

2016-2020 Report



Sustainable Development Action Plan



Introduction

The Sustainable Development Act, assented to on April 19, 2006, established a new management framework for all Québec government departments and agencies, including municipalities. This common framework encourages government entities to exercise their powers and responsibilities in a more sustainable manner. The term “sustainable development” – first used in 1987 in Norwegian Prime Minister Brundtland’s report to the UN entitled *Our Common Future* – originally referred to human development that does not “compromis[e] the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

To effectively address environmental issues and to make sustainability an integral part of its activities, the City of Pointe-Claire decided to implement a Sustainable Development Policy in 2017. This reference document sets out a long-term vision that all stakeholders – municipal, local and external – are to follow when implementing sustainable development initiatives (Pointe-Claire, 2016).

This policy was accompanied by the 2016–2020 Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP), which identifies concrete actions to meet the City’s various sustainability objectives. These actions were to be implemented in the short, medium or long term, or on an ongoing basis in some cases. The policy and its action plan set out 16 objectives and 84 actions covering various areas (water, air, soil, municipal management, etc.) and involving all City departments.



However, despite the willingness of government departments and agencies to take action, scientific reports and studies have made it clear that the measures in place have not been sufficient to slow, mitigate or stop the local, global, environmental or economic effects of climate change. To reflect the urgent need for action to ensure community resilience in the face of the climate crisis, the language has quietly shifted from “sustainability” to “ecological and social transition,” “urban resilience,” “adaptation,” “mitigation,” etc.

The challenges are many, from waste management to community quality of life, citizen participation, protection and restoration of biodiversity, ecological transition and preservation of air, water and soil quality. This puts municipalities front and centre in responding to the climate crisis.

This document presents the results of the SDAP. It reviews the progress of the actions over the five-year period for which they were planned.

Methodology

For this report, we collected information on the status of each SDAP action from all relevant departments for the period covered by the plan (i.e., 2016–2020). Note that many of the actions are ongoing and are still under way as part of the City’s various projects. Data was collected from all City departments. Each one reported on their vision and implementation of these actions. Four status indicators are used – Completed, Ongoing, In progress and Not completed – as defined in the Sustainable Development Action Plan.

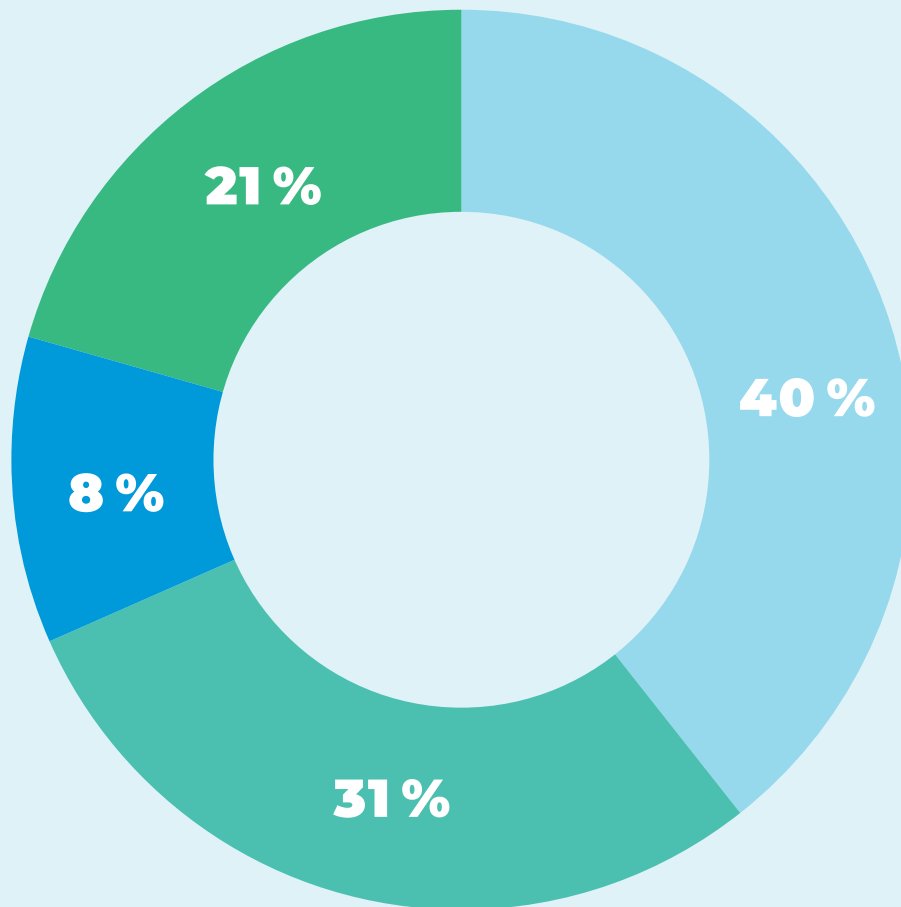
-
- An action is Completed when the objective has been reached (e.g., passing a by-law, carrying out a project, reaching a target).
 - An action is Ongoing when it’s integral to the City’s operations. These actions are continuous and do not have specific end goals – they are designed to make gradual progress over time.
 - An action is In progress when steps have been taken to carry out the action, but the objective has not yet been achieved.
 - An action is Not completed when it has not been carried out or has been abandoned due to lack of time, resources, etc.



We would like to thank the following departments for their assistance and cooperation in collecting the data required for this report:

- City Manager’s Office
- Finance Department
- Human Resources Department
- Public Works and buildings Department
- Planning Department
- Culture, Sports, Leisure and Community Development Department
- Legal Affairs and City Clerk’s Office
- Communications Department Management
- Inspection – Public Security Department
- Engineering Department

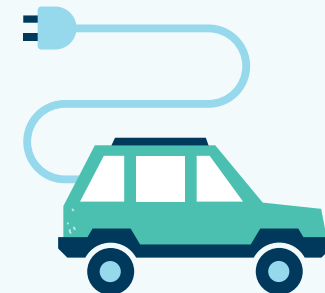
Current status of the SDAP



NUMBER OF SDAP ACTIONS:

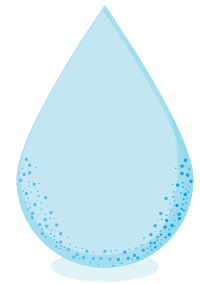
- Completed: **34**
- Ongoing: **25**
- In progress: **7**
- Not completed: **18**

84 actions



SDAP actions


Note that many actions stem from the Climate Change Adaptation Plan and are identified by an asterisk (*)



WATER

OBJECTIVE 1

Continue the City's efforts to reduce water consumption



| Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|--|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1 Use mulch in public landscaping to reduce watering needs* | 2016-2020 | Maintain the use of mulch in landscaping | Completed |
| 2 Replace annuals with perennials and shrubs* | 2016-2020 | Replace annuals with perennials where the landscaping permits | Completed |
| 3 Ensure adequate irrigation of vegetation in times of drought* | 2016-2020 | Protect plants in case of drought | Ongoing |
| 4 Distribute rain barrels | 2017-2020 | Give residents the means to collect rainwater | Ongoing |
| 5 Establish a by-law for the use of low-flow equipment in new builds and renovations | 2018 | Implement technologies to conserve potable water | Completed |
| 6 Subsidize the installation of low-flow equipment in homes | 2017 | Provide a financial incentive for the use of low consumption equipment water efficient equipment | Not completed |
|  In 2023, free water conservation kits will be distributed to residents | | | |
| 7 Replace toilets in city buildings with eco-friendly models | 2019-2020 | Install low-flow toilets | Completed |
| 8 Regulate the use of potable water* | 2019 | Establish a by-law for the use of potable water in Pointe-Claire | In progress |

WATER

OBJECTIVE 2

Limit the impact of runoff and wastewater

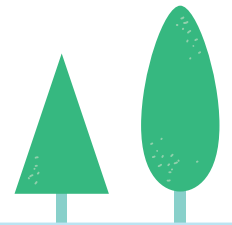


| | Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|--|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 9 | Promote best management practices (BMPs) for rainwater (e.g., rain gardens, rain barrels, absorbing wells, permeable paving, ditches, retention ponds) in land-use planning* | 2016-2020 | Hold or collect rainwater | Completed |
|  | Four retention ponds completed in 2017 and 2018 and a rain garden in 2021 | | | |
| 10 | Where possible, incorporate water collection systems into new residential and industrial developments* | 2016-2020 | Incorporate maximum discharge criteria into all new builds | Ongoing |
|  | 15 projects completed from 2016 to 2019 | | | |
| 11 | Continue using rainwater collection and holding tanks at the Public Works building (water reused to water lawns and plants)* | 2016-2020 | Collect rainwater | Not completed |
| 12 | Implement the by-law on protecting buildings against sewer backups (specifically by installing backwater valves)* | 2016-2020 | Install a check valve or safety valve on all connections to municipal sanitary, storm or combined sewer systems to prevent sewer backups | Completed |
| 13 | Disseminate information about protecting buildings against sewer backups* | 2016-2020 | Raise public awareness about the importance of buildings being able to withstand stormwater runoff | Ongoing |
| 14 | Regularly maintain sewer systems* | 2016-2020 | Conduct regular maintenance and ensure structures are in good condition | Ongoing |
| 15 | Establish a by-law for the sustainable development of parking lots* | 2016-2020 | Analyze by-laws and amend as needed | Completed |
| 16 | Clean sidewalks and paths more often to reduce stormwater debris* | 2016-2020 | Sweep sidewalks and paths as often as streets to reduce stormwater debris | Ongoing |

AIR

OBJECTIVE 3

Continue the City's efforts to combat climate change

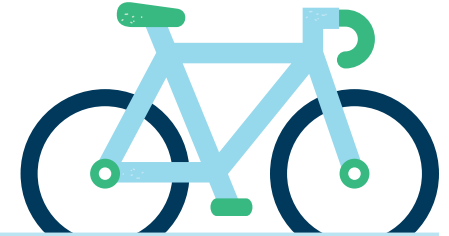


| | Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|-----------|---|------------------|---|----------------------|
| 17 | Maintain the Public Works building's green roof and explore similar solutions in future projects* | 2016-2020 | Maintain the Public Works building's green roof and plan for something similar in future projects to control heat islands | Ongoing |
| 18 | Conduct a pilot project using reflective and permeable materials* | 2017 | Conduct a pilot project based on the market availability of such products | In progress |
| 19 | Promote the development of green walls* | 2016 | Conduct a green wall pilot project | Not completed |
| 20 | Optimize use of the arena's thermal power plant | 2019 | Implement solutions to make the arena more energy efficient | Completed |
| 21 | Systematically install electric timers on switches in all municipal buildings | 2017-2020 | Install timers to help reduce energy use | In progress |
| 22 | Install a weather stripping system on municipal building garage doors | 2018 | Make municipal building garages more energy efficient | In progress |
| 23 | Replace fuel-inefficient municipal vehicles with more compact models to reduce fuel consumption | 2017-2020 | Reduce fuel consumption by gradually replacing the vehicle fleet | In progress |
| 24 | Implement a preventive maintenance schedule for municipal vehicles to reduce fuel consumption | 2017-2020 | Reduce fuel consumption by following a preventive maintenance schedule | Not completed |
| 25 | Install additional electric charging stations | 2019 | Make electric charging stations available to the public | Not completed |
| 26 | Promote the installation of white roofs | 2017-2020 | Raise public awareness of the benefits of white roofs | Not completed |

AIR

OBJECTIVE 4

Preserve local air quality



| Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|------------------|---|----------------|
| 27 Document best practices in preserving air quality | 2018-2020 | Improve knowledge of air quality preservation methods | Ongoing |

OBJECTIVE 5

Promote actions that improve active and sustainable transportation in the community

| Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 28 Develop a sustainable mobility policy | 2017 | Implement a specific policy to promote alternative modes of transportation | Not completed |
| 29 Improve the cycling network and make it more interconnected | 2016-2020 | Identify potential bike paths and develop them | Completed |
| 30 Produce a bike path map for the public | 2018 | Make the map available in print and digital formats | Not completed |
| 31 Disseminate information about government subsidies for electric car purchases | 2016 | Post information on the City's website | Completed |
| 32 Put up signs encouraging motorists to share the road | 2019 | Promote the coexistence of different modes of transportation | Not completed |

SOIL

OBJECTIVE 6

Preserve soil quality



| Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|------------------|--|---|
| 33 Promote hydroseeding | 2016-2020 | Promote more eco-efficient planting methods | Completed then abandoned in 2019 |
| 34 Plant native species that help stabilize the soil | 2016-2020 | Use local species that help reduce the risk of erosion | Ongoing |
| 35 Raise awareness among residents and business and industry owners about preventing and reducing soil contamination | 2018 | Develop informational resources for the public | Completed |
| 36 Optimize snow removal rules and criteria with a view to sustainable development | 2016-2020 | Implement environmentally sound snow removal practices | Not completed |

OBJECTIVE 7

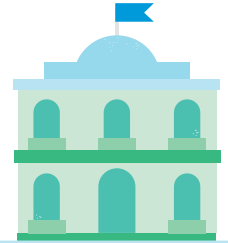
Promote land use for sustainable development


| Action | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|--|------------------|---|----------------------|
| 37 Establish a by-law for the sustainable development of parking lots* | 2016 | Establish criteria to promote the development of green parking lots | Ongoing |
| 38 Promote the use of permeable materials in municipal projects* | 2016 | Conduct a pilot project using permeable materials | Not completed |
| 39 Establish a by-law for the installation of community gardens in new high-rise developments | 2017 | Develop a by-law to that effect | In progress |
| 40 Create natural areas between business and residential areas | 2019-2020 | Identify testing areas for a pilot project | Not completed |

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE 8

Implement a formal, internal environmental management system





| Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 41 Systematically consider environmental impacts when developing projects | 2017-2020 | Where possible, develop a checklist of criteria for all City departments | Completed for Procurement |
| 42 Create a list of sustainable project criteria by department | 2018 | | Ongoing |
| 43 Implement an engagement program to develop environmental leadership | 2016 | Empower employees to implement environmental initiatives | Ongoing |
|  In 2022, as part of the 2023–2027 strategic planning process, monthly talks on municipal issues related to the climate crisis and community resiliency were held with employees and elected officials (Sustainable Lunch) | | | |
| 44 Create tools or a guide to support staff | 2017 | Provide employees with the right tools | Completed |
|  Guides available on the Intranet since 2018 | | | |

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT



OBJECTIVE 9

Facilitate application and monitoring of the sustainable development policy process

| Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| 45 Set up an environmental committee involving all municipal departments | 2017 | Set up a committee made up of elected officials and members of the municipal administration and the public | Completed |
|  Committee created in 2018 and first meeting held in 2021 | | | |
| 46 Conduct awareness activities and hold training sessions for staff | 2017-2020 | Conduct training sessions on how to implement the sustainable development policy | Ongoing |
|  In 2022, as part of the 2023–2027 strategic planning process, monthly talks on municipal issues related to the climate crisis and community resiliency were held with employees and elected officials (Sustainable Lunch) | | | |

OBJECTIVE 10

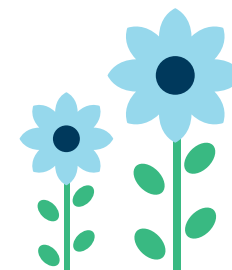
Develop a responsible procurement policy

| Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|--|-------------|--|----------------------|
| 47 Identify environmental and social criteria to be integrated in the awarding of contracts | 2018 | Focus on developing contracts | In progress |
| 48 Favour suppliers and bidders that respect sustainable development | 2018 | Prioritize an eco-efficiency approach | Ongoing |
| 49 Enhance guidelines for buying local | 2018 | Adoption of the Responsible Purchasing Guide | Completed |
| 50 Promote the participation of non-profit organizations (NPOs) in the tendering process | 2018 | Integrate conditions favouring the integration of stakeholders | Ongoing |
| 51 Evaluate internal purchases in a sustainable development perspective | 2017 | Make an inventory of the situation of the internal procurement sites | Not completed |
| 52 Train procurement staff on sustainable procurement | 2019 | Conduct specific training | Ongoing |

MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE 11

Act jointly with local actors to improve the quality of the environment



| | Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|-----------|--|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 53 | Create a place of virtual exchange in order to encourage citizens to propose initiatives to improve the environment and discuss infrastructures and activities | 2018 | Set up a dedicated web page and email address for this type of project | Not completed in this form |
| 54 | Create a directory of community organizations and non-profit organizations (NPOs) that carry out environmental and social development actions | 2017-2018 | Keep a watch on the community actions of NPOs | Ongoing |
| 55 | Hold internal information sessions on good environmental practices | 2016-2020 | Propose simple actions to municipal services to promote good practices | Ongoing |
| 56 | Establish a policy of sustainable events | 2018 | Adopt environmental criteria in the context of City events | Not completed |
| 57 | Set up a waste management brigade | 2017 | Offer young people the opportunity to get involved during the summer to raise public awareness of the best practices for managing waste | Completed |
| 58 | Provide material and human resources for environmental activities | 2020 | Set up a program dedicated to citizens | Ongoing |
| 59 | Offer a consultation service for citizens who wish to carry out environmental actions | 2019 | Disseminate this offer in the City's communication tools | Ongoing |
| 60 | Develop a guide to good environmental practices for citizens | 2017 | Create a brochure | Completed |

WASTE

OBJECTIVE 12

Deploy actions to improve waste management



| | Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|-----------|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| 61 | Recycle the ink cartridges of photocopiers and printers used by staff and limit the use of paper | 2016-2020 | Aim for a paperless administration goal | Ongoing |
| 62 | Set up collection points for used batteries in municipal buildings | 2016-2020 | Aim for one container per building | Completed |
| 63 | Promote the purchase of sustainable products | 2018 | Opt for sustainable products instead of disposable products | Ongoing |

OBJECTIVE 13

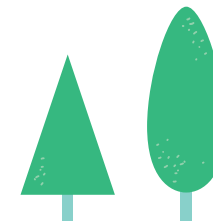
Develop awareness-raising actions related to waste among citizens


| | Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|-----------|---|------------------|---|------------------|
| 64 | Raise public awareness of the 4Rs (reduce at source, reuse, recycle and reclaim) | 2016-2020 | Produce documentation and create a dedicated web page | Completed |
| 65 | Develop an awareness-raising action on waste management aimed at young people in schools | 2017-2018 | Work in collaboration with school boards | Completed |
| 66 | Disseminate the government financial rebates associated with recycling and the investments made | 2018 | | Completed |

BIODIVERSITY

OBJECTIVE 14

Increase wooded areas



| Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|--|------------------|--|----------------------|
| 67 Plant, conserve and protect trees* | 2016-2020 | Increase the canopy year after year | Ongoing |
| 68 Distribute native tree saplings to citizens* | 2016-2020 | Preserve and increase vegetation cover despite the presence of pests | Completed |
| 69 Improve tree replacement planning | 2016-2020 | Minimize pest consequences | Ongoing |
| 70 Establish a monitoring of species that are vulnerable, threatened or likely to be | 2017 | Make an inventory of the species present on the territory | Not completed |
|  Make an inventory of brown snakes and birds in Terra-Cotta Park | | | |
| 71 Adopt a regulation to protect threatened or vulnerable species | 2017 | Endow the regulation with actions to protect species | Not completed |
| 72 Implement an urban forestry plan or policy* | 2017 | Maintain inventory and determine direction for the City | Completed |
| 73 Create a Monarch butterfly educational garden | 2016-2017 | Set up a monarch observation station by planting milkweed | Completed |
| 74 Select plants adapted to high temperature conditions* | 2016-2020 | Plant plants that adapt to climate change | Ongoing |

NUISANCES

OBJECTIVE 15

Deploy environmental actions for the benefit and well-being of citizens

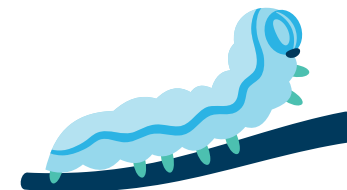


| Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|--|------------------|---|----------------------|
| 75 Increase the number of entertainment facilities (splash pads)* | 2020 | Complete at least one project by 2020 | Completed |
| 76 Provide shaded areas in parks* | 2016-2020 | Complete at least one project by 2020 | Completed |
| 77 Set up a program to offer a tree at each birth | 2018 | Disseminate the program on the website | Completed |
| 78 Promote ecological approaches with promoters who wish to settle in the territory | 2019 | Raise awareness of promoter | Completed |
| 79 Raise citizens' awareness of the issues of protecting Lake Saint-Louis and the St. Lawrence River through shoreline clean-up actions | 2016-2020 | Promote the deployment of cleaning actions in collaboration with citizens | Completed |
| 80 Increase the number of green walls | 2017 | Identify potential locations for planting green walls | Not completed |

NUISANCES

OBJECTIVE 16

Identify and fight against nuisances through ecological solutions



| | Actions | Timeframe | Details | Status |
|-----------|---|------------------|--|------------------|
| 81 | Carry out an awareness campaign to fight against ragweed* | 2016-2020 | Fight against invasive species and favour the planting of native species | Completed |
| 82 | Inform citizens of the issues associated with the various invasive species present on the territory, such as white grubs or the emerald ash borer | 2016-2020 | Inform citizens of ways to improve the situation | Completed |
| 83 | Make an inventory and monitor the types of invasive species present on the territory | 2017-2020 | Make this inventory publicly available | Completed |
| 84 | Continue with integrated pest management* | 2016-2020 | Slow down the spread of insect pests | Completed |



MORE INFO ON OUR GOOD MOVES!

Kilometres of cycle tracks developed

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2017 – 3 km | 2019 – 0.1 km | 2021 – 0 km |
| 2018 – 1.2 km | 2020 – 0.4 km | 2022 – 1.7 km |



Since 2016, **felled wood has been salvaged to make ramial chipped wood (RCW)**, a mulch composed of coarsely chopped hardwood branches.



A landscape composed of **native perennials** lasts several years and reduces the frequency of maintenance by our teams, while respecting the natural ecological environment of the region. In addition, all plantings of plants and trees are planned with climate change in mind.



Each year, **575 tree sprouts are distributed** throughout the city to increase the canopy.

