

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. - Sustainability Commission.

(1) *Intent.* The purpose of the Sustainability Commission is to advise City Council and the City Administrator on the City's sustainability goals, including A²ZERO goals and efforts to achieve carbon neutrality City-wide by 2030, and on the protection and enhancement of our air, water, land, and public health. The Sustainability Commission does not have any regulatory authority 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 City staff or board, commission, task force, or committee, including the Planning Commission, 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) *Membership.*

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

- (i) Two non-voting members of the City Council appointed by resolution of the City Council to 1-year terms. A City Council member shall cease to be a member of the Sustainability Commission if they cease to be a member of the City Council.
- (ii) Eleven voting members nominated by the City Council members serving on the Sustainability Commission and appointed by resolution of the City Council 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.

(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:

- (a) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on sustainability policies and practices that affect the City or its residents, and ways to engage the public on sustainability matters and encourage public action to further City sustainability goals, including A²ZERO goals.
- (b) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on all solid waste policy and practices including the reduction, reuse, recycling, and proper disposal of solid waste, plus development of the circular economy.
- (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.

- (d) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on drinking water, water reclamation, water quality, flooding, and stormwater policy and practices, including water treatment, wastewater treatment, Huron River water quality, protection, restoration, and improvement of Huron River tributaries.
- (e) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on effective advocacy for the City in regional, state, and federal environmental matters.
- (f) To advise the City Council and City Administrator on enhancing active involvement of local community 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.
- (g) To consult with City staff involved in sustainability matters through the City staff liaison.
- (h) To perform tasks as directed by resolution of the City Council.

(4) *Other.* The Sustainability Commission is exempt from Sections 1:171(2) and 1:171(6) of City Code, and the following provisions shall apply instead:

- (a) *Notice of appointment.* The City Clerk or designated support staff for the Sustainability 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 Sustainability Commission shall submit all proposed reappointments to City Council no later than 60 days after the expiration date of the term.
- (b) *Tenure of office.* No member of the Sustainability Commission shall hold over for more than 60 days beyond their term, 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.