



AGENDA
BIRMINGHAM AD HOC ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MONDAY MARCH 11th, 2024
BIRMINGHAM CITY HALL, 151 MARTIN ST, COMMISSION ROOM, 206 BIRMINGHAM MI *
******* 6:00 PM*******

The City recommends members of the public wear a mask if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or have a respiratory illness. City staff, City Commission and all board and committee members must wear a mask if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or actively have a respiratory illness. The City continues to provide KN-95 respirators and triple layered masks for attendees.

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Roll Call**
- 3) **Review of the Agenda**
- 4) **Approval of the AHESC Minutes of [January 29th, 2024](#)**
- 5) **Study Session**
 - A. **[SCAP Draft Intro and Outline](#)**
- 6) **Open to the Public for Items Not on the Agenda**
- 7) **Miscellaneous Communications**
 - A. **[GHGI Update](#)**
 - B. **[Updated Project Schedule](#)**
- 8) **Draft Agenda – [April 29th, 2024](#)**
- 9) **Adjournment**

Future Meeting Dates:
April 29th, 2024
TBD

*Please note that board meetings will be conducted in person once again. Members of the public can attend in person at Birmingham City Hall, 151 Martin St., or may attend virtually at:

Link to Access Virtual Meeting: <https://bhamgov-org.zoom.us/j/87587439403>

Telephone Meeting Access: 877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID Code: 875 8743 9403

Notice: Individuals requiring accommodations, such as interpreter services for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at [\(248\) 530-1880](tel:248-530-1880) at least on day in advance of the public meeting.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al [\(248\) 530-1880](tel:248-530-1880) por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

A PERSON DESIGNATED WITH THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

City Of Birmingham
Regular Meeting Of The Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee
January 29, 2024

Conference Rooms 202 & 203
151 Martin Street, Birmingham, Michigan

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Birmingham Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee held on January 29, 2024. The meeting was convened at 6:00 p.m.

1) Roll Call

Present: Harvey Bell, Lois DeBacker (arrived 6:23 p.m.), Rachna Gulati (arrived 6:02 p.m.), Debra Horner, Joe Mercurio, Jess Newman, Danielle Todd, Dani Torcolacci

Absent: Lara Edwards

Staff: City Planner Blizinski; Planning Department Intern Summer Aldred, Planning Director Dupuis, Assistant City Manager Fairbairn, Assistant Foreman of Parks and Forestry McNab

2) Review of the Agenda

3) Approval of the AHESC Minutes of November 20, 2023

Motion by Mr. Mercurio

Seconded by Mr. Bell to approve the minutes of the regular Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee meeting of November 20, 2023.

Motion carried, 7-0

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Bell, Horner, Mercurio, Newman, Torcolacci, Todd, Gulati

Nays: None

4) Study Session

A. Draft Vision and Objectives

CP Blizinski presented the item. Staff answered informational questions from the AHESC.

Among AHESC members, there was discussion regarding:

- Changing land use to promote increased density and walkability, which has significant effects on promoting sustainability;
- Promoting land uses that enable sustainability should be stated explicitly as an objective;
- How beginning by prioritizing action around sustainable flood mitigation practices would demonstrate the value of this process to residents;
- Making it clear that lawns are a concern that aspects of the plan would address;
- The use of the word 'green' in the title, to be further considered at the next meeting;

- Removing the word 'excellency' from the vision statement, and finding another way to express the fact that City standards would not be compromised in the process of adopting greener practices;
- Emphasizing how these objectives would improve health would likely generate greater consensus and likely mitigate potential political polarization;
- Either avoiding ranking the objectives, or leading with objectives likely to generate greater consensus; and,
- How best to communicate the benefits of undertaking this process, and how to communicate that this process would help reduce the likelihood of future losses such as flooded basements.

5) Open to the Public for Items Not on the Agenda

6) Miscellaneous Communications

A. GHGI Update

CP Blizinski explained the update.

B. Long Range Planning – Citywide Sustainability Efforts

PD Dupuis summarized the communication. Staff answered informational questions from the AHESC.

AHESC member comments were:

- Staff should consider publicizing City sustainability improvements to the public more regularly;
- Birmingham could benefit from the work of Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association, an organization aiming to expand community solar power;
- Reframing some of the City's work as sustainability-related would be helpful;
- The intern that will be focusing on stormwater should focus their recommendations on the neighborhoods experiencing the most flooding; and,
- It will be important to focus on the sustainability interventions within the City's control.

C. Draft Memo to City Boards

CP Blizinski summarized the communication. Staff answered informational questions from the AHESC.

AHESC member comments were:

- The working vision statement and objectives could be provided to other boards as a draft;
- The compostable cards with the seeds are popular and should be used again;
- It would be useful to have data on water and flooding in the City; and,
- The solutions and adaptations have to be data-driven as well.

7) Draft Agenda

8) Adjournment

No further business being evident, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Leah Blizinski, City Planner

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist

DRAFT



MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 7th, 2024

TO: Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee

FROM: Nicholas Dupuis, Planning Director

SUBJECT: Draft SCAP

Please find attached a draft of the Birmingham Green: Healthy Climate Plan. The current document includes the introductory sections of the plan and has been set up to demonstrate the design aspirations of the Planning Division, but is not yet a polished document.

At this time, the Planning Division is seeking feedback on three major elements of the draft:

- Structure and Table of Contents
- Readability and functionality
- Written content

As the process continues, the Planning Division will continue to build the plan out while considering the feedback from the Environmental Sustainability Committee, but will also adjust to new public feedback that is received over the course of the next few months including a second survey, at least one more in-person event, and several key stakeholder engagements.

Finally, when reviewing this first draft of the SCAP, it is important to also consider the anticipated time horizon of this plan (5 years), as well as the sustainability related content within other master plans. Because hyperlinks are not yet provided to other plans in the SCAP draft, they are provided below with general descriptions of their role in sustainability:

- [The Birmingham Plan 2040](#) (Land Use and Density, Chapter 5: Sustainability)
- [Multimodal Transportation Plan](#) (Supporting transportation alternatives)
- [Parks & Recreation Master Plan](#) (Parks and open spaces and heavy emphasis on sustainability)
- [MI Healthy Climate Plan](#) (Statewide carbon reduction targets)
- [SEMCOG Healthy Climate Plan](#) (Regional carbon reduction targets)
- [SEMCOG GREEN Dashboard](#)



BIRMINGHAM

HEALTHY CLIMATE PLAN

DRAFT 3-7-2024

Acknowledgments

City of Birmingham Sustainability and Climate Action Plan

The City of Birmingham would like to acknowledge the people that have contributed their time and expertise to creating the Birmingham Green: Healthy Climate Plan. Their continued dedication to sustainability and climate action are a valuable public service and the community of collaboration that has been built over this time will serve Birmingham for many years to come.

The Birmingham Community

To all of the members of the Birmingham community that have responded to surveys, participated in events, had important conversations, and supported this idea from the very beginning.

Birmingham Planning Department

Nicholas Dupuis, AICP, Planning Director
Leah Blizinski, AICP, City Planner
Summer Aldred, City Planning Intern

Birmingham Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee

Jessica Newman, Chairperson
Debra Horner, Vice Chairperson
Harvey Bell
Lois Debacher
Lara Edwards
Rachna Gulati
Joseph Mercurio
Danielle Todd
Daniella Torcolacci
Josie Carroll, Student Representative
Will Clemans, Student Representative

Birmingham City Commission

Elaine McLain, Mayor
Katie Shaffer, Mayor Pro Tem
Clinton Baller
Brad Host
Andrew Haig
Therese Longe
Anthony Long

Birmingham City Staff

City Manager's Office

Jana Ecker, City Manager
Melissa Fairbairn, Assistant City Manager

Community Development

Melissa Coatta, City Engineer
Bruce Johnson, Building Official
Jeff Zielke, Assistant Building Official
John Galik, Superintendent of Building Facilities

Department of Public Services

Scott Zielinski, Director of Public Services
Brendan McGaughey, Parks and Forestry Foreman
Brad McNab, Parks and Forestry Assistant Foreman

Public Safety

Scott Grewe, Police Chief
Paul Wells, Fire Chief



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Birmingham Creen Healthy Climate Plan Vision Statement

The Birmingham community will be a regional leader in sustainability and climate action by instituting policies and practices that enhance the natural & built environment, improve quality of life, and foster equity & resiliency towards a vibrant future.



Birmingham Creen Healthy Climate Plan Objectives



Facilitate transition to renewable energy and decarbonization



Integrate equity and address environmental injustices



Restore natural areas and increase native biodiversity



Increase materials management and reduce waste



Mitigate extreme weather impacts on the community



Prioritize sustainable practices in all municipal and private projects



Promote nature-based solutions as standard practice



Plan Overview

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INTRODUCTION

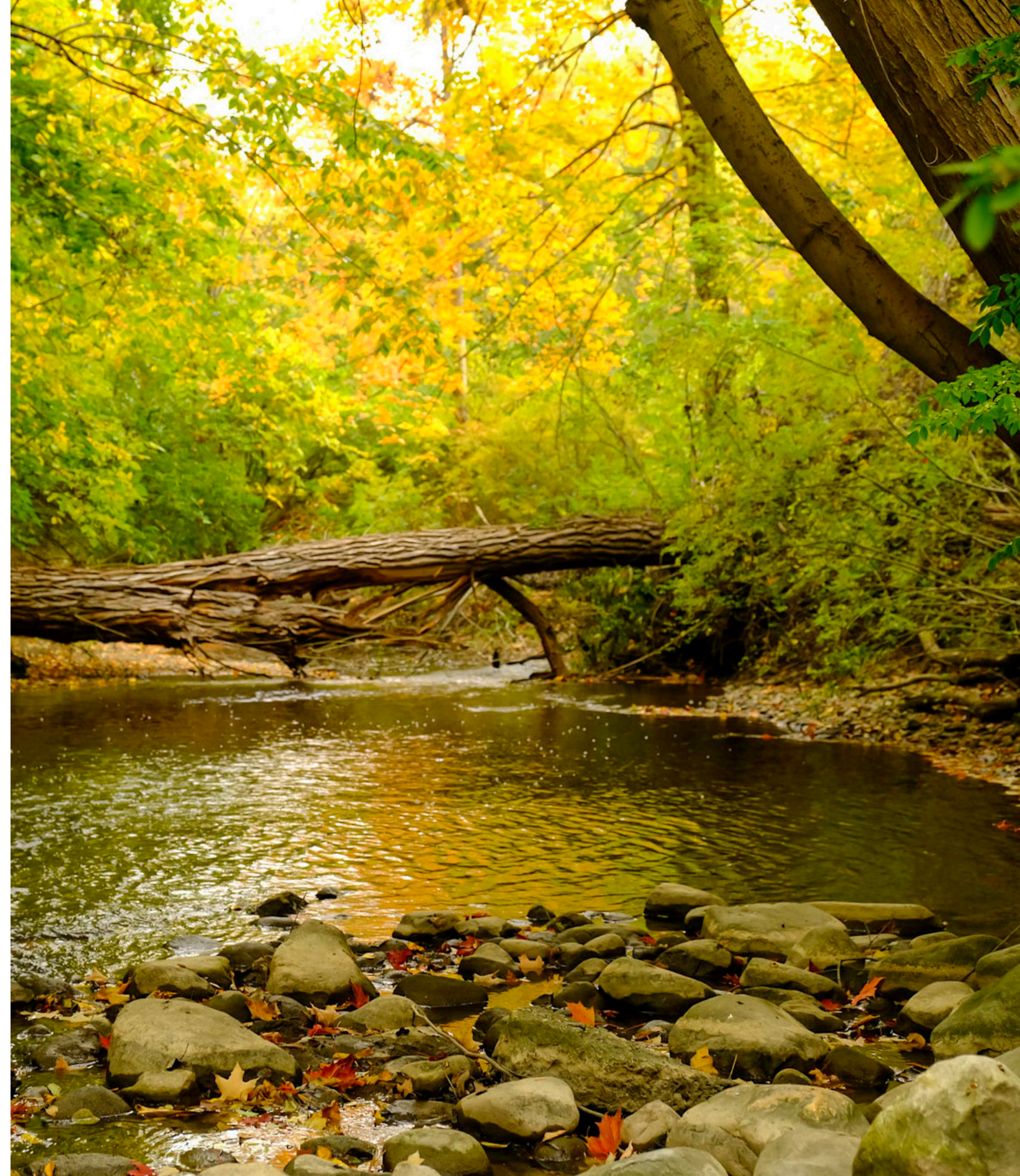


Land Statement

Birmingham, Michigan sits on land made by shallow seas and glacial formations, with the last glaciers receding about 14,000 years ago. Birmingham is situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabek – Three Fires Confederacy, the Odawa (Ottawa), Ojibwe (Chippewa), and Bodewadmi (Potawatomi). We recognize that these lands have served as a site of gathering and exchange for Indigenous communities since time immemorial.

We acknowledge the resilience, strength, and ongoing presence of the Indigenous peoples who have stewarded this land throughout the generations. We also recognize the impacts of settler colonialism and the importance of understanding the history of this land. We are committed to learning more about the history and cultures of the Indigenous peoples of this area and to working towards a more just and inclusive future for all who call Birmingham, Michigan, home.

[Insert map here](#)



Birmingham Context

The city of Birmingham, Michigan is located in Oakland County, and is bordered by five communities: Beverly Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Royal Oak, and Troy. Birmingham is vibrant community, with a small-town feel while still being connected to all of the cultural and recreational amenities that an urban area provides. Birmingham boasts a thriving, walkable downtown, providing retail and business opportunities for both the local community and the region. Birmingham is 4.8 square miles in size and is centrally located in Southeastern Michigan between the major cities of Detroit and Pontiac.

Demographics

INSERT POPULATION PROJECTION GRAPHIC

INSERT WHERE RESIDENTS WORK GRAPHIC

INSERT WHERE BIRMINGHAM WORKERS COMMUTE FROM GRAPHIC

Population & Age Demographics

21,738 2022 Birmingham Population	42.0 2022 Birmingham Median Age
1,272,264 Oakland County	41.1 Oakland County
4,392,041 Southeastern Michigan	40.1 Southeastern Michigan

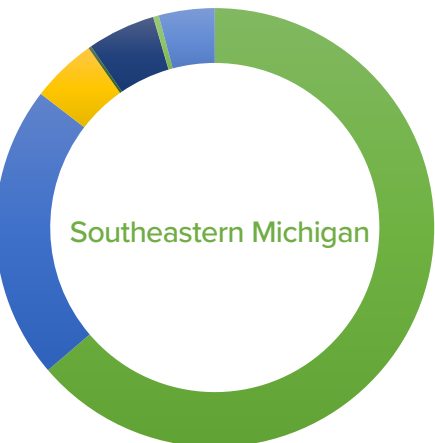
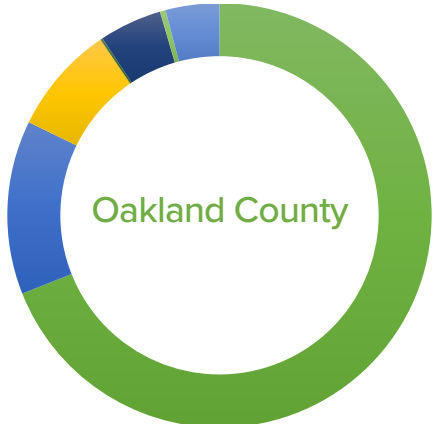
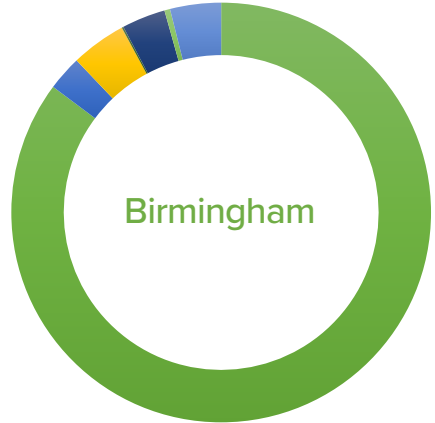
Household Demographics

5,432 2010 Families	5,628 2021 Families	\$151,556 2022 Birmingham Median Household Income
2.91 2010 Average Family Size	3.12 2021 Average Family Size	\$90,564 Oakland County \$71,265 Southeastern Michigan
		9,383 2022 Birmingham Households
		530,638 Oakland County 1,762,104 Southeastern Michigan

Economic Demographics

5.5% 2022 Birmingham Poverty Rate	76.3% 2021 Own their home
8.1% Oakland County 13.8% Southeastern Michigan	23.7% 2021 Rent their home

Race (Percent)



- White
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander
- Some Other Race
- Two or more races

Other Recent Planning Efforts

The **Birmingham Plan 2040** (“2040 Plan”) was adopted in May 2023. The 2040 Plan is a comprehensive master plan, which is a document and policy guide designed to help Birmingham conceive a vision of what they want to look like in the future. The City of Birmingham is required to adopt and maintain a comprehensive master plan pursuant to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act. The Birmingham Green: Healthy Climate Plan will exist under the umbrella of the 2040 Plan and will build upon the recommendations within the 2040 Plan while also considering its predecessors, other master plans and sub area plans within the City of Birmingham.

The **Birmingham Parks and Recreation Master Plan** was adopted in December of 2023. The updated plan prioritizes sustainability as one of its core guiding principles. Sustainability is defined in the plan as “a commitment to environmentally responsible practices, ensuring that our parks and recreation facilities continue to thrive for years to come.” The City of Birmingham is required to update its Parks and Recreation plan every 5 years to maintain eligibility for state and federal grants.

Southeast Michigan GREEN is an initiative, led by SEMCOG, to address some of the region’s most pressing challenges – managing floods, fostering climate resilience, improving community health, protecting our natural assets—all while creating vibrant places where people want to live and where businesses will thrive. The report focuses on implementation and provides a regional framework that demonstrates the impact of local projects, positioning them for successful

funding and partnership opportunities. An interactive GREEN Dashboard, online mapping tool, accompanies the report and is a useful tool for looking at specific implementation opportunities within each locality. The GREEN Report and GREEN Dashboard will provide the basis of some site specific implementation recommendations for Birmingham’s Sustainability and Climate Action Plan.

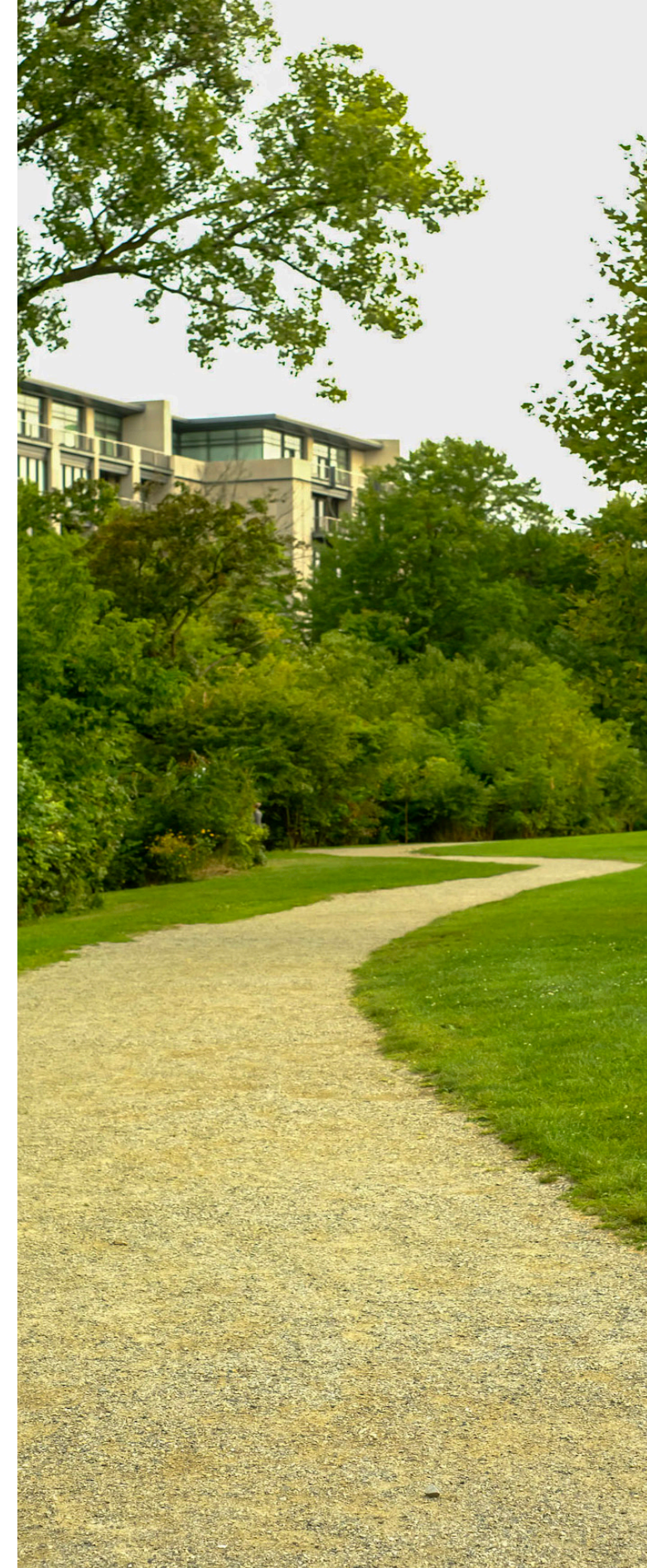
With funding from the Inflation Reduction Act through the US EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG), SEMCOG will develop a **Healthy Climate Plan for Southeast Michigan**. This plan is intended to connect and uplift existing state, regional and local plans, while preparing communities to be competitive for \$4.6 billion in implementation grant funding for the policies and programs it identifies. The plan will cover the eight-county region of Southeast Michigan, including Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Livingston, Lapeer, Washtenaw, and Monroe. As part of the CPRG, SEMCOG will develop two action plans, a distinct priority plan and comprehensive action plan to reduce carbon emissions by 2050. This plan is expected to be completed in the summer of 2025.

The **Michigan Healthy Climate Plan** is the state’s roadmap that charts a path to a prosperous, healthy, equitable, carbon-neutral Michigan by 2050. The plan, created by EGLE, was released in April 2022 and includes an interim target of 52% greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

reductions by 2030, from baseline 2005 levels, as part of a “Roadmap to 2030” outlining intermediate actions needed to meet Michigan’s climate goals. The objectives of the plan are to:

1. Mitigate the worst impacts of climate change
2. Spur economic development and create good-paying jobs
3. Protect and improve the health of Michiganders
4. Position Michigan as a leader in climate action
5. Safeguard our natural resources and wildlife
6. Make Michigan energy independent
7. Address environmental injustice.

The City has spent a considerable amount of time and resources implementing the 2013 **Multi-Modal Transportation Plan** (MMTP), which has provided for many miles of new and improved sidewalks, bike lanes and shared use paths, as well as other infrastructure such as bike racks and repair stations. These are all valuable additions to a multi-modal network and provide necessary last-mile infrastructure and support sustainable modes of transportation. Because the City does not operate public mass transit, the MMTP focused its recommendations on improving the environment for transit through connectivity, enhanced transit stops, and safety. The Birmingham Green: Healthy Climate Plan will support the recommendations within the current and future iterations of the City’s MMTP.



PLAN DEVELOPMENT



Background

The City of Birmingham, Michigan has introduced environment-friendly planning schema since the General Village Plan was adopted in 1929 to address rapid urban growth and protect the then-village's natural beauty. In response to industrial pressure and development impacts of industrial uses in Detroit and Pontiac, the General Village Plan recognized the function and importance of preserving open space and natural areas such as the Rouge River Valley, a regional park system, and the urban tree canopy, and suggested that zoning be immediately adopted to preserve them through single-family residential districts. Nine decades later, Birmingham has perpetuated environmental ideals through plans such as the Downtown 2016 Master Plan, Multi-Modal Transportation Plan, Parks and Recreation Master Plans, Triangle District Urban Design Plan, and the Birmingham Plan 2040, as well as its focus on mixed use and walkability, urban design, and other quality examples, all of which contain virtues of sustainable development and eco-friendly objectives.

The Birmingham Green: Healthy Climate Plan was developed at the direction of the Birmingham City Commission. The process started with a declaration of a climate emergency in 2023 and the creation of the Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee. The committee was tasked with drafting the plan and performing a local greenhouse gas inventory (GHGI). This decision was predicated by the adoption of City Commission's strategic goals in 2022, which elevated sustainability as one of three overall strategic goals that will guide the decision-making process at the Commission level through the year 2027.



City Commission Goals

Engaged and Connected Community - Birmingham is a community that is connected to one another and engaged in the decision making process.

- Bridge the divide that Woodward Avenue creates in the City and transform the Woodward environment
- Offer City services and amenities that enrich the lives of residents of all ages
- Encourage robust resident engagement with their government and community
- Increase Connectivity between the Rouge River trail system, downtown, and the neighborhoods

Environmental Sustainability - The City of Birmingham positions itself ofr a changing future by insituting policies and practices that protect the natural environment and reduce extreme weather impacts on the community.

- Create a sustainability board to review projects, investigate funding opportunities, and offer public education opportunities
- Maintain and upgrade infrastructure to prepare for future climate conditions
- Modernize City facilities for energy efficiency and sustainability

Efficient and Effective Services - Birmingham will address the needs of the community in a timely and respectful manner.

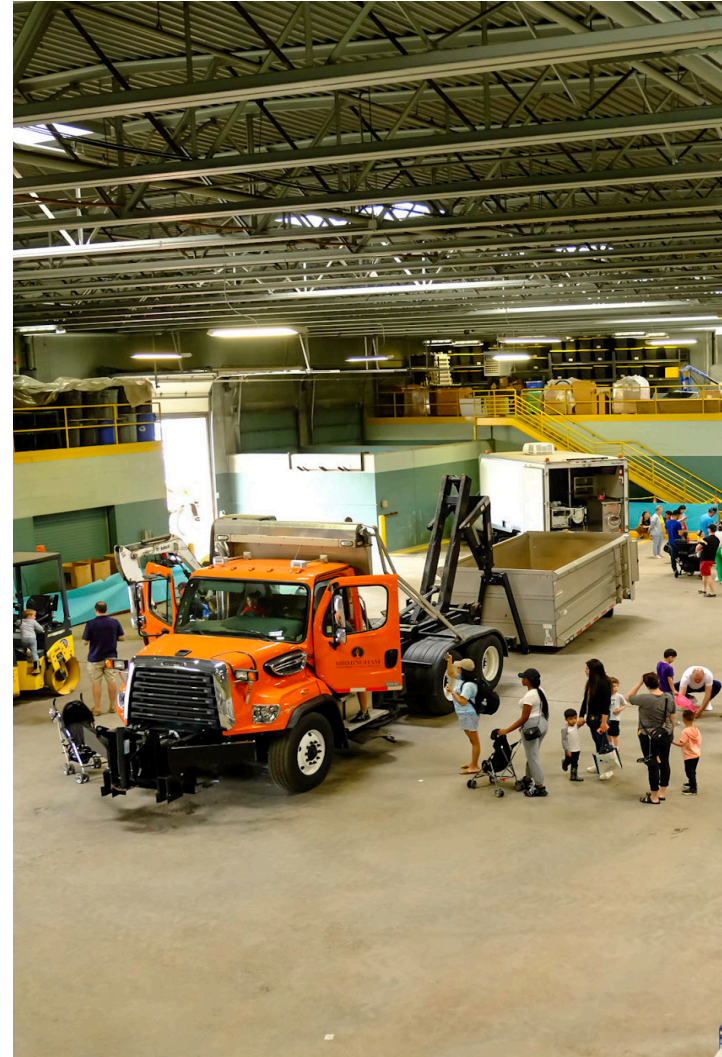
- Incorporate new technologies to improve service delivery for residents including digitization of public records and museum materials
- Build and retain an effective and professional staff who seve the community
- Create community risk reduction policies and programs that emphasize citywide increased safety and security

Public Engagement Activities

A major component of drafting the City of Birmingham SCAP was community engagement. A dedicated and comprehensive approach to community engagement provides for a plan that is collaborative, enhances communication and understanding, and fosters a sense of community and accomplishment. This section of the plan consolidates and summarizes all of the feedback we heard during the process and builds the backbone upon which this plan was created.

Public Engagement Phase 1

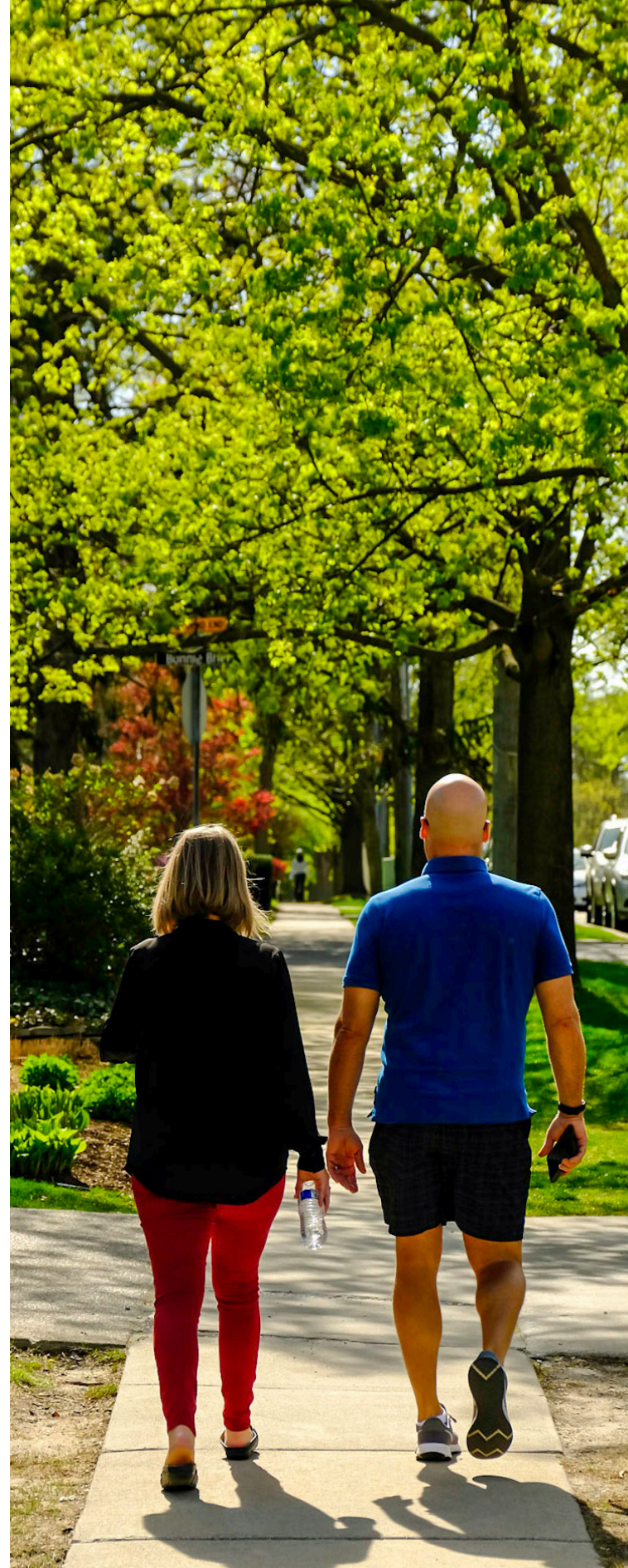
- **Day on the Town** – The Environmental Sustainability Committee hosted a table during the City’s annual Day on the Town event, which was intended to introduce people to the ESC and the SCAP, as well as advertise for the community survey. Overall, several persons engaged with staff and ESC members, and the City was able to disperse over 30 cards with a QR code to the survey.
- **Farmers Market** – In addition, a table was hosted at the Birmingham Farmers Market. Similar to the Day on the Town event, the focus was to get people engaged with the process, and advertise for the community survey. The heavy rainfall events in mid-August seemed to spur a robust engagement throughout the day, and as a result the City was able to inform many persons about the SCAP and the survey.
- **Community Survey #1** – The City of Birmingham hosted a survey on Engage Birmingham that was designed to get a preliminary look into the feelings of the community as it relates to sustainability and climate action as a whole. In addition, the survey provided space for respondents to elaborate on any additional issues that they might feel is important for the City to consider while drafting the SCAP.



- **Municipal Round Tables** – As a major stakeholder in the SCAP and the goals that will be developed within it, the municipal staff was engaged at a series of round tables to get a more in-depth look into different departments and their operations/concerns. Overall, the turnout was very encouraging, and it became very clear that the municipal staff is on-board and very aware of the challenges ahead, as well as the interconnectedness of various approaches to sustainability and climate action.
- **Community Visioning Session** – The Environmental Sustainability Committee held a community visioning session in the fall of 2023. The session was split into an introduction, an activity, and a facilitated discussion with the Chief Environmental Sustainability Officer for Oakland County. Members of the community were able to provide feedback on six elements from the City Commissions Strategic Goal #2. The facilitated discussion enabled the facilitator to clarify several points of feedback and provide an opportunity for elaboration.
- **Newsletters & Social Media** – Since the ESC was created, the Planning Division has provided regular updates in the City’s Around-Town E-Newsletters, Birmingham Beat printed newsletters, social media, and Constant Contact email services. In addition, the City has taken advantage of opportunities to speak to other media outlets such as the Birmingham-Bloomfield Eagle.

Public Engagement Phase 2

- **Community Survey #2** – The City of Birmingham hosted a second survey on Engage Birmingham that provided a deeper dive into the goals of the plan as they were developed at the time. This survey provided the opportunity for people to comment on measurable goals and how they may or may not affect different parts of the community.
- **Board and Commission Reports** – As partners in furthering the goals of the SCAP, the Environmental Sustainability Committee provided regular communications to different boards and commissions in the City to solicit feedback, but also to build bridges and ensure that the vast network of collaboration between decision makers in the City started strong and remained strong.
- **Department of Public Services** – The Environmental Sustainability Committee hosted a table at the popular DPS Open House event in the spring of 2024. At this point, the SCAP was more developed, which provided an opportunity to hear about preferences related to certain goals and objectives of the SCAP, as well as any other content that visitors found interesting.
- **Stakeholder Engagement** – In addition to soliciting feedback from the general public, the Environmental Sustainability Committee also reached out to several key stakeholder groups such as NEXT, the Birmingham Public Schools, and the business community. These groups represent people that may be particularly vulnerable to climate change and those that will play a major role in the implementation of the SCAP.



Public Engagement Summary

In summary, it is very clear that stakeholders feel that sustainability and climate action is important and should be a very high priority in the City of Birmingham. Overall, 82.3% of respondents felt as though the City of Birmingham should be a regional leader or increase community commitment to sustainability and 77.1% of respondents are very or somewhat concerned about addressing sustainability and climate action issues.

Quotes

“We have the money and education in this town to take major action. We need to work fast and think boldly about addressing climate issues.”

“I would like to see the city of Birmingham’s commitment to sustainability and climate action extend into surrounding areas and other municipalities. Many of these changes need to be implemented on a regional and statewide level to be most effective. How can we use our resources to model sustainability and make it possible for nearby communities as well?”

“We should be approaching sustainability and climate action in an order that makes sense.”

“I think it is important for Birmingham to set an example as a leader on this issue. It matters to our community, to voters, and to future generations.”

Other Data

Air Quality

Air quality is one of the more prevalent and visible problems stemming from climate change. The 2023 Canadian wildfires sparked many conversations about air quality, and concerns about air quality have prompted 32 Clean Air Action Days in the Detroit region over the last 4 years. In general, Oakland County has ranked moderate to good on the EPA's AirNow Air Quality Index over the same span. As major air quality events happen, and as ozone and particulate matter continues to be an issue in this region, municipalities have an opportunity to decrease the emissions in their community, which are shared amongst its neighbors and general region.

Solar Readiness

To date Birmingham has issued only 17 permits for solar arrays on rooftops in the City in the last 10 years. With nearly 8,000 principal buildings in the City, our solar energy potential is much higher. Meanwhile, the State of Michigan is continuing to push solar and increase access through various programs, and DTE has planned a portfolio of 11 million solar panels by 2040.

Heat Indexes

According to the National Weather Service, the heat index, also known as the apparent temperature, is what the temperature feels like to the human body when relative humidity is combined with the air temperature. Birmingham is home to nearly 4,000 older adults (65+) who are particularly susceptible to extreme heat. In Michigan, a heat advisory is issued when heat index values are forecast to meet locally defined advisory criteria for 1 to 2 days. Extreme heat warnings are issued when heat index values are forecast to meet or exceed locally defined warning criteria for at least 2 days.

Tree Canopy

Preservation of and planting of new trees is an important part of climate adaptation. Trees provide a plethora of benefits to humans and the environment and for these reasons, monitoring and promoting a healthy urban tree canopy has become an increasingly common standard practice within local governments. Birmingham currently sustains a robust tree inventory and maintenance program with room for improvement. The city contracts a company to conduct a complete inventory of the city's public trees every four years on an ongoing basis (one quadrant of the city is completed per year). The city's arborist also updates tree inventory on a real-time basis as trees are removed and planted throughout the year. For this reason, the City of Birmingham has one of the healthiest and most abundant canopies in the region. SEMCOG's Green Report (released July 2023) includes a target metric for increasing regional tree canopy area in all urban census tracts (not including agricultural land) to 40% from the current 38%. The City of Birmingham overall, is in line with the current regional tree canopy coverage, having 38% tree canopy coverage within the city as a whole.

Other Data

Water Quality

According to the latest (2022) Consumer's Annual Report on Water Quality for Birmingham, Michigan, Birmingham's drinking water surpassed water quality standards as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Birmingham's drinking water is sourced from the Detroit River and is treated by the Great Lakes Water Authority, who distributes it to SOCWA (South Oakland Water Authority) which then distributes water to its member communities, which include Birmingham.

SEMCOG, the designated water quality management agency for Southeast Michigan, is responsible for planning for the region's integrated water resources management. This includes advancing the 'blue economy,' natural resource protection and enhancement, and water infrastructure systems. In 2018, SEMCOG released its Water Resources Plan for Southeast Michigan, which sets the framework for 28 regional policies and provides 101 recommended actions. In 2023, SEMCOG released the updated Water Infrastructure Policies and Actions along with a Water Infrastructure guide as an addendum to the 2018 plan.

Average Annual Rainfall

According to the most recent weather data (2022), Birmingham, Michigan experiences on average 32.4 inches of rainfall annually. The average annual rainfall in the United States is 38.1 inches.

Impervious Surface

Impervious surfaces are defined as areas that prevent or hinder the entry of water into the soil mantle and/or cause water to run off the surface in greater quantities or an increased rate of flow that under natural conditions. Buildings, roads, driveways, and parking lots are all examples of impervious surfaces. As of 2020, Birmingham, Michigan's land cover is 47.8% impervious. Oakland County as a whole is 19.2% impervious.





MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: March 7th, 2024

TO: Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee

FROM: Leah Blizinski, City Planner

SUBJECT: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (GHGI) Update

In June of 2023, planning staff began working with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability on two Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories using their U.S. Community and Local Government Operations Protocols as well as ICLEI’s Clearpath online software platform for GHG inventories, forecasts and monitoring. The community-wide inventory focuses on emissions generated through buildings, transportation, solid waste, water and wastewater within Birmingham’s limits and across all residential, commercial and industrial uses. The Local Government Operations Inventory focuses on emissions generated by city-owned and operated sources including buildings & facilities, streetlights & traffic signals, vehicle Fleet, employee commuting and solid waste.

At present staff has received all necessary data, completed the GHGI as well as completed the QAQC (Quality Assurance Quality Control) process with ICLEI technical advisors and has received approval of our completed GHGI. Planning Division staff is now working on familiarizing ourselves with Clearpath’s reporting and forecasting tools and writing up the GHGI results into a formal report. We expect this report to be completed before the end of March and will be delivering the report to the board for your contemplation as soon as possible.



Project Schedule

DRAFT: 3/7/2024

	2023							
Meeting/Event	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
June 12th, ESC		✓						
GHGI Data Requests		✓						
Community Survey Open (Late June)		✓						
Public Engagement Event #1 (Day on the Town, July 29 th 9am-5pm)			✓					
August 21st, ESC				✓				
Public Engagement Event #2 (Farmer’s Market, August)				✓				
Public Engagement Event #3 (Municipal Roundtable, Sept/Oct)					✓	✓		
Community Survey Closes (Late Sept.)					✓			
October 30th, ESC @ BPL Community Visioning Session						✓		
Nov 20th, ESC Public Engagement Summary Review Draft Vision and Objectives							✓	
	2024							
Meeting/Event	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
January, ESC Finalize SCAP Vision & Objectives	✓							
Present Project Overview to City Boards and new board student reps MMTB, P&R, PB, HDC, DRB, BSD		✓	X					
March, ESC SCAP Draft Intro and Outline Review			✓					
GHGI Final Report Published to City Website			X					
April, ESC GHGI Final Report, Goal Drafting, Survey review				X				
Community Survey #2 Open					X			



	2024							
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
Public Engagement Event #4 DPS Open House, May 11 th , 2024					X			
May, ESC SCAP 60% Draft Review					X			
June, ESC						X		
July, ESC SCAP 100% Draft Review							X	
Final Draft Published on City Website 30-Day Public Comment Period							X	
August, ESC								X
City Commission Public Hearing / Adoption								X
Publish Final SCAP on City Website								X

Acronyms Decoded

- ESC – Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee
- GHGI – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory
- SCAP – Sustainability and Climate Action Plan
- MMTB – Multi-Modal Transportation Board
- P&R – Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- PB – Planning Board
- HDC – Historic District Committee
- DRB – Design Review Board
- BPL – Baldwin Public Library



AGENDA
BIRMINGHAM AD HOC ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
MONDAY APRIL 29th, 2024
BIRMINGHAM CITY HALL, 151 MARTIN ST, COMMISSION ROOM, 206 BIRMINGHAM MI *
******* 6:00 PM*******

The City recommends members of the public wear a mask if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or have a respiratory illness. City staff, City Commission and all board and committee members must wear a mask if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or actively have a respiratory illness. The City continues to provide KN-95 respirators and triple layered masks for attendees.

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Roll Call**
- 3) **Review of the Agenda**
- 4) **Approval of the AHESC Minutes of [March 11, 2024](#)**
- 5) **Study Session**
 - A. **[SCAP Draft Intro and Outline](#)**
 - B. **[GHGI Update](#)**
- 6) **Open to the Public for Items Not on the Agenda**
- 7) **Miscellaneous Communications**
- 8) **Draft Agenda – [May, 2024](#)**
- 9) **Adjournment**

Future Meeting Dates:
April 29th, 2024
TBD

*Please note that board meetings will be conducted in person once again. Members of the public can attend in person at Birmingham City Hall, 151 Martin St., or may attend virtually at:

Link to Access Virtual Meeting: <https://bhamgov-org.zoom.us/j/87587439403>

Telephone Meeting Access: 877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID Code: 875 8743 9403

Notice: Individuals requiring accommodations, such as interpreter services for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at [\(248\) 530-1880](tel:2485301880) at least on day in advance of the public meeting.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al [\(248\) 530-1880](tel:2485301880) por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

A PERSON DESIGNATED WITH THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE DECISIONS MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.