



Report on Public Engagement on Climate Change Adaptation:

Seeking Public Input to Help Toronto
Prepare for Climate Change

This report documents the results of public and stakeholder engagement during April and May 2008.

Prepared by the City of Toronto Public Consultation Unit
in Collaboration with the Toronto Environment Office

June 25, 2008

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1. Introduction

During April and May 2008 the Toronto Environment Office held a series of six public and stakeholder engagement meetings to seek input on the proposed priorities and actions outlined in the City's adaptation strategy framework document: *Ahead of the Storm: Preparing Toronto for Climate Change*. The following report provides details on these engagement meetings including methods of promotion and planning as well as stakeholder input.

2. Summary of Engagement Meetings

Type of Event (Attendance)	Location	Date/Time/Target	Recruitment/Promotion
Federal and Provincial Government/Academic Workshop (40) Format: <i>Presentation followed by discussion of 3 questions</i>	Ryerson University – School of Urban & Regional Planning <i>Dundas Subway</i>	April 22, 2008 Noon to 2:30 pm Target: <i>Climate Change focussed faculty from Toronto's 3 Universities and staff from other orders of government focussed on Climate Change</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails/ mailing from list provided by Toronto Environment Office
Public Workshop (13) Format: <i>Plenary presentation followed by facilitated table discussions of 3 questions</i>	North York Memorial Hall – Burgundy Room (next to North York Civic Centre) <i>North York Centre Subway</i>	May 1, 2008 7 to 9 pm Target: <i>General public, NGOs and other stakeholders</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails/ mailing from list provided by Toronto Environment Office • Ads in community newspapers (Guardian/Mirror chain plus NOW) • www.toronto.ca
Public Workshop (40) Format: <i>Plenary presentation followed by facilitated table discussions of 3 questions</i>	Metro Hall – Room 308 <i>St. Andrew Subway 504 Streetcar</i>	May 5, 2008 7 to 9 pm Target: <i>General public, NGOs and other stakeholders</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails/ mailing from list provided by Toronto Environment Office • Ads in community newspapers (Guardian/Mirror chain plus NOW) • www.toronto.ca
Business Focus Group (12) Format: <i>Presentation followed by discussion of 3 questions</i>	Julius Banquet Hall near Finch and Highway 400	May 15, 2008 7 to 9 am Target: <i>Small & medium sized businesses</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails from list provided by Toronto Economic Development

Type of Event (Attendance)	Location	Date/Time/Target	Recruitment/Promotion
Business Focus Group (10) Format: <i>Presentation followed by discussion of 3 questions</i>	Joey Bravo's Restaurant – Sheppard and Brimley	May 15, 2008 Noon to 2 pm Target: <i>Micro and small businesses</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct contact with the manager of the Sheppard East Village BIA through Toronto Economic Development
Public Deputations at Parks & Environment Committee Format: <i>Standard Council Committee for deputations (5 minutes per person). There were 16 deputants. Approximately 60-70 persons were observing.</i>	Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St. W Council Chambers <i>Queen and Osgoode Subways</i> 501 Queen Streetcar	May 21, 2008 3 to 5 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails/ mailing from list provided by Toronto Environment Office • www.toronto.ca
Business Meeting (25) Format: <i>Presentation followed by discussion of 3 questions</i>	130 West, 3 rd floor - just east of Dundas and Bay <i>Dundas Subway</i> <i>St. Patrick Subway</i> 505 Streetcar 6 Bus	May 27, 2008 Noon to 2 pm Target: <i>Large businesses</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails from list provided by Toronto Environment Office, Toronto Public Health & Toronto Economic Development

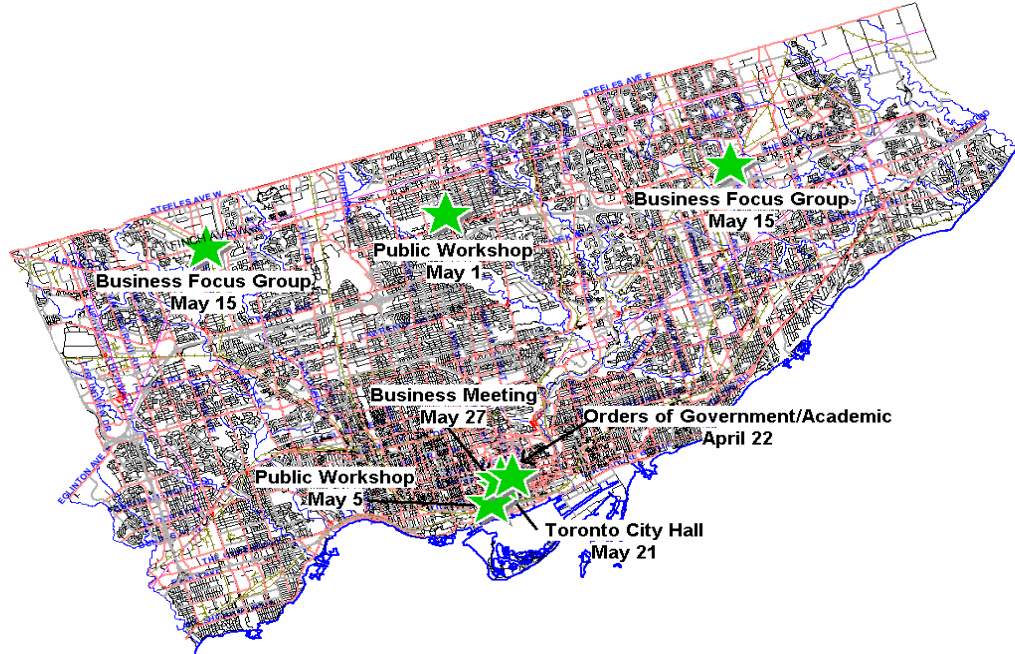
A 24-hour dedicated Comment Line was promoted (416-338-3095). This phone line recorded six calls with requests for a call back to answers questions – however there were no 'comments' left on this Comment Line by the public.

Those who were unable to attend an event were encouraged to mail, email (changeisintheair@toronto.ca) or call in (416-338-3095) their comments.

Questions were adapted to each target group but essentially asked:

1. What should the City do to help?
2. What should be added to the plan?
3. What is missing from the plan?

The responses provided to these questions, as well as other input received during the consultation sessions are included in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.



Map showing locations and dates (2008) of engagement activities

3. Background

The public engagement sessions were planned to attract both demographic and geographic diversity. Thus, both business and public sessions were hosted outside of the downtown core.

The engagements were planned, managed and facilitated by the Public Consultation Unit with significant input by staff from the Toronto Environment Office. Special thanks to Toronto Public Health - especially Melanie Lalani for her support. The May 21 Parks & Environment Committee was managed by City Clerks Division.

4. Synopsis of Participant Comments

The majority of comments received throughout the process (whether from business or the general public) were focussed on ideas or suggestions on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Many people who attended were recognized as very environmentally aware and perhaps not representative of the typical City of Toronto population as a whole. However the midday meeting with the representatives of a Business Improvement Area was likely more representative of those less focussed on environmental issues, because it was a cross section of business representatives.

For many participants, the engagement sessions were an introduction to the concept of Adaptation. Participant suggestions reflected their desire to receive further education on Adaptation. The business meeting on May 27, 2008, intended for representatives from large businesses and utilities, attracted a large number of participants familiar with significant expertise regarding Climate Change issues, and was the exception when

compared to the other events. Of the large volume of input received, three comments expressed scepticism with the notion of Climate Change.

Common Themes Across Sectors

Although few in attendance had considered Climate Change Adaptation planning and activities, the common themes, issues and recommended actions from both those aware or unaware of Climate Change Adaptation were:

- The City of Toronto should **increase and broaden education programs** to business, residents and students on Climate Change Adaptation – including making Torontonians aware of the threats and solutions. Participants expressed an interest in knowing "what I can do" at home in terms of Adaptation (specific areas mentioned were emergency preparedness, reducing energy consumption, use of different technologies). Some participants expressed alarm upon learning the current and upcoming transformations that Climate Change are expected to bring;
- The City of Toronto should **undertake community outreach activities** with both residents and business to find community-based solutions to Climate Change Adaptation actions and activities. This includes the concept of sending out experts to work with business and residents to assist with Climate Change Adaptation issues. For business, this included business continuity, disaster and flood planning. Many expressed frustration with their lack of knowledge of Climate Change issues;
- The City of Toronto should consider **financial incentives** to encourage Climate Change Adaptation actions. Ideas ranged from subsidies to property tax cuts;
- The City of Toronto **should make it as easy as possible for Torontonians to Adapt** through policy and access co-ordination at City Hall. Participants would like to see a "one window" approach to accessing the City's Climate Change programs. They would like to be educated from a single source about Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, what actions they can take in terms of Mitigation and Adaptation, what the City is offering to help them do it, and information on costs, permits, by-laws and other requirements. Results must be targeted and practical and useful for their "real-world" needs.

Other Adaptation Comments¹

Participants also raised the following questions, issues and concerns:

- Questions about the preparedness of the City of Toronto in both internal operations and interacting with business and residents
- Concern in areas such as water depletion, drinking water sources, stormwater management
- Climate Change impact on infrastructure including power supply reliability
- Climate Change impact on evacuation planning issues, emergency response issues, survival issues
- Questions whether Adaptation and Mitigation actions are really that much different
- The City of Toronto should protect vulnerable populations and practice environmental justice
- Concern about air quality
- Concern about heat waves
- Concern about extreme weather
- The City of Toronto should set an example with its own actions

¹ Although included on the following pages for informational and transparency purposes, Climate Change Mitigation issues raised during the public consultation are not summarized in this report.

APPENDIX 1: Climate Change Adaptation Comments

Record of Public Comment	Type
<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D² – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>	
<p>Climate Change Adaptation Comments (with some mitigation comments interspersed)</p>	
<p>Participants said it was hard to identify the most important areas for Adaptation. They pointed out that all the areas of impact were strongly interrelated. They suggested that the criteria for choosing the key areas would include: economic impact, number of people affected and illness caused.</p>	W
<p>Participants also suggested that information for the public would be most useful if it included an annual report with indicators about how the City is doing on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. Some of the examples given included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ transportation modal split ▪ number of smog days ▪ % of buildings built to withstand 100-year floods ▪ numbers of installed backflow valves ▪ extent of permeable pavement, etc. 	W
<p>All agreed that there was a massive need – and opportunity for – educating the public. This should be done by facilitating public forums on an ongoing basis. Participants also suggested focus groups, engaging church groups (several participants were strongly identified with church organizations). Participants criticized the lack of notice for this event, arguing that it would have been much better attended if the notice had gone out earlier and the event had been advertised more broadly.</p>	W
<p>Participants also recommended that the City make permeable pavements, green roofs, installation of geothermal heating systems and other Adaptation actions mandatory requirements. They felt that too much depended on the voluntary action of individuals. Where the City does not have the authority to require Adaptation actions (in the Building Code, for example) the City should strongly lobby the province or federal governments (whichever has the responsibility) to do so.</p>	W
<p>Q1. What are top three (3) actions the City should take to adapt to Climate Change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect ecosystems • protect seniors • assess existing and new policies through a Climate Change lens to ensure consistency with the City's Climate Change goals • ensure actions are consistent with policy • enforce policies, by-laws (e.g. enforcement of Official Plan and idling by-law) • develop a system to place a monetary value and priority on environmental attributes 	W
<p>Q2. What actions can the City take to support residents and businesses prepare for Climate</p>	W

² The names of the deputants at Parks & Environment Committee are the only ones listed in this document as they are already listed in official public City of Toronto documents. All other names have been removed to protect privacy.

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<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet , GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D² – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>	
<p>Change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education for households (e.g. energy tips, info on green roofs, solar panels and other methods to use to reduce energy consumption) • Provide rebates and incentives for energy efficient technologies • Need to expand transit on a mass scale • Services (e.g. tree planting) need to be accessible, promoted widely • Focus on creating a pedestrian friendly city • Listen to the community • Government needs to take a leadership role on progressive education, taxes (carbon tax), penalties • Make information and actions relevant to citizens • Ensure that employees are trained on disaster response • Change zoning for flood-prone areas 	
<p>Q3. What's missing from <i>Ahead of the Storm</i>?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education exhibits/centres that educate about technologies that can be used in homes (e.g. green roofs, solar panels) • Environment Days need to educate about Climate Change • Incorporating Climate Change in the curriculum • Emphasis on green innovation and entrepreneurship • Use of focus groups • Encourage local food production • Local product labelling and a City web site highlighting local food growers/suppliers 	W
<p>Q1. What are the 3 biggest impacts of Climate Change that the City needs to worry about?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diseases and impacts on health • extreme weather events • heat/poor air quality • changing agricultural crops/impact on growing conditions • new technologies need to be assessed for Climate Change potential • water quality and quantity, concerns about rapid water depletion 	W
<p>Q2. What should the City of Toronto do to help prepare citizens and business for Climate Change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • incentives for eco-friendly practices • incentives to showcase use of eco friendly technologies (Doors Open-like approach) • introduce Climate Change into curriculum and partner with community organizations to deliver education to citizens • identify and assess technologies (existing and new) for impact on Climate Change • make public aware of findings of technology assessments and change technology used 	W

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<p>based on these findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparation for extreme weather events (surprises) • evacuation coordination and preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ building preparation ○ public preparedness education ○ emergency response coordination (including backup plans and recognizing that synergistic effects are likely) ○ emergency response needs to account for child care, seniors, isolated individuals, food and water ○ citizens need to know about emergency response procedures and be able to implement them in their community ○ training exercises for emergency response ○ establish reserve funds for emergencies ○ coordinated communication centres across the city ○ educate citizens about survival skills (especially in power outages) ○ use parks as a gathering place in an emergency 		
<p>Q3. What's Missing from the Plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with community organizations • Enforcement of existing policies (Official Plan and by-laws) • Developing a reserve fund for extreme weather • Community participation in evaluation and monitoring of Climate Change plan – the community needs to be part of the solution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emergency preparedness for worst case scenario involving extreme weather ○ Research what worst case is ○ Prepare public for worst case (including funding for outreach and education) ○ Prepare a by-law so that every building must have an emergency response plan/supplies that tie into community plan) 	W	
<p>Q1: What are the 3 biggest impacts the City of Toronto needs to worry about?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food and water security and supply 2. Extreme weather and related consequences on infrastructure 3. Extreme weather and related health impacts 	W	
<p>Q2: What should the City of Toronto do to support residence and businesses as they prepare for Climate Change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize, coordinate and execute educational programs pertaining to what businesses and residence can do to help adapt to Climate Change. In addition, inform the public about various methods of Adaptation including, but not limited to: urban agriculture, water harvesting, low impact development etc. • Review City policies to be complimentary to the City's Climate Change Adaptation effort. • Promote innovative approaches to development to off-set Climate Change impacts • Provide incentives for "green" residential and commercial developments • Strategically engage residence and businesses in an innovative, exciting and compelling way to create momentum. 	W	

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<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet , GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D² – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an Awards Program for “green” development • Communication is KEY! Provide more readily accessible information, improve the City website, ensure to include commercial, residential and educational community strategically. • Develop pilot/demonstration projects for innovative “green” development and technologies. • Leverage University presence • Collaborate with grassroots community in putting on events 	
<p>Q3: What is missing from the Plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pg. 9 - Include resource reference. That is, more information as to where rain-barrels can be purchased and how the public can access (take advantage of) the things the City is already doing. Where can the public purchase local solar panels, porous bricks etc. • Pg. 12 to 13 – Include a third column entitled “ Measures of Success”. These should be quantifiable indicators to measure and monitor the benefits (if any) from identified action. • The 9 step process outlined is dead-on, with exception to engaging stakeholders throughout the process. 	W
<p>Q1: One of the largest Climate Change impacts that our group felt strongly about was that of heat levels rising. Building on this, the group was very concerned with: Climate Change as a result of global warming;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the release of methane from permafrost; • heat waves, and the extent/impact to which they will affect Toronto residents; • energy consumptive cooling solutions such as air conditioning units; and, • the question of air conditioning vs. natural ventilation. <p>On a similar note, the group was also very bothered by the threat of extreme weather conditions. They felt that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • energy resources were adding to the problem; • population size is negatively impacting consumption rates and increasing energy use; • the idea of climate refugees is a severe issue: where will they go? What types of support will be given to them? • flash floods were a major concern in the short term, and were apprehensive with the timeframe in which actions will be taken to reduce the risk of flooding and provide preventative strategies; and, • change is reliant upon individual behavior. <p>Another one of the largest concerns of the group was that of air pollution. With this point there was a lot of emphasis on the importance of encouraging transit use and discouraging dependency on cars.</p> <p>Other key points which were raised during discussion were that of:</p>	W

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water pollution, and the negative impact of nuclear stations; • creating more supportive infrastructure; • feelings that Toronto does not hold an international position in the face of Climate Change in comparison with other countries; and, • Toronto should be encouraging more options for renewable energy. 	
<p>Q2:</p> <p>To support local residents and businesses through this transformation in Climate Change, the group felt very passionate about the importance of rewarding sustainable behaviour and discouraging consumptive behaviour. In relation to this they brought up ideas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax incentives, which will be rewarded for conservation behaviors; and • Tax disincentives, which aim to reduce residential/business energy use. <p>The group also agreed that there should be more levels of public consultation which inform and involve the public in the process. In conjunction with this, there should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more leadership from the City • in terms of leading by example, facilitating change, and not relying on the bureaucracy to get things done; • support for a greater level of engagement within communities • more community engagement to encourage change in society; and • more meaningful outreach. <p>They also felt that in order to better support residents and businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a proper allocation of resources, as currently there is an inequitable distribution of wealth. To elaborate on this, the group felt that funding should be allocated more proportionately to better address and adapt to the issues at large. • Permits and design limitations on high-rise buildings should be relieved to allow for better and more environmentally friendly developments. This would also create a better quality of life for the residents. 	W
<p>Q3:</p> <p>Our group felt that the plan involves very little in terms of rewards, incentives, disincentives and public engagement. They felt that more time and resources should be spent in the preparation stages leading up to implementation. Similarly, the group came to consensus on the topic of enforcement. They believed that in order to properly implement policies and encourage good behavior, it would be necessary to make these plans and policies enforceable. Our dialogue considered greater enforcement to the full extreme, covering topics of recycling, littering, and energy consumption. The group discussed the importance of better facilitation through legislation, by making plans enforceable.</p>	W

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<p>Similarly, a reoccurring theme amongst the group was that of incentive and disincentive programs. They believed it was important to create incentives for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High quality design standards and green buildings; and, • Facilitating green bin programs in high-rise buildings, as well as residential and commercial developments. <p>and disincentives for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improper gutters and downspouts; and, • Having a larger environmental foot print. The group elaborated on this by discussing the emphasis on foot print size, particularity in terms of specific vehicles which are higher in weight and consumption. <p>The group also felt that the plan needs to incorporate more support for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community gardens, and Green space; as well as, • Bicycles and bicycle parking lots, <p>and less support for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single occupancy automobiles. <p>Discussed, were some other topics of interest which the group believed should be incorporated into the plan. They are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imply a more dramatic tax on the residential sector; • Implement a progressive tax per capita on property taxes; • Introduce policies which enforce green standards on all imports; • Introduce a pollutant paid policy; and, • Implement policies which restore "Ruralization" of urban life. In other words, attempt to bring the population back to a community level which relies on naturally grown product and resources. 		
<p>Q1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to properties due to an increase in extreme weather events • Extreme weather leads to increase in temperature, air pollution, energy use (A/C), difficult for viruses to die off, etc. • Impact on critical infrastructure – power lines, watermain breaks, blackouts, loss of telecommunications • Health issues will be on the rise – effects of smog, ticks and water borne diseases • Need to clarify at what level these issues will be tackled at. Local level? • The convergence of all Cmate Change issues • The more subtle effects lead to more long term social impacts • Cost associated with dealing with Adaptation and emergency response situations. If we do not invest now to mitigate costs, future generations will suffer the consequences. • Concerned with where funds are coming from. How do we fund it? Who is prioritizing? • Governments must begin to allocate funds each year. 	W	
<p>Q2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City should be willing to provide more tax breaks and incentives for residents/businesses • Must provide readily available information to the public – improve website 	W	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public education re: Climate Change and its impacts. More stakeholder involvement • Provide tax benefits for carbon neutral businesses • Increase taxes for businesses that have negative carbon footprint • Stricter regulations around retrofitting areas that are already built-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ More trees – larger, improved maintenance ○ Green roofs ○ Remove existing parking lots and install pervious pavements • Provide better transit • Must make transit a priority • Increase user fees for roads. Money can then be re-invested in infrastructure and transit • Make Toronto's bike plan available to the public within the next two years • Issue with subsidizing transit. We do not receive nearly enough funds • Improve maintenance for sidewalks and bike lanes, especially following snowfalls. Ensure they are salted earlier. Focus/priority always aimed at vehicle lanes. • Encourage police to ticket vehicles that park in bike lanes • More pedestrian-friendly days (i.e. Kensington Market). Close off streets to vehicles 	
<p>Q3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough emphasis on transit • Local organic foods – food security • More pilot projects on renewal energy – work with Toronto Community Housing Corp. • PIEVC • Improvement in City's website and make information more readily available to the public. Engage the public more. • Property assessments should recognize greener homes and homeowners, in-turn, could receive incentives i.e. reduction in property taxes and/or lower water bills • Multi-unit residential homes should pay own utility bills. Currently, they do not have any incentives to conserve energy use. • How is the City adjusting to the rise in oil prices? • Increase in regulations for water use and consumption. 	W
Need to focus on what City is doing, planning and proposing to do	CS
Co-ordinate, align legislative initiatives. Do not overstep your jurisdiction	CS
Would like the City step up and promote the importance and need for Adaptation	B
We would love assistance with risk assessments for sewer and utilities	B
City Purchasing power sets an example	B
Workshops on Small Medium and Large business continuity planning	B
Publicize examples of private sector Adaptation activities	B
Share information with business organizations to raise awareness	B
Publicize partnerships	B
Need economic incentives to stimulate entice small business	B

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Small business – hard to deal with Climate Change – need support	B
Concerned about power supply reliability	B
City should streamline approvals and permitting to allow non-standard innovative solutions	B
Champion one-window approach	B
Get financial impact analysis on Climate Change – cost of action vs inaction	B
CSA Z 1600 standard	B
Info for business e.g. New Zealand web site	B
Main business concerns – employee protection, disaster planning, power supply problems	B
Need streamlined approach	B
Incentive programs	B
City should enhance sewer system to adapt to higher flows	B
Education & awareness	B
Resource guide	B
Experts to help business with continuity planning	B
Use business associations for outreach	B
Information about what is happening in the Climate Change Adaptation field	B
Learn more about dealing with disruption	B
Concerned about power outages, extreme weather, communication infrastructure	B
Info – education	B
Financial support to plan effectively	B
Support for emergency / business continuity planning	B
Info needs to be relevant to retailers	B
Q1: What are the top 5 priority Adaptation action areas? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health • Infrastructure • Natural systems – water, green space • Extreme events – risk assessment and vulnerability assessment (human and physical) • Stormwater run-off • Air quality, water quality • Energy – supply? • Public consciousness and engagement • Food – supply, security 	GA

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Coordination of empowered, effective, policy actions (value for money spent) • Environmental justice • Do we want to unpack “adaptation” 	
<p>Q2: What actions noted in the plan need to be stronger?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme events – risk assessment and vulnerability assessment (human and physical) • Governance • Coordination of empowered, effective, policy actions (value for money spent) • Environmental justice • Public consciousness and engagement – title “Ahead of the Storm” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “storm” – it is not episodic ○ wording/language should be inclusive and educational but not dumbed down ○ Instead of the technical language use “confronting”, “dealing with”, “coping”, etc. ○ “Adaptation” seems like we have accepted it and it shouldn’t sound like we have accepted it ○ need to speak to the public • Water quality • Vulnerability – define broadly, more clearly, include people and space • Integrity, governance and leadership • Finding tangible points of connection with the issue • Actions are too conservative at this point – need to be more aggressive and exaggerate them • Need targets • Education to <i>everyone</i>, including council • People need to take responsibility • Emergency response actions – re: heat, evacuation procedures, power outage • Understanding the extremes as there is much uncertainty about what could actually happen – Quantum leap in understanding extremes 	GA
<p>Q3: What is missing from the plan?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost of ‘do nothing’ or the status quo – has to have more prominence • What can you do if you actually do everything • Unique policy moment – global, profound, different, globally huge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involve, motivate leadership • Impacts, __ now <i>will</i> make a difference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Benefits are not immediately recognizable – need to address the short-term ○ Adaptation will make public space better and a nicer city to live in ○ Urban centre • Urban centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Who is included? ➤ 905? 705? 519? • Boundaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Match issues with areas 	GA
<p>1) Professor Stephen Scharper, Centre for Environment, University of Toronto</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressed Concern over the language used in the document. • ‘Ahead of the Storm’: Many populations (such as the Inuits) are not ‘ahead’ but in the middle of the storm. The storm has already arrived for vulnerable 	D

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populations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggested using the word 'Confrontation' in place of 'Mitigation' & using the word 'coping' or 'dealing' instead of the word 'Adaptation' Overall, the plan is a comprehensive evaluation of Climate Change. 		
2) Jennifer Penny, Director of Research, Clean Air Partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toronto is behind Halifax regarding matters of this nature Adaptation is a really important part of this plan. More effort should be placed on looking for ways to reduce the impact of Climate Change Recommends that: City should engage in a longer term planning process and that consultation and engagement within city staff is necessary 	D
3) Violetta Balayo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made a brief presentation regarding Bandung Eco Social Park 	D
4) Mark Pajot, Masters Student in Environmental Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More focus is required on Adaptation strategies particularly for vulnerable populations. They should be our first priority. Plan has an overemphasis on risk management strategies. It should instead address the underlying factors that cause vulnerabilities to Climate Change. Equal emphasis should be place on physical AND social infrastructure. 	D
5) Karey Shinn,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Assessments should not be exempt for Stormwater Management and Sewer system plans. Make sure that tax payer money is actually being used for what it was set out to be. Example: Ash Bridges Bay Sewage Treatment Plant. The new methane process put in place caused a 300% increase in operation costs. Ensure that such oversights do not occur. 	D
6) Hamish Wilson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a concern over the greater emphasis being placed on Adaptation rather than mitigation since the city hasn't been faring well with Adaptation strategies in the past. New Environmental Assessments on existing projects are required (West Waterfront Streetcar) Bike lanes should be the city's number one priority. Mitigation strategies in the transportation field are equivalent to Adaptation. City should look into Depaving rather than greening existing pavements. Downspout disconnection is not always wise in some area. 	D
7) Mark Baker, Disaster Recovery Information Exchange and the Greater Toronto Incident Management Exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stressed the importance of including Business Continuity in Adaptation strategies. In the May 13th staff report, Business and Emergency management is not explicitly mentioned. 	D
8) Michael Rosenberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Risk" implies low probability. Climate Change is not a 'risk'. It's a certainty. Instead of "mitigation", use the word "prevention". 	D

Record of Public Comment		Type
<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D² – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Impact of Climate Change is the main impact that needs to be studied. Reduce spending in high technology. Think in terms of a smaller economy. 		
<p>9) Rita Bijons, Member, Toronto Climate Campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What about other uses of CO2 not mentioned in the document? Example: INDY cars. Such fossil fuel intensive events should not be hosted by the city. Change in mind-shift is required: Provide training opportunities for staff. Include councillors in ENREACH training. Capacity Building within the community is necessary. Mandate that councillors build capacity within their wards. Greater public education is required. Door to door direct dialogue should be conducted since all residents are not internet savvy. Increase awareness among citizens about existing programmes. 	D	
<p>10) Anne Christie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ticket people who park in Bike lanes Push Bike Lane programs forward. Increase Biker safety. How does one recycle empty pharmaceutical containers? Diversion of green wastes program is required for restaurants and caterers. Regarding Home Renovations: It is difficult to access information and compare different products on an individual basis. Regarding Schools: It is difficult to access information on passive cooling options and compare individual products. Lack of accessibility of information to compare individual green products with each other. 	D	
<p>11) Roy Bristow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complained about the city's indifference about trees. City uses cheapest possible method to increase tree canopy. No proper soil tests done before planting trees 	D	
<p>12) Sharon: Next Generation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More encouragement should be given to local farmers who farm for profit. Don't repeat studies. Look at reports from the past and suggested solutions and get things done. 	D	
<p>13) Karen Buck</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings & carbon dioxide: Not enough programs out there that deal with this area. New developments do not have adequate stormwater management systems Don't mix SW and sanitary water. Stop development in floodplains New developments are still not mandate to account for space that will be required to reach the city's dream of doubling the tree canopy. Good examples to look at: City of Dongtang. 	D	
<p>Issues and concerns our company dealt with during the big flood in 2005:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of power - shutdown of our equipment and computer systems (luckily our generators 	E2	

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<p>kicked in, however they only last 12 hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility flooding - property damage, employee property damage • Transportation concerns - flooding caused employees to be stranded, many of the roads were flooded out in our neighbourhood causing panic and long lines trying to leave. We noticed there were only limited escape routes. <p>We would suggest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City could help with risk assessments of properties for flood management • City could suggest Adaptation equipment and preferred suppliers • City could send e-mail/communications regularly on new programs • Devise and communicate safe evacuation plans from specific high-density neighbourhoods • Develop a notification system to provide details to neighbourhoods about flooding, road closures, etc. • Devise checklists for companies to follow to prepare for different events. 	
<p>Alternative drinking water sources be identified and fixed with emergency stand alone generators and/or hand-operated pumps, and/or old-style wind operated farm windmills, to pump from underground well water supplies which exist under the City. These underground sources are continually being recharged and will continue to build up through measures in place, such as downspout disconnection programs and stormwater infiltration practices. There should likely be a well identified for every 500 people. The old well in the old City of Toronto, near Parliament and Front, or closer to the Distillery District, should be the first to be put into operation, with the option of providing some alternative water supply as soon as possible. It needs to be possible to bottle or tank this water to supply the downtown core and emergency centres.</p>	E
<p>Stormwater reservoirs need to be installed under City owned golf courses. These reservoirs would supply rainwater to the golf courses whenever possible, take them off the drinking water supply, and provide an emergency source of water for fire, and irrigation needs etc. in drought years. Underground storage will not increase mosquito populations.</p>	E
<p>I was also wondering what it would be like to have a pedestrian/cycling evacuation plan for the City and an evacuation plan by boat from the waterfront.</p>	E
<p>I was wondering what potential there might be for a system of zip lines to evacuate tall buildings onto roofs of neighbouring buildings or into adjacent floors of neighbouring buildings.</p>	E
<p>Does the City have a reunification plan to reunite family during and after or during emergency events?</p>	E
<p>I just wanted to offer some feedback on last Thursday's public input session at North York Centre. I recall the first question asked something like, "How should we prioritize and adapt to Climate Change effects such as drought, flooding, heat, etc.?" and the third question asked something like, "What is this plan missing?"</p> <p>The report considered the future effects of Climate Change on our citizens but I think it missed an understanding of humanity as a future "actor" in this changing system (e.g. the Q&A handout described Adaptation as "the act of upgrading infrastructure and practices to standards to accommodate more frequent and extreme weather events, modified insect and animal ranges and changes in the range and type of trees and vegetation" – it contemplates changes in weather, insects, animals, trees, vegetation, etc., but it is missing a human element). If we take it as being</p>	E

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<p>axiomatic that "man is a part of nature", as I think most people in the environmental movement do, then the first question would better reflect that understanding by contemplating our future political, social, economic, and cultural "climate" and additionally asking, "What actions can we take now in anticipation of this future 'human climate?'"</p> <p>Practically speaking, it might be too broad an understanding for the purposes of this report, but I think this future human climate should be kept in mind when planning tangible Adaptation strategies.</p> <p>With this frame, something like sustainable transportation in the Venn diagram can be viewed not only as a mitigation strategy, but also as an Adaptation strategy; thus actions on this front become even more justifiable. The mitigation approach argues we should have sustainable transportation to reduce GHGs, but an Adaptation lens anticipates a future in which the human atmosphere will have changed as part of the larger change in climate to be culturally less tolerant of private automobiles, single drivers, inefficient vehicles, etc. A changing economy means Ontario will not be producing gas guzzlers in the future, politicians will implement a higher gas tax, or may even tax carbon due to Climate Change, etc. A similar analysis can be employed for energy issues the like. It may appear like I'm blurring the line between Adaptation and Mitigation, but given my starting point of "man as a part of nature", I see all these as being effects of our changing climate and something we need to anticipate and adapt to. This view means that dedicated lanes for public transit (raised street car tracks?), different parking fees/tickets for different cars, a congestion charge like in London, and similar measures are also justifiable as an Adaptation to a future human climate. In viewing Climate Change through this lens, such actions become even more important.</p> <p>It's a bit convoluted but I hope I'm making some sense! :)</p> <p>Best of luck with this important undertaking and thanks again for hosting the public input session.</p>	

APPENDIX 2: Climate Change Mitigation Comments

Record of Public Comment	Type
E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D ³ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee	
Climate Change Mitigation Comments	
The City of Toronto should NOT be paying for any air travel expenses for staff at any level. They should be encouraged to use the Bus or Train systems for travelling to Ottawa, Quebec City, Montreal, or any other destination in the province or accessible by these modes of transportation. Even car pooling is better than air travel.	E
Conference calls and video conferencing should be the way by which people and agencies conduct their business and negotiations and this should be encouraged and mandated by the City of Toronto in all of its business	E
The City should be conducting educational forums, printing brochures, posting information of the web, which helps inform people of the impact that their use of aircraft have on our environment. Comparisons of the various types of travel should be part of these programs and material.	E
The City and its departments should be promoting public transit by investing in it while reducing its investment in expanding the road systems. The City should be doing everything possible to reduce travel by private vehicles. Roadways should be there for the needs of vehicles which provide the goods and services needed to supply and maintain our communities, but public transit should be the manner in which people are moved around.	E
Cycling infrastructure should be promoted and improved. The safer our roads are for cyclists the more people will take to this method of moving around.	E
Trees and plants will help to improve the quality of the air, of our environment and of our lives in the city. Ensuring that newly planted trees are in proper spaces to grow to their full potential should be a requirement of the all tree planting programs. Big healthy trees should be a part of every development which is approved in this city. All developers should be required to incorporate a tree canopy with proper foundation space for these plantings.	E
I would like to propose an idea that I think could benefit everyone in Toronto. I'm sure you probably know of the project in Mississauga with the Marylyn Monroe building where architects presented different condo plans. I thought that it would be a great idea to do the same here in Toronto but the theme would be based on finding the best Green condo design. I can assure you that I would be the 1 st one in line to invest in such a condo, with a green roof, perhaps solar energy, etc.. etc... This would give great attention to Toronto as a city trying to promote greener living and introduce existing green technologies locally.	E
Yes I feel strongly that personal changes need to be made immediately. I have bought a hybrid, have eliminated plastic grocery bags, Ziplocks, etc. and toxic cleaners from my home and office. I run a property management company and am trying to implement as much "green" as possible in our buildings. My wish is that not too much time be wasted on studies to determine the effects of Climate Change but that governments and authorities simply ban certain items...without discussion. This is no time to be democratic or philosophical. It's a black and white situation and I truly believe it would be easier for people to make changes if they had no choice. It's not like the changes are detrimental to their health or well-being but rather, the contrary. Ban all plastic bags; ban all	E

³ The names of the deputants at Parks & Environment Committee are the only ones listed in this document as they are already listed in official public City of Toronto documents. All other names have been removed to protect privacy.

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<p>Climate Change Mitigation Comments</p>	
<p>pesticides; have blackouts/brownouts on a regular basis and often. The latter will make people appreciate how spoiled we really are and will inspire people to not take everything, in particular, our earth for granted.</p>	
<p>The City also has to ensure that unnecessary air pollution sources, owned and operated by the City are not located near other large air pollution emission sources.</p>	E
<p>There needs to be a retrofit plan that frees up capital for housing stock in the City.</p>	E
<p>Home retrofits would go a long way to sustain the economy and local neighbourhoods.</p>	E
<p>I don't see much focus in the plan on the energy that is being wasted in the City. Bell Canada for instance, should make the heat that its Central Operations buildings produce available as hot water to the residential buildings in each building's neighbourhood. For instance, at 19 Main Street the Bell building dissipates 200,000 watts of thermal energy, 24/7. Yet next door is a 108-unit subsidized apartment complex, which a couple of years ago mounted a 100,000 watt solar thermal system on its roof rivaling in size the largest in the City. This expense could have been saved had they instead just ran a pipe across the driveway to Bell's building. This was the first such building I looked at, and I found this amazing waste, and 19 Main is small in terms of Bell's Central Operations buildings in Toronto. (20 times smaller than the buildings downtown.)</p>	E
<p>The CN Tower could become a focal point for mirrors atop the downtown core's buildings. These mirrors track the sun and beam it back onto a point on the section of tower between the restaurant and the observation pod. On smog days the beams would glow golden, as would the tower and the rarefied air surrounding it. These beams would boil water and make steam to produce electricity. It would be beautiful as an art piece, and put Toronto on the map globally. This could be accomplished using arts-directed funding support. Toronto as Creative City.</p>	E
<p>We should harvest rainwater and put it to use growing the expanded urban tree canopy urban foresters are calling for. A tree canopy is great for Climate Change, but the water pumped from the lake should neither be pumped nor treated to potable standards, both being emissions-creating actions which would only negate the climate-friendliness of the shade provided by the expanded urban canopy.</p>	E
<p>We should systematically remove the city's invasive exotic Norway Maple trees, and turn them into charcoal at the Brickworks, since we have the kilns there already. The Brickworks is a United Nations Climate Change site, and created lots of greenhouse gases while it was busy building Toronto and Ontario's brick homes and institutions. The charcoal is carbon, sequestered into a solid form, therefore difficult to then accidentally enter the atmosphere as stored gaseous carbon might. Creating the charcoal is a carbon-negative action, since combustible gas which can be captured and used as fuel is released from the wood in the charcoal-making process.</p>	E
<p>We must ask that the CRTC regulate that all on-air meteorologists and weather reporters carry hourly reporting of the day's global carbon emissions, the increase in emissions rate from the day prior, and the increase in Canada's contribution to these figures. We also have them broadcast the average global temperature and the rise in average global temperature since yesterday. They are also to provide us Climate Change stories from around the world, and news of local events such as the workshops Toronto Environment Office held recently (which I heard nothing about even on CBC Radio 1). They are also to provide interviews with Canada's IPCC Nobel Laureate Review Panel scientists, and those who submitted papers for review to any of the four Assessment Reviews. We</p>	E

Record of Public Comment	Type
<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D³ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>	
<p>Climate Change Mitigation Comments</p>	
<p>need to petition the CRTC that they are not fulfilling their mandate of “communication in the public interest”.</p>	
<p>More on local (to reduce transportation) foods and organic foods, also fair trade (to reduce chemicals in the drinking water, improving the quality of life and health)</p>	E
<p>More pilot projects (retrofits such as fixing water leaks, air leaks, introducing water conserving appliances, energy star, bullfrog power, rain barrels, green roofs, etc) and measure the difference of before and after monthly bills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more education for home owners and buyers. Target realtors to introduce thinking green to clients (Chris Chopik, Green Realtor) • more emphasis on building design for natural ventilation, local food production, water conservation, and green roofs, especially in the annex area. • eco friendly practices • solution to peak oil in respect to transportation and infrastructure. • rip up parking lots to put in green parking lots • hybrid buses <p>For the recommended Nine-Step Progress to Develop a Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more money spent on action, not on more studies – implement, then study 	E
<p>Hi, my comment is about using the existing flower beds throughout the city of Toronto, for planting edible vegetables instead of flowers. These flower beds are currently looked after at great taxpayer expense by college students during the summer growing season and it is a waste of resources. There is still time to implement this plan for the 2008 growing season if there is no bureaucratic delay. JUST. DO IT. HIGH TRANSPORTATION COSTS OF SHIPPING VEGETABLES from far away places and lack of local supply and climate considerations are just some of the many reasons for this action. Thank you for your open public forums.</p>	E
<p>Building Labeling is identified by every G8 country as being a critical part of the solution. I have the support of the Toronto Real Estate Board on this initiative. Leaders in sustainability have assisted in creating ecoNumber. I strongly recommend that you closely examine the naming convention (ecoAction, ecoEnergy, ecoNumber), self interest of home owners and market drivers and the urgent need for transformation in the marketplace. There is an exceptional opportunity at hand that should be capitalized on and this tool is designed with ease of deployment and efficacy of delivery in mind. It uses existing infrastructure, service channels and professional organizations to execute a simple and compelling non-legislative building model.</p> <p>Bob, next weekend I have a two day intercultural strategy consulting session with Monster.com in Montreal, and so I looked up what it would cost to take the train versus flying. Even though I'm just over 60 and qualify for VIA Rail's senior rates, it cost more, on the surface, to take the train than to fly (Porter). Factoring in all the extra airport charges gave rail a slight advantage but certainly not enough to dissuade people from short-haul flights, which as you know are especially devastating to the atmosphere. The more people who fly between neighbouring cities, the less there is to support faster, safer, better train service between cities, so converting one flyer to take the train instead has financial/environmental significance beyond the trip itself.</p> <p>The Auditor General's annual Report released yesterday states that in 2006, air transport in Canada carried 99 million passengers, up 6 percent from 2005, and the number is expected to grow 40 percent from 2006 to 2015. That's a lot of people, a lot of flights, and a massive increase in</p>	E

Record of Public Comment		Type
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Climate Change Mitigation Comments		
<p>greenhouse gases. The City of Toronto could give out some sort of written thank you, in the form of a card distributed by conductors, for every passenger coming or leaving the city by train. The card could be (pre)signed by all of city council, thanking rail passengers for taking the extra hours to improve the City's air quality and lessening the environmental impact of their travel. This would encourage them to always prefer Rail over flying between neighbouring cities. The cost of this program is, in my view, worthwhile. A co-marketing program with the City and Via Rail could share the cost, as well as that of a lapel button that reads "I Arrived by Train".</p> <p>The co-marketing program could be amplified by selective media advertising. From the City's standpoint it is scalable, according to whatever budget is set. The budget could possibly be augmented by the cost of providing visitors arriving by train a coupon for a free one week TTC pass.</p> <p>Once again, if you need help implementing any idea, I'm reasonably available (as are many experienced, highly skilled people of my age who need an income to support living a decade longer).</p>		
<p>How we should change our lifestyle in the City of Toronto</p> <p>The City and the Province should do the following for environment of Toronto and the Province of Ontario</p> <p>1; mandate that large malls, factories, and big box stores should have solar panels on their roofs for heat and electricity creation.</p> <p>2; limit vehicles during rush hours (7am to 7 PM) to the core of the city and have public transit in the core of the city be more affordable to use. Charge cars the are trying to get to the core area with the exception of hybrid battery vehicles</p> <p>3; "limit immigration" to the G.T.A since the extra burdens of the additional population that is expected in the golden horseshoe in the next ten years will effect the whole infrastructure of the area. This will mean we will have to be compensated by the federal and provincial governments to look after the schooling, housing, water, bridges and roads that should be repaired or enhanced especially since in the case of the water much is now being lost under many of the cites of this province due to the fact they are over 50 years old.</p> <p>Our bridges should be re-enforced to compensate for the heavier usage that will be expected from them due to the increasing demand will put on them.</p> <p>We will also be unable to provide electricity to all the G.T.A. with the extra immigrants as it will take many years to get more power generation on line. So far there are no new generators planned for the near future for southern Ontario.</p>	E	
<p>Good day, As on the Island of Samoa any law is passed according to its contribution to the happiness and wellbeing of their citizens, why would not Toronto follow a good example? It was just a few months after it was announced that Ontario was going to reduce plastic grocery bags, that our mayor said he had no means to do that to businesses. If we could make Ontario smoke free, sure we can do everything else. When they started charging 30 p per bag in some city in England, there was a huge drop in that</p>	E	

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<p>Climate Change Mitigation Comments</p>	
<p>unnecessary consumption. Could we do the same? Closing businesses on Sunday and making it a family and community day would save tonnes of CO2 and strengthen family and community lives. Cutting down on night shifts would not only save clean air, but also workers' health. Subsidizing organic farmers in the Green Belt would make Ontario more self sufficient for food, and better quality food would contribute to healthier people and reduce pollution of soil, water and air. Stimulating butcher shops to have meat free days would lead to less meat consumption, which entails less burden on the environment. All of this is possible if we educate people. Everyone wants to survive. But we have to stay in a decent position on the continuum between an animal and a robot.</p>	
<p>I'm emailing about the Climate Change in Toronto. Part of the reason we're having Climate Change is because we have plastic bags. People are making landfills to put all our plastic bags in, which is changing the climate. If everyone in Toronto didn't use plastic bags then our climate would probably be back to normal. To make sure people don't use plastic bags Toronto should ban them. Lots of cities have banned plastic bags including San Francisco. Banning plastic bags would also help some animals. Animals in the ocean have suffocated on plastic bags because they have mistaken them for food.</p>	E
<p>With 25% Toronto's GHG emissions coming from houses, I believe the solution lies with empowering home owners to reconcile their contribution to the problem – with action to benefit the collective interest.</p> <p>With the baseline knowledge that humans consistently act based on self interest, my belief is that energy efficiency and real estate value should be inextricably entwined. A simple and comprehensive system for achieving this has been designed.</p> <p>Toronto is in a position to lead the country into a Kyoto and beyond future and ecoNumber™ is a mechanism that could help achieve this.</p>	E
<p>I believe that the Toronto Planning Act should be changed to not only allow – but in the building of new houses, condo blocks, commercial and industrial to enforce – environmentally sustainable technology to be used to save energy and, therefore, reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>I also believe that the government of the Province of Ontario must pass a law which mandates that the Ontario Municipal Board not be able to rescind or eliminate, or ignore additions to the Planning Act which provide for alternative power and energy-saving measures.</p> <p>Specifically, it is my belief that all new buildings in Toronto must be designed with solar panels on the roofs to provide part of the energy supply for that building.</p> <p>For instance, on condominium and office blocks the solar panels could be used to provide supplementary power for elevators and hall lighting. This would not only cut down on emissions - by not using power that requires gas, coal or oil – but would make each building self-sufficient in the case of an emergency, such as a blackout or local generating station failure, because solar-powered elevators and hall lighting would still enable occupants to vacate and/or enter their units.</p> <p>I also believe that Solar panels should be mandatory on industrial and commercial buildings. Industry and business tend to use more energy than residences, not only for lighting and heating but</p>	E

Record of Public Comment	Type
E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet , GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D ³ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee	
Climate Change Mitigation Comments	
<p>for manufacturing processes.</p> <p>And, finally, I think that all new free-standing housing units, whether townhouses, semis or detached units should be built with solar panels on the roof to supplement hydro use for such things as water heaters and lighting.</p> <p>In every case, I submit that the cost of installing solar panels should be partially offset by federal and provincial tax credits.</p> <p>Furthermore, particularly for residential buildings – which are used for not-for-profit purposes as opposed to business which makes a profit – I believe that a system of grants and low-interest loans should be made available at the city level.</p>	
<p>I was very upset when I woke up and heard the weatherman on City TV say this is 8 degrees above our regular temperature at this time of the year. Then a thought came to me, maybe I can start a petition to save our Planet. My strategy would be to go back to what we know, that has proven ability to work. That would be closing businesses again on Sundays. Now I'm definitely not someone who does not like to work on Sundays because I don't work on Sundays as it stands. I was actually browsing this sight for jobs with the city. I had no idea that I can come here and voice my opinion on something that has to do with mankind trying to survive extinction if you may call it. There was an article written in the 24hour newspaper on pg 19 "Ecology taken to spiritual Highs". I'm not a hristian either I just believe what if we did follow this regime of Sunday being the Sabbath day, rest day. Maybe our planet can rest too, from all the greenhouse gases? There are 365 days in the year how many of them being a Sunday and when we do the math how much can we cut back on pollution to stop, if possible global warming.</p> <p>1st idea: Sundays stop all businesses from opening. EFFECT: Less driving, Less pollution. How to make citizens abide; and not to drive on Sundays? Get permits that cost a lot of money! Which makes the environmental part of the government make money to use towards the environment.</p> <p>2nd idea: Enhance the current Earth Day to become a law for 1 hr everything must stop that causes harm to our planet. With certain areas having exceptions ex. Hospitals, illnesses and so on. EFFECT: again less pollution.</p> <p>3rd idea: A national bike day with no driving by law. Possibly world wide. EFFECT: Less pollution.</p> <p>I believe if the government does not take strict legal action we all will suffer. We can all celebrate Christmas all around the world can we not have a very strict save the planet day! We have so much to worry about gun violence, lung cancer not enough money, what ever difficulties we experience, but what if we did not have water to drink or food to eat all will come to an end. I truly believe as a citizen of my country and a human being what is happening now is only a little pinch of what is yet to come, if serious action is not taken. You represent the people of this country and have great powers to do something to make our planet saveable. Please all we ask for is to be heard , understood and action to be taken.</p>	E
What do we have?	E

Record of Public Comment		Type
<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet , GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D³ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>		
Climate Change Mitigation Comments		
<p>We have beaches, parks, water catchments and farms in and around Toronto. Protect them and enrich them. What can we create? We can create atmosphere which will encourage schools to take better care of their grounds and gardens–make them green. We can give tax breaks to home and property owners, so that they can cultivate and take greater care of their gardens. We teach, nature study to the kids. What we lack? We lack responsible governments. We lack ears of our elected officials. We lack action from general public. BASICALLY CANADIANS ARE UNAWARE OF THE CALAMITY WHICH IS DECENDING ON THEM</p>		
<p>Much can be done to improve Toronto's environmental footprint with fairly little work. Creating a better world for pedestrians is one of the top ways we can start. Encouraging (Subsidizing!) infill development will save money in the long run. Getting rid of all paved or unused lots downtown, for parking or other would also help in many ways. (Runoff, street life, density)</p> <p>Here is one easy approach.</p> <p>More Bikers, More Walkers, Less big fast dangerous vehicles.</p> <p>Tax S.U.V.s – charge more to park them. They take up room on narrow streets, and make the road more dangerous for bikers and everyone else.</p> <p>Alternate parking on street sides in winter so snow can be cleared from around vehicles – keeping bike lanes free of ice and snow, and reducing the work or year end ice removal from. Fines from parking non-compliance should help generate revenue.</p> <p>Multi-lane streets and huge intersections are dangerous for bikers and pedestrians. Reduce the width of University, which does not need to serve as a highway, to reduce vehicle speed. Give bike lanes and parking, separated by curbs, instead.</p> <p>Reduce width of road on either side of Railway Bridges on Bathurst, similarly, making it safer for Bikers and Pedestrians. There is no need to encourage car speed here- Cars go to a stop light before entering the Gardiner anyway.</p> <p>Same thing for the dangerous Bathurst/Front Street Intersection and the areas around the Exhibition Centre. Same thing with Queens Quay. Reduce numbers of lanes to promote safety and encourage other modes of transportation.</p> <p>We can start by just throwing in curbs. Someday, when we have the money, we can get rid of all that asphalt and replace it with something permeable, maybe even green!</p>	E	
<p>http://www.mikecolle.com/PDF/Eglinton%20Crosstown%20LRT%20backgrounder%20and%20survey%20-%20COLOUR.pdf</p>	E	
<p>I recommend the City ban leaf blowers. Blowers kick up harmful particulate into the air. This particulate contributes to smog days and impacts people's health. Other Cities have banned blowers why shouldn't Toronto. The current reduced-use motion passed by the City is absolutely lame.</p>	E	

Record of Public Comment		Type
E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D ³ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee		
Climate Change Mitigation Comments		
Several of the group felt that mitigation needed more attention in the document. Several people really struggled to understand the difference between Mitigation and Adaptation throughout the discussion and many kept coming back to actions that were necessary for mitigation, but that wouldn't necessarily reduce impacts in the short- and medium-term. There was a strong feeling that the strategy should be focused on those areas where Adaptation and Mitigation overlapped.		W
Participants also urged the City to make doing the right thing easier. They felt that there are too many bureaucratic and regulatory barriers to doing the right thing – parking requirements for condos, for example.		W
The document is weak on ecosystem impacts of Climate Change and how to address them. We can't rely on a stable environment any more. We are facing an environment of constant change. Some choices are hard to make. Are there native species that are resilient to Climate Change, or should we be looking to plant and foster the expansion of non-native species better suited to a hotter, stormier time?		W

APPENDIX 3: Comments Sceptical of Climate Change

Record of Public Comment	Type
<p>E – email, W – public workshop, B – business event, CS – comment sheet, GA – Gov/Academic workshop, D⁴ – Public deputations at Parks & Environment Committee</p>	
Surely we should not be wasting money on climate initiatives!	E
<p>Greetings!</p> <p>You are probably too busy to keep up with the facts on "Climate Change".</p> <p>The published data show that despite increases in CO2 emissions, there has been no warming trend since 1998. Even Dr. Rajendra Pachauri of the IPCC admits that the trend has plateaued. (You can easily check these facts).</p> <p>The hypothesis that anthropogenic CO2 is baneful to the climate is at odds with the observed data. There never was any scientific proof offered that anthropogenic CO2 was causing "global warming", and the divergence of the observed readings from theoretical projections shows that the hypothesis is fallacious.</p> <p>So to spend time and money on mitigating CO2 emissions is a needless waste of resources. City Council's job is run the municipality efficiently, not to publish alarmist advertisements on subjects which are outside its competence, and divert resources from its mandate.</p> <p>As my Grandmother used to say "People should stick to their knitting!".</p>	E
<p>This has become a RELIGION stop wasting so much tax dollars on people's fears.</p> <p>You mean you want me to print up a poster on paper? If everyone in Toronto did that, that would be a few million sheets of paper wasted but that's o.k. because it's something you believe in and a stupid idea like this should be expected from City Hall!</p> <p>"Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan to make sure we're ready" Do you actually believe this?</p> <p>Do me a favour put the money back into the infrastructure and stop wasting time and money!!! We should have an action plan to stop all the nonsense at City Hall!!!!</p>	E

⁴ The names of the deputants at Parks & Environment Committee are the only ones listed in this document as they are already listed in official public City of Toronto documents. All other names have been removed to protect privacy.