

ORDINANCE NO. ORD-25-21

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Public Hearing: June 16, 2025

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CHAPTER 8  
(ORGANIZATION OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 1:237 OF CHAPTER 8 (ORGANIZATIONS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS) OF TITLE I OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ANN ARBOR

The City of Ann Arbor ordains:

Section 1. That Section 1.237 of Chapter 8 (Organization of Boards and Commissions) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor be amended as follows:

1:237. – Environmental Sustainability Commission.

- (1) *Intent.* – The establishment purpose of the Environmental Sustainability Commission is to develop comprehensive, integrated environmental policies for implementation advise City Council and the City Administrator on the City's sustainability goals, including A<sup>2</sup>ZERO goals and efforts to achieve carbon neutrality City-wide by the City to protect and enhance 2030, and on the protection and enhancement of our air, water, land, and public health. ~~It shall help to set goals and policies for the City and community to continuously improve the natural and built environment. The commission will only act as an advisory group, and~~ The Sustainability Commission does not have any regulatory authority. ~~It and~~ shall not involve itself in individual site development reviews, unless its opinion is requested by City Council through a Council resolution. The creation of this commission shall in no way be interpreted as diminishing the role, responsibilities, or charge of any existing City staff or board, commission, task force, or committee, including, ~~but not limited to,~~ the Planning Commission, Energy Transportation Commission, and Park Advisory Commission. The Sustainability Commission replaces the Environmental Commission (last amended by City Ordinance No. 20-01) and the Energy Commission (restated in City Council Resolution R-20-034), which are hereby dissolved.

- (2) ~~General~~ Membership.

(a) The ~~Environmental~~Sustainability Commission shall consist of ~~15~~13 voting members, ~~and 3 nonvoting members~~ as follows:

~~(i)~~—

(i) Two non-voting members of the City Council appointed by resolution of the City Council ~~for~~to 1-year terms. A City Council member shall cease to be a member of the EnvironmentalSustainability Commission if they cease to be a member of the City Council.

~~(ii)~~ (ii)—~~Eight~~Eleven voting members nominated by the City Council members serving on the EnvironmentalSustainability Commission and appointed by resolution of the City Council ~~for~~to 3-year terms; a member appointed under this subsection who has served on the commission continuously for 6 years shall not be eligible for reappointment to the commission until 3 years have elapsed from the date the member's tenure has ended

~~(iii)~~ Two voting youth members nominated by the City Council members serving on the Sustainability Commission and appointed by resolution of the City Council to 1-year terms.

~~(iv)~~ The City Administrator shall be a nonvoting member of the Sustainability Commission and shall provide adequate support staffing to the Sustainability Commission.

(b) The initial membership shall consist of those members appointed to and serving on the Energy Commission and Environmental Commission as of June 1, 2025, with terms expiring as stated in their respective prior appointments. Going forward, members shall be appointed to staggered terms, so that approximately one third of the members with 3-year terms expire each year. In making appointments, City Council shall appoint persons who, insofar as possible, have an interest in protecting and enhancing the well-being of the environment and public health of the community. The terms of the members appointed for 3-year terms shall be staggered so that approximately 1/3 expire each year.

~~(iii)~~ Two youth members between the ages of 16 and 25 nominated by the City Council members serving on the Environmental Commission and appointed by resolution of the City Council for 1 year terms. The City Council shall appoint youth members who, insofar as possible, have an interest in protecting and enhancing the well-being of the environment and public health of the community.

~~(iv)~~ To help coordinate an integrated environmental policy, the Planning Commission, Park Advisory Commission, and Energy Commission shall each appoint 1 of their members to the Environmental Commission for 1-year terms, which shall not require the approval of the City Council.

- ~~(b) The City Administrator shall be a nonvoting member of the Commission and shall provide adequate support staffing to the Commission.~~
- ~~(c) The Environmental Commission shall submit to City Council an annual work plan for the City Council's review.~~
- ~~(3) *Powers and duties.* The Environmental Commission shall have the following powers and duties:~~
- (3) Purposes. The Sustainability Commission's work shall be **guided** by an annual work plan provided by the City Office of Sustainability and Innovations in coordination with the Public Services Area. The work plan will set the specific, annual goals of the Sustainability Commission, with clear metrics established to not only determine progress towards these goals but also articulate how success for each metric will be determined. The Sustainability Commission will produce an annual progress report for City Council on its implementation of the work plan. The Sustainability Commission shall have the following purposes as necessary to implement the work plan:
- ~~(c)(a)~~ (a) To advise ~~and make recommendations to the City Council and City Administrator on~~ environmental policy, environmental issues, sustainability policies and environmental implications of all practices that affect the City programs or its residents, and proposals ways to engage the public on the air, water, land, sustainability matters and encourage public health.
- ~~(b) — To work collaboratively with other City commissions and committees which have responsibilities for specific issues~~ action to further City sustainability goals, including but not limited to the Planning Commission, Energy Commission, and Park Advisory Commission. A<sup>2</sup>ZERO goals.
- ~~(c) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on environmental aspects of transportation issues, including implementation of City transportation plans, alternative transportation issues, alternative fuel vehicles, bicycling improvements, Clean City Program initiatives, parking issues, and related transportation issues.~~
- ~~(d)(b)~~ (b) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on all solid waste policy and ~~management issues~~ practices including the reduction, reuse, recycling, and proper disposal of solid waste-, plus development of the circular economy.
- ~~(e)(c)~~ (c) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on environmental risk and pollution issues, including community right-to-know, emergency planning, pesticide and herbicide use and policies, pollution prevention, air

and water pollution, indoor air quality, worker health and safety, environmental remediation and restoration, and environmental impact of City procurement policies.

- ~~(f)(d)~~ \_\_\_\_ To advise the City Council and City Administrator on drinking water, sewerwater reclamation, water quality, flooding, and stormwater management issuespolicy and practices, including water treatment plant issues, wastewater treatment plant issues, Huron River water quality, protection, restoration, and improvement of Huron River tributaries.
- ~~(g)~~ To advise the City Council and City Administrator on all matters related to sustainable development, clean production, and environmental technologies.
- ~~(h)~~ To hold public hearings on environmental issues and concerns.
- ~~(i)~~ To publish and present an annual report on the City's "State of the Environment," using, whenever possible, measurable performance indicators to monitor long term trends.
- ~~(g)(e)~~ ~~(j)~~ \_\_\_\_ To advise the City Council and City Administrator concerning effective advocacy for the City in regional, state, and federal environmental matters.
- ~~(h)(f)~~ ~~(k)~~ \_\_\_\_ To advise the City Council and City Administrator on enhancing the awareness, understanding, commitment, and active involvement of local citizenscommunity members in ensuring wise stewardship of the City's natural resources, now and in the future, through education, volunteerism, public/private partnerships, and incentive programs.
- ~~(i)(g)~~ ~~(l)~~ \_\_\_\_ To meetconsult with and advise the City's Environmental Management Team and any other City personnelstaff involved in environmentalsustainability matters— through the City staff liaison.
- ~~(m)~~ To meet with commissions in other jurisdictions and other environmental organizations to address regional and state environmental matters.
- ~~(j)(h)~~ \_\_\_\_ ~~(n)~~ \_\_\_\_ To create committees to help conduct the workperform tasks as directed by resolution of the Environmental Commission, provided that a member of the Environmental Commission chairs each committee, the Environmental Commission appoints additional committee members for a time certain, and the names and qualifications of committee members appointed by the Environmental Commission are forwarded to City Council.
- ~~(o)~~ To have all other powers and duties granted by the City Council by resolution.

(4) Other.—The EnvironmentalSustainability Commission is ~~explicitly~~ exempt from Sections ~~1:171~~(2) and 1:171(6) of ~~thisCity~~ Code, and the following provisions shall apply instead:

(a) *Notice of appointment.*—The City ~~Administrator,Clerk~~ or designated support staff for the EnvironmentalSustainability Commission, shall notify City Council at least 30 days prior to the expiration date of the term of office of any person serving a 3-year term on the Sustainability Commission. The City Council members serving on the EnvironmentalSustainability Commission shall ~~place on the table the names of~~submit all proposed reappointments to City Council no later than 60 days after the expiration date of the term ~~of office.~~

(b) *Tenure of office.*—No member of ~~any board or commission~~the Sustainability Commission shall ~~be allowed to~~hold over for more than 60 days beyond ~~the~~their term ~~of office fixed by ordinance.~~ whether or not a successor has been appointed, except that City Council may extend the member's term for periods of 90 days upon the vote of at least 6 members of City Council.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Council of the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, at its regular session of June 16, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Beaudry, Ann Arbor City Clerk

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Christopher Taylor, Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance received legal publication on the City Clerk's webpage on June 26, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacqueline Beaudry, Ann Arbor City Clerk