

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council, Planning Commission, Park Advisory Commission, Environmental Commission, Energy Commission, Housing Commission, Housing and Human Services Advisory Board

FROM: Jamie Kidwell, Sustainability Associate
Matthew Naud, Environmental Coordinator
Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Sustainability Framework – Draft Sustainability Goals

DATE: February 9, 2012

This memorandum presents a working draft of sustainability goals developed from existing plans and goals by commissioners from each of the key sustainability commissions and a team of city staff. These goals are an important step in developing Ann Arbor's sustainability framework.

The sustainability framework project began in January 2011 and is fully funded by a grant from the Home Depot Foundation. This project will result in two key deliverables: 1) a sustainability framework that reorganizes existing city plan goals into an overarching set of sustainability goals for Ann Arbor and 2) a sustainability action plan that organizes established quantifiable targets and actions into one integrated plan to track progress. The framework is not a new plan, but instead is a reorganization of 20 years of planning into one organized document that recognizes the broad spectrum of Ann Arbor's city plans, goals, and resolutions. The framework will integrate 226 sustainability goals from 27 plans into one unifying framework.

Attached to this memorandum is a working draft of 15 sustainability goals. These draft goals are the product of several months of work from city staff and commissioners. As part of this project, city staff has:

- Interviewed over 25 city staff representatives
- Compiled one-page summaries of each city plan
- Formed an internal staff working group to support the process. Staff participants include:
 1. Jennifer Hall, Executive Director, Housing Commission
 2. Craig Hupy, Interim Public Services Area Administrator
 3. Matthew Horning, Treasury Services Manager
 4. Jeffery Kahan, City Planner
 5. Jennifer Lawson, Water Quality manager
 6. Matthew Naud, Environmental Coordinator
 7. Connie Pulcifer, Systems Planner
 8. Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager
 9. Cresson Sloten, Systems Planning Unit Manager
 10. Colin Smith, Parks and Recreation Services Manager
 11. Lisha Turner-Tolbert, Planning and Development Programs and Project Manager

- Made introductory and status presentations to Energy, Environmental, Park Advisory, and Planning commissions
- Reviewed sustainability plans from a variety of cities as background
- Organized 226 city goals into four planning theme areas (climate and energy, community, land use and access, and resource management)
- Organized 226 goals into 15 sustainability goals and reviewed each to insure that plan goals were fully captured in each sustainability goal
- Held a joint commission meeting with commissioners from Energy, Environmental, Park Advisory, and Planning commissions (September 2011) to review planning areas and goal organization
- Programmed four Sustainable Ann Arbor Forums in January, February, March and April 2012 to share sustainability efforts with the community and foster a community discussion around these issues
- Based on feedback from commissioners, formed a Sustainability Framework Committee with two representatives from Energy, Environmental, Park Advisory, and Planning commissions to help identify overarching goals (December 2011). Members from the Housing Commission and HHSAB have been added recently to this committee.

Members of the Sustainability Framework Committee include:

1. Ingrid Ault, HHSAB
2. Gloria Black, Housing Commission
3. Erica Briggs, Planning Commission
4. Julie Berson Grand, Park Advisory Commission
5. Chuck Hookham, Energy Commission
6. Susan Hutton, Environmental Commission
7. Karen Levin, Park Advisory Commission
8. Eric Mahler, Planning Commission
9. Cliff Williams, Energy Commission
10. Jamie Woolard, Environmental Commission

The Sustainability Framework Committee has reviewed and refined the work to date to develop this working draft of our sustainability framework.

As mentioned previously, but worth repeating, these draft sustainability goals build on goals already developed through a variety of public processes - from city plans, council resolutions, and the council-approved ten environmental goals. These draft sustainability goals include the three key aspects of sustainability – environment, economy, and equity. The draft goals are organized into four theme areas: 1) climate and energy, 2) community, 3) land use and access, 4) resource management.

Next Steps. The draft sustainability goals are being distributed to all of the city commissions listed above and to City Council along with this memo. The draft goals will be shared with the public at the February 9th Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum on Land Use and Access at the Ann Arbor District Library. A public meeting to discuss the goals will also be held at 6pm on March 29th. The Sustainability Framework Committee will meet again in March to discuss any additional revisions suggested by the public or their respective commissions.

When there is a consensus among commissioners, we anticipate a resolution from each recommending these goals to City Council for inclusion in the City Master Plan.

WORKING DRAFT – February 9, 2012
Ann Arbor Sustainability Framework: Draft Sustainability Goals

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

Sustainable Energy – Improve access to and support use of renewable energy by all members of our community

Energy Conservation – Reduce energy consumption and eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions in our community

High Performance Buildings – Increase efficiency in new and existing buildings within our community

COMMUNITY

Engaged Community - Ensure our community is strongly connected through outreach, opportunities for engagement, and stewardship of community resources

Diverse Housing - Provide high quality, safe, efficient, and affordable housing choices to meet the current and future needs of our community, particularly for low-income households

Safe Community - Minimize risk to public health and property from manmade and natural hazards

Active Living - Improve quality of life by providing diverse cultural, recreational, and educational opportunities for all members of our community

Economic Vitality - Create a resilient economy that provides access to employment opportunities, supports a diverse range of economic activities, and attracts investment to our community

LAND USE AND ACCESS

Transportation Options - Establish a physical and cultural environment that supports and encourages safe, comfortable and efficient ways for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users to travel throughout the city and region

Sustainable Systems - Plan for and manage constructed and natural infrastructure systems to meet the current and future needs of our community

Efficient Land Use - Encourage a compact pattern of diverse development that maintains our sense of place, preserves our natural systems, and strengthens our neighborhoods, corridors, and downtown

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Clean Air and Water - Eliminate pollutants in our air and water systems

Healthy Ecosystems - Conserve, protect, enhance, and restore our aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems

Responsible Resource Use - Produce zero waste and optimize the use and reuse of resources in our community

Local Food - Conserve, protect, enhance, and restore our local agriculture and aquaculture resources