

City of Ramsey
Agenda
Environmental Policy Board (EPB)
Monday, September 16, 2019
6:30 pm
Council Chambers, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Citizen Input**
- 3. Approve Agenda**
- 4. Approve Minutes**
 1. Approve Meeting Minutes Dated August 19, 2019
- 5. Policy Board Business**
 1. Review Draft EPB Work Plan
- 6. Board/Staff Input**
 - Fall Recycling Day Event
- 7. Adjournment**

Environmental Policy Board (EPB)

4. 1.

Meeting Date: 09/16/2019

By: Chris Anderson, Community
Development

Information

Title:

Approve Meeting Minutes Dated August 19, 2019

Action:

Attachments

EPB Meeting Minutes Dated August 19, 2019

Form Review

Inbox

Tim Gladhill

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 09/12/2019

Reviewed By

Tim Gladhill

Date

09/12/2019 01:37 PM

Started On: 09/11/2019 03:53 PM

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

On Monday, August 19, 2019, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) met in the Council Chambers at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Michael Valentine
 Board Member Reid Bernard
 Board Member Jane Covart
 Board Member Laura Moore

Members Absent: Board Member Melissa Fetterley
 Board Member Michael Hiatt

Also Present: City Planner Chris Anderson
 City Council Liaison Debra Musgrove

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Valentine called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Board Member Bernard to approve the agenda as submitted.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Valentine, Board Member Covart, Bernard, and Moore.
Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Fetterley and Hiatt.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated June 17, 2019

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Board Member Bernard to approve the regular meeting minutes dated June 17, 2019.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Valentine, Board Member Covart, Bernard, and Moore.
Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Fetterley and Hiatt.

5. POLICY BOARD BUSINESS

5.01: Review of MN Brightfields Workshop on the Potential of Solar Development at the Closed Landfill Site

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He reported that the City hosted a workshop on July 17-18 focused on development of solar energy systems on Closed Landfill Sites across the state and more specifically, the Closed Landfill Site (CLS) in Ramsey, located west of Sunfish Lake Boulevard, north of Sunwood Drive, and south of Alpine Park. The workshop was organized by Metropolitan Council staff in response to Ramsey's Closed Landfill Site being selected by the Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) Brownfields Technical Assistance Program for further analysis (at no cost to the City). The intention of the workshop was to explore what potential obstacles there may be to develop solar on a CLS and identify possible solutions. The workshop also included a site visit to Ramsey' CLS.

City Planner Anderson stated that overall, the workshop seemed very well received with a lot of enthusiasm from all attendees about the possibilities of utilizing CLS across the state for solar energy development. There is a broader study that has also been funded by the state legislature for the State of Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) to conduct further analysis on siting solar development and greenhouse gas mitigation on CLS across the state. The study should be completed sometime in 2020.

City Councilmember Musgrove stated that the CLS is within her Ward and asked if there would be notice provided to residents in that area prior to a possible rezoning.

City Planner Anderson confirmed that any zoning amendment would require publication in the local newspaper to alert the residents of a public hearing conducted by the Planning Commission prior to moving to the City Council. He reiterated that currently there are no projects proposed for the site.

City Councilmember Musgrove stated that there are some new concerns arising with toxic waste generated from panels used in solar energy. She stated that she would also be interested in possible runoff from the site into the nearby lake.

Chairperson Valentine stated that if there is anything the Board can do to assist in moving things along, should a possible project arise, staff should bring that to the Board.

5.02: Consider Opportunity to Apply for Grant Funding for Water Efficiency

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. He stated that the Metropolitan Council is offering grants from \$2,000 to \$50,000 to municipal water suppliers to help increase water efficiency in their communities by lowering the cost for residents to purchase and install products that reduce water use including toilets, washing machines, and irrigation sprinklers and controllers. Municipalities may use grant funds to fund rebates to residents who replace inefficient water-using devices with approved devices that use substantially less water, or for irrigation system audits. The Metropolitan Council administered a water efficiency grant program during the 2015-2017 biennium using \$500,000 from the Clean Water Fund, which yielded an estimated total savings of 52 million gallons of water per year. This grant program requires that products be labeled by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program or, in the case of washing machines, by the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Star program. Grant funds can only be

used for appliance replacement, not for first-time purchases for new developments. Municipalities are responsible for developing and operating their own rebate programs. The grant funds will cover 75 percent of program costs, with a required 25 percent local match of which residents must pay a portion of the cost for any device or water use audit they purchase. Grant applications will be accepted through September 30, 2019. Staff would propose that the local 25 percent match come from the City's water enterprise fund, with a portion being reimbursed by payments from residents for any device or water use audit they purchase.

Councilmember Musgrove asked the anticipated dollar amount of the grant.

City Planner Anderson stated that staff has not attempted to begin a grant application or an outline of what the program would look like.

Board Member Covart stated that the Board work plan identified attempting to incentivize water and irrigation efficiency and asked if this program would be similar to the rebate program Elk River has.

City Planner Anderson stated that staff has not yet attempted to draft a program but confirmed that other cities including Elk River and Plymouth have similar programs. He noted that staff could reach out to cities that have participated in a rebate program in the past to gain input.

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Board Member Bernard to recommend that the City Council authorize staff to prepare and submit an application for water efficiency grant funds from the Metropolitan Council.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Valentine, Board Member Covart, Bernard, and Moore. Voting No: None. Absent: Board Member Fetterley and Hiatt.

6. BOARD / STAFF INPUT

- **Review Summer Recycling Event**

City Planner Anderson reported that the summer recycling event took place in July and noted that the event seemed slower than the normal recycling events. He provided comparison data from the past three years, noting that the material collected at the summer event was lower than previous years, with the exception of comingled materials. He stated that staff will need to do an assessment on the effectiveness of a summer event versus the cost to hold the event. He noted that he will also monitor whether the summer event has an impact on the upcoming fall recycling event. He stated that based on the numbers, perhaps in 2020 Ramsey will go back to offering spring and fall recycling events.

Chairperson Valentine asked if the recycling events have been impacted by weather.

City Planner Anderson commented that he has yet to be rained out at a recycling event. He stated that he could not pinpoint weather as impacting any of the past events. He noted that another municipality in Anoka County held a recycling event in April on a day that received snow and that city still had a lot of participation.

Board Member Moore stated that she noticed this year that there were two or three big events in this area around the same time as the summer recycling event, and perhaps some people chose to attend other events.

Councilmember Musgrove asked how this event would impact the total amount of recycling tonnage set as a goal by Anoka County.

City Planner Anderson stated that he reports to the County twice per year, once in January and once in July. He stated that the summer event tonnage will be included in the second half of the year report provided to the County in January 2020. He noted that the costs to hold the events are reimbursable by SCORE funds through Anoka County.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if there would be consideration to promote the fall event more because of the lesser amounts collected in the summer.

City Planner Anderson stated that the City consistently promotes the different events and reviewed the different methods used for promotion.

Board Member Covart asked about possible signage for the events.

City Planner Anderson reported that the City is in the process of updating its dynamic display sign on Highway 10 and once completed, the City would be able to use that for the events.

Chairperson Valentine stated that he and Board Member Moore have been involved in the group composed of Environmental Boards around the metro, noting that the group is attempting to setup webinars that could be viewed by Board Members. He noted that he will pass on the information to City Planner Anderson.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Board Member Covart and seconded by Chairperson Valentine to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Anderson
City Planner

ATTEST:

JoAnn Shaw
Community Development Secretary

Drafted by Amanda Staple, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

Environmental Policy Board (EPB)

5. 1.

Meeting Date: 09/16/2019

By: Chris Anderson, Community
Development

Information

Title:

Review Draft EPB Work Plan

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to continue discussion on items for inclusion in a new Environmental Policy Board (EPB) Work Plan. The EPB's current Work Plan, which is attached to the case, runs through the end of the year (2019). The EPB did briefly discuss potential topics for inclusion at its April 15, 2019 meeting and the minutes from said meeting are attached. Finally, the Action Plan from the City's current Strategic Plan is also included to provide some insight into the City Council's priorities over the next year.

Observations/Alternatives:

Staff has prepared a draft Work Plan that does include two carry-over items from the current Work Plan. The first addresses water quality protection from shoreline erosion along the Mississippi River, which has not yet been addressed. The second item, which addresses the longevity of our water supply, was on the current Work Plan but has not yet been completed (hopefully pending a successful grant application to the Metropolitan Council).

The City's current contract for curbside recycling runs through December 31, 2020. Thus, Staff has added to the draft Work Plan an item to consider options for curbside collection of recyclables (this could include considering an extension of the existing contract, issuing an RFP, or migrating to an open hauling system).

At the April meeting, the EPB did brainstorm some about potential topics to include on the next Work Plan. Items that were mentioned included youth engagement, working with volunteer groups (e.g. Master Gardeners), and green architecture initiatives. Prior to incorporating any of these topics into the draft Work Plan, Staff wanted to provide the Board with another opportunity to discuss these, and any other ideas, as well as to prioritize items for inclusion in the draft Work Plan.

Funding Source:

This topic is being handled as part of Staff's regular duties.

Action:

Discussion of draft Work Plan and provide Staff direction on items to include as well as prioritization of the topics.

Attachments

Current Approved Work Plan

City Council Strategic Plan

EPB Meeting Minutes Dated April 15, 2019

DRAFT EPB Work Plan

Form Review

Inbox

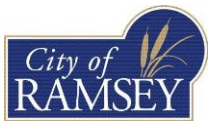
Reviewed By

Date

Tim Gladhill
Chris Anderson (Originator)
Tim Gladhill
Form Started By: Chris Anderson
Final Approval Date: 09/13/2019

Tim Gladhill
Chris Anderson
JoAnn Shaw

09/12/2019 01:38 PM
09/12/2019 04:48 PM
09/13/2019 08:06 AM
Started On: 09/09/2019 07:46 PM



Environmental Policy Board Work Plan 2017 – 2019

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Environmental Policy Board (EPB) will promote environmental awareness and conservation practice by citizens by advising the City Council on policy issues, review of new development proposals, communication and education. Through careful review, the EPB will present multiple perspectives, ideas, and new technologies that promote both discovery and accountability.

Initiative	Department	Tactics	Initiation Date	Completion Date	Additional Resources Required	Additional Tools Required	Responsible Party	Key Outcome Indicators/Metrics
Enhance Protection of Natural Resources	Community Development/ Parks	EPB 1.1 – Ensure sustainability of food supply and food web by promoting pollinator friendly practices and initiatives.	2017	2018	0.25 FTE	TBD	Anderson/ Riverblood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create polices to maintain and expand pollinator friendly landscapes on public lands through collaboration with the Parks & Recreation Commission • Improve communications and resources regarding pollinators to residents and businesses
	Community Development	EPB 1.2 – Protect water quality of Mississippi River from additional sediment loading due to shoreline erosion	2017	2019	0.25 FTE	TBD	Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify impacted properties owners interested in participating in bank stabilization projects • Identify applicable grant programs as source of funding for projects
	Community Development/ Public Works	EPB 1.3 – Extend the longevity of drinking water supply by reducing demand on groundwater	2017	2018	0.25 FTE	TBD	Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop incentives and or programs to promote water conservation throughout community • Develop resources and establish means to distribute the information to the general public
	Community Development	EPB 1.4 – Reduce amount of material entering waste stream and explore more reuse options	2017	2017	0.25 FTE	None	Anderson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an organics recycling pilot program to divert largest component of trash (organics) to reusable product (compost) • Improve communications and resources regarding composting to residents and businesses

Strategic Plan Update

2019 Update – May 28 Version

ABOUT RAMSEY

Ramsey is a suburban city located in the northwestern part of Anoka County, with a population of approximately 26,500. Two rivers dominate its borders, the Rum River and the Mississippi River.

The first settlement in Ramsey began because of trading along the banks of the Mississippi. Many settlers came here on a steamboat called *The Governor Ramsey* named after our first territorial governor, from which the City reportedly acquired the name.

Only a few of the first houses and structures built in Ramsey remain today. The most notable structure of historic significance is on the National Register of Historic Places, the Old Ramsey Town Hall, located west of Highway 47 (Saint Francis Boulevard) just north of County Road 116 (Bunker Lake Boulevard). This 19th century structure was originally used as a schoolhouse. The building is a community landmark and the City is working on a long term plan for the structure.

Two school districts now serve Ramsey - Elk River #728, and Anoka-Hennepin #11. Students from both districts regularly exceed the state average on the Minnesota Basic Standards in math, reading, and writing, and score well above the national average on college entrance exams.

Many people have chosen to live in Ramsey because of its rural character, wetlands, wildlife, parks, recreation and the housing choices. Ramsey is a mixture of farms, large-lot single family, urban single-family, and multi-family with a range of prices that appeals to a wide variety of families and individuals. The City is expected to grow by approximately 10,000 people over the next 20 years. Economic Development continues to be a priority for our City. With nearly 7,000 employees working in Ramsey everyday, new industrial and retail growth may add an additional 5,000 employees over the next 20 years. We are proud of our commitment to attract economically and environmentally sound commercial development.

Ramsey is committed to manage future growth to provide a high quality of life, enhanced employment opportunities and a stable tax base. Looking ahead, our city is working toward retail and commercial growth that includes restaurants, shopping, entertainment and additional employment opportunities.

Please note: this document is a work in progress. Staff is still working on final formatting. Please focus on content over formatting at this stage.

VALUES

Ethics and Integrity

Fiscal Responsibility

Cooperation and Teamwork

Open and Honest Communications

Excellence and Quality in the Delivery of Service

Treating People with Respect and Fairness

Adaptability and Continuous Learning

VISION

Ramsey will be a secure, citizen-driven, collaborative community that respects the balance and connectivity between its unique urban, rural and natural environments.

MISSION

To work together to responsibly grow our community and to provide quality, cost-effective and efficient government services.

OBJECTIVES

Financial Stability

A Balance of Rural Character and Urban Growth

An Active and Connected Community

Smart, Citizen-Focused Government

An Effective Organization

STRATEGIES

Identify and implement operational efficiencies, cost savings and additional funding sources.

Promote economic growth and development.

Create a positive image for residential neighborhoods, business districts and key corridors.

Enhance Community Engagement in policy decision-making processes.

Strengthen and enhance our identity and brand.

Improve the safety and mobility of transportation corridors.

Connect the community both physically and socially to destinations, services and activities.

Enhance customer service through process improvements.

Enhance sustainability and efficiency through public facilities and infrastructure investments.

Improve City's communication.

Improve and sustain high organizational morale.

Strive to reflect the demographics of the community.

ACTION PLAN

Action	Timeframe	Resources	Key Outcomes and Indicators	Responsible Party
Strategy: Identify and implement operational efficiencies, cost savings and additional funding sources.				
1. Complete a Road Maintenance Funding Study and Public Engagement/Education Process.	Q3 2019	Existing Staff WSB Contact Budget Impact = Medium	Updated policy on appropriate funding for long term maintenance of local roads. Results will influence future decision on road funding.	Bruce Westby
2. Implement a Road Maintenance Funding Program.	Q1 2020	Budget Impact = Medium	Retain existing program or choose a new program.	Diana Lund
3. Identify and improve one organizational workflow process.	2019	Budget Impact = Low	Experienced cost savings as a result of improved workflow. Example: Purchasing Policy	Kurt Ulrich
4. Create an Alternative Funding Toolkit.	2019	Budget Impact = Low	List of potential funding sources for capital improvements. Improved funding partnership and successful capital projects.	Diana Lund
5. Evaluate Asset Management Options for Public Infrastructure.	2019	Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	Improved tracking of roads, utilities, etc. More efficient utilization of personnel resources.	Bruce Westby
Strategy: Promote economic growth and development.				
6. Expand Business Retention and Expansion efforts.	2019	Existing Staff: Budget Impact = Low	Stable base of local employers, representing the largest opportunity for future growth of jobs and tax base. Increase the number of business visits. Improve the quality and attendance at EDA events.	Sean Sullivan
7. Expand recruitment process to secure new commercial (retail) users.	2019	Existing Staff: Real estate broker Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	Continued growth of jobs, tax base, and services. 5,000 square feet of new retail space.	Sean Sullivan
8. Expand recruitment process to secure new industrial users.			Continued growth of jobs, tax base, and services. 50,000 square feet of new industrial space.	
9. Complete Comprehensive Housing Study and recruit new residential neighborhoods.	Q3 2019	Existing Staff: Budget Impact = Medium RCP Report	Plan for market relevant housing to jobs ratio (1 job per 1.5 household).	Tim Gladhill
Strategy: Create a positive image for residential neighborhoods, business districts and key corridors.				

Action	Timeframe	Resources	Key Outcomes and Indicators	Responsible Party
10. Create baseline metrics to track and evaluate effectiveness of changes to Code Enforcement Program and use to track future trends.	Q4 2019	Existing Staff: Budget Impact = Low	Reduced blight and public nuisance. Improved responsiveness of neighborhood concerns. Improved empathy to private property rights and complex regulations. Improved aesthetics and reduced blight along Highway 10 and Highway 47.	Tim Gladhill
11. Create a coalition of local multifamily (apartments, condos, etc.) property managers.	2019	Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	Ensure that multifamily properties maintain high quality. Consider HOAs	Chloe McGuire Brigl
Strategy: Enhance Community Engagement in policy decision-making processes.				
12. Create Public Engagement Toolkit/Manual.	Q1 2020	Existing Staff: Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	New and improved engagement with the community on all key policy topics.	Tim Gladhill
Strategy: Strengthen and enhance our identity and brand.				
13. Complete a feasibility study for a future Postal Facility to obtain a Ramsey ZIP Code.	2020	Existing Staff Budget Impact = Medium RCP Report (community identity)	ZIP Code will identify itself as Ramsey. Take a step forward in achieving a Ramsey ZIP Code. Seek third-party funding to assist.	Kurt Ulrich
14. Install and/or replace signs at Highway 10/Ramsey Boulevard, Highway 10/Rail Station.	Q3 2019	Budget Impact = Medium to High RCP Report	Unified community brand for key nodes.	Chloe McGuire Brigl
15. Develop a plan for Historic Town Hall.	Q3 2019	Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	Adaptive reuse and tax base generation of historic town hall. Consider other buyers.	Kurt Ulrich
Strategy: Improve the safety and mobility of transportation corridors.				
16. Complete County Road 5 Corridor Study.	Future Parking Lot List Revisit adding	Budget Impact = Medium	Unified vision for Nowthen Boulevard. Improved safety and reduced congestion.	Bruce Westby
17. Complete State Highway 47 Study Update.	Q1 2020	Existing Staff: Budget Impact = Medium	Unified vision for Highway 47. Improved safety and reduced congestion.	Bruce Westby
18. Complete the Ramsey Gateway Study.	Q4 2019	Existing Staff/Resources Budget Impact = High RCP Report	Unified vision for Highway 10. Improved safety and reduced congestion.	Tim Gladhill

Action	Timeframe	Resources	Key Outcomes and Indicators	Responsible Party
Strategy: Connect the community both physically and socially to destinations, services, and activities.				
19. Complete the Master Parks and Trail Plan/Capital Improvement Program Update.	2019	Existing Staff/Resources Budget Impact = Medium RCP Report	Adequate parks, trails and public spaces, both future and existing. Unique recreation destinations.	Mark Riverblood
20. Update Recreation Programming Work Plan	2019	Budget Impact = Low	Deliver a diversity of programs that finds a balance of revenue and access.	Mark Riverblood
Strategy: Enhance customer service through process improvements.				
21. Complete snow removal study and alternatives analysis.	2019	Budget Impact = Low	Ensure process and staffing for snow removal meets community expectations.	Grant Riemer
Strategy: Enhance sustainability and efficiency through public facilities and infrastructure investments.				
22. Complete Regional Surface Water Supply Feasibility Study.	Q1 2020	Study funded by Metropolitan Council. Budget Impact = Low	Adequate supply of water to supply community's future vision. Ensure that groundwater is the most appropriate source for the future.	Bruce Westby
23. Explore Water Supply Treatment Options			Reduce levels of manganese in municipal water supply.	
24. Complete Plans and Specifications for Future Public Works Campus.	2019	Budget Impact = High	Adequate space to effectively maintain public infrastructure. Savings of time and money in operational efficiencies.	Grant Riemer
25. Consider smart irrigation rebate program.	2019	Budget Impact = Medium	Reduced demand on public water supply and avoid/delay of infrastructure investments.	Chris Anderson
Strategy: Improve City's communication.				
26. Update Communications Plan.	2019	Existing Staff Budget Impact = Low RCP Report	Improved external communication. Provide more information of interest to residents in multiple formats. New and more effective ways to reach the community, including but not limited to social media. Talking Points for Key Projects. Policy, process, and timing for communicating key topics. Improved administration of Ramsey Resident Newsletter.	Megan Thorstad
27. Enhance Employee Intranet.	Q4 2019	Budget Impact = Low	Enhanced access for personnel policies and resources for existing and future Councilmembers, Employees, and Commissioners. Improved internal communication.	Colleen Lasher

Action	Timeframe	Resources	Key Outcomes and Indicators	Responsible Party
Strategy: Improve and sustain high organizational morale.				
This remains a high priority for the community and is addressed in multiple actions above.				
Strategy: Strive to reflect the demographics of the community.				
This remains a high priority for the community and is addressed in multiple actions above.				

Budget Impact Key; Low = Existing Staff/thousands of dollars; Medium = Additional Staff/Consultants/tens of thousands of dollars; High = capital improvement/hundreds of thousands of dollars.

RCP Report = Partnership with the University of Minnesota completed in 2018. This partnership created a library of resources and policy alternatives. A full list of completed reports can be found online at rcp.umn.edu/ramsey-projects.

PARKING LOT LIST

Action	Strategy
Complete a Development Fee Impact Study.	Identify and implement operational efficiencies, cost savings and additional funding sources.
Complete Comprehensive Streetscape and Greenway Manual.	Create a positive image for residential neighborhoods, business districts and key corridors.
Complete Neighborhood Plans for Pearson Properties and Makowsky Farms.	Create a positive image for residential neighborhoods, business districts and key corridors.
Remodel 2 nd Floor of City Hall for additional collaboration and meeting space.	Enhance Community Engagement in policy decision-making processes.
Complete a Fire Department Duty Crew Analysis.	Enhance customer service through process improvements.
Complete Organization Staffing Plan.	Improve and sustain high organizational morale.

CULTURE

- Utilize Strategic Plan to prioritize budget requests.
- Leverage additional funding sources.
- Seek grants to do high priority projects.
- Seek public and private partnerships.
- Improve Park and Recreation revenue through user fees and sponsorships.
- Provide adequate public safety staffing based upon common metrics (i.e., calls for service, time of day caseload, land use and population, citizen expectations).
- Continue Staff Recognition Programs.
- Increase awareness of various employee resources.

Review Current EPB Work Plan

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report. The EPB has a City Council approved Work Plan for 2017-2019. As the City Council is beginning to wrap up their strategic planning for 2019, staff thought it would be a good time to briefly review the current plan and begin brainstorming topics for future consideration. The intention is not to develop a new work plan this evening, but rather to initiate some discussion on possible topics of interest or importance to the EPB.

Chairperson Valentine welcomed some brainstorming ideas to consider further. He stated that he is satisfied with the level of effort that the Board has received from City Planner Anderson. He acknowledged the high amount of work that is placed on staff for some of the Board projects and actions.

Board Member Moore provided an update on a recent conference that she attended. She referenced a discussion regarding organics that occurred, noting that the organics recycling program in Ramsey seems to be very progressive compared to other communities in the metro. She stated that engaging youth in the community was a large focus of discussion as well. She explained that in some communities there are active youth groups completing projects and attempting to bring about new policies, while other communities were having difficulty engaging the youth population. She stated that perhaps that could be an item to add to the work plan as that group seems to be instrumental in bringing about changes and implementing new projects. She noted that in some communities there are Master Gardeners that review landscaping plans to provide an additional element of input on tree types and vegetation.

Councilmember Shryock stated that it is exciting to be involved with different Boards and see how things begin to come together. She referenced the discussion about education and encouraging residents. She noted that there has been discussion about smart sprinkler technology and there will be an attempt to bring forward resources to help residents take advantage of those. She referenced the Resilient Communities Program with the University of Minnesota that was completed and noted that perhaps that would be a group to consult on how to engage the youth population. She stated that there are a number of Master Gardeners in Ramsey and that would be a good resource that may be willing to provide assistance. She stated that community engagement is an element that the City Council would like to focus on, and these ideas are a great way to continue that effort. She encouraged the group to think about what they can do and mesh that together with the amount of time that staff has to assist in accomplishing those items. She noted that prioritization is also important, as items can be placed on a waiting list for future years.

Board Member Hiatt stated that there is a new elementary school coming online within the year, which is a good opportunity to create a connection for engagement. He stated that the younger you start engaging youth with environmental issues, the more successful that endeavor will be as the information shared will continue to grow as those students continue on in their learning experience.

Councilmember Shryock agreed that getting the youth involved helps to increase participation throughout the City, as those students will bring that information home to parents and grandparents. She stated that as the work plan is developed that will help the Board create the

focus and plan to engage the students.

Board Member Fetterley agreed that opportunity with a new school is great. She suggested perhaps investigating green architecture initiatives. She stated that as the community continues to grow, it would be nice to see some businesses engaging in green architecture initiatives. She agreed that when developing the work plan it will be helpful to find items of focus and then better define actions that will help to accomplish the goals.

Board Member Hiatt stated that it was helpful that this was placed on the agenda now, which provides additional time for thought and planning.

Environmental Policy Board Work Plan

2019 Update – September 12 Version

ABOUT RAMSEY

Ramsey is a suburban city located in the northwestern part of Anoka County, with a population of approximately 26,500. Two rivers dominate its borders, the Rum River and the Mississippi River.

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Ramsey is committed to manage future growth to provide a high quality of life, enhanced employment opportunities and a stable tax base. Looking ahead, our city is working toward retail and commercial growth that includes restaurants, shopping, entertainment and additional employment opportunities.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

The Environmental Policy Board Work Plan is an important component of achieving the City Council Strategic Plan. The initial sections of this Work Plan are an incorporation of the City Council's Strategic Plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Environmental Policy Board (EPB) will promote environmental awareness and conservation practice by advising the City Council on policy issues, review of new development proposals, communication and education. Through careful review, the EPB will present multiple perspectives, ideas and new technologies that promote both discovery and accountability.

DRAFT

VALUES

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Cooperation and Teamwork

Open and Honest Communications

Excellence and Quality in the Delivery of Service

Treating People with Respect and Fairness

Adaptability and Continuous Learning

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Ramsey will be a secure, citizen-driven, collaborative community that respects the balance and connectivity between its unique urban, rural and natural environments.

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To work together to responsibly grow our community and to provide quality, cost-effective and efficient government services.

OBJECTIVES

Financial Stability

A Balance of Rural Character and Urban Growth

An Active and Connected Community

Smart, Citizen-Focused Government

An Effective Organization

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BOARD (EPB) WORK PLAN

Action	Timeframe	Resources	Key Outcomes and Indicators	Responsible Party
Strategy: Enhance sustainability and efficiency through <i>public policy</i>, public facilities and infrastructure investments.				
1. Create a Shoreline Erosion Control Plan for the Mississippi River	2020	Budget Impact = Low	Reduced erosion along the Mississippi River that adds sediment load and reduces water quality. High priority shorelines are identified for partnerships with Owners to improve stabilization of shoreline.	Chris Anderson
2. Consider smart irrigation (<i>and other water reduction</i>) rebate program.	2019	Budget Impact = Medium	Reduced demand on public water supply and avoid/delay of infrastructure investments. Review policy recommendations of the Metropolitan Council Regional Surface Water Supply Feasibility Study. <i>This action is identified as a specific action from the City Council's Strategic Plan.</i>	Chris Anderson
3. Update City Recycling Program	2020	Budget Impact = Low	Maintain or increase amount of material recycled rather than entered into the solid waste stream. Increased participation in organics recycling program.	Chris Anderson

Budget Impact Key; Low = Existing Staff/thousands of dollars; Medium = Additional Staff/Consultants/tens of thousands of dollars; High = capital improvement/hundreds of thousands of dollars.

RCP Report = Partnership with the University of Minnesota completed in 2018. This partnership created a library of resources and policy alternatives. A full list of completed reports can be found online at rcp.umn.edu/ramsey-projects.

CULTURE

- Utilize Strategic Plan to prioritize budget requests.
- Leverage additional funding sources.
- Seek grants to do high priority projects.
- Seek public and private partnerships.
- Improve Park and Recreation revenue through user fees and sponsorships.
- Provide adequate public safety staffing based upon common metrics (i.e., calls for service, time of day caseload, land use and population, citizen expectations).
- Continue Staff Recognition Programs.
- Increase awareness of various employee resources.