

# Staff Report



Development Services Department

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**REPORT TO:** Climate Change and Environment Committee

**DATE OF MEETING:** March 20, 2025

**SUBMITTED BY:** Natalie Goss, Manager Policy & Research, 519-783-8933

**PREPARED BY:** Carrie Musselman, Senior Environmental Planner, 519-783-8940

**WARD(S) INVOLVED:** All Wards

**DATE OF REPORT:** March 3, 2025

**REPORT NO.:** DSD-2025-117

**SUBJECT:** 2024 - 2026 CCEC Work Plan

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## RECOMMENDATION:

**That the Climate Change and Environment Committee (CCEC) Work Plan 2024-2026 appended to DSD-2005-117 as Attachment A, be approved.**

## REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Per the terms of reference for the Climate Change and Environment Committee, this workplan outlines priority environmental matters of interest to the committee and associated actions.
- There are no financial implications associated with the workplan.
- Community engagement included informing the public by posting the report on the City's website with the agenda in advance of the meeting.
- This workplan supports Cultivating a Green City Together: Focuses a sustainable path to a greener, healthier city; enhancing & protecting parks & natural environment while transitioning to a low-carbon future; supporting businesses & residents to make climate-positive choices.

## BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the [Committee's Terms of Reference](#), the committee in cooperation with staff are required to develop a Work Plan to be implemented in the current term. Accordingly, members were invited to provide suggestions on the types of things they would like to see the committee undertake. Staff then put together a Work Plan based on the committee's identified interests.

## REPORT:

At the February 20, 2025, committee meeting, members were asked to provide suggestions for the 2024-2026 Committee Work Plan. Members were reminded that priority

environmental issues should relate to and assist with advancing Council's strategic priorities, as well as priorities outlined in related guiding documents, such as:

- [Strategic Plan](#)
- [Strategic Plan for the Environment](#)
- [Corporate Climate Action Plan](#)
- [TransformWR Climate Action Strategy](#)

Actions should also link to the environmental issues identified and be consistent with the duties of the Committee, such as:

- Provide input on relevant environmental issues, policies, projects, or programs that are within the jurisdiction of the municipality.
- Serve as a forum for delegations to provide public input on environmental matters.
- Discuss new, relevant, or unexplored environmental or climate change issues.
- Assist Council and staff in identifying research needs and environmental data gaps, assist in gathering data, undertaking research, and formulating a strategy to improve the information available for private and public use.
- Support approved municipal initiatives with respect to the education of citizens on matters of environmental significance.
- Undertake other environmental projects assigned by Council from time to time.

#### Priority Environmental Issues – Work Plan

Members discussed potential priority environmental issues, consistent with the duties of the committee and the City's overall environmental objectives, and agreed upon the following for the 2024 – 2026 Work Plan:

- Environmental Rodent Control Impacts
- Sustainable Food Systems
- Committee/Council Report Template Change(s)

The 2024 – 2026 Work Plan has been attached to this report as Attachment A. The work plan may be updated throughout the term as priority environmental issues are added or completed and removed.

#### Priority Environmental Issues - Sub-Committees

The Work Plan is composed of actions to address priority environmental issues, which are often best fulfilled through members participating within a sub-committee. Each sub-committee will report through the committee.

Recognizing that committee members bring a wide variety of skills, knowledge and experience with them, a sub-committee can provide members with meaningful work that suits their skills and goes beyond merely discussing issues at a committee meeting.

The Co-Chairs may be considered an alternate member of all sub-committees, allowing them to attend a sub-committee meeting in place of one of its appointed members when it is deemed crucial to advance the Committee's business. A sub-committee cannot meet or exceed quorum.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

This report supports Cultivating a Green City Together: Focuses a sustainable path to a greener, healthier city; enhancing & protecting parks & natural environment while transitioning to a low-carbon future; supporting businesses & residents to make climate-positive choices.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The recommendation has no impact on the Capital or Operating Budget.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

INFORM – This report has been posted to the City’s website with the agenda in advance of the meeting.

**PREVIOUS REPORT(S):**

- [DSD-2025-069 2024-2026 CCEC Work Plan Discussion](#)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A – 2024-2026 Work Plan