



City of Pensacola

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD

Agenda

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April 1, 2021

2:00 pm

Hagler/Mason Conference Room,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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**Members of the public may attend the meeting in person; however, there will be limited seating capacity. Consistent with CDC guidelines, attendees will be required to sit at least 6 feet apart and to wear face coverings that cover their nose and mouth. To watch the meeting live visit: [cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video](http://cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video).**

1. Call to Order/Quorum
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
  - a) February 4, 2021
3. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair
4. Old Business:
  - a) Review—Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan and proposed changes—Mike Singer, Operations Supervisor, Parks and Recreation
  - b) Revisit EAB Meeting Schedule
5. Updates from Sustainability Coordinator Mark Jackson
6. New Business:
  - a) Goal Setting—2021
  - b) Draft Proposal—Recommendation to Establish Committee to Develop a Sustainability Action Plan—Member Kozmon
7. Board Member Comments/Updates, Reports and Announcements
8. Public Comments—Open Forum
9. Adjourn

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE VIA LIVE STREAM AND/OR PHONE.**

To watch the meeting live visit: [cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video](http://cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video).

**To provide input:**

- For Open Forum, for items not on the agenda: citizens may submit an online form here: [www.cityofpensacola.com/EABInput](http://www.cityofpensacola.com/EABInput) **beginning at 11 A.M. until 2 P.M.** only on the day of the meeting to indicate they wish to speak during Open Forum **and include a phone number. Staff will call the person** at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the Environmental Advisory Board using a telephone held up to a microphone.
- For agenda items: citizens may submit an online form here: [www.cityofpensacola.com/EABInput](http://www.cityofpensacola.com/EABInput) **beginning at 11 A.M. on the day of the meeting until that agenda item has been voted upon** to indicate they wish to speak to a specific item on the agenda and **include a phone number. Staff will call the person** at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the Environmental Advisory Board using a telephone held up to a microphone. **Any form received after an agenda item has been voted upon will not be considered.**

*The City of Pensacola adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable accommodations for access to City services, programs and activities. Please call 435-1606 or TDD 435-1666 for further information. Requests must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the event in order to allow the City time to provide the requested services.*



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**City of Pensacola**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes**

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February 4, 2021

2:00 pm

Microsoft Teams/Hagler/Mason

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**Members Present:** Neil Richards, Chair, Blase Butts, Kyle Kopytchak, Katie Fox, Alex Kozmon, Kristin Bennett, Kelly Hagen, P. Jay Massey

**Members Absent:** Michael Lynch

**Others Present:** Council Executive Don Kraher, Sustainability Coordinator Mark Jackson

1. Call to Order/Quorum  
The meeting was called to order by Chair Richards. A quorum was established.
2. Oath of Office—City Clerk  
  
Assistant City Clerk Robyn Tice administered the oath of office to new Board Members Kristin Bennett, Kelly Hagen, and P. Jay Massey.
3. Review of Sunshine, Public Records and Ethics Laws—City Attorney’s Office  
Deputy City Attorney William “Rusty” Wells provided a brief review of the Sunshine, Public Records and Ethics Laws for the benefit of the new board members, as well as a refresher for the existing board members.
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
  - a) December 3, 2020  
**Member Kozmon moved for the approval of the December 3, 2020 minutes, Seconded by Member Kopytchak. The motion was approved unanimously.**
  - b) January 7, 2021  
**Member Kozmon moved for the approval of the January 7, 2021 minutes, Seconded by Member Kopytchak. The motion was approved unanimously.**
5. Introductions with areas of interest/expertise  
New members and existing Board made brief introductory remarks, indicating their areas of interest. Member Hagen, lives in Sanders Beach area where there are

environmental issues and concerns with the American Creosote Works site that she's been actively trying to get forward motion on, as well as working with her neighborhood association on improvements to the Tree Ordinance to get some protection added and would like to get more involved and make meaningful changes.

Member Bennett works for an environmental consulting and engineering firm in Pensacola and has a communications degree and law degree. She felt her experience and background would be helpful to add to the Board.

Member Massey indicated his training is in wildlife management, biology, chemistry and bio-chem. His personal passions are wildlife rescue, nature photography. He is an advocate for non car travel. He skates to work and believes in a city that is walkable and bikeable. He is part of Bike Pensacola and is one of the volunteers on the slow ride. He has nature scaping and edible property around his house and is a big accessibility advocate.

Member Kopytchak was appointed as an at-large member. He is a realtor, investing in Pensacola over 20 years. His focus is on the protection of the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue tree tunnel.

Member Fox has been on the Board for 2 years. She is a civil engineer and has a passion for environmental concerns and issues.

Member Butts has been doing water treatment for 40 years, mainly to make drinking water safe and wastewater safe so that it can be safely discharged. His interest on the Board is the quality of the water around the bay and stormwater.

Member Kozmon is finishing his first year as an at-large member. His career was in government service where he was able to hone education and experience around organizational management. His interest on the Board revolves around environmental stewardship issues.

Chair Richards background in college was physics, chemistry and biology. The Navy brought him to Pensacola. He earned a solar contractor's license in 1982, and has also been a general contractor. He is retired now and can devote full time to the environment. His interests are certainly solar, then hydrogen and bio char and are his passions for the solution to climate change.

6. Old Business:

Presentation—IPM Plan—Bill Kimball

Chair Richards informed the Board that unfortunately, Bill Kimball was unable to make his presentation today and would hopefully be available at the next meeting. He reviewed the charge to the Board from the City Council and asked Member Fox to provide an update.

Member Fox provided a brief update on the status of the IPM Plan and recommended comments to the plan that were submitted by board members to the Parks and Recreation Department. She does not know if any of the recommended comments were considered by the Parks and Recreation Department and once Bill Kimball gives a presentation on the plan, the Board can ask him if they were considered.

Council Executive gave an explanation about the two different issues—the spraying at athletic fields and the fact that the City did not have an Integrated Pest Management Plan as brought up by Member Fox. The Parks and Recreation Department created the document for the City.

The Board, as a body, has not discussed with Parks and Recreation nor voted on accepting the recommended changes. That was the purpose of having the discussion and presentation with Bill Kimball at today's meeting. In all likely hood, this will probably be a Mayoral item.

Member Kopytchak made a suggestion that the spraying schedule and record keeping log be placed and kept current on-line.

7. Updates from Sustainability Coordinator Mark Jackson

Sustainability Coordinator provided introductory remarks about his background, and brief update on what he is working on, in particular with SustainaBase to gather green house gas emissions into a data base to track by buildings/departments. He gave a brief presentation on the urban forester's strike team survey on the tree damage done by Hurricane Sally to the City's parks and right of ways. The Mayor and staff are putting together a reforestation plan for the parks, making sure not to replace invasive species and putting the right tree in the right place and the best viable tree for that location. He also reviewed the data and value lost per home and loss in tax revenue.

a) Review of Proposed Tree Ordinance

Council Executive indicated that the proposed amendments to the Tree Ordinance were meant to be narrowly focused. There are only a few items intended to be addressed. There is a view to do a more comprehensive look at the entire tree ordinance.

Sustainability Coordinator explained the term "arborist" as utilized in the proposed amendments and the recently passed legislation regarding hazardous tree removal on residential private property. If the Council wants to change arborist to specialist, staff has by no means restricted it to only an arborist. It can be someone who is Tree Risk Assessment Certified.

He also reviewed changes made in Section 12-6-4 – Landscape and tree protection plan regarding notice, posting of signs for two weeks prior to issuance of a tree removal permit, and notification to the councilperson representing the district in which the permit has been requested.

Further discussion occurred on the clear cutting of trees and the exemptions provided to health care facilities.

Comments were also made regarding the loss in value per home and ultimate loss in tax revenue if the City does nothing about replacing the lost trees. Having a tree in your front yard or right of way adds approximately \$7,000 in property value.

Member Kozmon stated there was a fair amount of literature and research that equates mature trees and neighborhoods with aesthetics and tenancy retention for both residential and commercial property. It is really well documented mature hardwoods in the upper stories bring financial value to the neighborhoods as well as other health benefits associated with having access to a mature landscape and nature.

Member Hagen suggested that the Environmental Advisory Board actively organize and be involved when the complete overhaul of the tree ordinance takes place.

Chair Richards mentioned the part in the tree ordinance that talks about the administration of the Tree Trust Fund and planting trees in neighborhoods. The Board has talked about it a lot, but has never come up with a guidance document for the neighborhood associations to request grant fund money from the Tree Trust Fund, with recommendations from the Environmental Advisory Board to the City Council to award those funds. The rest of the Ordinance talks about a lot of other things.

Council Executive reminded the Board that the Planning Board only undertakes what is given to them. The existing Tree Ordinance took over 2 years to take place. It involved many public hearings. Emerald Coastkeepers proposed a new ordinance and process for citizen participation. They were going to hold various charrettes throughout the community to receive feedback from the stakeholders. Then Covid hit and there hasn't been an opportunity to do any of the things proposed by Laurie Murphy with the Emerald Coastkeepers. That document was never reviewed by staff. That would be something that Emerald Coastkeepers would bring back and present to the Planning Board.

In addition, the Environmental Advisory Board has never come up with the process to award neighborhood grants. The Board could never come to an agreement. While the proposed amendment to the Tree Ordinance does have some criteria for the grant program and what it can be used for, an application is needed so that the neighborhoods know what they need to bring forward in their proposal and what constitutes a project. There needs to be checks and balances in the process to be sure that the funds are being spent correctly.

8. New Business:

a) Goal Setting—2021

Council Executive suggested that each member of the Board provide him with a list of their goals for the coming year and he will put out a complete list together for discussion at the next meeting. Along those lines, somethings to consider would be to come up with the application process and plan for use of Tree Trust Fund Grants, possible recommendation to have a comprehensive review of the Tree Ordinance, look at the environmental recommendations contained in the Mayor's Transition Team report and the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report. It would be a better use of time for each member to come up with their list of goals, then the Board could prioritize and create an action plan.

b) Review of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force Report  
Recommendation for Resolution—Renewable Energy Goals

Chair Richards indicated that he would like the Board to consider, once again, sending a recommendation to the City Council that the City commit to meet a 30% renewable energy target by 2030 for city-owned facilities and operations, with a goal of 100% renewable by 2040.

Further discussion occurred with regard to the proposed recommendation and how to achieve that goal to commit to meet a 30% renewable target by 2030. Recognizing and adopting the goal is first, then how to achieve it comes next. Should the Environmental Advisory Board also commit to helping come up with this Plan? Should it include language to “engage in activities” vs “commit to meet” and then list bullet points 4, 5, 6 and 7 that would lay the groundwork for how that goal could be realized. The city has not made a commitment to this goal. This would be an opportunity for the City Council to push this goal. The Paris Climate Accord set goals. They didn’t come in with plans. They set goals and then developed the plans.

Sustainability Coordinator expressed his concerns about what 100% renewable means. The City owns a Port, an Airport, and a gas company and what does 100% renewable mean to those entities. There are a number of ways to get to the ultimate goal of a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The Board needs to be very specific and clear on what goal and recommendation they are asking.

Council Executive pointed out that a majority of the recommendations are going to be operational, that fall under the Mayor. At the outset you set the goal, and then the Mayor and his staff will come up with the process and whatever to achieve that goal.

Council Executive indicated that Christian Wagley had completed a speakers form for this item; however, he was unable to reach him by phone.

Member Bennett indicated that she did not have enough information to make a decision on the recommendation—30% of what and is it realistic. She appreciates the work that went into the report.

Member Kopytchak also mentioned that the City was just now in the process of collecting measurement data. Sustainability Coordinator confirmed that he hoped to have a report to present in late summer or early fall.

Member Kozmon suggested an alternate approach of reducing energy consumption and getting to the same place in a different way.

Member Fox stated the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force did spend a lot of time on developing the recommendations and are very knowledgeable about these things and put the appropriate focus in developing the number.



Member Butts agreed. The Board needs to set a goal and start for it.

**Chair Richards moved that the Environmental Advisory Board recommend to the Pensacola City Council and the Mayor to commit to meet a 30% renewable energy target by 2030 for city-owned facilities and operations, with a goal of 100% renewable by 2040. Member Kopytchak seconded, for discussion.**

Member Kopytchak wanted to stand for the record that he thinks the Board needs to be more concise and offer some assistance on how to get there, but he is not going to stand in the way of pursuing something and allowing them to have some direction coming back. He will support as a goal, in hopes of having something come back to the Environmental Advisory Board. He would rather have more concise language and be more specific.

Member Butts suggested not including the language of 100% renewable by 2040.

**Chair Richards offered a friendly amendment to his motion and deleted “with a goal of 100% renewable by 2040” from his original motion.**

Member Massey stated he trusts the Task Force Members. We have their recommendations and how to achieve it. This at least gets it to the Council.

Sustainability Coordinator indicated that there have been things the Mayor and the City have accomplished from the Task Force’s report. It has not just sat and collected dust.

Council Executive indicated that Christian Wagley had to go to another meeting; however he wanted to wish the new members well and looks forward to meeting them at the next meeting.

**Vote was taken on the motion and carried 6 – 2, with Board Members Richards, Butts, Massey, Kozmon, Hagen, and Fox voting in favor; Board Members Kopytchak and Bennett dissenting.**

Chair Richards reminded Board members to continue to review the Task Force Report as well as the Environmental Section of the Mayor’s Transition Team Report and to send their items to the Council Executive to compile a list of goals to accomplish in 2021.

9. Board Member Comments/Updates, Reports and Announcements:

Member Kozmon reported that he had an opportunity to speak with Holli Pruett, Recycling Educator with the Sanitation Department. They are working on some robust public education programs to reduce contamination in the household and yard recycling streams. If anything comes before the Board on recycling, a better course may be to refer that over to Sanitation. Plans are to meet with neighborhood and homeowners associations on recycling collections and how to reduce contamination in the two collections.

Member Bennett mentioned that she is a former Board Member for the American Water Resources Association, Florida Section and they have grants awards and scholarships. The application period just opened. The deadline is April 15. There is a \$1,000 J. B. Butler science grant for pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade for educators and environmental educators, water and natural resources related. There is also a scholarship available for a high school senior who is going into a Florida college, undergraduate, graduate or post graduate. Application information is at [awraflorida.org](http://awraflorida.org).

Member Hagen inquired as to whether the Board is limited to having only one meeting a month.

Chair Richards indicated that the Board could have a special meeting; it would just have to be publicly noticed.

Member Butts reported that during the month of January, 1,935 pounds of trash was picked up from Scenic Highway to Bruce Beach.

Member Kozmon mentioned an exchange he had with the Council Executive regarding the pandemic and Covid issues and asked if there was something that he would like to bring up.

Council Executive indicated where the numbers are now and because we have to meet in person, there is the possibility or a suggestion that the Board could meet less. The rules say that the Board has to meet at least four times a year. If it was this Board's desire, they could technically decide to meet quarterly while we are under this pandemic. That would be a Board decision.

Member Fox mentioned that the County is presently doing a watershed analysis of Carpenters Creek/Bayou Texar along with SCAPE. They are asking for feedback from residents throughout the City who either have knowledge or photos of the water quality or flooding conditions in that watershed. She will find the link to the project and forward to the Council Executive to distribute to the Board.

Chair Richards suggested the Board visit the newly installed Solar Tree located on the corner of Reus and Main Street. Another one is planned for Sanders Beach Community Center. Info is available on Gulf Power's website.

Member Kopytchak indicated he had another meeting to attend and left the meeting.

Member Kozmon mentioned that the Board had glossed over the Covid situation. In light of City Hall being closed to the public and the City being number one in the State, at least it was 10 days ago, he felt it was prudent that the Board consider going to quarterly meetings. **He moved that the Environmental Advisory Board meet on a quarterly basis or as needed to meet the minimum requirements of having four meetings a year. Member Fox seconded the motion, for discussion.**

Comments made by board members included the possibility of doing zoom meetings, how long the Board would meet quarterly, calling special meetings, if needed and how to call a special meeting, limiting contact during exposures. If approved, the next meeting would be in April. Because the Governors Executive Order for remote meetings has expired, there has to be a physical quorum present to conduct meetings. In order to participate remotely, you have to be in an at risk category, be quarantined, have Covid, or live with an individual who is at risk. It can't be for convenience.

**Vote was taken on the motion and it carried 5 – 2, with Board Members Butts, Massey, Kozmon, Bennett, and Fox in favor, Members Richards, and Hagen dissenting and Member Kopytchak not in attendance for the vote.**

Chair Richards indicated that the next meeting will be April 1, 2021.

10. Public Comments—Open Forum

No one in attendance and no additional speaker forms received.

11. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

*Proposed Revisions  
Katie Fry  
Item 4a)*

# Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan Athletic Fields City of Pensacola

## Statement of Purpose

The City of Pensacola Parks and Recreation Department recognizes the potentially serious risks inherent in using chemical pesticides on athletic facilities – especially in an environmentally sensitive areas. We are committed to implementing a comprehensive Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM Plan) for all athletic fields in the City. The City of Pensacola IPM ~~plan~~ Plan is defined as the coordinated use of physical, biological and cultural controls, and in the face of any public health threat or substantial property damage, the use of least-toxic pest control chemicals.

## Objectives

The objectives ~~for using an of the~~ IPM ~~plan~~ Plan for athletic fields in the City of Pensacola are to:

1. Maintain a safe and sustainable environment;
2. Protect human health and the surrounding environment by employing a range of preventative strategies and using least-toxic products for pest control and eradication.
- ~~• Maintain a safe and sustainable environment;~~
- 3. Protect human health and the surrounding environment ~~Protect the health of residents, staff and visitors~~ by controlling or eliminating pests that pose an imminent threat to public health and safety;
4. Reduce and/or eliminate human exposure to pesticides through use of least risk management practices; minimization of the quantity and toxicity of chemicals used for pest management.
- 5. Establish clear criteria for acceptable circumstances in which using a pesticide other than a least-toxic pesticide is necessary; toxic pesticides shall only be used when there is a threat to public health and safety, or to prevent economic or environmental damage, and only after other alternatives have been implemented and are shown to be ineffective. [A1]
- 6. Reduce and/or prevent pest damage to athletic playing areas;
- 7. Reduce or eliminate environmental pollution and degradation;
- 8. Maintain economically sound practices for pest management on athletic fields
- 9. Enhance the overall quality of play for those who use city athletic fields.

## IPM Response Plan

~~Integrated Pest Management is understood to~~ One of the characteristics of an IPM Plan is that it facilitates a streamlined decision making process approach for any pest problem in any location. This process involves monitoring of pest populations, establishment of tolerance thresholds, modifications of habitats (to eliminate sources of food, water and harborage and entry), utilization of least-toxic controls, keeping records and evaluation of performance on an ongoing basis. It is the responsibility of the Ball Crew Operations Supervisor and Ball Crew personnel to ensure that any maintenance and pest control services provided by Parks and Recreation staff comply with the best practices listed in this IPM plan to minimize

the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. A pesticide is defined as any insecticide, rodenticide, herbicide, algaecide, disinfectant or other chemical utilized to kill or repel a pest. Any use of chemicals will be in compliance with federal and state laws.

**Detection and Monitoring**

The IPM approach to turf management begins with a monitoring program. Monitoring entails making regular inspections of the turf to gather and record site-specific information on which to base pest control decisions.

- identify the pest(s)
- apply preventive methods to reduce the occurrence of pest problems
- monitor pest population
- identify any natural enemies of the pest(s)
- ~~apply preventive methods to reduce the occurrence of pest problems~~
- determine if any treatment is needed
- determine where, when, and what kind of treatments is needed
- evaluate and fine-tune treatments as the pest management program continues over the seasons

A sample evaluation form is provided below. The facilitate implementation and enhancement of the IPM Plan in the future, completed forms shall be retained in Appendix A of this IPM Plan.

<b>Pest Name:</b>	Actions take to control the problem						
<b>Pest Location:</b>							
<b>This pest is a (circle all that apply)</b>	<b>Apply Preventative Methods</b>	<b>Monitor Pest Population</b>	<b>Identify Natural Enemies of the Pest</b>	<b>Determine Injury and Action Level</b>	<b>Monitor for Pest</b>	<b>Treat the Problem using IPM Tiered Procedures</b>	<b>Follow Up</b>
Health Concern Safety Issue Nuisance Aesthetic Concern Other:							

**Tolerance Threshold**

Before any course of action can be determined, it is first important to determine the injury level. The injury level is the level of damage or the level of pest population that causes unacceptable injury. Once the injury level has been determined, an action level must be set. The injury level will always be higher than the action level, meaning that action should occur before the situation progresses the point of unacceptable injury. The following definitions and thresholds have been adopted as part of this IPM Plan:

**Definitions:**

**Aesthetic Injury** applies mainly to the damage of plants. This is injury that affects the appearance without affecting the health of the plant.

**Economic Injury** refers to pest damage that causes monetary loss.

**Human Health Injury** relates to human health problems caused by pests.

**Emergency** – A pest outbreak that poses an immediate threat to public health or will cause significant economic or environmental damage.

**Tiered Materials** – Pesticide classification system based on hazard potential. Products are evaluated against comprehensive list of hazard criteria including carcinogenicity, reproductive toxicity, endocrine disruption, acute toxicity, hazard to birds/fish/bees/wildlife, persistence, and soil mobility, and are placed within the Tier structure based on the evaluation results.

Tier 1: Highest concern

Tier 2: Moderate concern

Tier 3: Lowest concern

Tier 4: Insufficient information available to assign to above tiers<sup>[A2]</sup>

**Least-toxic pesticide** – The term “least toxic” refers to pesticides that have low or no acute or chronic toxicity to humans, affect a narrow range of species and are formulated to be applied in a manner that limits or eliminates exposure of humans and other non-target organisms. Fortunately, there are an increasing number of pesticides that fit within this least toxic definition. Examples include products formulated as baits, pastes or gels that do not volatilize in the air and that utilize very small amounts of the active ingredient pesticide and microbial pesticides formulated from fungi, bacteria or viruses that are toxic only to specific pest species but harmless to humans.

Any pesticide product that meets UCD’s the Tier 3 hazard criteria is low hazard, and considered a least-toxic pesticide. Tier 3 products are the next line of defense against pests after preventative measures are exhausted.

- To qualify as a Tier 3 material, all of the following statements must be true:
- Product contains no known, likely, or probable carcinogens
- Product contains no reproductive toxicants (CA Prop 65 list)
- Product contains no ingredients listed by CA DTSC as known, probable, or suspect endocrine disrupters
- Active ingredients has soil half-life of thirty days or less
- Product is labeled as not toxic to fish, birds, bees, wildlife, or domestic animals

**Pesticide** – Any substance, or mixture of substances, used for defoliating plants, regulating plant growth, or for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, which may be detrimental to vegetation, humans, or animals.

~~**Tiered Materials** – Pesticide classification system based on hazard potential. Products are evaluated against comprehensive list of hazard criteria including carcinogenicity, reproductive~~

~~toxicity, endocrine disruption, acute toxicity, hazard to birds/fish/bees/wildlife, persistence, and soil mobility, and are placed within the Tier structure based on the evaluation results.~~

~~Tier 1: Highest concern~~

~~Tier 2: Moderate concern~~

~~Tier 3: Lowest concern~~

~~Tier 4: Insufficient information available to assign to above tiers~~

## Thresholds:

- **Weeds** - The goal for the athletic field turf is not to eliminate all weeds; it is to keep weed numbers low enough to prevent significant visual damage. Lawns are a very dynamic ecosystem, and even under optimum grass-growing conditions some weeds will become established. Even height smooth turf is required on athletic fields. Treatment for weeds will be considered necessary if weed growth causes the lawn surface to be too uneven for field sports and thus endangers athletes using the respective field.
- **Diseases** - Lawn diseases, if encountered, will be managed quickly after discovery to minimize the spread of disease.
- **Insects** - Even height smooth turf is required on field areas. The presence of an infestation will be verified prior to treatment. Treatment for insect infestation will be considered necessary when damage is noticeable, unsightly and/or impacting play on the athletic field and potentially endangering athletes.

## Preventative Measures and Treatment

- The Parks and Recreation Department will follow the recommendations for management of weeds, diseases, insects and other lawn issues in the Green Industry Best Management Practices guidelines along with consultation with a professional pest and lawn maintenance company. The following management techniques will be employed, with preference given to using the least-toxic methods first.

Habitat Modification. Pests need food, water and shelter to survive. If the pest manager can eliminate or reduce the resources pests need to flourish, the environment will support fewer pests. Examples of habitat modification include: design or redesign of structures and landscape plantings; improved sanitation; eliminating water sources for pests; and eliminating the pest habitat.

- **Physical Controls:** Methods of physical control (or direct removal of pests from an environment) include trapping and removing pests by hand. Physical measures can also include the use of buffer zones adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas surrounding athletic fields. Buffer zones will receive no pesticide or fertilizer applications. The following physical controls will be utilized:

- Weeds: Mowing, pulling or weed-eating will be used to remove rank growth before weeds have flowered and set to seed.



- ⊖• Diseases: Physical removal of diseased turf may be possible if the disease is discovered early enough.
- ⊖• Insects: When possible, pest insects will be physically eradicated.
- ⊖• Other lawn problems: Shade stress will be managed by pruning tree branches to minimize shade whenever appropriate. Stress from compaction will be minimized in the following ways:
  - Use of sidewalks in pedestrian pathways, where possible as it relates to athletic field areas.
  - Physical barriers or signs to prevent foot traffic.
- **Cultural Controls**: Consistent use of the following cultural lawn care practices will provide high quality turf and successfully limit weed, disease, insect and other lawn problems. The presence of weeds and other pests can often be correlated to stressful lawn maintenance practices. The following cultural methods will be utilized:

- ⊖• Irrigation: It is difficult to maintain an athletic field without periodic irrigation, especially in a relatively hot climate as that of Pensacola. An irrigation system will be utilized for the turf areas of athletic fields. Irrigation will be managed to supplement rainfall. Frequency and duration will depend on environmental factors. The best time to irrigate is just before wilt occurs. Enough water needs to be applied to soak the soil to a depth of at least 6 to 8 inches. This will likely mean applying approximately 1 inch of water per week during the summer before sunrise or after sunset to reduce water loss from evaporation. If irrigation is necessary, it will generally be utilized 24 to 48 hours before a major field use to reduce soil compaction. Irrigation will be closely monitored and scheduled by staff to prevent over and under watering and help conserve water.
- ⊖• Mowing: Proper mowing promotes deep rooting and good shoot density, desirable mat, and uniform growth. Regular mowing at the right height with properly-maintained equipment will be the goal. Mowing height of the turf will depend on the type of turf used on athletic fields. For Bermuda grasses a mowing height, 1½ to 2 inches is preferred. The first mowing in the spring should be low by as much as one-half the desired final height. This helps increase turf density and allows the cutting height to be raised during the summer if scalping occurs. Turf should be mowed often enough so that no more than one-third of the leaf surface is removed at a mowing. Generally, this means the field should be cut twice a week during the summer. Higher mowing heights do not need as frequent mowing but result in lower quality and weaker turf. If mowing frequency is properly adjusted, clippings may be returned without harming the turf. If excessive clumping of clippings occurs, they should be dispersed or removed. Regardless of the type of mower used, it is important to keep the blades sharp and properly adjusted.
- ⊖• Aeration: Lawns will be aerated regularly, as needed. Aeration will occur more frequently in areas that are compacted by frequent foot traffic or athletic play. As a general rule, the spacing between aeration holes should be 2 to 3 inches. Aerate fields a minimum of two times per year. The first should be done in the spring just before fertilization and the second in mid-summer. Each aeration should involve a minimum of three passes over the playing field. If field use is heavy or the soil is compacted, aerate monthly during the growing season. After the soil cores have dried, they can be crumbled and spread over the turf by

using a flexible steel drag mat or some other means. Slicing with solid blades ¼ to ½ inch wide cultivates the soil with minimum surface disruption. Units with offset tines can be quite effective in relieving soil compaction. Aerate when soil moisture is at field capacity. This generally translates to 8 to 24 hours after rainfall or irrigation or when a spoon-type aerator would remove soil cores to the surface. If moisture were higher or lower, cores would not easily move to the surface. However, some equipment, particularly solid tines or blades, are most effective when soil moisture is drier than field capacity. Aerate when the turf is actively growing and not under stress.

- ⊖ Fertilization: Soil examination by soil test (pH) and/or professional visual analysis will be performed regularly to determine the need for fertilization. When required, fertilization will be accomplished by the use of a granular organic fertilizer. If additional fertilization is required, as demonstrated by soil test and/or professional visual analysis, 1/2 pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet will be added no more than eight times a year, as required.
  - ⊖ Over seeding: Winter rye grass seeding may be employed, as it works with the respective athletic field schedule.
- **Biological Controls:** Biological control tactics for weeds, insects, diseases and other lawn issues will be employed when possible. The following biological controls will be utilized:
    - ⊖ Weeds: There are no biological controls proposed for weeds at this time.
    - ⊖ Diseases: There are no biological controls proposed for diseases at this time.
    - ⊖ Insects: Biological control of caterpillars, such as armyworms and sod webworms, will include the use of the bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). More information about Bt can be found in Grow Green's Earth-wise Guide to Caterpillars.

Least Toxic Chemical Controls. Least toxic pesticides are those with all or most of the following characteristics: they are effective against the target pest, have a low acute and chronic toxicity to mammals, biodegrade rapidly, kill a narrow range of target pests and have little or no impact on non-target organisms. These include materials such as the following:

- Pheromones and other attractants
- Insect growth regulators
- Repellents
- Desiccating dusts
- Pesticidal soaps and oils
- Some botanical pesticides

The following criteria should be used when selecting a pesticide:

- Safety
- Species specificity
- Effectiveness
- Endurance
- Speed
- Repellency

- Cost

Least toxic pesticides include:

- Boric acid and disodium octobrate tetrahydrate 6
- Silica gels
- Diatomaceous earth
- Nonvolatile insect and rodent baits in tamper resistant containers
- Microbe based pesticides
- Pesticides made with essential oils (not including synthetic pyrethroids) without toxic synergists and
- Materials for which the inert ingredients are nontoxic and disclosed.

The term least toxic pesticides does not include a pesticide that is:

- Determined by the U.S. EPA to be a possible, probable or known carcinogen, mutagen, teratogen, reproductive toxin, developmental neurotoxin, endocrine disrupter or immune system toxin;
- A pesticide in U.S. EPA's toxicity category I or II
- Any application of the pesticide using a broadcast spray, dust, tenting, or fogging application.

~~—The following information is a sample of possible approaches.~~

#### CONSIDER LISTING APPROVED LEAST TOXIC CHEMICAL CONTROLS<sup>[A4]</sup>

- **Other Chemical Controls:** Chemical controls will only be employed on an “as-needed” basis when problems exist that have not been or cannot be addressed by physical, cultural or biological practices. The following information is a sample of possible approaches. Specific chemical controls will change as availability and improvements in chemicals change.

- Weeds: Initial spot treatment will be with acetic acid / horticultural grade vinegar (‘CedarCide RidAWeed’ and ‘Burnout’). If required, spot treatment with glyphosate <sup>[A5]</sup>(‘Roundup’) will be used. No pre-emergent herbicide use will be practiced. For nutgrass, Manage (halosulfuron) will be used, if necessary.
- Diseases: Least toxic chemical controls for brown patch and take-all patch include corn gluten meal (Concern ® Weed Prevention Plus) and Thiophanate methyl (Green Light ® Systemic Fungicide Disease Control).
- Insects: Positive identification of the insect pest will be made prior to the use of any chemical control.

○

#### **Use of IPM Plan**

Pesticide products change on a regular basis, and those listed in this plan are provided for reference only. Listing of a specific product trade name does not constitute an endorsement of its use. Many pesticide

products other than those listed in this plan are available and may be suitable for use. If a pest problem occurs that is not addressed by this management plan, or if the Ball Crew Operations Supervisor desires to use pesticides of greater toxicity than those listed, the Operations Supervisor shall alert the City of Pensacola Parks and Recreation Director. It should also be noted that this IPM Plan is a dynamic document and will periodically be reviewed and revised as circumstances in the City of Pensacola change and as new pest management products and techniques become available. The City of Pensacola Parks and Recreation Director will be notified whenever this document is substantially revised or altered.

### **Application of Pesticides or Chemicals**

When it is determined that pesticides or chemicals are needed for pest management on athletic fields, only products registered for use in the State of Florida will be applied with strict adherence to label directions. Applications will be undertaken only qualified staff. No pesticides or fertilizers will be used within 150 feet of any known critical environmental features or streams.

### **Notification**<sup>[A6]</sup>

Appropriate signs and notifications will be posted on or around athletic fields notifying the public prior to pest management activities that involve application of pesticides, herbicides or other potential chemical applications that could be harmful to humans. Appropriate efforts will be made to eliminate individuals coming in contact with any such applications to athletic fields within manufacturer specifications.

### **Recordkeeping**

A log book of all pest sightings and pest management activities will be kept in the office of the Ball Crew Operations Supervisor 2130 Summit Blvd , Pensacola, FL 32503. This log will be kept current by and will be available for public viewing upon request. Additionally, any time a pesticide is used for pest management purposes, a copy of the pesticide label, as well as the pesticide's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) will be kept on record in an easily accessible location as a reference for applicators on proper use, storage and safety. [The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Agricultural Environmental Services Suggested Pesticide Recordkeeping Form is provided in Appendix B of this IPM Plan.](#)

### **Training**

City of Pensacola Parks and Recreation staff will be provided with training on the IPM policy during annual update training. Training will include the rationale for the IPM policy and program and specific elements including use of the pest-sighting log and prohibition on pesticide applications by non-certified individuals.

Additionally, designated will receive advanced training on identifying pest infestations and pest-conducive conditions. This training will improve the ability of staff to oversee compliance with City of Pensacola IPM policy and plan.

# APPENDIX A

## Actions take to control the problem

<u>Pest Name:</u>								
<u>Pest Location:</u>	<u>This pest is a (circle all that apply)</u>	<u>Apply Preventative Methods</u>	<u>Monitor Pest Population</u>	<u>Identify Natural Enemies of the Pest</u>	<u>Determine Injury and Action Level</u>	<u>Monitor for Pest</u>	<u>Treat the Problem using IPM Tiered Procedures</u>	<u>Follow Up</u>
<u>Health Concern</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Safety Issue</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Nuisance</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Aesthetic Concern</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Other:</u>								

## APPENDIX B





Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Division of Agricultural Environmental Services

**SUGGESTED PESTICIDE RECORDKEEPING FORM**

NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED  
COMMISSIONER

Telephone Number (850) 617-7880

FDACS recommends recordkeeping for all pesticide applications regulated by Chapter 4B7, F.S., using this form or similar format. When properly completed, this form meets the recordkeeping requirements for restricted use pesticides and the central posting requirements for the federal Worker Protection Standard.

Licensed Applicator (R) \_\_\_\_\_ License No. (R) \_\_\_\_\_ Property Owner Authorizing Application (R) \_\_\_\_\_

1. Date 2. Start Time 3. End Time All RW	Actual applicator if different from above (include license no. if licensed) (R)	1. Location/Description of Treatment Site (R/W) 2. Target Site or Crop (R)	Total Size of Treatment Area (R)	1. Pesticide Brand Name (R & W) 2. EPA Reg. No. (R/W) 3. Active Ingredients (W)	Total Amt. of Pesticide Applied (R)	Application Method (R)	Restricted Entry Interval (W)

November 10, 2020

Review of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan  
Athletic Fields  
City of Pensacola

Since this is a living document, I like that it is at least a starting point. Any new plan will take some time to settle in and become perfected. My comments are listed below, based upon my experience with IPM through Extension.

#### Page 1 -Detection and Monitoring

Typically, IPM (from Extension) consists of the following steps:

- Prevent problems through sound cultural practices including proper water, fertilization, and placement of plants

- Monitor the area for signs of problems

- Decide if a problem requires action – is there a level of tolerance for the imperfect?

- Intervene using a non-toxic or least toxic approach

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention

- Return to monitoring if successful or decision making if not.

The City of Pensacola plan varies slightly in that it defaults to some type of treatment or appears to do so. Having said that, treatment could also mean an intervention, such as hand picking a problem away.

Step 3 – apply preventive methods to reduce the occurrence of pest problems –

Is “preventive methods” referring to cultural practices or treatment options? If it refers to cultural practice changes, I feel that should be specifically stated.

#### Page 2 - Preventive Measures and Treatment

Bullet 2- Physical: Other lawn problems: “...by pruning tree branches to minimize...”

This is an IPM document but since pruning is being referenced as a cultural practice method, does it need to be specified that reference to proper pruning techniques, including cut types, appropriate time of year, and minimizing damage or opportunity for disease to set will be conducted?

Bullet 3 – Cultural: the last sentence refers to watering “...during the summer before sunrise or after sunset to reduce...” It is never recommended to water after sunset because the water that remains on the turf will increase the likelihood of fungal growth. Based upon Extension recommendations, watering should always be performed at a time when the excess water can dry from the surface of the turf to reduce the opportunity for a fungal infection to set in.

Page 3 – Preventive Measures and Treatment (con't.)

Bullet 3 – Fertilization: there is no mention of proper fertilization timing. Generally, fertilizer is recommended between April 15 and October 15, to coincide with the rise and decline in soil temperature. Soil cooler than 70F, generally before April 15 and after October 15, is unable to make nitrogen available to the plants. Hence, it is a wasted product and wasted money when applied at the wrong time. Additionally, there is no mention of any state or federal regulations around the application of chemical fertilizers, although there is a general mentioned on page 4 regarding the application of pesticide and chemicals.

Page 4 – Preventive Measures and Treatment (con't.)

Chemical > Weeds – using vinegar will burn back the leaves, but generally does not kill the plant. This may result in bare patches in which the weed will regrow, or a new weed take hold faster than the turf is able to fill in.

Environmental Advisory Board

Goals 2021

1. Application form for Tree Fund money
2. Update city Building Codes to reflect Climate Task force, Green Building Certification. Example – when installing new parking lot, an electric charging station needs to be installed per # of stalls. Have credit card initiated.
3. Designate a specific amount of money to installing energy or water savings equipment.
4. A webpage added to city's website highlighting business/city activities related to (2).

Example – when a city building or business converts to all LEED lights at what cost, what savings and reduced carbon footprint. Allow for a small placard (with QR Code) to be installed on the improvement. Citizens want to know where their tax money goes.

Example – installing a solar panel to run a piece of equipment. The solar tree installed by Gulf Power. This is the only statement I found specific to Pensacola on Gulf Power's website:

- Two 1.85-kilowatt solar trees at the corner of Main and Reus streets, at the crosswalk to the Blue Wahoos Stadium in Pensacola.

So? What does this mean? As of last month there was no placard describing the benefits.

5. Purchase an electric car with charging station – lead by example.

City employee that drives the most yearly miles to have the car. Charging station to be placed where the car is most frequently parked. Highlight on website with monthly updates on savings compared to previous years costs. Placard with car info and QR Code with updates.

6. To be kept informed of the Emerald Coast Regional Council (Florida-Alabama Transportation Planning Organization) US 90 plans for Mobile Highway from North W Street to Massachusetts Avenue and Scenic Highway from Hyde Park Road to the Park & Ride lot (next to the gas station at the Interstate 10 interchange)
7. To be kept informed of the City's actions regarding the sustainability plan (Mark Jackson did a very nice update to the EAB and also at a recent City Council meeting)

8. If the EAB is asked to review or comment or is otherwise involved in a topic (the tree ordinance for example), that the EAB be informed of and provided with the same information that other city entities may be receiving/reviewing.

9. **Dark Sky Lighting** - Because Pensacola is beginning to invest in lighting upgrades throughout the city, now is the time to act on encouraging the Mayor and City Council to begin to make the shift toward becoming a Dark Sky City.

- Invite Tim Day, the Deputy Director of the Natural Resources Department for Escambia County, to come speak to the EAB at our next meeting to discuss the implementation of Dark Sky Lighting, how to set goals for the city, and how to eventually establish a Dark Skies Ordinance.

- Propose a Public Education Campaign in order to bring awareness not only to the environmental benefits of Dark Sky Lighting, but also to the health and safety benefits it provides for humans as well. Getting the public comfortable enough with this idea through education will be the best way to move forward with eventually establishing a Dark Skies Ordinance for the city.

10. **Solar Initiatives for The City and Community Level Encouragement through Education** - If the goal for the City of Pensacola is to reach 100% renewable energy by 2040, then need to start establishing some goals, and one of the easiest and most sensible places to start to move toward that goal is to encourage the shift to solar power.

- Invite one of the Climate Action Task Force Members, Dr. Haris Alibašić, from the University of West Florida, to come and speak to the EAB about renewable energy projects, goals and the aggressive actions needed in order to achieve 100% renewable by 2040. The EAB has given the Mayor and City Council our recommendation to aim to achieve 30% renewable by 2030, and 100% renewable by 2040, now give them a plan of how to meet these goals by establishing action items and deadlines. We must get them moving forward on this, and we must hold them accountable.

- The second part of this initiative involves community participation. Propose to the Mayor and City Council to sponsor a Public Education Campaign on Solar. As a citizen who is not greatly educated on the cost of solar installation or the reputation/credibility of the many companies advertising this service, but as someone who is extremely interested in how to do my part to help curb our environmental impact on the planet, I know I would definitely benefit from an education campaign, coming not from one of the many solar installation companies, but from a non affiliate third party. Whenever you see companies advertising solar installation with zero money down, it piques your interest, but also sounds suspect and makes you think, if it sounds too good to be true, it

probably is. Hear from an educated professional on the cost and benefit comparisons of purchasing and installing solar panels yourself, vs. entering a contract with a solar company who will install them for you and ultimately profit off of your energy surplus in the future. Educating the public on their options pertaining to solar would greatly encourage a greater community shift to opt for solar power in their homes. Propose inviting Christian Wagley, along with other environmental professionals, who are versed on the subject to speak to the public about their options, and teach them how best to choose a company to go with for solar installation, or on how best to plan and budget for purchasing solar panels yourself, discussing possible rebates, tax credits, assistance with funding, special loan rates, etc., that may help to make doing solar yourself a possibility for some folks.

11. **Recycling Education Campaign** - Because we have such a transient population here in Escambia County and the surrounding area with our heavy military, snowbird, and tourist population, and because recycling practices are so varied around the country due to the different capacities of each recycling treatment plant, it is extremely important to educate the public on our local recycling facility.

- Invite Jim Roberts to our next meeting to give a presentation on the ECUA Materials Recycling Facility (MRF).

- Propose to the Mayor and City Council to help sponsor a Public Education Campaign around recycling practices specific to the MRF so that we can maximize participation and limit bad recycling practice that can potentially hinder the process through contamination and decrease the profitability of recycling. Let that open up the conversation on how we can make better choices regarding the products encased in plastic that we spend money on as consumers, how we can reduce our own single use plastic usage, and how we can emphasize reducing and reusing since we know that the majority of products with the recycle symbol on them do not actually get recycled. Reduce, Reuse, Refuse.

12. **Encourage Regulation Banning the Usage of Plastic Bags, Plastic Straws, and Styrofoam** - Because of our proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, as well as many other intercostal waterways, our most prized assets, our beautiful Emerald Coast, as well as the bountiful marine life that inhabit our waters, coastal wetlands and estuaries, would greatly benefit from a reduction of plastic, especially lightweight plastic that is easily airborne, which ultimately ends up in our waters and along our coastline.

- Have members from Ocean Hour and Keep Pensacola Beautiful come speak to the EAB about how much trash they collect each year from our beaches and

coastlines, and discuss the biggest offenders, or the kinds of trash that they most commonly collect from these sites.

- The EAB make a recommendation to the Mayor and City Council to completely ban businesses within the City of Pensacola from using plastic bags, plastic straws and Styrofoam by 2023, and to switch to alternatives that are not detrimental to our environment.

13. **Tree Ordinance Overhaul** - Although we were able to get a few strong protections added into the most recent update to the Tree Ordinance, the original purpose of updating the ordinance itself was simply to streamline the process and protocol for the City Staff, not to actually strengthen the ordinance or add protections. The next phase of improving our tree ordinance for the City will be to set out to make changes that not only strengthen protections, but increase means of gaining revenue coming into the tree fund, and also define a process that allows and encourages the City, as well as individual neighborhoods to spend this money to plant trees and ultimately increase our tree canopy within the city limits.

-Propose that the Mayor and City Council sponsor a series of workshops, open to the public, which would include a panel of experts, academics and professionals to guide the conversation, and a third party facilitator to ensure that all opinions and voices are heard.

14. Recommend a Sustainability Action Plan - a comprehensive approach to fulfilling many recommendations from the 2018 Task Force report and expanding the city's commitment to addressing the pressing issues within the social, economic and environmental realms. (Planning for an April 2021 agenda item.)

15. Recommend to collaborate with the Parks and Recreation Board and Public Works to identify, inventory and properly remove and dispose of invasive plants from city properties.

16. Recommend the development/implementation of or undertake the development and implementation of a public education campaign aimed at preserving private-land habitat using the city's park stewardship as an example for the public to refer to or be inspired by.

*Item 6 b)  
Member Kozmon*

Accompanying this cover is a draft proposal to recommend to the Office of the Mayor that the City build an internal committee tasked with developing a Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) for the City's internal operations. This committee and its resulting Action Plan would serve as a play book on how to obtain Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timed (SMART) goals set by the committee to improve the City's Sustainability in a rapidly changing world. Included in this recommendation is the reservation of at least one (1) committee seat for the EAB.

The 2018 Climate Action Recommendations produced by the City of Pensacola Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task was the result of an outside examination of the climate threats facing the city. The recommendations are offered without specifics as to how they should be attained, leaving the city discretion in this regard. This SAP proposal is presenting a comprehensive approach to addressing those climate action recommendations. The comprehensive scope of this SAP proposal is shown through an examination of the recommendations. Listed here are sections of the climate action report and examples from each section as to how an SAP would provide a means to address the recommendations:

- Planning for Energy Efficiency and Climate Change
  - Develop strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for city operations
  - Plan the purchase and installation of renewable energy systems
- Planning for Resilience and Climate Change Adaptions
  - Review planning regulations to adopt better protection for wetlands and buffers
  - Review planning regulations to include building codes that protect watercourses
  - Revise stormwater management by utilizing watershed levels as baselines

#### Other Areas of Emphasis

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
  - Develop a feasible strategy to lower emissions throughout city operations
- Transportation
  - Develop a plan to increase pedestrian use of sidewalks
  - Develop a plan to support electric vehicles and other alternate means of transportation
- Built Environment
  - Plan for the adoptions of LEEDS standards in the planning and permitting processes
  - Adopt sustainable practices during the design and construction phase of city projects
  - Plan the active management of the city's tree canopy
- Emergency Planning
  - Coordinate with appropriate authorities on emergency measures for at risk populations
  - Include projected sea-level change into planning documents and permitting processes
- Local Utilities
  - Work with appropriate authorities to reduce the demand for potable and waste water
  - Work with appropriate authorities to protect utility services from weather related interruptions
- Public Health
  - Work with appropriate authorities to protect the potable water supply
  - Plan for the impact of climate change on the health of the population and the associated public warning system(s) required.



Proposal:

To recommend to the Office of the Mayor that the City build an internal committee tasked with developing a Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) for the City's internal operations. This committee and its resulting Action Plan would serve as a play book on how to obtain Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timed (SMART) goals set by the committee to improve the City's Sustainability in a rapidly changing world. Included in this recommendation is that at least one (1) committee seat be reserved for the Environmental Advisory Board (EAB).

Background:

The Chairman of the EAB has established the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force report as the planning agenda for the EAB and seeks to send relevant items to the City Council or the Officer of the Mayor for action. As such, recommending the establishment of such a committee continues to formalize review and move toward implementation of the Task Force recommendations.

According to the organization Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), a sustainability plan differs from a climate action<sup>1</sup>, as called for by the Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force.

A climate action plan generally focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions across a community including transportation, waste disposal, and energy usage, as examples.

A sustainability plan includes items designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions using the 3 pillars of sustainability: Economic, Environmental and Social. Modifying land use plans, reducing runoff, and providing affordable housing are some examples of how a sustainability plan affects a community. Through short-term and long-term monitoring and measuring of the plan, its results are quantifiable.

What are we currently doing?

The city is already evaluating steps leading to a more sustainable governmental operation, and, by extension, is setting an example for the community. Currently there are several projects under consideration within the city and enterprise agencies that could be included in a comprehensive sustainability plan, and which can be measured and quantified for early success. Additionally, these initiatives, as examples, can be extended to community-wide efforts towards creating a sustainable community should the desire to do so exist.

Current projects under consideration within the city government:

Project	Economic	Environmental	Social
Energy Efficiency	X	X	
Waste Reduction	X	X	
Greenhouse Gas Reduction		X	X
Urban Forest Management	X	X	X
Electrified Fleet	X	X	X
Solar Pilot	X	X	X
Stormwater Runoff	X	X	X

Our Next Step(s):

The EAB could develop a complete presentation for the Office of the Mayor. A complete presentation from the EAB will offer a comprehensive framework that should answer more questions than it creates. Additionally, a well-thought-out framework can identify SMART goals to achieve increased sustainability in governmental operations. A framework may also include resources which are already available as well as examples from similar sized municipalities or governmental structures that have undertaken, completed, and are now monitoring their SAP's. Using a like sized municipality as an example, data can be displayed that will show how progress towards a sustainable community can be realized.

What would the EAB do if it chose to create a comprehensive package for presentation the Office of the Mayor? It could:

- Gather plans from like sized communities, as determined by the EAB
- Delineate overarching goals/objectives for the plan
- Set an incremental timeline for actionable items to be reported back (i.e., yearly updates to the Council, milestones for overarching goals)
- Draft a sample Sustainability Committee structure
  - Identifying which city departments need to participate, including Enterprise agencies.

What could our plan look like?

We can suggest a plan framework to suit the city's needs. Suggestions for defining the scope of the plan may include, as examples:

- Straightforward and applicable
- Designed around measurable goals and objectives
- Focus on one or more pressing issues, as examples
  - Sea level rise/coastal flooding
  - Stormwater flooding
  - Affordable housing and safe access to recreation and healthy foods
- Include national programs, as examples
  - Nature Conservancy – Healthy Trees Healthy Cities<sup>2</sup>
  - World Wildlife Fund – One Planet Cities<sup>2</sup>
  - International Living Future Institute – Affordable Housing Framework 2.x<sup>3</sup>

The recommendation to the Office of the Mayor would be for the development of an internal operations plan to streamline governmental functions increasing the sustainability of city operations.

How would we identify success?

Our plan should be focused on a pressing issue or issues within one of the three pillars of sustainability: social, economic, and environmental. Once the pressing issue(s) is/are identified, then tying them to one another will allow for a broader approach and presentation. Setting SMART goals supported by attainable and measurable objectives or aspirational goals supported by measurable objectives will allow us to quantify our progress. We can then compare ourselves against similar sized governments to gauge progress against another.

To Conclude:

A Sustainability Action Plan will address many of the recommendations of the 2018 Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Task Force. Through city operations such as planning and permitting, purchasing and education, the city will be working to secure the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of the community, both residential and commercial. Expanding beyond a climate mitigation plan, as called for in the 2018 recommendations will result in the city acknowledging the far-reaching impacts of sustainability and put city operations front and center in providing for and protecting the future of the community.

Once city operations have increased sustainability, the option to create public/private partnerships to bring the sustainability lessons and principles to the community will allow the city to serve as a mentor. Changes in daily practices and habits could increase food, financial and the health security of vulnerable communities within the city.

References

- 1 – ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability USA, Sustainability Planning Toolkit, 2009
- 2 – ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Overview of Achievements Following the Adoptions of Decision X/22, The Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity, June 2020
- 3 – International Living Future Institute, Affordable Housing Framework, (available: Affordable Housing | Living-Future.org (living-future.org)), 2020