# **AGENDA**



## **GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING**

Thursday, May 10, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Heman Park Community Center, 975 Pennsylvania Avenue

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Opening Round
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. 03/08/18 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes
  - b. 04/12/18 Green Practices Commission Meeting Minutes
- 4. Special Presentations
  - a. Scott Smid, Metro Lighting Energy Efficiency and Ameren Rebates
  - b. Tom Appelbaum, Missouri Energy Savings, YGRENE PACE program
  - c. Public Comments (Limited to 3 minutes for individual's comments and 5 minutes for representatives of groups or organizations)
- New Business
  - a. Proposed changes to by-laws
  - b. Olive and 170 TIF
  - c. GPC developmental reviews and recommendations
- 6. Old Business
  - a. Recycling Ordinance for Construction and Demo projects (cardboard and metal) – next steps
  - b. OneSTL endorsement
  - c. EV information
- 7. Commission Reports
  - a. Council Liaison Update
  - b. Quarterly Report Ecosystems/Habitat: Barbara Brain (Community Gardens continued)
- 8. Closing Round
- 9. Adjournment



## **Green Practices Commission**

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

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

DRAFT

March 8, 2018

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: Lois Sechrist (Interim Chairperson), Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Timothy

Dugan, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Adam Brown (Staff), Terry Crow (Council

Liaison)

Absent: Terry Crow (Council Liaison), Kathy Straatmann

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 5:33

Special Guests: Gregory Rose, University City City Manager

Sinan Alpaslan, Director of Public Works and Parks

David Pickerill, Executive Director of Missouri Clean Energy District

## Opening Round:

- a. Jenny Handed out information on University City's recycling economics
- b. Lois Reminded the group that this day was International Women's Day and Earth Day is on April 22.
- c. Barbara Watched a documentary from the St. Louis Audubon Society "Hometown Habitat" showing how why native plants are critical to the survival of the ecosystems in our communities.
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. The 2/08/18 minutes were approved with a minor correction.
- 4. Special Presentations
  - a. Gregory Rose, University City City Manager, shared his vision of sustainability. He believes the following areas are of particular importance:
    - i. LEED Certification
    - ii. Alternative energy vehicles
    - iii. Recycling
    - iv. Rehabbing buildings/energy efficiency
    - v. Community Gardens
  - b. David Pickerill, Executive Director of Missouri Clean Energy District discussed residential opportunities for the PACE program.
- 5. New Business
  - a. New Member introductions

- i. Mary Gorman was formerly a pediatric nurse, a member of the recycling task force, and presently a Delmar Loop building owner with a strong interest in sustainability.
- ii. John Solodar has a PhD in Organic Chemistry, retired from Monsanto, frequent member of Boards and Commission for the City.
- 6. Commission Reports
  - a. Council Liaison Update Terry Crow absent
  - b. Quarterly Report Education/Communication/Advocacy: Timothy Dugan tabled
- 7. Closing Round
  - a. Lois Focused on limited single-use plastic reduction creating a 1-page flyer for Earth Day.
  - b. Barbara Drawdown event is Tuesday, March 13 at the Sheet Metal Union Hall.
- 8. Adjournment at 6:58 pm.





## **Green Practices Commission**

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

Meeting Minutes – University City Green Practices Commission

## DRAFT

April 12, 2018

Location: Heman Park Community Center

Attendees Present: Lois Sechrist (Interim Chairperson), Barbara Brain, Adam Staudt, Kathy

Straatmann, Jenny Wendt (Staff Liaison), Adam Brown (Staff)

Absent: Terry Crow (Council Liaison), Timothy Dugan

1. Meeting Called to Order - Roll Call at 5:32

Special Guests: Tim Michels, President of Energy Resources Group and prior Green Practices Commissioner

### 2. Opening Round:

- a. Adam Brittany Woods Middle School implemented a recycling program and installed bottle refill station.
- b. Lois Discussed Earth Day coming up, and passed around a publication from her business about single-use plastic reduction
- c. Barbara Arbor Day is April 27th
- d. Kathy Recycling problems in multifamily properties
- e. John Found out orange juice cartons are recyclable
- f. Jenny University City Loop Green Dining Alliance tour for Missouri Botanical Gardens 4/12/18

Electronics Recycling Event 5/12/18

University City Loop – trying to become a Green Business District for non-restaurant businesses

- g. Mary Met with Scott Smid with Metro Lighting about energy efficiency and Ameren rebates
- 3. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Review of the 3/08/18 minutes were tabled due to incorrect submittal in the agenda packet tabled until next meeting.

#### 4. Special Presentations

a. Tim Michels, President of Energy Resources Group and prior Green Practices Commissioner, shared his analysis on replacing the police fleet with Electric Vehicles. Tim presented financial information that meets or exceeds the City's energy efficiency ordinance. The Commission agreed unanimously that based on the preliminary analysis, further detailed evaluation should occur. The commission provided the following statement:

The Green Practices Commission has reached a consensus that they do endorse

the concept, if not every detail, of this proposal and would like to see this move forward as it fits into the framework of the energy ordinance as it was approved by City Council. [The Commission] will craft a memo to present first to the Director of Public Works and Parks and then to the City Manager for further development.

#### 5. New Business

- a. Missouri Energy Savings Program A new PACE program has been approved by St. Louis County. Tom Appelbaum with Ygrene, a representative for this PACE program, will present at a future GPC meeting.
- b. OneSTL Endorsement Jenny presented the request by OneSTL (East West Gateway) for University City to endorse the sustainability targets set by OneSTL at the Sustainability Summit in 2016. Jenny will distribute the OneSTL categories, targets, and strategies to the group to be discussed at the next meeting.
- c. Commission secretary position The GPC secretary position is vacant. The commission discussed filling this position. No one volunteered for this position, but the idea of changing the bylaws to remove the secretary position and instead change the position to vice-chairperson to fill in when the chairperson is unavailable.

#### 6. Old Business

a. Recycling Ordinance for Construction and Demo projects (cardboard and metal) – The commission discussed how increasing cardboard and metals would most effectively move forward. The idea of promoting this idea to contractors registered with and starting this on a voluntary basis was presented. The commission would like Jenny to present this idea to the Director of Public Works and Parks.

### 7. Commission Reports

- a. Council Liaison Update Terry Crow absent Lois reported on his behalf
  - i. Council Liaisons will be assessed to determine if Terry Crow will still be our liaison. It will be determined soon.
  - ii. I-170 and Olive development and TIF are primary council conversations. Next public meeting is April 18.
  - iii. Adam suggested that developers discuss projects with Green Practices Commission.
- b. Quarterly Report Ecosystems/Habitat: Barbara Brain discussed Community Gardens and the establishment of additional community gardens in University City.

### 8. Closing Round

- a. Adam Thanks Tim for his discussion.
- b. Mary would like Scott Smid to discuss Energy Efficiency and Ameren Rebates with the Group.
- 8. Adjournment at 7:08 pm.

#### **University City TIF: An Opportunity for Development**

University City seeks to use this unique opportunity to bring attention to and reinvest in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward and Olive Boulevard, a part of the city that has long been neglected. The City envisions a healthy, vibrant, stable residential neighborhood north of Olive that is racially and economically inclusive. TIF revenues will be used to improve quality of housing, increase homeownership opportunities, and improve the overall quality of life in the neighborhood. In tandem with this outcome, Olive Boulevard will see further investment and growth, and reach its full potential as a unique, accessible, and thriving commercial corridor that serves the community.

Revenues generated by the primary commercial development portion of the TIF (Redevelopment Plan Area 1), which would not be available otherwise, will be transferred to other parts of the community through investment in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward (RPA 2) and Olive Boulevard (RPA 3). The long-term benefits of the TIF will go beyond the currently anticipated redevelopment to the school district, business districts, and the whole of University City. These benefits include higher property values for the whole of the city, increased revenue for city services, and consequently improved neighborhood stability and quality of life for the residents.

### **Description of Tax Increment Financing (TIF):**

TIF is a tool for economic development provided under Missouri law that may be implemented by local municipalities. The purpose of TIF is to induce development in an area that has been declining or has been deficient in growth and development. Once the area is defined, a redevelopment plan is adopted to address the conditions that have led to a lack of development. The Council must conclude that development would not happen but for the use of TIF as an incentive to the developer.

In a TIF district, taxing districts (city, school board, library, etc.) continue to receive certain taxes at the level they were before the TIF was initiated. For the duration of the TIF (maximum 23 years), any increase in real property taxes is put in a fund and used to pay costs associated with the redevelopment project. This fund also receives 50% of new economic activity taxes generated (sales taxes) within the redevelopment area. After 23 years, the taxing districts begin collecting 100% of the then-current taxes (see graphic). TIF does <u>not</u> capture personal property taxes.

### **University City Development:**

University City is seeking to use the TIF in a unique way to accomplish a broad strategy of redevelopment, beyond the development of just a new retail area. The City intends to use some of the funds from the retail development in RPA 1 to fund redevelopment activities in RPA 2 and RPA 3.

As noted above, the proposed TIF has three Redevelopment Project Areas (RPAs): RPA 1, RPA 2, and RPA 3 (See map).

RPA 1 (Olive/170): This area is the site of a proposed new commercial development west of McKnight and Woodson, on the north and south sides of Olive, including a national "anchor" tenant (a big box retailer). This area will generate the majority of the funds for the TIF through property and sales tax increases.

RPA 2 (primarily residential areas north of Olive): This area includes all of University City north of Olive Boulevard. This predominantly residential area will be the focus of a strategic plan to increase housing

values, promote economic diversity, encourage homeownership, convert renters to owners, and stabilize and invigorate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward.

RPA 3 (Olive Commercial Corridor): This area includes all of Olive Boulevard east of McKnight/Woodson. The north and south sides of Olive Blvd are included. Using funds generated by the TIF, the City will implement a strategy to stimulate economic development along Olive Boulevard based on a Master Plan for the corridor.

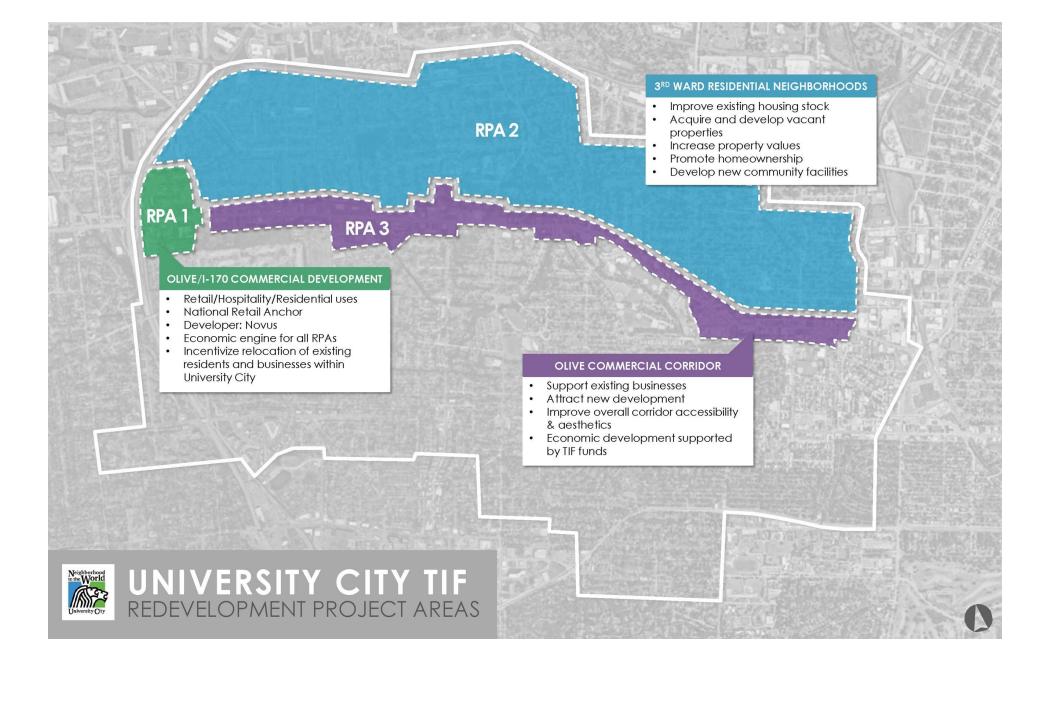
## **Redevelopment Projects**

## RPA 2 (3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Residential):

- -Housing rehabilitation and other housing activities
- -Neighborhood Improvements
- -Acquisition of residential property
- -Landscaping
- -Demolition
- -Park development
- -Construction of housing
- -Renovation of commercial properties

## **RPA 3 (Olive Blvd Commercial)**

- -Renovation of commercial property
- -Acquisition of commercial property
- -Demolition
- -Public improvements
- -Landscaping
- -Park development
- -Construction for commercial uses



# 2018 Report to the Region:

Measuring Our Progress



PLAN FOR A PROSPEROUS, HEALTHY, VIBRANT ST. LOUIS REGION



## WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Biodiversity

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Get Involved

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**OneSTL** is a multifaceted effort to encourage and support greater sustainability within the 8-county St. Louis region (see cover). A plan was completed in 2013 by a collaboration of eleven consortium partners and through the participation and engagement of 50 other organizations. Thousands of people contributed input to the full plan which can be found at <a href="https://www.onestl.org/plan">www.onestl.org/plan</a>.

After the plan was completed, the consortium partners and other participants formed the OneSTL Network. Members of the Network met routinely to discuss progress on their own projects and exchange ideas. In 2015, several Network member organizations decided to collaborate on hosting a regional sustainability summit. After 2 years of planning, the summit was held in April of 2017 at Washington University. An outcome of the summit was the identification of targets for seven regional sustainability indicators. Those seven Indicators and Targets are now used as a focus for activities related to implementing the OneSTL Plan.

OneSTL plan completed-2013

Summit planning begins-2015

Sustainability Summit-2017

Working Groups form-2017

Action on Targets-2018

In May of 2017, the **Sustainability Lab @ T-Rex** was established as a monthly venue to have interactive and educational discussions on topics related to the Targets in addition to other general sustainability topics. The targets were also used as a foundation to form six regional Working Groups. Three of the **Working Groups** are new collaborations, and three are initiatives that existed and are now collaborating on achieving the OneSTL Targets.

Agencies, organizations and individuals from across the region can express their support through <a href="https://www.onestltargets.org">www.onestltargets.org</a>. If you would like to participate or simply would like more information, connect with us here: <a href="https://www.onestl.org/contact-us">www.onestl.org/contact-us</a>.

This report includes an **Indicators Summary** that discusses the 57 Performance Indicators monitored by East-West Gateway Council of Governments, more information on the Regional Sustainability Summit and the Sustainability Lab @ T-Rex, and background on the Working Groups and their related Targets.

Sincerely, Aaron Young Sustainability Planning Manager

# 2017 Updates

## Sustainability Lab @ T-Rex

The Sustainability Lab @ T-Rex is a partnership between OneSTL and T-Rex, the downtown St. Louis business incubator. The Lab was originally intended to be a monthly gathering of people working on, learning about, and advocating for sustainability. Once the event was established, it gave OneSTL working groups the opportunity to meet regularly and share their successes, lessons and challenges. The Lab is also used as a space for learning, creativity, and collaboration and has brought together the often independent efforts of public and private sectors. Seven Labs were held in 2017 with over 350 attendees.



In 2018, we will continue to hold the Lab on the last Tuesday of every month on the 5th floor at T-Rex in downtown St. Louis (911 Washington Avenue). On-going conversations have been happening with the St. Louis Food Policy Coalition on food access, with the International Society of Sustainability Professionals on drivers of sustainability, and with the NAACP on equitable energy policy. In addition to these on-going conversations, we are looking to round out the Lab schedule with new topics, local research, and student projects. We are also seeking professionals and leaders from a variety of sectors to do one-on-one or small group mentoring with younger professionals and students.

If you would like to attend the Lab or would like to host a sustainability-related discussion or presentation, visit the Lab's website by going to <a href="https://www.onestl.org">www.onestl.org</a> and clicking on the T-Rex logo.



## 2017 Regional Sustainability Summit Recap

In 2017, several organizations came together to host a regional sustainability summit to discuss ways in which we could more actively work to make the St. Louis region more sustainable. More than 300 people attended the two-day event held at Washington University in St. Louis' Eric P. Newman Education Center.

The first day of the Summit included presentations from Denver, Colorado and Kansas City, Missouri on sustainability efforts in those regions, a panel discussion on the opportunities and hurdles to collaboration in the St. Louis region, and break-out groups covering the Summit's seven tracks. It concluded with a keynote presentation on the importance of including equity and justice in our effort.

On the second day of the Summit, 124 representatives from 88 different organizations met in groups of 12 to 15 people based on the Summit tracks and had focused discussions on the sustainability Performance Indicators of the OneSTL Plan. Out of these conversations, seven indicators were selected that best reflected what groups in the region are working on and where collaboration could have an additional impact. For all of them, Targets were identified for which the OneSTL Network could focus their efforts in 2018.

After the Summit, three new groups formed and three existing groups began meeting to talk about the Indicators and coordinate efforts that could achieve the identified Targets. These Working Groups are described on the following pages.

The Summit was organized by seven tracks:

- Buildings-Land Use- Community Development
- Water & Green Infrastructure
- Materials & Recycling
- Energy & Emissions
- Transportation
- Biodiversity
- Food Access

These tracks were selected by the Summit organizing committee based on the areas of overlap between the Themes in the OneSTL Plan and the work of organizations represented on the committee.

# **Performance Indicators Summary**

East-West Gateway tracks 57 performance indicators that measure how the region is performing in areas of economic, environmental, and social sustainability. Of the 57 indicators being tracked, 49 have trend data evaluated for this report.

The St. Louis region is moving in the desired direction on 59 percent of the indicators. They indicate that the region is taking steps to become more sustainable and is experiencing some improvements, but the region continues to face challenges, particularly in regards to equity.

The region has seen positive movement on economic measures as well as an increase in actions towards being more sustainable by individuals and organizations. Unemployment, employment, personal income, and gross metropolitan product have all improved since 2010. Three measures of involvement in OneSTL show increased participation, and there has been an increase in the number of local governments involved in ecological programs, such as Tree Cities.

However, the region continues to struggle with ensuring that economic and social gains reach poor and minority populations. Income inequality, concentrated poverty, and the percent of residents considered housing cost-burdened are growing. Another challenge is that the number of local governments involved in programs that make the region prepared for disasters remains small. Despite progress, less than 12 percent of local governments are participating in programs such as the Community Rating System, StormReady, and Cool Cities.

## 59 Percent

of OneSTL Performance indicators are moving in the desired direction.

12 of 49

indicators are moving opposite the desired direction.



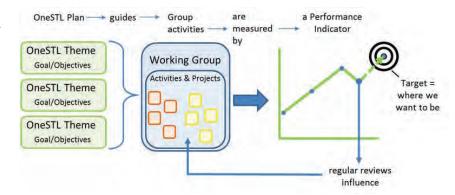
OneSTL.org/indicators

# **Regional Working Groups**

Regional working groups meet on a regular basis to implement strategies that help achieve OneSTL Plan goals and move selected indicators toward the desired outcomes. Six working groups—three existing and three new—have convened since the 2017 Regional Sustainability Summit. Each group has a unique structure that is generally limited in size to maintain focus and streamline communication. However, each group maintains a larger network of stakeholders, including constituents and organizational representatives who are interested in the topic or may be working on similar issues. A detailed description of each group's composition, progress, and action plan is included on the following pages.

Information on the working groups will be published at www.onestl.org/get-involved/regional-initiatives.

If you would like to participate in a working group, connect with us at www.onestl.org/contact-us.



## **Working Groups and Their Targets**

- Water and Green Infrastructure\*: 100 percent of land in the St. Louis region has active organizations and quality watershed plans in progress by 2025 and completed by 2030.
- Waste and Recycling: Reduce tonnage of waste going to landfills within our wasteshed by 30 percent by 2030 over a 2015 baseline.
- Transit Oriented Development: By 2023, increase the number of destinations such as jobs, residences, and other resources or amenities within a 1/4 mile or five minute safe and accessible walk by 30 percent at 20 stations from a 2018 baseline.
- Energy and Emissions: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 28 percent by 2025 and 80 percent by 2050 (using 2005 as the baseline year).
- Biodiversity\*: By 2025, 100 percent of counties in the CSA of St. Louis are using the Regional Biodiversity Atlas to actively guide their planning, policies, and practices in ways that increase habitat connectivity, ecological functionality, and quality of life for all.
- Food Access\*: By 2027, reduce by half the number of census tracts where residents are low-income, lack vehicle access, are a certain distance from a healthy food outlet, and availability of healthy food is low.

A discussion group was held at the Summit under the title Buildings, Land Use and Community Development. The group identified a target to "Equitably increase social and economic diversity to reduce the percent of low-income residents living in concentrated poverty by 50 percent by 2030 from a 2010 baseline." A Working Group did not form under this topic after the Summit, but the members of the OneSTL Network are exploring partnership opportunities that will help reach this target.



<sup>\*</sup> Indicates a group existed prior to the regional summit and agreed to collaborate on reaching the target.

# WATER AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



**Target:** 100 percent of land in the St. Louis region has active organizations and quality watershed plans in progress by 2025 and plans completed by 2030 from a 2010 baseline.

**Background:** A region with protected and enhanced natural systems will improve the performance of its water supply, flood management, and wastewater infrastructure. The Water & Green Infrastructure working group will measure progress by keeping track of water bodies that have been adopted by a clean water group and incorporated into a watershed plan.

Structure: East-West Gateway's Water Resources Committee (WRC) has been discussing issues related to water quality and watershed planning since 2001. A sub-committee of the WRC will act as the Water and Green Infrastructure Working Group. The WRC will continue to work to keep track of water quality initiatives and to disseminate information on planning, projects, and best practices.

**Activities:** The WRC, Nine Network and the Nature Conservancy have frequent meetings to discuss issues related to water. Additionally, the WRC conducts quarterly meetings at the office of East-West Gateway including educational tours.

Specific actions the group undertakes include:

- Mapping, maintaining, and evaluating a database of regional water quality efforts
- Maintaining resources on water quality on ewgateway.org and onestl.org
- Producing and publishing informational videos such as Labarque Creek restoration

## One STL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- Collaborative—Strengthen neighborhood and community collaboration by supporting local efforts and networks that empower residents to strengthen and maintain conditions in their own neighborhoods and communities.
- Green—Guarantee clean water for all citizens by improving the health of our watersheds and waterways for drinking, aesthetics, and recreation.

# MATERIALS AND RECYCLING

**Background:** Waste reduction and diversion are sustainable practices that ensure efficient materials use and reduction of the amount of space and money devoted to landfills. The Materials and Recycling Working Group comprises multiple communities and organizations that work on waste reduction and recycling efforts.

Structure: The core of the Working Group is a representative group of approximately 12 people from several public and private entities. The Working Group will recruit an "advisory group"—to be called Waste Diversion Ambassadors—broken down into sectors that will be responsible for reaching out and communicating with the larger population of organizations that make up their sector.

Activities: Priority activities identified by the Working Group will focus on education, waste reduction infrastructure improvements, and policy advocacy. Specific actions the group started in 2017 and will continue in 2018 include:

- Creating a regional database and contact list of stakeholders through the Waste Diversion Ambassadors.
- Creating a central, regional database and website for information on recycling and hard-to-recycle items.



**Target:** Reduce the tonnage of waste going to landfills within our wasteshed by 30 percent by 2030 from a 2015 baseline.

 Conduct a regional public outreach and education campaign on recycling.

## OneSTL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- Prosperous—Promote resource-efficient business practices by encouraging businesses to employ sustainable business practices that protect the natural resources of the region and promote livable communities.
- **Efficient**—Increase conservation efforts by maximizing participation in local recycling programs and waste minimization programs.

# TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT



**Target:** By 2023, increase the number of destinations such as jobs, residences, and other resources or amenities within a 1/4 mile or five minute safe and accessible walk by 30 percent at 20 stations from a 2018 baseline.

Background: Transit Oriented Development (TOD) is development within a 1/4 mile or a five minute walk from a MetroLink or MetroBus Transfer station that supports transit ridership through design and orientation that focuses on the transit, makes transit accessible by a diversity of mode choices and supports a mix of uses for the rider.

Structure: The TOD Working Group is new to the region. Participants at the Summit agreed that a more comprehensive indicator than those currently used is needed for measuring the sustainability of transportation in our region. The group identified land use, walkability, and other concerns as part of what they want to see a transportation indicator address. Bi-State Development has been bringing stakeholders together to discuss a regional definition of TOD, a target for increasing TOD opportunities in the region, and how to measure success.

**Activities:** Baseline data will need to be collected in order to determine if the target is being achieved. Looking ahead, the Working Group will:

- Create a more robust indicator for measuring the quality of TOD at light rail and bus station areas.
- Develop a process for assessing Metrolink and Metrobus stations.
- Collect data on the destinations and walkability that currently exists.

## One STL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- **Distinctive**—Foster active and healthy lifestyles, by promoting (re)development of accessible, walkable, bikable, and transit-oriented neighborhoods.
- Connected—Utilize transportation assets to stimulate economic development, by supporting transit oriented development.

# **ENERGY AND EMISSIONS**

**Target:** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 28 percent by 2025 and 80 percent by 2050 from a 2005 baseline.

Background: Greenhouse gases (GHGs) are compounds that prevent heat from escaping the earth's atmosphere and are recognized as a contributor to global climate change. Working to bring levels down can have other benefits such as cleaner air and water, cost savings through more efficient transportation and buildings, job creation through entrepreneurship and technological innovation, and other economic development opportunities.

Structure: The Energy and Emissions Working Group is comprised of individuals from Sitton Energy Solutions, Washington University Office of Sustainability, and the US Green Building Council – Missouri Gateway Chapter. The group has been meeting since the Summit and will create a steering committee and subcommittees for the priority areas of focus identified below.

Activities: The group will form sub-committees in the coming months to help address the target areas discussed at the Summit: building efficiency, transportation, and energy source.



Short-term goals for the Working Group include:

- Seek local endorsements for the Target from private and public institutions.
- Ask institutions to create their own, internal emissions reduction goals.
- Create a structure to support institutions as they strive to meet their own goals and targets.

## OneSTL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- Green—Exceed clean air standards by prioritizing public investments, encouraging private activities, and educating individuals on actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.
- Efficient—Increase energy diversity and efficiency by promoting alternative energy sources and designing, building, and renovating energy-efficient buildings and neighborhoods.



**Target:** By 2025, 100 percent of counties in the combined statistical area of St. Louis are using the Regional Biodiversity Atlas (from a 2018 baseline) to actively guide their planning, policies, and practices in ways that increase habitat connectivity, ecological functionality, and quality of life for all.

Background: Ecosystems are directly responsible for the basics of daily life—air, water, soil, and food. Ecosystem change today is being driven by metropolitan regions, often characterized by high-intensity land use and high degrees of fragmentation. Opportunities exist to protect and connect remnants of biodiversity and to reimagine built areas to integrate living, natural systems into community design using quality data to support measurable interventions.

**Structure:** The Biodiversity Working Group is organized by BiodiverseCity St. Louis, a network of organizations and individuals throughout the greater St. Louis region working to improve quality of life for all through actions that welcome nature into our urban, suburban, and rural communities.

# **BIODIVERSITY**

**Activities:** BiodiverseCity St. Louis has been meeting since 2012. As a result of the Sustainability Summit and the identified Target, this working group will:

- Build a regional inventory of biodiversity data.
- Develop and promote a regional vision and increase awareness for healthier, connected, biodiverse lands and waters.
- Develop a regional atlas of priority sites and pilot projects for biodiversity conservation.
- Develop a playbook of model projects that could be replicated in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

## OneSTL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- Collaborative—Improve access to information for local government officials and citizens by providing access to data that is needed to make informed, sustainable decisions.
- **Green**—Protect the quality of our natural resources and environment by strengthening public understanding of the value of our natural resources.

# FOOD ACCESS

**Target:** By 2027, reduce by half the number of census tracts where residents are low-income, lack vehicle access, are a certain distance from a healthy food outlet, and availability of healthy food is low.

Background: Residents in low-income neighborhoods may face more barriers to accessing healthy food options; they may travel further to reach healthy food outlets or may not have the economic means to afford healthy food options. The Food Access Working Group recognizes that grocery stores are only one source of healthy food, and others include, but are not limited to, farmers markets, community-supported agriculture, neighborhood gardens, and mobile markets.

**Structure:** The St. Louis Food Policy Coalition—a group of individuals and organizations working to promote a thriving local food system that supports the health, community, environment, and economy of the St. Louis region—convenes the Food Access working Group.

**Activities:** The St. Louis Food Policy Coalition holds regular meetings to discuss strategies to improve local Food Access.



They identified the following priority strategies:

- Increase capacity and awareness of alternative food retail models.
- Work with grocery stores to address community concerns.
- Increase food production in North St. Louis.
- Increase knowledge of healthy food, where to buy it, how to afford it, and how to cook it.
- Establish baseline data for healthy food outlets in low-income census tracts.

## One STL Theme—Goals/Objectives being implemented:

- **Distinctive**—Foster active and healthy lifestyles by increasing access to local, fresh, and healthy food.
- Efficient—Improve access to fresh, local food by supporting local food production and distribution, especially in areas that lack adequate retail outlets.

## **OneSTL Network Member Organizations**

Accelerate Wind

Access Engineering, LLC

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community

Ameren Missouri Pure Power

American Heart Association

American Lung Association

American Lung Association

Anderson Associates

Applied Research Collaborative

Backstrom McCarley Berry & Co., LLC

Better Family Life, Inc. Brightside St. Louis

**CBB Transportation Engineers and Planners** 

**CDBG Operations Corporation** 

CDM Smith

Center for Sustainability at Saint Louis University

Charitable Foundation USA

CI SelectCitizens for Modern Transit

City Energy Project

City Farm

City of Belleville

City of Festus

City of Granite City

City of Jennings

City of Maryland Heights\*

City of Richmond Heights

City of St. Louis Department of Health

City of St. Louis Office of the Mayor

City of University City

Community Builders Network of Metro St. Louis

Community Development Administration

Compass Strategic Business Consulting

Davey Resource Group

Deer Creek Watershed Alliance

EarthDance Farms

East Side Aligned

East-West Gateway Council of Governments

EDC of St. Charles County

Edwardsville Township

Energy Resources Group

Energy Systems Group

Fair Food Network

Filtrexx

FOCUS St. Louis

For the Sake of All

Forest ReLeaf of Missouri

Gateway Greening

Grace Hill Settlement House

Gray Design Group

Great Rivers Greenway

Green Dining Alliance

Green Spiral Tours

Harris-Stowe State University Center for Neighborhood Affairs

HeartLands Conservancy

Hellmuth + Bicknese Architects, LLC

Home Builders Association of St. Louis and Eastern Missouri

Housing Options Provided for the Elderly

Institute for Urban Research - SIUE

International Institute of St. Louis

ioby

Jennings High School

Jones Lang Lasalle

Justine Petersen Housing and Reinvestment Corporation

Kaleidoscope Network

LCMS Foundation

Lilian Circle Neighborhood Development Association

Logue & Associates, Inc.

Ludus Inc.

Madison County Employment and Training

Maternal, Child & Family Health Coalition

Metro East Community Air Project, University of Illinois

Metro East Park and Recreation District

Metro Water Infrastructure Partnership (MWIP)

Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing and Opportunity Council

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District

Midland States Bank

Missouri American Water

Missouri Botanical Garden

Missouri Commission on Human Rights

Missouri Department of Conservation

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Missouri Department of Transportation

Missouri Interfaith Power & Light

Missouri Water Infrastructure Partnership

MRC Recycling

Planning and Community Design Commission, City of Olivette

Pollution Prevention Regional Information Center (P2RIC)

Positive and Productive Innovations

Public Water Supply District #2 of St. Charles County

Real Estate Solutions

RideFinders

Ris

River des Peres Watershed Coalition

Saint Louis FORWARD

Saint Louis University

Sierra Club

Sitton Energy Solutions

Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville

Southwestern Illinois College

Spinnaker St. Louis

St. Charles Community College

St. Clair County Department of Health

St. Clair County Transit District

St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO)

St. Louis Chapter, NECA

St. Louis Clean Cities

St. Louis County Department of Health

St. Louis Community Foundation

St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers

St. Louis County

St. Louis County Soil & Water Conservation District

St. Louis Earth Day

St. Louis Mental Health Board

St. Louis Regional Chamber

StL Black Leadership Roundtable

Stone Carlie & Company, LLC

The Living city Corporation

Thomson Printing

Trailnet, Inc

Trivers Associates

United Way of Greater St. Louis

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development\*

U.S. Green Building Council - Missouri Gateway Chapter

University of Missouri Extension, St. Louis County

University of Missouri, Environmental Assistance Center

Urban Forestry Consortium

Urban Strategies

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

USGBC-Missouri Gateway Chapter

Washington University

Webster University

Youth Education and Health in Soulard

YouthBridge Community Foundation

## Get Involved

Whether you have passion for sustainability in general or are interested in a specific topic, there are several opportunities to get involved with OneSTL. You can follow the link provided next to the opportunity or simply send us a message stating your interest at: www.onestl.org/contact-us.

Join the OneSTL Network with no commitment to receive updates on our events and progress: www.onestl.org/component/kiosk/message-join.

Request information on a Working Group: www.onestl.org/contact-us.

If you would like to assist with our communications effort or help organizing the Sustainability Lab @ T-Rex, send a message at www.onestl.org/contact-us.

## **Show Your Support**

If you have a particular interest in one or more of the Targets described in this report, show your support by signing on to our endorsement statement at **www.onestltargets.org**. Whether you are a student, a corporate executive, a community activist or just a concerned resident, we want to know that you care.

## OneSTL

1 Memorial Drive, Suite1600 St. Louis, MO 63102 www.onestl.org

East-West Gateway Council of Governments fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see http://www. ewgateway.org/TitleVI/titlevi.htm or call (314) 421-4220 or (618) 274-2750.





Gregory Rose, City Manager City of University City 6801 Delmar Boulevard University City, MO 63130

April 4, 2018

Dear Mr. Rose,

A concerted effort is underway to coordinate sustainability efforts within the St. Louis region through OneSTL. Since the OneSTL plan was completed in 2013, the eleven original partners and scores of other organizations and individuals met routinely to exchange ideas and discuss progress on their own projects. In April of 2017, a regional sustainability summit was held at the Eric P. Newman Education Center in partnership with the Washington University Office of Sustainability. Over 300 people representing over 100 organizations attended the summit. An outcome of the summit was the recommendation for six sustainability targets to be used to guide future efforts of the many organizations collaborating on OneSTL Plan implementation and generally working on sustainability.

The targets address greenhouse gas emissions, access to healthy food, biodiversity, transit oriented development, waste reduction, and water quality & green infrastructure. Detailed information about each target can be found at <a href="https://www.onestl.org/regional-initiatives">www.onestl.org/regional-initiatives</a>. In order to build momentum and have a greater impact on the region through this effort, we are looking for agencies, organizations and businesses to endorse these targets, set targets internal to their organization based on their conditions and abilities, and/or contribute to the collaborative efforts of the OneSTL Working Groups. One such group is the Materials and Recycling Working Group which Jennifer Wendt has already stepped forward to help lead.

Through examples such as the Green Practices Commission and The Loop Green Dining District, the City of University City is taking actions to be a regional leader in sustainability. As such, I would like to formally invite you to endorse our OneSTL Targets. A statement of endorsement is included on the following page. Feel free to sign and return the endorsement as written or use it as guidance in creating your own endorsement statement. Also, an on-line version is available to make endorsements electronically at <a href="https://www.onestltargets.org">www.onestltargets.org</a>. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

aaron Young

Aaron Young
Sustainability Planning Manager
East-West Gateway Council of Governments
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600
St. Louis, MO 63102
314-421-4220
aaron.young@ewgateway.org



## OneSTL Statement of Endorsement

In recognition that residents in all of the cities and counties in the St. Louis region collectively impact and are impacted by each other's actions –and– solutions to many of our issues will require action and collaboration from all sectors and all communities in our region,

I/We, the undersigned, endorse the establishment of the following regional targets: (select as many that you would like to endorse)  $\square$  Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 28 percent by 2025 and 80 percent by 2050.  $\square$  By 2025, 100% of counties in the combined statistical area of St. Louis are using the Regional Biodiversity Atlas to actively guide their planning, policies and practices in ways that increase habitat connectivity, ecological functionality, and quality of life for all.  $\square$  100% of land in the St. Louis region has active watershed organizations and quality watershed plans in progress by 2025 and plans completed by 2030.  $\square$  Reduce tonnage of waste going to landfills within our wasteshed by 30% by 2030.  $\square$  By 2023, increase the number of destinations such as jobs, residences, and other resources or amenities within a 1/4 mile or five minute safe and accessible walk by 30 percent at 20 stations  $\square$  By 2027, reduce by half the number of healthy food priority areas. A healthy food priority area is defined as a low-income census tract where residents lack vehicle access, are a certain distance from a healthy food outlet, and the average availability of healthy food in all food stores is low. ☐ In addition to a general endorsement, I/we wish to commit to achieving the regional target by: - Adopting, publishing, and beginning efforts to achieve specific targets within our institution, business, government, or organization that contribute to the regional target. Identifying a point person within our organization to lead internal efforts to meet our targets and to contribute to the knowledgebase, mentorship and peer learning opportunities being created through the OneSTL Network. Signed by: Title:\_\_\_\_\_