

Windsor, Ontario February 19, 2013

**REPORT NO. 105** of the  
**ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE**  
of its meeting held January 23, 2013

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**Present:** Councillor J. Gignac  
Councillor A. Halberstadt  
Councillor R. Jones, Vice-Chair  
Councillor H. Payne

**Regrets:** Councillor F. Valentinis

That the following recommendations of the Environment, Transportation and Public Safety Standing Committee **BE APPROVED:**

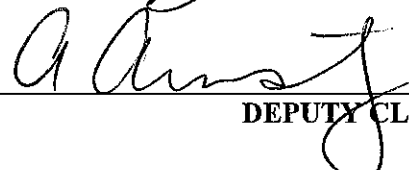
Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Gignac,  
**THAT** Report No. 66 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee of its meeting held November 1, 2012 **BE ADOPTED** as presented; and further

**THAT** administration **BE DIRECTED** to forward the resolution to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

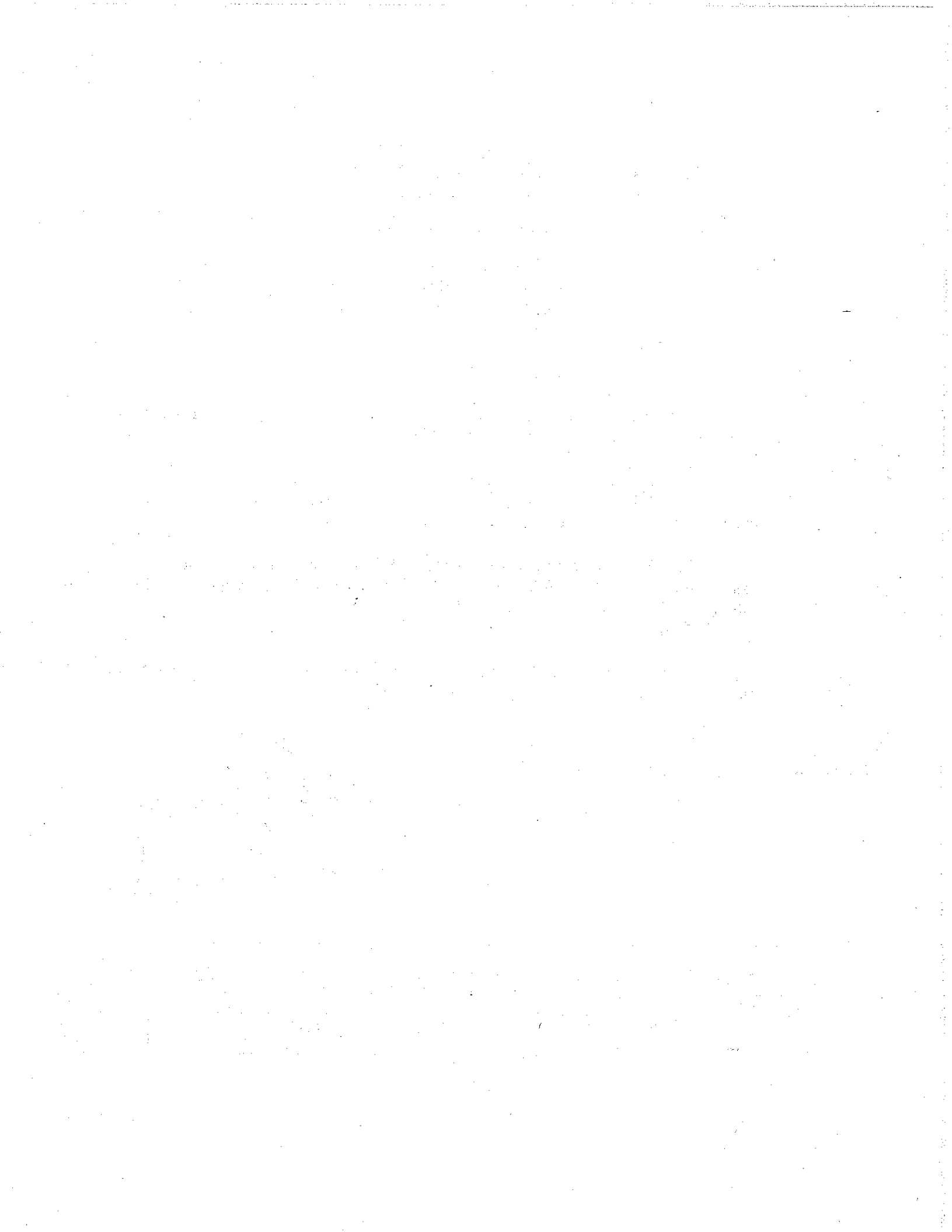
Carried.

Clerk's Note: Report No. 66 of the Windsor Essex County Environment Committee regarding urban tree policies is attached as background information.

  
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VICE CHAIRPERSON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK

NOTIFICATION:				
Name	Address	Email Address	Telephone	FAX
WECEC				
Mary Brennan, County of Essex		<a href="mailto:mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca">mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca</a>		



**REPORT NO. 66**  
of the  
**WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (WECEC)**  
of its meeting held  
November 1, 2012  
at 5:30 o'clock p.m.  
Lou Romano Water Reclamation Plant, 4155 Ojibway Parkway

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**Members Present at the November 1, 2012 meeting:**

Councillor Alan Halberstadt, Co-Chair  
Charlie Wright, Co-Chair  
Shahbaz Ahmed  
Dean Clevett  
Derek Coronado  
Rick Coronado  
Jesse Costagardner (alternate for Phil Roberts)  
Roger Dzugan (alternate for Mark Bartlett)  
Evan Freeman-Gibb  
John Miller (arrives at 5:55 p.m.)  
Phil Roberts  
Tamara Stomp (arrives at 5:40 p.m.)

**Your Committee submits the following recommendation:**

Moved by D. Clevett, seconded by J. Miller,

**WHEREAS** urban forests have been shown to produce energy cost savings, for example, residents of Peel Region's urban areas save \$2.5 million annually in heating and cooling through shading and windbreak provided by trees<sup>1</sup>, and;

**WHEREAS** urban forests have the potential to improve air quality through the removal of air pollutants and the storage and sequestration of carbon. For example, recent studies show that Peel Region's urban forest removes 855 tonnes of air pollution annually, sequesters 19,000 tonnes of carbon annually and stores 400,000 tonnes in total. These services are valued at \$9.1 million, \$550,000 and \$11.5 million respectively<sup>1</sup>, and;

**WHEREAS** methods of green infrastructure such as urban forests have been shown as a cost-effective means to decrease storm water runoff and combined sewer overflows by capturing runoff and retaining it before it can reach the sewer system<sup>2</sup>, and;

**WHEREAS** an investment in green infrastructure is an investment in biodiversity, a declared priority of both the provincial and national governments, and;

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<sup>1</sup>Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 2011. Peel Region Forest Strategy. Available at: <http://www.peelregion.ca/planning/climatechange/reports/pdf/peel-urban-forest-strategy-july-25-2011.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>Natural Resources Defence Council. 2006. Rooftops to Rivers: Green Strategies for Controlling Stormwater and Combined Sewer Overflows. Available at: [www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/rooftops/contents.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/rooftops/contents.asp)

**WHEREAS** numerous studies indicate that property values increase anywhere from 5 to 30 percent depending on the size and type of green space, the type of housing and the distance from the green space<sup>3</sup>, and;

**WHEREAS** urban forest issues can result in high unforeseen costs for municipalities, for example, the City of Windsor spent \$4 million as a result of the Emerald Ash Borer pest issue in Windsor,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that City and County Councils urge both the Provincial and the Federal governments to develop and implement Urban Tree Policies which provide municipalities with direction as well as monetary support when dealing with urban tree issues.

Carried.

<b>NOTIFICATION:</b>	
WECEC Committee including resource	On file
Mary Brennan, Director of Council Services/Clerk, County of Essex	<a href="mailto:mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca">mbrennan@countyofessex.on.ca</a>

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COUNCILLOR ALAN HALBERSTADT, CO-CHAIR

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COMMITTEE COORDINATOR

<sup>3</sup>Tomalty, R. and B. Komorowski, 2010. The Monetary Value of the Soft Benefits of Green Roofs Final Report. Prepared for the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Available at: <http://www.greenroofs.org/resources/Monetaryvalueofsoftbenefitsofgreenroofs.pdf>