

Oshawa Environmental Advisory Committee 2025 Work Plan & Budget Working Group Report

September 3, 2024

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Report

Attached are the O.E.A.C. work plan and budget for 2025. There are a few notable changes from last years workplan and budget, including:

1. The addition of a public engagement event on environmental issues to the workplan;
2. The addition of pursuing different advertising methods to the workplan, identified and implemented based on their relevancy to specific events / programs;
3. An increase to the proposed events / promo expenses budget which corresponds with the Committee's desire to implement a new public engagement event; and
4. An increase to the proposed 2025 advertising budget which corresponds with the Committee's desire to explore new advertising methods.

The total budget proposed is \$2,000 more than the 2023 budget. These extra funds will allow the Committee to explore new advertising methods, in particular broadening our capacity to promote events (such as the Fall Film Night or Tree Giveaway) by utilizing social media, radio advertisements, posters, billboards, etc. This will allow the Committee to attract a more diverse audience to its events. They will also assist in the development and deployment of a public engagement event that serves to both educate and foster discussion within the community about environmental issues. These extra funds will also help to compensate for inflation (particularly in relation to the Tree Giveaway, which has seen price increases in the last few years).

Recommendations

1. That the Committee adopt the 2025 work plan proposed by the working group for submission to the City of Oshawa; and
2. That the Committee adopt the 2025 budget proposed by the working group for submission to the City of Oshawa.

2025 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, 2025 | 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 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Booth at Oshawa Garden Sale | May 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Booth at the Feathered Friends Festival by the Friends of Second Marsh | Spring/Summer 2025 | Friends of the Second Marsh | O.E.A.C. |
| | Assist with City Compost Day | May 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Booth at Oshawa Peony Festival | June 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Booth at City's Canada Day event | July 1, 2025 | 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 Climate Change Advisory Committee (DECAC), | TBD | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |

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|---|---|------------|----------|------------|
| | Green Jobs Oshawa, Climate Justice Durham, Ontario Tech University, and/or Durham College | | | |
| | Host a tree giveaway event | Fall, 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Host a Fall Film Night Event | Fall, 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Participate in Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority initiatives and activities | TBD | CLOCA | O.E.A.C. |
| | Host a public engagement event on environmental issues | TBD | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Pursue different advertising methods as identified | Ongoing | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |
| | Other opportunities, as identified | TBD | N/A | N/A |
| Explore education and training opportunities for O.E.A.C. members and the public. | Seek out education opportunities and engage DECAC to increase collaboration (e.g. presentations, workshops, etc.) related to the following topics, including but not limited to: <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 |

Category #2: Policy Review, Development and Implementation

| | | | | |
|---|--|-------------|------------|----------|
| 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; and, 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 Greenhous 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 | As required | City Staff | O.E.A.C. |

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|--|--|-------------|-----|-----|
| | redevelopment and community park development initiatives; Watercourse improvement projects; Oshawa Harbour 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 2025 accomplishments to the Economic and Development Services Committee. | Q1 2026 | 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 2025 | O.E.A.C. | City Staff |

2025 O.E.A.C. Budget

Program: 120 – ADVISORY COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

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

| Account | Description | 2024 Approved Budget | 2025 Proposed Budget | Comments |
|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 20000 | Office Materials & Supply | \$300 | \$300 | |
| 21000 | Printing & Reproduction | \$500 | \$500 | |
| 40000 | Advertising | \$6,000 | \$7,000 | Increase to compensate for exploring new advertising streams (e.g., social media) |
| 44000 | Civic Reception & Meals | \$500 | \$500 | Food to support volunteers at events |
| 47000 | Seminars & Training | \$600 | \$600 | |
| 48000 | Membership & Dues | \$200 | \$200 | |
| 49330 | Events/Promo Expenses | \$8,500 | \$9,500 | Increase to compensate for inflation and exploration of a public engagement event hosted by O.E.A.C. |
| | TOTAL | \$16,600 | \$18,600 | |