



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – April 6, 2022 Agenda Item 1

Presentation

Presentation of the Sustainable Investments and Banking Task Force Recommendations and Final Report

Recommended Council Action

Receive Presentation

Context with Key Issues

The City Council appointed nine members of the public to serve on the Task Force on Sustainable Banking and Investments as established by Resolution 2021-31, Resolution 2021-45, and Resolution 2021-47. The purposes of the Task Force were to define and identify steps to implement sustainable banking and investment policies that fulfill both the City's nuclear-free and climate change goals, and to review and recommend updates to the implementation specifics of the nuclear-free ordinance to best fulfill the intentions of the ordinance and coordinate with the City's greenhouse gas emissions reductions goals and other priorities. The Task Force was asked to consider the potential impacts of changes to city banking and investments policies, including positive and negative impacts on climate change, health, safety, housing affordability, racial equity, and other factors.

The Task Force held regular meetings from December 2021 through March 2022 and generated a 46-page final report including a set of eight recommendations. The Task Force recommends changes to the City's socially responsible investment policy, investment objectives, principles for investment decision-making, banking services, certificates of deposit terms, police pension fund investment goals, Maryland Local Government Investment Pool (MLGIP) participation, role of the Nuclear-Free Committee, and application of the City's Nuclear Free Zone Act to nuclear power. The Task Force also recommends a continuation of their work by the creation of a new Sustainable Banking and Investment Committee to implement the eight recommendations. The presentation will provide an overview of the process by which the Task Force developed their recommendations and well as the reasoning behind each recommendation and suggested implementation methods.

Council Priority

Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Considerations

The recommendations center on deeper integration of environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and governance (ESG) principles into the City's financial decision-making.

Fiscal Considerations

The recommendations if implemented could result in shifts in the City's investment portfolio makeup and demand additional staff capacity.

Racial Equity Considerations

The Task Force recommendations place an emphasis on social responsibility as a key aspect of integrating ESG governance into City operations. The report emphasizes responsiveness to racial justice and equity issues.

Links and Attachments

- [Sustainable Banking and Investments Task Force webpage and Council Resolutions](#)
- [Sustainable Banking and Investments Task Force Final Report](#)