

### **TOWN OF AURORA**

# ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

## Thursday, February 4, 2016 7 p.m. Holland Room

Item 8 – Extract from Council Meeting of January 26, 2016
 Re: Motion for Which Notice Has Been Given (c) Councillor
 Mrakas; Re: Blue Dot Campaign

#### RECOMMENDED:

THAT the Extract from Council Meeting of January 26, 2016, regarding Motion for Which Notice Has Been Given (c) Councillor Mrakas; Re: Blue Dot Campaign be received for information.

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## EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016

#### 10. NOTICES OF MOTION/MOTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

- (ii) Motions for Which Notice Has Been Given
  - (c) Councillor Mrakas
    Re: Blue Dot Campaign

Main motion as amended Moved by Councillor Mrakas Seconded by Councillor Kim

WHEREAS the Town of Aurora understands that people are part of the environment, and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS as the Town updates its Corporate Environmental Action Plan, it will consider and have regard for the environmental consideration of the Blue Dot Campaign; and

WHEREAS the Town, as an environmental steward, respects, protects, fulfills and promotes rights for the benefit of existing and future generations; and

WHEREAS the Town is committed to supporting the protection, enhancement and restoration of the environment by fostering education and outreach, collaborating through partnerships, supporting the development of connected communities and reporting progress towards reaching goals;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Town of Aurora finds and declares that:

- 1. All people have the right to live in a healthy environment, including:
  - a) The right to breathe clean air;
  - b) The right to drink clean water;
  - c) The right to consume safe food;
  - d) The right to access nature;
  - e) The right to know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment; and
  - f) The right to participate in decision-making that will affect the environment.

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- 2. The Town of Aurora has the responsibility, within its jurisdiction, to respect, protect, fulfill and promote these rights.
- 3. The Town of Aurora shall specify objectives, targets and timelines and actions the Town will take, within its jurisdiction, to fulfill residents' right to a healthy environment, including priority actions to:
  - a) Ensure infrastructure and development projects protect the environment, including air quality;
  - b) Address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and implementing adaptation measures;
  - c) Responsibly increase density;
  - d) Prioritize walking, cycling and public transit as preferred modes of transportation;
  - e) Reduce solid waste and promote recycling and composting; and
  - f) Establish and maintain accessible green spaces in all residential neighbourhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Aurora shall forward a copy of this declaration to the provincial government, calling for a public review of the Ontario Environmental Bill of Rights in order to improve the Act and to include recognition that all people have the right to live in a healthy environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Aurora shall forward a copy of this declaration to the federal government calling for the development of federal legislation that recognizes that all people have the right to live in a healthy environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town of Aurora shall forward a copy of this declaration to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), to show support for recognizing the right of all people to live in a healthy environment.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**