

## IDEAS AND PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO IEPC

### Idea: The Greening and Revitalization of the City

**Description:** We have a comprehensive plan for the 'greening' and revitalization of the city which includes several ideas for social and economic equity, environmental and energy sustainability, green jobs creation such as retrofitting buildings and revitalization of city infrastructure.

#### **What is the status of this idea – is anything already happening?**

The London and District Labour Council proposes a comprehensive plan for social and economic equity, environmental and energy sustainability and the “greening” of the city as a means of unifying community into a common vision. We must ensure that the economic, environmental and social concerns of the community are addressed in any overall plan.

#### 1. Public Infrastructure

The City needs to develop public reinvestment and economic renewal that is sustainable, equitable and democratic.

We need a long term funding of public infrastructure with the creation of green unionized jobs at a range of skill levels; promotion of local procurement “Made in Canada” policies and the revitalization of the manufacturing sector with just transition.

We also must ensure diverse and universally accessible public service delivery and strong funding for all public services and social supports for the community.

The City must refurbish and fund critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, water and sewer services, recycling and composting services.

#### 2. Economic and Social Equity

Provide adequate funding for affordable housing and mixed housing residential areas with provisions for more open spaces and less urban sprawl

Ensure safe, clean, culturally vibrant neighborhoods with recreational facilities, public libraries, meeting places and community and arts centres accessible to everyone in the community.

Expand public transit that is accessible to all with no barriers due to financial ability, differing abilities and insufficient service; ensure high quality, integrated public transit linked with Canadian procurement

Work with labour and community organizations such as the United Way to improve living standards for all community members with a “living wage” ordinance and to provide expansion and integration of health and mental health services for poor families, seniors, immigrants, those with different abilities; to provide additional forms of public education for literacy, English as a Second Language and early learning.

Work with labour and community organizations such as the London Employment Help Centre to improve assistance and services for those seeking employment; and the expansion of training, mentoring and advocacy for the unemployed.

Promote diverse, locally owned and operated sustainable, environmentally sound, socially responsible businesses.

3. Greening Interventions and mitigation of climate change in the environmental infrastructure such as more parks, tree planting, open spaces, the provision of bike lanes and integrated bike and pedestrian paths. Develop ongoing projects to implement the most innovative and effective environmental programs.

The creation of more community based environmental programs such as more community gardens, local food sustainability, access to affordable and high quality food, more local farmers' markets.

Provide more renewable energy initiatives such as retrofitting buildings, solar panel heating, LED lighting, photovoltaic panels and geothermal usage; provide multiple opportunities for training in environmental practices, safe work and cleanup practices.

**Who are the partners that would need to be involved? What are their roles?**

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Partners would include labour, City staff, community partners and Council and should be as inclusive as possible with significant outreach to all communities in London.

**Cost to Implement this idea (\$):** NA

**Funding Requested from City (\$) if any:** NA

**Will this idea move forward without City of London funding?** This plan will definitely require City of London funding. I think this approach fractures the planning that is so necessary for an effective and strategic overall frame.

**Will your idea create jobs?** Yes

**How many jobs will be created?** 500+

**Full or Part-time:** Full-time (32hrs/wk+)

**Permanent or Temporary:** Permanent

**Job Level:** Mid-level

**Job Salary:** Salary of \$40,000 - \$60,000 (\$20-\$30/hour)

**What sector(s) will this create job(s) in?** Manufacturing

**Is there anything else you can tell us about how your idea:** Again this is limiting to one idea.

**Will this idea leverage investment from others? What kind? How much?** We will have to provide further details re this question.

**Will this idea stimulate spin-off benefits? What type? How? When? Where?** There will be numerous benefits from our suggestions for social and environmental renewal and economic revitalization.

**Will this idea build new or existing partnerships? How?** We already answered this question.

**Will this idea benefit emerging or established industry sectors? How?** Yes again this is repetitive and there are more than three sectors that would benefit.

**Will this idea fuel transformative change in London's economy? If so, how?** Absolutely. A green economy is interrelated with the creation of green jobs and environmental sustainability.

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