



AGENDA
Environment and Sustainability Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2023
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. April 11, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
- 4. PRESENTATIONS**
 - a. Rosemount High School Environmental Science Club
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Existing Goals Updates
 - b. Near Term Education & Outreach
 - c. Land Acknowledgement Subcommittee Update
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. 2023 Goals Development
 - b. Community Survey Overview
- 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 8. STAFF REPORT**
 - a. Set Next Meeting Agenda for June 13, 2023
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof the meeting of the Environment & Sustainability Commission (ESC) of the City of Rosemount was called to order on April 11, 2023, at 5:33 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 2875 145th Street West, Rosemount.

Attendees included:

Commissioners Kate Reed, Kip Springer, Renee Burman, Tina Angerer, Eric Johnson, and Kristen Andrews. Commissioner Erin Delaney arrived during item 3.a. Commissioner Neal Shoe was absent.

Staff present included the following;

City Engineer Erickson and Stormwater Specialist Byron

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Andrews requested the date on the agenda be corrected from March 14, 2023 to April 11, 2023.

Motion by Andrews Second by Johnson

Ayes: 6

Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Springer Second by Andrews

Motion to adopt the agenda as corrected.

Ayes: 6

Nays: None. Motion carried.

ANNUAL MEETING

3.a. Issuance of Oath: Kate Reed and Kip Springer

3.b. Election of Officers

Commissioner Burman nominated Eric Johnson for Chair of the commission.

Motion by Burman Second Angerer

Motion to elect Eric Johnson as Chair of the Environment & Sustainability Commission.

Ayes: 7

Nays: None. Motion Carried

Commissioner Johnson nominated Tina Angerer for Vice-Chair of the commission.

Motion by Johnson Second by Burman

Motion to elect Tina Angerer as Vice-Chair of the Environment & Sustainability Commission.

Ayes: 7

Nays: None. Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.a. Motion by Andrews by Second by Johnson

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2023 Environment and Sustainability Commission meeting.

Ayes: 7

Nays: None. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

6.a. Existing Goals Updates

Commissioners inquired about the status of the Sustainable Purchasing Framework. Specialist Byron noted that administrative staff load has been very high, and staff are still in the process of reviewing before recommending to Council. No timeline available for when this proposal will be presented to Council.

Commissioners discussed the organics drop sight and it was noted that of the nine drop sites in Dakota County, Rosemount is second for participants in its first year.

6.b. Near Term Education & Outreach

Commissioners discussed ideas for upcoming blog posts and assigned posts for May and June.

Commissioners reviewed and discussed insight from the Rosemount Home & Business Expo which was held on Saturday, March 18, 2023.

6.c. Land Acknowledgment

Stormwater Specialist Byron advised City staff is recommending the formation of an ESC Land Acknowledgement Implementation Sub-Committee for recommendations and guidance for successful implementation prior to presentation to Council.

Motion Springer by Second Angerer by

Motion to form a Land Acknowledgement Implementation Subcommittee including Commissioners Delaney, Burman and Reed.

Ayes: 7

Nays: None. Motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS

7.a. 2023 Goals Development

Commissioners discussed the presentation of the ESC progress report to City Council. Councilmembers provided feedback and direction.

Commissioners discussed working on youth outreach as well as engaging and partnering with the Rosemount High School (RHS) Environmental Science Club. Commissioners expressed interest in inviting the RHS Environmental Science Club to present to the commission at a future meeting.

Commissioners discussed setting up a work session to develop the 2023 goals for the ESC.

Motion by Johnson **Second** by Andrews

Motion to hold a work session on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room.

Ayes: 7

Nays: None. Motion carries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stormwater Specialist Byron reviewed the No Mow May page on the City's website and noted information on Now Mow May will be included in the spring newsletter. Specialist Byron also noted there is a link on the page to a local Girl Scout gold project relating to pollinator habitats.

**ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 11, 2023**

STAFF REPORT

9.a. Set Next Meeting Agenda for May 9, 2023

- i. Presentation by RHS Environmental Science Club.
- ii. Discuss possible ESC survey.
- iii. Review of the Flint Hills Community Outreach Tour

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Environment & Sustainability Commission and upon a motion by Johnson and a second by Reed the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Simonson
Recording Secretary

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Rosemount High School Environmental Science Club	AGENDA SECTION: PRESENTATIONS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 4.a.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Information only	

BACKGROUND

Rosemount High School (RHS) hosts an Environmental Science Club. Representatives of the Environmental Science Club have been invited to present an overview on the club and what they're working on. A short Q&A will follow the presentation.

RECOMMENDATION

Discussion only.

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Existing Goals Updates	AGENDA SECTION: OLD BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 5.a.
ATTACHMENTS: 2022 Environment & Sustainability Commission Goals	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion	

BACKGROUND

The Environment & Sustainability Commission Goals for 2022 were approved at the January 2022 Commission Meeting and cover the following topics:

1. Industrial Air Permitting Research
2. Greening City Operations
3. Water Conservation and Quality Protection
4. Recycling and Solid Waste Reductions
5. Energy Conservation, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy
6. Pollinators and Habitat Protection
7. Incentivizing Green Practice Adoption by Local Business

The Commission formed working groups geared at advancing each goal at its February meeting. The 2022 Goals document is attached for reference.

The Commission is currently in the process of reviewing its existing goals and developing new goals. Goal development is covered under a different agenda item.

RECOMMENDATION

A representative of each work group will be provided an opportunity to update the Chair on any progress they have made since the last meeting.

Environment and Sustainability Commission

2022 Goals

The Rosemount Environment and Sustainability Commission has set the following goals to pursue during 2022 as approved at its January 11, 2022, meeting. The Goals listed below are aspirational, and implementation schedules may extend beyond the year's end and change as the year progresses.

Goal: Industrial Air Permitting Research

Further expand the knowledge base of the Commission, residents, local businesses, and the City regarding outdoor air quality and industrial air permitting.

Actions

1. Provide information on the City website and otherwise educate residents on how to access current air quality information, industrial air permitting, industrial air permitting enforcement, and nearby outdoor air pollution sources.
2. Assist the City with dissemination of information on air quality/permitting violations or problems that affect the City and its inhabitants.
3. Tour local industries that have industrial air permits to learn about measures they are taking to mitigate impacts.
4. Research industrial air permitting and air quality issues, including best practices residents and businesses can take to reduce outdoor air pollution.
5. Invite guest speakers to future commission meetings from regulatory agencies to speak on industrial air permitting and air quality issues.

Goal: Greening City Operations

Update City policies, plans, and procedures to reduce the environmental impact of city operations. Use available environmental certification programs to help guide the City on where to make improvements.

Actions

1. Pursue implementation of BMPs that can advance the City to Step 3 under the GreenStep Cities certification program
 - i. BP 15.1 – Develop a sustainable purchasing policy
 1. Relates to Recycling & Waste Reduction Goal
 - ii. Develop a green city buildings policy for construction of new or retrofit of old City owned buildings
 - iii. Advise the City on other improvements that can advance the City's certification level

2. Document new city green practices in the context of the LEED for Cities certification program for a higher certification level at a future date
 - i. Research the LEED for Cities certification program further
3. Research successful policies, plans, and procedures implemented by other communities that reduce the impact of city operations on the environment

Goal: Water Conservation and Quality Protection

Promote and incentivize actions that improve water conservation, protect surface water quality, and protect ground water quality.

Actions

1. Promote Smart Salting strategies for winter de/anti-icing and snow removal for homes and businesses.
 - i. Research and promote the Minnesota Smart Salting for Property Management Certification program and other certification programs
 - ii. Research and promote publicly available education products and policy tools
2. Promote the Adopt-a-Drain.org program
3. Encourage planting for clean water practices and other stormwater reduction and water quality improvement best management practices (BMPs) at residences and businesses. Examples of BMPs include raingardens, native plant buffers along waterbodies, native plant gardens, and rain barrels.
 - i. Research and learn about programs that promote, provide financial incentives, or technical assistance for planting for clean water and installation of private stormwater BMPs.
 1. Dakota County SWCD Landscaping for Clean Water
 2. BlueThumb.org
 3. Lawns to Legumes
 4. Other programs available
 - ii. Promote and research how planting for clean water practices intersect with protection of pollinators and habitat.
4. Promote irrigation reduction practices, including the use of drought tolerant lawn grasses.
5. Make recommendations to the City on opportunities for water conservation and quality protection in City operations and policies
6. Stay current on best practices and new technologies for water conservation and quality protection.
7. Recommend the City continue to train staff responsible for winter snow and ice removal operations in practices that reduce deicer use.
8. Assist the City with efforts to educate residents, businesses, and organizations on the importance of protecting local drinking water sources (e.g. the aquifer) from overuse and degradation.

Goal: Recycling and Solid Waste Reduction

Promote programs and practices that move the City, its residents, and local business towards a zero waste future.

Actions

1. Develop a sustainable purchasing policy
2. Assist the City with efforts to install an organics drop site in coordination with Dakota County
3. Provide education to the public, businesses, and the City on recycling, waste reduction, composting, and organics recycling/composting.
4. Develop or assist the City with improvement on an education hub on the website regarding waste reduction topics.
5. Explore developing one or more actions under BP 22: Sustainable Consumption and Waste under the Green Step Cities certification program.
6. Research current best practices, new technologies, and successful programs by other cities regarding waste reduction, including programs discouraging single use plastics.

Goal: Energy Conservation, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy

Promote programs, develop policies, and look for financial incentives to reduce energy consumption and transition to a greater share of renewable energy within the community.

Actions

1. Pursue an update the City's Energy Action Plan which expired in 2020.
2. Pursue policies and programs that encourage increased use of electric vehicles within the community, including installation of electric vehicle charging stations in town.
3. Promote programs and policies that educate and provide incentives to businesses and community members to switch to renewable low carbon energy and encourage energy efficiency.
 - i. Working in partnership with local utility providers is a key component of this action.
4. Research best practices, new technologies, and successful programs by others that promote energy efficiency and green house gas reduction and mitigation.

Goal: Pollinators and Habitat Protection

Promote best practices for landscaping and green space management within the community that encourage increased use of native plants and pollinator habitat.

Actions

1. Develop policies and a promotion campaign for No Mow May
2. Develop policies and promote bee lawns
3. Promote state and local programs that incentivize or provide technical assistance on planting for pollinators and habitat that focus on preservation and installation of native plants/ecosystems.
4. Develop a pollinator resolution and advise adoption by the City Council
5. Research designation programs that certify or otherwise recognize the City or city greenspace as pollinator friendly.
6. Look for opportunities within City greenspace to increase pollinator friendly habitats and incorporate native landscaping.
7. Research best practices, new technologies, and successful programs by others that promote pollinator and habitat preservation and creation.

Goal: Incentivizing Green Practice Adoption by Local Business

Promote adoption of green best practices by local businesses.

Actions

1. Develop a program or research existing programs that acknowledge businesses that implement green practices and encourage participation by local businesses.
2. Highlight local businesses that have won awards or have otherwise been acknowledged for implementation of green practices.
3. Provide information on the City website and otherwise educate local businesses on environmental incentive programs and technical assistance programs.
4. Engage with local businesses to learn more about impediments to adopting green practices and what green practices they would be interested in learning about.

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Near Term Education & Outreach	AGENDA SECTION: OLD BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 5.b.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion	

BACKGROUND

The Environment and Sustainability Commission (ESC) developed an Education & Outreach Calendar. It is a working document that will be updated as the year progresses. Some outreach items will be assigned to specific commissioners for completion, such as some of the blog posts. The intent of this item is to review the calendar for updates and share ideas. Highlights are below:

1. April 20th Flint Hills Resources Facility Tour Recap
2. May blog post - Spring Yard Prep
3. June blog post
 - a. Commissioners will provide ideas for the June blog post
4. Holidays/events of note
 1. May – No Mow May
 2. May – Arbor Month
 3. May 13 – World Migratory Bird Day (www.birdday.org)
 - a. 2023 Theme – Water: Sustaining Bird Life
 4. May 12-14 – Governor’s Fishing Opener
 5. May 14 – Mother’s Day
 6. May 15 – Endangered Species Day
 7. May 19 – Bike to Work Day
 8. May 20 – World Bee Day
 9. May 29 – Memorial Day
 10. June 14 - Flag Day
 11. June 18 - Father's Day
 12. June 19-25 - Pollinator Week
 - a. 2023 Theme - Pollinators and Climate Change
 13. June 19 - Juneteenth
 14. June 21 - First Day of Summer
 15. July 4 - Independence Day
 16. July 28-29 - Leprechaun Days Midsummer Faire

RECOMMENDATION

Assign education activities for June

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Land Acknowledgement Subcommittee Update	AGENDA SECTION: OLD BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 5.c.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion	

BACKGROUND

The Environment & Sustainability Commission formed a Land Acknowledgement Subcommittee at its April 2023 meeting. The purpose of the commission is to offer guidance and background necessary for successful implementation of a Land Acknowledgement ahead of presentation to and anticipated approval by the City Council. The Subcommittee will investigate the following:

- Training recommendations for City Staff and Council to assist in successful implementation
- Recommendation on long form Acknowledgement development
- Recommendations on other program components for successful implementation

For the May update, Commissioner Delaney will provide information on the Independant School District 196 Native American Cultural Honoring Ceremony scheduled for May 13th at Erickson Park.

The proposed Land Acknowledgement statement recommended for adoption by the City Council is as follows:

Rosemount sits upon the traditional and Treaty land of the Dakota people who along with the Ojibwe people, are the Indigenous peoples of the land now called Minnesota. We would like to recognize and honor the Dakota people for the working of, knowledge, connections and care of this land, this water and soil, that has brought us here and has contributed to our lives.

RECOMMENDATION

Commissioners will be given an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to the Subcommittee.

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: 2023 Goals Development	AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 6.a.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to Adopt Individual Goal Working Groups for the 2023 Environment and Sustainability Commission Goals	

BACKGROUND

The Environment & Sustainability Commission has developed a set of goals to help guide yearly activities. The goals cover outreach and policy initiatives that the Commission would like to tackle. Each year, the Commission reviews goals to gauge progress and determine if a new direction is needed. The Commission held special work sessions in September and May for their annual goal review and amended goal development. At its May work session, the Commission discussed a framework for moving forward to develop final goal language. The framework would involve the adoption of working groups that would work on updating language for each goal. Current goals remain in effect until the Commission votes on an updated draft.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the following working groups for individual Environment & Sustainability Commission Goals:

- Industrial Air Permitting Research - Commissioners Angerer and Andrews
- Greening City Operations - Commissioners Angerer, Burman, and Springer
- Land, Water, and Habitat Conservation, Preservation, and Protection - Commissioners Johnson, Delaney, Andrews, and Shoe
- Recycling and Solid Waste Reduction - Commissioners Burman, Shoe, and Springer
- Energy Conservation, Energy Efficiency, and Renewable Energy - Commissioner Johnson
- Incentivizing Green Practice Adoption by Local Business - none

Environment and Sustainability Commission Regular Meeting: May 9, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: Community Survey Overview	AGENDA SECTION: NEW BUSINESS
PREPARED BY: Jane Byron, Stormwater Specialist	AGENDA NO. 6.b.
ATTACHMENTS:	APPROVED BY: BLE
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion only	

BACKGROUND

The City of Rosemount puts on a citywide survey about every three years to gauge how residents feel the community is doing. The last community survey was completed in 2021, the results of which can be found at <https://www.rosemountmn.gov/591/Community-Survey>. The next community survey is tentatively scheduled for 2024. The City uses the National Community Survey (NCS) to implement the survey. The NCS format and methods allows for an apples to apples comparison from one survey year to the next and with other participating communities. The NCS captures residents' opinions considering ten central facets of a community:

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Inclusivity and Engagement

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss the community survey