WHEREAS Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members have committed to implementing stormwater management best practices; and

WHEREAS cities equipped with a combined sewer system are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, especially flooding induced by intense rain; and

WHEREAS in the *Stratégie gouvernementale d’adaptation aux changements climatiques* 2013-2020 (Governmental Strategy on Climate Change Adaptation 2013-2020), the Québec government identified land use planning as a main solution for climate change adaptation; and

WHEREAS drainage networks are a heavy infrastructure with a 100-year lifespan and that it is difficult to modernize them quickly enough to face climate change; and

WHEREAS cities have planning regulations that do not always take into account drainage networks, original topography or the presence of ancient underground streams; and

WHEREAS construction of buildings that are less vulnerable to flooding is an efficient and cost effective climate change adaptation measure.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative members cities are strongly encouraged to take into account, in their land use planning regulations, the effects of topography and drainage networks on flooding in low-lying areas; and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Cities Initiative ask the government of Quebec (and others) to insert topographic considerations in urban environment related to drainage network in the revision of the *Loi sur l’aménagement et l’urbanisme*. (Land Use Planning and Urban Planning Act)

Signed this 18th day of June, 2014

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Keith Hobbs, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of Thunder Bay