



Staff Report

Operations – Sustainability & Solid Waste

Report To: COW-Operations_Planning_and_Development_Services
Meeting Date: February 6, 2024
Report Number: CSOPS.24.009
Title: Future Story Implementation Report Card
Prepared by: Jeffery Fletcher, Manager of Sustainability & Solid Waste

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.24.009, entitled “Future Story Implementation Report Card” for their information.

B. Overview

The Future Story is the Town’s Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (Plan), completed in late 2022. Action 20 of the Plan includes the review of implementation through the release of an annual report card.

C. Background

The Blue Mountains [Future Story](#) provides a detailed description of the four big moves (create climate solutions, build sustainable neighbourhoods, grow an innovative and thriving community, and collaborate and take action) and 20 Bold Actions that intend to move the community toward a desired future.

The plan consists of an implementation framework that is built upon the following three principles: collaboration; progress; and, reflection. The Town of The Blue Mountains, like everywhere, is a dynamic place and adaptability is required to respond to new situations and opportunities. Reflecting on year one of implementation allows staff and the community to consider the progress on the anticipated actions and steps in the Plan.

D. Analysis

Just over a year of implementation work has established progress in all 20 Bold Action areas of the Plan. The 20 Bold Actions have detailed steps that are outlined in Attachment 1. The attachment also includes a progress report and comments for each step, when relevant. As implementation occurs, the timelines and keys steps may change to reflect the realities of resourcing and opportunities.

This report allows Council, community, and staff to reflect on progress and consider steps that have not been advanced. Specifically, Bold Action 17 imagined the use of the Town's reporting structures to ensure decisions contribute towards the vision and goals of the Plan. More work needs to be done in this area and staff are identifying opportunities to mobilize the potential of departments and systems to achieve sustainability goals.

Many areas have achieved significant advancement in year one and the list below highlights a selection of successful steps.

- The 2023 update to the Town's Engineering Standards included provisions to address climate change through storm water design, low impact development, and tree species list that anticipate a migrating hardiness zone.
- Initiated a natural asset inventory, including individual street tree assessments.
- Net Zero Municipal Building Emissions Policy and Deconstruction Policy adopted by Council.
- Collaborating with Grey County and other upper and lower tier municipalities to prepare Green Development Standards.
- New Waste Management and Litter Control By-law.
- Circular economy project initiated, business workshops and recommendations report to be completed in 2024.
- Town joined UNESCO Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities.
- Official Plan process completing a Housing Needs Assessment to understand affordable housing needs.

Staff recommend that Council review the attached report card for their information and reflection. Once Council has received this staff report, the associated Future Story 2023 Report Card will be posted to the Town website and distributed to the community.

Next steps for 2024 for implementation will include development of corporate and community scope biodiversity strategy with the benefit of the natural asset inventory. Staff will also be investigating new federal funding to support a green infrastructure stormwater project. A review of the Town's grey infrastructure will be completed for climate adaptation and vulnerability with Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC). An effort will be made to consider adding the requirement for construction waste management plans in development agreements.

As outlined in the Plan, Bold Action 19 calls for an annual sustainability summit. Coordination and planning has begun to host a summit in May of 2024.

E. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders.

F. Environmental Impacts

The vision of the Future Story – “The Blue Mountains’ communities are world-renowned as stewards of a healthy environment and as champions of well-being, sociocultural diversity, innovation, and regeneration to become the best place to live, work, and play for future generations.” Continued implementation and review of the Plan will work towards achieving the goals under natural environment, built environment, economy, community and culture, social well-being, and governance.

G. Financial Impacts

None currently.

H. In Consultation With

The attachment has been shared for review by all Service Area Managers and Senior Management Team.

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Jeffery Fletcher, Manager of Sustainability & Solid Waste managersolidwaste@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

1. Attachment 1 Future Story Report Card 2023

Respectfully submitted,

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Shawn Carey
Director Operations

For more information, please contact:
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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	CSOPS.24.009 Future Story Implementation Report Card.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 Future Story Implementation Report Card 2023.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jan 18, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jeff Fletcher - Jan 10, 2024 - 1:00 PM

Shawn Carey - Jan 11, 2024 - 1:30 PM

No Signature found

Shawn Everitt - Jan 18, 2024 - 8:13 AM