



DEPUTATION – EX 20.12 Stormwater Charge

January 28, 2025

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

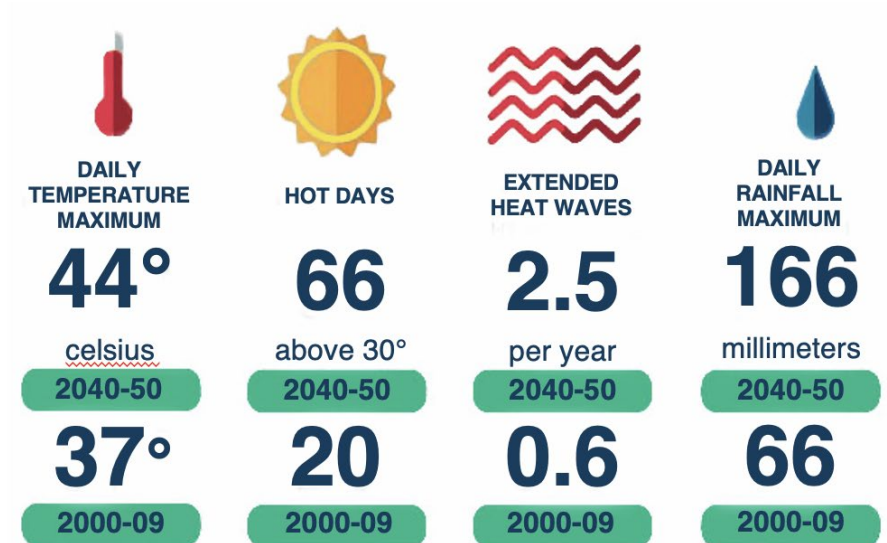
Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I'm speaking both as a resident of Toronto St. Paul's and as Co-Chair of ClimateFast, a community group advocating for climate action – fast – since 2012.

We are calling on the City to change how we charge for stormwater. Properties that use very little municipal water but have large amounts of impermeable surface are not paying their fair share of managing the stormwater runoff those surfaces create.

My question is: why should residents subsidize costs of flooding that are caused by owners of large impermeable lots?

I am defending the 6.9% property tax increase because I know the city needs revenue. Since the city needs revenue, why would we shelve a measure that would bring in revenue – and represent more fairness – in our budget?

We need to do everything in our power to address and reduce the impact of increasing extreme rainfall events. As you can see in this graphic from the TransformTO materials, projecting changes in the future, that the daily rainfall maximum will nearly triple with the impact of the changing climate.



We need to incentivize owners of large impermeable surfaces to use permeable surfaces and/or reduce the size of their lots. We need to engage everyone in our city in addressing the impacts of the climate crisis and that includes large parking lot owners.

In summary, this is income that is needed by the city and will motivate property owners to make needed changes. Let's keep this option open and move forward with it as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Lyn Adamson
lyn@climatefast.ca
ClimateFast
60 Lowther Ave, Toronto, M5R 1C7