



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 13, 2019 Agenda Item 2

Voting Session

Resolution Adopting the 2020 Green Team Priorities

Recommended Council Action

Consider adopting the Resolution

Context with Key Issues

The City Council and Committee on the Environment meet at least once each year as the Green Team to review ongoing sustainability efforts and set priorities for the next fiscal year. The Green Team met on January 23, 2019 to review and refine priorities. The City Council also reviewed the priorities at its retreat on February 5, 2019. The FY 2020 priorities are:

Priority 1 – Climate Change Response

- Prioritize actions, policies, innovations, adaptations, and new opportunities that mitigate the causes and effects of climate change.

Priority 2 – Environmental Quality

- Protect, plan for, and improve Takoma Park's natural resources including urban forest health, open space, air quality, water quality, and biodiversity.

The Green Team priorities inform the City Council's priorities and serve as a guide for the Committee on the Environment in focusing its efforts in FY 2020.

Council Priority

Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Considerations

The Green Team Priorities guide the City's sustainability efforts.

Fiscal Considerations

To be determined during the budget process.

Racial Equity Considerations

The effects of climate change and degraded environmental quality may both disproportionately impact people of color and low income communities.

Attachments and Links

- Resolution Adopting Green Team Priorities

Introduced by:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**RESOLUTION 2019-
AFFIRMING THE FY 2020 GREEN TEAM PRIORITIES**

WHEREAS, the City Council and Committee on the Environment join together as the Green Team at least once each year to review ongoing sustainability efforts and set priorities for the next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Green Team met on January 23, 2019 to review and refine priorities; and

WHEREAS, at its priority setting meeting on February 5, 2019, the City Council affirmed its intention to adopt these mutually agreed upon priorities for FY 2020, and to incorporate them into its overall city priorities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT the Takoma Park Green Team Priorities dated February 5, 2019, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, shall serve to guide the City's sustainability efforts in Fiscal Year 2020.

Adopted this ____ day of March, 2019.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk



Environmental Aspects of Council Priorities

The Committee on the Environment will provide counsel to City Council regarding environmental aspects of Council priorities, decisions, and policies. The Committee will also identify opportunities to incorporate new environmental actions to Council activities.

Priority 1 Climate Change Response

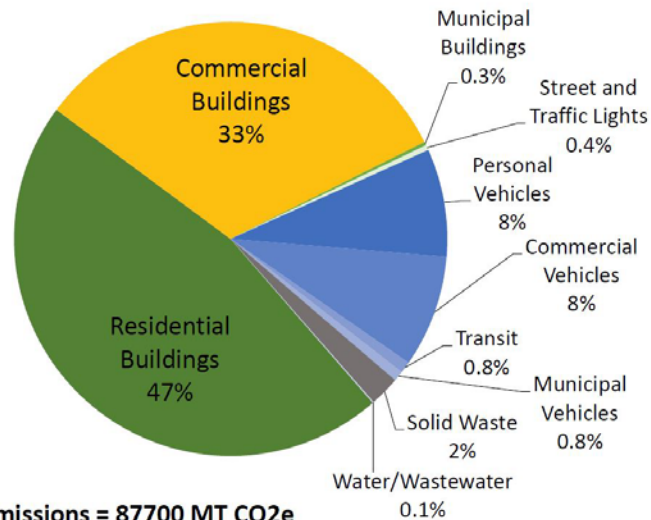
Prioritize actions, policies, innovations, adaptations, and new opportunities that mitigate the causes and effects of climate change.

Reports from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the National Climate Assessment have made clear that there is a climate emergency. Climate change is already inflicting and will continue to inflict substantial damages to our physical, social, and economic wellbeing. These damages, such as the increase in stormwater issues, will continue to worsen and increase without immediate significant action.

The largest contributors to climate change in Takoma Park are identified in the chart below. Priority should be placed on the largest contributing factors, such as residential and commercial buildings; and where the largest gains can be made.

Additional sources of emissions that can have a significant impact not listed in the chart should also be included in efforts.

Emissions by Sector



2015 Total Emissions = 87700 MT CO₂e

Priority 2 Environmental Quality

Protect, plan for, and improve Takoma Park’s natural resources including urban forest health, open space, air quality, water quality, and biodiversity.

Many aspects of environmental quality affect and will be affected by climate change. Careful consideration should be given to the mitigation value of natural resources such as the urban forest, and the protection and improvement of sensitive resources.