

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: September 10, 2018

To: The City Manager

From: Johnnie Taylor, Director of Operations
Helen Peplowski, Sustainability Program Manager

Council Action Requested:

Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Re-Establishment of the Community Sustainability Program Committee.

Strategic Focus Area: Healthy Environment
Strategic Objective: Support Green Initiatives
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

In September of 2008, City Council approved a resolution establishing the Community Sustainability Program Committee, with oversight from the Office of Sustainability’s Program Manager. The committee was dissolved in 2013 when the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant expired.

The purpose of the Community Sustainability Program Committee was to provide periodic reports and recommendations to the City Council concerning greenhouse gas emissions and related sustainability issues.

The City’s Office of Sustainability plays an important role in the efforts of the City to lead the way as a green city; researching and recommending strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and energy consumption. The Office of Sustainability also tracks essential metrics that provide leadership with the ability to see the level of progress the City has made. The data produced has been utilized in programs such as the “Star Communities” program which has recognized Winston-Salem as a “3-Star Community.”

Committee Action:

Committee	<u>CDHGG 9/11/18</u>	Action	<u>Approval</u>
For	<u>Unanimous</u>	Against	<u></u>

Remarks:

In July of 2018, staff re-organized the functions of the Office of Sustainability, by incorporating Keep Winston-Salem Beautiful and Recycle Today programs.

The Office of Sustainability recommends the re-establishment of the Community Sustainability Program Committee to advise on the development of sustainable goals. The Committee would have the following responsibilities:

- Advise on current goals set forth by the Office of Sustainability
- Generate a work plan for future goals of the Office of Sustainability
- Become familiar with municipal greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) levels
- Produce an annual report
- Advise ways to increase the City's Star Communities Rating
- Oversight of Bee City USA activities and initiatives

The Sustainability Program Committee would be comprised of ten members representing each ward, and local universities. In addition, members would be comprised of individuals with the following skills and backgrounds; small, medium and large business, industrial, architectural/building, transportation, energy, environmental, or interest in citizen participation. The Sustainability Program Manager would be the chief City staff member to advise the committee and the Mayor would appoint the Chairman of the Committee.

If approved, the attached resolution would authorize the re-establishment of the Community Sustainability Program Committee with the responsibilities and objectives listed above.