



**Standing Committee on Environmental Protection,
Water and Waste Management**

Minutes 9

Tuesday, 16 June 2020

9:30 a.m.

Electronic Participation

This Meeting was held through electronic participation in accordance with Section 238 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* as amended by Bill 187, the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*.

- Notes:**
1. *Please note that the Minutes are to be considered DRAFT until confirmed by Committee.*
 2. *Underlining indicates a new or amended recommendation approved by Committee.*
 3. *Except where otherwise indicated, reports requiring Council consideration will be presented to Council on 24 June 2020 in Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management Report 9.*

Present: Chair: S. Moffatt
Vice-Chair: S. Menard
Councillors: R. Brockington, J. Cloutier, G. Darouze, A. Hubley,
R. King, C. McKenney

Absent: Councillor K. Egli (as advised)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes 9, of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management meeting of Tuesday, 17 December 2019, were confirmed.

PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LONG RANGE PLANNING

1. CLIMATE CHANGE MASTER PLAN -
CLIMATE PROJECTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

ACS2020-PIE-EDP-0014

CITY WIDE

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management recommend that Council receive the report on the Climate Projections for the National Capital Region as summarized in this report and attached as Document 1.

The Committee received a slide presentation overview of the report (copy held on file with the Office of the City Clerk) from Ms Julia Robinson, Project Manager, Environmental Programs, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development

(PIED) Department. Mr. Stephen Willis, General Manager, PIED, was also present to respond to questions.

Questions to staff and Committee discussions included, but were not necessarily limited to matters involving: building climate resiliency; vulnerability assessments and calls for the inclusion of stakeholders' and partners' findings in future reports; financial requirements to implement City action plans and risk assessments; potential impacts on climate and resilience, opportunities and preventative measures; methodologies and comparisons with other jurisdictions; potential Hydro Ottawa dividend contributions and other sources of funding; ensuring that the strategy and work on the CCMP supports the City's other Master Plans; and, the use of new technology in agricultural practices.

Discussions having concluded, the Committee 'RECEIVED' and 'CARRIED' the report recommendation, as presented.

FINANCE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

CORPORATE FINANCE SERVICE

2. GENERAL ACCOUNTS –
WATER, WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER WRITE-OFFS

ACS2020-FSD-REV-0004

CITY WIDE

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management receive this report on the 2019 general accounts write-off for the years 2014 to 2019 of \$497,354 as required by the Delegation of Authority By-law No. 2019-280.

RECEIVED

ADDITIONAL ITEM

COUNCILLOR C. McKENNEY

3. ACCELERATION OF *TREE PROTECTION BY-LAW* REVIEW

ACS2020-OCC-ENV-0003

CITY-WIDE

At the 16 June 2020 meeting of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management (SCEPWWM), the Committee was requested, and agreed, to waive the Rules of Procedure to consider a Motion from Councillor McKenney pertaining to the acceleration of the City's Tree Protection By-law Review, as an additional item:

MOTION N^o EPWWM 2020 09/01

Moved by Councillor S. Moffatt:

That the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management suspend the Rules of Procedure, pursuant to Sub-Section 89(3) of the Procedure By-law, being By-law No. 2019-8, to permit the introduction of the following motion, given the time sensitive nature of the Tree Protection By-law project schedule and the need to secure the necessary resources to effect the changes contemplated as part of this Motion.

CARRIED

MOTION N^o EPWWM 2020 09/02

Moved by Councillor C. McKenney:

WHEREAS the City's Urban Forest Management Plan ([ACS2017-PIE-EDP-0012](#)), approved by Council on June 28, 2017, was established to provide a structured approach to protecting and enhancing the environmental, social, and economical services provided by the urban forest and to ensure that it is healthy and robust into the future; and

WHEREAS the City's Urban Forest Management Plan includes a recommendation for staff to undertake a Tree By-law Review; and

WHEREAS the Tree By-law Review Project report ([ACS2019-PIE-EDP-0052](#)), approved by Council on January 29, 2020, responds to this recommendation by proposing a new, harmonized tree by-law to support the protection and enhancement of the City's urban tree canopy, and includes a planned phased approach for implementation; and

WHEREAS Phase 1 of the new Tree Protection By-law – aimed at improving tree protection requirements, formalizing compensation requirements, improving submission requirements, increasing application fees to offset implementation costs, and instituting a new special fine designed to eliminate or reduce any economic or financial gain from contravening the by-law - was to come into effect on May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS Phase 2 of the new Tree Protection By-law – outlining the final proposed changes to the by-law, including decreasing the diameter limit for distinctive trees from 50 cm to 30 cm for the inner urban area, and creating a permit to work around trees – was to be presented to Council in Q3 2020 for implementation in 2021; and

WHEREAS work on the Tree Protection By-law requires procedural and administrative tasks to be done by staff who have been fully or partially redeployed to support the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS the redeployment of these staff originally resulted in a modified project schedule with a tentative implementation date of November 1, 2020 for Phase 1, and a report to Council in Q3 2021 for Phase 2; and

WHEREAS, upon further discussions with staff and senior management, it has been indicated that – barring a second wave of COVID-19 requiring another redeployment of key staff – it would be feasible to enact, on January 1, 2021, the Tree Protection By-law - including the reduction in the distinctive tree diameter from 50 cm to 30 cm for the inner urban area (the urban lands within the greenbelt), originally to be contemplated as part of Phase 2; and

WHEREAS, despite the devastating impacts of COVID-19, the protection of trees remains a priority for the City of Ottawa and its residents,

necessitating the continuance of work on the Tree By-law Review to align as closely as possible with the original timelines presented to Council in January 2020;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council direct staff to amend the new Tree Protection By-law to come into force and take effect on January 1, 2021 and to reduce the size of a Distinctive Tree from 50 centimeters to 30 centimeters in diameter at breast height in the new by-law;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council direct the General Managers of Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development (PIED) and Public Works and Environmental Services (PWES) to hire up to four temporary resources (three in PWES; one in PIED) required to implement the accelerated Distinctive Tree provisions outlined above using vacant positions, until such time as permanent resources can be established in a future budget using increased permit fee revenues and increased development fee revenues to result in a net zero budget impact.

Chair Moffatt spoke to provide background on work that was to have been undertaken, explaining that the COVID-19 Pandemic had affected work and timelines. Ms Martha Copestake, Forester, Natural Systems and Rural Affairs Branch, Economic Development Services, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development (PIED) Department, provided a brief overview comparing pre-pandemic plan implementation with the current adjusted staff plan, and how the above Motion would further affect its implementation. A copy of the slide outlining the above is held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

Correspondence had been received from the following, as noted:

- Emailed correspondence and supporting slide presentation from Ms Heather Pearl*, Federation of Citizens' Associations in support of the Motion (received in advance of the meeting)
- Emailed correspondence from Ms Maria Luisa Marti*, Friends of James and Bay, in support of the Motion (received following the conclusion of the meeting)

*[* Individuals / groups marked with an asterisk above either provided comments in writing or by e-mail; all submissions are held on file with the City Clerk.]*

Questions to staff and Councillor McKenney included, but were not necessarily limited to, matters involving: the necessity for such a Motion; questions of timing (in potentially not allowing for sufficient stakeholder comment and input); and, the need to avoid delays and to expedite tree preservation.

Speaking to their Motion, Councillor McKenney explained that the Motion would achieve the same goals as the original direction, but at an accelerated timeframe. They expressed that trees have a significant impact on health and the well-being of neighbourhoods due to their ability to calm traffic and to cool and clean the air. The Councillor said this would go a long way to keeping the urban tree canopy healthy and would allow the City to move forward with tree preservation.

There being no further discussion, Motion N^O EPWWM 2020 09/02 was put before the Committee and was 'CARRIED', as presented.

INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED

A ANNUAL DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION STATUS UPDATE -
2019

ACS2020-PIE-IS-0001

B MUNICIPAL DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS – 2019 SUMMARY REPORTS

ACS2020-PWE-WTS-0001

C SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN – PHASE 1

ACS2020-PWE-SWS-0001

D UPDATE ON POLLINATOR INITIATIVES

ACS2020-PIE-EDP-0017

E COUNCILLOR'S TRIP REPORT - TRAVEL TO CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
TO EXPLORE POTENTIAL WASTE SOLUTIONS FOR THE CITY OF OTTAWA

ACS2020-OCC-ENV-0002

INQUIRIES

EPWWM 01-20 - Residential Front-Yard Gardens / Expansion of Community Gardens

Councillor R. Brockington

The COVID-19 pandemic has further amplified food insecurity issues across Ottawa. It has also increased the need and desire to expand community gardens.

1. What restrictions, if any, are there on residential property owners from erecting a vegetable garden which may include raised beds, on their front-yard property, both on the private-homeowner land and the City right of way land.
2. What opportunities exist to permit community gardens to be erected on community centre property. Is Parks and Rec amenable to this possibility. What might be the challenges of this proposal?
3. Which parks in the Hunt Club and Riverside Park communities of River Ward (bounded by Heron Road (N), the Airport Parkway (E), Hunt Club Road (S), and the Rideau River (W)), would staff propose to be viable candidates to host a community garden?

EPWWM 02-20 - Follow-up on Climate Lens for City Procurement and Standing Committees (via CAFES*)

**Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability*

Councillor S. Menard

The draft minutes of the Tue Dec 17 2019 meeting of the Standing Committee on Environmental Protection, Water and Waste Management include a direction to staff,

"That staff immediately accelerate a climate lens with regard to City procurement decisions."

The discussion on record notes that the 2013 Sustainable Purchasing Guideline has no clarity regarding GHG emissions impact of purchases and is not policy, only a guideline.

Please provide an update on updating the procurement policy to include a climate lens.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Committee Coordinator

Chair