

Minutes from the Grants & Programs Committee Meeting held January 24, 2020

Meeting Date	January 24, 2020	Contact	Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager
Start Time	8:15 am	Phone	647-991-7347
Location	Meeting Room B, City Hall	E-mail	roconnor@taf.ca
Chair	Antoine Belaieff		

1. Welcome, introductions, acknowledgements

All present introduced themselves, including two new Committee members Laurel Atkinson and Nicola Crawhall, as well as two new TAF staff members Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager and Fatima Crerar, Vice President, Strategy and Partnerships.

The Committee welcomed back Committee member Tamar Heisler and acknowledged Antoine Belaieff in his first meeting as Committee Chair.

2. Review of Agenda

(January 17, 2020) Meeting Agenda, submitted by Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager.

Agenda approved.

3. Declarations of Interest pursuant to the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*

Erika Lontoc declared a conflict of interest with Item 5d.
Corey Diamond declared a conflict of interest with Item 5f.

4. Review of Grants and Programs Budget

(January 17, 2020) TAF grants budget and internal programs budget, submitted by Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager.

Ryan O'Connor presented the grants budget and internal programs budget for 2020.

5. Grant requests (for recommendation)

(January 17, 2020) Grant Proposals, submitted by Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager.

- a. **Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) – BOMA Toronto**
race2reduce

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$300,000 over 24 months due to the project's limited GHG impact, and concerns about capacity for region-wide engagement and the long-term viability of the program.

b. City of Burlington – Integrated Mobility Plan

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$250,000 over 18-24 months due to the project's lack of alignment with TAF's strategic objectives, as well as the lack of evidence regarding its GHG impact potential.

c. Durham Region Labour Council – Oshawa Battery Electric Vehicle Manufacturing

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$37,651 over 6 months due to concerns about the effectiveness of the proposed approach and a perceived need to mobilize a broader alliance of stakeholders to generate the desired outcome.

d. Environmental Defence Canada – Climate Accountability in Ontario

The Committee recommended funding of \$240,000 over 26 months to Environmental Defence Canada to support the achievement of the Ontario government's climate targets, and to mobilize stakeholders to advance ambitious climate action in the GTHA. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

- i. With the support of a Developmental Evaluation coach, prepare a Developmental Evaluation plan for approval by TAF staff, use the plan to assess progress against objectives on an ongoing basis, and report against the plan interim reports.

e. Mohawk College on behalf of the Bay Area Climate Change Council – Hamilton-Burlington Digital Hub for Climate Action

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$70,000 over 24 months due to insufficient evidence of the demand for this project among stakeholders, and concerns about the long-term maintenance and management of the proposed website.

f. Ontario Home Builders' Association – Multifamily Air Tightness Testing Pilot

The Committee recommended funding of \$170,000 over 12 months to the Ontario Home Builders' Association to engage stakeholders in the development of a manual for conducting air tightness testing in multifamily buildings, and to implement the manual at two pilot sites. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Clearly demonstrate the itemized costs associated with conducting air tightness testing in multi-family buildings, and incorporate these costs into financial projections to demonstrate the business case for scaling up air tightness tests.
- ii. OHBA provide written confirmation that the air tightness testing manual developed through this project will be made available to the target markets at no cost, for the purposes of accelerating the number and quality of air tightness tests taking place in the GTHA.

g. Pembina Institute – An Action Plan for Urban Freight Electrification

The Committee recommended funding of \$99,000 over nine months to the Pembina Institute to develop an action plan for businesses to adopt electric vehicles into their freight fleets, as well as a policy guide on the infrastructure, plans and policies required to advance fleet electrification in the GTHA. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Secure a letter of support from a large business with significant operations in the GTHA in which it commits to sharing relevant data in support of this project and to seriously considering implementation of the action plan recommendations.
- ii. With the support of a Developmental Evaluation coach, prepare a Developmental Evaluation plan for approval by TAF staff, and use the plan to assess progress against objectives on an ongoing basis.
- iii. Engage the Transition Accelerator to explore how it can support the achievement of project outcomes.

h. QUEST – Charging Up! Electric Vehicle Adoption in Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$103,200 over 25 months due to concerns about the limited scope of its stakeholder outreach strategy, and the lack of consideration for regulatory barriers in the project plan. The Committee directed TAF staff to present feedback to the grantseeker and invite them to reapply with a revised request.

i. Regional Municipality of Durham – Durham Deep Retrofit Program Concept Development

The Committee recommended funding of \$68,030 over five months to the Regional Municipality of Durham to develop a concept plan for a Durham residential home retrofit program, and a multi-year implementation plan. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Ensure that the program design incorporates municipal best practices and lessons learned from existing residential home retrofit programs across North America.
- ii. Align the program with existing and anticipated retrofit funding programs, and build in the necessary flexibility to enable the program to respond to and leverage future policy and funding decisions.

j. Ryerson University Urban Analytics Institute – How PTCs are changing the impact of VFH services on the environment

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$110,000 over six months due to insufficient evidence that the proposed strategy would be effective in achieving its stated objectives.

k. Sheridan College – Pilot Pollution Study with a View into Alternative Zero-Emission Trains and Buses

The Committee recommended against funding this proposal for \$132,641 over 18 months due to the project's lack of alignment with TAF's strategic objectives, and a lack of clarity regarding how this research will be used to influence relevant decision-making processes.

I. University of Toronto Smart Freight Centre – Expanding an Off-Peak Delivery Program in the Greater Toronto Area

The Committee recommended funding of \$92,000 over 24 months to the Smart Freight Centre to deliver and monitor an expanded off-peak delivery program which includes more business partners and municipalities in the GTHA, and to study the economic and GHG impacts of the program. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following condition:

- i. Broaden the scope of research to assess whether the OPD program generates rebound effects which lead to induced demand on roads.

m. Volta Research – Residential Takeoff and Analytics Tool for Low Carbon Retrofits

The Committee recommended funding of \$150,000 over 24 months to Volta Research to develop a new software tool to simplify the energy modeling process, and to improve the depth of low-carbon retrofits that are recommended to residential building owners in the process. The Committee's recommendation is subject to the following conditions:

- i. Volta Research leverages TAF funding to secure the additional \$48,250 that was requested
- ii. Volta Research provide written confirmation that the software tool developed through this project will be made available to the target markets at no cost, for the purposes of accelerating the number and quality of energy assessments taking place in the GTHA.

6. Internal Program Allocation Request

(January 17, 2020) Internal Program Allocation Request, submitted by Ryan O'Connor, Grants Manager

a. Impact Investing for Excellence

The Committee recommended funding of \$150,477 over 12 months to ensure TAF's impact investing team has the resources to reach the Target Portfolio goal of at least 30% of the TAF endowments in Direct Investments, as well as demonstrating leadership in impact investing.

b. Advancing Low Carbon Policy Solutions

The Committee recommended funding of \$51,675 over 12 months to enhance TAF's policy activities through the engagement of subject matter experts as consultants on key policy files, through adequate internal resourcing, and through relevant travel, communications, and events.

c. TowerWise: Accelerating Deep Energy Retrofits

The Committee recommended funding of \$476,860 over 12 months to support TAF's TowerWise program in leading deep energy retrofits in multi-unit residential buildings that demonstrate feasibility and provide knowledge to inform policy and programs required for scale.

d. TowerWise: Scaling Deep Energy Retrofits

The Committee recommended funding of \$187,500 over 12 months to provide TAF with the resources to operationalize the Retrofit Delivery Centre, which will accelerate the implementation of high-quality energy retrofits by managing administrative duties, leveraging partnerships, and increasing industry capacity.

e. Attracting Funds for GTHA Climate Solutions

The Committee recommended funding of \$102,000 over 12 months for TAF to hire a Climate Financing Advisor who will support GTHA municipalities in securing funding (grants) and financing (loans and other repayable capital) for climate action.

7. Internal Program Allocation Requests and Reports

(January 17, 2020) Internal Program Allocation Requests and Reports

The Committee received the reports for information.

Attendance and Meeting Sessions*

Date and Time	Quorum	Members
2020-01-24 8:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. (Public Session)	Present	<i>Present:</i> Antoine Belaieff (Chair), Corey Diamond, Erika Lontoc, Sandra Odendahl, Andre Vallillee, Nicola Crawhall, Tamar Heisler, Laurel Atkinson, Parminder Sandhu <i>Not Present:</i> Councillor Mike Layton, Ryan Ness, Andrew Dooner

*Members were present for all or part of the sessions