

# Oakville Energy Task Force Meeting #3

## Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2019

### Opening

The third regular meeting was called to order at 9:00am on May 22, 2019 in Bronte and Palermo Rooms by Michelle McCollum, Co-Chair for the Oakville Energy Task Force.

### Present

#### Oakville Energy Task Force

##### In person:

- **David Anders** (proxy for John Matthiesen), Enbridge Gas
- **Mike Branch**, Geotab
- **Karen Brock**, Oakvillegreen
- **Suzanne Burwell** (proxy for Maia Puccetti), Halton District School Board
- **Lisa Kohler**, Halton Environmental Network
- **Peter Longo**, Councillor, Town of Oakville
- **Ryan Merrick**, Halton Catholic District School Board
- **Michelle McCollum**, Sheridan College
- **Scott Mudie**, Oakville Hydro
- **Sue Mills**, Enbridge Gas
- **Carl Pawlowski** (proxy for Roya Khaleeli), Minto
- **Harry Shea**, Public-at-large
- **Pauline Watson**, Public-at-large

##### Remote:

- **Kyle Boynton**, Hatch
- **Fraser Damoff**, Independent Electricity Supply Operator (IESO)

- **Erin Hotrum**, Ford Motor Company
- **John Raulph**, Ford Motor Company
- **Josh Shook**, Ministry of Energy, Northern Development & Mines

**Regrets:**

- **Subhi Alsayed**, Mattamy Homes
- **Marnie Cluckie**, Halton Region
- **Chris Norris**, Siemens

**Project Working Team**

**In person:**

- **Herb Sinnock**, (proxy for Michelle McCollum) Sheridan College
- **Bruce Bremer**, President, Bremer Energy Consulting
- **Dave Clark**, Project Officer-Energy Management, Sheridan College
- **Deniz Ergun**, Research Policy Analyst, Sustainability and Government Relations, Town of Oakville
- **Karen Farbridge**, President, Karen Farbridge & Associates
- **Peter Garforth**, Principal, Garforth International LLC
- **Rob Kerr**, Senior Consultant, Municipal Energy Management, Robert J Kerr and Associates
- **Suzanne Madder**, Manager Sustainability and Government Relations, Town of Oakville

**1) Welcome and Opening Remarks:**

- Welcomed Oakville Energy Task Force and public and thanked all for attending.

**2) Agenda Review:**

- Approved: Agenda unanimously approved as distributed.
- Approved: Minutes unanimously approved as distributed.
- Actions items from the last meeting reviewed.

**3) OETF Business:**

Accelerating the energy transition in Oakville

- Lessons from the history of energy transitions in Ontario center on three themes.
  1. community leadership

2. governance innovation – for instance, the transition centralized electricity not only required a significant investment in infrastructure but also the creation of new governance models/systems
3. the establishment of intermediary organizations to create a platform for convening private sector, public sector and civil society stakeholders

The OETF and Project Working Team is transitioning from the planning process to developing recommendations, as well as heading towards implementation.

#### Input on Oakville Energy Vision

- Live Polling Question: What words should be part of Oakville's energy vision?
- Popular key words included: "sustainable" and "sustainability," "clean," "resilient," "conservation" and "affordable." Task Force input as well as survey results will help shape vision statement.
- Discussion: Community and cross industry emerging is important as this challenge cannot be surmounted without collective action and by working together. Likewise, clean and conservation are less important because they will come as auxiliary benefits.
- Action: Project Working Team to present draft vision statement at next meeting.

#### Approval of Energy Goal

- Draft Energy Framing Goal: Global best-practice by 2041 and at least 50% below 2016 level by 2041.
- Live Polling Question: Is this goal too high, too low, or just right?
- 11/16 respondents believed the goal was "just right," 3/16 believed it was "too low" and 2/16 respondents believed it was "too high."
- Discussion: Emissions and energy efficiency goals are different and this question only speaks to energy efficiency.
- Recommendation: Goal could be revisited to include a stretch goal.
- Live Polling Question: Best expression of the energy efficiency goal?
- 9/18 of the respondents resonated with the expression "reduce absolute consumption by 50 percent by 2041 from 2016," 8/18 resonated with the expression "double the energy performance of the Oakville community by 2041 from 2016" and 1/18 respondents resonated with the expression "reduce absolute annual energy consumption to achieve 2016 global best practice by 2041."
- Discussion: Global best practice goal means half our current energy consumption.
- Recommendation: Publicly leading with the word reduce may lead to negative connotations. Leading with Double the energy to the public may be misleading to mean double our usage. Using the word improve rather than double for the second option. Take this away and look for the hybrid and will also look at the community survey

## Approval of Emissions Goal

- Draft Emissions Goal: 1) Global Best Practice (Pragmatic): Reduce absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2041 from 2016 and 2) National Goals (Aspirational): Reduce absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 90 percent in 2050 from 2016 (rebased from 1990 to 2016 baseline).
- Live Polling Question: Which version of the emissions reduction goals should we pursue?
- 12/17 of respondents choose “50 percent by 2041” and 5/17 choose “90 percent by 2050.”
- Discussion:
  - Several cities pledging to go carbon free, we don't have to be afraid to be ambitious.
  - Scanning cities and towns declaring net zero, it is apparent there is a significant gap between actions and goals. There are very few examples of cities that are taking the action necessary to meet their goals, and so the focus should be less on the goal and more of achievable action.
  - 50% is a huge transition already, change of so many systems and players – the 90% goals is a whole new scale, complete reinvent/rethink of the town – that might scare people and seem unachievable, whereas if we are achieving goals we can respark the conversation with demonstrated success to communicate and gain support.
  - We can't lose sight of aligning with the Paris agreement, so somehow we need to be both pragmatic so we can build examples and capacity while still having stretch goals and shoot for something greater.
  - At the possibility of using both, it would be difficult to conceptualize that we could go from 50% reduction in 2041 to 90% only 9 years later.
  - Loud message that the Paris federal commitment is nonnegotiable but we need the muscles to get there.
- Action: Project Working Team to reconcile both goals and discussion and present final goal for approval.
- Action: Voting on and the finalizing the expression of the emissions goal will be presented in the following meeting.

## Approval of Efficiency Scenario

- Summaries presented of reference regimen and high action implementation regimen and their alignment to energy and emissions goals.
- Live Polling Question: Which implementation regiment should we pursue?

- 12/16 respondents choose “reference implementation scenario” and 4/16 choose “high action.”
- Discussion: Reiterate the sentiment of emissions reduction goal conversation. High action is ultimately where we need to be headed with making achievable, but still ambitious, steps along the way.

#### **4) Analytical Process:**

##### Policy Implications of Scale

- 2041 date is chosen/used as a common community planning horizon to align with Ontario Provincial Planning calendar.
- No matter what target we take it will involve a complete transformation.
- We have to achieve scale, commit to scale or we won't get there – you need to have a hard operating plan to get to your targets. Scaling up district energy and deep changes to the built environment will be needed to make it happen. There are examples from around the world of this happening, so we need to learn from them.
- The energy transformation needs local workers, good for economy but need to be trained and skilled, creating significant opportunities for local educational resources including Sheridan College.
- Home and building retrofits would need scalable structure to deliver volume as well as intuitional and policy change.
- Greenfield neighbourhoods have to be designed as close to possible to net zero emissions, which is clearly not happening now. We need the policy framework to achieve above code efficiency standards and neighbourhood energy supply systems.
- All town and regional plans working towards the same targets and using the same language. The CEP requirements need to be embedded into all plans and into business-as-usual in private and public plans/strategies.
- If we get scale consistent with scenarios presented costs will go down, consistency and quality improve, investors and employment are attracted and Oakville can be recognized as leading on the national and global stage.
- Most communities are struggling to achieve scale. If we can identify why they are failing, we will ensure we don't come full stop at the same barriers between planning and implementation.
- Discussion: Heat pumps are a major part of the energy transformation conversation and can be an effective heat source for larger buildings or neighbourhoods. However, they will be more effective when combined with comprehensive thermal distribution as called for in the DE strategy..

#### **5) Engagement Update & Next Steps**

- Community Survey: 310 surveys complete. Need 90 more to achieve new goal by June 21, 2019.
- Community Events: Two events at ClimateXChange on May 4 and 5. To date, five on-camera interviews and five presentations have been conducted. More events scheduled throughout spring and summer.
- Mapping Charrette: An evaluation of the OETF Mapping Charrette was completed. The output of the OETF mapping charrette will be used to visually communicate CEP recommendations. The mapping charrette will be modified and delivered in the fall to communicate CEP recommendations. Municipal departments: Half-way through second round of engagement involving planning, building, transit and active transportation. Final meetings for second round scheduled for May 31 with Economic Development and Facilities and Construction Management.
- Target Networks: Printed material developed and are being shared to networks.
- Mayor and Council briefing: To be scheduled by Project Working Team throughout June.
- Action: OETF to have final communications push to try and new goal of 400 survey respondents.

## 6. Communications

- Community Communique to be distributed with meeting minutes to OETF.
- Community Success Story: Oakville Enterprises Corporation has led multiple, award-winning energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in Oakville and Ontario, including the upcoming South East Community Centre.

### 6) Next Meeting:

- Approved: The next OETF meeting will be on June 21, 2019 at Town Hall.

### 7) Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00pm by Michelle McCollum, Co-chair for the Oakville Energy Task Force (OETF).

## Action Register

| Action                                                | Lead                                        | Deadline               | Status      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Integrate commercial vehicle data from Geotab.</i> | Project Working Team to reach out to Geotab | Updated: June 21, 2019 | In progress |

| <b>Action</b>                                                                                                                     | <b>Lead</b>                | <b>Deadline</b>  | <b>Status</b>                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Promote survey to wide-audience</i><br><a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NQM5Z">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NQM5Z</a> | OETF                       | June 21,<br>2019 | 90 more<br>respondents<br>needed to<br>reach goal of<br>400 |
| <i>Embed recommendations into project from<br/>Community Task Force Meeting #1</i>                                                | Project<br>Working<br>Team | June 21,<br>2019 | Ongoing                                                     |
| <i>Analyze and embed input from Mapping<br/>Charrette</i>                                                                         | Project<br>Working<br>Team | Fall 2019        | Ongoing                                                     |
| <i>Present draft vision statement</i>                                                                                             | Project<br>Working<br>Team | June 21,<br>2019 | Open                                                        |
| <i>Present revised expression of energy goal<br/>based on OETF feedback</i>                                                       | Project<br>Working<br>Team | June 21,<br>2019 | Open                                                        |
| <i>Present revised expression of emissions<br/>goal based on OETF feedback</i>                                                    | Project<br>Working<br>Team | June 21,<br>2019 | Open                                                        |