



2024 to 2027 Business Plan

Service: Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

\$0.02

Cost per day for the average rate payer (2024 to 2027)

0.19%

Of the 2024 to 2027 City of London Net Property Tax Supported Budget

Who we are:

- We work in collaboration with other key stakeholders at a local, regional, provincial, and national level on environmental projects and initiatives and are committed to being easily accessible to the citizens and businesses of London.
- We apply practical municipal and private sector experience with a focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation, community energy planning and conservation, active transportation, transportation demand management, urban watershed management, natural landscaping, community capacity building and community outreach focusing primarily on the built environment.

What we do:

- Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship contributes towards the protection of the local environment, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts through corporate and community-focused initiatives.
- Reduce the financial impacts of energy costs to the Corporation and reduce environmental impacts from energy use in corporate facilities and operations.
- The City provides technical analysis, environmental education and community engagement services to residents, businesses and organizations in the community.

Why we do it:

- **Traditional** - Climate change actions and environmental activities dealing with the built environment are fundamental programs, policies and projects of a municipality. Municipalities of comparable size offer these services. This business area's key focus is on environmental leadership and acts as a key area and collaborator for assessing and promoting "Climate Action and Sustainable Growth" while also supporting many other strategic priority areas identified in the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan. Further, in response to Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency, the initiatives undertaken will influence and assist the actions undertaken by the City, Londoners, London employers and employees towards climate change mitigation, adaptation, and other related environmental objectives.

The following table provides an overview of the budget for this service:

Budget Summary (\$000's)	2024	2025	2026	2027	2024 to 2027 TOTAL
Gross Operating Expenditures	\$1,881	\$3,618	\$2,291	\$2,303	\$10,093
Other Revenues	-\$545	-\$758	-\$920	-\$933	-\$3,156
Net Tax Levy Supported Operating Budget	\$1,336	\$2,860	\$1,371	\$1,370	\$6,937
Total Capital Expenditures	\$540	\$520	\$470	\$470	\$2,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE's)	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	N/A

Reflects 2024 to 2027 approved City budget as of March 1, 2024.

Linkage to the 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan

This service supports the following Strategic Areas of Focus in the 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan:



**Reconciliation, Equity,
Accessibility, and
Inclusion**



**Economic Growth, Culture,
and Prosperity**



**Housing and
Homelessness**



**Mobility and
Transportation**



Wellbeing and Safety



**Climate Action and
Sustainable Growth**



**Safe London for Women,
Girls, and Gender-Diverse
and Trans People**



Well-Run City

Environmental, Socio-economic Equity and Governance (ESG) Considerations

Environmental, Socio-economic Equity and Governance Profile for this service:



Environmental:

- The work of this service directly addresses the desired environmental sustainability outcomes stated in the London Plan, Council's Strategic Area of Focus of Climate Action and Sustainable Growth, and the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP). Leadership and collaboration within the Corporation and in the community from this service supports action to reduce community and corporate greenhouse gas emissions, improved resilience to climate change impacts, greater engagement with climate actions in the community and with businesses, continued protection and enhancement of London's natural heritage, and further encouragement of the growth of the circular economy and more sustainable lifestyles in London.

Socio-economic Equity:

- Embedded in the work to address climate change and increase environmental stewardship is the recognition of socio-economic equity concerns. These concerns are specifically addressed in the design of community engagement programs, strategies and actions plans, and communication investments to deliberately expand the reach of climate change and environmental stewardship initiatives to all Londoners. Many of the initiatives and programs in this service strive to improve the affordability of aspects of life in London like transportation, housing, and energy, to name a few. Consultation with Londoners continues to inform the implementation of the CEAP, transportation demand management and energy initiatives, including input from community associations, non-profit groups working with marginalized communities, local First Nations representatives and many individual Londoners and London-based organizations.

Governance:

- If the services provided by Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship were not delivered to Londoners or internal to the Corporation, significant risks would arise. Those risks would potentially include physical risks to infrastructure and

human health from a lack of preparedness for extreme weather events and heat; reputational risks to the City that may deter population, business and/or employee growth or retention; the risk of lost opportunities for sustainable growth in emerging circular economy sectors; and financial risks related to the previously mentioned items in addition to potential increases in insurance and/or financing costs resulting from elevated environmental risk. Federal and Provincial regulations regarding fuel standards, greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency, natural heritage protection and many other aspects are addressed through the work of this Service to ensure that London is complying and well positioned for the future. Engagement with London residents, businesses, institutions, and other organizations has historically, and will continue to, direct many aspects of the work of this area to ensure that services are in line with community expectations and appropriately scoped to serve all segments of the City.

The following section provides an overview of the key activities the service plans to undertake from 2024 to 2027 to implement the Corporation's 2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan, as well as an overview of the risks and challenges the service is anticipated to experience during this period:

Service Highlights 2024 to 2027

- Continued implementation of the Climate Emergency Action Plan within the Corporation and the Community.
- Implementation of the Climate Lens Framework enterprise-wide to improve climate-related outcomes in Corporate decision-making.
- Technical assistance with the implementation of the Climate Lens Framework with Agencies, Boards and Commissions.
- Development and implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan for London's built infrastructure as part of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- Provide technical assistance to plan for and adopt the use of zero-emissions, clean energy and green infrastructure technologies.
- Coordinate collecting and sharing environment and climate data to support evidence-informed decision-making.
- Assist with the continued expansion of Green Economy London.
- Continued implementation and growth of CityGreen environmental education and awareness activities.
- Continued assistance with implementation of major, multi-year Thames River projects (e.g., One River Environmental Assessment, Clear Water Revival, Back to the River).
- Development and implementation of the 2024 to 2027 Corporate Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan.

- Continued assistance with London waterway/watershed education and awareness initiatives (e.g., low impact development, phosphorus reduction, watershed report cards).
- Continued assessment and input on mobility choices and needs for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users as part of transportation demand management initiatives within the Mobility Master Plan.
- Completion of Bike Parking Actions for input into the Mobility Master Plan.
- Continued growth of the Transportation Management Association (TMA, a network for businesses and employees) in London.
- Resources assistance provided to the Environmental Stewardship and Action Community Advisory Committee (ESACAC) and Integrated Transportation Community Advisory Committee (ITCAC).

Risks and Challenges Anticipated in 2024 to 2027

- The Provincial government has reduced resources for addressing climate change, which has resulted in fewer programs and incentives to assist Londoners and London businesses in taking action on climate change.
- The Federal government role in climate actions is increasing however the ability for municipalities to access funds is not well established for many climate related programs and policies (e.g., education and awareness, program incentives for electrification, etc.)
- Global economic factors, increased inflation and general affordability crises may temporarily shift Londoners attention away from addressing the climate emergency towards shorter-term economic issues.
- A significant severe weather event could occur prior to the completion of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan, which could negatively impact public opinion on the City's commitment to climate change adaptation.
- The major push in Ontario to build more housing quickly may reduce the emphasis on climate-wise development and result in lost opportunities to grow London in more climate-wise ways.

Other reference information and links:

- Link to the City of London website [The London Plan \(Official Plan\) | City of London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [London's Climate Emergency Declaration | City of London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [Climate Emergency Action Plan | Get Involved London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [Documents | Climate Emergency Action Plan | Get Involved London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [Plans and Strategies | City of London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [Sewers and Wastewater | City of London](#)
- Link to the City of London website [Environmental Programs and Initiatives | City of London](#)
- Link to the website [Green Economy London](#)
- Link to the website [London Environmental Network](#)

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