

THE FUTURE STORY

Implementation
Report Card

2023





INTRODUCTION

The Blue Mountains Future Story (TBM Future Story) is our Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. TBM Future Story was endorsed by Council on July 4, 2022 and outlines 20 Bold Actions for the Town and community to undertake over the next five years as we work towards our vision and goals for a sustainable future.

Of the 20 Bold Actions, Bold Action #20: Release an annual report card on sustainability, commits the Town to report publicly on the status of TBM Future Story implementation on a yearly basis. This Report Card is the Town’s first such report, providing an overview of progress made after July 4, 2022 and through the entirety of 2023.

This Report Card is organized into the following sections, as per TBM Future Story’s four “Big Move” action areas:

Create Climate Solutions	Pages 3-9
Build Sustainable Neighbourhoods.....	Pages 10-14
Grow an Innovative and Thriving Community	Pages 15-18
Implement & Collaborate	Pages 19-21

The full version of TBM Future Story can be found at www.TBMFutureStory.ca. This website includes the full PDF version of TBM Future Story as well as an online summary of the plan, along with progress updates, links to final deliverables (such as new policy documents) and other relevant information. Town staff will periodically update this site as further progress is made through 2024.

ABOUT THE 2023 FUTURE STORY REPORT CARD

Thank you for your interest in learning about the progress we have made so far to implement TBM Future Story. This Report Card marks the first progress report in what will be an annual commitment of the Town. The information provides a snapshot of what has been advanced, related budget, and comments on successes and barriers.

All 20 of the Bold Actions in TBM Future Story are important priorities to help us achieve long-term sustainability. The vision of TBM Future Story is as follows:

“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.”

This long-term vision encapsulates the many Goals of TBM Future Story, working towards long-term sustainability by considering the Town’s Natural Environment, Built Environment, Economy, Community and Culture, Social Well-Being, and Governance. These goals are expanded on within the full TBM Future Story.

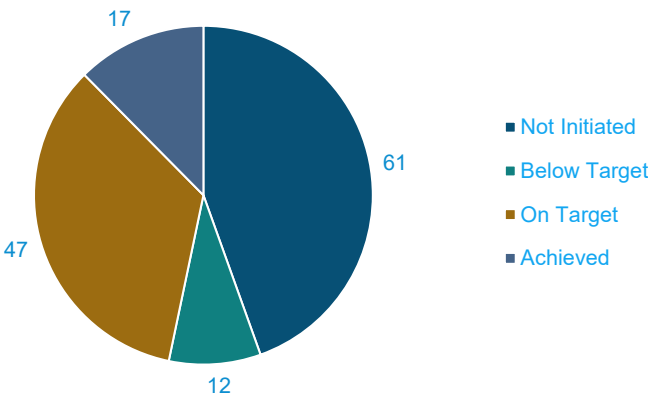
Implementation of the plan’s Key Steps will continue to adjust as necessary to find opportunities of natural momentum. This means that if enthusiasm and effort develop among community partners around a specific topic, or if external funding becomes available for specific project types, the Town may shift priorities to take advantage of these opportunities. Adjustments to priorities may also be made in response to feedback received from Council upon periodic review of the annual Report Cards.

Each of this Report Card’s pages includes a Bold Action and the Key Steps as originally written in TBM Future Story. Each page includes comments on progress, status ratings (‘Achieved’, ‘On Target’, ‘Below Target’ and ‘Not Initiated’), and Explanations of Below-Target and Not-Initiated steps to provide detail on any challenges and opportunities affecting progress. Each page also includes the original high-level cost estimate from TBM Future Story, as well as 2023 Allocation (actual spending) and 2024 Budget (anticipated spending) beside Key Steps where spending occurred. Most key steps were addressed with staff time.

TBM Future Story has a 5-year implementation horizon. The following is a high-level summary of progress made in the first (1.5 years) of implementing TBM Future Story’s 137 Key Steps:

- 55% (76 of 137) were initiated – either Below Target, On Target or Achieved
- 47% (64 of 137) were On Target or Achieved
- 53% (73 of 137) were Below Target or Not Initiated

Progress on TBM Future Story Key Steps



We hope you find this Report Card informative! This is a snapshot in time, and progress has continued to take place through early 2024. If you have any questions after reviewing the Report Card or would like to know more about current sustainability activities, please reach out sustainability@thebluemountains.ca or go to www.TBMFutureStory.ca to view more frequent updates on Bold Action areas.

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 1: Achieve Milestone 5 in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners for Climate Protection program

Plan Estimate: No cost

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3: Apply for recognition of Corporate Milestone 3 and Community Milestones 2 and 3 with existing targets and action plans.	Recognition from the PCP program for Milestones 2 and 3 was received in July 2022.	Achieved		Staff time	
2023-2027: Begin implementing actions to reduce GHG emissions as proposed in the Town's Municipal Response to the Cimate Emergency Declaration and in TBM Future Story.	New Municipal Net Zero Emissions Buildings Policy, and Municipal Construction Waste and Deconstruction Policy are two examples.	On Target		Staff time	Facilities & Fleet Budget
Continue to introduce GHG-reducing projects/initiatives into successive annual budget processes as needed and appropriate, as recommended by TBM Future Story and/or the Town's Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan.	In 2024 budget, requested funding for an updated Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan and additional matching funds to access external GMF funding for a GHG reduction pathway feasibility study.	On Target			Up to \$50k capital budget
Annual corporate GHG inventories and periodic communications/reporting on results.	Budgeting for 2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan and GHG inventory (annual reporting is in development).	Below Target	Data challenges - transitioning to RETScreen software (Natural Resources Canada, best option) to enable regular energy and GHG reporting. Will be ready in 2024 to support Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan update.		Staff time
2027: Apply for recognition of Corporate Milestone 4 (Implement a local climate action plan) and Corporate Milestone 5 (Monitor, Track and Report results). Milestone 5 may take additional time beyond 2027 to accomplish, depending on staff resourcing/ time to estimate GHG impacts of specific projects.		Not Initiated			N/A
Work with Grey County to receive an updated community scope GHG inventory for The Blue Mountains.	Provision of this is in delay and with the County	Below Target	County recently hired a new position to work on climate change data. Separating TBM data out from some of our neighbours is a challenge due to small size and sharing first three digits of the postal codes. Preparing localized GHG inventories requires much more effort on the County's part than initially understood.		N/A
Undertake reporting to achieve Community Milestones 4 and 5 in the 2027-2028 period – to align with a 5-year review period for Grey County's CCAP.		Not Initiated			N/A

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 2: Expand low-carbon transportation options to include regional electric vehicle infrastructure and greening the TBM municipal fleet Plan Estimate: >\$75,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q1-Q3: Develop a proposed map of suggested community EV charger locations with rationale- based support.	Town has installed a network of 12 public level 2 chargers.	On Target		\$8k Sustainability Budget \$180k external	Staff time
Participate in regional collaboration meetings for charging corridors. (ongoing)	Coordinating with multi-county program “Rural Recharge” to install level 3 public charging in Thornbury by 2025.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Identify local opportunities for public EV chargers and seek funding to expand the local EV charging network.	Town has installed a network of 12 public level 2 chargers.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
Explore opportunities to support electric bicycles.	Initial discussions with e-bike business.	On Target		Staff time	
2023, Q4: Business case to understand fleet savings from electrification. Create transition plan 1) to identify short-, medium- and long-term opportunities to transition fleet vehicles and equipment to electric power; 2) to implement charging stations at key Town facilities; 3) to replace internal combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles.	Consideration for electrification of waste collection truck included in 2023 service RFP - option was not adopted.	Below Target	Manager of Facilities & Fleet has indicated a prerequisite to transitioning fleet is installation of EV charging infrastructure. Initiatives to find EV charger opportunities at Town facilities took precedence.	Staff time	
2024, Q1-Q2: Consult with Town Manager and Director-level staff.	Electrification Strategy being considered by Staff	On Target		N/A	
Bring plan to Council for approval.		Not Initiated		N/A	
2024, Q3: Investigate and create a recommendation on whether or not to implement electric vehicle charging stations into the Community Improvement Plan (potential incentive 3.11 Property Enhancement and Improvement Program). » Consider local locations for chargers and opportunities to leverage corporate chargers.		Not Initiated		N/A	
Once the transition plan is completed, begin implementing plan, beginning with installation of EV charging stations for Town fleet vehicles that fall within the near-term opportunity category.		Not Initiated		N/A	
Continue to seek funding opportunities and/or technology/ charger location choices (e.g., allowing public to use Town EV chargers in off hours) to offset costs of Town EV charging infrastructure and build local EV charging capacity.		On Target		N/A	

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 3: Develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan with Grey County’s Climate Change Action Plan

Plan Estimate: \$25,000 - \$75,000

Staff Comments: Grey County is exploring options for community-wide adaptation planning

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q2: Operations to outreach to the County to join a milestone process, such as the ICLEI Building Adaptive and Resilient Communities (BARC) program to assist with funding and plan development.		On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q3 - 2024, Q4: Collaborate with the County, local industry, and community organizations throughout plan development. Expected start of this project is late 2023.		Not Initiated	If funding is secured, work will begin in 2024.	N/A	Staff time
Identify impacts to key economic sectors in the Town from climate change impacts.		Not Initiated	This and other key steps clearly identify a community scope for the adaptation plan, working with the County makes the most sense to satisfy this action.	N/A	Staff time
Identify potential opportunities that may arise from climate change in the Town.		Not Initiated	Will require community engagement (businesses, ag) on community climate adaptation plan.	N/A	Staff time
Identify areas of potential investment and development/ building standards modification for the Town.		Not Initiated	Green Development Standards will likely include a climate adaptation aspect (see BA9).	N/A	Staff time
Create and/or circulate group-created educational materials to spread awareness of climate change risks and adaptation measures.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	Staff time
2025: Modify Engineering Standards (See action 4) to address identified climate risks.		On Target		Staff time	N/A

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 4: Update engineering standards to incorporate resilience to climate change

Plan Estimate: >\$75,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2024, Q2: Town staff to review the joint Climate Change Adaptation Plan [see Action 3] and consider implementation strategies.	Official Plan Phase 2 completed an Environment and Climate Change background paper with numerous recommendations to update existing policies and weave a strong environment and climate change focus throughout all policy sections of the Plan.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Research best practices for climate adaptation strategies in engineering standards, and staff training options such as the Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) to build staff capacity.	The Town anticipates hosting PIEVC (Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee) training in 2024 for staff to introduce a climate change vulnerability and risk assessment tool.	On Target		Staff time	\$5k Sustainability Budget
2024, Q3: Deliver workshops with industry groups to gather additional engineering standard implementation practices.	Planning hosted Official Plan Engagement sessions on the topics of Environment and Climate Change. Policy updates will be considered. Engineering standard implementation practices to be started.	Below Target		N/A	N/A
2025, Q1: Revise and adopt new engineering standards.	The 2023 update to the Town’s Engineering Standards include provisions to address climate change through storm sewer design, low impact development and tree species list that anticipate a migrating hardiness zone.	Achieved		Staff time - Operations workplan in 2023 Approved Budget	N/A
Annually Review engineering standards.		Achieved		Staff time	Staff time

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 5: Develop a natural asset inventory to include climate vulnerabilities and inform asset management planning

Plan Estimate: \$500 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q1: Apply to participate in Municipal Natural Assets Initiative (MNAI) training opportunity to build staff capacity and an understanding of the necessary steps to develop a natural assets inventory.	Training and natural asset road map completed in 2023 with the Natural Assets Initiative (NAI).	Achieved		Staff time	N/A
2023, Q2: Create a business case and/or roadmap to develop a natural assets inventory, and circulate with key community stakeholders (e.g. development sector, environmental not-for-profits).	Roadmap is complete, stakeholders will be consulted during the 2024 development of the Town's natural asset inventory.	On Target		\$500 Sustainability Budget	N/A
2023, Q3-Q4: Present business case/roadmap and potential budget to Council, and receive a decision of how to proceed with a natural assets inventory.	Roadmap was presented to Council in June 2023.	Achieved		Staff time	N/A
Consult with regional municipalities and Conservation Authorities, particularly those in Grey County's initiative to develop a climate change adaptation plan, to identify potential opportunities to receive necessary data and/or collaborate (see Action 3)	Consultants and planning staff are leading data acquisition to support the natural assets inventory. Additional collaboration and sharing of data is expected to occur with Bold Action 3.	On Target		Staff time	N/A
2024, Q1: Once approved, begin development of natural asset inventory.	Initiated in 2023.	On Target		\$55k Sustainability Budget	N/A
2025: Natural asset inventory created and periodically updated.		Not Initiated	NAI still in development. Tree inventory may be easier to update, full inventory should be updated every 5 years.	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 6: Develop a biodiversity strategy (continued on next page)

Plan Estimate: \$25,000 - \$75,000

Staff Comments: Delayed until after Bold Action 5 is completed. Staff have learned that developing a biodiversity strategy will benefit from natural assets inventory data.

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q1: Complete a biodiversity policy for Town-owned lands.		Not Initiated	As per the Comment beside Bold Action 6, this has been delayed as the NAI needed to come first. As this was initially budgeted for 2023, staff pivoted to allocate this budget to the Circular Economy Recommendations Report.		\$58k Sustainability Budget
2023, Q4: Establish project terms of reference, goals and rationale for community-scope biodiversity strategy and determine if external support or partnerships are required for strategy development.		Not Initiated	See above.		Staff time
2024, Q1: If external support or partnerships are required, establish a budget and obtain approval for strategy development.		Not Initiated	See above.		Staff time
2024, Q2-Q4: Identify urban conservation, biodiversity and urban and agricultural tree canopy best practices.	Natural assets inventory helping to inform this piece.	On Target			Staff time
Begin annual biodiversity assessment studies on Town lands and facilities		Not Initiated	See above. How to accomplish annual biodiversity assessments will be a good question to bring into strategy development.		Staff time
Track the urban canopy current state assessment for The Blue Mountains.	A full inventory of Town-owned trees began in summer 2023. More work to be completed with volunteers through 2024.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Identify data needs that could be gathered by a citizen science effort, and how this data might be collected, and how it will be used to improve local conservation and biodiversity, for example: locations, types and removal of invasive species and/or shoreline plastics	In addition to the tree inventory, citizen science efforts also included litter cleanups with Georgian Bay Forever utilizing waste tracking sheets to identify and quantify the types of litter being found.	On Target		ES Fund project with GBF \$5k	ES Fund projects with GBF and Treetrust TBM of 2 x \$2.5k
2024, Q4: Facilitate a citizen science campaign and co-develop a detailed set of goals and rationale. Explore opportunities for community leadership, and connections between gathered data and local/regional action to mitigate environmental impacts.		On Target			ST & ES Fund Projects
2025, Q1-Q2: Finalize and circulate the draft Community Biodiversity Strategy		Not Initiated	See above.		N/A

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 6: Develop a biodiversity strategy (continued from previous page)

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2025, Q3: Propose biodiversity initiatives to amend 3.11 of the Community Improvement Plan “Property Enhancement and Improvement Program.”		Not Initiated	See above.		N/A
Implement newly-identified biodiversity strategies into all subsequent plans, including Official Plan Updates, where applicable.		Not Initiated	Biodiversity Strategy will focus on Town lands. Natural Assets Inventory will support OP (NAI and Natural Heritage Study in same project).		N/A
Remove limitations on and add requirements for biodiversity in Town bylaws.		Not Initiated	See above.		N/A

BIG MOVE 1 – CREATE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Bold Action 7: Expand production of sustainable local food

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q4: Conduct research and create a rationale and list of amendments to update the zoning bylaw to remove barriers for community gardens and urban agriculture.	Work is not planned to begin until after the Official Plan Review is completed. Current timeline is a start date of 2025.	Not Initiated	Planning staff who proposed and fleshed out this action in TBM Future Story left the Town. Planning has been understaffed. This will need to be a special project in the 2025 budget to receive dedicated staff time and funding.	N/A	N/A
Identify urban agriculture and connect best practices.	Special Project to be considered by Budget/ Council direction.	Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
Identify opportunities for communication and collaboration for community development.	Special Project to be considered by Budget/ Council direction.	Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
2023, Q2: Perform key stakeholder engagement on amendments, and potential actions to enhance urban agriculture.	Special Project to be considered by Budget/ Council direction.	Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
Coordinate messaging with the ‘Grown in Blue’ marketing campaign to promote and support regenerative management and a sustainable agriculture sector.	Town-led event in 2023 that promoted local agriculture - “Open Fields”	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Collaborate with Grey County and partners on agriculture-related initiatives in Grey’s Climate Change Action Plan, where appropriate.	Collaborating with County and lower-tier municipal staff on the Climate Change Community of Practice in multiple areas.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Assist in coordinating a network of regenerative land management practitioners, possibly via Grey Agricultural Services or other local agricultural networks such as Regenerate Grey Bruce.	Regenerate Grey Bruce is developing a network, Town staff are participating in opportunities.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q4: Present findings and proposed implementation to Council.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
2024, Q1: Begin a public promotion campaign to encourage urban agriculture practices.	Special Project to be considered by Budget/ Council direction.	Not initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 2 – BUILD SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Bold Action 8: Develop a net-zero municipal building policy

Plan Estimate: To be determined

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3: Draft a Net Zero Municipal Building Policy for staff review and revisions.	Complete.	Achieved		Staff time	N/A
Consider possible linkages with other future municipal policies including a Municipal Building Deconstruction Policy, Biodiversity Strategy for Town lands (Bold Action 6), and a long-term plan to transition Town fleet vehicles to electric alternatives (Bold Action 2).	Municipal Construction Waste and Deconstruction Policy adopted by Council with Net Zero Municipal Building Emissions Policy in June 2023. Biodiversity and electrification of Town Fleet to be considered in 2024.	On Target		Staff time	N/A
2023, Q1: Draft policy/policies brought to Town Council for consideration and adoption	Completed in June 2023.	Achieved		Staff time	N/A
2023-2027: Implement the adopted Net Zero Municipal Building Policy for any new buildings.	Ongoing.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Continue to work towards the Town’s net zero emissions by 2050 target through implementation of the Town’s Energy Conservation and Demand Management (ECDM) Plan (including consideration for the social cost of carbon) and in future ECDM Plan updates. This may include equipment upgrades, fuel switching/renewable energy, and/or other retrofits.	Future ECDM Plan update RFP being written and work will be completed in 2024. Possible net zero pathway feasibility study for Town buildings seeking Green Municipal Fund support did not receive capital funding in the draft 2024 budget and will be pursued in 2025.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time

BIG MOVE 2 – BUILD SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Bold Action 9: Develop and implement Green Development Standards

Plan Estimate: >\$75,000

Staff Comments: Led by Grey County, in collaboration with Huron and Wellington Counties. Initiating the collaborative effort and RFP for creation.

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3 - 2023, Q1: Follow Milestone 1: Declaration Phase. This involves building a team and business case for the project, and identifying current practices and objectives of the GDS. *Note* the 4 Milestone process comes from a 2021 Clean Air Partnership toolkit, "Towards Low Carbon Communities: Creating Municipal Green Development Standards".	Grey County released the RFP in fall 2023.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Collaborate with Grey County and lower-tier municipalities to potentially share resourcing and a common development process for County-wide GDS. Timeline may be revised to align with the County's timeline if this becomes the preferred way forward.	Timeline was revised, collaboration will occur.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
The Town's Official Plan update process will consider if/how a future County-wide GDS might be supported by local Official Plan policies.	Town planning and development staff are aware this is in the pipeline and will be engaged in the GDS development process.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q2-Q4: Follow Milestone 2: Metric Development and Consultation.		Not Initiated	Green Development Standards work initiated by County and partners to begin in 2024. May or may not follow the Milestone process. Progress through 2024/25 to completion.	N/A	Staff time
2024, Q1-Q3: Follow Milestone 3: Implementation.		Not Initiated	See above	N/A	Staff time
2024, Q4 onwards: Follow Milestone 4: Track, Monitor and Review.		Not Initiated	See above	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 2 – BUILD SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Bold Action 10: Monitor and estimate increases in active transportation uptake as supported by the Transportation Master Plan

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q2: Identify key metrics for active transportation in the community, focusing on measures that are realistic and meaningful.	Usage of the Georgian Trail was identified as the primary metric available to Town staff.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q3-Q4: Establish processes and protocols for measuring identified metrics, including timing and regularity of measurement.	Community Services staff track Georgian Trail use at four locations and report annually.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2024 - onward: Measure and report on changes to active transportation infrastructure and use.		On Target		Staff time	Staff time

BIG MOVE 2 – BUILD SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Bold Action 11: Establish a residential green retrofit program

Plan Estimate: >\$75,000

Staff Comments: Additional efforts have included: providing educational workshops for residents to learn about the Greener Homes Grant/Enbridge opportunities.

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q2 - 2024, Q1: Explore financing and partnership options for a residential green retrofit program, including provincial and federal programs, collaborating with Grey County or a province-wide initiative, financial institution programs and utility bill programs.	Town staff met with Grey County and Clean Air Partnership to consider local/regional study and funding options.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
2024, Q2: Develop recommendations on the initial steps towards a green retrofit program for Council to consider. Recommendations may include a feasibility study and/ or seeking staff time/resources to collaborate with a larger initiative.	Grey County is exploring an opportunity for a feasibility study with Clean Air Partnership, seeking Green Municipal Fund funding. New Federal and Provincial programs (Home Efficiency Rebates Plus) also support this key step.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2024, Q3: Subject to approval of proceeding, develop budget recommendations for the next budget cycle.		Not Initiated	Grey County has applied for GMF funding for a Feasibility Study. Time was taken to seek additional partners (cost sharing, broader impact) and Town staff made efforts to inform residents of existing programs in the meantime. If funding is approved in early 2024, work will proceed.	N/A	Staff time
2024, Q4 - 2025, Q1: Incorporate budget for green retrofit program and pursue next steps to develop and implement a green retrofit program or programs.		Not Initiated	Plan assumes fast track to implementing a retrofit program, which conversations with CAP/ partners and additional research has shown may not be realistic. Feasibility study comes first, then program design & seeking funding, then implementation which may require an additional staff person (if a Local Improvement Charge mechanism is used). Expect an expanded timeline.	N/A	Staff time

BIG MOVE 2 – BUILD SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Bold Action 12: Establish litter and construction waste management plans

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
Q3, 2022: Implement deconstruction policy for municipal buildings with minimum diversion targets.	Municipal Construction Waste and Deconstruction Policy Completed in 2023.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
Q2, 2023: Implement requirement for litter control and construction waste management plans for medium to large land development applications.	New Waste Management and Litter Control By-law intended to assist, provides clear rules and monetary penalties. More work needed to integrate into development applications	Below Target		Staff time	Staff time
Q1, 2024: Work with and prepare waste industry and contractors to build capacity to include multi-sort options for construction site waste service.		Not Initiated		N/A	\$2k Sustainability Budget
Q2, 2024: Broaden policy to individual building applications, start with deconstruction permit to replace building demolition permit.		Not Initiated		N/A	See above
Expand construction management plans to all building applications. Start with voluntary diversion plans providing a template form during permit process.		Not Initiated		N/A	See above
Assist in building local industry around reuse of waste resources and valuable wood in vintage house structures.	Beginning work on consulting with local stakeholders on circular economy.	Below Target		N/A	See above

BIG MOVE 3 – GROW AN INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Bold Action 13: Establish/support a green economy task force to identify economic opportunities in the community (continued on next page)

Plan Estimate: >\$5,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3-Q4: Engage with local/regional partners to understand how green economy priorities might be pursued collaboratively for greater potential impact.	Town staff collaborating with Institute of Southern Georgian Bay (ISGB) and regional partners on the green economy hub concept.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Confirm if The Blue Mountains will participate in an initiative to develop a Green Economy Hub for the Southern Georgian Bay region with the Institute of Southern Georgian Bay, which is initiating this work in 2022, and consider if the Town can provide funding and support to enable the Institute to facilitate this work. This work may include identifying social enterprises across the Southern Georgian Bay region.	Coordinated and participated in a regional event Achieveing Sustainability through a Green Economy, with the Institute of Southern Georgian Bay.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Town staff to assist, if possible, with an Institute of Southern Georgian Bay initiative to identify social enterprises across the region.	Stakeholders being identified with ISGB.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q1: Town staff to participate in conceptualizing and building a regional Green Economy Hub or similar organization with the Institute of Southern Georgian Bay and other local/regional partners and green economy stakeholders.	ISGB committee to develop a feasibility study to establish a region Green Economy Hub.	On Target		Staff time	\$5k Sustainability Budget
2023, Q2-Q3: Review of existing Town plans/documents to identify initiatives already in place and address gaps/opportunities.		Below Target		Staff time	Staff time
Engage the business community and green economy experts on opportunities for The Blue Mountains.	This step will occur during the proposed feasibility study and/or as part of Bold Action 19.	Not Initiated	Began collaborating on the Green Economy Hub concept in 2023 as natural momentum developed with regional partners. A regional hub will bring greater value to TBM and the broader region. A TBM-specific hub would not be possible given the small size of the local business community, lack of a parent organization, etc.	N/A	Staff time
2023, Q3: Provide recommendation report to Council for 2024 budget consideration.	Creating a Green Economy Hub is a multi-step process requiring a feasibility study and strong stakeholder support. Information or a budget request to Council will be provided when appropriate.	Not Initiated	Budget request included Sustainability Summit funds which will be allocated partially to this initiative; however, the cost to officially start a hub and to divide this cost between founders and other partners will need to be determined through Green Economy Canada's milestone process.	N/A	Staff time

BIG MOVE 3 – GROW AN INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Bold Action 13: Establish/support a green economy task force to identify economic opportunities in the community (continued from previous page)

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2024 - ongoing: Town staff and engaged community partners to continue and build participation.		Not Initiated	It was optimistic to consider implementing a Green Economy Hub in 2024. Buy-in with the business community & other regional partners, and the Green Economy Canada milestones, will all take time.	N/A	Staff time
Consider if/how engagement of the business community on other Future Story actions might be supported by the Green Economy Hub or Town-led task force		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
Upon launch of a Green Economy Hub, Town staff will write a report to Council recommending how the Town may continue its participation.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 3 – GROW AN INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Bold Action 14: Develop a Circular Economy Recommendations Report and expand circular economy programming

Plan Estimate: \$25,000 - \$75,000

Staff Comments: Work initiated January 2024 and not in 2023 due to time constraints. May have been a longer delay if not for learning that Bold Action 6 should follow Bold Action 5 which freed up some budget for this work.

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q1: Apply to participate in the FCM CCRI Peer to Peer Network.	Town has engaged with CCRI for information and any new opportunities to participate (P2P network currently on pause for new members).	On Target		Staff time	
2023, Q2: Workshop with local businesses, library board, and other stakeholders to understand what is currently being done to support the circular economy and potential local opportunities.	End-of-year 2023, Town has hired a consultant that will undertake stakeholder engagement work to inform a Circular Economy Recommendations Report in early 2024. Town will also support Master's student research in this area focusing on single use plastics.	On Target		\$25k Sustainability Budget	N/A
Coordinate with activities related to a Green Economy Task Force (see Action 13) to gather public participants and advocates.		Not Initiated	Can't happen until GEH is operational.	N/A	Staff time
Conduct staff investigations to understand lifecycle considerations for procurement policies.		Not Initiated	Time was the main challenge. Council directed staff to review decision-making and sustainability intersections in 2024.	N/A	Staff time
Research and identify circular economy opportunities for the community.		Not Initiated	Currently happening (early 2024).	N/A	Staff time
Create a report on potential circular economy implementation.		Not Initiated	Expected by Summer 2024.	N/A	Staff time
2023, Q4: Begin expanding the Library of Things program offered by the library including: Find additional storage spaces to expand library options, assist the library in recruiting donations, create a streamlined process to divert reusable products from the landfill to the library, investigate co-operative opportunities to expand the reach of the program.	Creation of the Dump Emporium - a large item reuse "store" located at the Town Landfill in 2023.	On Target		\$5k Sustainability Budget	Staff time
2024, Q1: Propose new circular economy programs in a report to Council.		Not Initiated	Expected by Summer 2024.	N/A	Staff time
2024, Q2: Begin implementing identified program expansions with the community and business advocates.		Not Initiated	Fall/Winter 2024	N/A	Staff time and 2023 allocation

BIG MOVE 3 – GROW AN INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Bold Action 15: Develop a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategy

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3-Q4: Identify champions in the workplace who will move this forward.	An ad-hoc staff committee was established.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
Strike a staff committee to begin research on who we are as a staff and community, understand the Truth and Reconciliation recommendations and understand what DEI concerns are present.	A summer 2023 staff report encapsulates much of this research and recommended next steps to Council, including joining the UNESCO Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities. Research, engagement and training in these areas will be an ongoing process.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q1-Q2: Consult with the community and partners about how TBM can implement Truth and Reconciliation and awareness of diversity.		Not Initiated	Staff recommend developing a DEI Strategy alongside a qualified consultant with meaningful stakeholder engagement due to sensitive nature of subject. Staff report suggested a 2024 budget request, however work to establish a training baseline and staff capacity/committee is needed first - expect a budget request in 2025.	N/A	N/A
Developing a strategy that will include corporate policy, statement of commitment, training, and ongoing dialogue.	The Mayor signed the Declaration to join the UNESCO Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities, committing the Town to a set of principles and to develop a Plan of Action.	On Target		N/A	Staff time
Use a DEI and Truth and Reconciliation lens to review current TBM policies and practices.	Human resources staff have begun policy reviews for inclusive language. Work to continue through 2024.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q3-Q4: Begin a cycle of implementation and review.		Not Initiated	See above - delayed until strategy can be developed.	N/A	N/A
Deliver ongoing DEI and Truth and Reconciliation training for staff and integrate into onboarding processes.	Staff are exploring options for training to deliver with staff including equity, diversity and inclusion and Indigenous cultural awareness training.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
DEI committee to review policies and provide feedback.	Staff have drafted Terms of Reference for an internal staff committee. More work to proceed in 2024.	On Target		N/A	Staff time
2024: Establish a community-based diversity, equity and inclusion Task Force to explore collaborative approaches between the Town and the community to make The Blue Mountains a more inclusive place.		Not Initiated	See above - likely a recommendation to come out of DEI Strategy, may recruit from engaged stakeholders from strategy development.	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 3 – GROW AN INNOVATIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

Bold Action 16: Improve conditions for attainable housing

Plan Estimate: >\$75,000

Staff Comments: Big changes for the BMAHC and the failure of the corporation’s attainable housing project in the preceding years has impacted work in this area. Official Plan work is underway and includes focus on attainable housing.

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q4: Consider embedding the aforementioned attainability threshold into the Official Plan.	Official Plan process completing a Housing Needs Assessment to understand affordable housing needs.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Embed a research process into the creation of the Official Plan to consider further reduction of barriers to modify the existing building stock in The Blue Mountains to multi units, such as secondary suites. Consider the following elements throughout this investigation: zoning certain areas to permit certain multi-units ‘as-of-right’ that are in line with the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement (particularly in close proximity to cultural hubs and downtown centres), reducing minimum lot sizes, frontages, setbacks, increased lot coverage, allowance for multiple units or parking requirements on a case-by-case basis for proposed attainable housing inside the Primary Settlement Area.	Ongoing - Official Plan currently under review.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q2: Evaluate and create a fast-track process for development applications that fall within the “attainability threshold” or have a minimum percentage of 50% attainable housing in a mixed development.	Will be considered as part of the Offical Plan Review.	Below Target		Staff time	Staff time
2024, Q2: Establish stable core funding to The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation to develop a housing reserve fund for maintaining additional attainable housing units, including consideration of new revenue tools.	Town working with BMAHC to develop next steps.	Below Target		Staff time	Staff time
Encourage The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation to further their mandate to act as a land trust once community financing and not-for-profit housing developments are in search of operational support.		Not Initiated	Town engaging Councillors and staff on the Board to help determine future direction of the Corporation in 2024.	N/A	Staff time

BIG MOVE 4 – IMPLEMENT & COLLABORATE

Bold Action 17: Establish decision-making and reporting structures within the Town to ensure decisions contribute towards the plan's Vision and Goals Plan Estimate: No cost

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3: Update Town business planning documents to incorporate the Vision and Goals of TBM Future Story into the 'Budget Commentary' for each Department, in preparation for the 2023 budget.	Research on options has been initiated.	Below Target	Knowledge of other municipal approaches does not directly or easily translate to implementation by the Town. Time is needed to work with staff and innovate - cannot simply copy what other municipalities, often of larger sizes, are doing.	Staff time	Staff time and \$1k Sustainability Budget for large Future Story visual
Develop a draft 2023 budget, using the updated 'Budget Commentary' section.		Not Initiated	Staff time has been the main issue. Council directed staff to explore in 2024. Research into options reveal potential challenges to staff time depending on complexity. Further research and staff engagement needed.	N/A	Staff time
Begin updating procurement documents to incorporate elements that require contractors to indicate how their work on a given scope will respond to the Vision and Goals.		Not Initiated	Procurement policy to be updated in 2024, sustainability staff will contribute.	N/A	Staff time
2023, Q1: Commence regular reporting to SAM and SMT Committees on actions in TBM Future Story.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	
Update Council report templates to incorporate a description of how recommendations align with the Vision and Goals.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	
2023, Q2: Staff begin using revised Council report structure.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	
2023, Q3: Team members who were involved with the three elements (Council reports, Business plans, Procurement processes) to gather and share lessons learned to date in implementing these decision-making supports. Key learnings will be shared with the Sustainability Manager as part of the annual review process.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	
2024, Q3: The three decision-making supports will be reviewed by the accountable individuals in order to reflect on their effectiveness and to identify opportunities for improvement to grow the understanding and commitment towards the Vision and Goals of TBM Future Story.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	

BIG MOVE 4 – IMPLEMENT & COLLABORATE

Bold Action 18: Establish a community sustainability organization/network to champion sustainability efforts in the community

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q3-Q4: Connect with community groups and businesses to explore ideas for this action. This would include climate action groups in TBM with Grey County's Climate Volunteer Program – this ICLEI funded initiative will have a climate action and Indigenous reconciliation focus.	Town staff are actively exploring and building relationships with local and regional groups (Grey County Climate Change Community of Practice, RT07 Sustainability Working Group, ISGB, Tree Trust TBM, Pollinate TBM, Climate Action Now Network, and more). Grey County coordinated a Giiwe Sharing Circle with M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre in fall 2023 and held two tree planting events as part of ICLEI Canada's Agents of Change project.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q1: Establish an initial terms of reference for the Blue Mountains Sustainability Network (BMSN).		Not Initiated	Meeting led by ISGB asked attendees if there was a desire for a new sustainability roundtable/ working group, the answer was largely negative. Starting a brand new organization when there are many not-for-profits focusing on issues that interest them already may not be as productive as supporting these organizations (e.g. ES Fund, collaboration & partnership on Future Story actions).	Staff time	N/A
Develop a resourcing plan for the BMSN to provide clarity on level of support from the Town.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
2023, Q2: Advertise and recruit membership for BMSN.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
Provide orientation materials to members.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A
2023, Q4: BMSN is operational, with the Town playing only a supporting role.		Not Initiated	See above.	N/A	N/A

BIG MOVE 4 – IMPLEMENT & COLLABORATE

Bold Action 19: Host an annual Community Sustainability Summit

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2023, Q1: Begin planning the inaugural Sustainability Summit.	Planning initiated.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q2: Advertise and promote the Sustainability Summit.		Not Initiated	It was felt that at least 1 year of implementation should proceed before holding the first event. This delay has provided the first summit with clear topics to explore (GEH and Circular Economy) and regional partners to collaborate on some aspects (Institute & Green Economy Hub working group)	N/A	Staff time
2023, Q3: Host the first annual Community Sustainability Summit.	First Summit planned for Q2 2024.	Below Target		N/A	\$8k Sustainability Budget

BIG MOVE 4 – IMPLEMENT & COLLABORATE

Bold Action 20: Release an annual report card on sustainability

Plan Estimate: \$0 - \$25,000

Key Steps	Comments	Status	Explanation	2023 Allocation	2024 Budget
2022, Q4 - 2023, Q1: Sustainability and Communications staff will explore options to design and publish The Blue Mountains Future Story including a possible online dashboard to track progress over time.	Updated http://TBMFutureStory.ca website in 2022 to include summarized content and updates, with further updates in 2023. This report card was drafted in late 2023.	Achieved		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q2: Notify respective action leads of deadlines for sharing the status of each action.		On Target		Staff time	Staff time
Establish publication timelines and responsibilities within the Town.	Feedback on draft report content received from staff in late 2023.	On Target		Staff time	Staff time
2023, Q3: Gather status responses for each action in the plan.		Below Target	Sought feedback on draft report card with staff in Q4 2023. Should probably move to 'Achieved'.	Staff time	Staff time
Prepare the report card and/or online dashboard update		Achieved		N/A	Staff time
2023, Q4: Release report card, highlighting the status of each action.	To be completed Q1 2024.	Achieved		N/A	Staff time
Planning for the Community Sustainability Summit can follow and be informed by annual progress reporting.		On Target		N/A	Staff time

