

Municipal Climate Action Progress Reporting

Introduction

The Grey Bruce Climate Action Network (GBCAN) has developed the following list of actionable metrics that can be used to measure the progress of any municipality in Grey or Bruce toward climate awareness and effective action. Our expectation is that municipal targets and timelines would be shared with the public, regularly monitored, and progress against them reported at least annually.

We envision that reporting on progress should be given directly to local Climate Action Teams, posted on municipal websites and social media, included in municipal newsletters in water bills and tax bills and regularly presented in open public sessions.

Glossary

- CC; Climate change
- CA; Climate Action
- CAT: Climate Action Team - citizen based
- CAC: Climate Action Committee - official municipal committee of council for Climate Action, including citizen membership
- CtyB: Grey County Benchmarks; Bruce County benchmarks as they become available
- CtyCCAP: Grey County Climate Action Plan, Bruce County Plan is in progress now
- GHG: Greenhouse Gas emissions

Municipal Climate Action Progress Metrics

Community Engagement

Metric	Started	Underway	Ongoing
Municipal Climate Action Committee	A CAC is formed, with municipal staff and/or Councillors and citizens	CAC members are engaged & reporting back to constituency	Council demonstrably acts on CAC recommendations
Or Citizen CAT with Councillor as member	A CAT is formed with representation from municipal council	CAT has regular access to council to make recommendations for action	Council acts on CAT recommendations
Stakeholder consultation on OP, Strategic Plan, other key documents where citizen input is adopted	Climate and environmental groups in the community are known to staff and pro-actively engaged	Open houses/consultation process engages the whole community, feedback on climate awareness and action is incorporated	Evidence of public feedback on climate awareness and action being incorporated and used in decision - making
Climate Action in community engagement or awareness raising	Municipal staff/councillors seek funding to support citizen action, other opportunities to educate and incentivize local businesses and citizens/households	For example: property taxes reflect GHG emissions reductions, building footprint. Regular communication to residents regarding available funding/ Education opportunities/financial incentives	Levels of climate change-related jobs and employees in the community are rising, Business and household GHG emissions are dropping

Climate Planning/Sustainability Planning

Metric	Started	Underway	Ongoing
Climate Action Plan starting with Corporate and community energy audit/GHG inventory	Municipality has joined FCM-PCP; Council has budgeted for a CAP at least at the corporate level	Milestone 1 is completed and a CAP is in progress being written with commitment to include community level targets and align with Grey/Bruce County CAP. Energy Management Plan is documented for reduction of corporate GHG including buildings, fleet, waste and water	-CAP completed including community targets; -Resource allocation sufficient to develop/implement the plan; -Changes in GHG emissions and risk levels monitored and reported annually;
CC/CA embedded into Strategic Plan/Official Plan/Operating Plans	CC/CA included in Strategic Plan, Official Plan and operating plans as priority direction	CA policies written into OP Targets set for achievement for each department	-Metrics on Targets reported out at least annually to all stakeholders, including -GHG inventories, -GHG targets & climate change action items in Official Plans & municipal Strategic Plans. -Metrics reported against County Benchmarks, some metrics are biannual only
Integration of Climate Plan across corporate/ community	Corporate targets only (Buildings, fleet, operations, waste/water)	Corporate and community targets aligned with County Benchmarks	Implementation of corporate and community actions monitored against County benchmarks
Decarbonization objective (carbon neutral targets by year and decade)	Targets set for: - Reduce by 45% by 2030 -Carbon neutral by 2050	Targets set, costed and monitored; - Corporate Fund for retrofit - Community Energy Investment Fund for resident retrofit - reflect provincial & federal funding	Annual Report against targets set out for all stakeholders re: GHG emissions and reductions demonstrated. Costing report published.

<p>Climate Risk Management</p> <p>'Adaptation'</p>	<p>Emergency Management Plan includes potential climate change impacts</p>	<p>EM Plan and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (HIRA) include climate change impacts and Investment strategy</p>	<p>- Regular monitoring and reports on Impacts from weather extremes</p> <p>Impacts from extreme weather demonstrably reduced eg. flooding</p>
<p>Climate lens (see climate lens tools available)</p>	<p>Climate lens tool mandated by council and available for use in corporate decision making</p>	<p>Climate lens tool used/applied/implemented in all departments</p> <p>-business decisions including procurement reflected on all staff reports to council</p>	<p>-Staff presents a climate lens assessment with all notice of motions and reports</p>

Land Use Planning

Metric	Started	Underway	Ongoing
Official Plan	Update is fully climate change literate, both in mitigation and adaptation	-Policies and by-laws are enacted and being followed for mitigation and adaptation	Measurements of reduced emissions and risks from extreme events are ongoing and fully reported annually
Natural Infrastructure is protected for its role in adaptation (eg flooding, stormwater) and mitigation (eg. Carbon sequestration)	Inventory of existing features complete (MNAI eg.) Objectives documented by specific geographical location Carbon sequestration scoring adopted	-Policy and By-laws in place for protection and restoration of identified features -Reserve funds available to address climate change mitigation as necessary; -Resources assigned -Targets / measurable impacts documented eg. Tree planting, wetlands protection bylaws	- Existing NI is incorporated into new developments; - Restoration and preservation are ongoing in built environments/land use planning. -Carbon sequestration score increases annually -Urban Tree Canopy Plan is in place and being implemented with annual reporting
Climate action includes social justice goals in planning bylaws	Climate related Social Justice Goals documented in Official Plan policies UN SDGs adopted by Council	Bylaws amended to align with climate and social justice goals	- Bylaw reporting metrics account for climate action goals - Outcomes related to climate justice and social objectives
Climate lens -see climate lens tool above	Climate lens tool adopted/available for decision making	Climate lens tool applied to bylaw review, development strategy/planning	All Decisions re: land use planning decisions documented acc to Climate Lens tool
Alignment with Grey or Bruce County CAP	Official Plan reviewed in relation to county CCAP	Documented alignment metrics with county CCAP	Alignment metrics reported out at least annually to community/CA committee

Corporate Objectives

Metric	Started	Underway	Ongoing
Investment strategy	Plans are in place/documented to move Reserve funds to fossil-free investment portfolio	Reserve funds are being moved to fossil-free and ESG/responsible investment funds	Increasing percentage of reserve funds are in fossil-free and ESG investment funds
Climate active governance in place;	Climate targets set in all upper management and council performance documents. -hiring qualifications in place, climate coordinator/manager hired and reports directly to CAO. Performance review/hiring of CAO reflects climate change priorities	Climate targets in all municipal employee's performance documents and monitoring built in. Climate manager has open lines to all departments	Reductions in GHG emissions are measured and reported by department. Risk reduction (adaptation) measures taking place and resulting reduced risk is measured.
Climate active corporate culture: eg. Jobs, technical capacity, resources	Training programs identified, -green practices such as recycling, plastic bottle ban, window shades etc.	Training ongoing, -Best practices are adopted	Employee performance measures include GHG reductions where applicable
Asset Management Plan (AMP)	AMP being developed acc to O.Reg 588/17; incl natural infrastructure inventory	AMP approved	AMP implemented and reported out at least annually to all stakeholders; full incorporation and use, maintenance and monitoring