



City of Lawrence

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD

The purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Board is to advise the Governing Body of the City of Lawrence, Kansas, regarding issues affecting sustainability, environmental protection, waste reduction, recycling, energy conservation and natural resource conservation environmental protection.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS: SAB selected three policy areas to focus on for the remainder of 2019:

- **Energy and Buildings:** Set a 100% renewable target for municipal facilities. Develop a LEED Gold policy for new city facilities. Set a Net Zero Goal for buildings.
- **Decrease Food Waste:** Work with the Lawrence and Douglas County Food Policy Council to research and develop policies to decrease food waste.
- **Decrease single-use plastics:** Continue policy development and bring a recommendation to SAB in the next couple months.

MINUTES

March 13, 2019 – 5:30 pm

MEETING LOCATION: Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141 Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044

Members present: Jackie Carroll, Deb Ford, Rachel Krause, Jessi Lee, Tresa McAlhaney, Kira McPherson, Lei-Lei Mitchell, Michael Steinle

Members not present: Ma'Ko Quah Jones, Allison Koonce

Staff present: Jasmin Moore

Public present: no members of the public were present

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Determine quorum of members. 5:31pm
- II. Approve February meeting minutes. Motion by Michael Steinle. Second by Jessi Lee. Motion passed.
- III. SAB administrative items
 - a. Welcomed new SAB members Lei-Lei Mitchell, Deb Ford, and Allison Koonce. The Sustainability Advisory Board membership is currently full with ten appointed members.
- IV. Discussion: SAB priorities and subcommittees
 - a. Presentation by staff of the existing priorities and status of each.
 - b. SAB members participated in a facilitated exercise to identify personal areas of interest and Board areas of interest. The following areas of interest were identified as the highest priority to focus on for the remainder of 2019.

- i. Energy and Buildings: Set a 100% renewable target for municipal facilities. Develop a LEED Gold policy for new city facilities. Set a Net Zero Goal.
 - ii. Decrease Food Waste: Work with the Lawrence and Douglas County Food Policy Council to research and develop policies to decrease food waste.
 - iii. Decrease single-use plastics: Continue policy development and bring a recommendation to SAB in the next couple months.
 - iv. ***NEW*** Explore declaring a Climate Crisis. The intent is to encourage the city to integrate climate in to decision making. There was not consensus regarding the addition of this to the SAB priority list. SAB will re-engage in this discussion at the April meeting.
- c. There were several areas of interest that SAB would like to monitor or learn more about, but were not considered high priority:
 - i. Downtown Master Plan. Engage in the process and monitor outcomes.
 - ii. City Commission Strategic Plan: Monitor development
 - iii. Water rate structure: Engage with the Municipal Service Operations Department this summer
 - iv. Water quality: Learn more about this topic.
- d. There was not time to discuss how the subcommittees should be structured to support the priorities. This will be discussed at the April 10 meeting.

V. Subcommittee reports

- a. None.

VI. Staff Report

- a. SAB letter to the City Commission regarding **City Manager search** was delivered and will be included in the March 19 City Commission meeting as correspondence.
- b. An update on the **Single-stream Recycling Commercial pilot** has not yet been scheduled for a City Commission meeting. The SAB letter related to this topic will be submitted in conjunction with this item as soon as it is scheduled.
- c. The City submitted testimony regarding **Senate Bill 124**, which will encourage growth of the renewable energy industry in Kansas, restore balance to customer rates, and increase opportunities for distributed generation energy.
- d. **19th Annual Earth Day Parade & Celebration.** The City of Lawrence invites community members to the 19th Annual Earth Day Parade & Celebration on Saturday, April 20th. Free admission and no rain date. SAB members have participated in the past by helping with set up and break down. There may be a request for volunteers. The Parade starts at 11:00 am on Massachusetts Street from Eighth Street to South Park. The Celebration in South Park (8th & Mass St.) follows from 11:30 am-4:00 pm and features live music, yoga, local food vendors, environmental exhibits and children's activities. Attendees are invited to learn from exhibits about waste reduction, recycling, composting, alternative fuels and vehicles, energy conservation, land preservation, wildlife and habitat preservation, and more. More event details available online: <https://lawrenceks.org/earth-day/>.
- e. **Earth Hour:** The City of Lawrence will join thousands of communities across the globe in celebrating Earth Hour on March 30. From 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. CDT, the City will turn off non-essential City Hall lights.

- f. This April, Mayor Lisa Larsen is urging the Lawrence community to join her in the **National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation** by taking the [#MyWaterPledge](#). To participate, make the quick and easy online conservation pledge at www.mywaterpledge.com
 - g. Staff will present a progress update on the **Climate Protection Plan** and Sustainability Update at the April 9 City Commission meeting.
 - h. MSO would like to engage with SAB this summer about the **water rate changes** in development.
- VII. Key takeaways to share with the City Commission: SAB selected three policy areas to focus on for the remainder of 2019:
 - i. Energy and Buildings: Set a 100% renewable target for municipal facilities. Develop a LEED Gold policy for new city facilities. Set a Net Zero Goal for buildings.
 - ii. Decrease Food Waste: Work with the Lawrence and Douglas County Food Policy Council to research and develop policies to decrease food waste.
 - iii. Decrease single-use plastics: Continue policy development and bring a recommendation to SAB in the next couple months.
- VIII. Future Agenda Items:
 - a. Sustainability Update- April
 - b. Single Use Plastic
 - c. Water rate structure- Summer
- IX. Member Updates
 - a. Jackie and Michael will be meeting with Mayor Larsen before the April meeting.
 - b. Michael. A firm will be evaluating the Farmland site and conduct remediation of the site. He will know more in the next 90 days. Michael will be attending Sustainable Materials Management webinar on reducing food waste.
- X. Public Comment. None.
- XI. Adjourn 7:31 p.m.

Next regular SAB meeting:

April 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Venue: Parks and Recreation Administration Building in South Park, 1141
Massachusetts St, Lawrence, KS 66044