

Environmental Action Committee

Date: September 2, 2025
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: Online Video Conference

Members

Chair and Councillor Matt Mahoney	Ward 8
Vice-Chair and Councillor Stephen Dasko	Ward 1
Councillor Brad Butt	Ward 11
Councillor Alvin Tedjo	Ward 2
Prabhjit Banga	Citizen Member
Jihan Khatib	Citizen Member
Morgan Lee	Citizen Member
Karen Pawlowski	Citizen Member
Derek Stone	Citizen Member
Alice Casselman	Association for Canadian Educational Resources
Britt McKee	Ecosource
Melanie Kramer	Credit Valley Conservation
Jennifer Taves	Partners in Project Green
Beesan Tayyar	University of Toronto Mississauga Student

To Request to Speak on Agenda Items - Advance registration is required. To make a Deputation, please email Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia, Legislative Coordinator at eglantina.bacaj-gondia@mississauga.ca or call 905-615-3200 ext. 5378 **no later than August 28, 2025 before 4:00 PM.**

Questions for Public Question Period - To pre-register for Public Question Period, questions may be provided to the Legislative Coordinator at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. **Due to the meeting being fully virtual, all virtual participants must pre-register.** Comments submitted will be considered as public information and entered into the public record.

Virtual Participation - All meetings of Environmental Action Committee are streamed live and archived at [Mississauga.ca/videos](https://www.mississauga.ca/videos). To speak during the virtual meeting or if you do not have access to the internet, contact the Legislative Coordinator and you will be provided with directions on how to participate. Comments submitted will be considered as public information and entered into the public record.

Link to live stream: <https://www.mississauga.ca/council/council-activities/council-and-committee-videos/live-council-and-committee-videos/>

Please note the Environmental Action Committee meeting will be streamed and a video will be posted afterwards.

Contact

Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services
905-615-3200 ext. 5378 | Email: eglantina.bacaj-gondia@mississauga.ca

Find it Online mississauga.ca/council/committees/environmental-action-committee/
An asterisk (*) symbol indicates an Item that has been either Revised or Added

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **INDIGENOUS LAND STATEMENT**

"We acknowledge the lands which constitute the present-day City of Mississauga as being part of the Treaty and Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, The Haudenosaunee Confederacy the Huron-Wendat and Wyandotte Nations. We recognize these peoples and their ancestors as peoples who inhabited these lands since time immemorial. The City of Mississauga is home to many global Indigenous Peoples.

As a municipality, the City of Mississauga is actively working towards reconciliation by confronting our past and our present, providing space for Indigenous peoples within their territory, to recognize and uphold their Treaty Rights and to support Indigenous Peoples. We formally recognize the Anishinaabe origins of our name and continue to make Mississauga a safe space for all Indigenous peoples."

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

5.1 Environmental Action Committee Minutes – June 3, 2025

6. **PRESENTATIONS - Nil**

7. **DEPUTATIONS**

Any member of the public interested in making a deputation to an item listed on the agenda must register by calling 905-615-3200 ext. 5378 or by emailing eglantina.bacaj-gondia@mississauga.ca **by August 28, 2025 before 4:00 PM.**

Each Deputation to Committee is limited to speaking not more than 10 minutes.

Pursuant to Section 57.1 of the Council Procedure By-law 0044-2022, as amended:

Deputations shall be received and the matter shall be referred to staff for a report, unless there is a resolution or recommendation passed to "receive" the Deputation. After a Deputation is completed, Members shall each have one opportunity to make a preamble statement and ask questions to the Deputant(s) or staff for clarification purposes only, and without debate.

7.1 Kate Hayes, Senior Manager, Ecosystem Restoration and Stewardship, Credit Valley Conservation regarding update on the Jim Tovey Lakeview Conservation Area

7.2 Alice Casselman, Association for Canadian Educational Resources (ACER) to provide an update on the latest from ACER

- 7.3 Alison Laurie, Climate Change Intern regarding the Peel Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit

Public Comments: Members of the Public that have a question about an item listed on the agenda may pre-register by contacting the Legislative Coordinator at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Following the registered speakers, if time permits, the Chair will acknowledge members of the public who wish to ask a question about an item listed on the agenda. Virtual participants must pre-register.

Pursuant to Section 58 of the Council Procedure By-law 0044-2022, as amended:

Environmental Action Committee may grant permission to a member of the public to ask a question of Environmental Action Committee, with the following provisions:

1. Questions may be submitted to the Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the meeting;
2. A person is limited to two (2) questions and must pertain specific item on the current agenda and the speaker will state which item the question is related to;
3. The total speaking time shall be five (5) minutes maximum, per speaker, unless extended by the Chair; and
4. Any response not provided at the meeting will be provided in the format of a written response.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

10. MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

- 10.1 Environmental Action Committee Work Plan dated June 2025

- 10.2 Upcoming Events (Environmental Action Committee Members, Verbal)

- 10.3 Environmental Action Committee 2023-2026 Work Plan Memorandum for Mayor and Members of Council

- 10.4 Plant Based Treaty

Per recommendation EAC-0005-2025, direction was provided to staff to report back on the Plant Based Treaty.

- 10.5 Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 – Response to Recommended Amendments

At the Environmental Action Committee meeting on May 6, 2025, direction was provided to staff to report back on the Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS - Nil

12. OTHER BUSINESS

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday, November 3, 2025

14. ADJOURNMENT

Environmental Action Committee

Date: June 3, 2025
Time: 9:32 AM
Location: Council Chambers, Civic Centre, 2nd Floor
300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1
and Online Video Conference

Members Present	Chair and Councillor Matt Mahoney	Ward 8
	Councillor Alvin Tedjo	Ward 2
	Councillor Brad Butt	Ward 11
	Prabhjit Banga	Citizen Member
	Jihan Khatib	Citizen Member
	Morgan Lee	Citizen Member
	Karen Pawlowski	Citizen Member
	Derek Stone	Citizen Member
	Britt McKee	Ecosource
	Melanie Kramer	Credit Valley
		Conservation
	Lily Bai	Peel Environmental
		Youth Alliance
	Beesan Tayyar	(PEYA) Student
		University of Toronto
		Mississauga Student
Members Absent	Vice-Chair and Councillor Stephen Dasko	Ward 1
	Alice Casselman	Association for
		Canadian
		Educational
		Resources
	Jennifer Taves	Partners in Project
		Green

Staff

Dianne Zimmerman, Manager, Environment
Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia, Legislative Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Mahoney, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM.

2. **INDIGENOUS LAND STATEMENT**

Councillor Mahoney, Chair recited the Indigenous Land Statement.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Approved (D. Stone)

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

5.1 Environmental Action Committee Minutes – May 6, 2025

Approved (K. Pawlowski)

6. **PRESENTATIONS - Nil**

7. **DEPUTATIONS**

7.1 Jamaal Haynes, Coordinator, Waste Management and Haider Rizvi, Coordinator, Makerspace regarding the 2024-2025 Circular Economy Initiatives Update

J. Haynes spoke to the City's waste diversion programs, 2024 diverted materials, 2025 spring recycling collection drive, the Environmental Action Committee's litter cleanup, sustainable event guidebook, waste free movie nights, and earth month repair hubs.

H. Rizvi spoke to the Central Library repair hub, types of repairs, and further spoke to makerspace services.

Committee Members commented and inquired about the availability of the sustainable events guidebook for local community groups and uptake of reusable dishware program.

J. Haynes responded noting the guidebook's use is internal for movie nights and spoke to the improvement rate of return on reusable dishware at movie nights.

RECOMMENDATION EAC-0015-2025

Moved By Britt McKee

That the deputation and associated presentation from Jamaal Haynes, Coordinator, Waste Management and Haider Rizvi, Coordinator, Makerspace regarding the 2024-2025 Circular Economy Initiatives Update, be received.

Received

7.2 Yasser Ismail, Supervisor, Energy Programs & Utility Management regarding the Annual Energy Report

Y. Ismail spoke to the 2024 annual energy report results, electricity grid challenges, major renovations, decarbonization projects, solar PV system completions, updates to building controls and lighting at community centres, and further spoke to completed and upcoming Corporate Green Building Standards projects.

Committee members commented and inquired about the following:

- Levels of the Corporate Green Buildings Standards and Net Zero energy
- Opportunities for tours of properties and centres for the public
- Demonstrating energy efficiency results

Y. Ismail and Dianne Zimmerman, Manager, Environment responded with information and commented on public engagement opportunities.

Direction was provided to staff to organize a tour of a facility, such as Fire station 125, for Committee Members.

RECOMMENDATION EAC-0016-2025

Moved By Beesan Tayyar

That the deputation and associated presentation from Yasser Ismail, Supervisor, Energy Programs & Utility Management regarding the Annual Energy Report, be received.

Received

8. PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit - Nil

9. CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION EAC-0017-2025

Moved By Derek Stone

That the following items were approved under the Consent Agenda:

- 10.1 - Environmental Action Committee Work Plan dated May 2025

Approved

10. MATTERS CONSIDERED

10.1 Environmental Action Committee Work Plan dated May 2025

RECOMMENDATION EAC-0018-2025

Moved By Derek Stone

That the Environmental Action Committee Work Plan dated May 2025, be approved.

Approved10.2 Upcoming Events (Environmental Action Committee Members, Verbal)

Derek Stone, Citizen Member spoke to the wetland restoration project at Riverwood Conservancy.

Karen Pawlowski, Citizen Member spoke to library programs offering provincial season park passes.

11. **INFORMATION ITEMS - Nil**12. **OTHER BUSINESS - Nil**13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - September 2, 2025**

Direction was provided to the Legislative Coordinator to look into changing the September 2, 2025 Committee meeting date to accommodate for the start of the school year.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

10:09 AM (B. McKee)



Jim Tovey Lakeview Conservation Area

Environmental Action Committee

Kate Hayes

*Senior Manager, Ecosystem Restoration and
Stewardship*

September 2nd, 2025





Presentation Outline

1. Project Background
2. Construction Progress
3. Habitat Creation
4. Public Realm
5. Project Awards



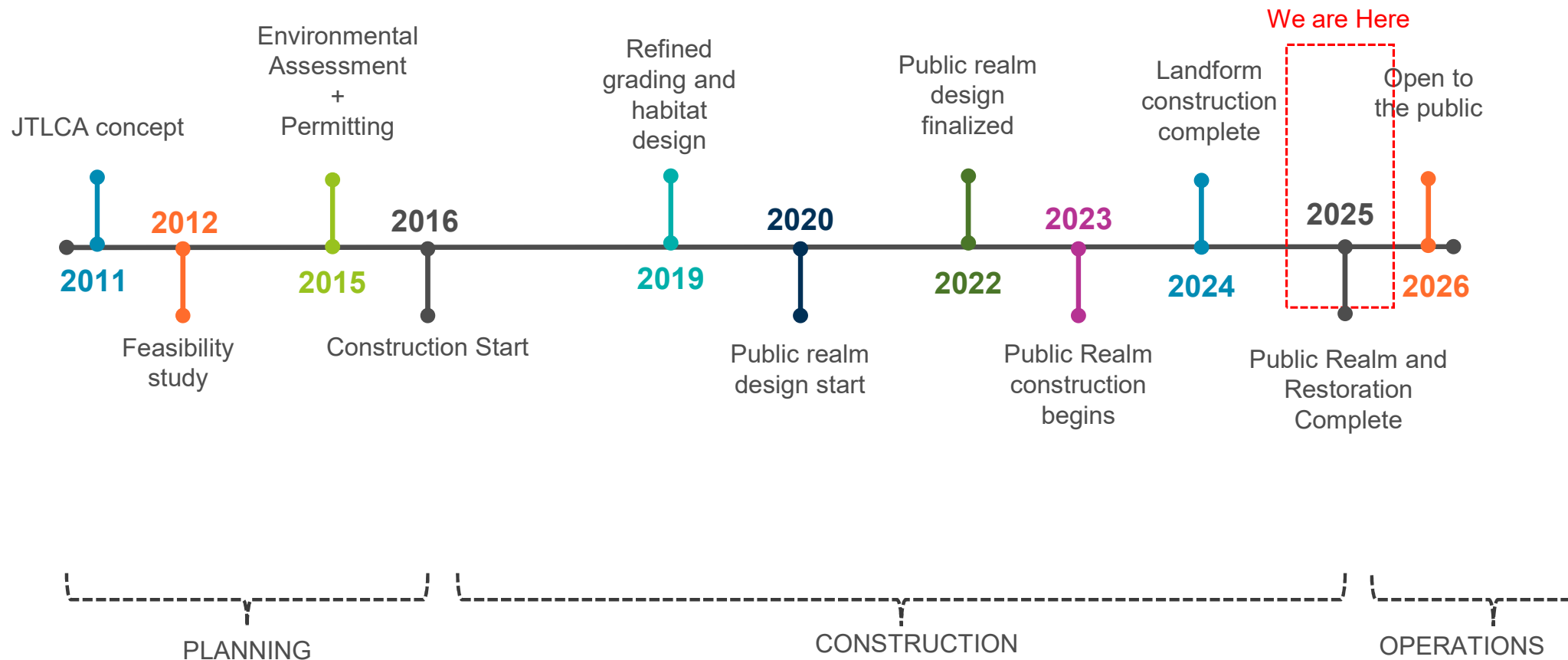
Project Background

JTLCA Community Context



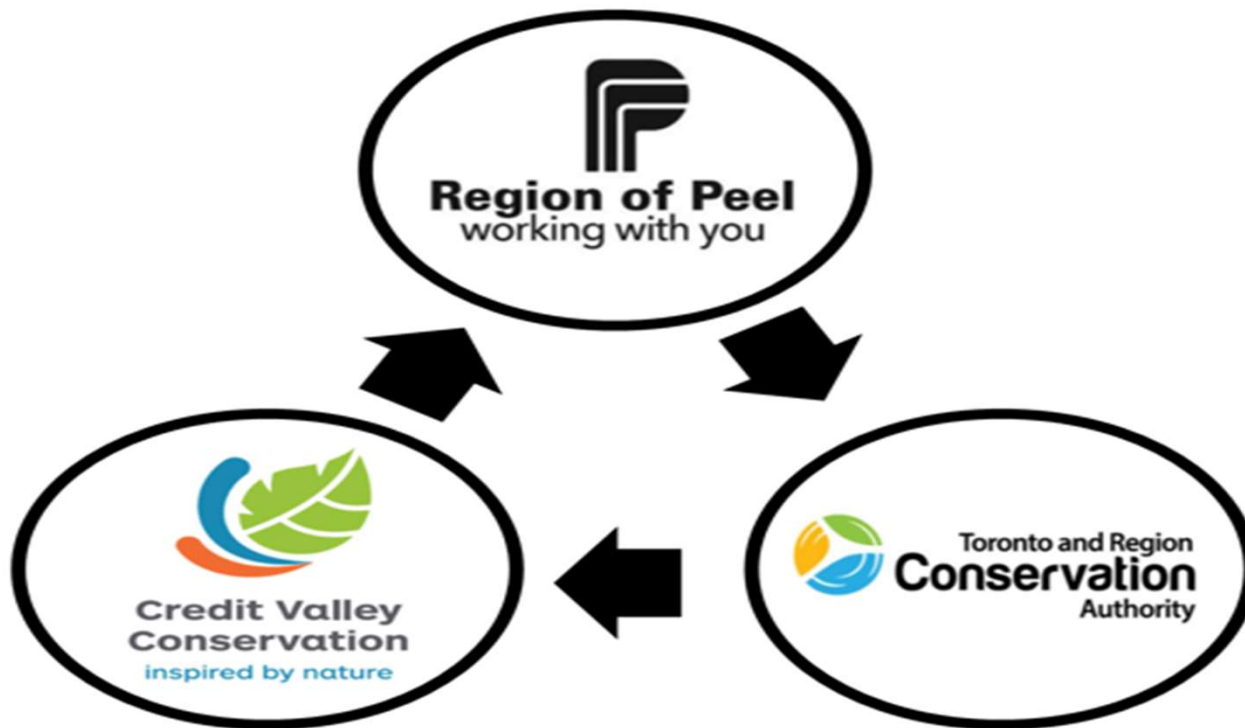


Project Timeline



Coordinated Project Implementation

Jim Tovey Lakeview Team



Project Partners



Construction Progress

2016-2025

<https://youtu.be/aow6K6RC2RU>

<https://youtu.be/RSH0DAi-sPI>

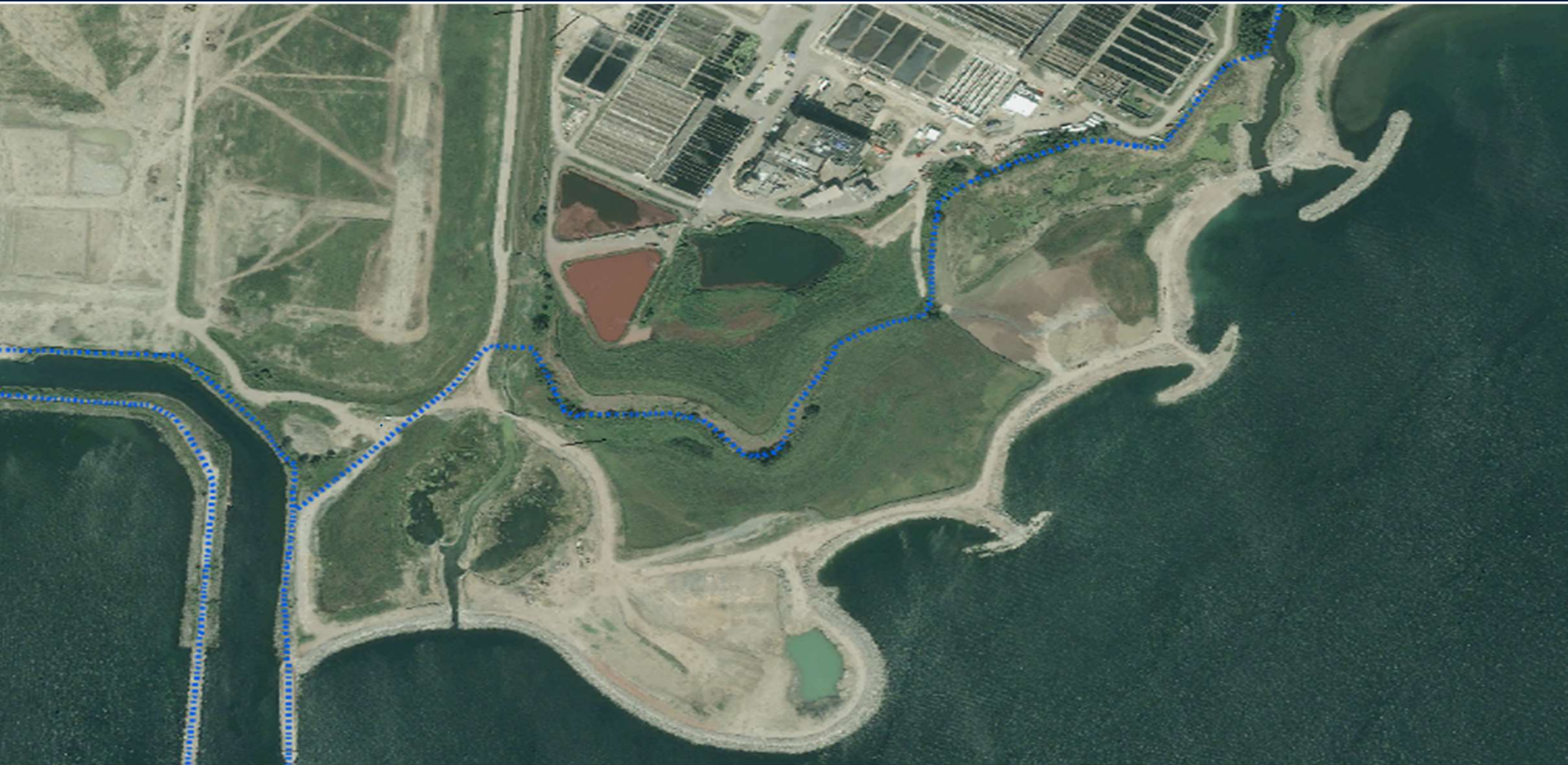
2016

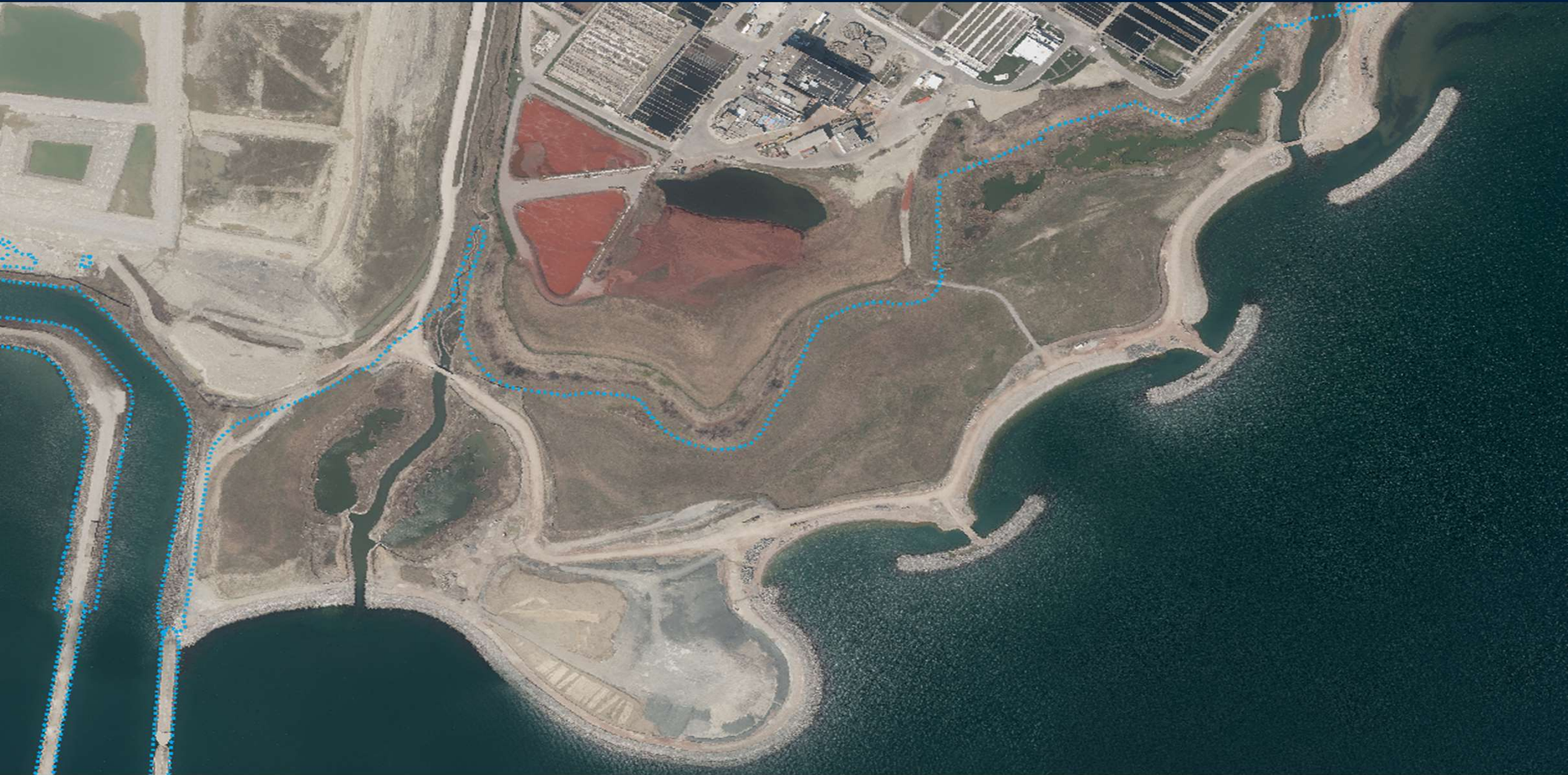
2017

2018

2019

2020





2025

Habitat Creation

Meadow Creation





Credit Valley
Conservation

Forest Creation



Wetland Creation



If we build it, they will come...



Public Realm

Public Realm Design

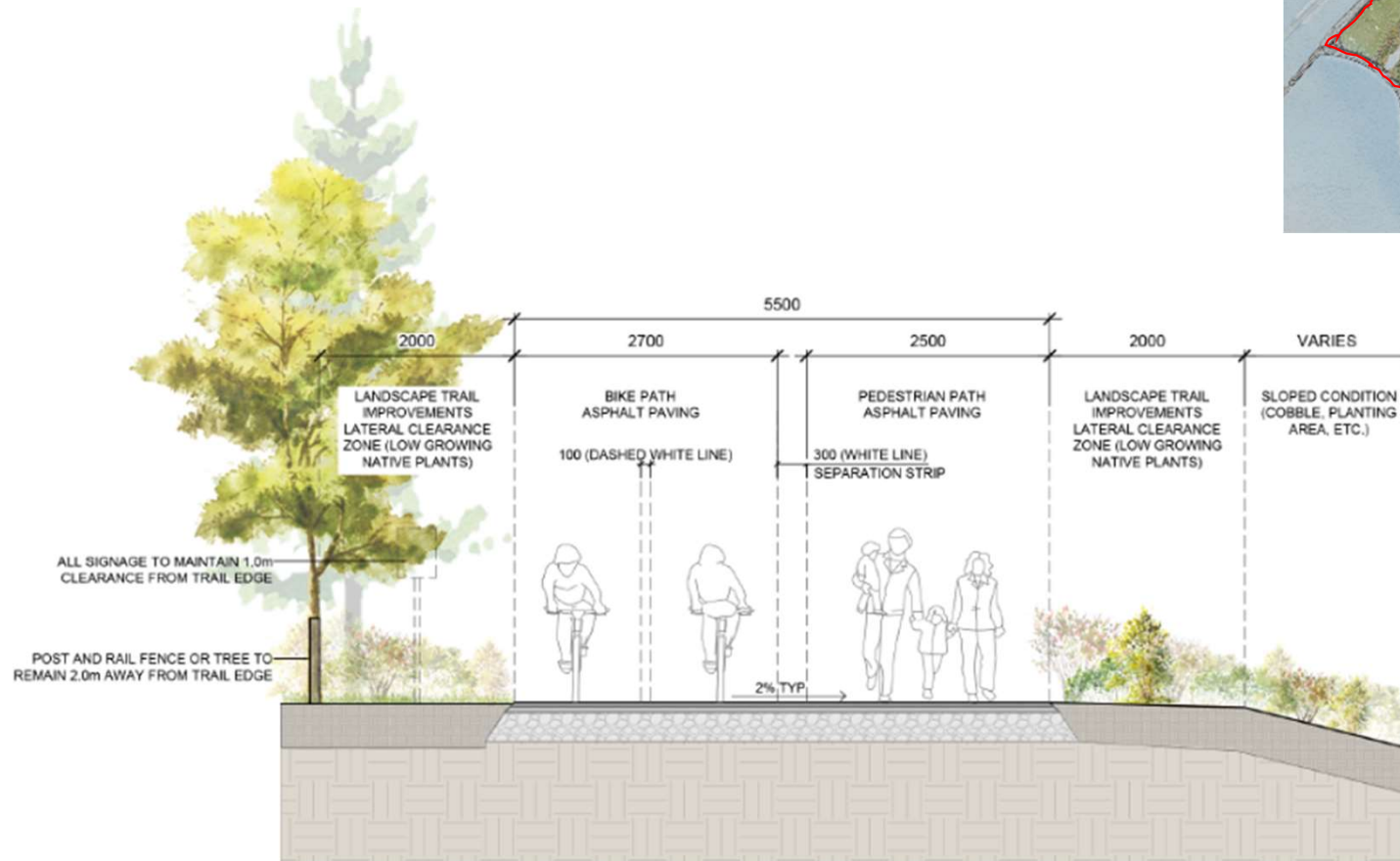




Entrance Drums



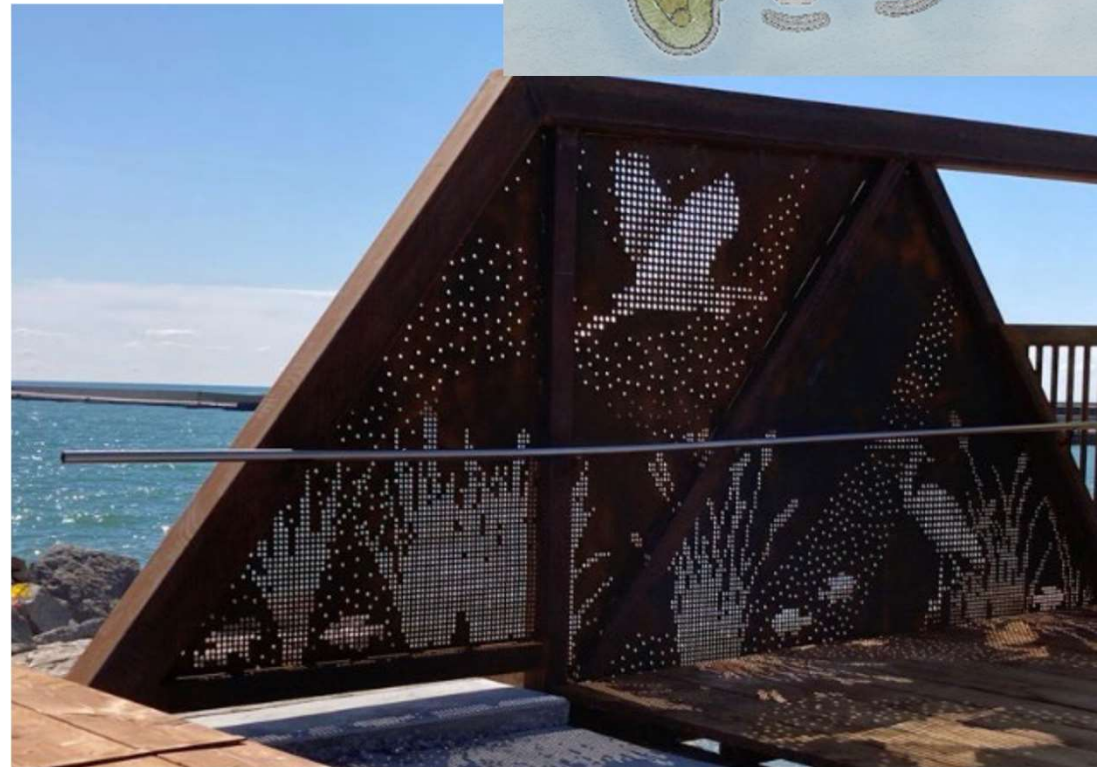
Waterfront Trail



Section - Primary Trail - 5.5m



Pedestrian Bridges Installed



Jim's vision (2016)





Credit Valley
Conservation

Ceremonial and Teaching Space



Promontory





Credit Valley
Conservation

Boardwalk Trail





Credit Valley
Conservation

Management Planning (2026-2023)



- Management Plan
- Visitation
- Habitats
- Integration



Credit Valley
Conservation

Upcoming: Public Outreach

- Port Credit Farmers Market on September 13th
- Lakeview Farmers Market on September 14th and October 19th
- Public Information Session at the Small Arms Inspection Building on November 27th





Project Awards

2025 - SER Regional Award

2022 - Brownie Award: Cat
7 Reach out

2015 - Heritage
Mississauga (Natural
Heritage Award)



Brownie Awards 2022



Questions?



Peel Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy

2025 Progress Update

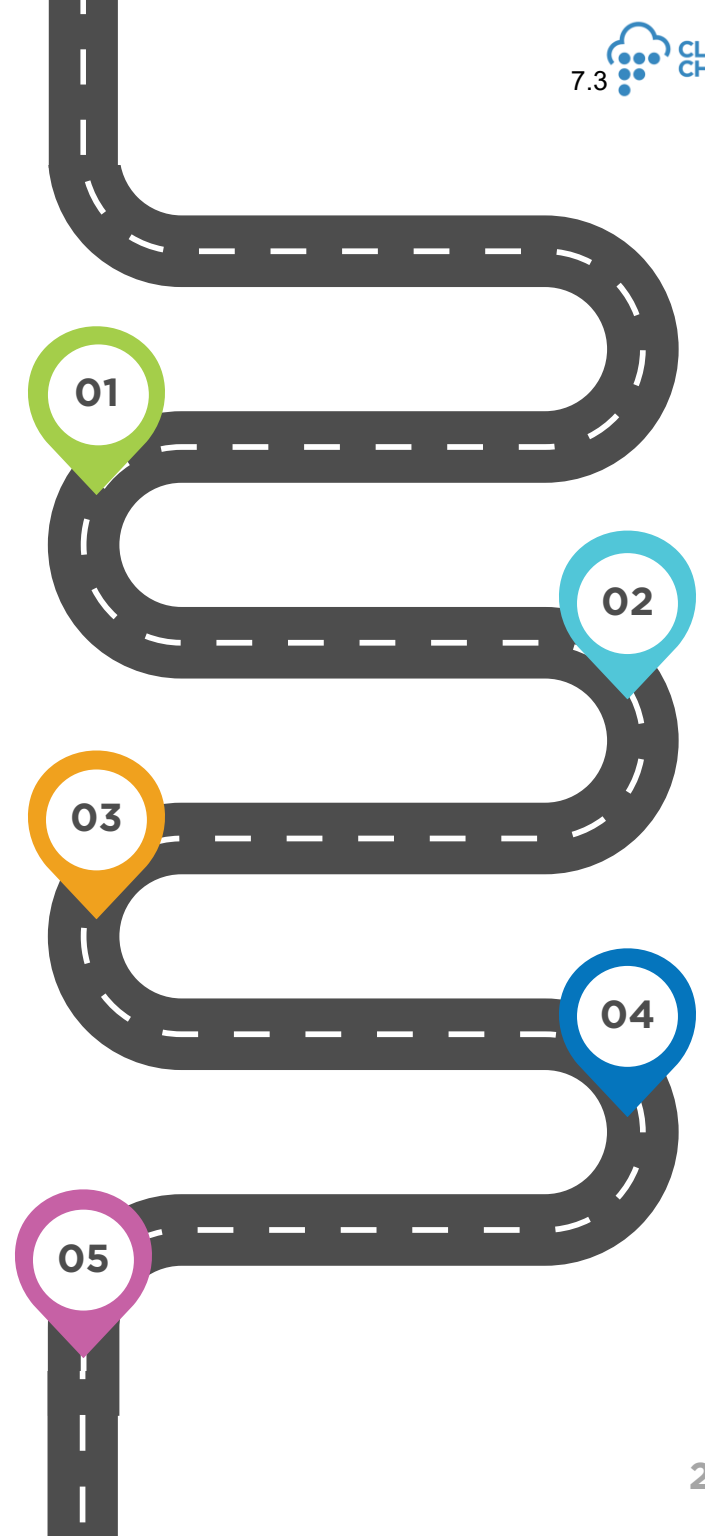


Prepared for: Environmental Action Committee
Presented by: Alison Laurie, Environment Section, City of Mississauga

September 2, 2025

Agenda

- 01 Background
- 02 Progress to Date
- 03 Mississauga Highlights
- 04 Regional Progress
- 05 Next Steps



What is the Peel ZEV Strategy?



The Peel Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy, endorsed by City of Mississauga Council in 2022, provides a 5-year strategic action plan for Peel Climate Change Partnership (PCCP) Members to support increasing the use of light-duty ZEVs across our community.



Expanding Access to Public EV Charging Stations



Enhancing ZEV Education and Awareness



Enhancing Private Investments into ZEVs and Charging Infrastructure

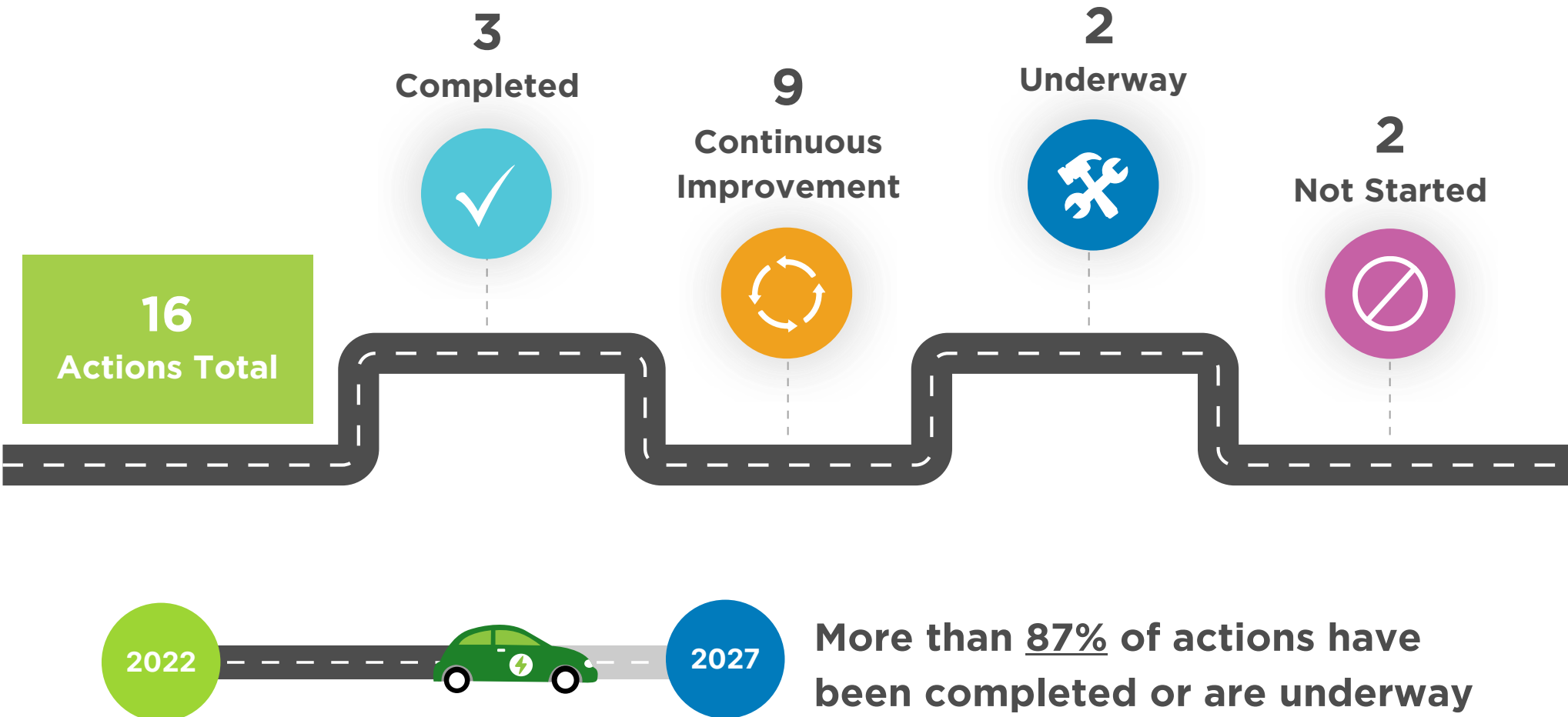


Embedding ZEV Infrastructure Considerations in the Planning Process



Advocating, Implementing and Reporting Collectively

Progress to Date



Mississauga Public EV Charging Network



Starting in Jan. 2025 our network consisted of 4 locations and 30 total connections. Today, with the additions of Carmen Corbasson CC & Marina Park we have a total of 48 connections across 6 public locations. The City will be adding stations at both Port Credit & Paul Coffey arenas in 2025 bringing our public charging network total to 52 connections across 8 locations.



Carmen Corbasson Community Centre



Marina Park

2025 New Additions:

- ✓ Carmen Corbasson Community Centre
- ✓ Marina Park
- Port Credit Arena (expected Fall 2025)
- Paul Coffey Arena (expected Fall 2025)

Mississauga Public EV Charging Network



Education & Awareness



EV Charging Expo



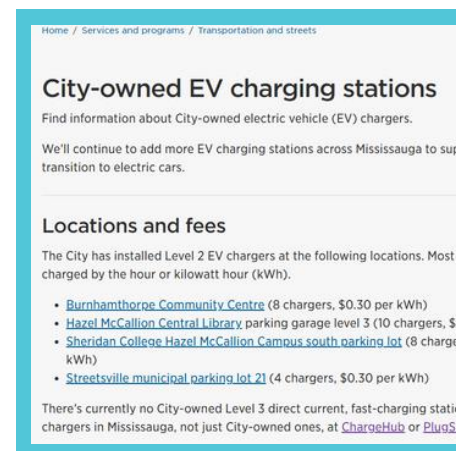
Participation at EV Charging Expo with exhibit of facilities e-transit van.

CCCC Re-Opening



Test drives at Carmen Corbasson Community Centre (CCCC) with Plug'n Drive in June 2025.

New EV Web Page



New EV web page provides links to Plug'n Drive and charging infrastructure maps.

www.mississauga.ca/services-and-programs/transportation-and-streets/city-owned-ev-charging-stations/

Advancing Hydrogen Projects in Mississauga



Hydrogen Bus Pilot



10-bus pilot project will be launched in 2026. MiWay will be the first transit organization in Ontario to pilot this initiative.

Hydrogen Hub Feasibility Study



Exploring how to establish a hydrogen hub in Mississauga. Analysis has been finalized. Focus is now on engagement.

Hydrogen Conference



Hydrogen Conference will be happening Nov. 5 & 6 2025 in Mississauga. The City is a platinum sponsor and co-chair for this event.

New EV Charging User Fee & By-Laws



The City of Mississauga successfully launched a new User Fee for using our public EV chargers on April 2, 2025.

Implementation highlights:

- Idle time reduced by 74% at EV charging stations
- Over \$17,000 in revenue generated so far – this will cover utilities and operation and maintenance costs for the units
- Updated by-law (555-00) enforceable with \$125 ticket – users will receive a fine if they park a non-electric vehicle in an EV charging space; use an EV charging space for an electric vehicle that's not plugged in; exceed the 10-hour time limit
- New signage installed at all public locations



Old Signage



New Signage

Grants



Total Grants Since 2021:
\$685,000

2024 Grants: \$320,000

→ **Elexicon Grant \$100k**

Installed first level 3 charger at F125, as a dedicated charger for the City's 1st fully electric fire truck

→ **NRCan Grant \$220k**

Supplemented cost for 42 charging connections across 8 sites for corporate fleet in 2025/2026



Charger at FS125

Regional Highlights



Fleet Vehicle Acquisition Policy updated to prioritize the purchase of ZEVs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and minimize environment impact.



Staff attended ZEV focused webinars and the EV & Charging Expo in Toronto. They also tabled at Grow Green Fest to provide public education on EVs.



By-law report going to Council in September, leveraging Provincial template for EV Charging enforcement and ticketing of improper usage of stations.

Next Steps for Mississauga

Future Proofing for EV Chargers

Future proofing is in progress at 6 locations around the city



Explore Pilot Projects in MURBs

Seek out opportunities for EV charger installations at multi-unit residential buildings



Develop Corporate EV Roadmap

Set a 5-year roadmap for the City and explore EV ownership models for public chargers



Continue Outreach and Engagement

Continue to provide test drives and immersive educational experiences for staff and the public





THANK YOU



Learn more about the strategy:

<https://www.mississauga.ca/publication/peel-zero-emission-vehicle-strategy/>

**2023-2026 Environmental Action Committee Work Plan
as of June 2025**

Work Plan Item	Team	Primary Actions	Deputations	Date	Recommendation number	Future Action if required	Additional Comments
Climate Change	City staff	Present/depute climate-related work happening across the City from various divisions (e.g. climate change/environment, parks, planning and building, transit, energy management, active transportation, etc.) to raise awareness of City efforts	Carrah Bullock, Climate Change Specialist, Environment and Louis McCallum, Climate Change Specialist, Environment regarding EV Charging Fees Leysa Barry, Supervisor, Climate Policy regarding the Climate Change Action Plan update Darren Ridings, Director, Transit regarding the Hydrogen Bus Pilot Carrah Bullock, Climate Change Specialist, Environment regarding Engaging a Hydrogen Ecosystem Project Overview Yasser Ismail, Supervisor, Energy Programs & Utility Management regarding the Annual Energy Report	04-Feb-25 04-Mar-25 06-May-25 06-May-25 03-Jun-25	EAC-0001-2025 EAC-0006-2025 EAC-0010-2025 EAC-0011-2025 EAC-0016-2025		EAC endorsed the EV Charging Fee Policy Policy approved at General Committee on March 5, 2025.
	City staff	Present/depute actions that EAC members can take to reduce GHGs and make their communities more resilient					
	EAC members	Engage in work planning sessions, surveys and other engagement efforts of new City strategies and initiatives and provide feedback	Climate Change Action Plan update	1-Oct-24		Future surveys and workshop sessions for EAC input	October 1, 2024: City staff held the first engagement session with Committee Members.
	EAC members	Present/depute ideas or related work of your organization that may advance climate action and provide opportunities for collaboration					
	EAC Councilors	Bring forward motions/ideas that advance climate actions					
	All	Identify external key speakers to present/depute at EAC about emerging trends, technologies and new policies	Jonathan Brown, Green Infrastructure Planner/Research & Policy Director, STEM-The-Tide regarding Digital Twin Solution for Green Infrastructure	5-Sep-23	EAC-0019-2023	Councillor Dasko requested staff to benchmark Cobourg and other municipalities regarding the Pilot Digital LID project and report back to the Committee	Update anticipated at future EAC meeting.
			Bushra Asghar, Youth Climate Corps organizer regarding the Youth Climate Corps Campaign	2-Jul-24	EAC-0016-2024		Environment staff to work with the Youth Climate Corps to obtain additional information regarding their request for endorsement for on-going commitment to climate action and the need for a Youth Climate Corps and to report back at a future Environmental Action Committee meeting. August 2024: Staff met with Youth Climate Corps and are gathering information to be shared at a future date. December 2024: Update regarding Youth Climate Corps endorsement request anticipated at future EAC meeting.
			Anita Krajnc, Campaign Coordinator and Yarim Hinojosa, City Campaigner, Plant Based Treaty regarding endorsement of the Plant Based Treaty	04-Mar-25	EAC-0005-2025		Referred to staff for further review.
			Jeanne McRight, Blooming Boulevards regarding the Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-Law and designing with native grasses	06-May-25	EAC-0009-2025		Referred to staff for review of Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-Law and report back to EAC.
	All	Identify clear two-way communication and collaboration between EAC members and City staff to enhance communication and collaboration opportunities					
	EAC members	EAC members to share upcoming events and programs happening around the City to increase awareness and ability to participate/volunteer					
Circular Economy and Waste Management	City staff	Present/depute circular economy and waste related work to raise awareness of City efforts	Jamaal Haynes, Coordinator, Waste Management and Haider Rizvi, Coordinator, Makerspace regarding the 2024-2025 Circular Economy Initiatives Update, be received.	3-Jun-25	EAC-0015-2025		
	City staff	Provide residential curbside Blue Box transition updates and offer increased education material for recycling categories to decrease contamination					
	City staff	Present/depute actions that EAC members can take to reduce waste at home and at work	Diane Gibson, Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability regarding the Indoor Wood Burning Equipment Education Summary	2-Jul-24	EAC-0018-2024		Staff to followup on the following: - In collaboration with select EAC Councilors, determine communication campaign on hazards of improper wood burning. - Review feasibility of education strategy for commercial businesses using wood burning.
	EAC members	Invite EAC members to engage in work planning sessions, surveys and other engagement efforts of new circular economy and waste-related City strategies and initiatives and provide feedback					
	All	EAC to plan a litter cleanup day/adopt a park/adopt a trail with support from City staff		25-Apr-25			Environmental Action Committee Litter Cleanup Day at R.K. McMillan Park
	All	Champion, promote and participate in local action on waste-related activities happening around Mississauga					
	All	Identify external key speakers to present/depute at EAC about emerging trends, technologies and new policies					
	EAC Councilors	Bring forward motions/ideas that advance circular economy and waste-related actions					
Report of Committee Progress	EAC members	Twice per year: memo to Mayor and Council or deputation at Council					Deputation at General Committee on March 26, 2025
	Clerk/EAC Chair	Report back from Council decisions based on EAC endorsements and/or recommendations	See Columns D for ongoing Deputations and Column H for Additional Comments and Council decisions.				

City of Mississauga

Memorandum



10.3

Date: June 24, 2025

To: Chair and Members of Environmental Action Committee

From: Dianne Zimmerman, Environment Manager

Meeting date: September 2, 2025

Subject: Environmental Action Committee Mid-Year Progress Reporting on 2023-2026 Work Plan – Written Submission to Mayor and Members of Council

Recommendation:

1. That the Memorandum dated June 24, 2025, entitled “Environmental Action Committee Mid-Year Progress Reporting on 2023-2026 Work Plan – Written Submission to Mayor and Members of Council”, be received;
2. That the draft Memorandum entitled “Environmental Action Committee Progress on 2023-2026 Work Plan (Reporting period January to June 2025)” and the Environmental Action Committee Work Plan attached as Appendix 1, be approved;
3. That the draft Memorandum entitled “Environmental Action Committee Progress on 2023-2026 Work Plan (Reporting period January to June 2025)” and the Environmental Action Committee Work Plan attached as Appendix 1, be provided to the Mayor and Members of Council via email.

Background:

The Environmental Action Committee work plan progress report is presented to Council on an annual basis (per the Terms of Reference), and bi-annually through a memorandum to the Mayor and Members of Council.

Comments:

A draft of a Memorandum for the Environmental Action Committee work plan reporting is attached to this Memorandum as Appendix 1 for the Committee’s feedback and approval.

The Memorandum, with the version of the Environmental Action Committee’s work plan approved at the Committee’s June 3, 2025 meeting attached, will be sent to the Mayor and Members of Council via email by the Legislative Coordinator on the Committee’s behalf.

Attachments:

Appendix 1: Environmental Action Committee Progress on 2023-2026 Work Plan (Reporting period January to June 2025)



Prepared by: Dianne Zimmerman, Environment Manager

City of Mississauga Memorandum



Date: June 24, 2025

To: Chair and Members of Environmental Action Committee

From: Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services on behalf of Environmental Action Committee

Subject: Environmental Action Committee Progress on 2023-2026 Work Plan (Reporting period January to June 2025)

Background:

The Environmental Action Committee work plan progress report is presented to Council on an annual basis (per the Terms of Reference), and bi-annually through a memorandum to the Mayor and Members of Council.

Comments:

The Environmental Action Committee 2023-2026 Workplan has the following key categories: Climate Change, Circular Economy and Waste Management, and Report of Committee Progress. Appendix 1 provides the Environmental Action Committee's progress in all of these areas as of June 2025. Actions in the *Future Action if Required* and *Additional Comments* categories have been deemed complete, ongoing or are upcoming.

Appendix 1 summarizes the actions within the categories listed above up to and including deputations received on June 3, 2025 and was approved by the Environmental Action Committee at its meeting on June 3, 2025.

Since the progress report in 2024 and deputation to General Committee in March 2025, the Environmental Action Committee had the opportunity to hear deputations and provide comments and feedback on a number of initiatives. Highlights include:

- City-led initiatives:
 - EV Charging Fee Policy
 - Climate Change Action Plan Update
 - Hydrogen Bus Pilot
 - Hydrogen Ecosystem Project
 - Annual Energy Report
 - 2024-2025 Circular Economy Initiatives Update

- Community-led deputations, such as:
 - Plant Based Treaty
 - Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-Law

Attachments:

Appendix 1: 2023-2026 Environmental Action Committee Work Plan

Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia

Prepared by: Eglantina Bacaj-Gondia, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services on behalf of Environmental Action Committee

**2023-2026 Environmental Action Committee Work Plan
as of June 2025**

Work Plan Item	Team	Primary Actions	Deputations	Date	Recommendation number	Future Action if required	Additional Comments
Climate Change	City staff	Present/depute climate-related work happening across the City from various divisions (e.g. climate change/environment, parks, planning and building, transit, energy management, active transportation, etc.) to raise awareness of City efforts	Carrah Bullock, Climate Change Specialist, Environment and Louis McCallum, Climate Change Specialist, Environment regarding EV Charging Fees Leysa Barry, Supervisor, Climate Policy regarding the Climate Change Action Plan update Darren Ridings, Director, Transit regarding the Hydrogen Bus Pilot Carrah Bullock, Climate Change Specialist, Environment regarding Engaging a Hydrogen Ecosystem Project Overview Yasser Ismail, Supervisor, Energy Programs & Utility Management regarding the Annual Energy Report	04-Feb-25 04-Mar-25 06-May-25 06-May-25 03-Jun-25	EAC-0001-2025 EAC-0006-2025 EAC-0010-2025 EAC-0011-2025 EAC-0016-2025		EAC endorsed the EV Charging Fee Policy Policy approved at General Committee on March 5, 2025.
	City staff	Present/depute actions that EAC members can take to reduce GHGs and make their communities more resilient					
	EAC members	Engage in work planning sessions, surveys and other engagement efforts of new City strategies and initiatives and provide feedback	Climate Change Action Plan update	1-Oct-24		Future surveys and workshop sessions for EAC input	October 1, 2024: City staff held the first engagement session with Committee Members.
	EAC members	Present/depute ideas or related work of your organization that may advance climate action and provide opportunities for collaboration					
	EAC Councilors	Bring forward motions/ideas that advance climate actions					
	All	Identify external key speakers to present/depute at EAC about emerging trends, technologies and new policies	Jonathan Brown, Green Infrastructure Planner/Research & Policy Director, STEM-The-Tide regarding Digital Twin Solution for Green Infrastructure	5-Sep-23	EAC-0019-2023	Councillor Dasko requested staff to benchmark Cobourg and other municipalities regarding the Pilot Digital LID project and report back to the Committee	Update anticipated at future EAC meeting.
			Bushra Asghar, Youth Climate Corps organizer regarding the Youth Climate Corps Campaign	2-Jul-24	EAC-0016-2024		Environment staff to work with the Youth Climate Corps to obtain additional information regarding their request for endorsement for on-going commitment to climate action and the need for a Youth Climate Corps and to report back at a future Environmental Action Committee meeting. August 2024: Staff met with Youth Climate Corps and are gathering information to be shared at a future date. December 2024: Update regarding Youth Climate Corps endorsement request anticipated at future EAC meeting.
			Anita Krajnc, Campaign Coordinator and Yarim Hinojosa, City Campaigner, Plant Based Treaty regarding endorsement of the Plant Based Treaty	04-Mar-25	EAC-0005-2025		Referred to staff for further review.
			Jeanne McRight, Blooming Boulevards regarding the Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-Law and designing with native grasses	06-May-25	EAC-0009-2025		Referred to staff for review of Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-Law and report back to EAC.
	All	Identify clear two-way communication and collaboration between EAC members and City staff to enhance communication and collaboration opportunities					
	EAC members	EAC members to share upcoming events and programs happening around the City to increase awareness and ability to participate/volunteer					
Circular Economy and Waste Management	City staff	Present/depute circular economy and waste related work to raise awareness of City efforts	Jamaal Haynes, Coordinator, Waste Management and Haider Rizvi, Coordinator, Makerspace regarding the 2024-2025 Circular Economy Initiatives Update, be received.	3-Jun-25	EAC-0015-2025		
	City staff	Provide residential curbside Blue Box transition updates and offer increased education material for recycling categories to decrease contamination					
	City staff	Present/depute actions that EAC members can take to reduce waste at home and at work	Diane Gibson, Supervisor, Environmental Sustainability regarding the Indoor Wood Burning Equipment Education Summary	2-Jul-24	EAC-0018-2024		Staff to followup on the following: - In collaboration with select EAC Councilors, determine communication campaign on hazards of improper wood burning. - Review feasibility of education strategy for commercial businesses using wood burning.
	EAC members	Invite EAC members to engage in work planning sessions, surveys and other engagement efforts of new circular economy and waste-related City strategies and initiatives and provide feedback					
	All	EAC to plan a litter cleanup day/adopt a park/adopt a trail with support from City staff		25-Apr-25			Environmental Action Committee Litter Cleanup Day at R.K. McMillan Park
	All	Champion, promote and participate in local action on waste-related activities happening around Mississauga					
	All	Identify external key speakers to present/depute at EAC about emerging trends, technologies and new policies					
	EAC Councilors	Bring forward motions/ideas that advance circular economy and waste-related actions					
Report of Committee Progress	EAC members	Twice per year: memo to Mayor and Council or deputation at Council					Deputation at General Committee on March 26, 2025
	Clerk/EAC Chair	Report back from Council decisions based on EAC endorsements and/or recommendations	See Columns D for ongoing Deputations and Column H for Additional Comments and Council decisions.				

City of Mississauga

Memorandum



Date: 2025/07/25

To: Chair and Members of the Environmental Action Committee (EAC)

From: Dianne Zimmerman, Environment Manager

Meeting Date: 2025/09/02

Subject: Plant Based Treaty

Background

On March 4, 2025, the local chapter of the Plant Based Treaty delegated at the Environmental Action Committee (EAC), asking for the City's endorsement of the organization's treaty that supports plant-based diets. Staff were directed to further explore and research the Plant Based Treaty (Treaty) and report back to a future EAC meeting (EAC-0005-2025).

The Plant Based Treaty

The [Plant Based Treaty](#) aims to put food systems at the forefront of combating the climate crisis. Individuals, groups, businesses and cities have been invited to endorse the treaty, which is made up of forty (40) suggested proposals divided into three (3) core principles:

- **Redirecting:** Ceasing the expansion of animal agriculture and associated activities that lead to deforestation and ecosystem degradation
- **Relinquishing:** Encouraging a shift towards plant-based food systems by promoting sustainable and ethical consumption patterns
- **Restoring:** Initiating restoration efforts for degraded ecosystems to increase carbon absorption and restore biodiversity

Cities that endorse the Treaty are encouraged to make meaningful change and implement good practices in plant-based food policies and in rewilding within their jurisdiction but are not bound by the proposals.

Several cities have endorsed the Plant Based Treaty, integrating plant-based initiatives into their climate action plans and food purchasing policies. As of July 2025, 41 cities across the world have endorsed the Treaty, primarily in Europe and India. More locally, in November 2024 and in February 2025 respectively, the City of Brampton and Town of Caledon endorsed the Treaty. Brampton plans to integrate a plant-based approach into their climate action plan and Caledon is aiming to improve resident health and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Considerations for Endorsement

1. Relationship between Plant-Based Food & Climate Action

Well known organizations such as the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ("IPCC") have noted the benefits of plant-based diets. For one, meat

production often requires the use of extensive grasslands. This typically involves removing trees, taking away a sink for carbon dioxide (CO₂) and releasing the CO₂ stored by these trees.¹ At the same time, cows and sheep emit methane – a potent greenhouse gas – as they digest grass and plants. In contrast, plant-based foods generally use less energy, land, and water, and have lower greenhouse gas intensities than animal-based foods.¹

2. Applicability of Treaty Proposals within the City

Not all the Treaty proposals apply to the city. In fact, twenty-four (24) of the forty (40) proposals are not applicable as Mississauga does not have animal farming, does not border an ocean, and does not control national-level policy and guides. The remaining 40% of proposals align with existing City strategies, plans and declarations (see section below for further details).

3. Alignment with City Plans & Strategies

There are several City plans and strategies that are aligned with the Treaty. These include the [Climate Change Action Plan](#) (identifies actions to reduce emissions and make Mississauga more resilient), [Urban Agriculture Strategy](#) (establishes different pathways to support and encourage urban agriculture throughout Mississauga), as well as the [Parks, Forestry and Environment Master Plan](#) and the Invasive Species Management Plan (support and enhance biodiversity, climate resilience and sustainable land use practices).

Below are a few examples of the alignment between specific treaty proposals and City initiatives:

Proposal	Alignment with City Initiatives
Declare a climate emergency	Council declared a climate emergency in 2019 and, later that year, approved the City's first comprehensive climate plan
Placing food security as a priority	Council declared food insecurity an emergency in 2024
Developing a food strategy for Climate Action Plans to prioritize plant-based food & public education	Council approved an Urban Agriculture Strategy (UAS) in 2022. As a part of the UAS, there are actions related to community garden expansion and supporting local food access and growing. The City has also encouraged residents to increase the number of plant-based meals they eat each week (see, for example, this news release).

¹ United Nations, N.D. Food and Climate Change: Healthy Diets for a Healthier Planet, accessed on March 25, 2025, <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/climate-issues/food>.

Subsidize fruits, vegetables and legumes to make a plant-based diet more affordable and end food deserts	In partnership with Ecosource, the City operates an expanding community garden program. All food grown at the Iceland Teaching Garden is donated to local food banks.
Reforestation projects using native tree species to restore habitats	The Natural Heritage and Urban Forest Strategy guides the management of the natural heritage system and urban forest to ensure they are protected, enhanced, restored and expanded for future generations. The City's Invasive Species Management Plan also aims to protect biodiversity.

Conclusion

Of the Plant Based Treaty's proposals, there are many that are outside the City's jurisdiction or that are not applicable. However, several of the proposals that do apply are well aligned with existing City strategies, as noted above.



Megan Gereghty, Climate Change Specialist, Environment Section

City of Mississauga

Memorandum



Date: August 22, 2025

To: Chair and Members of Environmental Action Committee

From: Georgios Fthenos, Director, Enforcement

Meeting date: September 2, 2025

Subject: Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 – Response to Recommended Amendments

Background

On May 6, 2025, Blooming Boulevards raised concerns, in their deputation, about the clarity of the [Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017](#) (Weed & Tall Grass By-law) and its potential to undermine ecological functions and habitat benefits. In response, the Environmental Action Committee (EAC) directed staff to complete a comprehensive review of the by-law, which included conducting a jurisdictional scan of comparable municipalities and presenting the findings back to EAC.

Context

Regulatory Framework

The Weed & Tall Grass By-law outlines the responsibilities of private property owners to cut and maintain tall grass and to remove and destroy nuisance weeds from their lawns. Sections 5 to 8 under Requirements in the By-law state:

- 5. Every Owner of Land shall cut and maintain tall grass to a height not exceeding 20 centimetres.*
- 6. Every Owner of Land shall destroy and remove all Nuisance Weeds and Nuisance Weed Seeds on their Lands.*
- 7. Every Owner of Land shall maintain the adjoining Boulevard at their expense, and shall cut and maintain tall grass to a height not exceeding 20 centimetres.*
- 8. Every Owner of Land who is served with a Notice of Contravention pursuant to the provisions of this By-law shall comply with the terms of the Notice within the time set out therein.*

Provision 5, which establishes a maximum grass height of 20 cm, was reduced from 30 cm in 2017 following a staff report that recommended regulatory enhancements. This recommendation was based on a jurisdictional scan of comparable jurisdictions, all of which had adopted a 20 cm height limit at that time.

Environmental Action Committee	2025/09/02	2
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The Weed & Tall Grass By-law defines ‘Tall Grass’ as “any grasses which exceed 20 centimetres in height” and ‘Nuisance Weed’ as “any of the noxious weeds designated under the *Weed Control Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. W.5 as set out in Schedule “A” attached hereto, and includes any other weed designated as a local noxious weed under a by-law of the City passed under that act” (see Appendixes 1 and 2). The 2017 staff report also expanded the definition for ‘Nuisance Weed’ to be more comprehensive and increased the number of listed nuisance weeds in the by-law from 12 to 25 species.

Enforcement and Complaint Data

Most complaints related to the Weed & Tall Grass By-law are received from May to September. In 2024, Property Standards, Investigations and Enforcement (PSIE) actioned a total of 2,526 tall grass and weeds complaints. Of these, 1,735 resulted in the issuance of a Notice of Contravention (NOC), and 317 properties underwent remediation. For 2025, the number of complaints is projected to be comparable to or exceed last year’s number, assuming the number of complaints remain constant for the remainder of the year.

When a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer (MLEO) receives a complaint, they attend the location and conduct an inspection of the subject property.

- If no violation is observed, the MLEO documents their investigation notes in the complaint file, and the file is considered rectified.
- If a violation is identified, the MLEO records their findings in the complaint file, including photographic evidence of the infraction. A NOC is then issued to both the owner of the property in question and their home address.

The NOC provides the property owner with a seven-day compliance period to address the violation. If, upon re-inspection, the violation has not been rectified, the MLEO initiates remedial action through a contracted subcontractor. The cost of the remediation, along with an administrative fee of \$430 or 15% of the total cost of the invoice (plus HST), whichever is greater, is applied to the property’s tax roll. A Part I penalty of \$305 can be issued under the *Provincial Offences Act* for violations.

Jurisdictional Research

Across Ontario, municipalities have established yard maintenance by-laws as a common regulatory tool to address tall grass and nuisance weeds (see Appendix 3). Brampton and Toronto have both replaced “weed” language with terms like “prohibited plants” and removed exemption processes for naturalized gardens. Brampton’s 2025 by-law introduced specific definitions (e.g., “ground cover” and “cultivate”), while Toronto promotes pollinator gardens and maintains an online list of prohibited species to support compliance. London’s 2024 by-law similarly aligns with its Climate Emergency Action Plan, allowing naturalized planting while enforcing sightline and safety provisions.

Hamilton and Ottawa adopt more flexible or context-based approaches. Hamilton permits ornamental and edible plants over 21 cm but requires removal of noxious weeds. Ottawa’s by-law avoids fixed height limits, instead relying on contextual evaluation, and includes formal recognition of Naturalized Areas with specific maintenance, intent, and species requirements.

Across jurisdictions, attempts are being made to integrate ecological goals into property standards, often supported by educational tools and clearly defined prohibited species lists.

Comments

One of Blooming Boulevards' objective is to promote naturalized gardens that support native pollinators, and thereby the environment. During their deputation, the organization expressed concerns that the Weed & Tall Grass By-law undermines ecological functions and habitat benefits due to the lack of clarity in distinguishing between grasses, the imposition of height limits to natural grasses, and a restrictive nuisance weeds list. Furthermore, they argued the absence of narrative illustrations, unclear enforcement policies and appeal procedures, and insufficient complaint screening are contributing to the problem.

Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017

The Weed & Tall Grass By-law is consistent with other jurisdictions in regulating grass height, requiring it not to exceed 20 cm. It also aligns in its recognition of nuisance weeds as those listed under the *Weed Control Act*. However, unlike other municipalities, the Weed & Tall Grass By-law does not prescribe any further prohibited or invasive plant species beyond those identified provincially. The City's by-law is, therefore, less restrictive when compared to other municipalities, while still in alignment with the health and safety goals of the *Weed Control Act*.

Notably, the City is the only jurisdiction to use the term "tall grass", whereas others use more specific terms such as "ground cover," "turfgrass," or "lawn." The use of these terms refers to perennial grasses grown for traditional lawns. Other jurisdictions also incorporate terms like "garden," "ornamental plant," and "vegetation" to encourage naturalized or pollinator gardens in support of environmental and ecological benefits. While Mississauga's by-law uses broader terminology, PSIE's enforcement procedures and practices ensure a balance between maintaining property standards and respecting the ecological benefits derived from naturalized gardens.

Public Education and Support for Naturalization

Through the Forestry Department, the City provides public education and actively supports naturalization by offering a range of community outreach and education programs to promote the preservation and enhancement of natural areas and heritage features. For example, the [Naturalize Your Yard](#) program provides residents with resources and encouragement to establish naturalized landscapes on their properties. In addition, residents can register their yards with the Mississauga Nature Steward at Home initiative, which formally recognizes individual contributions to biodiversity and environmental sustainability.

These initiatives demonstrate the City's commitment to supporting naturalization while ensuring that the enforcement of the Weed & Tall Grass By-law remains focused on addressing health, safety, and property standards concerns. Together, these approaches strike a balance between enabling ecological benefits and maintaining community standards.

Blooming Boulevards' Recommended Amendments

Environmental Action Committee	2025/09/02	4
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In consultation with Forestry, PSIE reviewed and summarized comments on the recommended amendments presented at the May 6, 2025, EAC meeting (see Appendix 4).

Amendments related to the regulatory framework of the Weed & Tall Grass By-law – specifically those proposing to restrict height limits to “turfgrass” only, introduce additional definitions with narrative descriptions, or remove species from the nuisance weed list – are not recommended by PSIE at this time.

While other municipalities have updated their by-laws by adopting more specific terminology to improve clarity, Mississauga’s existing by-law, supported by established enforcement procedures and practices, is sufficient to achieve the same objectives. The current by-law ensures that height limits are applied only to nuisance weeds and tall grass, while avoiding negative impacts on naturalized gardens or ecological benefits that residents may be trying to achieve. During the weed and tall grass season, MLEOs conduct thorough investigations to enforce the 20 cm height limit and the prohibition of nuisance weeds. This approach of applying the height limit to a wide range of ground vegetation species and grass, including turfgrass, ensures that issues are comprehensively addressed. Where necessary, MLEOs also consult with Forestry staff to ensure accurate identification and informed enforcement decisions, particularly in sensitive or complex cases.

Recommendations related to operational practices – such as officer training, standard operating procedures, complaint screening, and appeal processes – pertain to existing practices and require collaboration with internal partners. PSIE reviews and updates its standard operating procedures and training materials ahead of each weed and tall grass season and communicates these updates to all MLEOs. In partnership with Strategic Communications & Initiatives, PSIE will explore opportunities to enhance public educational content, including the use of narrative examples and clearer explanations of enforcement and appeal processes on the City’s webpages related to the Weed & Tall Grass By-law.

Conclusion

Given the existing by-law is sufficient, enforcement procedures exist to address the concerns raised, and operational enhancements can be made without regulatory amendments (e.g., updates to educational materials), PSIE is not recommending any amendments to the Weed & Tall Grass By-law at this time. However, the recommended amendments presented to EAC may be considered further as part of the broader Property Standards By-law review currently underway by Enforcement. Any proposed changes arising from this review will be brought forward for Council’s consideration.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017, Schedule A
Appendix 2: Weed Control Act – General – Schedule Noxious Weeds
Appendix 3: Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 Jurisdictional Scan
Appendix 4: Summary of Recommended Amendments



Prepared by: Georgios Fthenos, Director, Enforcement

Appendix 1 - Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 267-2003, Schedule A

SCHEDULE "A" TABLE OF NUISANCE WEEDS

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>	<u>SCIENTIFIC NAME</u>
1.	Black Dog-strangling Vine	<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i> (L.) Moench
2.	Buckthorn, European	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> L.
3.	Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i> L.
4.	Common Barberry	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> L.
5.	Common Crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i> , Cass.
6.	Cypress Spurge	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i> L.
7.	Dodder spp.	<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.
8.	Dog-strangling Vine	<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i> (Kleopow) Barbar.
9.	Giant Hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> Sommier & Levier
10.	Hemlock, poison	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.
11.	Jointed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i> Host
12.	Knapweed spp.	<i>Centaurea</i> spp.
13.	Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> (Lour.) Merr.
14.	Leafy Spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.
15.	Poison-ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> (L.) Kuntze
16.	Ragweed spp.	<i>Ambrosia</i> spp.
17.	Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> Hackel ex Arech.
18.	Smooth bedstraw	<i>Galium mollugo</i> L.
19.	Sow-thistle spp.	<i>Sonchus</i> spp.
20.	Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.
21.	Thistle, Bull	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Tenore
22.	Thistle, Canada	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scopoli
23.	Wild chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> (L.) Hoffmann
24.	Wild parsnip	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i> L.
25.	Woolly Cupgrass	<i>Eriochloa villosa</i> (Thunb.) Kunth

**Appendix 2 - Weed Control Act R.R.O. 1990, Regulation 1096 – General –
[Schedule, Noxious Weeds](#)**

Item	Common Name	Scientific Name
1.	Barberry, common	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i> L.
2.	Bedstraw, smooth	<i>Galium mollugo</i> L.
3.	Buckthorn, European	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> L.
4.	Chervil, wild	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> (L.) Hoffmann
5.	Coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i> L.
6.	Crupina, common	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i> Cass.
7.	Cupgrass, woolly	<i>Eriochloa villosa</i> (Thunb.) Kunth
8.	Dodder spp.	<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.
9.	Dog-strangling vine	<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i> (Kleopow) Barbar.
10.	Dog-strangling vine, black	<i>Vincetoxicum nigrum</i> (L.) Moench
11.	Goatgrass, jointed	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i> Host
12.	Hogweed, giant	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> Sommier & Levier
13.	Knapweed spp.	<i>Centaurea</i> spp.
14.	Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> (Lour.) Merr.
15.	Parsnip, wild	<i>Pastinaca sativa</i> L.
16.	Poison-hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.
17.	Poison-ivy	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> (L.) Kuntze
18.	Ragweed spp.	<i>Ambrosia</i> spp.
19.	Ragwort, tansy	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.
20.	Sow-thistle spp.	<i>Sonchus</i> spp.
21.	Spurge, cypress	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i> L.
22.	Spurge, leafy	<i>Euphorbia esula</i> L.
23.	Thistle, bull	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Tenore
24.	Thistle, Canada	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scopoli
25.	Tussock, serrated	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> Hackel ex Arech.

Appendix 3 - Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law Jurisdictional Scan

	Brampton	Hamilton	London	Mississauga	Toronto
By-law	<u>Ground Cover Maintenance and Prohibited Plant 45-2025</u>	<u>YARD MAINTENANCE BY-LAW 10-118</u>	<u>Yard and Lot Maintenance By-law – PW -15</u>	<u>Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law By-law 0125-2017</u>	<u>Chapter 489 TURFGRASS AND PROHIBITED PLANTS</u>
Definition of Key Terms	“Prohibited Plant” means Noxious Weeds classified by or under the <i>Weed Control Act</i> , or plants listed in the Prohibited Plant List, attached as Schedule “A” to this Bylaw.	“Noxious weed” means a noxious weed designated under the <i>Weed Control Act</i> including any weed designated as a local or noxious weed under a by-law of the City passed under that Act.	“Prohibited Plant” means any plant species designated by the Director as shown on Schedule A – Prohibited Plants.	“Nuisance Weed” means any of the noxious weeds designated under the <i>Weed Control Act</i> , R.S.O. 1990 c. W.5 as set out in Schedule “A” attached hereto, and includes any other weed designated as a local noxious weed under a by-law of the City passed under that act.	“Turfgrass” Ground cover of various perennial grasses grown for lawns, of a type that forms a dense, uniform turf if mown.
	“Ground Cover” means low-growing, ground vegetation such as sod with living turfgrass or plants growing in a dense, uniform manner to act as a lawn replacement; but does not include trees, shrubs, bushes or Gardens.	“Ornamental plant” means a plant deliberately grown for beautification, screening, accent, specimen, colour or other aesthetic reasons but does not include any variety of turf grass.	“Lawn” means perennial turfgrass grown for ground cover, of a type that forms a dense, uniform turf when mown, including but not limited to Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, or fine fescue.	“Tall Grass” includes any grasses which exceed 20 centimetres in height.	
	“Garden” means an area where plants, trees, bushes and		“Vegetative Growth” means a plant garden and includes, without		

	Brampton	Hamilton	London	Mississauga	Toronto
	shrubs are intentionally Cultivated with the intent to grow food, provide aesthetic value, or supply a naturalized habitat, but excludes Prohibited Plants and Ground Cover.		limiting the generality of the foregoing, an annual or perennial flower garden, food garden, rain garden, hedge, shrub, plant, vine, and groundcover, but does not include trees or Lawn.		
	20 cm	21 cm	20 cm	20 cm	20 cm
Height Maximums	6. Every Owner or Occupant shall maintain all Ground Cover on Private Property and adjacent Boulevards, so as to ensure it does not exceed a height of twenty centimetres (20 cm).	3.(1)(c)(i) for property located inside the urban boundary that is equal to or less than 0.4 ha in area, to keep all plants cut to a height of equal to or less than 21 cm, except: 1. ornamental plants; 2. shrubs or trees; 3. cultivated fruits or vegetables; or 4. plants buffering or otherwise protecting a natural feature such as a watercourse.	2.3(1) An Owner shall ensure Lawn on their Land does not exceed 20 cm (8 inches) in height or length.	5. Every Owner of Land shall cut and maintain tall grass to a height not exceeding 20 centimetres.	489-2.A. The owner or occupant of private land shall cut the turfgrass on their land whenever the growth of turfgrass exceeds 20 centimetres in height or length.
Associated Penalty	Administrative Penalty	Administrative Penalty	Administrative Penalty	Provincial Offence	Provincial Offence
	First Offence - \$250 Second Offence - \$375 Subsequent Offence - \$500	\$75	\$300	\$305 Expense of remediation is administered to the property tax roll.	\$500
List of prohibited weeds	Schedule A Prohibited Plant List 1. Garlic Mustard	Prohibited weeds are not listed within the by-law, however, the <i>Weed</i>	Schedule A – Prohibited Plants 1. Common buckthorn	Schedule A Table of Nuisance Weeds	Schedule A Prohibited Local Weeds 1. Canada thistle

	Brampton	Hamilton	London	Mississauga	Toronto
within the By-law	2. Japanese knotweed 3. Phragmites 4. Oriental Bittersweet 5. Yellow floating heart Noxious Weeds List (Weed Control Act) 1. Barberry, common 2. Bedstraw, smooth 3. Buckthorn, European 4. Chervil, wild 5. Coltsfoot 6. Crupina, common 7. Cupgrass, woolly 8. Dodder spp. 9. Dog-strangling vine 10. Dog-strangling vine, black 11. Goatgrass, jointed 12. Hogweed, giant 13. Knapweed spp. 14. Kudzu 15. Parsnip, wild 16. Poison-hemlock 17. Poison-ivy 18. Ragweed spp. 19. Ragwort, tansy 20. Sow-thistle spp. 21. Spurge, cypress 22. Spurge, leafy 23. Thistle, bull 24. Thistle, Canada 25. Tussock, serrated	Control Act is referenced.	2. Glossy buckthorn 3. Creeping (field) thistle 4. Dog-strangling vine 5. Black doc-strangling vine 6. Garlic mustard 7. Giant hogweed 8. Bohemian knotweed 9. Japanese knotweed 10. Phragmites, non-native 11. Poison ivy 12. Purple loosestrife 13. Common ragweed 14. Wild parsnip	1. Black Dog-strangling Vine 2. Buckthorn, European 3. Coltsfoot 4. Common Barberry 5. Common Crupina 6. Cypress Spurge 7. Dodder spp. 8. Dog-strangling Vine 9. Giant Hogweed 10. Hemlock, poison 11. Jointed goatgrass 12. Knapweed spp. 13. Kudzu 14. Leafy Spurge 15. Poison-ivy 16. Ragweed spp. 17. Serrated tussock 18. Smooth bedstraw 19. Sow-thistle spp. 20. Tansy Ragwort 21. Thistle, Bull 22. Thistle, Canada 23. Wild chervil 24. Wild parsnip 25. Woolly Cupgrass	2. Common buckthorn; Glossy buckthorn 3. Dog-strangling vine 4. Garlic mustard 5. Giant hogweed 6. Japanese knotweed 7. Phragmites 8. Poison ivy 9. Purple loosestrife 10. Ragweed

Appendix 4 - Summary of Recommended Amendments

Recommended Amendment	Comments from Property Standards, Investigation & Enforcement and Forestry
<p>1. Restrict height limits to turfgrass only, with a clear definition, and apply limits solely for maintaining sightlines.</p>	<p>The Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 currently uses the term “Tall Grass” to establish maintenance height limits. The By-law is intended to mitigate risks related to public and fire safety, impaired sightlines, the creation of habitat for rodents and insects, and overall neighbourhood blight. These risks are not limited to turfgrass alone – other types of grass and ground vegetation can also contribute to such concerns. For example, ticks may inhabit tall native grasses or other vascular plants, and native vegetation can similarly obstruct sightlines.</p> <p>Where necessary, MLEOs consult with Forestry staff to support accurate identification and assessment.</p> <p>Direction to adopt this recommendation would require a corporate report to General Committee for further consideration.</p>
<p>2. Include an explicit definition of sightlines, supported by diagrams and narrative descriptions with measurements.</p>	<p>The Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 aims to mitigate risks to public and fire safety, including the obstruction of visual sightlines. The by-law establishes a maximum height of 20 cm for “Tall Grass”, which is significantly below standard sightline obstruction thresholds (typically 1 metre).</p> <p>As such, the inclusion of diagrams and detailed sightline definitions does not appear necessary. The By-law remains consistent with similar regulations across comparable jurisdictions.</p> <p>Direction to adopt this recommendation would require a corporate report to General Committee.</p>
<p>3. Incorporate clear enforcement policies, procedures, and training.</p>	<p>The Property Standards, Investigations & Enforcement (PSIE) unit reviews its standard operating procedures ahead of each tall grass season to ensure enforcement is accurate, consistent, and reflective of real-world conditions across the City. Any updates are communicated by supervisors and made available to MLEOs in advance of the enforcement period.</p> <p>This process includes reviewing case examples, consulting with internal stakeholders such as Forestry, and incorporating</p>

	<p>intergovernmental regulations to support well-informed enforcement decisions.</p> <p>Enforcement will work with 311 and Strategic Communications & Initiatives to review and enhance public-facing educational materials and related web content to improve clarity.</p>
4. Clearly outline appeal provisions and procedures.	<p>PSIE, in collaboration with Forestry, ensures that enforcement actions are only taken against properties not in compliance with the by-law. While the absence of a formal appeal process may raise concerns about the potential misidentification of prohibited plants, this risk is mitigated through internal procedures.</p> <p>MLEOs may consult with Forestry staff during investigations to confirm species identification before issuing a Notice of Contravention, helping to prevent errors. Should a property owner have concerns, they are encouraged to contact the MLEO directly to discuss the matter and clarify compliance requirements.</p> <p>Introducing a formal appeal process would require additional administrative resources, impede timely resolution and is not recommended at this time.</p>
5. Implement complaint screening to eliminate aesthetic or subjective complaints that may be unconstitutional.	<p>Complaints are initially received by 311. However, it is the responsibility of the assigned MLEO to assess compliance through a preliminary review and determine whether further investigation is warranted. MLEOs are trained to distinguish between aesthetic concerns and legitimate by-law violations and may consult with Forestry staff to support accurate identification and informed decision-making.</p> <p>To further support this process, Enforcement will work with 311 and Strategic Communications & Initiatives to review and update public-facing educational materials to enhance clarity and understanding of enforcement criteria.</p>

<p>6. Remove species from the prohibited plants list if they do not pose health or safety risks on non-agricultural lands or threaten natural areas.</p>	<p>Schedule A of the Nuisance Weed and Tall Grass Control By-law 0125-2017 references species listed under the <i>Weed Control Act</i>. The by-law does not prohibit any additional plant species beyond those identified in this legislation.</p> <p>The <i>Weed Control Act</i> serves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce the presence of noxious weeds that negatively impact agricultural or horticultural lands,• Minimize plant diseases by eliminating disease hosts, and• Address health hazards to livestock and agricultural workers caused by toxic plants. <p>The City's approach remains consistent with provincial legislation and the practices of other municipalities.</p>
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