

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

6:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

Sustainability Commission

CALL TO ORDER**ROLL CALL**

Present: 10 - Rita Mitchell, Sara Nedrich, Carlene Colvin-Garcia, Jennifer Cornell, Christopher L. Graham, Anya Dale, Brooks Curtis, Olivia Smyth, Mallika Kothari, and Mobin Mazloomian

Absent: 6 - Mark Hanss, Jonathan Overpeck, Noah Levin, Mike Berkowitz, Jon Mallek, and Stephen C Brown

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Colvin-Garcia, seconded by Vice-chair Graham, that the Agenda be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[25-2184](#) Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2025

A motion was made by Vice-chair Graham, seconded by Commissioner Dale, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 1/5/2026. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW YOUTH MEMBERS**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was one public comment regarding building decarbonization.

COMMISSION BUSINESS**Ann Arbor Public Schools Sustainability Initiatives**

[25-2210](#) Ann Arbor Public Schools Environmental Sustainability December Update

Jason Bing, Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) Director of Capital Programs, presented on AAPS Environmental Sustainability Initiatives.

Sustainability Commission 2026 Meeting Schedule

25-2187 Proposed Sustainability Commission meeting dates for 2026

A motion was made by Vice-chair Graham, seconded by Commissioner Colvin-Garcia, that the 2026 Sustainability Commission meeting dates be Approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

WORK GROUP UPDATES

Building Decarbonization - no updates; a draft report is coming soon.

Environmental Services Framework (ON HOLD)

Returnable Containers - the workgroup has drafted a workplan that will help guide the next few months. They will be examining co-benefits of returnable containers and comparable programs. The next meeting will be held on February 3rd.

Sidewalk Gap Filling Implementation - no updates; the next meeting will be held on January 12th.

Water Quality (chloride) - no updates; the next meeting will be held on December 12th.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATES

Councilmembers Cornell and Mallek were co-sponsors of the revisions to City Code Chapter 40 - Vegetative Maintenance, which passed on December 1st. The changes will allow for more flexibility for what can be planted on private property including native species.

There was a work session on January 8th where Council heard "Five Ideas" from staff that included the development of a returnable container program.

STAFF UPDATES

25-2185 Staff Updates for the Sustainability Commission December 2025

Erin Donnelly, staff liaison to the Sustainability Commission, provided

the city update.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was one public comment regarding building decarbonization.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

The next meeting will be held on January 13, 2026 at 6pm. Dr. Chris Svoboda, Senior Environmental Quality Analyst with the Michigan Department of Environmental, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), will provide an update on the Gelman project.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

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