

# Ojibway Prairie

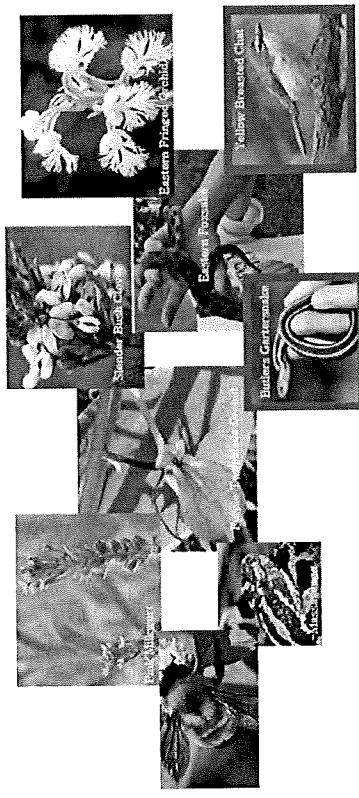
- Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW)
- Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (Life Science)
- Environmentally Significant Area (ESA)
- Carolinian Site
- Provincial Nature Reserve
- International Refuge for the Detroit River
- Designated as Canada's Important Amphibian and Reptile Area (IMPARA)
- A globally endangered tallgrass prairie ecosystem
- Provides habitat for 22 endangered and threatened species
- Supports a 160 species at risk regionally, provincially, and globally, some of which are found nowhere else in Canada

# Ojibway's Endangered and Threatened

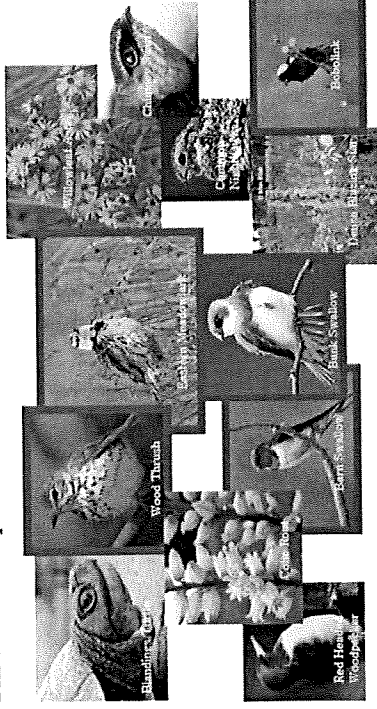
## Ojibway Prairie

Ojibway species with red square have been newly designated endangered or threatened since the OMB case commenced (2007).

### Endangered Species

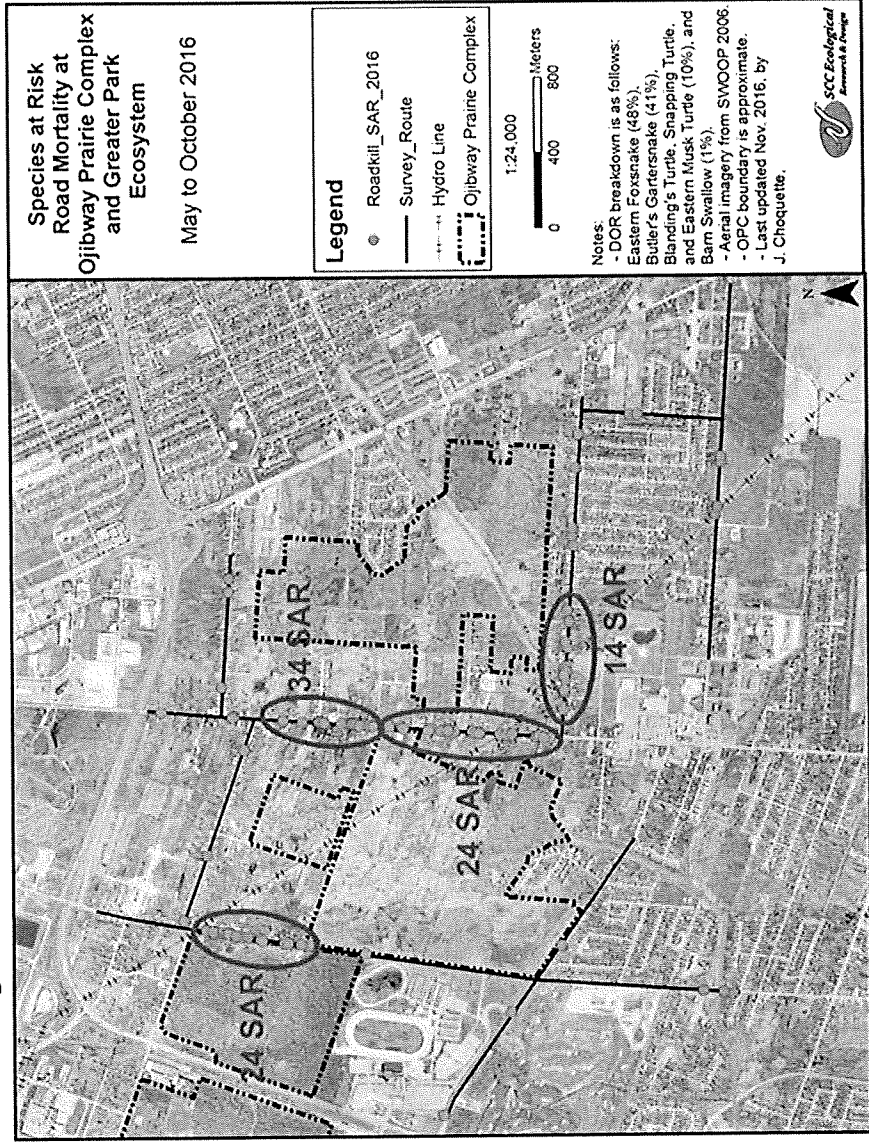


### Threatened Species



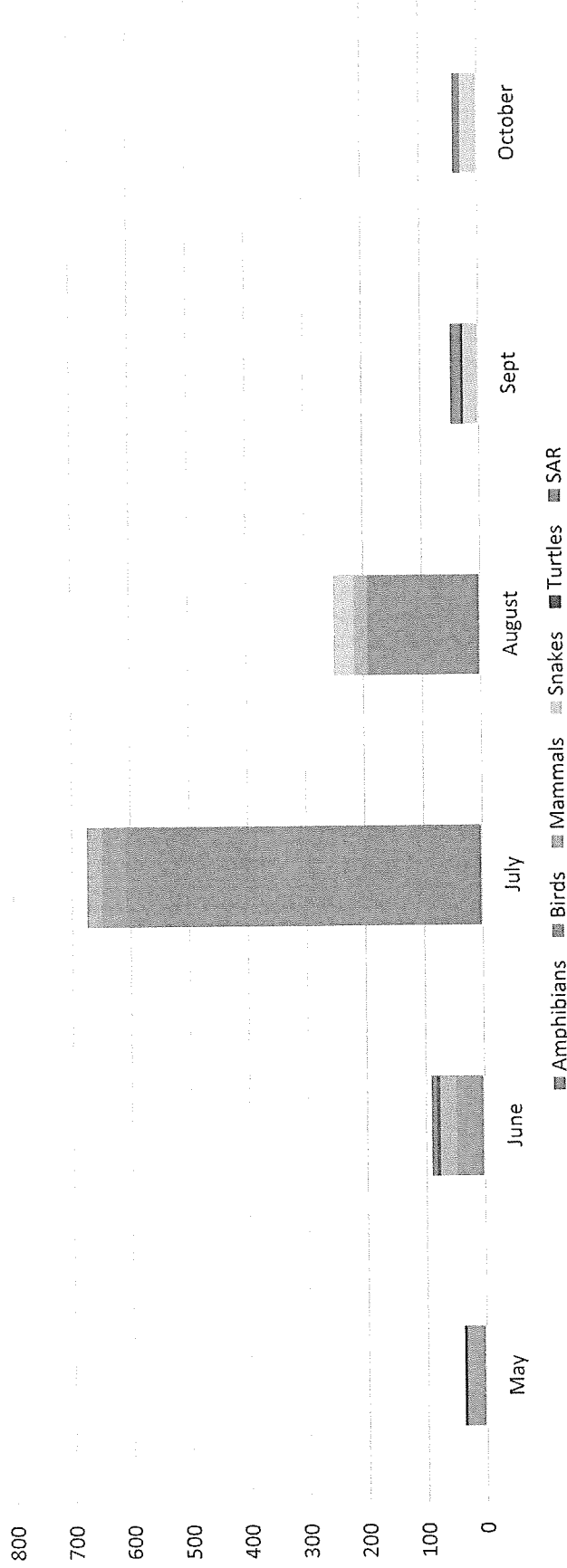
- Ojibway supports 4000 species, 22 are endangered and threatened species.
- Over 100 endangered killed in the past 2 years.

# Species at Risk Road Mortality at Ojibway Prairie Complex



# Species Mortality Rates by Month

Mortality Rates by Month

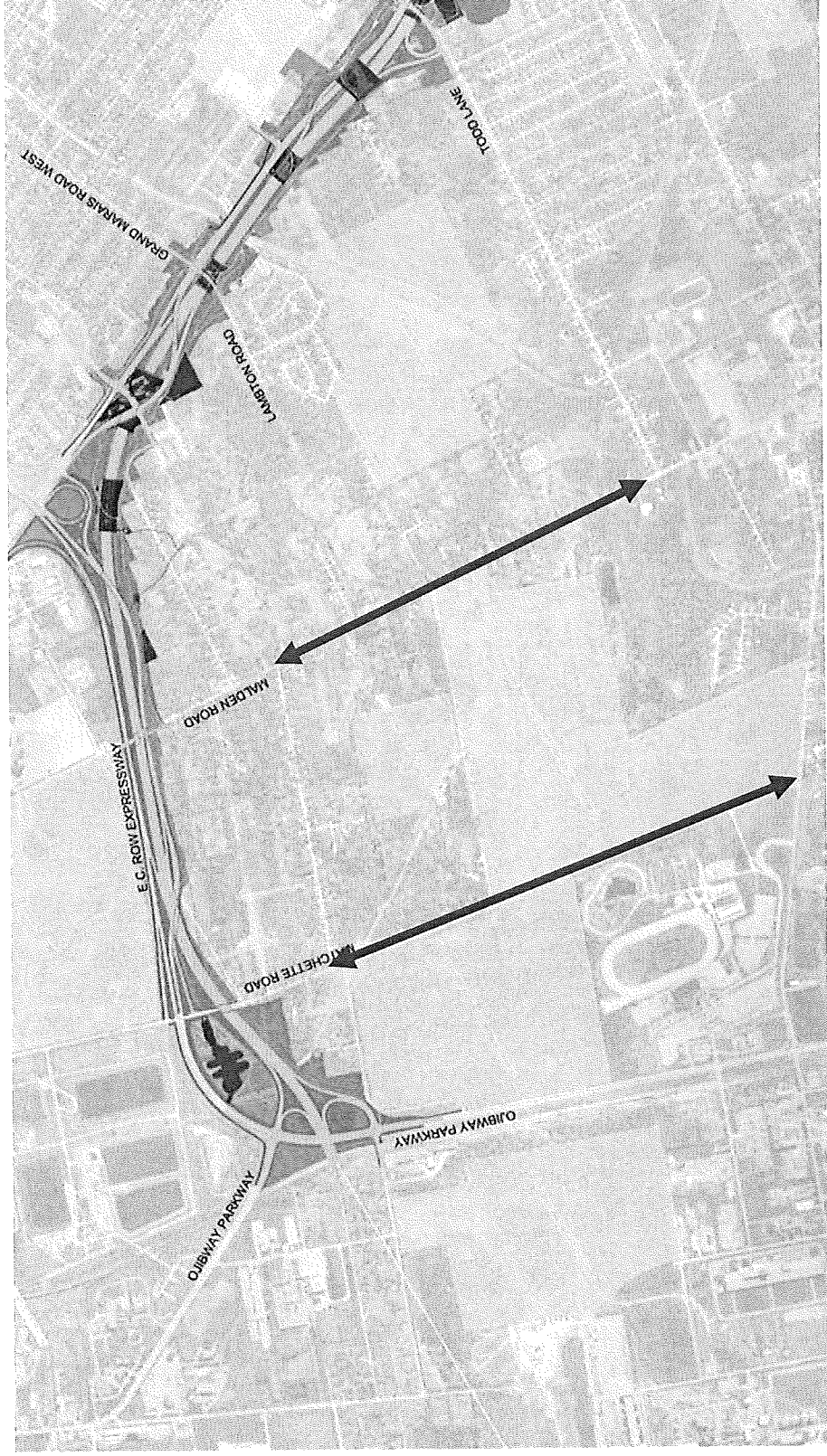


Choquette, Jonathan D., and Lindsey Valliant. 2016. Road mortality of reptiles and other wildlife at the Ojibway Prairie Complex and Greater Park ecosystem in southern Ontario. *Canadian Field-naturalist* 130(1): 64–75.



The communities of Burlington and Kitchener have  
proven road closures are an excellent method to  
protect our endangered species

# Temporary Closure Matchette and Malden Road





Two-thirds of wildlife will disappear by 2020

“Governments need to take action ...”

## **City of Windsor Recommendation for Temporary Closure of Matchette Road and Malden Road**

WHEREAS, the Ojibway Prairie Complex (OPC), is recognized as: an Environmentally Significant Area, Provincially Significant Wetland, a Carolinian Canada Site; and part of the International Wildlife Refuge for the Detroit River (first of its kind for North America). The OPC contains the largest protected tallgrass prairie remnant in Ontario. This complex supports a 160 species at risk regionally, provincially, and globally, some of which are found nowhere else in Canada; and

WHEREAS, systematic road mortality surveys reveal: a total of 2083 vertebrates of 49 species were found dead by vehicles, including: 4 species of amphibians, 21 species of birds, 13 species of mammals, 5 species of snakes, and 6 species of turtles; and

WHEREAS in a single day, 30 individuals from seven reptile at risk species were found dead by vehicles including Butler's Gartersnake, eastern Foxsnake, eastern Massasauga, Blanding's turtle, eastern Musk turtle, northern Map turtle, and snapping turtle on Matchette and Malden Roads. COSEWIC status reports for these species lists road mortality and population fragmentation as two reasons for their endangered designation; and

WHEREAS the populations of all species are vulnerable during April-October, the highest road mortality rates for all species occur in mid July and August and Species at Risk in mid September and October. A road closure during these times would provide greatest protection for species, and

WHEREAS the City of Windsor states in Objective C7 in the Environmental Master Plan that they will identify issues that are currently impairing the quality of natural areas and identify strategies & actions to address these issues as well as continue to implement Species at Risk protection measures in all areas of Windsor and develop strategies to improve their status; and

WHEREAS the City of Burlington and the City of Kitchener recently imposed an annual seasonal road closure of King Rd. and Stauffer Rd. respectively, and have had great success with few complaints by residents with many residents showing pride in their City's forward thinking;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT City of Windsor Council and Town of LaSalle Council impose a seasonal closure or "local traffic" only detour of Matchette Rd. and Malden Rd from mid July- mid August and mid Sept- mid October.



## **WECEC Priorities Identified April 25<sup>th</sup>:**

- Planting trees in the community (WECEC tree planting?)
- Sandpoint beach
  - Checking water for e.coli levels
  - Sprucing it up
- Single use plastics ban
- Declaring a climate emergency – what have other cities done?
- Strengthen City of Windsor emissions reduction target
- Waste diversion education
- Following the development of the Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Public Engagement
- Green development
- Transit electrification
- Camera controlled smart intersections (improve efficiency)
- Shade along riverfront
- Change mentality on biking
- Lids on recycling bins

## **Next Steps July 4<sup>th</sup>:**

1. Further refine and prioritize actions
2. Form subcommittees



– JULY 2019 –

## ONGOING INITIATIVES

### 1. Updates

#### A. Pat on the Back Awards

A big thanks to Katie, Keri, Rick and Michael who did a great job helping out with the Pat on the Back awards. WECEC received 15 applications and presented the following groups with a \$500 award each:

- GreenerBins - In vessel compost pilot project
- Forest Glade Public School - Outdoor classroom
- Glenwood Public School Eco Team - Water bottle re-fill station.
- CommUnity Partnership - Social housing community garden and food skills program



Thanks again to all those who applied. There were so many amazing projects to choose from! All the best to everyone and good luck with your projects!

**WINDSOR**  
GREEN SPEAKER SERIES  
WISE  
MICNU  
**FREE LECTURE!**

**Charles Montgomery**  
The Happy City:  
Can We Make Windsor Climate  
Friendly and Happier at the  
Same Time?

Happy City  
book sale and  
signing after  
the event!

June 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM  
Caesars Windsor, Augustus IV Ballroom  
Register at [www.windsor.snapd.com](http://www.windsor.snapd.com) or  
call 311/211  
Free to attend!

#### B. Green Speaker Charles Montgomery

Over 150 members of the public attended this free lecture WECEC was involved with in partnership with the City of Windsor, the Windsor Regional Society of Architects and the Michigan Chapter for New Urbanism. The WECEC booth was set up and there was a great amount of mingling done before the event as well as good discussion after the event. Charles received some media attention as well.

A recording of the presentation is up on the WECEC website and has been shared on the WECEC facebook page.

**2. Reports to Council**

WECEC Report 102:

*Moved by Councillor McKenzie, seconded by R. St. Denis,  
That Administration from the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) **BE REQUESTED** to provide a formal submission and/or for a representative to attend a future meeting of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee to provide their position on the 2013 tree planting on the airport lands and, on further actions if deemed necessary.  
Carried.*

This report was approved at the June 19<sup>th</sup> City of Windsor Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee meeting. It will go forward to City Council in July.

**WECEC BUDGET – SUMMARY**

<b>2018 Budget</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Estimated Expenditure</b>	<b>Status</b>
2019 Budget	\$8,000.00		
Carryover from 2018	\$5,256.00		
Pat on the Back		\$2,332.00	Paid
Charles Montgomery		\$5,256.00	Paid
Green Speaker #2		\$1000.00	
Website Hosting and Domain Fee		\$450.00	
Earth Day		\$35.00	Paid
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$13,256.00</b>	<b>\$9,073.00</b>	
<b>NON-ALLOCATED REMAINING</b>		<b>\$4,183.00</b>	

Municipal Climate Emergency Declaration

**IPCC Special Report Global Warming of 1.5C:**

“Global warming is *likely* to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate. (*high confidence*)”

“In model pathways with no or limited overshoot of 1.5°C, global net anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions decline by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 (40–60% interquartile range), reaching net zero around 2050 (2045–2055 interquartile range).”

The report found that limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C could go hand in hand with ensuring a more sustainable and equitable society. While previous estimates focused on estimating the damage if average temperatures were to rise by 2°C, this report shows that many of the adverse impacts of climate change will come at the 1.5°C mark.

**Canada’s Changing Climate Report 2019:**

“Both past and future warming in Canada is, on average, about double the magnitude of global warming. Northern Canada has warmed and will continue to warm at even more than double the global rate.”

**The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services:**

“The rate of global change in nature during the past 50 years is unprecedented in human history. The direct drivers of change in nature with the largest global impact have been (starting with those with most impact): changes in land and sea use; direct exploitation of organisms; climate change; pollution; and invasion of alien species.”

“An average of around 25 per cent of species in assessed animal and plant groups are threatened (figure SPM.3), suggesting that around 1 million species already face extinction, many within decades, unless action is taken to reduce the intensity of drivers of biodiversity loss. Without such action there will be a further acceleration in the global rate of species extinction, which is already at least tens to hundreds of times higher than it has averaged over the past 10 million years.”

**Approximately 405 Canadian municipal councils (June 20) have declared a climate emergency, 365 in Quebec alone.**

Including: Sarnia, London, Hamilton, Burlington, St.Catharines and Brampton.

**Definition of An Emergency:**

“A situation or an impending situation that constitutes a danger of major proportions that could result in serious harm to persons or substantial damage to property and that is caused by the forces of nature, a disease or other health risk, an accident or an act whether intentional or otherwise.” (Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. R.S.O. 2000)

**Draft Resolution (Committee Recommendation)**

WHEREAS climate change is currently contributing to billions of dollars in property and infrastructure damage worldwide, stressing local and international economies;

WHEREAS climate change is currently jeopardizing the health and survival of many species and other natural environments worldwide, stressing local and international ecosystems;

WHEREAS climate change is currently harming human populations through rising sea levels and other extraordinary phenomena like intense wildfires worldwide, stressing local and international communities;

WHEREAS climate action and the low-carbon transition also represents a massive opportunity for economic stimulation and growing job opportunities in the new low-carbon economy, and;

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) most recent report has indicated a need for a massive reduction in carbon emissions of about 45% from 2010 in the next 11 years, reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050, to have a reasonable chance of keeping global warming to 1.5C and maintaining a climate compatible with human civilization;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Windsor declare a climate emergency that threatens our city, region, province, nation, civilization, humanity and the natural world, and;

That the City of Windsor outline additional actions to be taken to incorporate into existing plans and policies the achievement of net zero carbon emissions before 2050.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/windsor/how-to-make-cities-happier-healthier-climate-change-1.5180524>

Windsor

## How to make cities happier, healthier and better equipped to fight climate change

According to a Vancouver-based author and urbanist, between climate change, poverty and inequity, "we are in an age of converging crises" and need to address these problems by planning our cities differently.

**'The happier city and the more inclusive city is also the city that helps us fight greenhouse gas emissions'**

CBC News · Posted: Jun 19, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: June 19



Charles Montgomery is a Vancouver-based author of *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design*. (Submitted by Charles Montgomery)

According to a Vancouver-based author and urbanist, the issues of climate change, poverty and inequity have positioned humans "in an age of converging crises" where such problems need to be addressed by planning cities differently.

"If we design our cities differently and we live in our cities differently, we can address these crises while at the same time getting healthier and happier and making our cities more inclusive

for everyone," said Charles Montgomery, author of *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design*.

Montgomery presented a free public lecture Tuesday night at Caesars Windsor. It was focused on making life better for people in urban areas, while highlighting how improving urban life can subsequently help meet the challenges of climate change.

"The happier city and the more inclusive city is also the city that helps us fight greenhouse gas emissions," he said.

Montgomery added it's important to stop building cities in ways that make people feel disconnected.

"All over Ontario right now, cities are building new subdivisions, completely car-dependent neighbourhoods where people can't walk to shops or services, children can't walk to school and families need to own sometimes two cars just to survive," he said.

"Sometimes, city cores like the one we see here in Windsor are struggling in their vitality."

Affordable housing adds another layer to these issues, he explained.

"What we can do is allow more housing in walk-able connected city centres."

He said that needs to be further complimented with making walking and cycling the easiest, safest ways to get around cities.

In order to address some of these issues, Montgomery said cities need to reinvest in their urban cores, to allow for people to live closer to where they live, work, and play — all of which combined will ultimately make people happier and healthier.