

**Sustainability Committee**  
City of Roeland Park, KS  
**Agenda**  
**Thursday, January 5, 2023, 4:00 pm**  
Virtual Online Meeting

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The purpose of the Sustainability Committee is to make recommendations to the Governing Body concerning issues relating to or affecting environmental sustainability.

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**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://zoom.us/j/99339586327>  
**Meeting ID:** 993 3958 6327

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**Committee:**

Judy Hyde, Chair; David Smith; Carol Fields; Melissa Castillo; Megan Reavis  
Wade Holtkamp, City Liaison; Jen Hill and Benjamin Dickens, City Council liaisons

**Members in attendance:**

**Liaison(s) in attendance:**

**Guest(s) in attendance:**

**Call to Order:**

**Approval of minutes:**

**Citizen Comment(s):**

**Additions to the Agenda:**

**Sustainability Minute:**

- Members are invited to highlight and/or share thoughts, experiences, or observations from outside the meetings that illustrate sustainable practices and the importance of the Sustainability Committee's mission. (All)

**New Business:**

- Discuss/choose a **new Committee Chair**, co-chairs, or facilitator. Determine how to handle taking meeting minutes.
- Reminder regarding **KOMA/KORA** regulations
  - [https://ag.ks.gov/docs/default-source/publications/a-citizens-guide-to-koma-kora.pdf?sfvrsn=f054e281\\_16](https://ag.ks.gov/docs/default-source/publications/a-citizens-guide-to-koma-kora.pdf?sfvrsn=f054e281_16)
- Discuss **possible future projects**
  - Judy reviewed several of Mission, KS Sustainability Commission's minutes to see what type of projects they and other municipalities have been involved in.
    - **Battery recycling for RPK?** City of Mission's program was successful.
    - **Sustainability Scorecards** for new developments? Review Mission's program.
  - Add water bottle fillers to existing park water fountains? (Dave)
  - Potential additional collaborations with Mission and/or other city SustComms

- Mission SustComm meets first Monday of each month at 6:30 at Msn City Hall.

## Old Business:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual NE JoCo **Environmental Fair**, September 2023, date TBD (Judy)

## Updates:

- **Light pollution mitigation**
  - Development of presentation to City Council Workshop using **International Dark Sky Association model resolution** (sent to committee in an earlier email). In progress. (Judy)
- Revising the **Invasive Species List** included in the City Codes. (Judy Hyde & Adison Banks)
  - Judy Hyde and Adison Banks (Cooper Creek Restoration Park Restoration Project) will work with the city to update the code, and will report back to the SustComm for review prior to submitting recommended revisions to the city.
- Did the second **bike repair station** that Roeland Park contributed to (along with Westwood) ever get installed? (Dave update)
- The **second bike rack** purchased by the SustComm (Judy update)
  - Intended for Nall park.
- **Tree Canopy Protection Ordinance** (Judy update)
- **Cooper Creek Park Restoration Project** (Judy)
- **R Park Pocket Prairie Project** (Judy)
- **R Park Mighty Bike sculpture/play structure** (Judy)

## Discussion (ongoing):

- Ongoing discussion regarding **budget expenditure(s)** and **projects of interest**
  - Current SustComm funds available:
    - Exact amount will be available after the first of the year from Erin Winn; reminder to add in the committee's yearly allocation
  - **Native plants/trees** as a potential budget expenditure
    - SustComm agrees on potential installation of native tree(s)
  - Replace grass verges on Roe leading to highway with native flowers/grasses?
- Potential future guest presenter from **Ripple Glass**
  - All-city glass recycling begins in January 2023
- **Climate Action KC Plan** and related questions:
  - **Energy**
    - State and Federal incentive programs
  - **Transportation**
    - Should SustComm recommend building **more EV charging stations** within the city? Locations?
    - **GoDotte Strategic Mobility Plan:** City will respond to GoDotte plan when it is presented
  - **Solid Waste**
  - **Food Systems**
    - Food scrap composting
  - **Single-use plastics**
    - Review options for a city reduction policy for single-use plastics.
      - Possible container/item deposits?
  - **Land Use and Housing**
  - **Green building codes**
    - Develop recommendations for City Council regarding Green Building Codes for new development/construction.

- Ex: The Rocks development
  - Encourage developer to use a cool roof (light, reflects sunlight), green roof, solar roof? Permeable paving? Substantial use of trees? Other?
  - Include regulations for reducing light pollution
  - New building code already adopts many green guidelines
- **Urban Greening**
  - RPK Tree Canopy Protection Ordinance continues in development.
    - Community education needed
    - City surveyed to determine which trees are in right-of-way vs. public property (Judy will update, see above)
  - Provide information regarding invasive vines choking old oak trees (Melissa)
  - Develop/recommend an invasive plant species ordinance? (See agenda item above)
  - Tree planting is part of sequestration; needs to be done now.
  - Potentially plant native trees with Heartland Tree Alliance?
- **Light pollution**
  - City transitioned to LED lights for streetlamps, need more detail on light hooding & lumens levels
    - Still room for reduction, and new construction can address light pollution issues (city can encourage or require compliance with regulations)
  - Review Dark-Sky recommendation to reduce light pollution.
    - Review International Dark Sky Association model resolution. Committee will review/approve presentation prior to Council Workshop. Judy will present recommendation to City Council to adopt resolution. (see Old Business)
    - Broaden this to NE JoCo / when to do this?
  - Big office buildings should shut off all non-essential lights, especially during spring/fall migration.
- **Other**
  - Cigarette butts are a major source of pollution
    - Increase Code Enforcement requiring businesses to maintain property
  - Per Eric Nelson, Johnson County Environmental Health Specialist's February 2022 presentation on JoCo programs and initiatives regarding business sustainability
    - Get multi-use development property managers on board with recycling?
    - Require multi-family residential buildings to provide recycling services?
  - Per Karen Clawson's September 2021 MARC presentation
    - Designate a city resilience manager?
    - Collaborative framework for local governments to participate on their own terms
    - Possible collaboration between NE JoCo cities?

### **Ongoing:**

- SustComm newsletter submissions (Judy & all)
  - **Sustainable Minutes** discussions could fuel newsletter articles/bullet points
- SustComm quarterly **Council update** (Judy)
- SustComm **Community Foundation update** (Judy)
- **Facebook** posts (Judy)
- **DynamHex** carbon emission reduction audits (further SustComm response, as needed)

- Continue **CFAA** policies to maintain certification; update MARC on an annual basis (City is required to do this every 3 years)
- SustComm to **continue virtual meetings** for the foreseeable future. Discussion ongoing.

#### **On Hold:**

- **Nall Park vegetative green screening/wall proposed** / SustComm response
- Discuss acquiring or developing a variety of **Sustainability-related posters, brochures**, or other handouts (for various events, etc.). Consider paperless options.
- **Idling cars at Roesland Elementary:** *this item has been tabled, for now*
  - If SustComm goes forward with this, who would take the lead on the item?
  - Review JoCo idling reduction rule document & sample docs
  - Make a recommendation to Council?
    - Potential resolution/or idling ordinance from city?
    - A general “no idling” ordinance would be an easier sell than doing it specifically for the school
  - Letter of concern?
    - Reach out to PTA or school district as a committee detailing environmental concerns?

#### **Adjourn:**

**Next Meeting:** February 2, 2023 [virtual meeting 4:00 pm]