

Environment and Climate Change Survey

Dear Candidate

I am sending you a five-question survey created as a collaboration between 26 organizations active in climate change and environmental issues in Winnipeg, including Biz For Climate, CPAWS Manitoba, Environmental Health Association of Manitoba, Functional Transit Winnipeg, Green Action Committee of Unitarian-Universalist Church, OURS-Winnipeg, Save Our Seine Environment Inc., Sustainable Buildings Manitoba, University of Manitoba Students Union, and others.

Survey Instructions

Each question asks for a yes/no answer, a timeline for when you will start working on this, and provides space to explain your ideas.

We also invite you to comment on the recommendations collected from our partner organizations. Answers are flexible, but examples include listing the suggestions you support or longer-form comments on the issues you plan to address. Although we hope you will take the time to consider them all, we understand that discussing them all in detail may be beyond your capacity.

Additional Information

In case there are ideas you would like more information on, we have created a resource library on [google drive](#) for your reference.

How Will We Use The Survey?

We will use this survey to create shareable content for our collaborators and their followers during the election, including social media posts. We will also note if you chose not to complete the survey so we can demonstrate that we sought the input of all candidates. Answering this survey is your chance to reach a large audience of Winnipeggers interested in climate change and the environment. We hope you will take the time to complete it.

Deadline

Please fill out this survey **By September 21 at 10 am.**

Thank you for your time and your dedication to our city, and we hope this can be the start of many years of collaboration.

Sincerely,

Adrian Werner
Collaboration Coordinator
Winnipeg Environmental Organizations Collaboration for the 2022 Election

1. Your Name: Glen Murray
2. The City of Winnipeg's Community Energy Investment Roadmap (CEIR) calls for an investment of \$23 billion over the next 30 years to achieve zero emissions by 2050. Do you support this goal?

Yes No

How much funding should be allocated to this goal during your term in office?

To qualify this answer: the city's budget is approximately 1.2 billion dollars. In the spirit of improving the health and wellbeing of people and the environment in which we live, all infrastructure spending will in some way count toward this objective. We'll focus not only on traditional kinds of built infrastructure, but also ecological infrastructure such as trees, wetlands, parklands, and drainage. Our built infrastructure includes a whole-system upgrade to our transit, pedestrian, cycling, and road network.

We'll also assume that the tax base will expand over the next 4-8 years, but for the purposes of responding to this questionnaire, assume that the city's whole budget will in some way be shaped to address infrastructure needs in a holistic manner.

Year 1: 1.2 B year 2: 1.2 B year 3: 1.2 B year 4: 1.2 B next term

To support the transition to net zero, please describe your plan, how you will fund it, when you will implement it, and why you chose this approach. We also welcome comments on any or all of the following:

- *Creating a Community Advisory Council. ✓*
- *Developing policies and implementing metrics to ensure that a climate lens is applied to all decisions made by the City of Winnipeg Council. ✓*
- *Retrofitting existing buildings and requiring all new buildings to meet high-performance design standards and do not use natural gas for heat. ✓*
- *A social procurement plan for implementation of the CEIR recommendations. ✓*
- *Implementing a municipal composting system. ✓*
- *Addressing methane emissions from active and retired City landfills. ✓*
- *Developing a circular economy strategy focusing on the ideas of zero landfill waste and using waste as a resource. ✓*
- *Mandating Economic Development Winnipeg and YES! Winnipeg to prioritize emission-free industry sectors in its investment attraction strategy. ✓*
- *Commit to building the City's first-ever zero-emissions industrial park. ✓*
- *Joining the C40 global cities alliance. ✓*
- *Joining Climate Caucus ✓*
- *Investing in active transportation, public transit, and the transition to electric vehicles (see question 2). ✓*

- *Investing in fibre optic infrastructure rather than wireless technologies because of their energy footprint and reliance on rare minerals. ✓*
- *Implementing a PACE program in Winnipeg. ✓*
- *Implementing district geothermal heating when other road repairs and infrastructure upgrades are happening. ✓*
- *Ensuring the City of Winnipeg has at least one staff member in the permitting department who is knowledgeable in green buildings. ✓*

3. The CEIR report calls for the full electrification of road vehicles, including Winnipeg Transit, and increasing the share of trips made by transit or active transportation. Do you support these goals?

Yes No

How much funding should be allocated to this goal during your term in office

[See my announcement to electrify Winnipeg Transit](#), develop a frequent service network, and drive the development of an “Urban Surface Transit Innovation Lab.”

To qualify this answer: Winnipeg Transit’s budget is approximately 212 million dollars. My plan would seek new partnerships and revenue for this initiative to make it financially sustainable, but here again, all of transit’s budget, and a portion of infrastructure funding mentioned above, would be allocated to accomplish this effort.

Year 1: 212 M Year 2: 212 M year 3: 212 M year 4: 212 M next term

To support the transition to more sustainable transportation, please describe your plan, how you will fund it, when you will implement it, and why you chose this approach. We also welcome comments on any or all of the following:

- Including protected bike lanes in the budget of all roadwork construction/reconstruction/repair projects on collector and arterial streets. ✓
- Setting the default speed limit at 30km/hr on residential roads and investing in traffic calming to make it easily enforced.
- Assign a budget for free on-road planter boxes to help with residential traffic calming and compliance // *I think we can do better than planter boxes* ✓
- Directing Public Works to create a dedicated budget for protected bike lanes on collector and arterial streets outside of areas where they are being repaired to ensure continuity from recent construction or where they are needed on a priority basis to fill gaps in the safe cycling network. ✓
- Making sidewalk clearing a top priority of the winter transportation maintenance program. ✓
- Decoupling the road and active transportation snow clearing programs to create standards that are inclusive, equitable and appropriate (specifically recognizing the key differences in conditions required to cycle, walk, or drive a car) ✓
- Investing in the equipment and labour needed to ensure that all high priority sidewalk pathways and bikeways are useable by 9 am the day after a significant snowfall. ✓
- Making it mandatory that roadway snow clearing crews remove windows and keep the winter active transportation network useable at all times ✓

- *Introducing penalties for contractors who do not create detours for sidewalks and bike lanes that are closed due to construction.*
- *Introducing an e-bike incentive program for public servants.*
- *Offering any City of Winnipeg staff an incentive equal to the value of a parking space (i.e. ebike, bus tickets, and cash, etc) ✓*
- *Creating a bike share system. ✓*
- *Adopting the 15-minute city planning principle (where all residents should have access to all major services within a 15-minute walk or bike) ✓ // [Included in the plan linked to above.](#)*
- *Introducing a non-idling by-law. ✓*
- *Completing the Transit Master Plan faster than the current 25-year timeline. // [It will be functionally completed by 2030; see above link.](#) ✓*
- *Funding the Frequent Service Network in the Transit Master Plan sooner than the current 2025 target. ✓ [see above link](#)*
- *Reversing the current \$60 million shortfall in spending on the Winnipeg Pedestrian and Cycling strategy in the 2021-2022 budget year in 2022-2023. ✓*
- *The amount you would increase funding for the current active transportation strategy, which is currently slated to be completed over a decade from now and has a budget that is less than the cost of building an underpass.*
- *The percentage of the current roadway budget you would dedicate to ensure that protected bike lanes and widened sidewalks are included in new projects.*
- *Removing mandatory parking minimums for new and rezoned developments and properties. ✓*
- *Investing in road infrastructure and safety to adapt to the differences between gas and electric vehicles. ✓*
- *Creating more parking districts and removing free parking from communities and investing this revenue back into these communities. ✓*
- *Increasing bus ridership by 50% over the course of the next council to meet CEIR targets. ✓*

4. The OurWinnipeg 2045 Development Plan calls for more greenspace and natural areas in the City of Winnipeg to protect and enhance the natural environment and mitigate climate change impacts. Do you support these goals?

Yes No

How much funding should be allocated to this goal during your term in office? **To be determined.**

Year 1 _____ year 2 _____ year 3 _____ year 4 _____ next term

To support a greener city, please describe your plan, how you will fund it, when you will implement it, and why you chose this approach. We also welcome comments on any or all of the following:

- Taking the Trees Please Pledge (<https://treespleasewinnipeg.com/trees-please-pledge-election-toolkit/>) ✓
- Working with the federal and provincial governments, indigenous peoples and stakeholders to adequately protect Assiniboine Forest and adjacent lands by establishing an Urban National Park in Winnipeg. *I will meet with all stakeholders, and advance as many proposals as possible.*
- Ensuring that the Master Greenspace Plan, the Natural Corridors Plan By-Laws, and the Biodiversity Policy are completed and approved in a timely manner. ✓
- Acting on Winnipeg's commitment to add 1000 acres of greenspace in a timely manner. ✓
- Prioritize adding public space along Winnipeg's rivers. ✓
- Upgrade Winnipeg's wastewater treatment facilities to stop the discharge of untreated or partially treated waste into the rivers. ✓
- Prioritizing the removal of phosphorus from the City's effluent flowing into Lake Winnipeg. ✓
- Commit to night sky standards at the internal and community level, and dedicate a team to enforcing it. ✓
- Set a maximum decibel level for sound pollution from engines and dedicate a team to enforcing it. ✓
- Commit to reducing the amount of mowing and increasing natural planted areas, especially along rights of way. ✓
- Commit to a pollinator and biodiversity strategy. ✓

5. **OURWinnipeg 2045 Development Plan includes the goal of good health and well-being. Do you support public health measures to address climate change and foster a healthier and more resilient Winnipeg?**

Yes No

How much funding should be allocated to this goal during your term in office? [To be determined.](#)

Year 1 _____ year 2 _____ year 3 _____ year 4 _____ next term

To support a healthier and more resilient city, please describe your plan, how you will fund it, when you will implement it, and why you chose this approach. We also welcome comments on any or all of the following:

- *Protecting Winnipeg's vulnerable populations, particularly in inner-city and mature neighbourhoods, from exposure to toxic and harmful substances in air, soil, and groundwater from past and current industrial operations. ✓*
- *Requiring all new construction in Winnipeg to include air conditioning to better protect residents during extreme heat waves, forest fire evacuations, etc. ✓*
- *Protecting vacant and derelict properties from arson that contributes to further contamination of air, soil, and water, including nearby rivers. ✓*
- *Testing all areas where asbestos cement water supply pipes service homes and other premises and report these on the City's Public Engagement website for comment. ✓*
- *Amending the Winnipeg Antenna Systems Policy to include public notification and meaningful consultation for radiofrequency radiation emitting small antennas on "non-tower" structures. ✓*
- *Supporting the continued restrictions on non-essential cosmetic pesticides in the City of Winnipeg. ✓*
- *Mitigating the urban heat island effect by incentivizing greener parking spots and adopting recommendations in the Trees Please Pledge, and creating 1000 acres of additional park space. ✓*
- *Enabling sustainable food systems that include access to land, Indigenous land-based practices where possible, culturally relevant food practices, scalable production, processing, storage, distribution, preparation, consumption and disposal to achieve food security. ✓*

6. The CEIR report calls for strategies designed to address inequity and energy poverty. Will you adopt a social and environmental justice lens in the work you do on City of Winnipeg Council to represent the many perspectives and needs of your constituents?

Yes No

How much funding should be allocated to this goal during your term in office? **To be determined.**

Year 1 _____ year 2 _____ year 3 _____ year 4 _____ next term

To support a more just city, please describe your plan, how you will fund it, when you will implement it, and why you chose this approach. We also welcome comments on any or all of the following:

- *Investing in relationship building before, during, and after the consultation process with indigenous people, people with disabilities, women, the LGBTQ2IA+ community, people with different socioeconomic statuses, BIPOC communities, and others who experience discrimination, and the organizations who support them. ✓*
- *Considering the impact that policies and plans have on vulnerable populations, especially those that will increase the costs of carbon-based activities and implement mechanisms to offset these impacts. ✓*
- *Recognizing that housing cannot be considered affordable if it is not energy efficient. ✓*
- *Supporting and developing programs, policies, and systems, that protect vulnerable populations from the effects of climate change (such as extreme weather and emergency preparedness). ✓*
- *Ensuring building retrofits will be available to those most vulnerable to fluctuations in energy costs, as per program #2 in CEIR. ✓*