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Copy: Paul Chisholm (London and Middlesex Community Housing), Jay Stanford, Kyle Murray

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RE: Multi-year Budget Business Cases and Service Reviews

We are a group of concerned residents and organizations in London who have formed a group we are calling “London Collective Action” to further engage with local issues. In the spirit of the Strategic Priority Plan section “Well-Run City” and in particular relating to *“Increase transparency and accountability in decision making”* and *“improve the quality, inclusivity, and accessibility of public participation opportunities”* we would like to submit a number of priority items for consideration in your multi-budget preparations.

We understand the budget process, and that the official public participation portion would happen after the draft budget was presented at Council (likely mid December). However, this only allows the public to comment on what is in the draft budget and not what might be missing. We understand the challenges of having a long list of action items, and the reality of having limited funds. We offer this list of items we feel are a priority to making the city more equitable and also lead to economic and environmental advantage. These priorities were gathered from a collaborative effort from a variety of stakeholders. We hope that you take these ideas in the spirit in which they are offered - an indication of where we would like to see a focus for the future.

Recommendations for Priority - See Appendix for details

- New units and retrofit units for Community Housing
- Green Building Standards
- Inventory of natural heritage land

To further the spirit of community engagement, we hope that the City does undertake regular, meaningful engagement with Local Indigenous communities and organizations on matters of shared interest that would include many areas and not strictly water. Have they had a chance to submit their priority actions?

These priority recommendations are a compilation of suggestions made by a collaborative group. Not every person listed below may agree with every comment.

Laith Amad

Teresa Bell, Council of Canadians - Blue Communities

Mary Beth Blokker, London Greening Health Collaborative

Lella Blumer

Samuel Brewer

Lynn Brown, Council of Canadians

Judi Fisher, Greening Sacred Spaces / London Greening Health Collaborative

Norah Fraser, Council of Canadians

Mary Ann Hodge, Climate Action London

Nicole Karsch, London Environmental Network

Loretta Manzara, Sisters of St. Joseph

Bob Morrison, Climate Action London

Brendon Samuels

Luis Patricio, Pillar NonProfit Network

Sue Wilson, Sisters of St Joseph

Johann Wong, Climate Action London

Appendix - Multi-year budget recommendations

Short Description	Details	Areas of Focus - Strategic Priorities
<p>New units and retrofit units for Community Housing</p>	<p>Increased funding for Life Cycle and Service Improvement Capital Projects for London Middlesex Community Housing and Long Term Care is urgently needed.</p> <p>London should increase funding to add more additional units and retrofit existing units to a reasonable standard. The current timelines to bring new affordable units online are too long and the wait list for applicants are also unacceptably long. Paying developers to add a few units that are less than market rate does not provide true affordable units for most London households.</p> <p>Any retrofits or new units should have increased insulation, heat pumps, upgraded windows so that the City of London can achieve the goal of net-zero by 2050 and not have to come back and retro-fit these units again in 5-10 years. The additional units should be included in connected neighbourhoods or along transit corridors so that tenants have easy access to affordable public transit and are connected to services and employment opportunities.</p> <p>The energy efficient units will save money in the long term, reduce GHG emissions, provide liveable equitable housing and contribute to building inward and upward (cost savings for the City by avoiding urban sprawl). Additionally, as advocates in various cities across Ontario fight to have landlords provide basic air conditioning for the extreme heat conditions we are now facing, the City of London should also be held to this standard as well. Properly retrofitting City</p>	<p>Wellbeing and Safety: Outcome 2.1 Housing is affordable and attainable.</p> <p>Climate Action and Sustainable Growth: Outcome 2.1 London is on track to achieve emission reduction process by 2027: on the path to community milestone target 2030 and to be a net zero community by 2050"</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Infrastructure is built maintained and secured to support future growth and protect the environment</p>

	<p>owned properties with heat pumps that provide both heating and cooling should be a part of the service review of the multi-year budget process.</p> <p>We hope that budgets and business cases do not continue to examine solutions in a silo but rather look at homelessness prevention, London's anticipated growth, Climate Emergency Action Plan, Infrastructure Gap, and Equity when building co-benefit business cases.</p>	
<p>Green Building Standards</p>	<p>Immediately create Green Building Standards for London. If there are already sufficient staff within the appropriate service areas, then this might be a zero dollar impact business case otherwise an additional staff person or consulting group should be hired.</p> <p>To avoid creating a patch-work of different standards for developers we suggest modelling standards for building energy & emissions, water quality and efficiency, air quality, waste & the circular economy and other measures on pre-existing standards such as the City of Toronto.</p> <p>Almost every building being constructed in London today will not meet the requirements for the City's goal of net-zero by 2050 and would require retrofitting, making housing affordability even worse as it is more expensive to renovate than to include these higher standards in the original design.</p> <p>Given the expected growth of London in the next 10 years it is imperative that these green building standards be put into place as quickly as possible, and given labour shortages, it may be difficult to find sufficient tradespeople to do the work. Developers already deal with Green Building Standards elsewhere in Ontario. Early establishment of Green Building Standards will facilitate working with the Canadian Home Builders' Association and the London Home Builders'</p>	<p>Climate Action and Sustainable Growth: <u>Outcome 2.1</u> London is on track to achieve emission reduction process by 2027: on the path to community milestone target 2030 and to be a net zero community by 2050" <u>Outcome 2.2</u> Improved community capacity and resilience to be ready for current and future changes to the climate and its impacts <u>Outcome 3.2</u> Infrastructure is built maintained and secured to support future growth and protect the environment. Economic Growth and Prosperity: <u>Outcome 1.4</u> London is a regional center that proactively attracts talent, business and investment</p>

Inventory of natural heritage land	<p>Association to provide training to local renovators for the Towards Cost - Effective Net-Zero Energy Ready Residential Renovations project and spur economic development.</p>	
	<p>Currently, city staff have indicated that there is no inventory of protected lands per se. Natural spaces are important for the physical and mental health of residents. We need to have a list of natural spaces so that we can make decisions on what needs to be enhanced or protected. This inventory would list the variety of different types of natural spaces, from parks, to ESAs, and undevelopable land (like the Thames River corridor). This will also help to highlight areas of the city that need more protection for their natural spaces. This may be a great City Studio project, leveraging the relationships with post-secondary institutions in London.</p>	<p>Climate Action and Sustainable Growth: <u>Outcome 1.2</u> Waterways, wetlands, watersheds and natural areas are protected and enhanced. <u>Outcome 2.1</u> London is on track to achieve emission reduction process by 2027; on the path to community milestone target 2030 and to be a net zero community by 2050"</p>