Greener Greenville

Goals, Strategies and Tasks

Green Ribbon Advisory Committee (GRAC)
1. Explore opportunities to adopt sustainable practices in city buildings and operations
   a) Encourage city building construction to incorporate green building practices
      i. Review 5-year plan for building construction and identify green building options
      ii. Plan city buildings to accommodate future solar power installation
      iii. Formalize process for GRAC input into city building procurement process
   b) Increase energy and resource efficiency in existing city buildings
      i. Complete energy use inventory of city owned buildings
      ii. Target community centers for green building technology installation
      iii. Implement efficiency improvements to city hall
      iv. Explore water heating system upgrades
      v. Identify high priority efficiency upgrades to city-owned buildings
      vi. Investigate smart meter deployment in city buildings to improve usage tracking
   c) Encourage use of sustainable building products in the city-owned built environment
      i. Pursue energy neutral, efficient or intelligent fixtures and equipment
      ii. Explore opportunities for solar parking canopies
      iii. Explore opportunities for distributed network of electric car charging stations

2. Explore opportunities to adopt sustainable practices in the community’s built environment
   a) Allow and incentivize development to follow industry accepted green building standards as an alternative to portions of currently adopted building codes
      i. Explore options for incentives and alternative compliance paths with city staff/commissions
      ii. Advocate for ordinance and design guideline revisions to allow for sustainable building features
   b) Encourage private use of energy-efficient and water-saving products and practices
      i. Advocate for weatherization and sustainability programs in existing affordable housing initiatives
      ii. Explore the possibility of creating a building energy audit service for commercial buildings
RECOMMENDED TASKS

iii. Explore opportunities to deploy smart meters to community to track energy use
iv. Improve marketing of existing energy efficiency programs

c) Explore options to improve community efficiency through Duke energy franchise agreement

3. Investigate opportunities to increase adoption of renewable energy.

a) Promote non-profit entities that advocate for renewable energy installations
   i. Lend city marketing capabilities to non-profit community initiatives

b) Investigate opportunities for the city to purchase or produce clean energy
   i. Investigate Duke Community Solar initiative to reduce city energy bills
   ii. Investigate purchase of renewable energy credits to offset city carbon emissions

c) Pursue private partnerships for renewable energy development on public property.
   i. Explore lease agreements with solar developers for city rooftops
   ii. Identify city owned green spaces that could be good candidates for solar power installations.
   iii. Collaborate with Greenville County & Greenville County School District to identify potential renewable energy projects on publicly-owned property for solar arrays
RECOMMENDED TASKS

Greener Greenville

Mobility

Goals, Strategies and Tasks

1. Encourage quality growth and repurposing that supports multi-modal transportation
   a) Identify viable higher density development areas
      ➔ M-1 Utilize the Connections for Sustainability BRT/TOD Feasibility report to identify areas ripe for Transit-Oriented Development:
   b) Support and simplify regulations and policies that encourage redevelopment within infill areas
      ➔ M-2 Support increased density, mixed-use developments, and pedestrian- and transit-oriented development
   c) Improve quality of life by making work, retail, play and home accessible
      ➔ M-7 Develop and implement a program to encourage private sector incentives and support for public and alternative transportation.
      ➔ M-2 Support increased density, mixed-use developments, and pedestrian- and transit-oriented development

2. Expand bicycling and walking as major forms of transportation
   a) Implement the Bicycle Master Plan
      ➔ M-3 Implement a bicycle boulevard route paralleling the Augusta Street corridor
      ➔ M-11 Become a Silver-level Bicycle-Friendly Community
      ➔ M-12 Become a Walk-Friendly Community
   b) Create complete streets
      ➔ M-13 Improve effectiveness of current complete streets resolution
   c) Encourage commuting by transit, bike and foot
      ➔ M-14 Establish commuter benefit plan for City employees
      ➔ M-7 Develop and implement a program to encourage private sector incentives and support for public and alternative transportation.
      ➔ M-15 Promote transit use in targeted neighborhoods, identify barriers and educate on options
   d) Encourage bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly development
      ➔ M-16 Require developments to lay out trails included in Trails and Greenways plan
      ➔ M-17 Explore possible regulatory approaches to encourage bicycle- and pedestrian-friendly development
   e) Implement the Trails and Greenways Master Plan
      ➔ M-4 Develop implementation criteria for the Trails & Greenways Master Plan.
3. Promote cooperative and public transportation
   a) Support the implementation of Greenlink Transit Vision and Master Plan
      ➔ M-5 Appoint a representative to the Upstate Transit Coalition
      ➔ M-6 Develop an integrated mapping/route-finding program for multi-modal transportation throughout the City of Greenville
      ➔ M-7 Develop and implement a program to encourage private sector incentives and support for public and alternative transportation.
   b) Support efforts to reduce wait times, improve communication and improve connectivity of public transportation
   c) Maximize synergies during implementation of Bicycle Master Plan and Transit Vision and Master Plans
      ➔ M-19 Implement policy to coordinate development efforts between departments (Development, Engineering, Greenlink, Parks & Rec, Permitting, Public Works, etc.) to ensure that adopted master plans are accommodated where appropriate
   d) Partner to be part of regional rail service
      i. Promote express bus routes as a precursor to light rail, which is a precursor to regional rail
   e) Encourage carpooling and car sharing
      ➔ M-7 Develop and implement a program to encourage private sector incentives and support for public and alternative transportation

4. Expand use of alternative-fuel and low-emissions vehicles
   a) Support alternative-fuel and low-emission vehicle initiatives and infrastructure
      ➔ M-8 Develop a plan for alternate fuel infrastructure
      ➔ M-18 Implement EV Charging Station Plan
   b) Transition the City fleet to alternative fuel and low-emission vehicles
      ➔ M-9 Select replacement vehicles for city-owned fleets based on life cycle costs. Develop an unbiased, comprehensive set of costs and performance for alternate fuel vehicles for life-cycle comparisons against otherwise comparable petroleum-fueled vehicles
   c) Promote alternative-fuel and low-emission vehicle purchase
      ➔ M-10 Host annual weekend events for electric vehicle owners
Natural Systems

Goals, Strategies and Tasks

1. Protect and improve water resources and quality
   a) Promote natural processes and sustainable techniques to improve watershed quality
       NS-1 Strengthen and clarify buffer and riparian standard requirements
       NS-2 Implement low impact development techniques within the city
   b) Enhance the city’s ability to handle stormwater and extreme weather events
   c) Encourage city water conservation practices

2. Conserve, restore, increase, and sustainably manage greenspace
   d) Develop a city Parks Master Plan that sustainably supports natural assets
       NS-3 Support city efforts to develop a Parks Master Plan and asset inventories
   e) Promote the development of park resources equitably within city neighborhoods
   f) Enhance development standards to encourage preservation of greenspace

3. Monitor and improve air quality
   g) Support a healthy urban forest for air quality benefits
       NS-4 Recommend best practices for forestry staff, planning, and instruction
   h) Develop a city-wide emissions inventory
       NS-5 Commission and maintain an emissions inventory for the city

4. Promote urban ecology to protect our city’s natural diversity
   i) Increase awareness of the city’s natural assets
       NS-6 Develop educational initiatives to preserve and increase the city’s natural assets
Recycling and Waste Management

Goals, Strategies and Tasks

1. Institute sustainable waste and recycling practices in the City of Greenville
   a) Examine options for an ordinance that addresses multi-family recycling.
   b) Increase recycling in all City buildings, facilities and parks.
   c) Include sustainable practices in the design and implementation of Greenville’s new City Park.
   d) Work with Greenville County Schools and Greenville County to promote recycling programs in all of their buildings and facilities.
   e) Promote environmental education throughout the City to increase recycling and composting and decrease waste generation.
   f) Eliminate use of plastic bags and Styrofoam in the City. Revisit and consider options for banning or instituting a user fee for plastic bags and Styrofoam containers.
   g) Expand E-waste collection to 4 times per year instead of 2 times per year, possibly partnering with the County to share the task.

2. Expand composting opportunities in the City of Greenville
   a) Research composting initiatives in other cities of similar size around the US.
   b) Work with Public Works to understand the impact composting would have on the overall trash collection for the city.
   c) Find a site for the city to pilot food waste composting.
   d) Increase awareness/education about home composting.
   e) Install trash, recycling and composting bins around the city, similar to what other cities are doing.
   f) Make composting bins available from the city at low to no cost to residents. This would be a voluntary program.
   g) Provide a means to compost for residents who do not have the space or ability to compost, such as curbside bins or drop-off locations.
   h) Work with downtown restaurants to gauge interest in composting and set-up a pilot composting program with interested restaurants.

3. Develop other recycling options for the City of Greenville
   a) Examine opportunities to establish a Regional Material Recycling Facility in Greenville, including exploring opportunities for a Public/Private Partnership.
   b) PW to write an RFP for a new MRF.

4. Examine opportunities to reduce the cost and increase the efficiency of providing curbside solid waste collection and provide City Council with recommendations
   a) Expand curbside collection programs for residential waste to full automation.
   b) Examine curbside collection options for recyclable materials including a “Single Stream Recycling” program.
c) Examine curbside collection options for yard waste.

d) Implement an equitable fee system for solid waste collection and minimize or eliminate the City’s solid waste subsidy

e) Develop a pilot project utilizing a third cart for yard waste collection.

5. Examine opportunities to convert the closed 98-acre Mauldin Rd. Landfill into a community asset.

   a) Examine reuse opportunities and constraints for the site.
   b) All analysis to be completed in collaboration with the City’s Economic Development, Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments.