



Notice of Motion

Subject: Direction to Prepare Municipal Air Quality Bylaw
Member of Council: Mayor A. Groves
Meeting Motion Considered At: February 24, 2026 Council Meeting

PROCEDURAL PROCESS:

In accordance with Section 51.3 of the Procedure By-law, as amended, notices of Motion received in between a Committee agenda deadline and its agenda addendum deadline, or before a Council agenda deadline shall be placed on the agenda as a notice of motion for consideration at the next scheduled relevant meeting.

Notices of Motion delivered to the Clerk in accordance with the above section may be considered as a motion at the same meeting through the passage of a majority vote as a proposed agenda amendment, immediately prior to, or immediately after the notice of motion is before Council or Committee at the meeting.

MOTION:

WHEREAS protecting local air quality is essential to safeguarding public health, environmental quality, and community well-being; and

WHEREAS Oakville have adopted air quality–related bylaw or nuisance bylaws aimed at reducing localized emissions sources; and

WHEREAS the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended permits municipalities to pass by-laws respecting the health, safety and well-being of persons; and

WHEREAS a comprehensive juridical scan is required to identify the full scope of municipal authority, identify risks of conflict or overlap with provincial legislation, and ensure that any proposed bylaw is legally defensible; and

WHEREAS the development of a robust municipal air quality bylaw may require external technical and legal expertise, including emissions modelling, regulatory benchmarking, and environmental law review;



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Staff be directed to explore the feasibility of creating a town-wide by-law focused on health protection and air quality.
2. Staff conduct a comprehensive juridical scan of relevant federal and provincial legislation, case law, and existing municipal bylaws to:
 - identify municipal powers and constraints related to air quality regulation;
 - assess potential conflicts or pre-emption by provincial environmental legislation;
 - recommend strategies to ensure the bylaw is enforceable, effective, and compliant.
3. Staff report back on areas where provincial legislation limits municipal action, including emissions sources that fall exclusively under provincial jurisdiction, licence- or permit-based systems, and any regulatory gaps that could be addressed locally.
4. Staff report back on impacts a by-law may have on staffing resources, potential future budget, Town's existing industrial base.
5. Council authorize the retention of external consultants, as required, to support the exploration of feasibility of the by-law, including:
 - environmental or air quality technical consultants;
 - any necessary stakeholder or industry engagement specialists.
6. Funding of up to \$50,000 be approved, to be drawn from the appropriate reserve or operating account, for the purpose of retaining external consultants and completing the juridical scan and draft bylaw.
7. Staff be directed to report back to Council with the juridical scan, financial implications, feasibility of a draft by-law, and implementation considerations.