



September 8, 2017

Re: Climate adaptation and managing Toronto's Stormwater in the face of Climate Change

Dear Public Works and Infrastructure Committee Members,

In recent years, we have seen an increase in extreme weather as a result of climate change. Water patterns are changing, and this is having enormous impacts on our daily life. We have seen the impact locally and internationally with record setting hurricanes and flooding. In Toronto, thousands of basements were flooded in from the storm in July 2013 and as recently as this year the city was forced to close the islands for several months because of rising waters due to changing weather patterns.

Increases in extreme weather could also have significant impacts on the way our city operates and could have significant financial impacts on our city budget, businesses and households. The city has many programs to addresses stormwater issues, but must ensure that all avenues for managing stormwater are being pursued to ensure we are doing all we can.

I therefore recommend that:

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee request that the Director, Environment and Energy, in consultation with the General Manager, Toronto Water, the Acting Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, the Acting Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building, and the Chief Resilience Officer, report on stormwater management mitigation measures currently implemented by the city and any other best practices that the city has the authority to implement, including any regulatory or financial incentives, and report back to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee by the end of the second quarter 2018.

Sincerely,

Mike Layton
City Councillor
Ward 19, Trinity-Spadina