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## CITIZENS ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE of southwestern Ontario

### **Environmental Priorities for Greener Windsor 2022-2026**

Cities across Canada are scrambling to deal with the impacts of the climate crisis as well as an affordability crisis. Cities must act fast to reduce emissions and protect their populations from devastating storms, floods, and heatwaves. Windsor has passed a series of plans that focus on these issues, yet implementation has been slow and unfocussed. City Council must become champions for creating a more climate resilient, low-carbon, livable city for all.

#### **Climate Action**

**Objective:** Windsor fully funds its climate emergency targets and all its future (2023-) science based and net zero targets.

- Follow through on Windsor's climate emergency declaration of 2019 with dedicated, secure, and equitable funding by implementing new revenue tools to fund climate action.
- Speed up implementation of the Community Energy Plan, including the Deep Energy Retrofit component for residential and commercial/institutional sectors.
- Implement the Active Transportation Plan sooner, including complete streets. Complete Streets protect pedestrians and cyclists in neighbourhoods that are lacking active transportation infrastructure.
- Accelerate the timeline for Net Zero Windsor from 2050. Focusing on zero emission fleets for Transit Windsor and other city fleets.

**Note:** In 2019, Windsor declared a climate emergency, followed a few months later by an accelerated action implementation plan and in May 2022, the City of Windsor endorsed science-based climate targets and a net zero emission target of 2050.

#### **Climate Resilience**

**Objective:** Windsor implements its climate adaptation plan (CAP) to support the community to prepare for and respond to extreme weather including floods and heatwaves.

- Implement a fair stormwater charge that will make polluters pay for stormwater reduction and flood protection projects.
- Implement Parks Master Plan goals focussed on resilience, specifically increasing greenspace, allowing for more access across the community.
- Ensure adequate financing to achieve goals of the parks master plan and CAP, specifically, enhancing natural areas linkages through land acquisition.
- Expand amenities that protect public health such as shade areas, water fountains and washrooms in public parks.

**Note:** Windsor's Parks and Outdoor Recreation Master Plan references the opportunity for a continuous ecologically diverse threshold (biodiversity gateway). Connecting

existing significant habitats and building a local greenbelt from west to east is a goal of the plan to help develop climate resilience.