

BurlingtonGreen input to City of Burlington Strategic Plan survey. May 2015

Let's Get Started

First, tell us what is the best thing about living/doing business in Burlington?

- Extensive parks and trails – green spaces and natural habitats
- A city that strives to be environmentally responsible and progressive
- The city is safe and accessible
- Offers good access to outdoor fitness activities
- Large enough to be vibrant and diverse without being overwhelmingly big

Now, describe the one thing City Council should do to make Burlington a better place to live or do business.

- Ensure planning and development preserve the environment and character of the city
- This specifically includes three areas:
 - Effective transportation: Greater commitment to public and active transportation; Better transit system to office/manufacturing areas to enable workers to commute by bus or car share; Increase number of neighbourhoods with high walkability scores – goal to live/work/play in one neighbourhood
 - Preservation of Greenspace: Develop a comprehensive greenspace inventory; Outline a clear preservation plan including prioritization of preservation areas and a plan to acquire land as necessary; Declare Burlington a Food & Water first community with no development on prime farmland and watershed areas; Protect natural habitats and encourage biodiversity
 - Urban Canopy protection and enhancement: Develop and implement an effective private property tree protection bylaw; Encourage planting and increase urban canopy

Thinking about the quality of life.....

STAYED THE SAME

What additional priorities should Burlington Council focus.....(pick top three)

PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION (BETWEEN THE CITY, RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT)

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP/SUSTAINABILITY

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION – CYCLING AND WALKING

Vibrant Neighbourhoods (pick one – two maximum)

PROTECT RURAL COMMUNITIES FROM URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE INTRUSION OF NEW HIGHWAYS OR QUARRIES

INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO CYCLE, WALK AND USE PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION

- Increase neighbourhood involvement in planning
- Enhance urban tree canopy – protecting current and planting new
- Address neighbourhood needs from environmental, social, and economic perspectives: ensure workable neighbourhoods that include shopping, school, greenspace and employment opportunities
- Ensure neighbourhoods have diverse housing options – goal to be able to “spend a lifetime” in your neighbourhood
- Declare Burlington a Food & Water first community

Prosperity (pick one – two maximum)

NURTURE AN INNOVATIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND WORK WITH PARTNERS TO CREATE EMPLOYMENT AND LIFESTYLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES

- Specifically target and support “green” manufacturers/services to make Burlington their head office – become a green centre of excellence
- Support and promote local agricultural production

Excellence in Government (pick one – two maximum)

FORGE STRONG COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS, WITH OPEN DIALOGUE AND CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN MUNICIPAL ISSUES

ENSURE WE ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE

- It is a given that financial sustainability is important, but this needs to balance with social and environmental sustainability when making decisions