

## Climate Change Advisory Committee Working Group - NbS

**DATE: March 19, 2025**

**LOCATION: Online Google Meet Link**

<b>ATTENDEES:</b>	Su Heenan, Mary Ellen Scanlon, Giuliana Casimirri
<b>REGRETS:</b>	
<b>GUEST(S):</b>	

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility	Description/Discussion	Decision(s) & Actions
1.	<b>Agenda Review/Minutes</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Meant for high-level major discussion points</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Meant for key decisions and action items moving forward</i></li> </ul>
2.	<b>Agenda Item #2: Review UFS Implementation Presentation</b>		<p>Follow up Questions/ Items to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We will need more clarity on the 40% canopy cover commitment for municipal parks - how will this be operationalized? Is this commitment the same as the GBS Tier 2 target (Item# EB2.6 in GBS which states "Plant trees to achieve a 40% tree canopy cover for the site, excluding the building footprint." )</li> <li>2. Where did the 50,000 tree target come from? What data was used to develop this target?</li> <li>3. Additionally, can the UFS 40% canopy cover goal be added as a measurable climate action strategy goal moving forward?</li> </ol>	

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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. The city's commitment to planting 50,000 trees has been turned into 20,000 trees on public property - with the remaining 30,000 trees needing to come from other partners, (ie. CA's, community groups etc. and on other lands that are private property). Why has CoH made this new lower 20,000 tree planting commitment?</li> <li>5. For tracking tree planting target - the numbers of saplings provided at the water festival should not be included, as these are very unlikely to be properly planted. We should only be tracking trees that are monitored and receive aftercare as contributing to this target.</li> <li>6. For the Tree Planting Strategy (Equity Lens) work underway and expected in 2025, what is the methodology /data sets to be used for prioritization? It is unclear if this strategy will consider health indicators, heat data, neighbourhood canopy cover distribution etc.</li> <li>7. An Urban Forest Working Group (Community-based) was referenced in the presentation - is this group underway?</li> <li>8. Has the CoH considered facilitating strategic tree planting on City Housing Hamilton properties? What is the definition of public land that CoH will plant on? What other opportunities exist to plant trees with a more targeted approach on other municipal properties including golf courses, recreation centers, etc.</li> </ol>	

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			<p>9. What criteria are used to select the species available on the street tree planting list? Can we prioritize native tree species, and increase the diversity of native trees offered? Are native sugar, silver and red maples approved for street tree planting (for several years no maples of any kind were available for street tree planting due to the high proportion of Norway Maples in tree inventories and of the 10-20-30 Arboriculture Rule).</p> <p>10. Additional climate action strategy goals/priorities should be added which support NbS solutions esp. those related to adaptation and reducing urban heat island and improving wellbeing.</p> <p>11. Has there been an effort by the CoH to collate NbS-related policy commitments, actions, targets and metrics to date that are listed in CoH various policy documents into a spreadsheet /action plan?</p> <p>12. Funding regular, active management of natural areas in Hamilton to support native biodiversity and forest health was identified as an action to be reviewed for feasibility, effectiveness and cost and coordinated with Biodiversity Action Plan in the 2023 UFS Implementation Update - Has this project been considered to be brought forward to reserve funding from the Climate Change Action Reserve? If not, why not, and when will funding for this be included in the CoH</p>	

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			budget?	
3.	<b>Agenda Item #3: Actioning Gaps Identified</b>		TBD: requires responses to questions above	
4.	<b>Agenda Item #4: Other Implementation Updates /Information Required</b>		<p>What are Watershed Action Plan priority items for the next 3 years?</p> <p>Who at CoH is currently leading community gardens and supporting local food approaches?</p>	
5.	<b>Agenda Item #5</b>			
6.	<b>Agenda Item #6</b>			
7.	<b>Agenda Item #7</b>			
8.	<b>Other Items:</b>			
	<b>Adjourn</b>	All		

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility	Description/Discussion	Decision(s) & Actions
<b>Next Meeting Dates</b>				
<i>TBD</i>				