

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
WATER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Terms of Reference

The Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management is responsible for providing guidance and direction on all issues relating to environmental services, community sustainability, stormwater management, solid waste management, utilities/water and wastewater, water pollution control, urban forestry, and open spaces.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management shall consist of Members of Council, as approved by Council. The Mayor is an *ex-officio* member.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management shall:

1. Be responsible directly to Council for those items emanating from:
 - a) Applicable services and branches within the Public Works and Environmental Services Department pertaining to all matters that fall within the mandate of this Committee, including Water Services; Parks, Forestry and Surface Water Services, Solid Waste Services and Technology, Innovation and Engineering Support Services,
 - b) Applicable services and branches of the Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department on items related to Environment and Community Sustainability,
 - c) Any Advisory Committees or Sub-committees that are within the area of responsibility of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management; and
 - d) Local boards, agencies and corporations that are created by, and report to, this Committee.
2. Ensure co-ordination and consultation with other Standing Committees and departments where responsibilities overlap on issues of environmental protection and on issues relevant to the mandate of more than one Committee.

3. Subsequent to the approval of the budget, consider, for recommendation to Council, all operating and capital budget adjustments pertaining to items within the Committee mandate.
4. Make recommendations to Council related to long term planning of capital programs within the Committee's mandate.
5. Monitor the activities and the implementation of environmental programs and projects of the relevant services and branches of the Public Works and Environmental Services and Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department.
6. Consult with the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee on issues having an effect on the City's rural residents and businesses, or relating to items of interest for the agricultural and associated industries.
7. Receive reports from staff regarding the exercise of delegated authority (By-law 2018-397) on items within the Committee's mandate.
8. Review and recommend to Council revisions to the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management Terms of Reference, as required.
9. Address all matters related to, and arising from, Advisory Committees or Sub-Committees under the Standing Committee's responsibility and that are in line with the established Committee and Council Strategic Plans.
10. Have the delegated authority to decide matters that are consistent with the application of federal and/or provincial statutes and/or regulations.
11. Recommend to Council, the City of Ottawa's participation in federal or provincial cost-sharing programs for matters within the mandate of the Committee.
12. Monitor federal and provincial legislation with a distinct impact on environmental issues.
13. Recommend to Council proposed by-laws that are under the Committee's jurisdiction.
14. Pursuant with the *Delegation of Authority By-law* (Section 10 – Conferences and Conventions), approve Councillors travel and attendance at conferences that are related to the Committee's mandate.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

The Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management shall:

Environment

1. Be responsible for the administration and maintenance of green space and urban forestry within the urban boundary.
2. Monitor the application of any tree by-laws within the urban boundary enacted under the *Municipal Act, 2001* and other relevant legislation.
3. Make recommendations to Council on environmental policy issues, such as waste management, water quality, climate change, landfills, open spaces, natural urban features, etc.
4. Review and make recommendations to Council on energy conservation strategies and renewable energy policies.
5. Review and make recommendations to Council on policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
6. Monitor and administer the community environmental grants programs and initiatives.
7. Review and make recommendations to Council with regards to environmental initiatives proposed by the federal and provincial governments.
8. Be responsible for energy-related issues including conservation and generation, such as landfill gas generation and district energy, and provide guidance to the applicable departments on same.

Community Sustainability

9. Provide overall guidance and direction in areas of:
 - a. Environmental, economic and social sustainability; and
 - b. Preserving/promoting biodiversity and protecting/coexisting with urban wildlife, particularly with respect to matters that are not specifically within the mandates of other Standing Committees, and in conjunction with related Council-approved strategies, protocols and initiatives such as the Wildlife Strategy.

Utilities/Water and Wastewater/Solid Waste Management

10. Oversee and make recommendations to Council on all utilities matters.
11. Provide overall guidance and direction in areas of water supply, solid waste management (i.e. waste/organics/recycling) and disposal and water pollution control, including tactical plans.
12. Review and confirm staff comments and recommendations on initiatives as proposed by the federal and provincial governments.
13. Review and make recommendations to Council regarding operational programs for the maintenance of existing water, wastewater, sewer and solid waste infrastructure.
14. Review and make recommendations to Council on future service level adjustments to the existing utilities infrastructure, in accordance with Council-approved policies.
15. Recommend to Council the preparation of the Environmental Study Report, the Environmental Assessment Board Hearing and the implementation of the goals and policies outlined in the Waste Management Master Plan.
16. Review and provide comments on Certificates of Approval for waste facilities circulated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.
17. Provide overall guidance and direction in areas of environmental protection, including water supply, solid waste management and disposal, and water pollution control.
18. Respond to federal and provincial environmental initiatives affecting municipal operations and surface water quality.
19. Review and recommend to Council the Tax and Rate-supported Budget.