

## Chapter 2. Energy, Environment and Climate Change – Supplementary Table (Comments from June 17, 2013 Public Open House)

**Interim report on stakeholder and open house comments received from June 2 – June 12, 2013**

Please note that these working documents do not represent final policy recommendations until endorsed by CDAC.

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE/ISSUE	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK	STAFF RESPONSE (where no response indicated Regional Plan addresses the issue or issue previously addressed)	CDAC DIRECTION
Greenbelting	1. Keep lakes and backlands for our children and grandchildren		
	2. Shouldn't the natural corridors be connected, instead of isolated one from another? What's the point otherwise?		
	3. The HRM Plan does not identify environmentally sensitive areas. This cannot wait for community plans. We need to protect these areas.		
	4. Need to consider moving some "URBAN RESERVE" lands e.g. Purcell's Cove Backlands to "Greenbelt" designation. This will "tighten" the Greenbelt and enable green spaces closer to the core to be preserved for public recreation and environmental use. We have a glut of land allotted to urban development, therefore "urban reserve" such as Backlands NOT NEEDED!		
	5. I think this is perhaps the most important part of the plan. Suburban sprawl need to stop NOW		
	6. Need appropriate definitions for greenbelting. Birch Cove Lakes Regional Park would be a good starting point. Plan needs to be implemented.		
	7. The Greenbelt idea is important to the livability of our city/region and the survival of the planet. It has been at the municipal level that the greatest progresses on environmental issues have actually been addressed. Greenbelting should be made a priority and lands protected from development. Move housing lots are not needed.		

	8. This is not a true Greenbelt – it allows ‘leaks’ to East and West. The pieces must be connected to ensure ecological continuities. The belt should be tighter.		
	9. Greenbelting is a great idea but we need to consider access for all residents to a green area.		
	10. I like the greenbelting plan but feel it is essential to move on this more quickly. If you wait land that would have been needed as part of the greenbelt will be lost to development. Need to designate areas for greenbelt NOW!		
	11. Williams Lake Backlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This area should be preserved in its natural state. Once these green areas are gone – i.e. developed – they’re gone! Including the delicate ecological balance – flora &amp; fauna – and the cleansing effect green space provides. Please DO NOT underestimate the value – albeit non monetary – this (and other similar areas) area fulfills.</li> <li>Also – why must everything be couched in terms of growth? I heard the work “sustainable” used ONCE this evening.</li> <li>Please broaden your horizons of thinking.</li> </ul>		
Parks	12. Blue Mountain – Birch Cove Lakes Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This park proposal is included in the draft plan, but given very “light” attention (actually one that I caught) in the presentation.</li> <li>This park concept is of primary potential and importance, and should be moved forward as a priority. Move this proposal from broad concept, to specific action-oriented action to word implementation.</li> <li>Follow the Province’s lead with designation of the associated wilderness area. HRM should proceed with acquisition on a priority basis, consistent with the concept reflected on Map 13.</li> </ul>		
	13. There are very few green spaces in HRM. There needs to be a policy on a pocket park in every neighbourhood		
Watercourse Buffers	14. E-16 - No to min of 20m. 30m would be fine		

	15. Watercourse Buffers - Looks like it is simply an idea! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration</li> <li>• Monitoring</li> <li>• Accountability</li> <li>• Map?</li> <li>• Transparency?</li> </ul>		
	16. Wherever new development occurs, enforce regulations to STOP SILT RUN OFF from entering our watercourses!		
	17. All stormwater run-offs from city malls & streets need treatment before entering our lakes and streams.		
	18. Need to expand the concept to “WATERSHED Buffers”. This is more effective from an environmental perspective e.g. identify key watersheds and limit development within one entire watershed system such as McIntosh Run as well as Williams Lake.		
<b>Watersheds</b>	19. The Lake Echo Watershed was, according to the specialists commissioned by HRM, not able to accept additional development. Despite this, the new map shows a sub-watershed which omits the 3 acres currently being pushed for development. This does not pass the “smell” test.	Further to the open house on June 17 <sup>th</sup> , a detailed submission was received from the Lake Echo Watershed Assn. Staff is evaluating this matter further and will report to CDAC.	
	20. Why has the Lake Echo watershed designation been changed to Lake Echo “Sub” watershed area??		
<b>Emissions Reduction</b>	21. How about adopting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards as essential criteria for approving future building construction and major renovation?		
	22. Reduce energy consumption!		
<b>General</b>	23. Help the environment!		