



Green Practices Commission

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

AGENDA



GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, January 11, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Avenue

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Round
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 11/9/17 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. Welcome new members: Timothy Dugan and Kathleen Straatmann
 - b. Recycling ordinance for construction projects discussion
6. Old Business
 - a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Review
 - b. Climate Action Plan Update Summary
7. Commission Reports
 - a. Council Liaison Update
 - b. Quarterly Report – Ecosystems/Habitat: Barbara Brain
 - c. Quarterly Report – Waste/resource Conservation: Jenny Wendt
8. Closing Round
9. Adjournment



Department of Public Works and Parks

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Green Practices Commission
FROM: Jenny Wendt – Project Manager
MEETING DATE: January 5, 2018
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:

- Green Schools Quest: Staff is working with Jackson Park Elementary on increasing biodiversity for the Green Schools Quest program. This project includes bat houses, bird houses, a water feature, and some native plantings.
- 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 St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District Waste Reduction Grant Application: An application was submitted for a free “CRT TV Takeback” in coordination with a biannual electronics recycling event. The application included funding toward advertisement, education, and the cost of TV recycling.
- Transportation Alternative Program Grant Application: Staff is proceeding with the TAP project updating the lighting to LED and creating ADA access along Ackert Walkway and through Ackert Park. Council has approved the project. This project will begin design in March 2018 and begin construction in 2019.
- 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.
 - Create a regional database of where to recycle non-single stream items. This database will include locations in 8 counties and St. Louis City.

The group applied for a 2018 St. Louis Jefferson Solid Waste Management District Waste Reduction Grant Application for mass distribution of the standard message of single stream recycling and education and outreach regarding basic recycling and the problems with plastic bags.

- 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. Carts have been received and distribution has begun. Educational materials will be created next.
- 2017 St. Louis County Department of Public Health: Staff has received funding for a commercial recycling initiative for Olive Boulevard businesses. A search is underway for an intern to help get this underway.
- 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.
- 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. Staff is supporting these efforts.
- 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.
- Using funds awarded by the Economic Development Sales Tax, sidewalks will be designed and installed between 82nd and Woodson to increase pedestrian access to businesses along Olive.
- Using funds awarded by the Economic Development Sales Tax, 5 bus shelters are being installed along Olive to promote increased alternative transportation use.
- A conveyor for the cardboard compactor is being designed to alleviate the high volume of cardboard recycling that has occurred since the drop-off area was renovated. This is intended to relieve overflow and reduce labor needed to keep up with the load.



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DRAFT

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

November 9, 2017

Location: Heman Park Community Center
Attendees Present: Jonathan Stitelman (Chairperson), Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Timothy Dugan (to be sworn in 11/13/17)
Absent: Scott Eidson, Bob Elgin, Richard Juang, Lois Sechrist, Terry Crow (Council Liaison)

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 5:35
Special Guests: None
2. Opening Round
 - a. Lois – America Recycles Day, Keep America Beautiful, is November 15th
 - b. Jonathan – Working on a piece for auction for the Perennial Non-Profit annual Lost and Found – Remake Challenge.
 - c. Adam Staudt – Jackson Park Elementary is part of the Green School’s Quest, a Project Based Challenge.
 - d. Barbara participated in two Honeysuckle Hack events, one in Forest Park, one in Kirkwood. The following 2 Saturdays Barbara will be working in Kirkwood to remove more Honeysuckle.
 - e. Jenny – Anticipates speaking with the Council about the economics of recycling on November 13th in observation of America Recycles Day. On November 15th, Jenny will provide custodial and Centennial Commons staff training on recycling.
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The 9/14/17 minutes were approved as written.
 - b. The 10/12/17 minutes were approved with minor revisions.
4. Special Presentation - None
5. New Business
 - a. China’s National Sword Policy on Recycling and its impacts – Jenny discussed changes China is making to reduce pollution and low quality recyclables from entering their country. The change will take place January 1, 2018 and will effect post-consumer plastics and mixed paper markets. The primary change is the reduction of contamination per bale from 3% to 0.5 – 1%. This should not affect the single stream market in the St. Louis area, but initially it could cause disruption in the process.
 - i. Lois mentioned an innovative program for manufacturing and the lifecycle of products. REMADE in America (Reducing EMbodied Energy and Decreasing Emissions) is a Department

of Energy initiative that will enable the development and widespread deployment of key industrial platform technologies that will dramatically reduce life-cycle energy consumption and carbon emissions associated with industrial-scale materials production and processing by creating new technologies for reuse, recycling, and remanufacturing of materials.

- ii. The group that Lois is working with in Healthcare is focused on working with the resin makers and recyclers to try to improve practices and create markets for these products.
- iii. Barbara suggested encouraging the merchants to reduce the use of plastic bags in University City. The commission concurred.

b. City of St. Louis Deconstructing Program – Jenny attended a stakeholders discussion focused on maximizing the demolition of vacant structures through deconstruction, and the opportunity of construction and demolition diversion policies for the City of St. Louis. The deconstruction of vacant properties in the City of St. Louis will result in green space allowing better stormwater management. Examples of policies in other areas include:

- Cook County, Illinois: Requires 5% reuse, 70% recycling goal for all demolition.
- Foster City, California: requires 50% of Construction and Demolition waste to be recycled.
- Orange County, North Carolina: Requires corrugated cardboard, clean wood, and scrap metal to be recycled.

Requiring or recommending that contractors recycle cardboard and scrap metal would be attainable in University City. Because an Architectural Review Board is being developed, this may be the time to propose this.

6. Old Business

- a. Sustainability Strategic Plan Review – Commissioners will unofficially meet twice in December to work on the Strategic Plan.
- b. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update – Lois has been summarizing the CAP and has only 5 pages left until completion.

7. Commission Reports

- a. Council Liaison Update – Absent
- b. Distribute reporting schedule and discuss expectations – Each commissioner has a topic area to report on quarterly. A topic is discussed at each meeting. Commissioners are recommended to report 5 – 10 minutes on each topic. January 2018 this practice will continue.

8. Closing Round

- a. Jonathan will be teaching out of the country for the spring semester. He will return in June but then will be traveling to Johannesburg for research.
- b. Jonathan will reach out to Terry Crow to get an update on Proposition P and MSD's plan for the storage tanks.
- c. Lois's employer, Ascension Hospitals, has just finished a LEED Gold hospital in Austin Texas. Lois will visit next month.

9. Adjournment at 6:33pm.

Green Practices Quarterly Reporting Updated January 2018												
	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 Timothy Dugan