

MEDIA RELEASE

Council's Strategic Plan Paves the Way for Success in Niagara-on-the-Lake

For Immediate Release

May 15, 2024

At the May 14, 2024, Committee of the Whole General Meeting, Staff updated Council on the progress of their 2022-2027 Strategic Plan. This plan is a roadmap for success designed to guide decision-making and investments for this term of Council, ensuring decisions made today set the course for the community's desired future.

Town Council's Strategic Plan has four Pillars, divided into 12 Priorities, 58 Action Items and 127 Indicators of Success. The four Pillars are:

- 1. Vibrant & Complete Community
- 2. Good Governance
- 3. Enrich Community Assets, Environment, & Infrastructure
- 4. Optimize Organizational Excellence

The Town has made significant progress in advancing the outcomes set out in the Strategic Plan. Of the 58 Action Items, 2 are complete, 5 are above target, and 28 are on target. Thirteen of the Action Items are at risk (flagged by Staff, who are tracking these items and working to ensure they still meet their targeted completion deadlines), and 10 still need to be started, with start dates set for later in 2024 or 2025.

"On behalf of Town Council, I am thrilled with how the Strategic Plan is progressing," stated Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. "Nearly 64% of the initiatives are either complete or progressing on or above target, demonstrating the hard work and commitment of the partnership between Council and Staff. Thank you to Town Staff for moving Council's vision forward. As we continue to maintain focus on our strategic priorities, we are committed to advancing the Plan and achieving the goals set out for this term."

To ensure residents and stakeholders are fully informed and included in the Plan's progress, Staff will present a report in June seeking Council's endorsement of a Strategic Plan Dashboard. This Dashboard is intended to promote transparency and showcase the Town's advancements.



"Although the Strategic Plan is less than a year old, considerable advancement has been made," stated CAO Bruce Zvaniga. "We are on track to achieve our goals with the dedication of Staff at every level of the organization. I'm confident we will continue to make significant strides in the coming months."

Town Staff will report on the Strategic Plan's progress bi-annually, with the next report due in December 2024. Please read the <u>First Strategic Plan Implementation Update</u> 2024 for more information.

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