

Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee 2024 Work Plan & Budget Working Group: Report

October 3, 2023

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Report

Our Working Group's task was to draft a work plan and corresponding budget for 2024 for the Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee (O.E.A.C.). Please see the attached documents for reference.

Drawing heavily from the 2023 work plan, the working group made changes that can be summarized as follows:

1. The removal of activities that are outdated (for e.g., "participate in Environmental Advisory Committee Symposiums), and the combination of redundant activities into one item line (for e.g., the "Bee City" event is combined with an activity that describes exploring opportunities for an event related to pollinators and native plants);
2. The addition of more tabling events, including when they occur so that planning can take place in advance;
3. The addition of more potential collaborators and training opportunities; and
4. The addition of an Administration category.

Overall, there are more activities listed than in 2023. The intention is to have a wide breadth of potential actions to be taken by O.E.A.C. in 2024, rather than to commit to completing every single listed activity. The Working Group suggests that another working group dedicated to tabling events be established early on in 2024, to coordinate the presence of O.E.A.C. volunteers at other organizations' events in Oshawa. Tabling at other events requires little preparation but is high-impact for the Committee's visibility in the city. It is hoped that by having a single group focused on keeping track of when these events are taking place, O.E.A.C. will be in a better position to participate.

The total budget being proposed for O.E.A.C. is \$4,600 more than the 2023 budget, with increases being proposed for nearly all expense categories. Changes in the budget are highlighted, with rationales for the changes provided in the Comments column. Besides \$1,200 being proposed for an O.E.A.C. branded tent, the increased amounts are intended to accommodate higher O.E.A.C. participation in our own and other events, with associated increases in food and advertising costs. Prices have also gone up for tree saplings, which are a large expense for the annual tree giveaway event.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee adopt the 2024 Work Plan proposed by the Working Group for submission to the City of Oshawa.

2. That the Committee adopt the 2024 Budget proposed by the Working Group for submission to the City of Oshawa.

2024 Proposed O.E.A.C. Work Plan

Mandate: To assist, advise and educate City Council, staff and the community with respect to the protection, enhancement, restoration, management and appreciation of the natural and built environments, and to advance the goals of the [Oshawa Strategic Plan](#).

Action	Examples of Actions to be Taken	Timing	Lead	Support
Category #1: Community Outreach, Education and Stewardship				
Explore public outreach opportunities to increase community knowledge/ education with respect to significant environmental issues and which accelerate the community's adoption or commitment to such issues as energy conservation, local food production, greenhouse gas emissions, water conservation, etc.	Participate in/collaborate on events related to Earth Day	April 22, 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Host an event related to native plants and pollinators as a "Bee City", ideally collaborating with other relevant clubs or organizations	May/June 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Booth at Oshawa Garden Sale	May 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Booth at the Feathered Friends Festival by the Friends of Second Marsh	May 2024	Friends of the Second Marsh	O.E.A.C.
	Assist with City Compost Day	May 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Booth at Oshawa Peony Festival	June 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Booth at City's Canada Day event	July 1, 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Booth at Farmers Market	TBD	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Collaborate on a joint event with the Oshawa Public Library, the Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change, the Durham Environmental and	TBD	O.E.A.C.	City Staff

	Climate Advisory Committee (DECAC), Green Jobs Oshawa, Climate Justice Durham, Ontario Tech University, and/or Durham College			
	Host a tree giveaway event	September/October 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Host a Fall Film Night Event	TBD	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Participate in Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority initiatives and activities	TBD	CLOCA	O.E.A.C.
	Other opportunities, as identified	TBD	N/A	N/A
Explore education and training opportunities for O.E.A.C. members and the public.	<p>Seek out education opportunities and engage DECAC to increase collaboration related to the following topics, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agriculture and food security; relevant federal and provincial environmental legislation; forests, native and invasive species; net-zero development; bird-window collisions and the Fatal Light Awareness Program (F.L.A.P.); the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe; Indigenous land management; training from Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation; soil quality; and road salt/sodium chloride pollution 	Ongoing	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other topics, as identified 	TBD	N/A	N/A

Assist, where appropriate, in the review, development and implementation of Regional environment/sustainability-related Plans, policies and programs.	Provide input on and assist in the implementation of certain Regional environment/sustainability-related matters, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Durham Community Energy Plan; Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan; Durham Region Municipal Comprehensive Review; and, Envision Durham. 	As required	City Staff	O.E.A.C.
	Other opportunities, as identified.	As required	City Staff	O.E.A.C.
Assist, where appropriate, in the review, development and implementation of City environment/sustainability-related Plans, policies and programs.	Provide input and assist in the implementation of certain City environment/sustainability-related matters, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oshawa Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan; Municipal Natural Assets Initiative; Oshawa Second Marsh Management Plan; City Tree Protection By-law; Naturalization Strategy; and, Oshawa Executive Airport Business Plan. 	As required	City Staff	O.E.A.C.
	Other opportunities, as identified.	As required	N/A	N/A
Assist, where appropriate, in the review of plans, documents, studies, etc. related to planning and development.	Provide input on certain planning and development related matters, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Certain development applications; Environmental assessments; Secondary Plans; Provincial planning initiatives; New and existing trail development initiatives; Park redevelopment and community park development initiatives; Watercourse improvement projects; Oshawa Harbour 	As required	City Staff	O.E.A.C.

	Development; Go Transit Expansion (Metrolinx); Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority Watershed Plans; and, Lake Ontario Shoreline Hazard Management Plan.			
	Other opportunities, as identified.	As required	N/A	N/A

Category #3: Administration				
Complete basic administrative tasks to facilitate the completion of and reporting on actions in Categories 1 & 2.	Provide a summary of 2024 accomplishments to the Economic and Development Services Committee.	Q1 2025	O.E.A.C.	City Staff
	Create a calendar of O.E.A.C's events for the year, establishing an itinerary for timely planning.	January 2024	O.E.A.C.	City Staff

2024 Proposed O.E.A.C. Budget

Program: 120 – ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Location: 402 – Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee (O.E.A.C.)

Account	Description	2023 Approved Budget	2024 Proposed Budget	Comments
N/A	Donations	\$0	\$50	Sponsor the Ontario Envirothon (coordinated by Forests Ontario)
20000	Office Materials & Supply	\$400	\$1,500	Increased to accommodate \$1,200 for branded tent
21000	Printing & Reproduction	\$1,300	\$1,300	
24000	Food	\$250	\$500	Food to support volunteers at all-day events
40000	Advertising	\$4,800	\$7,000	Higher advertising costs for more events
47000	Seminars & Training	\$600	\$600	
48000	Membership & Dues	\$100	\$150	+\$50 for Forests Ontario membership [this gets us a reduced ticket cost to their annual conference, which we may be interested in for training]
49330	Events/Promo Expenses	\$7,550	\$8,500	More events + costs of tree giveaway have increased
	TOTAL	\$15,000	\$19,600	