

City of College Park, Maryland



Three Year Action Plan

March, 2013



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I. City of College Park Resolutions

**City Of College Park, Maryland
Resolution Supporting Participation
In The Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipal Certification Program**

- WHEREAS,** a sustainable community means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- WHEREAS,** a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of College Park strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments as steps to building a sustainable community that will thrive well into the new century; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of College Park hereby acknowledges that the residents of College Park desire a stable, sustainable future for themselves and future generations; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of College Park wishes to support a model of government which benefits our residents now and far into the future by exploring and adopting sustainable, economically-sound, local government practices; and
- WHEREAS,** by endorsing a sustainable path the City of College Park is pledging to educate itself and community members further about sustainable activities and to develop initiatives supporting sustainable local government practices; and
- WHEREAS,** as elected representatives of the City of College Park, we have a significant responsibility to provide leadership which will seek community-based sustainable solutions to strengthen our community:

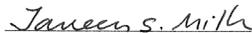
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that to focus attention and effort within the City of College Park on matters of sustainability, the Mayor and Council wishes to pursue local initiatives and actions that will lead to Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipal Certification.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park that we do hereby authorize Elisa Vitale to serve as the City of College Park's agent for the Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipal Certification process and authorize her to complete the Municipal Registration on behalf of the City of College Park.

RESOLVED this 9th day of August, 2011.



Andrew M. Fellows, Mayor
City of College Park

Attest: 
Janeen S. Miller, City Clerk

I. City of College Park Resolutions continued...

**A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park, Maryland
Establishing The
Sustainable Maryland Certified Green Team**

WHEREAS, On August 9, 2011 the College Park City Council adopted Resolution 11-R-14 (attached) Supporting Participation In The Sustainable Maryland Certified Municipal Certification Program; and

WHEREAS, The City of College Park is working toward certification in the Sustainable Maryland Certified program; and

WHEREAS, The formation of a Sustainable Maryland Certified Green Team (SMCGT) is the first step in establishing a community sustainability program; and

WHEREAS, The SMCGT will "lead the charge" to help College Park achieve Sustainable Maryland Certification; and

WHEREAS, The SMCGT will bring together a group of community leaders, municipal staff, and community organizations to leverage the skills, expertise, and life experience of team members to develop policies and plans, implement programs, and assist with educational opportunities that support the creation of a sustainable community:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND CERTIFIED GREEN TEAM SHALL BE FORMED AND ORGANIZED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Charge: The SMCGT is charged with leading the City to complete actions worth a total of 150 points (including two mandatory actions and two of six priority actions) and submit the appropriate documentation to achieve first year certification in the Sustainable Maryland Certified program.

The SMCGT shall be discharged when the goal of obtaining Sustainable Maryland Certified certification has been attained by the City of College Park.

2. Composition: The SMCGT shall have up to 14 people with the following representation:

- 2 elected officials from the City of College Park
- 2 City staff
- 1 representative from the CBE
- 1 representative of a City school
- 1 student representative from the University of Maryland
- 1 faculty or staff representative from the University of Maryland
- 2 representatives of the City business community
- Up to 4 City residents

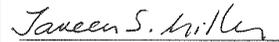
3. Structure: Members to the SMCGT shall be appointed for two year terms. A quorum shall be 6 people. The SMCGT shall select a Chair and a Co-Chair from among the membership on an annual basis. The SMCGT should meet at least bi-monthly. The liaison shall be the Planning Department.

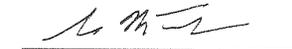
ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of College Park, Maryland at a regular meeting on the 13th day of March, 2012.

EFFECTIVE the 13th day of March, 2012.

WITNESS:

THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK,
MARYLAND


Janeen S. Miller, CMC, City Clerk


Andrew M. Fellows, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:


Suellen M. Ferguson, City Attorney

II. Green Team Members

Mr. Ben Bassett -	Proteus Bicycle, <i>Owner</i>
Mr. Jonathan Brown -	City of College Park, <i>Planner</i>
Ms. Rebecca Hayes -	City of College Park, <i>Resident</i>
Mr. James Jalendoni -	University of Maryland, <i>Student</i>
Ms. Denise Mitchell -	City of College Park <i>Councilmember, District 4</i>
Mr. Eric Maring -	University of Maryland, <i>Faculty</i>
Ms. Christine Nagle -	City of College Park, <i>Resident</i>
Ms. Chrissy Rey -	Pongos, <i>Owner</i>
Ms. Terry Schum -	City of College Park, <i>Planning Director</i>
Ms. Loree Talley -	City of College Park, <i>Recycling Coordinator</i>
Mr. Ballard Troy -	Committee for a Better Environment, <i>Representative</i>
Mr. Patrick Wojahn -	City of College Park <i>Councilmember, District 1</i>

III. Community Survey Results

The following survey questions were a part of the City's 2012 Citizen Survey:

25. Please answer the following with the best answer for your household.				
Answer Options	Yes	No	Don't know	Response Count
Should our community focus on decreasing the energy used by the municipal government? (e.g., lighting, heating, cooling, etc.)	190 (62%)	55 (18%)	62 (20%)	307
Would you like to know more about how to make your house, condo, or apartment more energy efficient?	184 (61%)	96 (32%)	21 (7%)	301
Are you interested in learning more about water conservation efforts such as the installation of rain barrels or rain gardens?	173 (57%)	102 (34%)	26 (9%)	301
			<i>answered question</i>	308
			<i>skipped question</i>	28

When asked whether the City should focus on decreasing its energy use, of the 307 citizens who answered this question, 62% responded “Yes” and 18% responded “No”. 20% of respondents did not know whether decreasing municipal energy use should be a community focus. However, because a substantial majority did respond in favor of this action, the Green Team should feel comfortable with including this type of activity in the 3-Year Action Plan.

III. Community Survey Results Continued...

The following survey questions were a part of the City's 2012 Citizen Survey:

26. Do you know what a carbon footprint is?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	78%	234
No	10%	30
Don't know	4%	13
Heard of it but still unsure of what it means	8%	25
<i>answered question</i>		302
<i>skipped question</i>		34

This question was an attempt to gauge the level of knowledge and interest of citizens regarding their “carbon footprint”, which is a measure of the number of tons of carbon dioxide that individuals produce over the course of one year. Here we can see a high level of interest in this particular topic with 78% of those surveyed answering positively. Encouragingly, only 4% of respondents did not know the meaning of this topic. This level of interest should assist the Team in determining the overall direction of programs that involve reducing the City's carbon footprint.

III. Community Survey Results Continued...

The following survey questions were a part of the City's 2012 Citizen Survey:

27. What community sustainability programs would you like to see the City pursue?	
Renewable Energy Use and Utility Reduction	59
Water Conservation and Stormwater Improvements (i.e., rain barrels)	27
Increase recycling of everything (clothes, materials, etc.)	26
Community Gardening	24
Expand Composting Program to households	17
Low-impact, Sustainable Development	14
Increase Public Outreach about Sustainability Programs	13
Bicycle Trail Improvements and Support for Bike Programs	10
Improve Public Transportation/Reduce Traffic	9
Improve Tree Canopy and Maintenance	9
Improve Street Lighting	7
Consider Electric Vehicles	6
Do not increase spending on this	6
Increase access to local food	6
Invest in Green Roofs	5
Offer Incentive Funding for Sustainable Projects	5
Unsure/Don't Know	5
City and Stream Cleanup Programs	3
Offer Haz Mat and Toxic Chemical Recycling from homes	3
Allow Urban Farming (Chickens and Goats)	2
Cooking Oil Reuse for Fuel	2
Bag Tax	1
Bulky Trash Payment	1
Repair Shop for used items	1
Other	21

When considering the future of the City's sustainability programming, the largest percentage of citizens viewed renewable energy use as a priority for the City. Of the 280 respondents to this question, 59, or 21% voted for this activity. The next highest levels of interest were Water Conservation, Increased Recycling, and Community Gardening with 10, 9, and 8.5 percent respectively.

Some of the other topics of moderate interest included more public outreach, composting, and bicycle trails and programs.

IV. Vision Statement

The Green Team of College Park, Maryland is a model for collaborative approaches toward local, sustainable development. The Team's emphasis on building strong partnerships with local stakeholders and institutions has helped manifest the City's goals of environmental and economic sustainability.

V. Three Year Goals

Year 1: Complete Requirements for Certification and Bronze Status from Sustainable Maryland

Year 2: Achieve 5 new Action Items Including:

- ⇒ Build a Sustainable Maryland Resource Library within the Planning Department
- ⇒ Implement a Community Gardening program
- ⇒ Implement a City/University Bikeshare Program
- ⇒ Create a business recycling program
- ⇒ Adopt Maryland Smart Energy Community Policy

Year 3: Achieve 2 new Action Items Including:

- ⇒ Write a Green Streets Grant
- ⇒ Implement Maryland Smart Energy Community Program

VI. Year One Action Plan Matrix

August 29th, 2012 - August 28th 2013

Action Category	Action Item	Mandatory / Priority	Completed	New	Point Value	Action Committee Member(s)	Estimated Cost
Community Action	Participate in Green Team Training				5	Councilmember Denise Mitchell	
	Create a Green Team	Mandatory			10	All Members	
	Complete Green Team Action Plan	Mandatory			10	All Members	
	Sponsor an Idea Fair with Sustainable Maryland				5-20	James Jalandoni	
Community Based Food Systems	Establish Local Farmers Market				15	James Jalandoni	
	Promote Local Farmers Market				5	Terry Schum	
	Establish CSA Drop-Off Location				10	Loree Talley	
Energy	Municipal Energy Audit	Priority			20	Ballard Troy	
	Green Power Community				5-20		
Greenhouse Gas	Municipal Carbon Footprint	Priority			15		
	Bike-To-Work Day Pit-stop				5-20	Jonathan Brown	
	Municipal Hybrid Vehicle				5-20	Jonathan Brown	
	Municipal employee METRO fare cards				5-20	Jonathan Brown	
Health and Wellness	Workplace Wellness Program				15		

VI. Year One Action Plan Matrix Continued:

August 29th, 2012 - August 28th 2013

Action Category	Action Item	Mandatory / Priority	Completed	New	Point Value	Action Committee Member(s)	Estimated Cost
Local Economies	Promote Maryland Green Registry				5/2 business		
	Establish Local Business Directory				10		
	Promote Local Business Directory				5		
	Local Business Roundtable				5		
	Join Maryland Green Registry				5		
	Buy Local Campaign				15		
Natural Resources	Tree City USA				15		
	Pet Waste Ordinance				5		
	Complete Streets Policy				5-20	Councilmember Patrick Wojahn	
	Municipal Recycling Program				5-20		
Planning and Land Use	Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities				20		
	Housing Plan				5		

VII. Year Two Action Plan Matrix

August 29th, 2013 - August 28th 2014

Action Category	Action Item	Mandatory / Priority	Completed	New	Point Value	Action Committee Member(s)	Estimated Cost
Community Action	Build SMC Resource Center				5	Jonathan Brown	
Community Based Food Systems	Community Gardens	Priority			15	James Jalandoni	
Energy	Maryland Smart Energy Communities Policy				5-20	Jonathan Brown	
Greenhouse Gas							
Health and Wellness	Bikeshare Program				5-20	Jonathan Brown / Councilmember Denise Mitchell	
Local Economies							
Natural Resources	Business Recycling Plan				5-20	Ballard Troy	
Planning and Land Use							

VIII. Year Three Action Plan Matrix

August 29th, 2014 - August 28th 2015

Action Category	Action Item	Mandatory / Priority	Completed	New	Point Value	Action Committee Member(s)	Estimated Cost
Community Action							
Community Based Food Systems							
Energy	Implement MD Smart Energy Community Program				5-20	City Council / Jonathan Brown	
Greenhouse Gas							
Health and Wellness							
Local Economies							
Natural Resources	Green Streets Grant				5-20	City Council / TBD	
Planning and Land Use							