



March 15, 2017

Dear Members of the Planning Commission,

The City of Ann Arbor adopted a Climate Action Plan in 2012, with the goal to reduce CO2 emissions by 90% by 2050. The Plan recommendations were organized into four categories to align with the City of Ann Arbor's Sustainability Framework. The Land Use and Access Priority Team was formed to pursue the implementation of 21 actions related to Integrated Land Use, Transportation Options and Sustainable Systems. The Land Use and Access Priority Team includes key land use, environmental, transportation, and non-motorized representatives from a broad cross-section of the community. This Team has begun to organize, prioritize, and pursue specific actions called for in the Plan. It has developed a list of completed, active, and on-hold projects under every recommended action. There are projects that present immediate opportunities for advancement, should the Planning Commission and City Council include it in an upcoming work plan.

With the upcoming Planning Commission retreat in late March, the Land Use and Access Priority Team wanted to ensure climate change priorities were considered. From the retreat, it is expected that a near term work plan will be developed in the area of zoning and land use. Many of the Land Use and Access actions relate to land use and zoning, and so the Team is providing this list of pressing opportunities and priorities that it is hoped are strongly considered during the retreat. Below is a matrix of Actions and recommended tasks for the Planning Commission to consider:

2012 Climate Action Plan Actions	Recommended Tasks	Comments
LU-1: Actively support regional approaches to land use planning to reduce origin and destination distances	Implement ReImagine Washtenaw recommendations to encourage multi-modal transportation, enhanced transit, pedestrian safety, and land use recommendations calling for denser, mixed-use, transit-oriented development	Current corridor zoning does not require dense, mixed-use development

The Ann Arbor Climate Partnership is a collaboration of Ann Arbor Area citizens, organizations and businesses working together to #ActOnClimate. For more information go to A2CP.org



LU-3: Encourage coordinated zoning and redevelopment at higher densities, using land use, development regulations, and market forces	Review denser, mixed-use, transit-oriented land use opportunities for other primary transit corridors	Plymouth Rd Packard Rd State St Stadium Blvd
LU-6: Revise the local Parking Ordinance to allow for flexibility with parking provisions	Review zoning ordinance parking minimum and maximums. Consider eliminating minimums, and create maximums. Support car sharing through parking provisions.	Excessive/unnecessary surface parking increases development costs, encourages sprawl, does not support transit
LU-18: Establish requirements or guidance for electric vehicle and hydrogen-fueled vehicle parking infrastructure for projects and increase city-wide infrastructure for electric vehicle charging and hydrogen refueling	Consider zoning and policy incentives to require/encourage inclusion of electric vehicle charging stations as part of new development projects	Would expand the EV charging infrastructure, encourage use of electric vehicles by providing more charging locations/options

The above is just a small number of specific actions from a broad array of implementable tasks that would achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions over time. The Climate Action Plan Land Use and Access Priority Team urges the Planning Commission to review the above list and incorporate it into a short-term work plan for implementation.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to the Commission. We would also welcome giving the Commission a short orientation to the Climate Action Plan with a focus on land use and planning.

Many thanks,
 Emily Drennen

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