

Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee --- 2008 Workplan

MANDATE

The Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee (OFGAC) provides advice and guidance to Ottawa City Council, through the Planning and Environment Committee and the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. Its mandate is to help safeguard the environment of the City, promote a sustainable, biodiverse landscape and promote the protection and conservation (wise use) of trees, forests, natural systems and greenspace by:

- Providing input into plans, strategies, policies, programs and budgets related to greenspace preservation, biodiversity and the management of urban and rural forests including remediation and new forest development;
- Recommending ways in which the City can meet its greenspace, biodiversity and forest related objectives as outlined in the Official Plan and other planning documents; and
- Promoting public awareness of the role of greenspace and forests in protecting and enhancing quality of life.

DEFINITIONS

The urban and rural forest includes individual city trees and other vegetation as well as woodlots and forests within the City of Ottawa.

Greenspace is land, water and wetlands that are in their natural, undeveloped state as well as a land in private and public ownership that has been developed only to the extent consistent with natural systems protection, recreational uses, or agricultural and forest production.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee shall be responsible for:

- Providing advice and guidance to Council, through the Planning and Environment Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, on City policies, programs, by-laws, regulations and budgets related to forest and greenspace protection and management;
- Assisting in the development of policies, programs and bylaws that would have an impact on trees, forests and greenspace including wetlands;
- Providing a forum for citizens interested in forests and greenspace to raise issues and concerns and to have those concerns heard by Council;
- Advising on areas where the introduction of trees and tree cover would be beneficial to the environment or where their removal would have a negative impact on a site or ecosystem;
- Identifying issues that may have an impact on trees, tree cover or natural systems biodiversity and recommending ways to minimize the impact;
- Advising on the introduction of windbreaks, the shading of transportation corridors, the greening of streets, roads, parks and conservation areas, the preservation of tree cover, and forest management in the City;
- Promoting and facilitating cooperation with local community groups and environmental organizations on education and other initiatives related to forest and greenspace management;
- Conducting advocacy on behalf of issues relating to Ottawa's forests and greenspace;
- Providing advice to Council on the protection, management, acquisition and conservation of greenspace and other environmentally sensitive areas in Ottawa;
- Working to reduce the burden on the City's Environmental Resources Areas Acquisition Fund by promoting partnerships with developers (in the form of land bequests and

conservation development) and with other stakeholders (in the form of land trusts and conservation easements);

- Liaising with other City of Ottawa Advisory Committees as appropriate.

OFGAC focuses its work in four areas:

- A – Policy and Planning;
- B – Emerging Issues and Requested Advice;
- C – Outreach; and,
- D – Management

as summarized in the following table.

2008 OFGAC Workplan Summary

A: Policy and Planning: Corporate Initiatives	B: Emerging Issues and Requested Advice	C: Outreach	D: Management
A1 2008 Official Plan Review (includes location of Urban Boundary)	B1 Development Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1.1 Community Design Plans (under development) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1.1.1 Fernbank • B1.2 Development Applications (OP Amendments, Zoning Changes, Subdivisions) • B1.3 Surplus City Land Disposal, Road Closures • B1.4 Review Environmental Assessment Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1.4.1 Strandherd Greenbank Transitway Extension Project • B1.4.2 South Barrhaven 	C1 Communications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1.1 Media Outreach and Publicity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1.1.1 OFGAC Web site • C1.1.2 Multi-Media and Event Display • C1.2 Community Outreach and Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1.2.1 Walk in the Woods Series • C1.2.2 Partnering in specific initiatives with other groups 	D1 Committee Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1.1 Committee Leadership • D1.2 Training for members
A2 Greenspace Master Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2.1 Implementation of Urban GMP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2.1.1 Old Ottawa South Rideau River Trail • A2.1.2 Beryl Gaffney Park • A2.2 Development of Rural GMP 	B2 Monitor Implementation of Community Design Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B2.1 Riverside South • B2.2 South Barrhaven • B2.3 South Nepean • B2.4 East Urban Ph.1&2 • B2.5 Hintonburg 	C2 Networks and AC Cross Attendance	D2 Committee Member Recruitment
A3 Forest Strategy	B3 Presentations to Standing Committees	C3 Notable Trees	
A4 Special Planning Studies incl. Subwatershed Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4.1 Follow-up and Monitoring Implementation Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4.1.1 UNAEES • A4.1.2 Greenfields Development guidelines • A4.2 Ongoing/Up-coming Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4.2.1 Cardinal Creek Subwatershed Study • A4.2.2 Cash-in-lieu of 	B4 Inventories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B4.1 CITYGreen™ Forest Cover Evaluation 	C4 Exotic Pest and Invasive Management (including plants and insects)	

A: Policy and Planning: Corporate Initiatives	B: Emerging Issues and Requested Advice	C: Outreach	D: Management
Parkland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4.2.3 Wetlands • A4.2.4 Hydrogeological Reporting Guidelines 			
A5 Plans and Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5.1 Maintenance Plans for Community Forests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A5.1.1 Torbolton • A5.1.2 Marlborough (incl. Long Swamp, Corkery) • A5.1.3 Cumberland • A5.1.4 Carp Hills • A5.1.5 South March Highlands • A5.2 Maintenance Standards for Trees and Community Forests 	B5 Requested Advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B5.1 Pocket Parks and Reclaiming Road Allowances for Greening • B5.2 Transportation Master Plan 		
A6 Bylaws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A6.1 Forest bylaw for Private Property • A6.2 Comprehensive Zoning 	B6 Wetlands and Natural Drainage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B6.1 Wetlands • B6.2 Natural Drainage & Ditching 		
A7 Capital Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A7.1 Stormwater Management Planning Guidelines • A7.2 Strategic Lighting Plan 	B7 Council Performance Indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B7.1 Corporate Plans • B7.2 Community Impact Indicators 		
A8 EIS Guidelines Revision	B8 Input to City Budgets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B8.1 Development and expression of OFGAC priorities for Budget 2009 		
A9 Air Quality and Climate Change Strategy			
A10 Biodiversity Strategy			

A: POLICY AND PLANNING

A1 2008 Official Plan Review (includes location of Urban Boundary)

Objective

An updated Official Plan that increases protection for trees and ecologically valuable land (forests, wetlands, greenspace etc.)

Activities

Commence an internal OFGAC review to identify sections of the 2003 Official Plan for updating.
Review and provide comment to staff and Council on proposed OP modifications.
Ensure retention of natural areas sections, enhancement where identified.
Review for compliance with Provincial Policy Statements requirements.

A2 Greenspace Master Plan

A2.1 Implementation of Urban GMP

Objective

Provision of advice to PEC¹ and city staff during the implementation of this plan

Activities

Review implementation proposals developed by staff.
A2.1.1 Old Ottawa South Rideau River Nature Trail
A2.1.2 Beryl Gaffney Park 2008 Updated Master Plan

A2.2 Development of Rural GMP

Objective

Provision of advice to ARAC¹ and city staff during the development of this plan that reflects OFGAC priorities for greenspace preservation

Activities

Provide advice to ARAC¹ and city staff during the development of this plan in accordance with time lines and opportunities provided for public consultation; interaction with RIAC.
Prepare a report or presentation to Council on completion of the plan.

A3 Forest Strategy

Objective

A Forest Strategy that provides the framework for the management and conservation of municipal forests and other important wooded areas in Ottawa

Activities

Provide advice to P&EC, ARAC and city staff during the development of this Strategy in accordance with time lines and opportunities provided for public consultation.
Report or presentation to Council on completion of the Strategy.

A4 Special Planning Studies including Subwatershed Studies

A4.1 Follow-up and Monitoring Implementation Strategies

A4.1.1 Urban Natural Areas Environmental Evaluation Study (UNAEES) Implementation

Objective

The UNAEES Implementation Strategy is fully funded by Council
The process of acquiring ecologically valuable land, as identified in the UNAEES is commenced

Activities

Provide advice to PEC on the implementation of the UNAEES report and propose future directions and activities.

¹ PEC = Planning and Environment; ARAC = Agriculture and Rural Affairs; CSED = Corporate Services and Economic Development

Support the UNA Strategy to acquire lands identified as having moderate to high ecological value and the acquisition of woodlots as part of UNAEES Strategy.

A4.1.2 Greenfields Development Guidelines (Ottawa Design Study)

Objective

Greenfields Development guidelines follow principles outlined in the Ottawa Design Study and appropriate attention is given to tree protection and preservation

Activities

Provide comments to staff, PEC and ARAC on developments that are not in accordance with the GDG.

A4.2 Ongoing/Up-coming Studies

Objective

As new studies arise, provision of OFGAC perspective on forest and greenspace protection

Activities

Provide OFGAC advice to the Committee responsible for the study.

Promote the preservation of greenspace and trees and an environmental perspective.

A4.2.1 Cardinal Creek Subwatershed Study

A4.2.2 Cash-in-lieu of Parkland

A4.2.3 Wetlands

A4.2.4 Hydrogeological Reporting Guidelines

A5 Plans and Standards for Forests and Trees

A5.1 Maintenance Plans for Trees and Community Forests

Objective

Network of stakeholders is established and consultative meetings with interested parties are productive

Activities

Advise on the development or updating of management plans for community forests.

Provide a forum for public input into these management plans as they are developed

Provide ongoing policy advice on community forests and advice to City during development or updating of community forest master plans

A5.1.1 Torbolton Forest

Activities

Attend meetings of Torbolton Forest Advisory Committee and provide OFGAC and ecological perspective.

Advise the Torbolton Forest Advisory Committee on its community program to collect oak seeds for native hardwoods regeneration.

Advise on the rare plant inventory and management of those plants and the second phase of harvesting of the forest. The acorn program is ongoing for approx. 5 years (2008-2012).

A5.1.2 Marlborough

Activities

Attend meetings of Marlborough Forest Advisory Committee and provide OFGAC's perspective.

Provide support for the forest initiatives regarding trail maintenance and other projects such as the development of nesting boxes for ducks.

A5.1.3 Cumberland

Activities

Provide OFGAC perspective to staff (and Council as needed) on issues arising in regard to this forest.

A5.1.4 Carp Hills

Activities

Advise staff on the development of the Management Plan.

A5.1.5 South March Highlands

Activities

Advise staff on the development of the second stage of Management Plan.

A5.2 Maintenance Standards for Trees and Community Forests

Objective

Standards of care for trees, forests and greenspace that are appropriate for Ottawa are implemented
Development of rationale for appropriate funding for 2008 and 2009 Budgets

Activities

Support appropriate funding levels in 2008 to ensure standards of care are implemented and develop rationale for full program funding in 2009.

A6 Bylaws

A6.1 Forest By-law for Private Lands

Objective

Passage of the bylaw in 2008-09

Activities

Continue to meet with senior staff members and Councillors to urge passage of the by-law.
Participate in the Public/Technical Advisory Committee and attend Public Consultations.
Reiterate OFGAC's offer to develop information for a draft staff report for use by Standing Committees and Council.

A6.2 Comprehensive Zoning

Objective

Protection of greenspace for conservation and passive use recognized in by-law
Land immediately adjacent to watercourses and UNAs, UNFs and RNFs is zoned for low-rise development with appropriate buffers and setbacks built in
Environmental Protection and other protective zoning designations reflect true ecological boundaries, not only land-ownership boundaries

Activities

Final review of Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw in 2008.
OFGAC to look at woodlots and wetlands and see how these areas are proposed to be zoned.
OFGAC to comment on zoning proposals for forests, greenspace and ecologically important areas; and advocate for zoning that affords appropriate levels of protection to ecologically important land; match zoning maps against ecological boundaries.

A7 Capital Standards

Objective

Standards documents, strategies and plans reflect protection of trees, forests and greenspace philosophy and practice

A7.1 Stormwater Management Planning Guidelines

Activities

Review strategies and reports as they are made available by staff and comment to staff and the appropriate Standing Committee.

A7.2 Strategic Lighting Plan

Activities

Raise lighting as an issue and ensure that the implementation of the 2007 policy incorporates the concern for trees.
Monitor lighting proposals with respect to trees during the redesign of Wellington Street as part of the Community Design Plan for the Hintonburg Area and continue the work through to its implementation for 2008.

A8 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines Revision

Objective

The 1998 EIS Guidelines are updated and improved to 2008 standards

Activities

Review other city's and country's EIS and environmental assessment guidelines and bring these to the attention of city staff.

Review drafts of the new guidelines and provide OFGAC's perspective on the adequacy of them in regard to the assessment of impacts of development on trees, forests, greenspace, wetlands, biodiversity.

Identify tools for implementation, opportunities and barriers.

A9 Air Quality and Climate Change Strategy

Objective

OFGAC perspective in regard to role of trees, forests, greenspace and wetlands in adaptation to climate change is incorporated in the Strategy

Activities

Present an OFGAC perspective to ensure that the role of trees, forests, greenspace and wetlands in adaptation to climate change is incorporated in the Strategy.

Continue liaison with City staff and the Environmental Advisory Committee to review drafts of the action plan.

Provide OFGAC's perspective on content of the document and strength of actions described. The Air Quality and Climate Change Strategy is still in development and expected to be released in 2008.

A10 Biodiversity Strategy

Objective

OFGAC perspective in regard to role of trees, forests, greenspace and wetlands in the preservation and enhancement of native biodiversity is incorporated in the draft Strategy

Activities

Participate in the drafting of the Strategy and represent OFGAC at Biodiversity public consultations (if funds are found to continue the work).

TOR accepted by Planning and Environment Committee and sent to Council in 2008.

B: EMERGING ISSUES AND REQUESTED ADVICE

B1 Development Activities

B1.1 Community Design Plans (under development)

Objective

Community Design Plans are models of sustainability, reflecting a perspective that respects the environment and preserves trees, greenspace, wetlands to the maximum extent possible

B1.1.1 Fernbank

Activities

Comment on the draft status documents and the draft CDP posted on the Fernbank website.

B1.2 Review Development Applications (OP Amendments, Zoning Changes, Subdivision proposals)

Objective

OFGAC perspective (relating to potential impact on trees, forests, greenspace and wetlands and impact on native biodiversity) is provided to Council, city planners

Activities

Review development proposals and provide comments to city planners preparing reports to Director of Planning on development proposals or Council on zoning change or Official Plan Amendment proposals. Appear before PEC or ARAC to provide verbal and written comments on an as-needed basis.

B1.3 Review Proposals to Sell Surplus Land, Change Land Use

Objective

Real Property and Asset Management (RPAM) staff are advised of OFGAC's views on disposals and closures or proposed changes to the use of city-owned land.

Lands in municipal ownership with forest, greenspace or wetlands value are retained by the city in their natural state

Activities

Review disposal proposals and provide comment to RPAM on a timely basis.

If data available, determine outcome of OFGAC's 2006-07 advice.

Appear before CSED to provide verbal and written comments on an as-needed basis.

B1.4 Review Environmental Assessments

Objective

OFGAC's perspective is provided and incorporated throughout the process of provincially-mandated Environmental Assessments to the assess potential impacts of proposed projects (transportation or development) on trees, forests, greenspace, wetlands

Activities

Participate throughout the EAS process, to ensure OFGAC's perspective in regard to the preservation of trees, forests, greenspace, wetlands and enhancement of native biodiversity is incorporated in the development proposal.

B1.4.1 Strandherd/Greenbank Transitway Extension Project

Activities

Identify trees and natural features that should be saved and protected during the specific routing and construction of the transitway extension.

Monitor construction activities as they progress.

B1.4.2 South Barrhaven Transportation and Transitway Extension

Activities

Review and provide comments on the EA to the project manager.

Identify trees and natural features that should be saved or protected.

B2 Monitor Implementation of Community Design Plans

B2.1 Riverside South

Objective

Community Design Plan guidelines are respected by developers and builders

Provision of an update on implementation of each CDP via the Annual Report

Activities

Review the subdivision plan application proposals throughout the phases of future development in Riverside South to follow the principles outlined in the CDP.

Review and comment on plan of subdivision application proposals with emphasis on the retention of significant trees and forests, and the preservation of hedgerows and wetlands.

B2.2 South Barrhaven

Objective

Community Design Plan guidelines are respected by developers and builders

Provision of an update on implementation of each CDP via the Annual Report

Activities

Provide OFGAC's perspective and the preservation of natural features.

Ensure that natural features are adequately protected and preserved during the implementation of the South Barrhaven CDP.

Review the subdivision plan application proposals throughout the phases of the South Barrhaven CDP as they become available.

Periodically visit the site and monitor that the implementation is according to the South Barrhaven CDP, conditions of approval and Official Plan.

Ensure that the Cambrian Woodlot maintains an adequate buffer zone to protect and preserve its interior core from development and encroachment.

B2.3 South Nepean

Objective

Community Design Plan guidelines are respected by developers and builders

Provision of an update on implementation of each CDP via the Annual Report

Activities

Promote the preservation of the mature hedgerows and riparian vegetative borders of the Jock River that meanders through the South Nepean CDP area.

Provide OFGAC perspective to maintain and preserve the natural features of the site to the most extent possible.

B2.4 East Urban Phases I and 2

Objective

Implementation of the East Urban Community Design Plan follows principles in the CDP

Activities

Review and comment on plan of subdivision applications with focus on the retention of significant trees, hedgerows, forests and wetlands.

B2.5 Hintonburg

Objective

Implementation of the Hintonburg Community Design Plan includes provision for trees and pocket parks; see also 5.1

Activities

Attend meetings and review development proposals and work with community groups to ensure that trees are planted and roadside edges are reclaimed as greenspace.

B3 Presentations to Standing Committees

Objective

Articulation of OFGAC perspective and recommendations on issues relating to trees, forests and greenspace (including wetlands) and impact on native biodiversity

Activities

Review of background material

Preparation of written texts to be delivered either by email in advance or in person to Committee of the whole, ARAC, PEC, CSED, Transit or other Standing Committees as necessary.

B4 Inventories

B4.1 CITYGreen™ - Forest Cover Evaluation

Objective

An up-to-date forest cover evaluation for the city that updates the 1995 analysis of canopy cover and demonstrates the economic value of trees and greenspace in Ottawa

Activities

Provide an OFGAC perspective as the project unfolds in the next steps and implementation stages.

B5 Requested Advice

Objective

Provision of timely and accurate advice on issues/questions raised by Council, Standing Committees, Councillors, members of the public

B5.1 Pocket Parks and Reclaiming Road Allowances for Greening**Objective**

A report to PEC on the feasibility of reclaiming city right of ways for greenspace, namely tree usage

Activities

Follow-up to OFGAC survey that determined citizen attitudes toward and amenities desired in pocket parks.

In the reclaiming areas along road allowances for greening: Continue with the work begun in 2007 identifying potential sites for “Greening” by Hintonburg area residents: Incorporate these sites which have been photographed into either the neighbourhood improvement plan or the community design plan currently being undertaken by the City of Ottawa in the Hintonburg area.

B5.2 Transportation Master Plan**Objective**

A revised Transportation Master Plan that reflects the needs of the citizens of Ottawa and maximizes the potential to save and/or create greenspace

Activities

Participate in the Transportation Master Plan Review as part of the Official Plan Review and provide an OFGAC perspective.

B6 Wetlands and Natural Drainage**B6.1 Wetlands****Objective**

City decisions favour the protection of provincially and “regionally” significant wetlands
Participation in community forums to promote wetland conservation
Greater appreciation by citizens of Ottawa on the value of wetlands to Ottawa’s wellbeing

Activities

Participate as member of Wetlands Resolution group.
Participation in community forums on wetlands and articulate OFGAC perspective on the value of wetlands to the entire community.
Monitor land development proposals and city land sales and provide comment that leads to wetland conservation/protection.
Post information on wetlands and their value on the OFGAC Web site.

B6.2 Natural Drainage and Ditching**Objective**

Natural drainage channels are preserved to the maximum extent possible
Ditching activities strike a balance between protection of wetlands and protection of farmlands

Activities

Review proposals for ditching and diversion/conversion of streams and provide comment to staff and Council.

B7 Council Performance Indicators**B7.1 Corporate Plans****Objective**

Revisions to Corporate Plans include OFGAC perspective on trees, forests, greenspace (including wetlands) and native biodiversity

Activities

Attend consultations and review and provide comments on draft of revised Corporate Plans.

B7.2 Community Impact Indicators**Objective**

OFGAC perspective on trees, forests and greenspace incorporated into the Community Impact Indicators analysis in 2007

Activities

Review and comment on staff reports as they are made available and attend consultations as they are called.

B8 Input to City Budgets

B8.1 Development and Expression of OFGAC Priorities for Budget 2009

Objective

OFGAC perspective on priorities to be considered and accepted by City Council

Activities

Staff presentation in the Fall on budget issues and 4-year planning process.

Review and analysis of budget documents or budget directions (usually in the Fall).

Plan OFGAC priorities and strategy.

Develop draft presentation outlining OFGAC's budget priorities for OFGAC circulation and approval.

Preparation for formal presentation of OFGAC's budget priorities at Committee of the Whole.

Attendance at Councillors' Open House sessions, as required, to present OFGAC priorities.

Hold discussions with individual Councillors, as necessary, to promote OFGAC priorities.

C: OUTREACH

C1 Communications

C1.1 Media Outreach and Publicity

Objective

Increased public awareness and appreciation of the value of trees, forests, and greenspace (including wetlands)

Increased support for city tree, forest and greenspace (including wetlands) and biodiversity initiatives

Activities

Respond to media requests for interviews / comments following OFGAC media relations guidelines.

Identify opportunities to profile OFGAC and / or OFGAC areas of interest through local / national print, television and radio outlets.

Create profile for OFGAC's areas of interest by leveraging local / national environment-related events (Ottawa's annual tree planting, Clean Air Day, etc) and writing articles on forests and greenspace issues for distribution to local / national media outlets, as appropriate.

C1.1.1 OFGAC Web site <www.ottawaforests.ca>

Objective

Public visits to OFGAC Web site increase awareness of the value of trees, forests, and greenspace and support for city tree, forest and greenspace/wetlands and biodiversity initiatives

Activities

Maintain and regularly update OFGAC's Web site < www.ottawaforests.ca >.

Timely posting of OFGAC agendas, minutes and presentations on the website.

Posting of City Forestry Service information (or redirection to city website as appropriate).

Provide regular up-dates for the website content in terms of planned activities (Walk in the Woods Series) and summaries of events throughout the year.

Respond to or re-direct public enquiries received via the Web site.

C1.1.2 Multi-Media and Event Display

Objective

The creation of custom, interactive media (print, electronic, etc.) for delivering current, high quality information on Ottawa area forests and greenspace issues

Activities

Continually update and create a new material for the OFGAC table display boards.

C1.2 Community Outreach and Awareness

Objective

An engaged Ottawa-area community, informed of the environmental, economic and social values of the forests and greenspaces of Ottawa

C1.2.1 The Walk in the Woods Series

Activities

Conduct four "Walk in the Woods" events.

Some events are in partnership with other like-minded groups that share OFGAC's perspective towards the preservation of natural features.

C1.2.2 Partnering in specific initiatives with other groups

Activities

Liaise with other groups, partnering in specific initiatives, co-host or co-fund events.

C2 Networks and Advisory Committee Cross Attendance

All members

Objective

Increased cooperation and information exchange between and among OFGAC and other tree- and greenspace-oriented community groups and other Advisory Committees

Activities

Maintain ongoing relations with other tree-, forestry- and greenspace-related groups

Environmental Advisory Committee	Marlborough Forest Advisory Committee
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee	Ottawa Field-Naturalists Club
Rural Issues Advisory Committee	Tree Canada Foundation
Marlborough Forest Advisory Committee	Ontario Woodlot Association, Lower Ottawa Valley Chapter of the O.W.A.
Torbolton Forest Advisory Committee	Ontario Heritage Tree Alliance
Canadian Institute of Forestry, Ottawa Valley Section	Ottawa Stewardship Council
Canadian Urban Forestry Network	City of Ottawa continuity task force for the CDP and Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for Hintonburg
Eastern Ontario Model Forest	Various Community Associations such as WMCA, SCA
Fletcher Wildlife Garden	
Friends of the Jock River	
Friends of Petrie Island	
Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital	

C3 Notable Trees

Objective

Development of a notable tree recognition program for Ottawa

Activities

Use the Heritage Trees Toolkit, specifically developed for use by cities by the Ontario Heritage Tree Alliance (OHTA) for pilot projects and an eventual program for the City of Ottawa; continue links with the OHTA, through the Ontario Urban Forest Council (OUFC).

Meet with City staff, the NCC and other partners on notable/heritage tree programs for promotion and protection.

Assist the Glebe Community Association in its ReTree the Glebe Program, which will get fully underway in Spring 2008, and which will include an inventory of notable and other trees, as well as inventory or notable tree initiatives by other community associations.

Post the Notable Tree Presentation from OFGAC's October 2004 Fall Forum on the OFGAC website.

Create an area on OFGAC's website to host the photographs of people's submissions of notable trees.

C4 Exotic Pest Management and Invasives

Objective

Advice to PEC, ARAC and staff on exotic forest pests and diseases that could threaten Ottawa's trees and forests during development of the city's forest services protocol

Increased public awareness of exotic invasive forest pests and their potentially adverse impact on Ottawa's trees and forests and timber industry

Activities

Inform OFGAC (via periodic distribution of material, and updates at OFGAC meetings) about exotic forest pests and their potential effects on Ottawa trees and forests, with particular emphasis on the most current invasive threats (ongoing).

Prepare material for the OFGAC Web site and printed material: general information on exotic forest pests, as well as, on specific current exotic pests threatening urban trees and forests in Canada – Exotic pests as threats to urban trees and forests; Asian Long-Horned Beetle (ALHB); Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
Liaise with City of Ottawa staff on exotic pest management protocols, contingency planning, and educational/outreach programs.

Network with other citizen and professional groups on exotic forest pests.

D: MANAGEMENT

D1 Committee Management

D1.1 Committee Leadership

Objective

OFGAC deadlines are met and comments provided to Councillors and staff on a timely basis

Timely production of agendas, delegation of tasks to OFGAC members, OFGAC position papers are reviewed and approved prior to onward transmission

OFGAC recognised as a positive force and contributor to the City of Ottawa

Activities

Develop agendas, review draft minutes prior to distribution to members.

Review OFGAC position statements and other material prior to distribution to Council, staff and the public.

Attend Chairs and Vice Chairs meetings and present OFGAC perspective on issues relating to the Advisory Committees.

D1.2 Training for Members

Objective

Knowledgeable, effective and up-to-date OFGAC members

Activities

Seek opportunities to provide information sessions for OFGAC members on topics related to the development review process, the Official Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement, the updated Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, the provincial Class Environmental Assessment process, current bylaws, policies and strategies of importance and relevance to OFGAC matters.

D2. Committee Member Recruitment

Objective

Recruitment and appointment of candidates in 2010 with excellent qualifications and a commitment to the trees, forests and greenspace of Ottawa

Activities

Review and update selection criteria.

Critical review of submitted applications.

Review and update of interview questions and circulate to Councillors for approval.

Interview and select candidates (with Councillors).