

MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE



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TO: Chair and members of the Environment and Climate Protection Committee

DESTINATAIRE : Président et membre du Comité de l'environnement et de la protection climatique

FROM: John Smit, Director  
Economic Development and Long  
Range Planning / Planning,  
Infrastructure, and Economic  
Development Department

*Contact :*  
*Jennifer Brown, Project Manager*  
*Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic*  
*Development Department*  
*613-580-2424, ext. 27914*  
*Jennifer.Brown@ottawa.ca*

EXPÉDITEUR : John Smit, Directeur  
Développement économique et  
Planification à long terme / Direction  
générale de la planification, de  
l'infrastructure et du développement  
économique

*Personne ressource :*  
*Jennifer Brown, Gestionnaire de projet*  
*Direction générale de la planification, de*  
*l'infrastructure et du développement*  
*économique*  
*613-580-2424, poste 27914*  
*Jennifer.Brown@ottawa.ca*

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FILE NUMBER: ACS2018-PIE-EDP-0038

**SUBJECT: Proposed Corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Reduction Target**

**OBJET : Objectif proposé de réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre de la Ville**

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to describe a proposed reduction target for GHG emissions generated by the City of Ottawa that is:

- Consistent with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection program's recommended target setting and the targets of other comparable Canadian municipalities; and
- To be considered as part of the planned 2019 review of the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan.

## BACKGROUND

In May 2014, Council approved an update to the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan ([ACS2014-COS-ESD-0011](#)) which included setting a corporate target for "no increase in corporate GHG emissions between 2012 and 2024". In March 2018, the *AQCCMP Update on Strategic Initiatives* IPD ([ACS2018-PIE-EDP-0012](#)) stated that in June 2018, staff would bring forward recommendations for establishing a new corporate GHG reduction target to better align with other Canadian municipalities and to meet the City's membership requirements under EnviroCentre's Carbon 613 program.

## DISCUSSION

In May 2014, Council approved an update to the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan (ACS2014-COS-ESD-0011) which set a short term corporate GHG reduction target for "no increase in corporate GHG emissions between 2012 and 2024". Council also approved two community GHG emission reduction targets:

- a short term target to reduce emissions 12 per cent below 2012 baseline levels by 2024 as part of the approved 2014 Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan update, and
- a long term target to reduce emissions 80 per cent below 2012 levels by 2050 as part of a motion in February 2016 (ACS2016-CMR-ENV-0001)

In June 2016, the City joined EnviroCentre's Carbon 613 program as both a member and a program catalyst. Carbon 613 is a made in Ottawa, target-based sustainability program that provides businesses with the tools and knowledge to track and reduce emissions generated as a result of their operations and services. Members are required

to set a 10 year GHG reduction target within three years of joining the program. The target can be set relative to a baseline year selected by the member.

The March 2018 IPD (ACS2018-PIE-EDP-0012) stated that staff will bring forward recommendations for establishing a new corporate GHG reduction target to meet Carbon 613 membership requirements. These recommendations would be brought forward to the June 2018 Environment and Climate Protection Committee meeting, and staff would aim to align corporate targets with those of other Canadian municipalities.

To that end, staff are proposing to set a corporate GHG emissions reduction target of 20 per cent below 2012 baseline levels by 2024. The proposed target is to be considered for approval as part of the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan review in 2019, and will be recommended based on the following:

- The proposed 20 per cent target is consistent with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Partners for Climate Protection program's recommended target setting and the targets of other comparable Canadian municipalities.
- The proposed 2012 baseline would align with the Council approved short and long-term community GHG emission reduction target.
- The proposed 2024 end date would align with the Council approved short-term community GHG emissions reduction target.

## CONCLUSION

Staff will be working on the next community and corporate GHG emissions inventory in collaboration with the newly contracted Sustainability Solutions Group (SSG) over the summer of 2018. Inventories are undertaken every four calendar years and so far have been completed for the 2004, 2006, and 2012 calendar years. This work will strengthen the inventory reporting methodology and the accuracy of the findings. Additionally, this work will help to further inform the setting of the corporate GHG emissions reduction target when it is discussed as part of the 2019 review of the Air Quality and Climate Change Management Plan.

*Original signed by*

John Smit

CC: Marica Clarke, Program Manager, Resiliency and Natural Systems Planning

Jennifer Brown, Project Manager – Environmental Program, Resiliency and Natural Systems Planning