



March 11, 2022

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Franklin City Hall Training Room

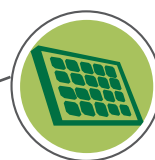
8:00 am	Welcome and Introductions	Todd Palmer
8:05 am	*Approval of March Meeting Minutes	Todd Palmer
8:05 am -- 8:10 am	Announcements: Enexor Field Trip	Eric Conner
8:10 am -- 8:25 am	*Waste Reduction Policy Guide Draft	Andrew Orr
8:25 am-- 8:55 am	*Transportation Policy Guide Draft	Eric Conner
8:55 am	News/Updates/Adjourn	Todd Palmer

*Item contains an attachment or link

CITY OF FRANKLIN MISSION STATEMENT: Franklin will continually strive to be a community of choice for individuals, families, and businesses to grow and prosper through an excellent quality of life supported by exceptional, responsive, and cost-effective City services.

Brenton Montgomery (12/14/2024)	Todd Palmer (8/27/2022)
Mike Cassity (11/10/2024)	Dana Kose (12/10/2022)
Beverly Burger (BOMA co-terminus)	John Brevard (12/14/2024)
Eric McElroy (Franklin Tomorrow co-terminus since 2/8/2022)	Chase Harper (12/14/2024)
R. Keith Gordon (3/23/2024)	

The Sustainability Commission was created to continue the work Initiated by the Sustainability Task Force and to act as a policy advisory body to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and City Administrator in the development and initiation of programs that will enhance and promote economic development, environmental health, and social equity within our community for present and future generations (Ord. 2009-41).



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FRANKLIN SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

March 11, 2022

Members Present: **Todd Palmer, Alderman Beverly Burger, Mike Cassity, Eric McElroy, Chase Harper, and Keith Gordon**

Members Absent: **Dana Kose, John Brevard, and Brenton Montgomery**

Staff Present: **Eric Conner**

The Franklin Sustainability Commission held a regular meeting on Friday, March 11, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. in the Franklin City Hall Training Room.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Palmer welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.

Approval of the Minutes

Chair Palmer asked for a motion to approve the January 2022 minutes.

Mr. Cassity moved, seconded by **Mr. McElroy**, to approve the January 2022 minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Mr. Conner informed the Commission about the BOMA reporting document located within the agenda packet; he informed them that the Commission is to provide one of these documents to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen every 6 months as a way to inform them about what the Commission is doing. **Mr. Gordon** asked if this document was something that the Commission receives feedback about. **Mr. Conner** informed the Commission that sometimes feedback is received, but generally is just informative. **Alderman Burger** made a comment regarding the abundance of litter along I-65 and how it relates to the Commission's item of 'Litter Prevention' on the reporting document. She believed that the City needs to take initiative in cleaning along the Interstate if TDOT is not doing enough, as they are the gateways into the City.

Chair Palmer asked a question regarding the 'Energy Policy Guide' item within the reporting document and the options for the future use of the 200 kW solar array at the Water Reclamation Facility. **Mr. Gordon** clarified that the contract for the solar array has reached a point where the economic aspects within the contract change and the City would need to evaluate if contract changes are desired and how it would be structured.

Litter Survey Results

Chair Palmer reiterated the major litter concerns along the I-65 corridor, in his area this was at I-65 near the Elk Lodge. **Mr. Harper** agreed with the assessment of litter increasing near I-65, but also mentioned that the highest amount of litter in his area was on Del Rio Pike near Poplar

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION



Grove Elementary School. **Chair Palmer** mentioned that with this year's litter survey the litter may be the worst he's ever seen it.

Alderman Burger agreed with **Chair Palmer** in that the litter this year seems to be worse than in years passed and wondered if it was a matter of education or signage. She posed the question of when driving around town if there are any signs reminding people to please not litter, she mentioned she recalls seeing attractive anti-litter signage in other cities and maybe it is something the City should look into through the Streets Department. **Chair Palmer** mentioned maybe looking into a media outreach campaign to that effect, possibly using fliers within utility bills. **Alderman Burger** stated she was less concerned with reaching residents of Franklin who would be receiving those bills and mailers, and more with the large number of visitors and out-of-town workers. **Mr. Harper** agreed that it is more likely that road litter would come from people that are not members of the Franklin community. **Chair Palmer** stated that he believes reduction in litter should be a major focus of the Commission, whether through outreach or signage that the Franklin community does not approve of littering. **Mr. Harper** added that in order to reduce sign clutter throughout the community, maybe interstate exits should receive focused attention because they tend to have the most litter.

Waste Reduction Policy Guide

Mr. Conner stated that this conversation was a good transition into the Waste Reduction Policy Guide, and that if reduction in litter is something that the Commission wanted to add as an action item, it could be done so with an addition to action item 10 or added into the guide as action item 11. **Mr. Palmer** agreed that reduction in litter is a major enough topic that it should be added into the Policy Guide. **Alderman Burger** mentioned that the Policy Guide states that "litter along streets and waterways should be monitored and collected promptly" and it certainly isn't being collected promptly. She continues to say that the litter along streets impacts businesses, residents, and visitors alike and is not reflective of Franklin's values. She brings up an idea that the Aldermen should organize a semi-annual clean-up in their respective wards; once in the Spring before bloom, and once in the Fall/Winter when there is little to no foliage.

Mr. Cassity brought forward updates regarding recycling, including an update from the Honeybee glass recycling having approximately 240 customers within the Westhaven neighborhood and their communication for potential collection within Ladd Park. He also spoke with someone involved in recycling who had been in contact with Mayor Moore with hopes to create an organized and standardized process for recycling which would allow for residents to drop off recycling at more convenient locations like grocery stores rather than driving to county convenience centers. He stated that he will continue to investigate the concept and report back with any new findings.

Mr. Cassity also mentioned the concept of 'waste diversion' and how this may disincentivize different jurisdictions from working together to collect and combine recyclables in an economical manner because they are working independently to meet a diversion quota. **Alderman Burger** wondered who is monitoring the quotas and where funding/ potential lost funding is coming from. **Mr. Gordon** agreed, that there must be some type of funding in place if jurisdictions are required to meet some type of diversion percentage. **Mr. Gordon** later mentions that the program described is part of the Solid Waste Management Act of 1991.



Mr. Conner reiterates that staff will try to add an action item to the Policy Guide related to litter reduction and will bring the final draft to the Commission next month for approval of verbiage before moving on to the Transportation Policy Guide with the goal of both Policy Guides presented to BOMA during 2022 for feedback.

2022 Work Plan

Mr. Conner described the current Work Plan items and asked if any of the Commissioners had any ideas related to the annual field trip. **Mr. Cassity** mentions a local company (Nexor) that has a machine that converts cardboard into energy on-site that may be interesting to take a look at. **Chair Palmer** agreed that it would be a very interesting trip. **Mr. Gordon** agreed that it is very interesting technology and would like to see how it works in-action. **Mr. Gordon** continued, saying that the Oak Ridge National Laboratory could be a very interesting trip and believed they schedule tours. **Chair Palmer** expressed concern regarding the distance and believed that there was a rough distance that the City preferred trips to be within, but would revisit the idea with **Mr. Orr**.

Updates/Other News/Adjourn

Chair Palmer stated that the next meeting will be **April 8, 2022 at 8 am.**

Mr. Harper asked if the current draft of the Transportation Policy Guide could be provided so that members knew what the current action items were. **Mr. Conner** stated that he will send it out via email.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 am.





***DRAFT* WASTE REDUCTION
POLICY GUIDE**

The City of Franklin is committed to minimizing waste in its municipal operations and promoting waste reduction strategies to the community.



POLICY STATEMENTS

1. The City seeks to promote existing waste reduction programs.
2. New opportunities should be evaluated that would further waste reduction efforts.
3. Litter along streets and waterways should be monitored and collected promptly.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Increase blue bin recycling participation to 75% of eligible households by 2025.
2. Evaluate options to increase recycling of material not included in the Blue Bin Program such as glass and large cardboard.
3. Promote the Batteries, Oil, Paint, Anti-freeze, and Electronics (BOPAE) recycling.
4. Evaluate options for increasing capacity for brown bag processing.
5. Evaluate options to encourage and process food waste composting.
6. Conduct an annual litter survey of roadsides throughout the City and coordinate litter pickups.
7. Conduct annual river and stream litter pickups.
8. Evaluate municipal procurement of supplies and materials made from recycled materials.
9. Evaluate waste reduction efforts and goods



TOTAL CITY OF FRANKLIN WASTE BREAKDOWN

Year	Customers	Tons of Waste	Tons of Recyclables	Tons of BOPAE	Tons of Yard Waste
2018	24,344	19,538	3,319	340	6,326
2019	24,307	19,905	3,356	310	7,223
2020	23,938	23,361	1,801	310	7,162

*Yard Waste includes brown bags, leaf, and brush collection

ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

- made from recycled materials for the new City Hall project.
10. Utilize social media and conventional media channels to inform residents and businesses about recycling opportunities.
11. Utilize social media, conventional media channels, and potentially signage to discourage roadside littering.



DRAFT TRANSPORTATION POLICY GUIDE

Traffic consistently ranks as one of the top citizen concerns and complaints. The City seeks to improve mobility by shortening the time it takes to complete trips, reducing vehicle miles traveled, and providing alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle trips.

POLICY STATEMENTS

1. Reduce peak-hour travel times;
2. Provide safe and effective multimodal options for transportation;
3. Provide safe pedestrian and bicycle connections between residential areas and local destinations;

ACTION ITEMS

1. Increase public knowledge of the available multi-use paths and trails through mapping and outreach.
2. Participate in National Bike/ Pedestrian annual counts.
3. Establish evaluation processes for completed Capital Improvement Projects.
4. Increase youth engagement City-wide and encourage a Safe Routes to School program.
5. Establish a Bike/Walk Franklin group.
6. Increase sidewalk and multi-use trail connectivity across Franklin.
7. Improve traffic flow on existing streets by adaptive signalization projects.
8. Evaluate the effectiveness of an electric bike share program.
9. Participate in Regional Transportation efforts to increase mobility to/from Franklin.

WALKABILITY IN FRANKLIN

- 385 miles of sidewalk and 26 miles of public multi-use trail throughout the city.
- Average walk score of 23/100 within the city, walk score of 67 at City Hall.
- 12 miles of proposed multi-use trails in the City's CIP

COMMUTING IN FRANKLIN

- Approximately 10,300 citizens live and work in Franklin and 80% commute by vehicle alone.
(2019 Citizen Survey)
- Approximately 66,000 people work in Franklin but commute from outside City limits.
- Approximately 23,000 citizens live in Franklin but commute outside the City for work.

2022 Sustainability Commission Work Plan (Updated March 11, 2022)

- Litter assessment of city streets and coordinated pickups
- Creation and endorsement of Waste Reduction Policy Guide
- Creation and endorsement of Transportation Policy Guide
- Energy Policy Guide action items (Commission member work on one action item):
- Energy Reporting: provide fiscal year usage and costs
- City Hall LEED Initiatives: additional follow up with the new city hall project related to LEED credits;
- Peer Exchange or field trip (ideas could be visiting an MTE solar installation, regional compost facility)
- Recycling and waste reduction update;
- Social media/public outreach;
- Other

2022 Meeting dates:

- ~~January 14~~
- ~~No meeting in February (litter assessment on your own)~~
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13
- June 10
- July--Off
- August 12
- September 9
- October 14
- November 11
- December--Off

