

March 28, 2022

Dear Councilors,

I am writing to you today regarding the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP), a document that has been written in response to the real and present climate emergency, and more specifically to support Council's declaration of a climate emergency, approved April 23, 2019.

That declaration states in part that, "Whereas recent international research has indicated a need for massive reduction in carbon emissions in the next 44 (now 8) years to avoid further and devastating economic, ecological, and societal loss...Therefore, a climate emergency BE DECLARED by the City of London for the purposes of naming, framing, and deepening our commitment to protecting our economy, our eco systems, and our community from climate change."

The emergency remains. The plan has been drafted. It is incumbent upon you as a council to pass the plan and to run with it. This is necessary in order to mitigate the damage, adapt to changing climate conditions, and do so equitably (i.e. not leave vulnerable people behind).

I have read the draft CEAP in full, and support it. At London Cycle Link, we have already begun to use it as a guide and reference point in our work.

London Cycle Link is particularly interested in seeing bold action to address the most significant sources of emissions, personal vehicles. Cycling and active transportation need to be priorities in this effort.

We would like to see: four-year targets, aligned to council terms, added to the plan; a directive for the Climate Emergency Screening Tool to be used as part of every project; and independent metrics used for active transportation vs. public transit.

Most importantly though, we would like to see the draft CEAP passed, for the benefit of all.

Sincerely, Molly Miksa Executive Director, London Cycle Link