

Community Priority: Environment

Citizens' Vision for the Environment, 2027

“Our shared vision is for Kitchener to be a community that focuses significant energy and resources on becoming more environmentally friendly through investments in things like bike trails, improved transit systems, tougher environmental bylaws and stricter growth management policies that limit sprawl.”

Kitchener citizens care deeply about their environment. Responsible stewardship of our environment is, after all, key to the quality of life we all enjoy.

And it is our commitment to sustainable development in the future - development that balances the needs of a growing city with the need to protect its natural environment - that will continue to make us successful in attracting new people, new business and new opportunity.

To this end, we want to ensure that environmental considerations are important factors in every decision the city makes in planning for our future - and that we continue to provide

leadership in conserving, protecting and improving the environment for the benefit of all Kitchener residents.

Strategic Directions:

In strengthening our commitment to sustainable development and balance the needs of a growing city with the need to protect our natural environment – Compass Kitchener recommends that the following strategic directions be undertaken:

1. That the city show leadership in the development of an environmentally sustainable community through dedicating resources to completing its Strategic Plan for the Environment.

2. That council endorses the proposed Environmental Remediation Strategy and directs staff to prepare an implementation plan to support these initiatives.

3. That council supports the implementation of the recommendations brought forth in the citizens' report on Air Quality in Kitchener.

4. That the city develops a Transportation Demand Management Strategy that is an umbrella for efficient, environmentally friendly transportation policies and programs for the future.

Key corporate strategies which support the Environment theme can be found under Appendix 1.6.

