



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	June 5, 2023
SUBJECT:	Biodiversity Action Plan – Public Engagement Opportunities (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Steve Robichaud Director of Planning and Chief Planner Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to advise the Mayor and City Council about upcoming public engagement opportunities related to the draft Biodiversity Action Plan for Hamilton. In accordance with Recommendation b) of Report PED21065(c), public engagement is on-going until July 16, 2023.

Engage Hamilton - <https://engage.hamilton.ca/biodiversityplan>

An Engage Hamilton webpage has been launched for the draft Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). On the Engage Hamilton webpage, BAP partners are asking for public feedback in the following ways:

- Review and comment on the draft BAP document;
- Review and comment on the Global Biodiversity Framework 2030 Targets and how they could be applied in Hamilton;
- Online survey; and,
- Sharing a story about how Hamilton’s biodiversity has impacted them and what their hopes are for the future.

City Communications staff are assisting in generating awareness and informing the public about the BAP Engage Hamilton page through posts on social media, newspaper advertisements, signage on City digital billboards, and poster distribution to Municipal Service Centres, recreation centres and libraries. A copy of the poster is attached as Appendix “A” to this Communication Update.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

Virtual Public Information Meeting

The public is invited to attend a Virtual Public Information Meeting on **Thursday June 8, 2023**, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to hear a presentation about the draft BAP and ask questions to the partner organization representatives.

- **Registration is required.** Register through Engage Hamilton, or directly here: [BAP Virtual Information Meeting](#)
- Questions can be submitted in advance of the virtual meeting by emailing: biodiversityactionplan@hamilton.ca

The Virtual Public Information Meeting will be recorded, and the video will be posted on Engage Hamilton shortly after the event.

In-Person Events

The following in-person engagement opportunities are planned for the month of June:

- **Thursday, June 15th** - Open House Meeting #1, from 6pm to 8pm at [Gage Park Tropical Greenhouse](#), 1000 Main St. E, Hamilton
- **Sunday, June 18th** - Open Streets Pop-up, from 10am to 2pm near [Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre](#), 876 Cannon St. E, Hamilton
- **Monday, June 26th** - Open House Meeting #2, from 4pm to 8pm at [Dundas Town Hall](#), 60 Main Street, Dundas

No advanced registration is required for the Open Houses or Open Streets pop-up

Hamilton Public Library – Paper Surveys

Paper versions of the online survey as well as reference copies of the draft BAP will be available at all Hamilton Public Library locations starting the week of June 5. Survey responses will be collected until July 16, 2023.

For further information about the BAP public engagement, or to obtain a digital copy of the poster, please contact Lauren Vraets, Senior Planner - Sustainable Communities, by phone at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2634 or by email at Lauren.Vraets@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” - Biodiversity Action Plan Poster (11”x17”)



HAMILTON BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

Hamilton is creating a Biodiversity Action Plan!

Local community environmental organizations and the City of Hamilton have partnered to develop a draft Biodiversity Action Plan. The goal is to create a guiding framework of actions across organizations so that we are all working together to protect Hamilton's biodiversity against threats.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

WAYS TO ENGAGE:

- **Engage Hamilton** - Visit the Engage Hamilton webpage: engage.hamilton.ca/biodiversityplan to review the Biodiversity Action Plan, complete a survey and provide comments
(commenting closes July 16, 2023)
- Attend an **information session online** or **in-person**:
 - **Virtual Information Meeting:**
June 8, 2023 – 6pm-8pm
(Webex registration is required. Register through Engage Hamilton: engage.hamilton.ca/biodiversityplan)
 - **Open House #1:**
Gage Park Tropical Greenhouse, 1000 Main Street East, Hamilton
June 15, 2023 – 6pm-8pm
 - **Open House #2:**
Dundas Town Hall, 60 Main Street, Dundas, June 26, 2023 – 4pm-8pm
 - **Open Streets Pop-up!**
Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre, 876 Cannon Street East, Hamilton
June 18, 2023, 10am-2pm

* **Note:** The survey will be available at Hamilton Public Library locations until July 16, 2023. If you wish to complete the survey over the phone, please contact project staff.

QUESTIONS? Would you like to be added to the project mailing list? Contact us at biodiversityactionplan@hamilton.ca

Do you have any accessibility requirements in order to be able to review the material and provide comments? Please contact Lauren Vraets via email at Lauren.Vraets@hamilton.ca or by phone at **905-546-2424 Ext. 2634**.

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.



Partner organizations:

