

## Report to Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

**To:** Chair and Members  
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

**From:** Kelly Scherr, P.Eng., MBA, FEC, Managing Director,  
Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer  
George Kotsifas, P.Eng., Managing Director, Development  
and Compliance Services and Chief Building Official

**Subject:** Update – Development of the Climate Emergency Action  
Plan

**Date:** April 27, 2021

## Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Environmental and Engineering Services and City Engineer and the Managing Director, Development and Compliance Services and Chief Building Official, the attached report with respect to the development of the City's Climate Emergency Action Plan **BE RECEIVED** for information.

## Executive Summary

On April 24, 2019, Municipal Council declared a climate emergency. On November 26, 2019, Council recommended a series of actions to be completed to address the Climate Emergency, including the development of a Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) and the creation and implementation of a Climate Emergency Evaluation Tool (now referred to as the Climate Emergency Screening Tool, or CEST for short). An update on progress was provided on August 11, 2020.

While COVID-19 continues to slow the work on the Climate Emergency Action Plan in 2020, it will be completed and submitted to Council by Fall 2021. Specifically, this report provides an update in three areas:

1. The Rollout and Evolution of the Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process (including the CEST process)

Staff from the Climate Emergency Resource Team, a cross-disciplinary team of staff from Planning and Environmental Programs, have worked with all Service Areas to develop customized processes for identifying climate emergency impacts for their programs, projects and services. While a one-size-fits-all tool was originally envisioned, this revised approach provides a common basis for evaluation with further customized tools and information tailored for the work of each area. CEST results are being finalized for two of the highest impact services delivered by the City of London, transportation planning and solid waste management, with reports to be brought to the Civic Works Committee detailing the results this summer. Other areas continue to use CEST to evaluate their work and full deployment is anticipated for all Service Areas in the Fall of 2021.

2. Community Engagement for the Development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan

The Climate Emergency Action Plan will require residents, businesses and institutions to reduce their climate change impacts, making engagement and consultation critical to its success. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, engaging the community for input on the Climate Emergency Action Plan through face-to-face and in-person events such as summer festivals, neighbourhood fairs, and community meetings was not possible.

In the absence of in-person meetings, City staff have used a series of enhanced on-line platforms. This includes extensive use of the Get Involved platform to host a number of engagement processes, online engagement events such as Green in the City and My

Wild Green Home, and many virtual meetings with key stakeholders. The first phase of engagement is planned to wrap up on Earth Day, April 22, 2021. The level of engagement has been positive:

- 15,500 - combined website visits
- 1,550 - combined responses and written contributions to the City
- 1,500 - households have entered data through the Project Neutral (carbon calculator)
- 950 - participants in online education and awareness sessions (as of April 15) with expected attendance to top 1,000 by April 22, 2021

In addition, many community groups have begun and/or increased the number of their own community engagements in 2020 and 2021 for climate change including Climate Action London, Urban League of London, ReForest London, Urban Roots London, Thames Region Ecological Association (TREA), London Environmental Network (LEN).

### 3. Corporate, City-influenced and Community Climate Actions

Although the focus has been on seeking input for the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan, it is important to note that the 2019-2023 Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan is already in place and that actions identified in the plan continue to be implemented. Total energy use in 2020 by the Corporation of the City of London was eight percent lower than 2018 levels, with associated energy-related greenhouse gas emissions being six percent lower than 2018. While much of that reduction is attributable to the impacts of COVID-19, staff are exploring how those reductions could be at least partially sustained in post-pandemic operations.

COVID-19 has had similar impacts at the community level. With more people working from home, 2020 retail sales of fuel in London dropped by 20 percent from 2019 levels. This alone will result in a six percent drop in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) compared to 2019. The degree to which this reduction is sustainable will largely depend on the decisions employers make about their post-pandemic work arrangements.

Corporate infrastructure projects that address adaptation to climate change also continued to proceed, many associated with flooding and waterways and include improvements and rehabilitation of Mud Creek and Carling Creek. These projects will increase the ability to address extreme weather in the future and decrease flooding impacts to properties.

Other City agencies, boards and commissions are involved with climate change mitigation and adaptation as well, including the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA), London Hydro and London Transit Commission.

There are also a number of community climate actions that are currently underway including home energy retrofits, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, urban agriculture, local food promotions, and sustainable mobility even as the Climate Emergency Action Plan is in development.

## **Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan**

Municipal Council continues to recognize the importance of climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable energy use, related environmental issues and the need for a more sustainable and resilient city in the development of its 2019-2023 - Strategic Plan for the City of London. Specifically, London's efforts in both climate change mitigation and adaptation address four of five Areas of Focus, at one level or another:

- Strengthening Our Community
- Building a Sustainable City
- Growing our Economy
- Leading in Public Service

# Analysis

## 1. Background Information

### 1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

August 11, 2020, Climate Emergency Action Plan Update Report to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

November 26, 2019, Climate Change Emergency Update report to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

April 23, 2019, Climate Emergency Declared at Municipal Council

## 2. Discussion and Considerations

This section (and Appendices A, B, C and D) contains details in the following areas:

- 2.1 Rollout and Evolution of the Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process (and Appendix A)
- 2.2 Community Engagement for the Development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan (Appendices B and C)
- 2.3 Update on Corporate, City-influenced and Community Climate Actions (Appendix D)

### 2.1. Rollout and Evolution of the Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process

Using best practices and industry/municipal research, the interim screening tool presented in August 2020 has evolved in terms of both content and process. The Climate Emergency Screening Tool (CEST) has been a catalyst for this evolution for many divisions within each Service Area. To date, the following has been achieved within City's eight Service Areas (Appendix A):

- 100% complete - Divisions that represent the vast majority Corporate-controlled greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and/or climate adaptation actions have developed tools and mitigation plans. (e.g., Facilities, Fleet Services, Solid Waste, Wastewater Treatment, and Stormwater Management);
- 90% complete - Divisions that represent City-influenced community GHG emissions and/or climate adaptation actions have developed some or most of the tools and mitigation plans required to inform decision-making on their plans, policies, services and projects through a climate change lens to support the community in reducing their emissions (e.g., Transportation Planning & Design, Development Services, Risk Management, City Planning, Solid Waste);
- 75% complete - Engagement has occurred with staff that have indirect influence over GHG emissions and/or adaptation actions (e.g., Finance, Legal Services, Neighbourhood & Children Services, Fire Services); and
- The first-generation Climate Emergency Screening Tool (CEST) has been used on major projects in Transportation Planning & Design and Solid Waste. Refinements are occurring now and will be completed this spring. Reports with outcomes are planned for submission to the Civic Works Committee shortly thereafter.
- Other areas continue to use CEST to evaluate their work and full deployment is anticipated for all Service Areas in the Summer of 2021.

Through the work to develop meaningful climate change evaluation tools with various areas, a foundation of expertise is being created enterprise-wide, which will enable more rapid action on the Climate Emergency Action Plan when it is complete in Summer 2021.

The original vision of a “screening tool” remains; however, it has become clear through discussions that City staff needed to better understand their roles in climate action within their Service Area and have customized resources to assist them. To address this, five streams of activities emerged that are being built into business practices enterprise-wide:

### 1. Climate Emergency Screening Tool

By taking the time now to co-create a customizable Screening Tool and implementation processes with each Service Area for major projects, programs and reviews, the process is expected to generate more accountability and ownership for climate change issues across the Corporation. This work equips each Service Area with the knowledge, awareness and understanding to evaluate their specific projects and decisions with a climate lens, while still ensuring enterprise-wide consistency.

Expected outcomes following full implementation of the custom Screening Tool will be Service Area specific staff reports documenting the results of Screening Tool use on foundational projects, programs and policies, as required by the November 2019 resolution and the regular inclusion of climate emergency commentary in applicable standing committee reports. This work is nearly complete for transportation and waste management projects and will be the subject of Civic Works Committee reports shortly. It is well underway in other areas and full implementation is expected in most Service Areas this summer.

### 2. Quick Assessment of Operations

In many discussions, it has become evident that the current Screening Tool process is more elaborate than necessary and tends to focus on capital projects. A separate process is being developed that uses a ‘quick assessment’ to enable more efficient movement on smaller but equally important operational actions. These could be minor behaviour change adjustments (e.g., the continued move to less paper) and dressing more wisely to reduce energy use to changing travel behaviour (to and from work) and more efficient service delivery (e.g., routing and delivery options).

### 3. Corporate Climate Change Capacity

The effort to implement the Screening Tool is providing an opportunity to increase the knowledge and understanding of climate emergency issues within staff and normalize the conversation about climate change. This is viewed as a key outcome of the work to date and will continue to be a focus in upcoming sessions. In many respects, this mimics initial findings from the community engagement process.; people wish to talk, learn, understand and take action.

Service Areas have developed or are finalizing aligned but area-specific approaches for climate action including:

- implementing no cost/low-cost solutions;
- reducing some activities;
- changing activities for lower impact ones;
- eliminating activities when suitable alternatives are available;
- focusing on actions with the largest GHG reduction potential at the least amount of investment (resource and financial);
- embedding requirements for climate change in budget business cases;
- designing for longer term changes; and
- building success with easier actions to create confidence to tackle more difficult ones.

The above process continues and is expected to be completed for a number of major projects in addition to meeting with and/or informing the majority of City staff by the end of Summer 2021. As noted above, Transportation Planning & Design and Solid Waste

will have reports before the Civic Works Committee this summer. Additional major projects are being identified for the CEST as part of their regularly scheduled review.

#### 4. Master Plans and Strategies

Climate change perspectives have been embedded in the scope of all master planning work and major strategies that are currently underway or about start. This ensures that the plans and strategies that will set the medium to long term direction for services and assets are developed from a climate change perspective. Upcoming master plans and strategies include:

- Asset Management Process
- Biosolid Management Master Plan
- Fire Services Master Plan
- Masonville Secondary Plan
- Mobility Master Plan
- Wastewater Treatment Master Plan

#### 5. Budgeting from a Climate Change Perspective

As part of the 2021 Annual Budget Update, Civic Administration began the process of formally incorporating different “lenses” into budget documents/materials. The first step implemented as part of the 2021 Annual Budget Update was the inclusion of the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression lens in all budget amendments. As noted in the 2021 budget, “the application of additional lenses will also be incorporated in future budget processes as those lenses are developed (e.g., application of Climate Emergency Screening Tool (CEST) to enhance the climate lens in the budget process).”

Civic Administration is currently working through how climate change is formally incorporated in future budget processes. Elements of the Climate Emergency Screening Tool will be included in the 2022 Annual Budget Update, with further enhancements in subsequent years.

The 2024-2027 multi-year budget will represent an important opportunity whereby current programs and proposed new investments will be considered over a four-year period and be able to take advantage of all the learnings and analysis achieved prior to its preparation.

### **2.2. Community Engagement for the Development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability to engage the community through in-person events such as summer festivals, neighbourhood fairs, and community meetings were not available. In the absence of in-person events and face-to-face meetings staff has used a series of enhanced on-line platforms.

In August 2020, City staff launched a community engagement process that primarily made use of on-line engagement activities, including but not limited to:

1. Climate Emergency Get Involved website containing:
  - Background details and links to other websites
  - Two feedback forms
  - Engagement Primer (and feedback opportunities)
  - Climate Action Plan Simulator (and feedback opportunities)
  - Project Neutral (local carbon footprint tool)
2. Online education and awareness sessions; and
3. Community group and business meetings and collaborations

Earth Day, April 22, 2021, will mark the end of this round of formal external engagement for CEAP development. The level of engagement has been reasonably strong to date (Appendix B). A summary of the metrics include:

- 15,500 - combined website visits;
- 1,550 - combined responses and written contributions to the City;
- 1,500 - households have entered data through the Project Neutral (carbon calculator); and
- 950 - participants in online education and awareness sessions (as of April 15) with expected attendance to top 1,000 by April 22, 2021

Several community and business group meetings have been held including the establishment of three community engagement/collaboration projects with the Urban League of London, London Environmental Network and Pillar Innovations to assist with public engagement for the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan. All three community initiatives have an emphasis on reaching a more diverse audience in London.

Staff have made presentations and/or received comments and advice from a number of City Advisory Committees and/or members including the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE), Cycling Advisory Committee (CAC), Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), Trees and Forests Advisory Committee (TFAC) and Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC).

Staff have also been collaborating with Enbridge Gas Distribution as well as Enwave (formerly London District Energy), which has led to a number of proposed pilot projects in the development stage.

Initial discussions have also occurred between City staff and the London Home Builders Association and the London Development Institute to establish a constructive dialogue on climate action. These discussions will continue and expand to include the members of these organizations and others in the construction, planning and engineering sectors in London.

Several discussions have occurred with Western University and upcoming discussions are being planned with business and institutions such Fanshawe College, London Hydro, London Chamber of Commerce and the local school boards. The impacts of COVID-19 on community partners will require continued flexibility in schedule management.

In addition, many community groups have begun and/or increased the number of their own community engagements in 2020 and 2021 for climate change including Climate Action London, Urban League of London, Thames Region Ecological Association, LEN, etc. The City of London provided letters of support and offers of both in-kind and monetary support for ten applications to the Government of Canada's Climate Action and Awareness Fund (CAAF), covering a wide range of proposed projects addressing home energy retrofit coaching, food waste reduction, composting, cycling, and community-led education initiatives. Unfortunately, none of these applications were successful. A future round of funding for the not-for-profit sector is being planned by the Federal government.

Staff have also been engaged with staff from other Canadian municipalities who are also working on climate action plan development and implementation. A brief update regarding recent climate action planning activities in other municipalities in Canada can be found in Appendix C.

### **2.3. Corporate, City-influenced and Community Climate Actions**

#### **Corporate Climate Actions**

The 2019-2023 Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan is already in place and actions identified in the plan are being implemented. The primary goal of the 2019-2023 CDM Plan is to achieve a five percent reduction in overall annual energy use from 2018 levels by 2023.

The following are some highlights of corporate energy use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions progress in 2020, noting that that these numbers are still being reviewed and not final. An update on the 2019-2023 CDM Plan is planned for June 2021.

- Total Corporate energy use in 2020 was 8% lower than 2018 levels, surpassing, at this point in time, the CDM Plan target to be 5% lower by 2023;
- Total energy-related GHG emissions in 2020 were 6% lower than 2018 levels and since 2007, energy related GHG emissions have decreased by 61%;
- Wastewater treatment had the highest total energy reductions, which were 12% lower compared to 2018 baseline; and
- Water supply is the only service area with increased energy consumption (electricity) in 2020 due in part to higher water demand in the residential sector in 2020.

In terms of the impact of COVID on corporate energy use:

- There was a 15% decrease in electricity consumption in municipal buildings in 2020 compared to 2019 due to less occupancy; and
- There was a 5% increase in gasoline use due to increased number of rental vehicles added to the fleet to maintain physical distancing among operations staff.

The following table provides a summary of progress on reducing corporate energy use and associated GHG emissions from 2018 as well as from 2007, the first year that corporate energy use was tracked.

<b>Corporate Energy Management Indicators</b>	<b>Change from 2018 Levels in 2020</b>	<b>Change from 2007 Levels in 2020</b>
Total energy use (in equivalent kilowatt-hours)	- 8%	- 10%
Total energy-related GHG emissions	- 6%	- 61%
Total energy costs	- 2%	+ 23%
Energy use per capita in service delivery	- 12%	- 31%
Total energy use in municipal buildings	- 8%	- 15%
Total energy use by traffic signals & streetlights	- 4%	- 28%
Total energy use in wastewater treatment	- 12%	- 32%
Total energy use in water supply	+ 2%	+ 2%
Total energy use by municipal fleet vehicles	- 7%	0%

Highlights for a number of corporate energy management actions taken in 2020 and until April 2021 are found in Appendix D.

### **City-influenced and Community Climate Actions**

Not surprisingly, 2020 also saw a drop in GHG emissions locally. With people working from home due to COVID-19, 2020 retail sales of fuel in London dropped by 20 percent from 2019 levels. While this will result in a six percent drop in GHG emissions compared to 2019, it is likely not fully sustainable and future results will be dependent on workplace management choices made by employers post-pandemic. An update on London's energy use and GHG inventory is planned for June 2021.

The City of London does not have direct control over how much energy is used in London, but it does have influence through aspects such as land use planning and transportation planning. The control over energy use in London rests primarily with residents, visitors, employers and employees. Individual and collective action by the community with respect to sustainable energy use, energy management, and energy conservation - supported by appropriate City policies, programs and plans - is critical for future success

There are a number of City-influenced community climate actions and equally important community (and business) driven actions that are currently underway as the Climate Emergency Action Plan is in development. A number of these initiatives are identified in Appendix D and more are being captured during the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Home energy retrofits remain a priority. City staff are supporting the work of the Ontario Consortium, a partnership involving the Clean Air Partnership, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute to explore the development of a third-party delivery model for a home energy retrofit Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) style program for Ontario municipalities.

Sustainable mobility is another major priority. Additional cycling infrastructure is being installed. Actions are underway to bring micromobility services, both bikes and e-scooters, for later in 2021. A pilot project is also underway for secure bike parking in downtown London. The upcoming Mobility Master Plan (formerly the Transportation Master Plan) is being scoped from a multi-modal, climate change perspective and represents a significant opportunity to reduce private vehicle emissions in London.

Climate adaptation measures continued to be taken with projects that were actively occurring or being planned over the past 12 months. Many of these relate to stormwater management improvements ranging from culvert replacements under railway tracks (e.g., Mud Creek) to the increased use of Low Impact Development (LID) options related to raingardens and bioswales. These measures are being taken to more effectively address surface water flows to decrease flooding in addition to creating more natural channels and improve both vegetated riverbanks and wildlife habitat. Several of these projects are described in Appendix D.

It is important to recognize the local growth in Green Economy London, one of several hubs as part of Green Economy Canada. London is the fastest growing hub in Canada, with a membership now of 44 businesses and institutions focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing waste, improving water efficiency, and enhancing corporate environmental leadership.

There are also a number of community climate actions that are currently underway on aspects such as climate change education and awareness sessions, home energy retrofits, use of electric vehicles, urban agriculture, local food promotions, promotion of the benefits of cycling, etc.

Other visible signs of a transition to a greener economy include about a 23 percent increase in the purchase of electric vehicles locally between 2019 and 2020, with over 1,000 electric vehicles now registered in London. Growth in charging stations occurred with 37 locations, with 105 charging ports, that provide publicly accessible charging 24/7 as of April 2021. Several of these stations are at City Hall. More of these stations are expected in London in 2021 as a result of Federal Government funding, including at most of our major community centres and arenas.

### **3.0 Key Issues and Considerations**

#### **3.1. Rollout and Evolution of the Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process**

The rollout and evolution of the Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process has been adapted to account for the following considerations and will continue to adapt as-needed to challenges that arise.

#### **Service Area Interrelationships**

Discussions with leaders in Service Areas across the corporation have uncovered many instances where decisions made outside of a Service Area's sphere of control, either entirely or partly within other Service Areas or by Council, have a direct influence on



climate emergency issues. In these cases, the potential incorporation of climate emergency issues in decision-making at the Service Area level is not expected to affect decision outcomes. The implementation of the screening tool process in these areas, including regular meetings with Climate Emergency Resource Team staff to facilitate cross-work-group collaboration, is intended to document these connections and interrelationships for future action.

### **Timing and Resources**

Embedding the use of a CEST process in each Service Area will be important to the successful and timely integration of climate emergency issues into decision-making for several reasons:

- The Climate Emergency Resource Team is supporting Service Areas with the design and implementation of a customized screening tool process, however the integration of expert knowledge as it pertains to climate action can only be accomplished through engaged participation of Service Area staff.
- Leaders for screening tool implementation and use are embedded within each Service Area and will increase the successful inclusion of climate emergency issues into workflows and decision-making at the appropriate time to affect positive change.
- Increased understanding of, and expertise in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation enterprise-wide can be a springboard for improving collaboration across Service Areas and can support a shift in organizational culture towards sustainability.
- Efforts to embed the CEST process into decision-making at this point in time provides each Service Area with sufficient time to understand the process, such that it can be effectively applied to the next multi-year budgeting exercise.

### **Stage of Projects**

Embedding the screening tool process into the work of each Service Area will result in climate emergency considerations being integrated into new projects, programs, guidelines, standards, etc. The implementation of the screening tool on any existing project, program, and/or process, must consider the current stage of its development.

This is particularly important when considering infrastructure projects where considerable effort and investments have already been made for design and planning, and key decisions affecting climate emergency issues may have already been made. In these situations, the identification of a trade-off between financial impacts (e.g., particularly associated with re-evaluating decisions and/or designs) and climate impacts may be the defining outcome of the screening tool's use.

## **3.2 Community Engagement for the Development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Staff will likely need to continue to rely on the use of enhanced on-line platforms for community and stakeholder engagement for the rest of 2021.

A first draft of the Climate Emergency Action Plan will be developed based on the feedback received from this first round of engagement activities. The process for the first draft is expected to be completed by Summer 2021. Following the completion of the first draft, additional community engagement options will be reviewed to determine the next best steps for plan completion and the first stages of implementation.

## **Conclusion**

While COVID-19 continues to slow the work on the Climate Emergency Action Plan in 2020, it will be completed and submitted to Council by Fall 2021.

The work to date has established a foundation of corporate expertise and engagement that will allow more rapid action on its implementation. In addition, climate change perspectives have been embedded in the scope of master planning work that is currently underway or about start, ensuring the plans that will set the medium to long term direction for those services and assets are developed from a climate change impact perspective.

The implementation of the screening tool and related processes in each Service Area is improving decision-making by formalizing the incorporation of climate change mitigation and adaptation issues. The process to create customized screening tools and implementation plans in consultation with staff from each Service Area is underway and is a key component of the City's response to the climate emergency. Major greenhouse gas emission generating capital programs in waste management and transportation have been evaluated using CEST and, subject to minor refinements currently underway, will be brought to a meeting of the Civic Works Committee shortly.

Despite the effects of COVID-19, engagement efforts to support the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan have been successful to date and will continue for the majority of 2021. A process for the first draft of the Climate Emergency Action Plan is expected to be completed by Summer 2021, after which time additional consultation options will be reviewed to determine the next best steps for engagement and implementation.

The development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Climate Emergency Screening and Awareness process have been accompanied by continued action corporately and in the community to mitigate and adapt to climate change. While both the Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Climate Emergency Screening and Awareness process are important pieces of work that will advance climate action moving forward, significant momentum already exists corporately, in London's business sector and in the community that is intended to be leveraged and built upon in the months and years to come.

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Appendix A Status of Corporate Engagement on Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process

Appendix B Status of Community Engagement on CEAP (Phase 1)

Appendix C Evolving Municipal Climate Action in Canada

Appendix D List of Corporate, City-influenced and Community Climate Actions (May 2020 to April 2021)

# **Appendix A**

## **Status of Corporate Engagement on Climate Emergency Awareness and Screening Process**

### **A.1 Climate Emergency Screening Tool - Goals and Strategy**

To fully implement the actions described in the November 26, 2019 recommendation regarding the Climate Emergency declaration requires a robust and well-understood process for evaluation of climate emergency issues affecting each Service Area. To ensure that this process becomes part of the culture and decision-making consideration across the Corporation, rather than a one-time exercise to evaluate current conditions, the development of Service Area-specific screening tools and the associated administrative process to use and implement the screening tool is underway. The goals associated with the climate emergency screening tool process are:

1. Implement the screening tool process in each Service Area to ensure climate emergency considerations are included in decision-making and the evaluation of existing practices can be conducted.
2. Establish a clear process for accountability and tracking the use of the screening tool, including collection of information on decision outcomes.
3. Elevate the collective understanding of the importance of climate emergency issues in decision-making across the Corporation.

The strategy being employed to achieve these goals is to engage each Service Area to elevate the understanding of climate emergency issues and co-create customized screening tool implementation processes that will effectively embed climate emergency considerations into decision-making.

### **A.2 Climate Emergency Screening Tool - Implementation Process**

In order to establish the process for implementation of the screening tool process within the corporation, the following steps are being used:

1. Conduct pre-workshop meetings (initial engagement) with Service Area leaders and the Climate Emergency Resource Team leading the process to get a high-level understanding of each Service Area's existing knowledge of climate emergency issues and the level to which those issues are currently included in decision-making. In addition, co-create a workshop agenda and initial plan for wider engagement of staff in the Service Area to facilitate the screening tool's implementation.
2. Meet key personnel identified by leaders of each Service Area in a workshop to:
  - Facilitate discussions on, and improve understanding of, the climate emergency issues affecting work within the Service Area;
  - Determine key activities and/or decisions within the Service Area that should be subject to screening;
  - Determine key documents, projects, and programs requiring review as recommended in the November 26, 2019 resolution;
  - Initiate discussions to start customization of the screening tool to best suit the vocabulary used and the climate emergency issues relevant to the Service Area;
  - Identify where and when a customized screening tool can be integrated into existing workflows; and,
  - Determine who should be accountable for the use of the screening tool, including a champion.

3. The Climate Emergency Resource Team prepares draft documentation outlining the screening tool implementation process identified through meetings / workshops for each Service Area (or sub-group).
4. The Climate Emergency Resource Team uses the CEST form as the starting point to create customized screening tools for each service area, where required.
5. Review customized screening tools and associated implementation process with Service Area leaders to ensure the screening tool and associated accountability processes are supported.
6. Develop a customized Climate Emergency Screening Tool implementation guide to support the screening tools for use in that Service Area (Answering: "How is the corporation embedding climate action in our organization's decision-making?").
7. The Climate Emergency Resource Team commits to regularly meet with Service Area champions to provide implementation support, identify and assess potential improvement opportunities, and collect information on Service Area and/or enterprise-wide opportunities for strengthening climate action.

Progress of engagement with each Service Area is identified below:

<b>Service Area and Business</b>	<b>Initial Engagement</b>	<b>Implementation Workshop</b>	<b>Implementation Guidelines &amp; Tools</b>
City Manager's Office & IT Services	completed		
DCS - City Planning	completed	completed	
DCS - Compliance Services	completed	completed	
DCS - Development Services	completed	completed	
EES - Fleet & Operational Services	completed	completed	
EES - Major Projects	completed	completed	
EES - Road Lighting & Traffic Control	completed	completed	
EES - Sewer Operations	completed		
EES - Solid Waste Management	completed	completed	
EES - Stormwater Engineering	completed	April 21	
EES - Transportation Planning & Design	completed	completed	
EES - Wastewater Treatment	completed	completed	
EES - Water Engineering	completed		
FCS - Asset Management	completed		
FCS - Facilities Services	completed	completed	
FCS - Financial Planning & Policy	completed		
Housing & Social Services	completed		
Legal Services, Risk Management & Clerks	completed	completed	
NCFS - Fire Services	completed	completed	draft

<b>Service Area and Business</b>	<b>Initial Engagement</b>	<b>Implementation Workshop</b>	<b>Implementation Guidelines &amp; Tools</b>
NCFS - Neighbourhood & Children's Services	completed	completed	
P&R - Parks Operations	completed		
P&R - Park Planning	completed	completed	

Notes:

- DCS – Development & Compliance Services
- EES – Environmental & Engineering Services
- FCS – Finance & Corporate Services
- NCFS – Neighbourhood, Children & Fire Services
- P&R – Parks & Recreation

## Appendix B

### Status of Community Engagement on CEAP (Phase 1)

Activity Area	Metrics
<p>Climate Emergency Get Involved website (as of April 15, 2021)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5,848 visitors</li> <li>○ 21,216 page views</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Feedback Forms               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 159 responses to feedback form #1</li> <li>○ 402 responses to the feedback form #2</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Engagement Primer               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 326 downloads of the Engagement Primer</li> <li>○ 80 responses to the Engagement Primer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Climate Action Plan Simulator:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 9,200 site visitors</li> <li>○ 16,000 page views</li> <li>○ 885 participants</li> <li>○ 100,000 people “reached” by Facebook ads and posts</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Project Neutral (carbon calculator)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1,500 households have entered data</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Online education and awareness program and sessions</p>	<p>Green in the City Fall 2020 and Winter/Spring 2021:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tackling Food Waste, October 27, 2020 (106 participants, 243 registered, 199 online views)</li> <li>2. Making Sustainable Transportation Choices, Nov. 3, 2020 (60 participants, 123 registered, 107 online views)</li> <li>3. Urban Agriculture in Your Backyard &amp; Community November 10, 2020 (107 participants, 275 registered, 123 online views)</li> <li>4. Responsible Consumption &amp; Production, November 16, 2020 (125 participants, 200 registered, 8 online views)</li> <li>5. COVID-19 and a Green Recovery, November 24, 2020 (65 participants, 171 registered, 85 online views)</li> <li>6. Developing London’s Green Bin Program, February 10, 2021 (106 participants, 172 registered, 92 online views).</li> <li>7. Connecting Global Climate Change to Local Impacts and Solutions, with Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, February 18, 2021 (164 participants, 289 registered, 201 views on Youtube, 3,600 views on Facebook)</li> <li>8. Climate Engagement Tools - Just a Click Away, February 25, 2021 (19 participants, 289 registered, 12 views on Youtube, 242 views on Facebook)</li> <li>9. Hope Matters: Tackling Eco-Anxiety and Inspiring Climate Action, with Elin Kelsey, PhD, March 18, 2021 (55 participants, 118 registered, 30 views on Youtube, 209 views on Facebook)</li> <li>10. Ontario's First Neighbourhood Powered by the Sun: West 5, March 23, 2021 (54 participants, 104 registered, 18 views on Youtube, Facebook view count pending)</li> <li>11. The Future of Masonville – Planning for Sustainable Growth, March 30, 2021 (37 participants, 82 registered, 32 views on Youtube, Facebook view count pending)</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">Note: views on Youtube and Facebook continue and the above statistics are as of April 15, 2021.</p>

Activity Area	Metrics
<p>Online education and awareness program and sessions (continued)</p>	<p>Sustainable Procurement Session featuring Bob Willard, Sustainability Advantage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with London Chamber of Commerce, Green Economy London and City of London, April 13, 2021 (40 participants, 45 registered)</li> </ul> <p>My Wild Green Home (October 2020 to March 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with Carolinian Canada Coalition and the London Environmental Network, a series of climate emergency themed web events were presented as part of the My Wild Green Home on-line exhibition and event series. Over 11,000 people (unique visitors) have viewed the exhibition with over 7,745 views of the web events.</li> </ul> <p>London Public Library's Environmentalist-in-Residence (April 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A collaboration with the London Public Library and City of London on a series of climate emergency-themed web events. This series continues with 5 events throughout April.</li> </ul>
<p>Community group and business meetings</p>	<p>Several community meetings have occurred including the establishment of three community engagement/collaboration projects for CEAP with the Urban League of London, London Environmental Network and Pillar Innovations.</p> <p>All three community initiatives have an emphasis on reaching a more diversified audience in London.</p> <p>Regular meetings are being held with staff from Enbridge Gas Distribution and Enwave London District Energy.</p> <p>City staff have met with staff from key stakeholders, including the London Home Builders' Association, London Economic Development Corporation, London International Airport, and Western University.</p> <p>Several discussions have occurred with Western University and upcoming discussions are being planned with business and institutions such Fanshawe College, London Hydro, London Chamber of Commerce, London Development Institute and the local school boards.</p>

## Appendix C

### Evolving Municipal Climate Action in Canada

Addressing the climate emergency is a dynamic effort that is subject to shifting priorities, varying approaches to action, and increasing knowledge from new research and observations. Recent developments and internal research findings relevant to the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan include:

- In Canadian municipalities, approaches to develop climate action plans vary, from wide community involvement in consultant-drive task forces (e.g., Brampton’s “Community Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan”, 2020) to internal municipality-led efforts (e.g., Mississauga’s “Climate Change Action Plan”, 2019).
- In Canadian municipalities, action commitments range from fewer but more focused actions centered on high impact areas (e.g., Vancouver’s “Big Moves”, 2019) to a more distributed collection of actions across various sectors and levels of ambition (e.g., Mississauga’s “Climate Change Action Plan”, 2019).
- The Canadian Federal Government’s strengthened climate plan, “A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy” (2020) includes a net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 target and sends strong signals for action as well as presents significant opportunities for potential funding (e.g., \$1.5 billion earmarked for Infrastructure Canada’s “Green and Inclusive Community Buildings” program).
- Many COVID-19 recovery initiatives are widely seen as turning points for governments to prioritize climate action as part of recovery and not rely on “business as usual” approaches to stimulate the economy.

London’s key actions, like many other municipalities, should address transportation (e.g., reducing unnecessary trips, changing how we move in the city), building energy use and efficiency, waste generation, and education and awareness of climate issues.

Cities such as Halifax, Greater Sudbury, Vancouver, Ottawa, and Toronto’s have used a modelling tool called CityInsight to model emission sources and the effects of potential actions to define decarbonization scenarios including important financial elements. A number of European cities have used a tool called ClimateOS to provide transparency and accountability for tracking the implementation of their climate actions plans, and this company has reached out to London and other Canadian municipalities to participate in a pilot project to bring this tool to Canada.

Using tools like this in London represents a significant opportunity to support enterprise-wide data requirements. Transportation planning, land use planning and economic development data needs could be particularly well served by this modeling tool and bring cohesion and continuity to internal climate action strategy.

The potential for external funding from sources like the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund are being examined to bring tools like this to London.



# Appendix D

## List of Corporate, City-influenced and Community Climate Actions (May 2020 to April 2021)

### Corporate Energy Management – Climate Actions

#### City Fleet

- In 2020, the City started a process to replace all compressed natural gas (CNG) ice resurfacers with electric ice resurfacers. Four Zambonis are now ready to go into service (when arenas re-open) and four additional units planned for the 2021/2022 arena season. London was one of the first cities in North America to make this move.
- In 2020, the City commissioned two CNG packers with four more to come in April/ May 2021. This starts the process of moving away from fossil fuel for the packers.
- Contracts were signed in 2020 to switch more municipal fleet light duty vehicles to hybrids vehicles.

#### City Facilities

- Due to the pandemic, the focus was on smaller energy efficiency retrofits and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction projects while planning for renewable energy projects that can take place in the next five years.
- Indoor and outdoor lighting upgrades at Canada Games Aquatic Centre, Dearness Home, Adelaide Operations Centre, and Fire Station 9 with annual savings of \$16,000/year and \$9,000 in incentives towards upgrades.
- Smart lights retrofit project (with individual dimming capability) at J. Allen Taylor building with \$10,000 in annual savings as well as \$4,000 in incentives towards these upgrades.
- Replaced arena glass walls with insulated panels at Bostwick Community Center which will result in \$35,000 savings per year.
- Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning optimization at Dearness Home and Eldon House resulted in \$10,500 savings per year.
- Installation of 14 dual-port electric vehicle chargers at nine community locations, such as community centres and arenas, are currently underway through the land-lease agreement with ChargerCrew.
- In 2020, Facilities staff commissioned a study to look at the feasibility of retrofitting fifteen existing City facilities, including the A.J. Tyler Operations Centre, Exeter Road Operations Centre and Earl Nichols Arena, to be net-zero energy or near net-zero emission buildings through the implementation of heat-pump technology. Preliminary results indicate that these retrofits are financially feasible.

#### City Wastewater Treatment Facilities

- In 2020, the City completed the majority of the installation of the Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) engine for power generation from waste heat at Greenway Wastewater Treatment Facility. When it is put into operation in 2021, the ORC will generate 475 kilowatts of electrical power for the facility.
- Upgrades to all aeration blowers at the wastewater treatment plants to new efficient turbo blowers was completed in 2020. The last Turbo Blower Project at the Oxford Wastewater Treatment Plant was completed in early 2020 and by the summer operations started seeing the energy savings for all the blowers, estimated to be about \$600,000 per year, across all wastewater treatment plants

- The new Dingman Creek Wastewater Pumping Station, currently under construction, will be heated electrically, with back-up propane for supplement heat if required during peak winter days. This avoided the need for constructing a new natural gas line and the associated natural gas related GHG emissions for the life cycle of the facility (60 or more years).

#### Downtown and Area Infrastructure Projects

- In 2020, 300 metres of combined sewer on Richmond Street between York and Dundas was replaced with separate storm and sanitary sewers.
- In 2021, the King Street sewer separation project will be completed in conjunction with the first phase of the Rapid Transit Downtown Loop project. This project will separate an additional 400 metres of combined sewer, contributing to the improvement of water quality in the Thames River.
- The Adelaide Street North 'Underpass' Environmental Assessment is proceeding. The new street design will enhance the pedestrian and biking environment, improve safety, reduce traffic back-ups due to trains and improve access to transit. (<https://getinvolved.london.ca/adelaide>)

#### Landfill Gas Methane Control

- An additional 17 vertical landfill gas (LFG) extraction wells and two perforated LFG horizontal collectors were constructed and connected to the existing collection and flare system at the W12A Landfill. Landfill gas contains methane, a potent GHG.

#### **City-influenced and Community Climate Actions**

There are a number of City-influenced (and sometimes City-supported) and community climate actions and equally important community (and business) driven actions that are currently underway as the Climate Emergency Action Plan is in development. A number of these initiatives are identified below and more are being captured during the development of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

#### Furthering Development on Home Energy Retrofits

- In 2019 and 2020, the City of London was one of nine Ontario municipalities that supported the work done by the Clean Air Partnership (CAP) to develop the report entitled Accelerating Home Energy Efficiency Retrofits Through Local Improvement Charge Programs – A Toolkit for Municipalities. This work was funded by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Transition 2050 funding program.
- City staff are supporting the work of the Ontario Consortium, a partnership involving CAP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) Local Advisory Services (LAS) and the Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute (HRAI) to explore the development a third-party delivery model for home energy retrofit program for Ontario municipalities.

Loans for these deep energy retrofits would be attached to the property itself, rather than the property owner, through the Local Improvement Charge municipal property tax billing process. Referred to as Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, there are numerous statewide and municipal programs operating in the United States and in Nova Scotia. The Ontario Consortium plans to make use of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) program for its development.

- The Ontario Consortium applied to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) program to undertake energy and building analysis of municipal residential housing stock in seven Ontario municipalities: Barrie, Clarington, Dufferin County, Huntsville, Kawartha Lakes, London, and Tay Valley Township. This study will identify the housing archetypes and opportunities for energy efficiency reductions. The City has provided \$15,000 to accelerate

London's portion of this work, which is expected to be completed in Summer 2021. If CEF funding is approved, this \$15,000 will be reimbursed .

- In 2021, London was selected by Natural Resources Canada and MyHeat to be one of the first Canadian cities to develop and deploy (pending Natural Resources Canada funding confirmation) MyHeat's SOLAR Map platform, funded in partnership with Natural Resources Canada. These interactive maps deliver personalized rooftop solar insights and potential to homeowners. As well, the platform includes calculators to assess the financial and environmental benefits of adopting solar energy. The development of the MyHeat SOLAR Map was provided at no cost to the City of London.

#### London Waste to Resources Innovation Centre and the Green Bin Program

- Working with the Institute for Chemicals and Fuels from Alternative Resources (ICFAR), a research institute within the Faculty of Engineering at Western University, more opportunities emerged when two new business joined the Industrial Research Chair program in 2020. The research program positions London very well to capitalize on the investments being made and future investments in the emerging circular economy.
- The City launched a community engagement process in December 2020 and input received for eight weeks helped develop the roll out of the proposed Green Bin Program (<https://getinvolved.london.ca/greenbin> ). This program will bring further greenhouse gas reduction and environmental benefits and lay a foundation for the business sector in London to meet its requirements with respect to organics management.

#### Supporting Community-led Climate Action

- The City of London provided letters of support and offers of both in-kind and monetary support for ten applications to the Government of Canada's Climate Action and Awareness Fund (CAAF), covering a wide range of proposed projects addressing home energy retrofit coaching, food waste reduction, composting, cycling, and community-led education initiatives. Unfortunately, none of these applications were successful.

#### Sustainable Mobility

- The City continues to support sustainable mobility projects with:
  - construction of a long-missing gap in the Thames Valley Parkway path system between Ross Park on Richmond Street and the North London Athletic Fields near Adelaide Street that includes two bridges;
    - connecting the Downtown and Old East Village with protected bicycle lanes on Dundas Street; and
  - construction of over three kilometres of new sidewalks around the city to support more travel options for Londoners.
- To continue to address the 2016 Cycling Master Plan's Action #8 - Enhancing Bicycle Parking, the City purchased nine bike lockers (capacity for 18 bikes) as part of a pilot project to provide secure bike parking in and around downtown.
- The City continues to install more short-term bike parking in the public right-of-way as resources allow. For 2021, ten TeMo-style bike posts have been ordered. These are London-designed and manufactured posts that each allow two bikes to be locked to them.
- The City has developed draft Neighbourhood Bike Parking Guidelines, a companion document to the City of London's 2018 Complete Streets Design Manual, to provide several design and installation options for short-term bike parking in the municipal road right-of-way, specifically near transit stops. This document will be used by City staff and contractors working on projects that include short-term bike parking as part of their scope of work.

- In early 2020, City staff started work, funded by the federal Public Transit Infrastructure Fund (PTIF), to help determine whether a Transportation Management Association – a collaborative approach that helps local employers pool their resources and needs to support options other than single-occupant vehicle commuting – is a timely initiative for employers, the City, and local partners to pursue. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the work that had been planned and many post-pandemic workplaces in London are expected to look different than they did in early 2020. It is expected that working-from-home will play a much larger role in the future.
- A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in August 2020 for proposals to run a bike share system in London. As a result of the extenuating circumstances surrounding the pandemic, the City cancelled the RFP in late 2020. However, City staff benefited by learning more about the current state of the bike share service market, including the greater role that electric-assisted bicycles (e-bikes) are expected to play in new systems, as well as the operating cost benefits of providing both bikes and e-scooters as part of a coordinated micromobility service. As a result, City staff is developing a new micromobility RFP that better meets the needs of Londoners and the City, pending Council approval to allow e-scooter use in London as part of a pilot project.

#### Support for Flooding Prevention and Property Protection

- Mud Creek Flood Reduction and Rehabilitation Project continues within the channel corridor including habitat enhancement features. An example of a habitat enhancement feature is the use of a partially buried tree logs to create riffles in the rehabilitated Mud Creek. The work includes two new culverts under the CN railway embankment at a lower elevation relative to the existing culvert and rehabilitation of the existing culvert under the CN railway embankment.  
(<https://getinvolved.london.ca/mudcreek>).
- The West London Dyke multi- phase project is ongoing that protects 2,800 people from flooding. Planning for the next phase is proceeding south from the Forks to eventually extend to Cavendish Park. This work raises the height of the dyke to address a higher flood standard (the 1:250-year flood plus additional 0.9 m freeboard) with project completion anticipated in 2028.
- Stormwater Servicing Master Plan Environmental Assessment for the Carling Creek Catchment was initiated in February 2021. Flood protection for the residential area is a component of this assessment that includes Old East and Old North.
- Low Impact Development (LID) projects continue to be considered on all Infrastructure Renewal Program (IRP) projects, where applicable. Since 2017, the City has implemented 66 various LID systems around the City through the IRP. Designs include third pipe infiltration systems in the municipal right of way, raingardens and/or bioswales. Additionally, the City has partnered with Western University to investigate and research the efficacy of LIDs on Sarnia Road and has launched several pilot projects around the City that are currently being monitored.

#### Support for Climate Adaptation Planning

- Initiated in January 2020, the City is continuing the use of the Building Adaptive Resilient Cities (BARC) tool in planning and tracking our efforts in adaptation to climate change. This tool is supported by the ICLEI and FCM programs in which London was a participant in a pilot project titled the Showcase Cities Initiative offered in 2021 to 25 municipalities from across Canada.

#### Support for Green Development

- The recently published Draft Masonville Secondary Plan includes a Green Development and Sustainable Design section detailing the important contribution that compact forms of development, public transit, green space and building technologies can have in addressing the climate emergency.

## Community-Led Actions

- Climate Action London hosted two viewings of the film '2040', a film that looks at the effects of climate change over the next 20 years and what technologies that exist today can reverse the effects, in December 2020 with a community panel discussion following the film. A similar format was used in April 2021 for four additional sessions.
- The London Environmental Network (LEN) has been seeking senior government and third-party funding support for the development of Greener Homes London, a home energy efficiency coaching program that would help Londoners understand the different options available for home energy efficiency renovations. This program could also play a supporting role in the proposed home energy retrofit program being developed by the Ontario Consortium.
- LEN has started to test new ways to engage Londoners through their new podcast called *London, ON: One of Canada's Greenest Cities?* This series looks at London's environmental and ecological health, and discusses questions and answers regarding how green and resilient the "Forest City" is.
- LEN's new Environmental Action Incubator program supports actions undertaken by their member community environmental organizations. Supports offered include administrative support (bookkeeping, tracking, etc.), communications support (promotions via our social media and e-newsletters), insurance to cover events, shared resources (access to tables, projectors, outreach materials), and up to \$1,000 towards the project implementation costs. This year, projects include: Antler River Rally river clean-ups and a creativity contest, an organic ancestral seed garden, community gypsy moth clean-ups, and a bike share program. These programs will help to reduce waste, enhance waterways, and reduce emissions.
- Green Economy London, with support from the City of London and Green Economy Canada, launched London's online Business Energy and Emissions Profile tool. Developed by Climate Smart, this is an interactive carbon mapping tool for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). This tool helps London businesses visualize their impact and get practical recommendations for emissions and energy use reductions, which will save them money in the long-term.
- Green Economy London developed and launched an employee engagement program for Green Economy London members called Workplace Green Up. This program provides employees with simple, day-to-day sustainability activities and uses prize-based incentives for action wherever their workplace is – home or work.
- Green Economy London, through their Green Project Grant, will be awarded to 14 recipients to support 17 different projects after having successfully fundraised a \$19,000 project stream with support from the City of London, London Community Foundation, Convertus, Partners in Project Green, and the Federal Government. Climate action projects being supported include:
  - LED lighting retrofit projects at five member businesses
  - Solar PV at Heeman's Nursery
  - EV chargers at the Reimagine Co. Zero Waste Store
  - Blue Roof feasibility studies for the Pillar Nonprofit Network and the London Food Bank buildings
- Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, Community Education Staff have created online programming for school use discussing Climate Change for school boards.
- UTRCA has obtained federal funding to initiate flood plain updates focused on 3 waterways that flow mostly or partially within London, being Pottersburg, Medway and Stoney Creeks.
- Urban Roots London, one of the largest community urban agriculture locations in London, officially purchased the land at 21 Norlan Ave (the current home of its farm)

in March 2021, which was made possible with support from VERGE Capital, London Community Foundation, Libro Credit Union, Dianne and Marcus Plowright, and crowdfunding campaign donors. They are also opening a new site at Siloam United Church in 2021 in the North East end of London. In 2020, Urban Roots London's Community Composting Program (supported by LEN and the City of London) diverted 1,450 kilograms of organic waste from the landfill.

- ReForest London hosted webinars with London Environmental Network members online through the Signal Boost Initiative, a variety of topics were covered including electric vehicles, native plants, and fruit and nut tree care.
- ReForest London is preparing for a curbside pick-up Neighbourhood Tree Depot Day at the Westminster Ponds Center in May. They are also part of the Native Plant Sale Fundraiser, along with Thames Talbot Land Trust, Pollinator Pathways Project, Nature London, Climate Action London and Embracing the Spirit of the United Church of Canada.
- London Cycle Link has been involved in the consultation and development of bike lanes in the downtown core, and recently supported the City's request for millions of dollars from federal infrastructure funds for cycling infrastructure. They continue to offer access to their Squeaky Wheel Bike Co-op for folks to fix bikes at low cost.
- ALUS Middlesex established 90 new acres of restoration projects in 2020, including 10 acres along Thames River. Aimed at providing more habitat and ecosystems services, reducing phosphorus in Thames River, Lake St. Clair and ultimately Lake Erie. A wetland project underway in the south end of London.
- In late 2020, Reimagine Co ran a successful crowdfunding campaign to open London's first package-free grocery store. With community support they raised over \$88,000. In December 2020, Reimagine Co opened its package-free grocery store at 206 Piccadilly St., with a focus on package-free, bulk, and "ugly" foods. Presently, Reimagine Co is partnering with Thames Region Ecological Association (TREA) to bring a Things Library to London in June 2021, where people can borrow tools and items needed for projects instead of buying them similar to a library-style service.
- Growing Chefs! Ontario opened a new programming space located at The Grove at The Western Fair District. The space will be used to run hands-on food education programs for youth (grades JK-12) and enable Growing Chefs! Ontario to reach over 10,000 students per year. Additionally, their virtual cooking classes and resources serve as an interactive alternative to in-person cooking programs during the pandemic.