

Baltimore Sustainability Program



**Baltimore Office
of Sustainability**
People • Planet • Prosperity

Baltimore Sustainability Program

- Office of Sustainability

Purpose: Coordinate City, NGO, and private efforts toward sustainability goals. Advise and support the Sustainability Commission's efforts. Lead programs of the Environmental Sub-Cabinet.

- Commission on Sustainability

Purpose: Create and implement a City-wide Sustainability Plan. Review and propose sustainability-related legislation. Develop partnerships to implement City-wide sustainability programs. Commission must report to City Council annually.

- Environmental Sub-Cabinet

Purpose: Integrate elements of sustainability into all facets of City operations. Develop and coordinate City policies and programs that will improve environmental performance of City operations.

Office of Sustainability

Main Functions:

- Work with the Commission on Sustainability to develop and implement the Sustainability Plan
- Staff the Environmental Sub-Cabinet to incorporate sustainable practices into City government operations
- Complete a Baltimore Green House Gas Inventory
- Identify and understand latest sustainability initiatives, programs, and legislation
- Develop working relationships with other groups performing related work



BALTIMORE
URBAN
FOREST
PROJECT

CARLOS VIGIL

www.bmore-ufp.org

Office of Sustainability Future Roles

- Act as a resource for information to citizens, businesses, and organizations
- Facilitate public-private partnerships
 - Attract and nurture green industries
 - Create green job training and opportunities
- Propose legislation
- Raise the profile of Baltimore as a forward thinking place to live and do business

Commission on Sustainability

Comprised of 21 Members Representing:

- Community Organizations
- Environmental Groups & Interests
- Labor Unions
- Public Health
- Environmental Justice
- Private Industry
- Mayor's Office
- City Agencies

SC Membership

1. Davis Bookhart - Director of Sustainability Initiatives, JHU
2. Cheryl Casciani - Baltimore Community Foundation
3. John Ciekot - Civic Works
4. Peter Doo - Green Building Consulting
5. David Dunphy - Represents UFCW Union
6. Ray Ehrlich - Dart Container Corp
7. Lynn Heller - MD Asso. of Nonprofit Orgs.
8. Brian Knight - Black Educational AIDS Project, Inc.
9. Keith Losoya - Chesapeake Sustainable Business Alliance
10. Patrick McMahon - Transportation Planner & Sierra Club

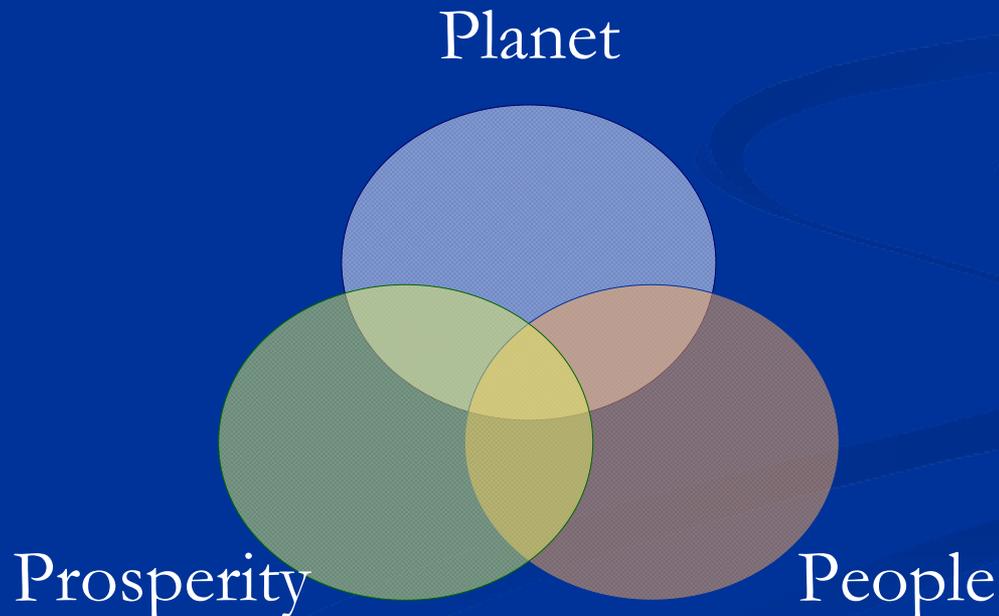
1. Ruth Ann Norton - Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning
 2. John Quinn - Constellation Energy
 3. John Ruppert - Home Builder
 4. Ali Smith - Holistic Life Foundation
 5. Scot Spencer - Annie E. Casey Foundation
 6. Alyson Taylor - Landscape Architect & Organic Farmer
 7. Mary Washington - Parks & People Foundation
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8. Tonya Simmons – Baltimore City Recycling Coordinator
 9. Josh Sharfstein – Dept of Health
 10. Tom Stosur – Mayor’s Office
 11. Jim Kraft – City Councilman

Guiding Principles of Sustainability Commission & Plan

- **Inclusiveness** – Adopt a broad definition of “environment” as issues are explored
- **Engagement** – Engage a wide range of the public, including those not normally connected to a traditional environmental agenda
- **Translation** – Communicate issues, ideas, and goals in ways that are meaningful to all citizens

Working Definition of Sustainability

Meeting the environmental, social, and economic needs of Baltimore without compromising the ability of future generations to meet these needs.



Sustainability Plan - Purpose

- Engage the Baltimore community in a comprehensive discussion on sustainability
- Inventory existing programs, organizations, and resources
- Articulate and prioritize sustainability goals for the Baltimore community
- Serve as roadmap for future legislation, public/private partnerships, programs, educational campaigns, etc.

Sustainability Plan - Content

Plan will include:

- Baseline information on community sustainability
- Vision statements for what a Sustainable Baltimore would look like
- Clear goals to move us towards this vision
- Indicators and targets to measure progress towards these goals
- Priority initiatives to meet these goals

Examining Resources through Three Lenses of Sustainability

Resource	Planet	Prosperity	People	
			Equity	Public Health
Energy and Air	e.g. demand-side (energy efficiency), supply-side (renewable generation), air quality, climate change	e.g. creation of clean energy jobs	e.g. affordable utility bills	e.g. mercury levels, asthma
Water	e.g. water consumption, water quality, wastewater treatment, Bay health	e.g. economic development of waterfront, tourism industry	e.g. access to recreational waters, fishing	e.g. drinking water quality, swimmable waters
Waste	e.g. recycling, composting, salvage/reuse of materials	e.g. markets for recycled materials	e.g. distribution of facilities	e.g. reduce need for new landfills
Green Infrastructure	e.g. parks/open space, biodiversity, urban forestry, sustainable agriculture/food systems	e.g. tourism and recreation industries	e.g. access to open space	e.g. locally-grown food, cleaner air
Built Environment	e.g. green zoning and codes, brownfields, new and existing buildings (homes, commercial, industrial)	e.g. brownfield redevelopment	e.g. "greening" of affordable housing	e.g. lead poisoning, indoor air quality
Transportation	e.g. city fleet/private fleets, transit, bike and pedestrian infrastructure	e.g. employee access to jobs	e.g. affordable transportation access to communities	e.g. outdoor air quality, exercise

Timeline

- May 27th – Sustainability Plan Kick-off Meeting
- June-Sept – Public Working Group Meetings
- Sept & Oct – Second Phase of Community Engagement
- October 28th – Next Public Presentation Meeting
- Fall 2008 – Draft of Sustainability Plan
- Early 2009 – Plan will be sent to City Council for approval

Additional Sustainability Initiatives

Transform Baltimore

Baltimore's Zoning Code Update

Zoning Codes and Sustainability

- Existing models fail to address sustainability in a comprehensive manner
- Zoning codes often either directly prohibit or inadvertently discourage sustainability efforts



Sustainable Zoning Codes Should:

- Be comprehensive: covering all aspects of sustainability
- Integrate nature and man-made systems
- Be progressive: drawing upon useful features of other codes
- Be based on sustainable development, comprehensive policies and plan for long-term civic engagement
- Be tailored to local/regional climate, ecology, & culture

Energy And Air

Topic: Harnessing alternative energy sources

- Issues: Maximum Height Restrictions & Uses
- Possible Solutions: Allow turbines, solar water heaters, PV panels as accessory uses in all districts, subject to use standards. Allow as permitted projections above building height restrictions
- Example Codes: Chicago recently amended its zoning code to allow rooftop wind energy systems as permitted accessory structures in all residential districts

Baltimore City Green Building Requirements

- Council Bill 07-0602 pass in August 2007
- Compliance with developed energy efficiency & environmental design standards will be a required condition for occupancy
- Affected buildings
- Requirement schedule
- Product of RFP

Affected Building Types

- Newly constructed & extensively modified buildings
 - **Extensively modified** refers to structural modifications that alter over 50% of a buildings gross floor area
- Non-residential and multi-family residential buildings $\geq 10,000$ sq ft floor area
 - **Multi-family residential buildings** have > 5 dwelling units and > 3 stories OR is a mixed-use building that has a residential component and > 3 stories

Requirement Schedule

■ City Buildings

- Building permit applied for after July 1, 2008
LEED Certified level or equivalent
- Building permit applied for after July 1, 2009
LEED Silver level or equivalent

■ City-Subsidized Buildings

- Building permit is applied for after January 1, 2009
LEED Certified level or equivalent
- Building permit is applied for after July 1, 2009
LEED Silver level or equivalent

■ All Other Buildings

- Building permit is applied for after July 1, 2009
LEED Silver level or equivalent



Product of RFP

- Assess existing permit process & propose more streamlined system for processing permits under new standard
- Develop
 - The Baltimore City Green Building Standards**
This original document will establish required & elective threshold levels for sustainable building similar to LEED but tailored to Baltimore
- Determine the review, inspection, verification, certification, and waiver processes
- Provide staff training & public outreach

How Can I Stay Involved?

- 1) **Attend Public Meetings**
- 2) **Sign-up for Working Group Information**
- 3) **Sign-up for Email Updates on Future Meetings and Announcements:** To self-subscribe to the Sustainability Plan List, email us at:
office_of_sustainability-join@lists.baltimorecity.gov
- 4) **Check out Information on the Web:**
<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/sustainability>
- 5) **Share Your Ideas on the Sustainability Plan:**
Email us at: sustainability@baltimorecity.gov

Thank You

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