

**Halton Environmental Network Delegation – Lisa Kohler, HEN ED**  
**Town of Halton Hills**  
**Re Item # PD-2021-0024**

The report on the implementation of new Green Development Standards (GDS) for the Town of Halton Hills is welcomed and supported by the Halton Environmental Network (HEN). The GDS will be advancing action on the Town's Climate Emergency Declaration and the Low Carbon Transition Strategy.

**HEN congratulates the Town of Halton Hills on its successful completion** of work thus far. The Town is moving forward on significant initiatives, through the Low Carbon Transition Strategy. These initiatives include numerous climate actions such as establishing electric vehicle charging stations, district energy, continuing with corporate building energy management initiatives and building a GHG emissions lens into plans.

Green Development Standard is a set of environmental performance measures that facilitate sustainable new development and can be a key component of the Town's commitment to the achievement of a healthy, prosperous, and climate-resilient Town. The Halton Hills Green Development Standard plays a critical role in transforming and influencing the market and provincial regulation by consistently raising the bar for performance. Halton Hills' leadership on GDS has been responsible for developing capacity amongst developers, and demonstrating that the industry can and will build higher performance buildings, and for that we at HEN are grateful. **The results of this updated GDS will be valuable to help inform actions to move deep energy retrofits into a sustainable program for the residential sector. Building for climate resiliency utilizing GDS will avoid costly retrofits in the future.**

HEN fully supports continuing, updating, and establishing this new version of Halton Hill's GDS, **building on your award-winning Green Development Evaluation Checklist**. These new Standards create a highly flexible set of criteria that are anticipated to materialize in more sustainable, high-performance, and efficient development – benefiting the development/building industry as well as building owners/occupants. The Standards are designed to maximize development's positive attributes, while minimizing potentially negative impacts. Having a strategy clearly developed and communicated will help the building community understand how a new building needs to be designed and implemented. These standards will also show our community **your Town's commitment to climate action**, allowing for a deeper understanding of sustainable development and design all while reducing your community's GHGe. These updated standards will contribute to economic prosperity, environmental health, community vibrancy, and social well-being.



HEN remains committed to working with the Town and the Halton community on efforts that align with GDS. Actions by community partners, institutions, businesses, residents and not-for-profit groups are and will be integral to the success of the Strategy. HEN also is aware that the Town of Halton Hills' population is anticipated to increase by 45% by 2030, from 63,000 in 2016 to nearly 92,000, according to Town projections. This projection captures the development at Vision Georgetown. To ensure the Town aligns with their climate emergency declaration and Vision, it is imperative that GDS reflect the necessary actions to stay the course for climate action.

HEN continues as the backbone agency of the Halton Climate Collective, a collective in which the Town of Halton Hills is a partner. The HCC convened in 2017 and includes municipalities, institutions and school boards, all focused on collectively transforming Halton into a low-carbon, climate-resilient community.

Going into its fifth year, thousands of voices have been heard through a variety of engagements. Conversations within the community on climate resiliency, community and individual action and the power of collective impact have elevated and advanced progress towards environmental sustainability. This work drives climate actions and successful outcomes in line with the GDS Strategy.

HEN is pleased to support the staff recommendation in regards to Green Development Standards.

**It will be important for the Town to stay the course, maintain its commitment to the GDS**, to continue efforts on corporate sustainability and climate initiatives and work with community partners towards common goals.

HEN remains committed to working with the Town, to achieve the goals of the Town of Halton Hills and our community.

Warm Regards,



Lisa Kohler

Executive Director

