

## **Community Sustainability Program Committee (CSPC) Report: June 2024 - April 2025**

### **Meeting Schedule**

- **Monthly Meetings:** Held on the 1st Thursday of each month.
- **January Meeting:** Canceled due to holiday.
- **Quorum Issues:** Three meetings did not have a quorum (Oct, Nov, Feb)
- **Special Meeting:** One special meeting was called in 2024.

### **Key Activities and Achievements**

#### **Sustainability Awards**

Over the past year, the Sustainability Committee has been actively engaged in a variety of initiatives aimed at promoting environmental stewardship and sustainable practices within the community. Despite facing challenges such as canceled meetings and quorum issues, the committee has made significant strides in several areas.

One of the most notable achievements was the creation of a task force dedicated to developing the first-ever sustainability awards. This task force worked diligently to establish categories and design the layout for the awards, which were presented on Earth Day. The awards recognized outstanding contributions in three categories: Young Leader, Individual, and Project of the Year. This initiative not only celebrated the efforts of local environmental champions but also helped raise awareness about sustainability issues.

[Insert Winners]

#### **EV Wrap Slogan**

In addition to the awards, the committee played a crucial advisory role in the development of a new EV wrap for the city. After extensive discussions and brainstorming sessions, the committee recommended the slogan "Charging Forward," which was ultimately adopted. This slogan reflects the city's commitment to advancing electric vehicle infrastructure and promoting clean energy.



### **Winston Lake Golf Course**

The committee hosted a special meeting with William Royston from Recreation and Parks department to provide input on the sustainability aspects of the Winston Lake golf course master plan. This collaboration aimed to ensure that the golf course's development aligns with environmental best practices and contributes to the city's overall sustainability goals. Their recommendations are attached as an appendix.

### **Natural Areas in Parks Resolution #25-0009**

Another significant achievement was the successful advocacy for the Natural Parks resolution. The committee's efforts helped move this resolution forward, and it was eventually approved by the council Feb 3, 2025. This resolution underscores the importance of preserving natural spaces within the city and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

### **NC A&T Climate Lab Collaboration**

The NC A&T Climate Lab approached the committee with a request for assistance in organizing focus groups. After thorough deliberation, the committee decided to facilitate connections but chose not to host the focus groups. The decision was based on concerns about the direct benefits to the community.

### **Community Requests and Initiatives**

Throughout the year, the committee received numerous community requests and initiated several projects. There was a strong demand for more native plantings, particularly in vacant lots and downtown areas. Additionally, there were calls for a Lights Out campaign to reduce energy consumption and efforts to promote rail/tram transportation as a sustainable alternative.

