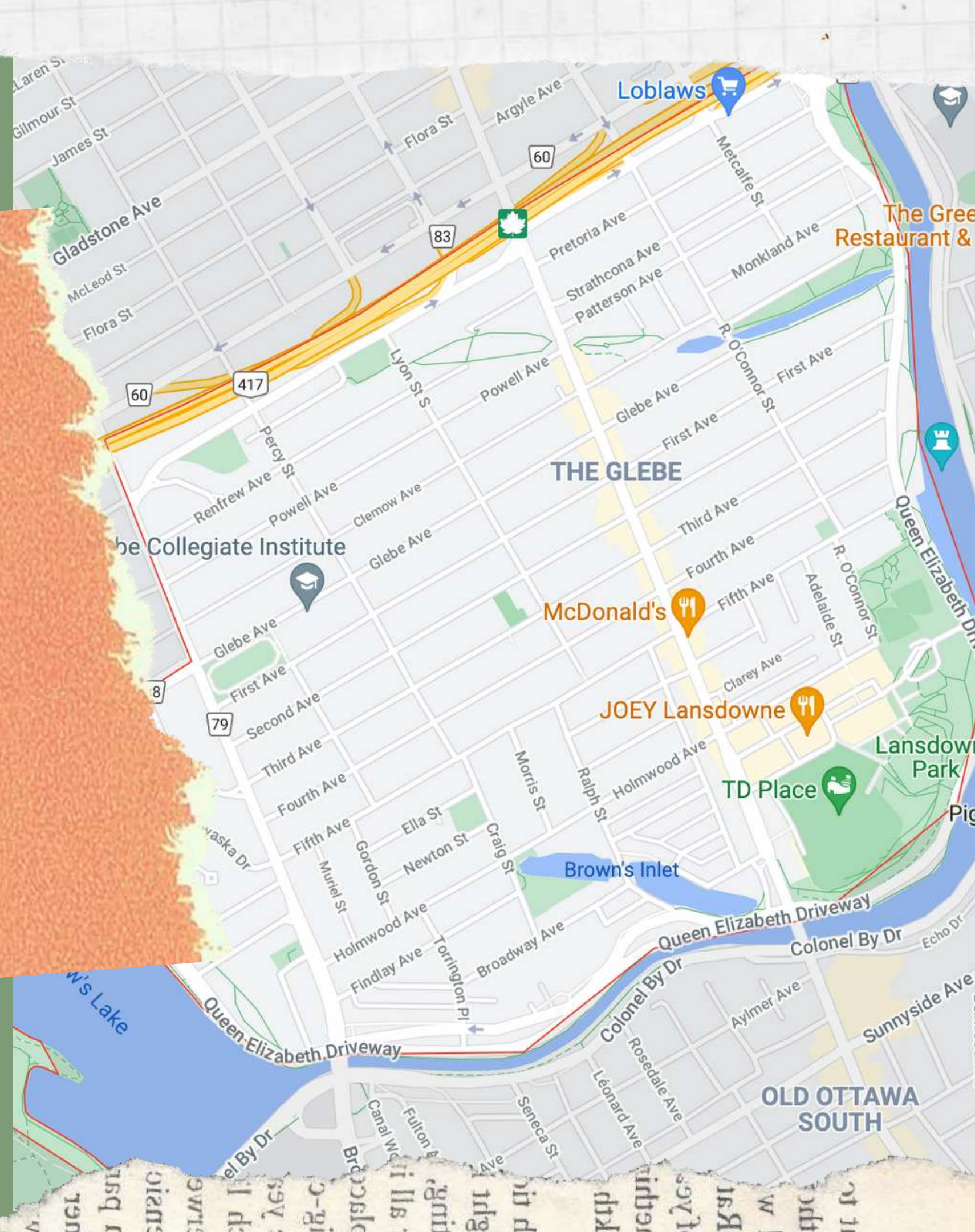


Ottawa Biosphere Eco-City,
in association with the Glebe Community
Presents

A GLEBE COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Fall 2021





**TD Friends of the
Environment
Foundation**



**OTTAWA
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

**The creation of this
Community Sustainability Plan
would not have been possible
without the generous
contributions of the Ottawa
Community Foundation and
the TD Friends of Environment
Foundation.
Thank you!**

What is a Biosphere Eco-City

The Biosphere Eco-City (BEC) is an urban-centred region where people and organizations create a culture of sustainability. Biosphere means “sphere of life” and is the Earth’s outer shell of land, water and atmosphere that supports all life. The term Eco-City refers to an international movement for sustainable cities.

Ottawa Biosphere Eco-City

The Ottawa Biosphere Eco-City (OBEC) is a local, grassroots charity that engages with community members, partners and stakeholders for sustainability. OBEC pursues several initiatives including: a database of hundreds of sustainability projects, a self-guided Ottawa Sustainability Tour, public workshops on individual Themes of Sustainability, Sustainability Plans, and a Council of Stakeholders where anyone can share ideas for sustainability. More details may be found on the website (obec-evbo.ca).

Introduction

The Glebe Community Sustainability Plan (CSP) workshop took place on Saturday, September 25th 2021 at the Glebe Community Centre.

This document is meant to be used as a preliminary draft of the CSP.

It is a living document that will be updated regularly with ongoing input from the community.

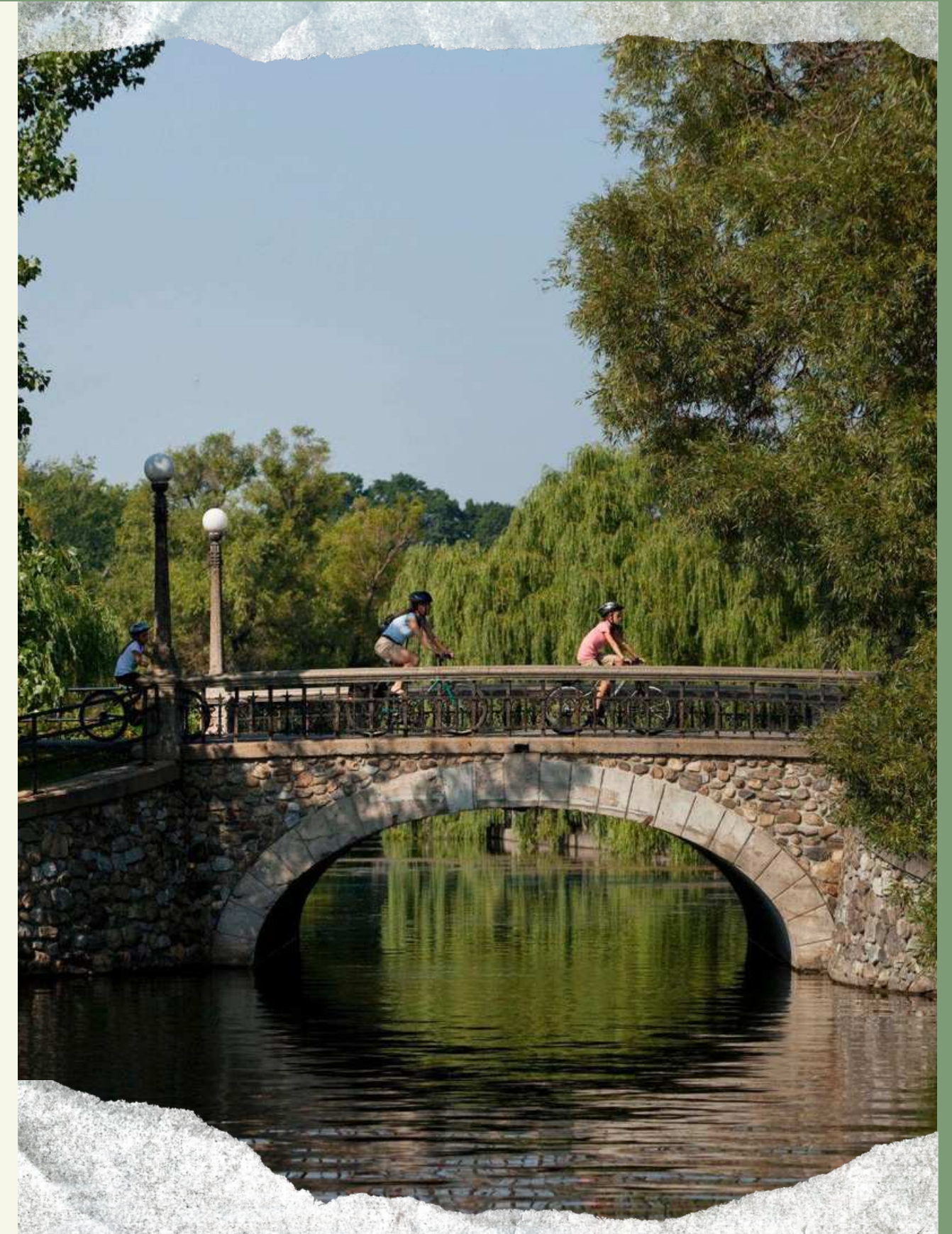
If, while reading this plan you have further ideas, projects, or issues you want to address, please share them with us by emailing sabrina.obecintern@gmail.com.



“

Sustainability is the ability of things to continue to exist. It applies to natural and human dimensions. We use the earth's resources to meet our needs, but we also want to leave enough of the natural resources for future generations to live healthy and happy lives. It is the coexistence of all dimensions of life living responsibly.

What we do matters. You impact the environment—the environment impacts you.



Photograph sourced from <https://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/places/patterson-creek-park>

How to Use this Sustainability Plan

The sustainability plan is an agenda for action – sustainability practices and projects that people in each community can do individually or collectively to positively impact the level of sustainability of their community.

During the Glebe Workshop, community members identified what they thought were key Issues in their community and came up with projects to address these issues, relating to OBEC's Ten Themes of Sustainability. The sustainability plan contains their suggestions for projects you might try, both at an individual and community level. It is a catalyzing tool for you to pursue projects of your own. Note, community projects are marked in white and individual projects are in red. There is also a proposed 1 year, 3 year or 5 year timeline to guide some of the themed projects.

As you read the plan, you may find a Theme, Issue and/or Project you want to address. Or you may think of an idea for something different. What you do is up to you, but the plan is meant to be a tool for your reference to help you think of ideas and get started.

Write your Issue and Project on the last page. This becomes your personal sustainability plan. This is a LIVING document, and created through community consultation. We would LOVE more input from the community, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you have ideas you want to add to the plan!



Photograph by Karli Zschögner 2021

OBECE's 10 Themes of Sustainability

1

Energy

2

Transportaiton

3

Waste

4

Food

5

Health

6

Habitat

7

Natural Capital

8

Recreation

9

Design

10

Sense of Place



A little bit about the Glebe Community

LOTS OF BEAUTIFUL NATURAL AREAS

The Glebe community has many amazing parks, and is surrounded by the Rideau Canal, giving the community members so much access to beautiful areas of nature!

STRONG COMMUNITY

The Glebe has a very strong community presence, with lots of community organizations working together to enhance the livelihood of the neighbourhood.

BOOMING SMALL BUSINESSES

There are so many incredible booming independent business in the Glebe, with Bank street being a main hub for many local independent retailers in Ottawa.

ALREADY WORKING TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

The Glebe Community is already working towards implementing many environmentally conscious initiatives, from re-greening projects, to park revitalization!

Transportation and Mobility



ISSUES

The overall community consensus on transportation issues was the need for more accessible transportation. This would look like more bus routes, reduced public transit costs, more bike lanes, and more pedestrian friendly sidewalks.

PROJECTS

1 year

- Car pooling apps or services in the community
- Designated spaces for electric scooters so they don't block sidewalks
- Buses going INTO the neighbourhoods and streets of the Glebe, not just around them.

3 Year

- More segregated bike lanes, especially going North and South on Bank and Bronson up to South Keys and Billings

5 Year

- Free Transit and/or affordable public transit for everyone!

Energy



ISSUES

Overall, the general discussion focused on more education for all ages about energy conservation, more green energy, and greater public accessibility to heating/cooling areas.

PROJECTS

1 year

- Renovating and retrofitting old buildings
- More public buildings with heating and A/C, with public access so that people can cool down in the summer and warm up in the winter
- Community and school education on the benefits of saving and not wasting energy

3 Year

- Renewable energy public charging stations

5 Year

- Communal Energy Source Investments such as investing in shared renewable energy (ex. solar panels)



Food



Photograph sourced from <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/whole-foods-charged-by-police-for-opening-on-good-friday-1.3040538>

Issues

A general consensus from the workshop is that the Glebe has a lack of access to affordable food sources. The most recent grocer to open in the Glebe was a Whole Foods Market which is extremely expensive for many people.

1 Year

- More green bins in apartment buildings
- Buying more produce on a needed basis from farmers markets
- Decreasing plastic/packaging in grocery stores and take-out

3 Years

- Multi-use green spaces, such as community gardens that are accessible to everyone
- More affordable community food sources, food banks, and gardens, etc.

Waste

Issues

Issues focused on having more available composting for the public and for apartment buildings, as well as having more education on proper waste diversion.



Projects

1 YEAR

- More recycling education and clearer rules on waste management in public spaces and within residential buildings
- Normalize individual apartment composting solutions
- Encouraging Individuals to reduce food and other waste by implementing better waste diversion practises (ex. the 3 R's)

3 YEAR

- Inclusion of green bins and recycling with every public garbage can
- More public garbage and recycling cans
- More thrift and secondhand stores in the Glebe
- Community compost projects!

5 YEAR

- Smaller-scale recycling facilities and pick-up in the Glebe
- More speciality recycling pick-up and disposal

Sense of Place and Design

1 YEAR

- Hosting more cultural events that teach people about different cultures
- **Becoming more educated about the proposed developments in the area; speaking up when needed**
- Engage more in community and city policies that affect the Glebe
- Host a workshop on 'What Makes Glebe such a Livable Community' -which other communities can learn and benefit from

3 YEAR

- Lobbying against the destruction of small businesses for the construction of high rises
- More affordable housing
- Better and stronger implementation of the AODA and more focus on making spaces fully accessible

5 YEAR

- Transitioning downtown core into more of a living space following Covid-19 remote work changes. (ex. turning office buildings into affordable housing)
- Empowering people to influence public policy / land planning

Habitat & Natural Capital



Photograph sourced from <https://www.toronto.com/community-story/3803025-glebe-bemoans-poor-central-park-lighting/>

ISSUES

The overall discussion around habitat and natural capital focused on acknowledging how much green space there is in the Glebe and ensuring its conservation and accessibility.

PROJECTS

1 year

- Create more unconventional lawns to incorporate more flora
- People with big yards and gardens can share their space with others
- Make parks more accessible (ex. alternatives to stairs leading into parks)

3 Years

- More courtyards for community
- More gardens to encourage pollinators and bird and insect habitats
- Acknowledgement of Indigenous knowledge and land stewardship
 - Concentrating and working closely with Indigenous communities on green space and land stewardship

Health



ISSUES

Covid-19 brought public health and safety to the top of peoples' minds, so suggestions focused primarily on public health measures. Generally our aim is help bring awareness to the relationship between human health and the environment

PROJECTS

1 Year

- Continuing to encourage farmers markets and the growing of organic produce
- More public bathrooms that are accessible 24/7

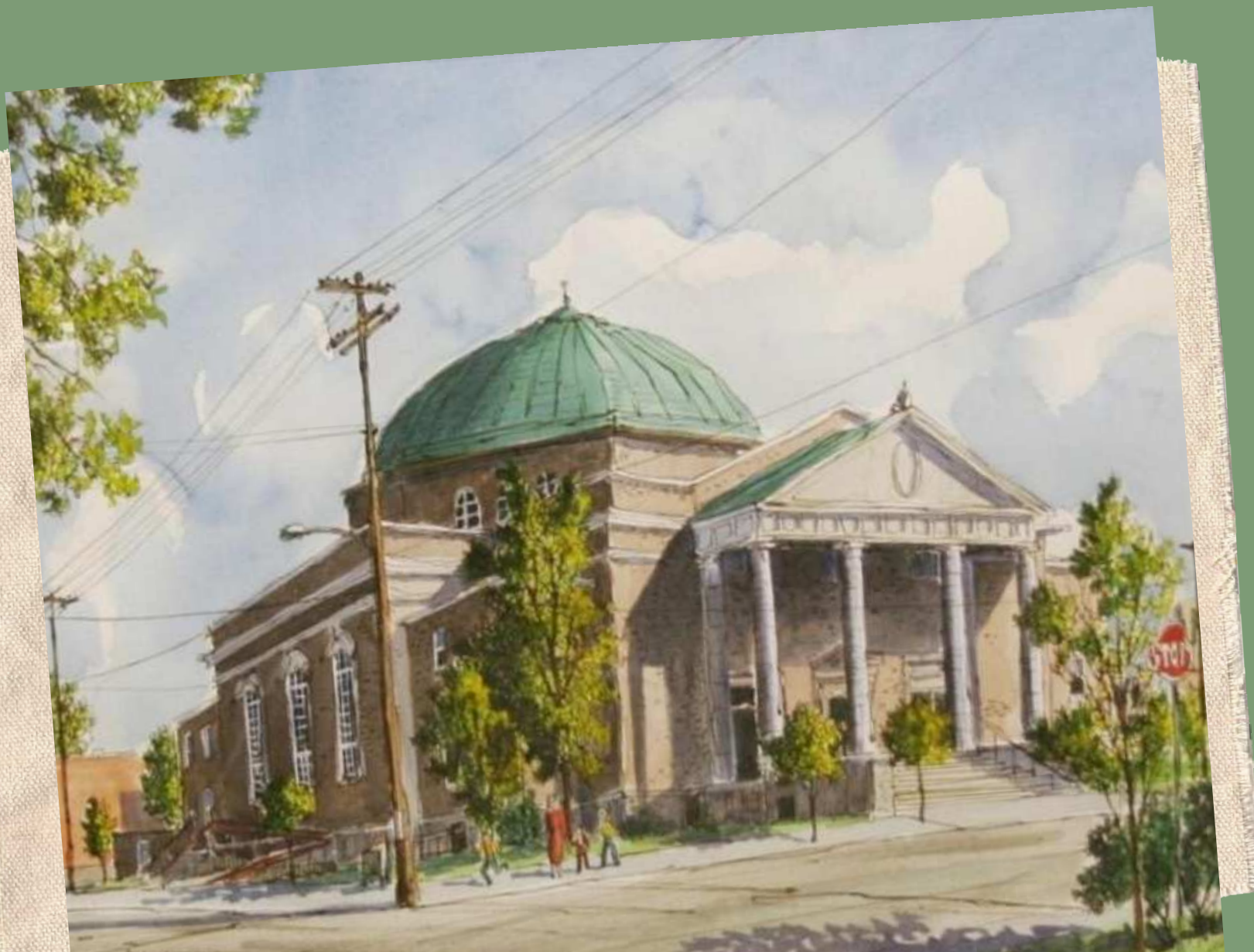
3 Years

- Sheltered spaces for public rest
- More 24/7 pharmacies and drugstores
- More housing for people experiencing homelessness
- More access to holistic health care services
- Monitoring of air, water and soil quality in general

Recreation



The Glebe Neighbourhood
Activities Group



Projects

1 YEAR

- The community centre should have a community garden to help promote recreation
- Host and promote more free community events at the community centre

3 YEAR

- Kids' camps should prioritize fostering relationships with nature
- More school-based community sports and recreation
- Schools can be the meeting place for free community activities

5 YEAR

- More recreational spaces like fields, clubs, etc.

The 5 Types of Environmental Stewardship

The U.S National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA) has categorized environmental stewardship projects into 5 categories. Dividing stewardship projects into different categories helps provide a framework to guide community stewardship projects.

Citizen Science:

refers to the monitoring and collection of environmental data by community members to improve available local, environmental information.

i.e., EDDMapS, iNaturalist, Leafsnap, Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas, eBird, Journey North, Bumble Bee Watch, Globe Observer, Zooniverse, Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas

Civic Action:

refers to initiatives taken to inform governments and organizations on the specific sustainability concerns of the community.

i.e., letter writing, petitioning, meeting with elected officials

Community Awareness:

refers to initiatives to address community-level issues. This can be done by providing residents with information and taking direct action to address community-level sustainability issues. i.e., host educational events, run awareness campaigns on local issues and initiatives, work as a community to create resources to improve sustainability at the local level (pick-up locations for non-standard waste, Bring Your Own Mug campaign)

The 5 Types of Environmental Stewardship CONT'D

The U.S National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA) has categorized environmental stewardship projects into 5 categories. Dividing stewardship projects into different categories helps provide a framework to guide community stewardship projects.

Everyday Choices:

refer to initiatives taken to improve sustainability at the consumer/resident level. This includes efforts to reduce household waste and carbon footprint.

i.e., use active/green transportation, carpool, use public transit, use reusable bags/water bottles/containers, use energy-efficient appliances, dispose of waste properly

Restoration & Protection:

refer to initiatives taken to restore degraded habitat and protect green spaces in the community.

i.e., run a community-wide garbage clean-up, remove invasive species, create local green spaces (community gardens/city orchard)

Project Planning Example

The next two pages are an example of some of the questions that need to be answered while planning a community project.



What is your Project?

Community Garden

What are your project's objectives and intended impact?

- Create a community garden in the neighbourhood that is accessible
- Teach people of all ages about gardening, urban agriculture and growing food
- More access to healthy and inexpensive food for the community
- More opportunity for community connection
- Ability to donate any extra food to food programs
- Improvement of personal mental health



Project Planning Example

How do we make this project happen?

Start a community group that wants to be the steering committee for the community garden. A great organization to work with is Just Food. They have resources on how to start a community garden, many workshops and contacts to work with.

When?

NOW! You can start the planning and getting communities members now, then in the spring you can start actually looking at plots of land.

Where?

- City Green Spaces
- Church Green Spaces
- Other shared public spaces



How will you fund your initiative?

- Just Food and the City of Ottawa has a Community Garden Development Fund. It is an annual fund used to create new community gardens and expand and enhance existing gardens.

Next Steps and Conclusions

The Glebe Sustainability Plan was designed to give you ideas on how to take sustainability action at home, at work or in your neighbourhood.

You can now make it your personal plan for action. Please think of an issue that is meaningful for you. Then choose a project that addresses that issue. It could be something written in the plan, or something you invented. Once you have something started, let us know what you are doing.

We want to share statistics on the projects being taken on and progress being made, because it inspires others and gets momentum going.

By reaching out to us, we can also get you connected to team leaders (on aforementioned projects) and help you recruit volunteers.

What you do for sustainability will enrich your life, support your community and contribute to the world.

Let's get started and build a sustainable future in your community together!

Your priority sustainability Issue(s)

Your Proposed Project(s)

Send your information to:
sabrina.obecintern@gmail.com

Community Resources

Glebe Community Association

They are a great community resource to help improve the neighbourhood, they have an environmental committee as well that works towards a more sustainable Glebe

Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group

They offer a large range of programs and services for all members of the Glebe. They run out of the community centre

Glebe BIA

their sole mission at the Glebe Business Improvement Area is to help the Glebe thrive. They are a not-for-profit organization that represents some 370 businesses.

The Glebe Report

Get all the latest news and happenings around the Glebe with the local newspaper.

Just Food

Just Food’s mission is to work towards vibrant, just and sustainable food and farming systems in the Ottawa region, They have great resources for starting community gardens!

Appendix

FIVE BIG MOVES OF THE CITY OF OTTAWA In Relevance to Biosphere Eco-City (BEC) Themes

BIG MOVE	BEC THEME OF SUSTAINABILITY
Growth Management – More by intensification than greenfield development, providing complete communities and affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Design– Food (preserving food land)– Natural Capital (preserving green space)– Sense of Place (complete communities)
Mobility – By 2046 majority of trips by sustainable transportation (walking, cycling, and public transportation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Transportation
Urban and Community Design – More sophisticated to create good urbanism at all scales (largest to smallest)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Design
Climate, Energy and Public Health – Integrate all these in planning, and foster health and wellbeing, with resiliency of the natural and built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Energy– Design– Natural Capital– Health
Economic Development – Opportunities for economic development, with policies for employment lands, industrial areas and knowledge-based campuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Design (develop employment areas)

The Glebe Community Sustainability Workshop & Community Sustainability Plan were both facilitated and created by Ottawa Biosphere Eco-City, a local grassroots charity!

Check us out on social media:



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Donate to help us create more community sustainability plans across Ottawa!
(click the hand to be taken to our donation page)



Canada Helps – Ottawa Biosphere Eco-City

