



AGENDA

GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday June 11, 2020 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Observe and/or Listen to the Meeting (your options to join the meeting are below):

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88656143839?pwd=ZWYyaHltdCsxeiVlVGQVhEVDBmTnZaQT09>

Password: 903919

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +19292056099,,88656143839#,,1#,903919# or +13017158592,,88656143839#,,1#,903919#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or 888 788 0099 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5247 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 886 5614 3839

Password: 903919

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88656143839?pwd=ZWYyaHltdCsxeiVlVGQVhEVDBmTnZaQT09>

Citizen Participation

Those who wish to provide a comment during the “Public Comments” portion as indicated on the Parks Commission agenda: may provide written comments to the Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry ahead of the meeting.

ALL written comments must be received **no later than 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.** Comments may be sent via email to: jwendt@ucitymo.org or mailed to the City Hall – 6801 Delmar Blvd. – Attention Jenny Wendt, Senior Project Manager. Such comments will be provided to the Green Practices Commission prior to the meeting. Comments will be made a part of the official record and made accessible to the public online following the meeting.

Please note, when submitting your comments, a **name and address must be provided.** Please also note if your comment is on an agenda or non-agenda item, and a name and address are not provided, the provided comment will not be recorded in the official record.

The City apologizes for any inconvenience the meeting format change may pose to individuals, but it is extremely important that extra measures be taken to protect employees, residents board/commission members and elected officials during these challenging times.

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GREEN PRACTICES COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday June 11, 2020 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Round
3. Approval of Minutes: 03/12/2020
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. Jenny Wendt – new role at University City
 - b. Upcoming Comprehensive Plan
6. Old Business
 - a. Fall 2020 WUSTL Sustainability Exchange Intern Application
 - b. Sustainability Strategic Plan Update
 - c. Energy Efficiency Master Plan Consultant Selection
 - d. Biodiversity Projects
 - a. Anti-Litter Campaign – Kickoff
 - b. Oops: Feet on the Street Recycling Audit
7. Council Liaison Update
8. Closing Round
9. Adjournment



Public Works Department

6801 Delmar Boulevard, 3rd Floor, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8560, Fax: (314) 862-0694

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 11, 2020

AGENDA ITEM: Comprehensive Plan Update

The Green Practices Commission will briefly discuss the upcoming Comprehensive Plan Update.



Department of Public Works

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STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 11, 2020

AGENDA ITEMS: WUSTL Sustainability Exchange Program
Sustainability Strategic Plan Update

Overview:

Students majoring or minoring in Environmental Studies at Washington University receive excellent instruction and training from some of the best professors in the nation. The Environmental Studies Program is proud of its range of expertise, from environmental policy, biology, and earth science to anthropology, engineering, and green building. While the professors may be experts in the classroom, it is recognized that community organizations like ours are experts in the field. These students are also in need of a more engaged learning experiences off-campus, and the program's administration knows that often community organizations have limited resources to achieve their goals. By partnering with community organizations to facilitate internships, the hope is to meet this student demand, deepen student learning, prepare students for careers, and meaningfully support the work of community organizations, like the City of University City.

Currently University City has a WUST Sustainability Exchange student, Juliet Kamau. Juliet has been working with the City from summer 2019 – current date. Juliet's hours are based on her school schedule. Record keeping (timesheets) and compensations is done through Washington University. Juliet will be finished with her University City work in Spring 2020.

I am suggesting that University City submit a proposal for the fall 2020 Sustainability Exchange. The anticipated student would begin work in fall of 2020 and either work with the City one semester or the entire school year, depending on the student's availability and the needs of the City.

Proposals:

Proposals for fall 2020 projects are due by February 28th. The program will likely be able to accommodate 2-3 new projects. Announcements for fall projects will be made by April 1, 2020. Fall 2020 projects will begin the week of August 24th, 2020.

Project Criteria:

- **Relevance:** The project is relevant to an environmental or sustainability-related problem.
- **Partnership:** The project is mutually beneficial, and all parties have put time and effort into developing a relationship, determining needs, and defining roles.
- **Impact:** If completed successfully, the project will have a clear, tangible impact on 1) the client and 2) an environmental issue

- **Equity:** The project balances priorities across a diverse community viewing the challenges and opportunities from an objective perspective and in order to counter any disproportionate impact of environmental burdens on any particular group.
- **Interdisciplinarity:** The project is broad enough to require perspectives and skillsets from multiple disciplines. If your project is primarily focused on one type of activity (like data analysis or graphic design), we encourage you to think more broadly about the problem you're working on and how you can expand it to facilitate interdisciplinarity.
- **Student Learning:** The project facilitates student learning by clearly outlining the role students will have in the project, the deliverable expected of them, and the bigger environmental issue they address by engaging in this project.

University City Project Proposal:

University City's Green Practices Commission created a Sustainability Strategic Plan (SSP) in 2010. Some of the plan's actions have been completed, some have not, and some are obsolete. A lot has changed since 2010, and the updates need to define things like: What is sustainability as it pertains to University City? What action items are specifically needed for University City? What are the current specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-based (SMART) goals for University City? Does University City need a "plan", or does it need "guidelines" that can be absorbed by other plans, policies, or procedures?

City Council consented to endorse the OneSTL Sustainability Plan (OneSTL Plan) on July 9, 2018 .

Since 2016, the Green Practices Commission (GPC) had been working on an update to the plan and the OneSTL Plan was used further to guide the GPC's work. A template was created, and categories revamped to streamline the document in line with categories from the OneSTL Sustainability Plan. The revised section titles are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Energy | • Ecosystems/Habitat |
| • Transit Oriented Development | • Waste/Stormwater |
| • Waste/Resource Conservation | • Education/Advocacy |

As the GPC continues aligning the SSP with the OneSTL Plan, a sustainability student's help would come in handy. The student could work on this task with input from staff, Green Practices Commission, research, existing plans, and community experts. The plan (or guidelines) can aid in future budget decisions, educational outreach, and other city functions for a more sustainable future.



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STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 11, 2020

AGENDA ITEM: Energy Efficiency Master Plan

Background:

Proposals were requested to create an Energy Efficiency Master Plan based primarily on the following scope of work:

- Align long-term energy planning with other long-term University City plans and agreements, including the OneSTL Sustainability Plan.
- Optimize the City's energy consumption via energy efficiency, energy conservation, and demand management.
- Identify the resources necessary to optimize the ongoing operation and maintenance of the City's energy system, including the proposed Continuous Commissioning (CCx) program, to ensure efficiency gains are sustained.
- Identify the best energy source, or combination of sources, to meet the City's needs and energy efficiency goals, as well as a cost-benefit analysis.
- Coordinate with City Facilities Management staff for project initiation, project clarification, discussion of issues, discussion of document contents, and responses to comments.
- Prepare and provide draft and final Plan outlines, up to three (3) drafts of the Plan, a final Master Plan document, and a final financial model, submitted electronically.
- Prepare for and attend one (1) Project Kick-Off Meeting to introduce the Consultant team to the City's Project Team staff, to establish communication protocols, to confirm the scope of work, and to fully discuss the project.
- Prepare for and give a presentation on the Master Plan to the University City Council.

The Request for Proposals was directly provided to eight different consulting firms known to provide this service and was posted on the City's website on January 27, 2020. Proposals were due February 14, 2020.

Two companies replied with proposals, CTS Group and Energy Resources Group. Staff is reviewing the proposals to advise the City Manager on a recommended selection.

The Green Practices Commission will discuss if the City will and how to move forward with this project.



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STAFF REPORT

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AGENDA ITEM: Anti-Litter Campaign

The topic of litter has been discussed in Green Practices Commission meetings; a commissioner drew up a draft plan of action. A follow-up meeting was held at City Hall. Participants of this meeting included a green practices commissioner: Liz Essman, Public Works staff: Jenny Wendt, Dennis Lockett, Code Enforcement: Tim Scott, Rachel White, Allison Bamberger, and several concerned citizens: Joel Minor, Naomi Silver, Beth Metzler, Emma Scharff, Sharon Logan (Lions Against Litter).

Three action areas were identified: actions by the City, actions by citizens, and actions by private businesses. Actions to be discussed with private businesses will be coordinated with the Director of Economic Development.

Proposed City actions are as follows:

- Additional trash containers on Olive and crossroads of busy intersections, including North and South, Hanley, and Midland. The Sanitation Superintendent will determine the cost for new containers and if they can be budgeted.
- Municipal code property maintenance requirements will be reviewed to determine what businesses must do to keep property clean, as well as what can be encouraged. Multiple sections of code refer to litter, <https://www.ecode360.com/28290233>, <https://www.ecode360.com/28291137>, <https://www.ecode360.com/28291136>. Planning will investigate further.
- Create or reuse successful antilitter PR for roadway signs, signs for private business, and for schools. Public Works will work with Communications Director on this task and bring proposed signage back for approval consideration.
- Install anti-litter signs on Midland, Hanley, and North and South near Olive where litter tends to accumulate. Public Works/Streets will install these signs.
- Promote Adopt-a-Stop (bus stops), Adopt-a-Highway (MoDOT/Olive Blvd.), Adopt-a-Roadside (County roads). This can be promoted by Public Works and Communications.
- Invite Washington University to support this campaign. Public Works will initiate this conversation with JoAnna Schooler.

- Inquire about community service needs with U City courts and County courts to determine if there are people available for litter removal and what logistics are involved. Public Works will initiate this conversation.
- Promote the importance of property maintenance to businesses, including encouraging businesses to post signs on private property about litter. Economic Development will reach out to businesses about this.

Proposed citizen actions are as follows:

- Host clean-up events (with the city's support). One event already took place on October 30th by Christ the King 6th graders, and one is tentatively scheduled for November 9th by high school students. Public Works Sanitation Division supports these events by providing tools and supplies as available.
- Promote anti-litter campaigns at schools. Emma Scharff, the president of the High School's environmental club will discuss this with staff. Beth Metzler will discuss this with Catholic School staff, and Joel Minor will discuss this with his children's schools.
- Promote to schools the various contests that are currently available through MoDOT and the Missouri Department of Conservation, the "Trash Can contest" and "No More Trash! Bash" programs <https://www.nomoretrash.org/trash-can-contest>, <https://www.nomoretrash.org/trash-bash>. Emma, Joel, Beth, and Jenny can work on this.
- Lions against Litter will continue its successful actions (March – October monthly clean-up events).
- Encourage organizations possible litter removal events.

Proposed private business actions are as follows:

- Daily/regular litter removal.
- Sign up for an "Adopt-a" program.
- Add trash receptacles around property.
- Post anti-litter signage.

All the private business actions can be encouraged by Economic Development.

Litter is an issue everywhere. It will take a multi-faceted campaign to make changes. Making small changes with the involvement from multiple groups can add up to noticeable change. All parties mentioned above are aware of this plan and have agreed with their part of the action plan.

The order of proposed actions and a kick-off date needs to be determined.



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STAFF REPORT

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AGENDA ITEM: Recycling Anti-Contamination Program “Feet on the Street”

Contamination is the number one cause of the increased cost of recycling. It is what caused China to discontinue accepting recyclable materials from the United States, and it is what is keeping commodity market values down. Education is always helpful, but a more robust campaign is what is needed for full effect.

The Recycling Partnership is a national nonprofit organization with many private partners. It has developed an anti-contamination program (the Oops! Program) that has proven to be successful in many cities, including Atlanta Georgia. This is a 5-step program; it starts with data gathering, creating communication materials, training staff (volunteers), deployment of program, and finally tracking, evaluating, and adjusting.

A toolkit provides step by step instructions and materials needed for the campaign. The preparation for the program takes 8 weeks, and the program itself takes another 8 weeks.

Utilizing \$45,000 in grant funds (approved by council 6/24/2019), the City will work with Republic Recycling Services to audit University City’s recycling loads to determine the “top issue” contaminants. Next will begin a vigorous educational campaign about these contaminants and the “Feet on the Street” Program. This campaign will clearly indicate the tagging and rejecting protocol of the program. This audit piece of the program will consist of staff, interns, and volunteers reviewing contents of carts and tagging them with an “Oops” tag if contamination is found. The resident will be notified that they will need to remove the unacceptable material and the container will be serviced on their next recycling service day the following week.

Through the Recycling Partnership’s experience, the tagging and rejection policy and has been proven to be the most effective process for long-term contamination reduction. This procedure of not returning to empty carts until the following week will no doubt result in displeased residents. However, with proper pre-education, consistent messaging and explanation for residents with questions, and strict adherence to the tag/reject/return the following week protocol, the program will run successfully as designed.

The “Feet on the Street” program is anticipated to be discussed with City Council at an upcoming Study Session. The deployment of the program is still being determined.