a href="#">DGM-47-25</a>) was approved by City Council. Planning staff are working with the Burlington Agricultural and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee to develop recommendations on which actions should be prioritized for short- and medium-term implementation.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 5
<p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027 - V2F states Q4 2025)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> John Stuart, Senior Planner, Policy, Community Planning Dept.</p>	
<p>5-2: Expand the opportunities to support local food production across the City of Burlington (such as community gardens, rooftop gardens, backyard gardening, etc.)</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Continuous improvement</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Denise Beard, Senior Manager, Community Development, RCC Dept.</p>	<p>The Burlington Food Bank converted eight of their community gardening plots located on Maple Ave. into raised beds for more accessible gardening.</p> <p>Eight more community garden plots were added to the overall inventory in 2025.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 5
<b>LOCAL ECONOMY</b>	
<b>Goal:</b> Support and develop resilient local supply chains to help withstand impacts associated with extreme climate events outside of Burlington	
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of new local supply chain partners. <b>Target:</b> 10 by 2032.	<b>2025 update:</b> 0
<b>Indicator:</b> Number of new products piloted. <b>Target:</b> 10 by 2032	<b>2025 update:</b> 0
<p>5-3: Assess the feasibility of sourcing and providing preference to local suppliers in contracts to increase resilience with supply chain disruptions</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Started</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Izabela Goclik, Manager, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Burlington Economic Development and Tourism (BEDT)</p>	<p>Initial work is underway with TechPlace, Innovation Factory, and other partners mapping local vendors and procurement capabilities. This will guide where local preference is feasible within City contracts while staying compliant with procurement rules. Next steps include clarifying constraints with City staff and procurement processes. The work will continue over the next three to five years as data and partnerships mature.</p>

Action/Status/Completion Date/Lead (s)	2025 Updates / Year 5
<p>5-4: Investigate the feasibility to develop a business innovation ecosystem where locally developed products can be tested to encourage the development of local supply chains and innovative products</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Started</p> <p><b>Completion date:</b> 3-5 years (end of 2027)</p> <p><b>City lead:</b> Izabela Goclik, Manager, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, BEDT</p>	<p>TechPlace is already supporting a local business innovation ecosystem by connecting startups, scale-ups, post-secondary institutions, and industry partners. Member showcases and partnerships create opportunities for product testing and proof-of-concept activities. Co-location at the Bateman Community Centre with Brock University and the Public Library strengthens these efforts, which will expand over the next three to five years.</p>

# Appendix C: CRB Year 4 Progress Update – Funding Sources

Climate Resilient Burlington (CRB): A Plan for Adapting to Our Warmer, Wetter and Wilder Weather was presented as a draft to City Council in [May 2022](#) and approved in [July 2022](#). Implementation of the CRB plan is underway to help manage Burlington’s risks and increase resiliency to warmer, wetter, and wilder weather.

The Year 4 Update reports on the status of the 32 actions. Each action is funded independently, and the funding status varies. This appendix summarizes the funding from various sources for CRB related initiatives completed in 2025 that assist in advancing climate resiliency.

2025 Initiative	Investment
1-3: Review and if necessary, update design standards for City infrastructure to account for future climate conditions in alignment with Federal and Provincial initiatives, and Burlington's net carbon neutral goals.	Stormwater Master Plan (2025-2027) - \$751K Source: Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund  <a href="#">Skyway Community Centre and Arena</a> low carbon design - \$1M grant Source: Canada’s Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program  <a href="#">Protected bike lanes on Prospect St.</a> - \$3M with \$704,190 received in 2025 Source: Active Transportation Fund, Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada
1-4: Develop Lake shoreline flood management strategy augmenting existing plans to incorporate future climate projections and impacts to protect City assets (parkland and infrastructure).	Burlington Beach Regional Waterfront Park – Phase One, Shoreline Protection and Ecological Restoration  Source: <a href="#">Canada Water Agency’s Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative</a> - \$995M grant over four years

2025 Initiative	Investment
	<p><a href="#">Lake Ontario Coastal Resilience Pilot Project</a> - \$1.5M grant</p> <p>Source: Natural Resources Canada Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities program</p>
<p>1-5: Enhance creek flood protection plan.</p>	<p>Stormwater/Flood Studies - \$150K</p> <p>Source: Stormwater Capital Budget</p>
<p>1-9: Maintain level of service for tree pruning and enhance risk assessment protocol in areas with above-ground powerlines, near major roads, near fire stations, etc.</p>	<p>Grid pruning annual budget - \$945K</p> <p>Source: RPF operating budget</p>
<p>2-3: Invest and support implementation of Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP).</p>	<p>The \$861K annual budget for Emerald Ash Borer Management was redirected in 2025 to UFMP initiatives.</p> <p>Source: RPF operating budget</p>
<p>2-4: Invest in green infrastructure to reduce flood risk, enhance habitat connectivity and support other ecosystem services</p>	<p>5,000 trees planted annually on public and private land - \$257K</p> <p>Source: RPF operating budget</p> <p>BurlingtonGreen application for tree planting events - \$8,900</p> <p>Source: Trees Canada</p> <p><a href="#">Tyandaga Eco Trail Upgrades</a> (plantings - \$5,816)</p> <p>Source: Zero-Carbon Transformation, Green Municipal Fund</p> <p>Hardscape Planting: Standards and Specifications - \$72,547.50</p> <p>Source: Capital Project – Policies and Procedures</p>

2025 Initiative	Investment
	<p>Nine Landowner Grants awarded to nine projects in Burlington - \$36,511.81</p> <p>Source: Conservation Halton</p>
<p>3-5: Incorporate shade (natural and built) and opportunities for cooling with water play as well as water fountains and bottle filling stations for access to free hydration into park development</p>	<p>Port Nelson Park - two shade structures (\$106K, including concrete pad and seating) and drinking fountain (\$78K, including concrete pad and water service)</p> <p>Source: Parks Capital Budget</p> <p>Skyway Park shade structures - \$27K</p> <p>Source: Infrastructure and Park Renewal Reserve Fund</p>
<p>4-4: Promote and augment existing programs for home and business climate resilience retrofits.</p>	<p><a href="#">Plumbing Permit Fee Grant Program</a> - \$76K (163 rebates)</p> <p>Source: Operating budget</p> <p><a href="#">Home Flood Protection Program</a> - \$855 (3 assessments)</p> <p>Source: Stormwater Capital Budget</p> <p><a href="#">Halton Region Basement Flooding Prevention Subsidy Program</a> - \$593K (252 subsidies)</p> <p>Source: Halton Region</p>

February 16, 2026

**Re: Item for Discussion – Elect Respect**

At its meeting of February 11, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #26-GC-009, regarding Elect Respect, as follows:

“WHEREAS democracy is healthy when everyone is able to participate fully and safely and contribute to the well-being of their community;

AND WHEREAS we are witnessing the dissolution of democratic discourse and respectful debate across all levels of government and in neighbouring jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS Ontario’s municipally elected officials are dealing with increasingly hostile, unsafe work environments facing threats and harassment;

AND WHEREAS social media platforms have exacerbated disrespectful dialogue, negative commentary, and toxic engagement which disincentivizes individuals, especially women and candidates from diverse backgrounds from running for office;

AND WHEREAS better decisions are made when democracy is respectful and constructive and the voices of diverse genders, identities, ethnicities, races, sexual orientation, ages and abilities are heard and represented around municipal council tables;

AND WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario’s Healthy Democracy Project has identified concerning trends with fewer people voting in local elections and running for municipal office;

AND WHEREAS in 2024, female elected representatives from across Halton formed a group called H.E.R. (Halton Elected Representatives) which pledged to speak out against harassment and negativity in politics and call on elected officials to uphold the highest standards of conduct;

AND WHEREAS H.E.R. Halton has launched a campaign called *Elect Respect* to promote the importance of healthy democracy and safe, inclusive, respectful work environments for all elected officials that encourages individuals to participate in the political process;

AND WHEREAS on June 5, 2025, the Canadian Association of Feminist Parliamentarians launched a non-partisan “Parliamentary Civility Pledge” to encourage all parliamentarians to commit to end workplace harassment and increase civility on Parliament Hill, modelled after the pledge developed in Halton by representatives of H.E.R.;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Bracebridge supports the *Elect Respect* pledge and commits to:

- Treat others with respect in all spaces—public, private, and online;
- Reject and call out harassment, abuse, and personal attacks;
- Focus debate on ideas and policies, not personal attacks;
- Help build a supportive culture where people of all backgrounds feel safe to run for and hold office;
- Call on relevant authorities to ensure the protection of elected officials who face abuse or threats; and,
- Model integrity and respect by holding one another to the highest standards of conduct.

AND FURTHER THAT Bracebridge Council calls on elected officials, organizations and community members to support the *Elect Respect* campaign and sign the online pledge at [www.electrespect.ca](http://www.electrespect.ca).

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Muskoka Parry Sound MP and MPP, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ontario Provincial Police (Bracebridge Detachment), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and all Ontario municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,



Lori McDonald  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



## TOWNSHIP OF JOLY

P.O. Box 519 , Sundridge , Ontario , P0A 1Z0  
Tel: 705-384-5428

February 10, 2026

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution # 2026-061**

**Agenda Item # 5.2 Support for steel and lumber sectors**

**Moved By :** Bill Black

**Seconded By :** Tom Bryson

**Council for the Corporation of the Township of Joly hereby Supports The Township of Nairn and Hyman Resolution #2025-14-247;**

**WHEREAS** the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) has issued a media release dated November 26, 2025, welcoming the Government of Canada's new measures to support the steel and softwood lumber sectors in response to ongoing U.S. tariff pressures; and

**WHEREAS** the federal actions-including strengthened protections for domestic producers, expanded financial supports, and increased incentives to utilize Canadian steel and lumber in federal infrastructure and housing projects-represent important steps in stabilizing industries that are vital to Northern Ontario's economy; and

**WHEREAS** municipalities across the North continue to experience the economic impacts of industry closures, including the recent shutdown of Domtar a pulp and paper mill in the neighboring Town of Espanola, which has demonstrated the vulnerability of resource-dependent communities and the need for coordinated intergovernmental support; and

**WHEREAS** the Township of Joly recognizes the significant role of Interfor, our local soft-wood lumber mill, as a major employer and economic anchor in our region, and further recognizes that any threat to its continued operation would have devastating consequences for workers, families, and local businesses; and

**WHEREAS** the Province of Ontario has a shared responsibility to ensure the long-term sustainability of the forestry, lumber, and steel sectors, which are foundational to the economic wellbeing of Northern and rural communities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Township of Joly commends the Government of Canada for its leadership and for implementing substantial measures to support Canada's steel and softwood lumber industries during this period of trade volatility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Council respectfully urges the Government of Ontario to introduce additional financial, regulatory, and policy-based supports to ensure that Ontario's steel, forestry, and lumber sectors remain competitive, resilient, and able to withstand ongoing international trade pressures; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Council specifically calls upon the Province of Ontario to work directly with industry stakeholders, including municipalities and major employers such as Interfor, to create programs and investments that will help protect jobs, maintain production capacity, and support long-term industry growth in Northern Ontario; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT** a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, the Minister of Northern Development, FONOM, MP, MPP all Ontario Municipalities.

**Carried**

**Original Copy Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mayor**

**Township of Joly**



## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Phone: (807) 274-5323 | Fax: (807) 274-8479

Mailing Address: 320 Portage Avenue  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Email: [town@fortfrances.ca](mailto:town@fortfrances.ca)

Website: [www.FortFrances.ca](http://www.FortFrances.ca)

February 18, 2026

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is to formally inform you that at the Regular Council Meeting of February 9, 2026, the following oral motion was carried by Mayor and Council:

Oral Motion:

THAT Council make a resolution of support for the "Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund" Edwardsburgh Cardinal resolution.

**Mover:** Wendy Brunetta

**Seconder:** John McTaggart

**Result:** CARRIED

Thank You / Merci / Miigwech,

Ally Lewis  
Deputy Clerk

# TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

Resolution Number 2025-253

September 29, 2025

Moved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded By: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal acknowledges that municipal infrastructure—roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems—underpins public safety, economic vitality and quality of life in Ontario’s rural and small urban communities;

WHEREAS the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) was created in 2015 to assist small and rural municipalities facing infrastructure deficits that exceed their local revenue capacities;

WHEREAS in 2022 the Government of Ontario committed to increase the annual OCIF envelope from \$100 million to \$400 million over a five-year term, with that commitment scheduled to expire at the end of fiscal 2026;

WHEREAS fixed funding levels amid rising labour, materials and climate resilience costs have eroded the purchasing power of the \$400 million envelope, jeopardizing municipalities’ ability to deliver and sustain essential services without incurring unsustainable debt;

WHEREAS predictable, multi-year funding indexed to real-world cost drivers is critical for municipalities to develop, finance and execute long-term asset management plans, reduce emergency repairs and leverage complementary federal and private infrastructure financing;

WHEREAS the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal requires a steadfast provincial partner to extend and enhance OCIF beyond 2026, ensuring infrastructure resilience, fiscal sustainability and equitable access for all small and rural municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1. The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal calls upon the Government of Ontario to extend the annual OCIF envelope at not less than \$400 million beyond its current five-year term ending in 2026, with no reductions in subsequent provincial budgets.
2. The Province be requested to index the total annual OCIF envelope—and each individual municipal allocation—to the Ontario Consumer Price Index (CPI), calculated on a calendar-year basis and disbursed in the first quarter of each fiscal year.
3. The Ministry of Infrastructure establish a new five-year OCIF funding framework that guarantees annual envelopes and allocation percentages by municipality, enabling long-term capital planning and stable cash-flow management.
4. The Province undertake a formal review of the OCIF allocation formula at least once every four years, incorporating current municipal asset management data,

# TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL

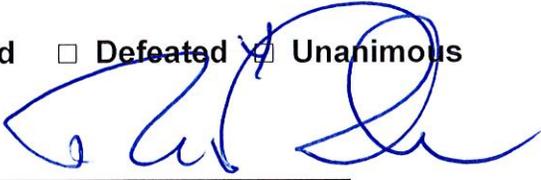
September 29, 2025

Resolution Number: 2025- 253

demographic projections, climate resilience metrics and rural equity considerations.

5. A dedicated contingency reserve equal to 5 percent of the annual OCIF envelope be created within the fund to address extraordinary cost escalations, emergency repairs or project overruns without reallocating core funding.
6. The Ministry of Infrastructure publish an annual OCIF performance report—including program disbursements, allocation adjustments and reserve expenditures—in a transparent, publicly accessible online dashboard.
7. The Clerk of the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal forward this resolution to:
  - o The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
  - o The Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
  - o The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
  - o The Honourable Francois-Phillipe Champagne, Minister of Finance
  - o Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
  - o Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
  - o Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
  - o The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville
  - o All upper- and lower-tier municipalities in Ontario

Carried     Defeated     Unanimous

Mayor: 

RECORDED VOTE REQUESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME	YEA	NAY
Councillor J. Martelle		
Councillor W. Smail		
Councillor C. Ward		
Deputy Mayor S. Dillabough		
Mayor T. Deschamps		
TOTAL		



## TOWNSHIP OF JOLY

P.O. Box 519 , Sundridge , Ontario , P0A 1Z0  
Tel: 705-384-5428

February 10, 2026

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution # 2026-060**

**Agenda Item # 5.1 Nation Building Improvements to Highways 11/17**

**Moved By :** Budd Brown

**Seconded By :** Bill Black

**WHEREAS** Canada's east-west trade and national mobility rely on the Trans-Canada Highway system, including Highways 17 and 11 across Northern and Eastern Ontario, which carry significant freight volumes but remain predominantly two-lane corridors;

**AND WHEREAS** four-laning the entirety of Highway 17 is the ultimate goal of the communities along the corridor;

**AND WHEREAS** the proven "2+1" highway design - alternating passing lanes with a continuous median barrier - delivers safety outcomes comparable to full twinning at substantially lower cost, land, and environmental impact, and can be scaled or converted to four lanes (2+2) as volumes grow;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has announced a 2+1 pilot between North Bay and Temagami and a further extension toward Cochrane, creating a near-term implementation pathway;

**AND WHEREAS** modernizing Highways 17 and 11 will improve safety, reduce closures, strengthen supply-chain reliability for mining, forestry, agriculture, tourism and manufacturing, and enhance national resilience and emergency response capacity;

**AND WHEREAS** a phased 2+1 build - prioritizing Highway 11 (North Bay --> Cochrane, then Cochrane --> Nipigon) and key sections of Highway 17 (western border of County of Renfrew--> Sudbury; Sault Ste. Marie--> Sudbury; Thunder Bay--> Kenora) - aligns with nation-building criteria, supports economic reconciliation with indigenous partners, and enables integrated EV charging and low-carbon construction practices;

**AND WHEREAS** analysis summarized by the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, (FONOM) demonstrates high freight demand on these routes and strong safety / economic rationale for a 2+1 program;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Joly formally endorses the adoption and phased implementation of a 2+1 highway program on Highways 17 and 11 as a nation-building project;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Canada be urged to designate this initiative as a project of national interest under the Building Canada Act and to partner with Ontario to co-fund and accelerate planning, design, procurement, and construction;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Ontario be urged to expand the announced pilot to a corridor-wide program, sequencing works according to readiness, safety benefit and economic importance;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Ontario prioritize these projects into the Ministry of Transportation's Major Projects Division;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** both governments ensure early, ongoing, and capacity supported engagement with affected Indigenous Nations, with opportunities for Indigenous training, contracting, and equity participation ;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the program incorporate corridor-wide safety features (barrier-separated 2+1 cross-sections, controlled passing frequency, wildlife considerations), resilience measures (closure mitigation, climate adaptation), and clean-growth elements (EV charging readiness, recycled aggregates, lower-carbon materials) ;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this Resolution be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Transport (Canada), the Minister of infrastructure (Canada), the Ontario Minister of Transportation, our local MP and MPP, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) for support, and the County of Renfrew for information.

**Carried**

**Original Copy Signed**  
**Mayor**  
**Township of Joly**



## TOWNSHIP OF JOLY

P.O. Box 519 , Sundridge , Ontario , P0A 1Z0  
Tel: 705-384-5428

February 10, 2026

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution # 2026-062**

**Agenda Item # 5.3** Support Opposition to consolidation of Conservation Authorities

**Moved By :** Tom Bryson

**Seconded By :** Chris Nicholson

Council for the Corporation of the Township of Joly hereby support the Town of Kingsville Resolution number 195-11172025.

**Whereas** the Conservation Authorities Act, 1990 (the “Act”), originally enacted in 1946, was established to allow municipalities to form conservation authorities that are equipped to develop and deliver local, watershed-based conservation, restoration and natural resource management programs on behalf of the province and municipalities;

**And whereas** there are thirty-six (36) conservation authorities in Ontario, each of which is distinct and reflects the unique environmental, geographic and community needs of its watershed;

**And whereas** on October 31, 2025, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks announced the Government’s intention to introduce legislation which would amend the Act to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency and consolidate Ontario’s 36 conservation authorities into seven (7) regional conservation authorities.

NOW Therefore Be It Resolved Council for the Corporation of The Township of Joly:

- Wishes to formally state that it opposes the consolidation of Ontario’s conservation authorities without knowing the full financial and operational impact to municipalities and the conservation authorities; and,
- Directs the Municipal Administrator to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, the Honourable Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Anthony Leardi, MPP, AMCTO, AMO and all Ontario Municipalities.

**Carried**

**Original copy Signed**

**Mayor**

**Township of Joly**



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February 19, 2026

**The Honourable Doug Ford**

Premier of Ontario

**The Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria**

Minister of Transportation

Province of Ontario

**Re: Municipal Support for School Bus Safety and Stop-Arm Camera Systems**

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Sarkaria,

On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Peterborough, I am writing to express our strong support for enhanced school bus safety measures across Ontario, including the implementation of school bus stop-arm camera systems and other child-safety technologies.

Illegal passing of stopped school buses remains a serious and widespread issue throughout the province, occurring an estimated 30,000 times per day. These violations place children at unacceptable risk and continue to result in preventable injuries and fatalities. Municipalities require effective, modern enforcement tools to address this dangerous behaviour.

The County of Peterborough supports provincial investment in and expansion of school bus stop-arm camera systems under Part XIV.3 (School Bus Camera Systems) of the Highway Traffic Act. These systems have demonstrated success in deterring illegal passing, improving driver compliance, and strengthening accountability. Provincial

funding and implementation support would help ensure municipalities of all sizes can deploy this technology equitably.

We also support the Let's Remember Adam – Stop for the School Bus campaign, launched in memory of Adam Ranger, a five-year-old child who tragically lost his life when a driver failed to stop for a school bus displaying its flashing lights and stop arm. This tragedy highlights the urgent need for continued public education, enforcement, and the use of technology to better protect children travelling to and from school.

We respectfully call on the Province of Ontario to provide municipalities with the necessary funding tools, legislative support, and implementation guidance to advance school bus stop-arm camera systems and complementary child-safety initiatives across Ontario.

Protecting children on our roads is a shared responsibility. Through strong provincial leadership and municipal partnership, meaningful progress can be made to prevent further tragedies and enhance road safety for families across Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Bonnie Clark

Warden

County of Peterborough

cc:

The Honourable Steve Clark, Government House Leader

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Ontario Municipalities

**Township of Southgate  
Administration Office**  
185667 Grey County Road 9, RR 1  
Dundalk, ON N0C 1B0



**Phone:** 519-923-2110  
**Toll Free:** 1-888-560-6607  
**Fax:** 519-923-9262  
**Web:** www.southgate.ca

February 20, 2026

**Re: Township of Southgate – Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025**

Please be advised that at the February 18, 2026, regular Council meeting, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Southgate, approved the following:

No. 2026-073

**Moved By** Councillor Shipston

**Seconded By** Councillor Ferguson

**WHEREAS** arable land is a critical finite resource; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario loses as much as 319 acres of farmland a day; and

**WHEREAS** Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Township of Southgate support Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations; and

**That** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Paul Vickers, Senator Rob Black, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (519) 923-2110.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Green, Clerk  
Township of Southgate

CC: Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture Food and Agribusiness  
Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks  
Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs  
Honourable Victor Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade  
MPP Paul Vickers – Bruce – Grey – Owen Sound  
Senator Rob Black  
Ontario Federation of Agriculture  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
Municipalities in Ontario



## NEWS RELEASE

### Ontario Public Works Association Announces 2026 Executive Committee and Board of Directors

The Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA) is pleased to announce its 2026 Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as presented for election at the Association's recent Annual General Meeting.

OPWA will be led in 2026 by a six-member Executive Committee and a 14-member Board of Directors, providing a strong mix of public and private sector public works professionals committed to leadership excellence, sector collaboration, and advancing public works innovation across Ontario.

#### Executive Committee – 2026

OPWA is pleased to announce that **Marco Bertoia, City of Toronto**, will serve as **President for 2026**, having been elected President-Elect in 2025.

The following public works professionals were elected to serve as Executive Officers for the 2026 term:

- **President-Elect** - **Denise McGoldrick, City of Kitchener**
- **Vice President** - **Mariana Balaban, Norfolk County**
- **Past President** - **Max Ross, Retired**
- **Treasurer** - **Erik Nickel, City of Niagara Falls**
- **Secretary** - **Margie Chung**
- **APWA Council of Chapters Ontario Delegate** - **Ed Dujlovic, Retired**
- **CPWA Director** - **Angela Storey, City of Hamilton**

#### Board of Directors – 2026

Newly elected Directors:

- **Fariha Mannan, Region of Durham**
- **Angela Carley, TYLin**
- **Dave Ferguson, City of Brantford**
- **Enrico Stradiotto, Canadian Concrete Pipe & Precast Association**
- **Don Kudo, County of Wellington**
- **Haider Nasrullah, DeepRoot**



**Ontario Public Works Association**

Box 172, Main Post Office  
Port Perry Ontario  
L9L1A2

<https://ontario.apwa.org>

Continuing Directors:

- **Hiran Sandanayake, City of Ottawa**
- **Geoff Britnell**
- **Joseph Petrungaro, Region of York**
- **Mark Cavanaugh, Region of Durham**
- **Mark Zamojc, GEI**
- **Tracey Anastacio, City of Brampton**
- **Doug Keenie, R.J. Burnside & Associates**
- **Philip Rowe, R.J. Burnside & Associates**

At the Annual General Meeting, President **Marco Bertoia** outlined his vision for the year ahead:

“In 2026, OPWA will continue to strengthen connections across Ontario’s public works community, support professional development, and champion excellence in municipal infrastructure and service delivery. This Board brings together experienced leaders from across the province who are committed to collaboration, innovation, and supporting municipalities as they plan, build, and maintain critical public infrastructure.”

**Contact:**

**Ontario Public Works Association (OPWA)**

Email: [info@opwa.ca](mailto:info@opwa.ca)

Website: <https://ontario.apwa.org>