

Environmental Aspects of Council 2016 Priorities for City of Takoma Park

Oct. 2016 for discussion only

Purpose: Consider how COE goals may align with the City Council's Feb. 2016 Priorities, and identify possible areas for COE and Council collaboration. Implications of current Council priorities for possible environmental actions are outlined here, for illustration and discussion only.

Livable Community for All

City could include energy efficiency and renewable energy as part of the Council's affordable housing initiative.

City could build in environmental education as a core component of youth and family programming, and ask City staff to explore environmental education opportunities.

Fiscally Sustainable Government

Council could pass an ordinance, similar to the City's Nuclear Free policy, establishing an intention to eliminate, reduce and avoid fossil fuel investments (and purchases?), and replace with renewable energy investments.

Environmentally Sustainable Community

Updated Green Team priorities include energy efficiency and renewable energy goals and actions. Two other Green Team priorities, transportation and waste management, can also help achieve the Council's energy goals.

COE, Council and City staff could work together to help move City toward carbon neutrality. Council could, for example, formalize its intent to move toward carbon neutrality.

Council and COE can consider what, if any, role there is for COE in environmental impact statements required for significant items requiring Council action.

Engaged, Responsive and Service Oriented Government

City could include more environmental education and messages when improving its communications goal, and have dialogue with residents on City's environmental leadership and environmental priorities.

Council could more actively promote neighborhood challenges.

Advance Economic Development Efforts

City could more deliberately include environmental goals in economic development plan and strategy.