



New Official Plan

Energy

Energy systems are integrated into and an integral part of nearly every aspect of our daily lives including everything from heating and cooling our homes, bringing light to our streets and parks at night, and supplying fuel for our vehicles and transit systems to support mobility. Energy forces will shape Ottawa over the next century.

The purpose of this paper is to generate discussions regarding:

i. Meeting municipal GHG emission reduction targets

To achieve GHG emissions reduction targets for Canada, the federal government requires municipalities to be instrumental. The City of Ottawa has an aggressive GHG emission reduction target of 80% below 2012 levels by 2050. To meet this target, the City will be required to continue to work with key stakeholders and community partners, and to pursue relatively aggressive changes to support a sustained transition away from fossil fuels towards a low carbon economy.

ii. Shift to Renewable Energy Sources

There is a need to transition away from fossil fuels and to increase the supply of renewable energy, by promoting local and regional production and to prioritize the procurement of clean, renewable energy.

iii. Buildings

GHG emissions from buildings represents almost half of the total of GHG emissions released from Ottawa. In order to meet GHG emission reduction targets, consideration for buildings is of paramount importance. The City needs to establish ultra-low thermal requirements and increase energy efficiency in the construction of new buildings and in the remodelling of existing buildings.

iv. Transportation

GHG emissions from transportation represents 40% of the total of GHG emissions released from Ottawa. Complete and compact communities offer the greatest potential to reduce emissions from transportation. In addition, the City requires a strategy involving a significant reduction in car ownership and use, the design of zero emission public transit, and for all active transportation options and networks to be faster and more convenient.

v. Support for public/private/philanthropic collaboration to achieve goals

The City plays a key role in bringing community stakeholders together to facilitate discussions and foster collaboration in planning and strategizing on integrated approaches to achieve long term energy sustainability goals.

