

**Trees and Forests Advisory Committee
Advisory Committee Work Plan – 2017**

Meeting schedule: In order to keep momentum, TFAC 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>
Tree 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
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	<p>Robust Infrastructure 1A</p> <p>Strong and Healthy Environment 3C</p>

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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. <p>UPDATE September 2016 – Received the presentation and support of Council – will look at moving forward.</p>	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
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"> ○ Future tree watering report for 2017 ○ White pot technology – could be part of the green legacy ○ Potted stock in lieu of caliper trees ○ Growing contracts 	Amber	Dec (2015) – Jan (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.

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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 <p>Update – Recommendations Changes submitted for review</p>	Working group	May - September	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C
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. Invite James MacKay, Ecologist to a future meeting (2017) to speak to this. 	Amber	2017	\$0	Strong and Healthy Environment 3C

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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.
NEW 2017					
Trees Protection Strategy Construction Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an opportunity for the TFAC to review and possibly make recommendations to this strategy early spring 2017 (added following the Road Work Construction presentation in November 2016) 				
COMPLETED					
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