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ClimateAction

London's Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)

Questions and Answers (February 2, 2022)

What is the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP)?

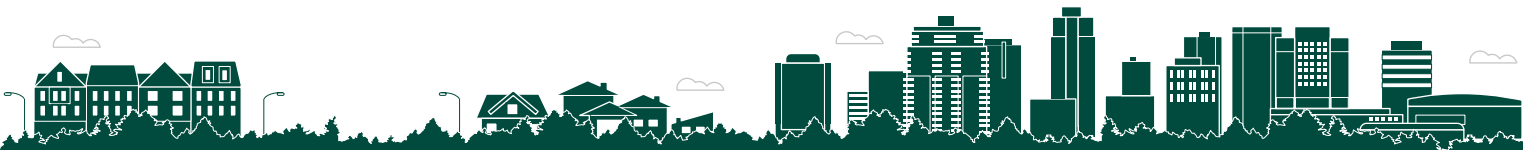
The CEAP is a community-wide call to action to help align all sectors on the actions required to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve our resilience to the impacts of climate change. The CEAP is a community-wide plan to achieve three main goals:

1. Net-zero community greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050;
2. Improved resilience to climate change impacts; and
3. Bring everyone along (e.g., individuals, households, businesses, neighbourhoods).

Why is the CEAP important?

The science is clear that the current course of our activities is unsustainable. Society's significant reliance on fossil fuels, increasing consumption, and generation of excess waste needs to change to more sustainable practices.

The CEAP is important because it is designed to bring everyone together to collectively work towards improving both our shared future and our resilience. There are also important opportunities available in a transition to a more climate-wise society, including lower energy expenditures, new sectors for employment and commerce, more resilient and safe infrastructure, and healthier indoor and natural environments.



getinvolved.london.ca/climate



How was the CEAP designed?

CEAP was created by City staff and based on several factors, including:

- Direction from Municipal Council;
- Engagement with the community, key stakeholders and partners;
- A detailed scan of actions taken by other local, provincial and federal governments, businesses and academia; and
- Consultations with City staff from all service areas.

What feedback did the City hear from residents and businesses when developing the plan? Were there any notable trends?

People were reached over 26,000 times and over 2,700 direct submissions were received, reviewed and included as part of the CEAP's development. Most attitudes and opinions on climate change were that action is needed now and the scope must cover individuals, businesses, institutions, and governments.

The areas that were identified frequently included transportation and mobility, buildings and development, consumption and waste, protecting and enhancing natural areas, and engaging and empowering people and organizations to act.

Is the CEAP a plan for the City? Or a plan for Londoners? Or is it for both?

Both, it is a plan for everyone. The Areas of Focus that have been selected help tackle all aspects of climate change – mitigation and adaptation – and create a call to action for Londoners, employers and employees.

What documents are found on the City of London's Get Involved website

- Report to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee, February 8, 2022;
- Climate Emergency Action Plan (Appendix A of the SPPC report ; and
- 13 Background Information (Supporting) Documents to Develop the Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan.



SPPC Report



Climate Emergency
Action Plan



Background Information
Documents



What does the standalone document called CEAP look like?

Key pieces in the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan can be summarized as:

- The status of climate change in London, actions taken and the rationale for increasing actions immediately;
- New milestone community and corporate targets and the rationale;
- 10 Areas of Focus, each with its own workplan, covering the majority of aspects of mitigation and adaptation pertinent to London including who needs to be involved and how multiple actions can occur at one time from different participants;
- The level of effort and example actions required for different household types to do their “fair share” of greenhouse gas reduction by 2030;
- Key requirements for implementation success; and
- Leadership needs.

Why is there a separate list called Foundational Actions (Appendix B of the SPPC report) and why are they important?

This list of actions is pulled primarily from the workplans to be advanced in the short term with existing resources. They are viewed as being of higher priority and supportive of many future actions. They are identified in this manner to make it easier to highlight the initial efforts to create momentum and capacity to deliver the work as the CEAP progresses in 2022.

Is London's response similar or different to other municipalities?

London's response is similar to other municipalities in that the goals are similar and the GHG emission profiles across Ontario municipalities have important similarities; transportation and buildings are the main contributors.

While the approach to climate change adaptation planning in the CEAP is similar to other municipalities' approaches, the risks and vulnerabilities arising from climate change (e.g., impacts from severe weather) vary significantly by location, so adaptation considerations need to be geographically specific.

The CEAP also highlights the importance of implementation and includes a unique workplan-centred approach that categorizes actions into Areas of Focus to better enable key stakeholders, partners, community groups, businesses and individuals to engage with the plan. CEAP Implementation must be:

- Focused and action oriented;
- Collaborative and inclusive;
- Have room for creativity and innovation;
- Allow for new ideas and solutions; and
- Allow people and businesses to succeed while adjustments are made.





What are some of the unique attributes of London's CEAP compared to others?

- Increased need for engaging, inspiring and learning from people;
- 10 Areas of Focus tackling all areas of climate change and mitigation;
- 10 workplans, one for each Area of Focus, that set initial directions;
- A focus on creating jobs, creating and growing local businesses, and looking for economic development opportunities;
- A strong connection with local academia and the creation of a Climate Change Academic Agenda with Western University and other institutions;
- Early implementation of a climate lens process to inform decision-making; and
- A focus on leveraging existing projects and programs, including budgets, to embed climate change actions.

Why are the Areas of Focus and workplans so important?

Alignment of where to take action to address climate change is essential. The Areas of Focus and their workplans provide this framework for all to understand the general direction moving forward. This allows many participants to get engaged, develop their own plans, and take action individually while heading in the same direction collaboratively. It also avoids duplication and creates a stronger network. City staff will be involved in all workplans as noted in the responsible services area(s) section. City staff will lead, co-lead and/or provide support where they can. In some areas City involvement within a workplan would be limited or perhaps not needed at all. Champions and leaders from the community, businesses and institutions are fundamental to implementing the workplans.

Why are economic development and business opportunities so important?

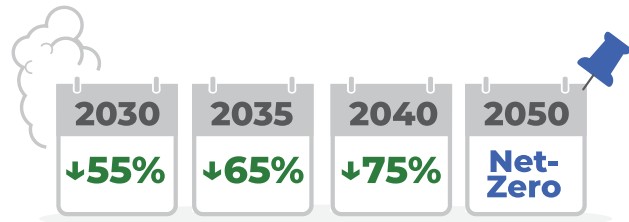
These opportunities exist within most areas of CEAP. This must be viewed as a priority. Businesses, institutions, and Londoners already spend about \$1.5 billion each year on energy. Between 85% and 90% of this expenditure leaves the local economy. Realigning and focusing on existing expenditures is an important first task. Identifying and creating real opportunities for employment, business retention and growth, and economic development in sectors of the growing circular economy is also a priority. For example, transitioning from the current linear, “take-make-waste” economic model to a circular, “make-use-return” model presents great opportunities for growth through modifying existing business models and adopting new ones, particularly in the building, food, manufacturing and energy sectors in London.



What milestone targets are being proposed and why?

At the end of 2020, London was 30% below the baseline measurement year of 2005 for community-wide GHG emissions. The City is proposing the use of science-based targets for community-wide GHG emission reduction milestone target as follows:

- 55% below 2005 levels by 2030
- 65% below by 2035
- 75% below by 2040
- Net-zero by 2050



These science-based targets represent where London needs to be if we truly want to do our fair share to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to well-below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C – as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’s Race to Zero campaign.

Why are milestone community targets important?

- They demonstrate a commitment on the importance of aligning climate action with the science to support community and businesses actions, direction, and aspirations;
- They bring a long-term target of 2050 into a more meaningful near-term timeframe (e.g., 2030) where current Londoners can more closely relate to the challenges;
- They create more manageable steps that can be measured and reported annually;
- They build capacity in the community and with businesses, incrementally and annually, to deal with budgets, resources and other requirements to meet targets;
- They are a signal to new businesses and investors that London is committed to climate change action and environmentally sustainable practices; and
- They highlight to existing businesses that London is aligned, is a community of committed people, employees and employers, and ready for the challenges and opportunities in the short, medium and longer terms.

Who will be involved as the CEAP rolls out?

The implementation of the CEAP will involve leadership and participants across all sectors in London, from community groups and individuals to employers and employees. While City staff are leading many components of the CEAP, there is lots of space in the plan for community and business leadership. Specific efforts by City staff will be directed to co-creating a community-led, city-supported group to extend the reach of the CEAP into the community and further inform and support climate action in London, as described in the Engaging, Inspiring and Learning from People Area of Focus workplan.





What are some of the initial priorities of the CEAP?

The priorities include:

- Furthering engagement and education on the shared challenge of addressing climate change, focusing particularly on those groups we didn't reach with engagement efforts during the development of the plan. The goal is to move people from being interested in climate change to being engaged and taking action;
- Launch all workplans for each Area of Focus in 2022;
- Creating a Transportation Management Association to immediately work collaboratively to reduce transportation emissions from personal vehicles (commuters) and facilitate more equitable transportation options with employers;
- Establish a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Western, intended to set out the mutual intentions of the City and Western to advance their joint climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives (Discussions with Fanshawe College are also underway); and
- Complete London's Climate Change Adaptation plan to ensure we move quickly on measures and actions that will improve community and infrastructure resilience to the impacts of climate change.

What are some of the hardest things that need to be achieved?

Many lifestyle changes are required at the individual level for a low-carbon society to come to fruition and many of these changes may seem difficult or daunting at first. It will be an ongoing challenge to engage with Londoners in conversation about climate change, converge on a shared understanding of the challenges, and work collaboratively towards our shared future.

As part of CEAP, a chapter is devoted to making changes at the household level no later than 2030 with technologies, programs and projects that are available today. This is listed as "hard" because change takes time, effort and commitment.

There are well over 150,000 buildings in London, the vast majority of which will still be in use in 2050. Retrofitting these buildings is a major challenge, but also presents incredible local business and economic opportunities for companies and individuals who do work of this nature.





What are some of the easiest things that can be done?

Some immediate actions Londoners can take are:

- Start a conversation with your family, your neighbours, or your community to explore what climate actions have been taken locally and determine what can be done next;
- Establish a simple plan. Consider what steps you can take now, in the next month and in the next few years, given your current situation and abilities (some steps will be small, some will be larger);
- Before buying something new, make sure that you ask questions about how sustainable it is, will it help reduce my impact on the environment and/or adapt to the changing weather conditions;
- Introduce lower greenhouse gas emissions activities into your regular routine. For example, walk to the store a couple of times per month to get some exercise, make sure food waste avoidance is something that all in your household take part in, wear warmer clothes indoors so the thermostat can be dropped a few degrees, etc.
- Plan for a really big change by undertaking some research to get both the best value for your dollar and a lower or lowest greenhouse gas impact; and
- Get involved in the CEAP implementation; go to the website getinvolved.london.ca/climate and investigate suggested actions that can be taken.

What actions have the City been a part of to respond immediately to climate change while the plan has been in development?

City staff have implemented several corporate and community projects to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This has already led to investments in zero emission ice resurfacers, more electric fleet vehicles, compressed natural gas waste collection trucks and many other improvements to reducing GHG emissions. Community projects include rapid transit, low impact development, West London dykes and upcoming investments for active transportation. In the last three years over \$400 million has been invested in projects and programs to address climate change. City staff are also engaged with ICLEI Canada to complete a community Climate Change Adaptation plan to help guide future decisions.



What can a municipality do to respond to climate change? What role does the City have to respond to climate change?

Municipalities are uniquely positioned to act on the opportunities of a sustainable future through strong climate action. At the same time, municipalities are also forced to deal firsthand with the impacts of climate change on infrastructure that people rely on for basic needs (e.g., drinking water, wastewater, transportation, waste management), so there is even more motivation to act quickly. Municipalities have the opportunity and responsibility to take strong action to address climate change in the interests of everyone. Municipal policies relating to land development and redevelopment, transportation and waste management (just to name a few) can affect the attractiveness and ability of residents to make more climate-wise choices. There will be numerous upcoming discussions, reviews and decisions that will impact how we progress with CEAP.

How is the plan being funded?

Investment in climate action over the full term of the CEAP (to 2050) by the City, businesses and residents is anticipated to be significant. Many actions listed within the CEAP workplans in 2022 and 2023 can be implemented within existing budgets and by using existing City resources (by leveraging projects such as the Mobility Master Plan, 60% Waste Diversion Action Plan, ReThink Zoning By-law Review, Wastewater Treatment Operations Master Plan, etc.).

Additionally, some of these investments are anticipated to align with, augment and sometimes replace planned future spending. In some cases, investments to achieve CEAP goals may result in opportunities for net savings, though additional up-front capital expenditures may be required to realize lower lifetime asset costs.

Subject to the approval of the recommendations and foundational actions in the SPPC report, Civic Administration will develop a detailed Climate Change Investment and Implementation Plan for all the CEAP initiatives requiring additional investment, inclusive of associated timing and financial impacts of these initiatives. Given the City's finite financial resources, this investment and implementation plan will be critical to determine scope, timing and pacing of these additional investments. This investment and implementation plan will also support the development of the City's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan and 2024-2027 Multi-Year Budget, as well as future Strategic Plan and Multi-Year Budget processes.

The investment required to support all initiatives in the CEAP cannot be borne entirely by the City of London. Support from federal and provincial partners will be critical to ensuring the successful implementation of many initiatives within this plan.



How can residents and businesses review the plan and provide comments?

Please go to the City of London's Get Involved website: getinvolved.london.ca/climate

What are the immediate next steps for the CEAP?

Timeframe	Item
February 8, 2022	SPPC meeting - Table the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan, staff recommendations, foundational actions and presentation.
February 15, 2022	Council to approve the release of information and the date of April 5, 2022 for a public participation meeting.
February 2022 to April 4, 2022	Receive written comments on the Get Involved website, via email, via mail
April 5, 2022	SPPC meeting including a public participation meeting
To be determined	Council meeting - approval to finalize Climate Emergency Action Plan



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