

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 09-0272

Introduced by: The Council President, Councilmember Kraft
At the request of: The Administration (Commission on Sustainability - Department of Planning)
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2009
Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Council action: Adopted
Read second time: February 23, 2009

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

Baltimore City Sustainability Plan

1
2 FOR the purpose of establishing a Sustainability Plan for the City of Baltimore; and providing for
3 a special effective date.

Recitals

4
5 The Sustainability Plan is written in compliance with the directives of City Code Article 5,
6 § 34-4 {"Duties [of Sustainability Commission]"} and § 34-5 {"Comprehensive Sustainability
7 Plan"}. The Plan will create a framework to guide the implementation of sustainable principles
8 for the City of Baltimore.

9 The Sustainability Plan encompasses all elements of sustainability, including air quality,
10 water quality, resource conservation and recycling, energy, public health, environmental justice,
11 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing use of alternative means of transportation.

12 The Plan establishes sustainability targets and recommends public and private sustainability
13 initiatives. The Plan includes a public information component, and it establishes key
14 sustainability indicators to track progress of plan implementation.

15 The Plan is organized around a structure centered on seven themes: cleanliness, pollution
16 prevention, resource conservation, greening, transportation, education and awareness, and green
17 economy. These themes are meant to capture the main elements of sustainability, as experienced
18 by Baltimore's citizens, workers, visitors, and other stakeholders.

19 Each of these themes overlap with several of the "element" areas covered in the Goals and
20 Strategies of the Sustainability Plan. The Goals and Strategies are as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by
amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 CLEANLINESS

2 **Goal #1: Eliminate Litter Throughout the City**

3 Strategy A: Educate residents and businesses about proper trash storage and disposal

4 Strategy B: Expand existing programs to maximize public trash and recycling bin use

5 Strategy C: Launch a ~~social marketing~~ public education campaign to change the public's
6 attitude toward litter

7 Strategy D: Issue every household a large municipal trash can

8 Strategy E: Improve the enforcement of current sanitation code

9 **Goal #2: Sustain a Clean and Maintained Appearance of Public Land**

10 Strategy A: Establish City-wide maintenance standards for publicly owned land

11 Strategy B: Build capacity of existing City maintenance staff through training and
12 education

13 Strategy C: Expand adoption and community stewardship of public land

14 **Goal #3: Transform Vacant Lots from Liabilities to Assets That Provide Social and 15 Environmental Benefits**

16 Strategy A: Strengthen enforcement of dumping and litter laws

17 Strategy B: Increase participation in community maintenance and stewardship efforts

18 Strategy C: Create and sustain a land trust to support community-managed open space

19 Strategy D: Return abandoned properties to productive use

20 Strategy E: Establish a new fee schedule charged to absent property owners

21 POLLUTION PREVENTION

22 **Goal #1: Reduce Baltimore's Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 15% by 2015**

23 Strategy A: Create a Climate Action Plan for the City of Baltimore

24 Strategy B: Implement Climate Action Plan for the City of Baltimore

25 **Goal #2: Improve Baltimore's Air Quality and Eliminate Code Red Days**

26 Strategy A: Add an air-quality and climate-change implication evaluation to all
27 government-funded projects

28 Strategy B: Create Code Red/Orange Day policies

29 Strategy C: Explore options for more efficient fleet conversion

30 Strategy D: Institute and enforce a City-wide no-idling policy

31 **Goal #3: Ensure that Baltimore's ~~Waters~~ Water Bodies Are Fishable and Swimmable**

32 Strategy A: Implement recommendations ~~contained~~ in the City County Watershed
33 Agreement

34 Strategy B: Study creation of a stormwater-utility or other new funding sources

35 Strategy C: Reduce the amount of impervious surface in the City by at least 25%
36 surfaces and increase on-site stormwater treatment

37 Strategy D: Protect and restore Baltimore's stream corridors

38 Strategy E: Create watershed-based natural resource management plans

39 Strategy F: Increase actions by individual property owners to treat stormwater.

40 **Goal #4: Reduce Risks from Hazardous Materials**

41 Strategy A: Adopt the "Precautionary Principle" as the underlying policy standard

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1 Strategy B: Adopt a policy and plan for eliminating the use of pesticides and other toxic
2 chemicals

3 Strategy C: Comply with the Maryland ~~mandate~~ for Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
4 in Schools mandate

5 Strategy D: Enact an ordinance prohibiting the use of known toxins in health-care-
6 delivery settings

7 Strategy E: Aggressively promote the redevelopment of Brownfield sites

8 **Goal #5: Improve the Health of Our Indoor Environments**

9 Strategy A: Use green cleaning products in schools, government offices, and businesses

10 Strategy B: Explore the feasibility of making all Baltimore multifamily dwellings
11 smoke-free by 2010

12 Strategy C: Increase and coordinate all healthy housing efforts

13 Strategy D: Ensure coordination among weatherization, lead remediation, and healthy
14 accessible homes activities

15 **RESOURCE CONSERVATION**

16 **Goal #1: Reduce Baltimore's ~~Electricity~~ Energy Use by 15% by 2015**

17 Strategy A: Require aggressive energy efficiency standards as part of the Baltimore
18 Green Building Standards

19 Strategy B: Improve the energy efficiency of existing homes and buildings

20 Strategy C: Increase renewable energy generation in Baltimore City

21 Strategy D: Mandate efficiency upgrades to homes at point of sale

22 Strategy E: Increase energy conservation by residents, City government, businesses, and
23 institutions

24 Strategy ~~E~~ F: Dedicate resources to assist Baltimore in leveraging state and federal funds
25 for energy efficiency

26 Strategy G: Investigate a "Lights Out" policy for appropriate areas of Baltimore City

27 **Goal #2: Reduce Baltimore's Water Use While Supporting System Maintenance**

28 Strategy A: Conduct ~~outreach campaign~~ public education program on reducing water
29 consumption

30 Strategy B: Study methods to fund the construction and maintenance of Baltimore's
31 water supply system

32 Strategy C: Maintain a comprehensive water facilities master plan

33 **Goal #3: Minimize the Production of Waste**

34 Strategy A: Distribute information on waste-reducing purchasing policies

35 Strategy B: Establish Baltimore City Green Purchasing guidelines

36 Strategy C: Educate consumers about product life-cycle analysis

37 Strategy D: Link industrial and commercial users to close waste loops

38 Strategy E: Expand Baltimore's composting program and opportunities

39 Strategy F: Develop and implement local legislation related to waste minimization

40 **Goal #4: Maximize Reuse and Recycling of Materials**

41 Strategy A: Increase recycling opportunities throughout the City

42 Strategy B: Increase resident and business participation in the single-stream recycling
43 program

44 Strategy C: Expand types of materials accepted by the single-stream recycling program

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1 ~~Strategy D: Establish construction and demolish waste regulations for reuse or recycling~~
2 Strategy D: Preserve, reuse, and recycle buildings and related materials
3 Strategy E: Institute once weekly recycling and once weekly trash pick-up service

4 GREENING

5 **Goal #1: Double Baltimore's Tree Canopy by 2037**

6 Strategy A: Assess current urban forest

7 Strategy B: Protect our existing trees

8 Strategy C: Build communication and cooperation among City agencies to support
9 Baltimore's trees

10 Strategy D: Develop a City-wide education program about the value of trees

11 Strategy E: Develop and strengthen innovative public-private partnerships

12 Strategy F: Identify and pursue opportunities for increasing trees planted on private
13 property

14 Strategy G: Increase tree plantings in sidewalks, medians, and other public rights-of-way

15 **Goal #2: Establish Baltimore as a Leader in Sustainable, Local Food Systems**

16 Strategy A: Increase the percentage of land under cultivation for agricultural purposes

17 Strategy B: Improve the quantity and quality of food available at food outlets

18 Strategy C: Increase demand for locally-produced, healthy foods among schools,
19 institutions, supermarkets, and citizens

20 Strategy D: Develop an urban agriculture plan

21 Strategy E: Implement Baltimore Food Policy Task Force recommendations related to
22 sustainability and food

23 Strategy F: Compile local and regional data on various components of the food system

24 **Goal #3: Provide Safe, Well-maintained Public Recreational Space Within ¼ Mile of 25 All Residents**

26 Strategy A: Conduct an inventory and assessment of existing and potential outdoor
27 spaces for recreation

28 Strategy B: Develop a plan with recommendations for increasing the quantity, quality,
29 accessibility, and use of recreation spaces

30 Strategy C: Create an inclusive organizational system to support stewardship of public
31 spaces

32 **Goal #4: Protect Baltimore's Ecology and Bio-Diversity**

33 Strategy A: Manage Baltimore City land to restore, conserve, and create habitat for
34 native species and to eliminate invasive plant species

35 Strategy B: Implement sustainable landscape maintenance practices

36 Strategy C: Develop and implement a system to regenerate soil health in Baltimore City

37 Strategy D: Build community support to conserve and restore Baltimore City's urban
38 stream ecosystem

39 Strategy E: Support and develop native plant nurseries in the City

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1 TRANSPORTATION

2 **Goal #1: Improve Public Transit Services**

- 3 Strategy A: Make software upgrades to allow for transit signal priority
- 4 Strategy B: Implement an integrated system of downtown accessible shuttle and trolley
- 5 routes
- 6 Strategy C: Work with the MTA to expand QuickBuses to more high-volume transit
- 7 corridors
- 8 Strategy D: Bring the Red Line Transit project to Baltimore
- 9 Strategy E: Work with the MTA to develop and implement an ideal transit service
- 10 profile for MTA routes

11 **Goal #2: Make Baltimore Bicycle and Pedestrian Friendly**

- 12 Strategy A: Implement the Baltimore Bicycle Master Plan
- 13 Strategy B: Develop a Bike-to-Work program for Baltimore
- 14 Strategy C: Evaluate the creation of a bicycle sharing service
- 15 Strategy D: Expand the Safe Routes to Schools program
- 16 Strategy E: Implement “Sunday Streets” recreational street closure program
- 17 ~~Strategy F: Increase sidewalk repair miles~~
- 18 Strategy F: Improve public infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians

19 **Goal #3: Facilitate Shared-Vehicle Usage**

- 20 Strategy A: Establish a Baltimore Car-Share program
- 21 Strategy B: Expand the City Commute Rideshare program
- 22 Strategy C: Leverage new Baltimore Green Building Standards to increase shared-
- 23 vehicle use

24 **Goal #4: Measure and Improve the Equity of Transportation**

- 25 Strategy A: Track the disparity of transportation costs by neighborhood relative to
- 26 income
- 27 Strategy B: Identify strategies to reduce the disparity in cost of transportation relative to
- 28 income
- 29 Strategy C: Work with the MTA to measure the quality of transit service in Baltimore
- 30 neighborhoods

31 **Goal #5: Increase Transportation Funding for Sustainable Modes of Travel**

- 32 Strategy A: Advocate for more funding for transit and sustainable transportation
- 33 Strategy B: Implement goals of Mayor’s Transportation Investment Commission (TIC)
- 34 report
- 35 Strategy C: Explore options for a new regional transit funding source and a larger local
- 36 role in managing the MTA
- 37 Strategy D: Expand eligible expenses under sustainable transportation programs
- 38 Strategy E: Advocate shifting funding from roadway capacity expansion to transit,
- 39 bicycling, and walking projects

40 EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

41 **Goal #1: Turn Every ~~Baltimore City School~~ School in Baltimore City into a Green**

- 42 **School**
- 43 Strategy A: Incorporate sustainability into curriculum and activities

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- 1 Strategy B: Build and retrofit green school buildings
- 2 Strategy C: Adopt a green facilities management guide for school operations
- 3 Strategy D: Develop a teacher training and certification program for sustainability
- 4 Strategy E: Recognize schools making strides in sustainability

5 **Goal #2: Ensure All City Youth Have Access to Environmental Stewardship Programs** 6 **and Information**

- 7 Strategy A: Develop a sustainability education and community service program
- 8 Strategy B: Create a website devoted to the youth perspective on the environment
- 9 Strategy C: Create a Youth Ambassador Team to educate their peers about sustainability

10 **Goal #3: Raise the Environmental Awareness of Baltimore**

- 11 Strategy A: Utilize a Sustainability Ambassador network for community outreach
- 12 Strategy B: Coordinate a Year-Long Baltimore Sustainability Calendar
- 13 Strategy C: Increase public knowledge of alternative transportation options
- 14 Strategy D: Launch City-wide sustainability challenges to a variety of audiences
- 15 Strategy E: Engage membership organizations to develop and disseminate targeted
- 16 sustainability information

17 **Goal #4: Expand Access to Informational Resources on Sustainability**

- 18 Strategy A: Develop an interactive website for the Baltimore Office of Sustainability
- 19 Strategy B: Create local Green Pages as resource guide
- 20 Strategy C: Utilize existing community centers to distribute sustainability information
- 21 Strategy D: Support innovative resources on sustainability

22 **GREEN ECONOMY**

23 **Goal #1: Create Green Jobs and Prepare City Residents for These Jobs**

- 24 Strategy A: Add clean technology to Baltimore's targeted growth sectors
- 25 Strategy B: Conduct needs assessment of green job demand
- 26 Strategy C: Link existing job training programs to the information provided in the green
- 27 jobs needs assessment (above)
- 28 Strategy D: Encourage the employment of Baltimore residents in City clean energy
- 29 projects
- 30 Strategy E: Convene Green Collar Summit
- 31 Strategy F: Develop a strategy to secure available funding

32 **Goal #2: Make Baltimore a Center for Green Business**

- 33 Strategy A: Leverage Baltimore's natural amenities attractive to green technology
- 34 businesses and market them
- 35 Strategy B: Establish and market creative financing strategies for local green businesses
- 36 Strategy C: Encourage construction industry to use "green" building practices
- 37 Strategy D: Identify sectors and products for a sustainability-related manufacturing niche
- 38 in Baltimore

39 **Goal #3: Support Local Baltimore Businesses**

- 40 Strategy A: Educate Baltimore City residents on the importance of supporting local
- 41 businesses
- 42 Strategy B: Develop tools to connect local suppliers to businesses, consumers, and
- 43 government

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1 Strategy C: Increase local government purchasing of local products

2 **Goal #4: Raise Baltimore's Profile as a Forward-Thinking, Green City**

3 Strategy A: Create a brand for Baltimore's Sustainability initiative

4 Strategy B: Attract sustainability-related conventions and events to Baltimore

5 Strategy C: Target the tourism industry to promote Baltimore as a green city

6 Strategy D: Support innovative and pilot projects and technologies

7 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
8 Baltimore City Sustainability Plan, dated February 23, 2009, its goals, strategies, and
9 recommendations, are approved. The Sustainability Plan, as approved, shall be incorporated into
10 the City's Comprehensive Master Plan as an appendix.

11 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the Sustainability Commission annually
12 shall review and submit a written report to the City Council on the state of the Sustainability
13 Plan's implementation, goal achievements, and other effects, and recommend any amendments
14 to the Plan that the Commission finds necessary or appropriate.

15 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That after enactment of this Ordinance, a copy
16 of it and of the Sustainability Plan adopted by it be sent to the Mayor, Mayor's Office of
17 Employment Development, Department of Finance, Health Department, Baltimore City Heritage
18 Area, Baltimore Housing (Department of Housing and Community Development/Housing
19 Authority of Baltimore City), Law Department, Department of Legislative Reference, Mayor's
20 Office of Minority Business Development, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, Department of
21 Planning, Police Department, Department of Public Works, Department of Recreation and Parks,
22 the Department of Transportation, the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities, the Enoch Pratt Free
23 Library System, the Baltimore City Public School System, and the Board of Municipal and
24 Zoning Appeals.

25 **SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it
26 is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City