

Town of Essex

33 Talbot Street South
Essex, Ontario N8M 1A8

November 26, 2021

To Mayor Snively and Members of Council,

The Windsor Essex Food Policy Council (WEFPC) is a network of local food system representatives whose scope includes:

- Assisting in identifying and prioritizing the needs of the local food system;
- Supporting and fostering collaborations and partnerships based on priorities and needs of the community;
- Identifying, guiding or promoting the development and/or adoption of policy regarding ongoing food-related issues;
- Advising community, municipal, provincial and federal governments as to matters or the state of the local food system.

We are aware of the provincial [Food and Organic Waste Framework](#) and understand that the [Ontario Food and Organic Waste Policy Statement](#) has some ambitious and timed targets in Section 2 that our region must achieve.

The WEFPC enthusiastically supports the rationale in Section 2 of the OFOW Policy Statement that ‘in order to ensure that waste reduction and resource recovery efforts are reflective of an evidence-based policy approach, targets need to be established.’ We have seen the recommendations and it is the strong position of the WEFPC that the approach should include the reduction of greenhouse gasses to align with Windsor's community energy plan as well as the recently approved Essex County Regional Energy Plan. This would mean supporting a regional aerobic digester as opposed to a composting facility.

We would be very grateful if you could liaise with myself to ensure that any plans or progress regarding Organic Waste Management is shared with us. If there's an opportunity for a member of your administration to speak to us directly during an upcoming meeting, please advise.

The WEFPC believes achieving these goals can be aided with public education and stakeholder collaboration. We hope you see us in that collaboration.

Sincerely,

Karen Bellemore, RD

Chair, Windsor Essex Food Policy Council