

Climate Change Action Plan - General Recommendations

General Recommendations Concerning the Design Specifications & Requirements Manual

The following recommendations all apply to sections within Chapter 12 of the City of London's "Design Specifications and Requirements Manual".

Recommendations for the Climate Change Action Plan

1. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column to reflect **sex of trees** (monoecious, partially or fully dioecious), so that pollen-free trees can be identified and used in areas with a high incidence of respiratory illness (hospitals, retirement homes)
2. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column to reflect each species' **OPALS rating**, so that the relative allergenic potential of different species can be determined by guidelines users
3. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column listing each species' **fruit size**. A local food security group likely exists which could be approached to help provide this information for use in the table.
4. The City of London seek to implement these recommendations in time for the Spring, 2017 tree planting tender.
5. A "**Climate Change Sister City**" initiative be established, either as a project of the Forestry department, or by partnering with an appropriate community partner to carry out the initiative, it being noted that TD Green Streets or the Federation may be a suitable source of funding for this project (see *attached draft proposal*).
6. The City make active use of climate change projections to anticipate **future budget needs**, both for urban forestry and other departments. (For example, estimating how much emergency tree trimming might need to be increased each year to make up for the expected increase in severe storms, or determining how many extra trees will need to be planted from increased deaths due to drought or pests).
7. Residents concerned about food security should be permitted to make **special requests to plant fruit and nut trees** in the boulevard in front of their homes, in the case where a street tree is not already present but site dimensions and conditions would support one.
8. For **dioecious species** (those species which have separate "male" trees and "female" trees), the City request that nurseries provide only female trees (which do not produce pollen) wherever practical.