



300 Dufferin Avenue  
P.O. Box 5035  
London, ON  
N6A 4L9

July 16, 2024

Dear PEC Colleagues,

Councillor Rahman and Councillor Franke would like to bring the following directions to Planning and Environment Committee to ensure London continues to grow and manage our urban forest canopy in a responsible and effective manner.

Given London's identity as "The Forest City" and the vital role that tree protection plays in our climate action goals, enhancing our urban forestry strategies is essential. Urban forests provide numerous ecological, economic, and social benefits, including carbon sequestration, temperature regulation, stormwater management, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents.

We often hear at Planning and Environment Committee meetings of the need to protect large mature trees on sites planned for development. We hear from residents at the Civic Works Committee meetings of their despair when trees are removed due to municipal projects. It is clear the community cares for trees and would like to see further action to protect and grow our canopy coverage.

Therefore, we request your support for the following;

Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to provide information and associated recommended actions on the following matters in Q4 of 2024:

1. as part of the Urban Forestry Strategy Monitoring Report:
  1. a status update of initiatives identified in the Urban Forestry Strategy Implementation Plan;
  2. the requirements to effect The London Plan policies for tree replanting and/or compensation with development applications;
  3. opportunities to establish large designed planting sites (e.g., an arboretum or new woodland habitat);
  4. opportunities to require better soil amendments in new developments



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2. as part of the Tree Planting Strategy:
  1. updated policies and numerical standards related to resident input for boulevard tree planting, soil suitability for boulevard tree planting, and selection of tree species to be planted;
  2. specific planting targets for geographic areas of the City; and,
  3. additional planting opportunities on City-owned lands and partnerships with consenting institutional land owners (e.g., schools, hospitals, universities, colleges, etc.).

The inclusion of these items will strengthen our urban forestry program and align it with London's climate action and sustainability goals. We believe that with these enhancements, our city can continue to lead by example in urban forest management and climate resilience.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Skylar Franke".

Skylar Franke  
Ward 11 City Councillor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corrine Rahman".

Corrine Rahman  
Ward 7 City Councillor