

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Planning Commission
FROM: Wendy Rampson, Planning Manager
SUBJECT: **Resolution to Recommend Addition of Sustainability Goals to City Master Plan**
DATE: May 30, 2012

The proposed Planning Commission resolution below recommends that City Council initiate a process to incorporate the 16 proposed sustainability goals (attached) into the City Master Plan.

PROPOSED PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION

Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor aspires to be a sustainable community;

Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor is committed to ensuring a high quality of life, while balancing economic development with the preservation and conservation of natural resources;

Whereas, City Council previously adopted 10 environmental goals in 2007 including Clean Air; Clean Water; Efficient Mobility; Health-Promoting Urban Environment; Local Food Sufficiency; Responsible Resource Use; Safe Community; Stable Climate; Sustainable Energy; and Viable Ecosystems;

Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor accepted a grant from the Home Depot Foundation to develop a sustainability framework and sustainability action plan;

Whereas, the 16 sustainability goals have been developed from goals created in over 25 different planning efforts covering the three key aspects of sustainability – environment, economy, and equity;

Whereas, these sustainability goals build on goals already developed through a variety of public processes;

Whereas, a joint commission meeting with representatives from Energy, Environmental, Planning, Park Advisory Commission was held in September 2011 to discuss sustainability goals;

Whereas, a Sustainability Framework Committee was formed with representatives from Energy Commission, Environmental Commission, Housing Commission, Planning Commission, Park Advisory Commission, and the Housing and Human Services Advisory Board to help create these goals;

Whereas, the Sustainable Ann Arbor Forums addressed the areas of climate and energy, community, land use and access, and resource management;

Whereas, the sustainability goals were distributed to City Council, Energy Commission, Environmental Commission, Housing Commission, Planning Commission, Park Advisory Commission, and the Housing and Human Services Advisory Board in February 2012 for comments;

Whereas, the sustainability goals were shared with the public in February 2012;

Whereas, a public meeting was held on March 29, 2012 to solicit feedback on the sustainability goals;

Whereas, additional opportunities for public comment were available at various city commission meetings and will be available as part of the City Master Plan review process.

RESOLVED, the Planning Commission recommends that City Council initiate the process to adopt the 16 sustainability goals as part of the City Master Plan.

RESOLVED, the Planning Commission recommends that City Council direct city staff to apply the 16 sustainability goals in their work on the sustainability action plan while the City Master Plan review process is underway.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends **approval** of this resolution. This action represents the culmination of 18 months of work and unprecedented collaboration between six boards and commissions. The sustainability goals that came out of this process successfully articulate the community vision embedded in the city's current planning documents. Incorporation of these goals into the City Master Plan will provide a framework for future planning initiatives.

c: Jamie Kidwell, Sustainability Associate
 Matt Naud, Environmental Coordinator

Attachment: Proposed Sustainability Goals

PROPOSED SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

Sustainable Energy – Improve access to and increase 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 homeless and low-income households

Human Services - Provide services that meet basic human needs of impoverished and disenfranchised residents to maximize the health and well-being of the community

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

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

Economic Vitality - Develop a prosperous, resilient local economy that provides opportunity by creating jobs, retaining and attracting talent, supporting a diversity of businesses across all sectors, and rewarding investment in 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

Integrated Land Use - Encourage a compact pattern of diverse development that maintains our unique 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