



– FEBRUARY 2020 –

ONGOING INITIATIVES

1. Updates

A. Climate Change Adaptation Plan Public Engagement

The consultation period began November 20, 2019 and will end January 20, 2020. Four dates were set for public engagement, listed below. Poster boards were displayed with the 7 objectives and their individual actions listed. Attendees were given the opportunity to vote on individual actions as priorities, as well as the opportunity to vote for entire objectives as priorities, with the following results:

December 3, 2019: WIATC

December 5, 2019: WFCU

December 7, 2019: Capri Pizzeria Rec Centre

December 10, 2019: Gino & Liz Marcus Rec Centre

Objective 1: Integrate Climate Change Thinking and Response		Votes	Votes
Action 1.1	Incorporate climate change considerations into Municipal Decision Making	18	13
Action 1.2	Increase community level of knowledge on Climate Change.	41	
Action 1.3	Build financial support for unforeseen impacts of climate change	9	
Action 1.4	Enhance the ability to collect and share climate change related data	16	
Objective 2: Protect Public Health and Safety		Votes	Votes
Action 2.1	Update Community Development and Health Services (CDHS) Emergency Response Plan	6	6
Action 2.2	Develop an emergency response procedure for extreme flooding events	18	
Action 2.3	Enhance public education to increase personal preparedness & reduce health risks associated with extreme weather	3	
Action 2.4	Review the 2011 Heat Alert and Response Plan and Update as required	0	
Action 2.5	Enhance protection of outside workers during extreme heat conditions	0	
Action 2.6	Continue to protect indoor air quality	0	
Action 2.7	Develop an Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) Response Plan	4	
Action 2.8	Decrease public and private contributions to air quality contaminants	9	
Action 2.9	Enhance monitoring for vector borne diseases and new infections diseases	2	
Action 2.10	Enhance community safety during icy conditions	12	
Action 2.11	Enhance surveillance for blue-green algae in our surface water bodies	3	
Objective 3: Reduce Risk to Buildings and Property		Votes	Votes
Action 3.1	Increase education to the public on how to reduce their personal risk of basement flooding	11	7
Action 3.2	Develop a media notification system to prepare residents for large storm events	3	
Action 3.3	Continue and enhance the Basement Flooding Subsidy Program and incentivize other methods of protecting property	17	
Action 3.4	Continue and enhance tree pruning programs to develop proper tree health and limit future damage	1	
Action 3.5	Review and improve policies and procedures to prepare for overland flooding	13	
Action 3.6	Promote public and private building standards and maintenance practices which protect buildings and HVAC units from damage due to increased cooling demand	10	

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Objective: Strengthen Infrastructure Resilience	Votes	Votes
Action 4.1 Implement the Sewer Master Plan overall recommendations (including but not limited to)	10	6
Action 4.2 Increase City of Windsor staff resources to respond to infrastructure issues during extreme weather	2	
Action 4.3 Incorporate climate change considerations into infrastructure design, development, maintenance and renewal	2	
Action 4.4 Implement the recommendations of the East Riverside Flood Risk study to reduce overland flooding risk	3	
Action 4.5 Continue to monitor Little River overland flooding risk	0	
Action 4.6 Complete infrastructure projects that received funding as part of the Disaster Mitigation & Adaptation Fund grant	0	
Action 4.7 Continue to invest in stormwater and sewer infrastructure	15	
Action 4.8 Protect and improve roads from flooding damage Assess frequently flooded roads and consider road improvements...	6	
Action 4.9 Promote green infrastructure options for drainage issues on public and private property	10	
Action 4.10 Review design standards and maintenance practices as they relate to newest climate projections	1	
Action 4.11 Explore options for increased electrical power generation from City of Windsor infrastructure (generators) to supplement Ontario's electrical grid as warranted.	1	
Objective 5: Protect Biodiversity and Enhance Ecosystem Functions	Votes	Votes
Action 5.1 Protect and enhance the management of natural areas to improve climate change resilience	18	11
Action 5.2 Investigate the potential for natural areas to enhance flood attenuation	2	
Action 5.3 Enhance linkages between and among natural heritage features	3	
Action 5.4 Implement an Invasive Species Program	1	
Action 5.5 Complete an Urban Forest Management Plan	4	
Action 5.6 Improve climate resilience of trees in urban forests, parks and in the public right-of-way	5	
Action 5.7 Enhance Detroit River shoreline protection measures along Windsor's riverfront and Peche Island	7	
Action 5.8 Increase community level of knowledge on the benefits of natural areas	4	
Objective 6: Reduce Community Service Disruptions	Votes	Votes
Action 6.1 Improve communications from Transit Windsor to the public	2	3
Action 6.2 Develop extreme weather contingency plans for Transit Windsor	2	
Action 6.3 Improve design standards for new recreational facilities to ensure they are more climate resilient	11	
Action 6.4 Identify strategies to minimize cancellations of recreational rentals at existing recreation facilities	3	
Action 6.5 Enhance inspections of Special Events Facilities and roads to identify infrastructure deficiencies for upcoming events	1	
Action 6.6 Evaluate and enhance recreational uses along Windsor's shoreline	6	
Action 6.7 Replace Lakeview Marina docks with floating docks that are more resilient to varying water levels	1	
Objective 7: Build Community Resilience	Votes	Votes
Action 7.1 Improve stormwater design standards for future climate change precipitation projections	5	7
Action 7.2 Explore options to implement stormwater financing mechanisms	1	

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Action 7.3	Enhance the use of low impact development in both private and public areas to reduce storm water impacts	1
Action 7.4	Enhance education to the public about the risk of high surface water levels	1
Action 7.5	Develop communications campaign with messaging to residents on lot-level resiliency actions	14
Action 7.6	Consider Thermal Comfort and the Urban Heat Island effect in development project design	0
Action 7.7	Enhance protections from heat and UV rays at sport fields and outdoor pools	0
Action 7.8	Provide UV Protection in public spaces and at public events	4
Action 7.9	Enhance communication and education around the impacts of extreme heat on human health	1
Action 7.10	Implement the Community Energy Plan (including but not limited to the following)	3
Action 7.11	Incorporate native and/or drought tolerant plants into public and private landscaping	5
Action 7.12	Collaborate with the Essex Region Conservation Authority and the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit on their climate change mitigation and adaptation planning	5
Action 7.13	Assess new opportunities for different forms of business and tourism as a result of a changing climate	4

B. The scheduled January 27, 2020 City Council Meeting will be referencing Council approved CR463/2019, Report 103 of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee: *Temporary Road Closures to the Ojibway Prairie Complex* under item 11.5: *Ojibway Eco-passage & Matchette/Malden Roads Capital Projects*

Reference:

Date to Council: January 27, 2020
 Author: France Isabelle-Tunks
 Senior Manager Engineering
 519-255-6100 ext. 6402
 Projects & Right-of-Way
 Report Date: 11/27/2019
 Clerk's File #: SR2019

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

Recommendation:

- I. That the report regarding both the update on the Ojibway Eco-passage project and the capital project proposal for the Ojibway corridor (Matchette Road & Malden Road) **BE RECEIVED** for consideration during the 2020 Capital Budget process.
- II. That Council **PRE-COMMIT** \$30,000 from project ENG-014-20 Eco-Passage, which represents a portion of the 2021 funding included in the recommended 2020 8-Year Capital Budget, for immediate use to conduct a study to identify passage/connectivity opportunities along the Malden Road corridor.

C. WECEC Budget

Included in the 2020 Operating Budget for Agencies, Boards and Committees to be presented to Windsor City Council on Monday, January 27, 2020 is the WECEC allotment of \$4000, with no change from previous years.

D. LDSS Climate Action Summit:

On Tuesday, December 10, 2019, the EcoTeam from Leamington District Secondary School held a Climate Action Summit at the Essex Civic Centre for students from throughout the GECDSD and municipal leaders from our communities. There were presentations from local experts about the impacts of climate change on ecosystems, human health, the economy and human rights in our region. Student Climate Action Teams were then invited to collaborate with the leaders from their municipalities to discuss plans they can carry out in their communities that will have a positive and lasting impact.

E. WEC3 Climate Action Symposium:

The Friday, November 29, 2019 workshop brought together a multidisciplinary group to provide an overview of what has been done since the last meeting, including declaring several climate emergencies across the region and to move forward the urgent action needed to mitigate and adapt to what we have been seeing across the region.

Symposium topics included the cost of doing nothing; climate emergencies and your municipality; community energy planning; engineering solutions for climate change; and climate change and health.

Discussion groups identified issues and possible next steps for municipal and regional improvements on climate change mitigation. Those included planning resilient parks and ecosystems, reducing risk, the role elected leaders play in supporting community action, and energy planning for municipal planners.

2. Reports to Council

A. September 19, 2019 - Report 105 of the Windsor-Essex County Environment Committee

Your Committee submits the following recommendation:

Moved by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by K. Banar,

That the following Climate Change Emergency Declaration prepared by the Air Subcommittee of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee **BE APPROVED:**

WHEREAS the most recent report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC) has indicated that within less than 12 years, in order to keep the global average temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius and maintain a climate compatible with human civilization, there must be a reduction in carbon emissions of about 45% from 2010 levels, reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS based on current projections of the future impacts of human caused climate change, climate change will adversely impact Windsor-Essex's local economy, damage local infrastructure and property, put a strain on municipal budgets and result in significant economic and health burdens for the constituents of Windsor-Essex, particularly our vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS climate change will jeopardize the health and survival of many local plant and animal species as well as their natural environments and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS Windsor-Essex is already experiencing large and increase climate change impacts including but not limited to overland flooding, heavy rain event flooding, emergence of invasive species, an increased number of high heat days, the rise of vector borne diseases, the re-emergence of blue-green algae and harmful algal blooms in our lakes and rivers; and

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WHEREAS municipalities are understood to produce and/or have regulatory jurisdiction over approximately 50% of carbon emissions in Canada; and

WHEREAS the County of Essex and the City of Windsor join the Government of Canada and 444 Canadian municipalities (including Vancouver, Ottawa, Montreal, and 18 other Ontario municipalities, among them Chatham-Kent, Sudbury, Sarnia, Guelph, and Kingston) that have declared climate emergencies, some of which are also implementing strategic plans in order to help reduce global carbon emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change; and

WHEREAS the City of Windsor, the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) and the Windsor Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) are committed to and currently undertaking city and regional climate change planning, encompassing both mitigation and adaptation, in partnership with others; and

WHEREAS this emergency is an opportunity to bring together County, City and Town governments as well as regional stakeholders to work together on climate change planning and implementation with the aim of protecting our region and contributing to greater national and global climate change response; and

WHEREAS implementing climate action and making a transition to a low-carbon economy also represents a significant opportunity to stimulate economic growth, increase job opportunities and develop new technologies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that both the City of Windsor and the County of Essex declare a Climate Emergency in the knowledge that this is an emergency with no foreseeable conclusion which will require robust and permanent changes in how the City and County conduct their business; and further,

That in response to this emergency, the need to reduce overall emissions from the City of Windsor and the County of Essex as well as continue to prepare for Windsor-Essex County's climate future are deemed to be high priorities when considering budget direction and in all decisions of council; and further,

That the City of Windsor and County of Essex administrations **BE DIRECTED TO PREPARE REPORTS** for consideration by their respective Councils within 90 days containing recommendations for priority actions items, implementation measures and cost requirements to accelerate and urgently work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future.

Windsor City Council at its meeting held November 18, 2019 adopted the above noted resolution (CR570/2019) with the following amendments:

That the City of Windsor administration **BE DIRECTED** to prepare reports for consideration by their respective Councils within 90 days containing recommendations for priority actions items, implementation measures, cost requirements to accelerate and urgently work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future *and include any initiatives that we are aware of by our Detroit neighbours and any other neighbouring municipalities across the border* **BE APPROVED**; and,

That the County of Essex **BE REQUESTED** to consider adopting the resolution as outlined above.

Essex County Council at its meeting held November 20, 2019 adopted the above noted resolution (230-2019) with the following amendments:

Whereas the County of Essex, the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA), local municipalities in Essex County, in partnership with other community stakeholders, are

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undertaking a Regional Community Energy Plan to assist the County of Essex and local municipalities to align with provincial and federal energy policies and programs; and

And further that the County Administration be directed to identify priority action items, implementation measures and cost requirements for those programs and services it is responsible for, to accelerate and urgently work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future;

And further that this declaration be shared with local municipalities in Essex County, who are encouraged to consider endorsing the declaration and identify priority action items, implementation measures, and cost requirements for those programs and services they are responsible for, to accelerate and urgently work towards the reduction of emissions and preparing for our climate future.

B. September 19, 2019 – Report 106 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee

Your Committee submits the following recommendation:

Moved by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by R. St. Denis,
That the **REVISED** Windsor Essex County Environment Committee Terms of Reference and Mandate – September 2019 including the following amendments as outlined in bold and italics **BE APPROVED:**

- WECEC is comprised of ***twelve (12)*** members
- Removal of the phrase – “***report annually on the state of the regional environment and provide the report to City and County Council***”
- The quorum of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee is **7** members.
Carried.

Adopted by Windsor City Council at its meeting held December 16, 2019 – Decision Number : CR625/2019
ETPS 722

WECEC BUDGET – SUMMARY

2020 Budget			
Item	Credit	Estimated Expenditure	Status
2020 Budget	\$8,000.00		
Pat on the Back		\$2500.00	
Green Speaker #1		\$1000.00	
Green Speaker #2		\$1000.00	
Movie Screening		\$2000.00	
Website Hosting and Domain Fee		\$450.00	
Earth Day		\$35.00	
TOTALS	\$8,000	\$6,985.00	
NON-ALLOCATED REMAINING		\$1015.00	

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WECEC Strategic Direction 2020

Strategic Direction #1 – WECEC Collaborations		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Improve relationships with City and County Councils.	Continue to have WECEC events in different areas of Essex County	Ongoing
Goal: Improve relationships with other organizations, committees.	Hold a meeting with other environmental organizations and committees to share information	Yearly
	Continue to pursue opportunities for partnering on community education/public awareness	Ongoing
	Hold annual Pat on the Back Awards presenting \$2,000 to local environmental organizations and schools.	Yearly
Strategic Direction #2 – Advocacy		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Provide advice on environmental issues to the City of Windsor, County of Essex and its area municipalities.	Assess issues referred from City and County Councils and respond with suggested recommendations	Ongoing
	Provide recommendations to City and County Councils on environmental matters identified through our own initiative.	Ongoing
Goal: Advocate for environmental groups in Windsor Essex County.	Accept delegations from environmental groups and advocate on behalf of these groups to City and County Councils.	Ongoing
Goal: Provide advice to City and County Council related to Federal and Provincial initiatives.	Develop recommendations related to Federal and Provincial plans, policies and initiatives to be forwarded to City and County Councils.	Ongoing
Strategic Direction #3 – Public Engagement and Education		
GOALS	ACTIONS	TIME FRAME
Goal: Increase awareness of WECEC by the public.	Maintain a website and Facebook page.	Monthly
	Strategically identify and attend community events	Ongoing
	Maintain a professional display for participation at community events	Ongoing
Goal: Increase engagement of public on environmental issues	Develop environmental education campaigns and messaging to help inform Windsor Essex County residents about environmental issues	Ongoing
	Host free knowledge sharing events with environmental experts highlighting environmental issues.	Ongoing

List of Priorities (including but not limited to)

- Public Engagement
- Endangered species protection/education around the Ojibway Nature Complex
- Sandpoint beach
 - Checking water for E.coli levels
 - Sprucing it up
- Single use plastics ban
- Waste diversion/Recycling education
- Planting trees in the community (WECEC tree planting.)
- Strengthen City of Windsor emissions reduction target
- Green development
- Transit electrification
- Camera controlled smart intersections (improve efficiency)
- Change mentality on biking
- Shade along riverfront
- Following the development of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Current List of Subcommittees

1. Air
2. Environmentally Sensitive Lands and Issues
3. Public Engagement