

1ST REPORT OF THE
TREES AND FORESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on December 15, 2015, commencing at 12:15 PM, in Committee Room #4, Second Floor, London City Hall.

PRESENT: R. Mannella (Chair), A. Cantel, P. Ciufu, C. Haindl, J. Kogelheide, C. Linton, G. Mitchell and J. Martin (Secretary).

ABSENT: A. Adgria and I. Kalsi.

ALSO PRESENT: I. Listar, R. Postma, S. Rowlands and B. Williamson.

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for term ending November 30, 2016

That it BE NOTED that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee elected R. Mannella as its Chair and A. Cantel as its Vice Chair for the term ending November 30, 2016.

III. SCHEDULED ITEMS

3. Urban Forestry Strategy

That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to provide semi-annual verbal or written updates, ideally in May and November, to the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee (TFAC) with respect to the Urban Forestry Strategy and its implementation; it being noted that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, received the attached presentation from S. Rowland, with respect to this matter.

IV. CONSENT ITEMS

4. 8th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 8th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on November 25, 2015, was received.

V. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

5. Allergens, Climate Change and Invasives Working Group

That it BE NOTED that a verbal update from A. Cantel with respect to the Allergens, Climate Change and Invasives working group report was received.

VI. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

6. 2016 Trees and Forests Advisory Committee Work Plan

That the attached 2016 Work Plan for the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee BE FORWARDED to the Municipal Council for consideration.

7. Dingman Creek Stakeholder Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee (TFAC) appointed C. Linton as the TFAC representative to the Dingman Creek Stakeholder Committee.

8. Tree Watering and Establishment Recommendations

That Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to explore the development of a City-planting watering program for spring 2016 implementation, including:

- a) the use of a planting contractor, separate watering contractor and/or City (summer) staff;
- b) proposed costs, warranty impacts and long-term benefits; and,
- c) a program monitoring process to ensure adequate watering is taking place.

VII. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

9. Road Work in Rowntree Neighborhood and Impact on Trees

That it BE NOTED that discussion related to road work in Rowntree neighborhood and impact on trees was deferred to the next meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee.

10. Green Legacy

That it BE NOTED that discussion related to Green Legacy was deferred to the next meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee.

11. (ADDED) January Meeting

That it BE NOTED that the January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE: January 14, 2016

Urban Forest Strategy

A Summary

Presentation to the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

Sara Rowland R.P.F., Urban Forestry Planner

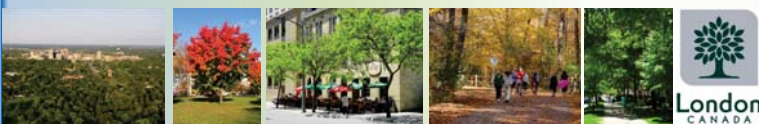
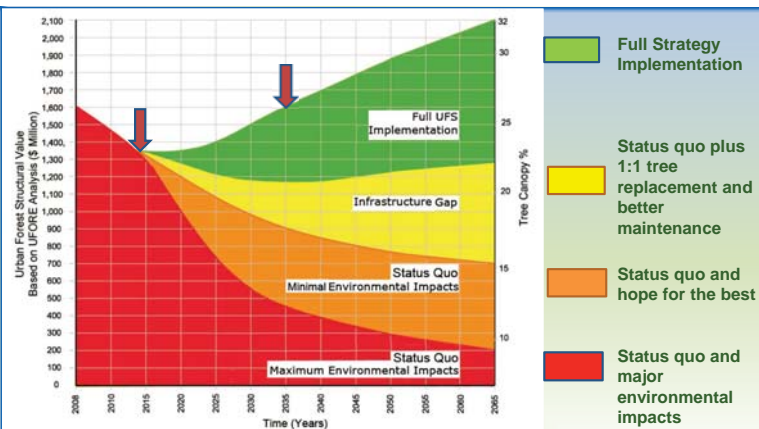
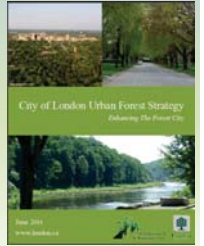
srowland@london.ca

December 15, 2015

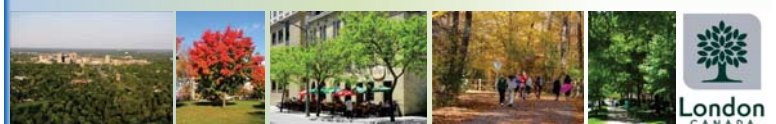


The Strategy - 4 questions

1. What have we got?
2. What do we want?
 - *Become one of the greenest cities in Canada (London Plan)*
 - *Residents have told us what is important to them*
3. How do we get there?
4. Are we getting what we want?



City Wide (All Land Use Types)	Target Canopy Cover 2035	Target Canopy Cover 2065	Estimated Required Budget Total
Canopy Target	28%	34%	\$37.7 M



How Do We Get There

Protect more

Plant more

Maintain and Monitor better

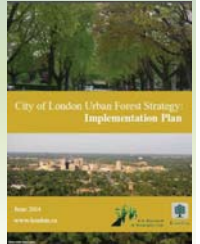
Engage the Community



How Do We Get There

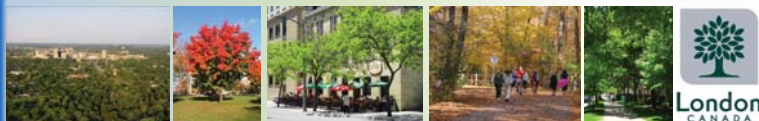
It will require **ALL** of the following:

- **Commitment**
- **Policy changes**
- **By-law changes**
- **Additional staff**
- **Improved practices**
- **Stewardship**
- **Partnerships/collaboration**
- **Engagement**
- **Bigger budget**



Short Term Priorities

Plant more	Protect more	Maintain and Monitor better	Engage the Community
Establish tree canopy targets for Place Types	Hire additional staff - forest health and enforcement	Inter-divisional Implementation Team	Develop comprehensive communications strategy
Develop planting strategy	Strengthen tree protection by-laws and policies	Remeasure tree canopy to determine change	Initiate public and stakeholder information and discussion forums
Right tree, right place	No net loss of tree canopy cover	Complete CMMS and update inventory information	Promote London's urban forest



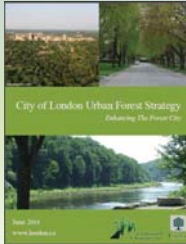
How Do We Get There

5-Year Projected OPERATING Investments (X \$1,000)							20 Year Program Cost
% TREE CANOPY COVER TARGETS : SHORT TERM (2035)/ LONG TERM (2065)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019		
28/34%	875	600	500	865	500	9,300	
5-Year Projected CAPITAL Investments (X \$1,000)							20 Year Program Cost
% TREE CANOPY COVER TARGETS : SHORT TERM (2035)/ LONG TERM (2065)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019		
28/34%	837	1,480	2,300	2,200	800	28,275	



Success is dependent upon:

- *Commitment*
- *Policy*
- *By-law*
- *Staff*
- *Practices*
- *Stewardship*
- *Partnerships/collaboration*
- *Engagement*
- *Budget*



Any Questions?



**Trees and Forests Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Work Plan – 2016**

Meeting schedule: In order to keep momentum, TFAC will aim to meet at least once over summer, and ensure that we can meet quorum for a summer (July or August) meeting in June. We will meet early in December to avoid conflict with the holidays.

Project/Initiative	Background	Lead/Responsibility	Proposed Timeline	Proposed Budget	Link to Strategic Plan
Urban Forest Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Urban Forest Strategy is a multi-million dollar 20 year strategy to help ensure the growth and health of one of the Forest City’s most important features. Providing advice on the formation and implementation of London’s Urban Forest Strategy is at the core of TFAC’s mandate. • Monitor progress on the Urban Forest Strategy and make recommendations concerning its ongoing implementation • Ensure PEC is being kept informed of progress on the UFS • Provide feedback on “No Net Loss” policy • Provide feedback on “Right Tree Right Place” • Provide feedback on tree retention policy 	Amber & Roberto	Ongoing	\$0	<p>Robust Infrastructure 1A: Address and manage the infrastructure gap to maintain what we have now and reduce the tax burden on future generations.</p> <p>Strong and Healthy Environment 3C: Plant more trees and better protect them from deforestation, invasive species, and other threats.</p> <p>Strong and Healthy Environment 3E: Work together to protect all aspects of our natural environment including woodlands, wetlands, river and watercourses, and air quality as our city grows.</p>
Planting Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist City staff in the development of a Planting Strategy for London (as a part of the UFS) • Investigate ways the City could support tree planting on private land 	TBD	April – December	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C

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City Tree Protection Bylaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the potential to reduce the number of calls from residents asking to plant trees themselves in roadways by planting more quickly in new developments Make recommendations on how to make planting easier for residents (as per council direction to staff in 2015) 	Craig	January - June	\$0	Robust Infrastructure 1A Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Planting & Monitoring Efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goal is to develop recommendations for what data should be recorded during planting, establishment, and cutting, so as to know (e.g.) how long a tree typically lives in London (& if that's improving or worsening), how many trees are being removed a year, what the survival rate is of different species, etc. 	Amber (to produce draft for TFAC)	February – March	\$0	Robust Infrastructure 1A Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Green Legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The province has recently voted to try and take Wellington County's "Green Legacy" model (through which school children volunteer at county-owned greenhouses to grow, distribute, and plant free trees throughout the County) province wide. Our goal is to share information with PEC about the model, and make recommendations concerning how London could become involved and potentially collaborate with Middlesex County or other organizations on it. 	Amber	March - June	\$250 (honorarium for guest speaker)	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Infrastructure Replacement Projects in Roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent road work and tree cutting in Rowntree neighbourhood has provided an opportunity to review the processes affecting street trees in London Our goal is to make recommendations to improve citizen understanding of decisions to make removals, and to reduce the impact of construction on trees 	Working group	January – June	\$0	Robust Infrastructure 1A

Project/Initiative	Background	Lead/Responsibility	Proposed Timeline	Proposed Budget	Link to Strategic Plan
Tree establishment recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore ways to reduce mortality of newly planted street and park trees, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tree watering ○ White pot technology ○ Potted stock in lieu of caliper trees ○ Growing contracts 	Amber	December (2015) – January (2016); possibly reconsider again in autumn	\$0	Robust Infrastructure 1A Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change is expected to have enormous impacts on Canadian forests, with a minimum of 4°C of warming predicted for our country (vs. the global average of 2°C) by the end of the century, and worst case projections from the IPCC suggesting that increases as high as 10°C may be possible (for Canada) • Goal is to develop recommendations around: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquisition and establishment of more southerly stock ○ Piloting more southern species as street trees ○ Collaborating with more southern municipalities on climate change issues 	Working group	January - April	\$0	Building a Sustainable City 1E: Fund innovative ways to adapt to Climate Change.
Tree Planting Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This document determines what species can be planted and where on City land, and is updated on an annual basis • TFAC will review and make suggestions for improvement this year, particularly with regard to invasive species, climate change, and allergens, and seek to more strongly connect it to the Urban Forest Strategy 	Working group	May - September	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C

Project/Initiative	Background	Lead/Responsibility	Proposed Timeline	Proposed Budget	Link to Strategic Plan
Committee Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify potential educational/outreach opportunities for members to possibly attend to help keep abreast of current developments in urban forestry (e.g., forestry conferences) and plan to have at least 3 TFAC members attend such opportunities this year 	TFAC	Ongoing	\$500	Innovative and Supportive Organizational Practices 2B: Use innovative and best practices in all organizational and management activities
Companion Plantings for Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees often benefit from being planted in association with other native shrubs, wildflowers and grasses. Having additional naturalized land also reduces environmental impacts of land management (e.g., fossil fuel consumption for lawn mowing; stormwater runoff, etc.) and provides habitat for wildlife (e.g., bees and other pollinators). TFAC will research opportunities for this to occur on City-owned land. 	Patti	July - December	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Identification of Publicly Owned Plantable Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the largest single landowner in London, the City owns an enormous amount of plantable land, not all of which is in parks. TFAC will work to make recommendations to help ensure that there is a regular process for identifying all plantable spaces on City-owned land and that there are systems in place to help get them planted and contributing to London's canopy cover targets. 	Amber	September - December	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
Investigate Potential for Adaptive Reuse of Municipal Lumber for Art or Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several North American communities reuse the lumber from dead municipal trees for art or for sale to local businesses (e.g., small scale furniture manufacturers). We will investigate the potential for such an initiative in London. 	Chris	Ongoing	\$0	Diverse and Resilient Economy 1D: Support small businesses by improving City processes Diverse and Resilient Economy 1F: Promote culture as a key part of economic growth and quality of life

Project/Initiative	Background	Lead/Responsibility	Proposed Timeline	Proposed Budget	Link to Strategic Plan
Fruit & Nut Tree Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a growing interest in food security issues in London. With climate change, food prices are expected to increase by 11-131% (depending on species) for staples such as corn, rice and wheat by 2050: an increase in food prices of as much as 4% is expected for 2016 alone. • TFAC will collaborate with the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) and the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) to explore ways to increase food security through the planting of fruit and nut trees. 	Amber (in partnership with Skylar from AAC)	February	\$0	Caring and Compassionate Services 3A: Eliminate barriers for individuals facing poverty, mental health and addictions and help them find pathways to be successful.