



Green Practices Commission

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 862-6767, Fax: (314) 863-9146

AGENDA



GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, October 12 – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Avenue

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Round
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 9/14/17 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes
 - b. 10/12/17 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes
4. Special Presentations
 - a. Public Comments (Limited to 3 minutes for individual's comments and 5 minutes for representatives of groups or organizations)
5. New Business
 - a. China's National Sword Policy on Recycling and its impacts
 - b. City of St. Louis Deconstructing Program
6. Old Business
 - a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Review
 - i. Review drafts of each category in new format
 - b. Climate Action Plan Update Summary
7. Commission Reports
 - a. Council Liaison Update
 - b. Distribute reporting schedule and discuss expectations
8. Closing Round
9. Adjournment



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Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

September 14, 2017 **DRAFT**

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Jonathan Stitelman (Chairperson), Lois Sechrist, Dianne Benjamin, Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Terry Crow (Council Liaison), Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison)
Absent: Scott Eidson, Bob Elgin, Richard Juang

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 6:03
2. Opening Round
 - a. Lois – Will attend a Healthcare Plastics Recycling Convention in October.
 - b. Jonathan – Will spend the spring semester teaching at Cornell University.
 - c. Adam – New member, 15 year resident, owns a construction company, has worked in the construction trade for 25 years.
 - d. Barbara Brain – New member, 32 year resident, long term interest in sustainability.
 - e. Jenny – Recycling Truck at the Farmer’s Market September 23rd, Electronics Recycling Event October 7th, River Des Peres Trash Bash October 21st.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 8/11/17 and 06/08/17 minutes were approved with minor changes.
4. Special Presentations – None
5. Council Liaison Report
 - a. Bob Elgin may not be completing a second term for the Commission. Terry will check on this.
 - b. City Manager search – A number of candidates have been short-listed and will come next week for interviews.
 - c. There is a likely opportunity for development on the north side of Olive at 170. This is expected to move forward and be announced in the next few months. Lois pointed out that sustainability needs to be part of the conversation regarding the development.
 - d. University City is currently in negotiations with MSD regarding the storage tanks north of Olive near Hafner. MSD held a meeting with residents and over 300 residents were in attendance. There are other locations being considered.

- e. The contract for the EMS Gateway is under review.
- f. An architectural review board may be created because of the number of redevelopments in University City.
- g. Bikes in the Loop continues to be a safety challenge.
- h. A community discussion regarding Proposition P (Public Safety) will be held to determine the use of the tax funding.

6. New Business

- a. GPC membership and council liaison situation
 - i. Jonathan will send a request to Phil Valko regarding the City's need for Green Practices Commissioners. This request will also be for the Park Commission.
 - ii. Tim Dugan will send in an application for the commission.
 - iii. The meeting time will be changed from 6:00pm to 5:30pm. Dianne motioned this change, the commission agreed unanimously. Jonathan will send this information to LaRette.
 - iv. Discussion ensued about the GPC's past accomplishments which include: Development Review (i.e. Washington University Lofts, Forest Park Parkway Pedestrian Bridge, Kingsland Walk/Senior Living, Recycling Drop-Off redesign...), Energy Efficiency Ordinance, Native Plant/Weed Ordinance, Composting/Mulch Contract options review, bringing "Bring Conservation Home" to University City to name a few.
- b. State Loan Projects – Analysis: So far the City has saved \$58,000 in energy costs since the beginning of the project in 2015. The savings are beyond what was anticipated even though there are still a few lighting projects to be completed.
- c. Possible Energy efficiency projects that meet the ordinance criteria: Community Center lighting, Centennial Commons HVAC, Daylight Harvesting – 5th floor City Hall, Firehouse retrocommissioning were suggested. The commission will continue to consider options.

7. Old Business

- a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Update
 - i. Jonathan compiled a draft report for education/advocacy. Jenny will send her outreach list she uses for electronics recycling and other events.
 - ii. All reports are now in rough draft form. Jenny will send these reports to the commission.
 - iii. A rough timeline for completion was developed: Plan to be completed December 2017 and spring 2018 presented to council in spring 2018.
- b. OneStl, Materials and Recycling update – The regional group has been meeting and has compiled a list of stakeholders, a database of hard to recycle items, and a draft "standard message" focusing on what can be recycled as well as the common contaminants. The group is compiling information to apply for a Solid Waste Management District Grant for distribution of the standard message/common contaminants – focusing on plastic bag contamination.
 - i. The commission discussed the upcoming ban that China will place on low quality

plastics and paper coming from other countries. This is not a major concern for our regional single stream recycling companies but this is still something that needs to be kept in the forefront.

- c. Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Climate Action Plan Update: Jenny emailed the latest version of the Climate Action Plan to the commission. Lois will work on compiling a summary. The commission will discuss the Climate Action Plan at the next commission meeting.

8. Closing Round

- a. Dianne suggested putting Ameren on the next month's agenda regarding their tree trimming procedures.
- b. Jenny reminded everyone about the electronics recycling event.

9. Adjournment at 7:34pm

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October 12, 2017 **DRAFT**

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Jonathan Stitelman (Chairperson), Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison)
Absent: Scott Eidson, Bob Elgin, Richard Juang, Lois Sechrist, Terry Crow (Council Liaison)

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 6:03
Special Guests: Dianne Benjamin, resident, former Green Practice Commissioner
Mark LeGrand, resident of University Heights #3
Timothy Dugan, resident, potential Green Practices Commissioner
2. Opening Round
 - a. Jonathan – Students entered an American Institute of Architects competition and won first place with an all-female team.
 - b. Jenny – 27,000 pounds of electronics and 144 Cathode Ray Tube televisions and monitors were collected at the Electronics Recycling Event October 7th.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of 9/14/17 minutes were tabled until next meeting due to lack of quorum.
4. Special Presentation - Dan Kennedy, Supervisor for Ameren Vegetation Management
 - a. Initial discussion of how vegetation is trimmed around Ameren wires:
 - i. Every 4 years every inch of vegetation around the electrical grid is trimmed.
 - ii. Mailers are sent to residents of the area prior to scheduled trimming.
 - iii. There is approximately 5' – 10' of easement for wires, vegetation trimmed to keep this easement cleared for the next 4 years.
 - iv. Leave 10' clearance for Oak trees, 15' clearance for all other trees, dead trees are removed.
 - v. Volunteers (naturally seeded saplings) are cut and herbicide applied to stalk.
 - vi. Trees removed with acceptance of residents.
 - vii. All tree trimmers are contractors.
 - b. Plan to replace conductor and a large number of poles on Washington from Trinity to west of Williams scheduled for 2018:
 - i. Originally planned to be an underground project but too difficult through residential front yards. Now it is an overhead project.
 - ii. New poles will go near or in same location.
 - iii. Fences will be removed and reinstalled.
 - iv. Try to minimize vegetation removal.

- v. Ameren will contact a pre-notify list of residents by mailer and phone.
 - vi. Jenny will contact the Ameren customer service representative to ask for the City to be notified of upcoming projects.
5. No New Business
6. Old Business
- a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Review – Jenny provided two templates for the Sustainability Strategic Plan. The Commission reviewed both templates and agreed on one. Jenny also discussed the OneSTL regional sustainability goals and how the University City plan could follow the same goals. The commission agreed. Jenny will send the template and the OneSTL goals to the commissioners.
7. Council Liaison Report – Councilperson absent, Jonathan provided update he received from Terry Crow.
- a. City Manager search is still underway.
 - b. MSD has proposed alternate sites for the Stormwater Control Project. The Commission should help evaluate these sites.
 - c. Trolley vs. bikes and personal injuries – City is trying to reduce injuries and increase public safety.
 - d. Terry will help get the word out that the Commission needs members.
8. Closing Round
- a. Jenny – October 21st is MSD Trash Bash. Jenny will contact Lions of Litter to see if efforts can be combined.
 - b. November 15th is America Recycles Day. Jenny will present an overview of the recycling program to City Council on November 13th.
9. Adjournment at 6:59pm.



Department of Public Works and Parks

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8560, Fax: (314) 862-0694

MEMORANDUM

TO: Green Practices Commission
FROM: Jenny Wendt – Project Manager
MEETING DATE: November 9, 2017
SUBJECT: Update on projects related to sustainability

Please see below for an update on all of the current sustainability related projects for the Department of Public Works and Parks:

Staff will present Recycling information to City Council on November 13th in relation to America Recycles Day.

Green Schools Quest: Staff is working with Jackson Park Elementary on increasing biodiversity for the Green Schools Quest program.

State Loan Projects Extension: Approval has been received for finishing the LED tube replacement and a few other small lighting projects in City Hall and Centennial Commons to complete the upgrades for these two buildings.

2018 Waste Reduction Grant Application: The Grant application is due December 8, 2017. A final decision on the submittal is still being determined.

Greenhouse Gas Inventory/Climate Action Plan: Green Practices Commission is reviewing the Climate Action Plan and creating a summary of action items. The City needs to work on developing the portion pertaining to the climate hazards and the vulnerabilities faced by the City.

Transportation Alternative Program Grant Application: Staff received the agreement for the TAP project updating the lighting to LED and creating ADA access along Ackert Walkway and through Ackert Park has been accepted and awarded. It will be presented to Council for approval on November 13th.

University City is part of a regional group working on regional recycling education and standardizing the recycling message. The main goals of the group are Education/Communication, Policy, and Business Development; with the first action items as follows:

- Create a common list of recyclables for everyone in the 5 county region to use: (Franklin, Madison, St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson)
- Creation of a stakeholder group of county, city, muni personnel, landfill, hauler, recyclers, and other entities directly involved and critical in the message distribution.

This group is working on a grant for education and outreach regarding basic recycling and the problems with plastic bags.

Delmar Blvd pedestrian lights: LED retrofits have been replaced in the 91 green Delmar pedestrian lights in the Loop.

A "Stormwater Management" Task Force has been created to work on a Stormwater Management Plan for University City.

2017 Solid Waste Management District Grant: Awarded \$50,000 for 95 gallon recycling carts and toward a robust recycling education program. Remaining residential 65 gallon recycling carts will be replaced with 95 gallon carts. Quotes have been received; a sample cart has been requested and references are being contacted.

2017 St. Louis County Department of Public Health: Staff has received notice of funding for a commercial recycling initiative for Olive Boulevard businesses. An intern will be hired through this grant.

2015 Recycling Drop-Off Grant: Cardboard collection has soared with the update of the area. Conveyor and space issues still need to be worked out with the cardboard compactor and reducing the opening size in the fence (to avoid car doors, panes of glass, and non-recyclable items).

MS4: (municipal separate storm sewer system). *When water runs off a property, it flows into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) which is composed of streets, storm drains, ditches, waterways and other facilities, both public and private, by which storm water is conveyed. The MS4 is separate from the MSD's sanitary sewer system, which goes to wastewater treatment plants. Discharges to the MS4 do not get treated; they flow directly into area creeks, rivers and lakes. Sediment negatively impacts water quality by degrading the habitat of aquatic organisms and fish, impeding recreational opportunities, decreasing property value, and promoting the growth of weeds and algae. Sediment accumulation in ditches, streams, and lakes reduces their capacity, thereby increasing the chance of frequent flooding.* University City is working with MSD to comply with a series of Best Management Practices to and other regulations to decrease pollution from MS4.

City is participating in the USGBC Green Cities Challenge (a branch of the Green Business Challenge) again this year, this runs from April through December.

Green Business District Challenge: Working with the Loop Special Business District and Earthways Center (Jean Ponzi) to start a green business district in the Loop. This is another layer of the Green Business Challenge geared toward small businesses who can group together to accomplish green goals. Thus far the businesses include: COCA, Plowsharing, HSB, Three Dog Bakery, Sunshine Daydreams, Great Rivers Greenway, Subterranean Books, and Craft Alliance.

Stormwater Runoff at the Nursery: We are working with a consultant and the River Des Peres Coalition to solve some of the leachate and erosion issues at the nursery.

Diversion of maintenance yard stormwater runoff from the River Des Peres to a combination sewer line is underway through a project replacing a pump in the transfer station.

Staff will continue internal recycling education program to all City staff. The final goal is city-wide employee and facilities mandatory recycling administration regulation.

Green Practices Quarterly Reporting Updated November 2017												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Ecosystems/ Habitat	X			X			X			X		N O M E E T I N G
Water/ Stormwater	X			X			X			X		
Energy		X			X			X			X	
Waste/ Resource Conservation		X			X			X			X	
Education/ Communication/ Advocacy			X			X			X			

Committee Assignments

Ecosystems/ Habitat Barbara Brain

Water/ Stormwater Jonathan Stitelman

Energy Adam Staudt

Waste/ Resource Conservation *Vacant*

Education/ Communication/Advocacy Scott Eidson