



City Planning
206 Dundas Street
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August 8th, 2019

To:

Environmental and Ecological Planning and Advisory Committee
Heather Lysynski
Committee Secretary
Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee
hlysynsk@london.ca

RE: Pre-Consultation Initiation and Invitation for the Update to the Environmental Management Guidelines (2007) for the City of London

The City of London's Environmental Management Guidelines (EMG) provide direction regarding the policies, procedures and requirements for preparing environmental reports and studies that may be required to evaluate planning applications, municipal infrastructure projects, Secondary Plans, Conservation Master Plans, Subject Land Status Reports, Environmental Assessments or Environmental Impact Studies. The EMG update process will consider the recommendations of the EIS Performance Monitoring Study completed in 2014. A link to the Planning and Environment Committee staff report (August 26, 2014), and [study](#) can be found [here](#). This review to the EMG is intended to update this document to connect standards and practices to reflect the policies of The London Plan and to align the Guidelines with other City planning initiatives.

The London Plan identifies the purpose of the Guidelines in Policy 1423_:

The City may prepare environmental management guidelines setting out in more detail the requirements of environmental studies for development and site alteration. Environmental studies are the means by which the City establishes the precise boundaries of natural features and areas and the significant ecological functions within them. They also assess the potential impacts of development and site alteration on the Natural Heritage System and on their adjacent lands, and are required prior to the approval of development to prevent negative impacts on the Natural Heritage System, and to demonstrate that there will be no negative impacts on the natural heritage features and areas or their ecological functions.

The EMG are intended to be tools to implement existing policies and do not replace or supersede such policies. Approved Provincial or procedural policy will not be explored as part of this update. Whenever possible, reference will be made to these approved documents to focus the EMG update scope to London-specific items.

Consultation with external resources (stakeholders and community groups) and First Nations will be completed throughout this update process. This letter inviting groups to engage in the process is intended to initiate the resulting process. The Draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the update project are attached, and you are encouraged to comment on both the ToR and the existing EMG (approved by Council in 2007) ([link](#), also attached).

Next Steps & Invitation to Participate and Provide Comments:

August 15, 2019, 5:00pm: Presentation on EMG Update Process at the EEPAC Meeting in Committee Room 1 and 2, Second Floor, City Hall.

- We are intending to kick-off this pre-consultation process with a project presentation at EEPAC. All external resources and First Nations receiving this invitation are invited to attend, hear an overview of the project, ask questions and make initial comments related to the ToR. The slides from this presentation will be made available on the City's website.
- Meetings will be established for external resource groups that would prefer this mode of engagement.

September 19, 2019: Deadline to provide comments on the Draft Terms of Reference for the EMG Update and current version of the EMG.

- We are requesting any comments relating to the ToR and initial EMG comments by September 19 so that we can circulate the final ToR for consultant selection on September 27, 2019. In order to assist us in responding to your comments we have included a comment spreadsheet. All comments received will be considered and will help guide the revisions in order to effectively update the EMG. Initial EMG comment responses and a draft of the revised EMG will be circulated for comment in early 2020.

Improving the usability and effectiveness of the City's EMGs will ensure the City's Natural Heritage System is identified, the impacts of development are assessed, and that the identified natural heritage features and functions are protected over the long-term as required by the Provincial Policy Statement and the City's Official Plan.

We appreciate your feedback on how we can best engage with you throughout this process and are open to scheduling meetings, corresponding via email or holding conference calls as appropriate.

We look forward to working with you on this initiative.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Williamson".

Emily Williamson, M.Sc.
Ecologist | Planner
Long Range Planning and Sustainability
City of London

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Please contact 519-661-CITY (2489) Ext. 2425 or accessibility@london.ca if you need information in an alternate format, or require the assistance of a communication support. Arrangements are made upon request by submitting a customer accommodation request form.