

**8TH REPORT OF THE**  
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Meeting held on September 6, 2017, commencing at 12:15 PM, in Committee Room #4, Second Floor, London City Hall.

**PRESENT:** S. Ratz (Chair), K. Birchall, M. Bloxam, S. Hall, R. Harvey, M. Hodge, J. Howell, N. St. Amour, T. Stoiber, D. Szoller and A. Tipping and J. Bunn (Secretary).

**ABSENT:** S. Brooks, L. Langdon and G. Sass.

**ALSO PRESENT:** R. Craven and L. Maitland.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**II. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

2. Neighbourhood Decision-Marking Program

That it BE NOTED that the attached presentation from R. Craven, Supervisor, Community Development with respect to the Neighbourhood Decision-Making Program, was received.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS**

3. 7th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment

That it BE NOTED that the 7th Report of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, from its meeting held on June 7, 2017, was received.

4. 6th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 6th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on June 22, 2017, was received.

5. 2nd Report of the Waste Management Working Group

That it BE NOTED that the 2nd Report of the Waste Management Working Group, from its meeting held on June 27, 2017, was received.

6. Notice of Application - City of London - 2426 Wickerson Road

That it BE NOTED that the Notice dated July 26, 2017, from M. Campbell, Planner II, with respect to a revised application by the City of London related to the property located at 2426 Wickerson Road, was received.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

None.

**V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

7. Accessibility Advisory Committee Comments on Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy

That the attached comments, dated August 8, 2017, from the Accessibility Advisory Committee with respect to the Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy BE FORWARDED to L. Maitland, Planner I, for consideration.

8. Request for Representative for Municipal Advisory Group

That the request for a representative for the Transit Project Assessment Process Municipal Advisory Group, dated August 25, 2017, from J. Ramsay, Project Director, BE DEFERRED to the next meeting of the Advisory Committee on the Environment to allow the Committee Secretary to obtain information on the expected meeting dates.

9. Resilient Cities Conference

That it BE NOTED that the updated Resilient Cities Conference Event Sub-Committee Report, from the meetings of May 5, 2017 and May 25, 2017, was received.

10. 2018 Mayor's New Year's Honour List - Nominations Requested

That it BE NOTED that the 2018 Mayor's New Year's Honour List - Nominations Requested document, dated June 28, 2017, was received.

**VI. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

11. (ADDED) Resilient Cities Conference - Funding

That it BE NOTED that the Advisory Committee on the Environment held a general discussion with respect to the budget for the Resilient Cities Conference Event.


12. (ADDED) Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy Update


That the attached, revised comments of the Advisory Committee on the Environment, related to the Draft Urban Agriculture Strategy BE FORWARDED to L. Maitland, Planner I, for consideration.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: October 4, 2017**

 **NEIGHBOURHOOD DECISION MAKING**



Presentation to the Advisory Committee on the Environment

 **What is Neighbourhood Decision Making?**


Purpose:

**The purpose of this program is to engage, empower, and connect residents by bringing neighbours together around community-driven projects that enhance and strengthen their neighbourhoods.**

 **What is Neighbourhood Decision Making?**

Residents submit ideas, which may cost up to \$50,000, to enhance their neighbourhood(s).



 **How does it work?**

- Residents submit ideas through an online form from September 15 to October 27
- City staff vet ideas with the affiliated service areas to ensure feasible and within budget
- Ideas becomes a proposals on a ballot
- Vote by community on November 18
- All ages vote
- Proposals with most votes are funded and implemented

**How does it fit?**




**STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY**

1. Vibrant, connected, and engaged neighbourhoods


STRATEGY	
What are we doing?	How are we doing it?
<b>A</b> Support neighbourhood driven activities and decision making.	• London Strengthening Neighbourhoods Strategy 2015-2020 • Great Near Campus Neighbourhood Strategy
<b>B</b> Fund and partner with the London Public Library to support people and neighbourhoods.	• London Public Library 2014-2017 Strategic Plan
<b>C</b> Work with our partners in Education to help keep neighbourhood schools open and use former school sites effectively.	• The London Plan (Public Facilities & Services) - draft • Neighbourhood School Strategy - new

**2016 Pilots**




<p><b>Medway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polar Express (\$2500)</li> <li>• Little Libraries (\$800)</li> <li>• Nature in Medway (\$11,700)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ward 13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gleaning Food Forest (\$5,000)</li> <li>• Kindness Meters (\$1,500)</li> <li>• Art on Utility Boxes (\$4,250)</li> <li>• New Play Equipment (\$4,250)</li> </ul>
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**The 5 Geographic Areas**



- A total of \$250,000 is available annually to the whole city
- The city and funding is divided into 5 (Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest and Central)
- Each geographic area of the city gets \$50,000



**Advisory Committees**



- Each geographic area will have an Advisory Committee
- The committees will support the engagement and empowerment of residents of all the neighbourhoods and diverse communities



## Idea Cafes

- Central – Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 at Central Library
- Northeast – Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 at Beacock Library
- Northwest – Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30, Cherryhill Library
- Southwest – Tuesday September 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30, Jalna Library
- Southeast – Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30, East London Library



## Important Dates

**Program Launches**

- Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>

**Idea Submission Closes**

- Friday October 27<sup>th</sup>

**Vote Day**

- Saturday November 18
  - Online at [getinvolved.london.ca/NDM](http://getinvolved.london.ca/NDM)
  - In person at all London Public Library branches
  - Opportunity to vote for 3 favorite proposals



How would you spend **\$50,000** in Your Neighbourhood?

**Your Ideas Your Vote**

More neighbourhood events?  
 More play equipment?  
 More community gardens?  
 More park benches?  
 More public art?  
 More bike racks?


Don't miss this opportunity to make your neighbourhood even better!

Submit an Idea    Vote    \$50,000

getinvolved.london.ca/NDM

For more information contact:  
 519-661-5336 or  
[neighbourgood@london.ca](mailto:neighbourgood@london.ca)

Neighbourhood Decision Making  
 For more information contact:  
 519-661-5336 or  
[neighbourgood@london.ca](mailto:neighbourgood@london.ca)




## More Information

Getinvolved.london.ca/NDM

[www.london.ca/neighbourhoods](http://www.london.ca/neighbourhoods)

[neighbourgood@london.ca](mailto:neighbourgood@london.ca)

519-661-5336



August 8, 2017

## **City of London, Advisory Committee on the Environment**

Att'n: **Susan Ratz, ACE Chair**

Re: **ACCAC Review – Urban Agriculture Strategy (UAS), July , 2017**

Thank-you for your recent request (July 31<sup>st</sup>) for our Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC) to review your most recent Draft UAS document with regards to inclusive strategies and/or design elements.

Once again though, timing for this review is a challenge for us as your requested response date of August 8<sup>th</sup> pre-dates our next scheduled meeting. However, in this regard we have circulated your draft version amongst 4 notable members of our committee (listed below) for their input going forward.

Background is that through our Built-Environment Sub-Committee we were able to review and provide input towards your document through the first draft of the Urban Agriculture Strategy – Terms of Reference (dated 2016-11-08). From that review we presented a three-part Motion to Council within the minutes of our Jan 26, 2017 meeting.

<http://sire.london.ca/advisory/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=1422&doctype=MINUTES>

Namely: The following actions be taken with respect to the Built Environment and Facilities Sub-Committee reports from the meetings held on December 12, 2016 and January 9, 2017:

- a) a member of ACCAC BE REQUESTED to attend the upcoming Urban Agriculture Planning Meeting to be held on February 4, 2017; it being noted that if a member of ACCAC is not able to attend, a member of the Urban Agriculture Planning Meeting will come to the February ACCAC meeting to give an update;
- b) the Urban Agriculture Team BE REVISED to include ACCAC as a Council Committee “stakeholder” that supports an Urban Agriculture Strategy that recognizes accessibility and provides inclusive design considerations for our community; and,
- c) prior to the development of a newly constructed Urban Agriculture project location, the ACCAC BE PROVIDED with a proposed site plan for review and opportunity for comments related to design considerations for accessibility.

In review of this final strategy draft, we (the undersigned) note that at no place within your strategy do you reference any legal, social, or practical obligations to meet the requirements of the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) or the City’s Inclusive Community. Although broad references are made to accessibility through the ideals and benefits of Urban Agriculture (page 4, 6<sup>th</sup> bullet point) (page 6 speech bubble), as representatives of ACCAC we would like to see that a stronger and more direct connection is presented to confirm that the needs and benefits of accessibility and inclusive use are being recognized through all stages of your strategic plan.

Note: just as with the City’s Community Garden projects, we see any/all Urban Garden opportunities as inclusive of the City’s mandated requirements for Built-Environment “Facilities” in terms of both the AODA Legislation and it’s present Facilities and Design Standard (FADS, 2007).

*Continued,*

Suggestions would be that:

- a) within the descriptive paragraph of your governance (page 34, par. 3, point 2), instead of the general statement that “appropriate City of London Advisory Committees” will be included, you specifically name the individual Committee(s) that will be represented and include ACCAC as a supportive stakeholder\*
- b) within the descriptive paragraph of your steering committee (page 49, composition), instead of the general statement that “appropriate City Advisory Committees” will be included, you specifically name the individual Committee(s) that will be represented and include ACCAC as a supportive stakeholder\*
- c) that within your various Policy Considerations “best practices and references” that both the AODA legislation and the City of London’s Accessibility Plan be given credit for assuring that inclusive design and communication considerations will be recognized at all levels of implementation

\* Note: the above referenced term “supportive stakeholder” should not imply that a member of ACCAC need be directly connected with your Steering Committee as a sitting member. Our intent is that with regards to accessibility our committee will be available, upon request, to provide assistance towards that goal as an advisory resource.

Trust this note helps present our position in this regard. And we look forward to further development of Urban Agriculture for our city.

Sincerely,

Michael Dawthorne, ACCAC, Committee Chair

Jacqueline Madden, ACCAC, Committee Vice-Chair

Jim Sanders, ACCAC, Chair of the Built-Environment Sub-Committee

Michael Cairns, ACCAC, Chair of the Policy Sub-Committee

Email: [accessibility@london.ca](mailto:accessibility@london.ca)

Phone: 519-661-2500 ext 2425

## ACE Comments on the Urban Agriculture Strategy (Sept 6 2017)

### Document link...

<https://www.london.ca/business/Planning-Development/current-topics/Documents/UAS-Draft-July-17-17.pdf>

### Prepared with feedback from ACE Members

1. ACE commends the various engagement tools that were used in developing this strategy, especially
  - a. The development of a specific email list to which updates were sent.
  - b. "Save the date" notices that allowed those interested to plan ahead for meetings 3-6 weeks in advance.
  - c. The support of a joint advisory committee meeting on the strategy May 11, 2017 which allowed members of different advisory committees to meet in person, network and provide feedback in a timely manner at that stage.
2. ACE commends the effort put into this document which has significantly improved since the last draft.
3. ACE recommends that the following are addressed in the final version of the document:
  - a. The addition of specific targets and timelines. (e.g. by 2030 there will be a community garden and food forest in every neighbourhood; by 2018 the by-law to allow end of drive-way food sales will be rewritten, etc). Measurable outcomes should also be specified.
  - b. Details on how the strategy will be funded. Ideally, a draft budget attached to the plan addressing funding for 2017 to 2019. As well as a funding proposal for the next 4 year budget starting 2020.
  - c. Recognition that where a role of "community leads" or "community partners with the city" is noted, that it is still important the city be involved and/or provide initiation, facilitation and leadership support as needed to support projects.
  - d. Incorporate a clear list (or map) of potential urban ag inventory parcels (with address) as asked in the original council resolution. This should appear in the strategy document in addition to being available on-line.
  - e. Include tangible action items on how we incorporate traditional knowledge on food systems within urban agriculture in London.
  - f. As the strategy evolves that links to rural resources be considered.
  - g. Encourage and expand upon the involvement of community organizations and businesses. Specifically mention Western Fair.
  - h. Encourage and further emphasize organic and/or sustainable practices.
  - i. In the Urban "Foodscaping" section incorporate in the chart points safety / logistical considerations regarding the location and maintenance of public foodscaping. For example, the location of utilities must be considered. Locates would be required prior to creating gardens due to underground risk and that there are standards related to tree species and locations relative to the overhead hydro distribution systems.
  - j. The strategy specifically states which advisory committees will be advised of updates/ future actions related to the strategy including the annual report mentioned. (page 34 / Section 3 of Moving Forward) To include at minimum, ACE, Agriculture, Animal Welfare, Accessibility, EEPAC, Trees & Forests.
4. ACE recommends that the statement "Identify a City of London service area to coordinate..." (p34 Section 3 of Moving Forward) be more detailed. Staff resources – not just the service area should be clearly identified to support future development of the urban agriculture strategy and related actions. Ideally - a full-time staff person (or equivalent) should be dedicated to future support.
5. ACE recommends that all key documents sourced in the strategy (especially the food charter and food policy council related documents) are added and/or links clearly identified on the city's main urban agriculture webpage.
6. ACE requests additional information regarding the Urban Agriculture Steering Committee be provided to them including the member make up of that committee.