

From:

Sent: Sunday, January 7, 2024 10:00 PM

To: PEC <pec@london.ca>

Cc: Rahman, Corrine <crahman@london.ca>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Adopting Green Development Standards for London

Greetings,

Reaching out to you today to voice support for adopting “green development standards” for the city of London.

Making this a priority is crucial now, as London is growing at a steady pace and communities, developers, and administration would all benefit from having development standards that clearly reflect the city’s commitment to addressing the climate emergency. A few examples:

- new homes and buildings constructed under green standards will lower the city’s GHG emissions and avoid costs to retrofit in the near future in order to meet emission reduction targets,
- new developments that conserve energy and water and manage stormwater runoff will be easier on municipal infrastructure,
- recognizing the need to define green spaces beyond the general description of “parks” - to encompass naturalized areas, tree canopy, and food production – will conserve crucial biodiversity, cool increasingly hot urban communities, preserve pollinator species, and provide beneficial connection between people and the environment that sustains us, as well as lowering maintenance costs and GHG emissions from grass maintenance equipment,
- supporting the viability of low-carbon transportation options like biking and walking will reduce GHG emissions and improve health and well-being for residents,
- standards that mandate buildings resilient to extreme weather events will not only improve resident confidence and well-being – they will reduce recovery and rebuilding costs, and
- the innovation and skill development needed to drive the implementation of green development standards will keep London competitive in a growing green economy.

While working toward a comprehensive green development standard framework, there are individual standards that can be adopted quickly and have significant impact:

- providing EV charging on buildings with more than 40 units
- mandating landscaping of 50% native species (no invasive species)
- short-term bicycle parking for townhouse developments
- bird friendly designs for buildings

I urge you to take this opportunity to prioritize green development standards, at a time when London’s rapid development is significantly impacting the resilience and well-being of our communities.

I would also like to request delegation status, if possible, to be able to speak on this issue (virtually) at the PEC meeting on Tues Jan 9th.

Many thanks for all you are doing for the residents of this city.

Lella Blumer

Ward 7