

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0272
(First Reader)**

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

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, Commission on Sustainability, Planning Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore Development Corporation, Department of Public Works, Health Department, Environmental Control Board, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Transportation, Baltimore City Public School System, Department of General Services, Office of Employment Development, Department of Finance, Department of Legislative Reference, Mayor's Office of Minority Business Development, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, Police Commissioner, Mayor's Commission on Disabilities, Enoch Pratt Free Library

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Baltimore City Sustainability Plan**

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

5 **Recitals**

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

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

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

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

20 Each of these themes overlap with several of the "element" areas covered in the Goals and
21 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.

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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 campaign to change the public's attitude toward
6 litter

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

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

9 Strategy B: Build capacity of existing City maintenance staff through training and
10 education

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

12 **Goal #3: Transform Vacant Lots from Liabilities to Assets That Provide Social and 13 Environmental Benefits**

14 Strategy A: Strengthen enforcement of dumping and litter laws

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

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

17 Strategy D: Return abandoned properties to productive use

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

19 POLLUTION PREVENTION

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

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

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

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

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

26 Strategy B: Create Code Red/Orange Day policies

27 Strategy C: Explore options for more efficient fleet conversion

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

29 **Goal #3: Ensure that Baltimore's Waters Are Fishable and Swimmable**

30 Strategy A: Implement recommendations contained in the City County Watershed
31 Agreement

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

33 Strategy C: Reduce the amount of impervious surface in the City by at least 25%

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

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

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

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

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

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

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1 Strategy C: Comply with the Maryland mandate for Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
2 in Schools

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

5 Strategy E: Aggressively promote the redevelopment of Brownfield sites

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

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

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

10 Strategy C: Increase and coordinate all healthy housing efforts

11 Strategy D: Ensure coordination among weatherization, lead remediation, and healthy
12 homes activities

13 **RESOURCE CONSERVATION**

14 **Goal #1: Reduce Baltimore's Electricity Use by 15% by 2015**

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

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

18 Strategy C: Increase renewable energy generation in Baltimore City

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

20 Strategy E: Increase energy conservation by residents, City government, businesses, and
21 institutions

22 Strategy E: Dedicate resources to assist Baltimore in leveraging state and federal funds
23 for energy efficiency

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

25 Strategy A: Conduct outreach campaign on reducing water consumption

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

28 Strategy C: Maintain a comprehensive water facilities master plan

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

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

31 Strategy B: Establish Baltimore City Green Purchasing guidelines

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

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

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

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

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

37 Strategy A: Increase recycling opportunities throughout the City

38 Strategy B: Increase resident and business participation in the single-stream recycling
39 program

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

41 Strategy D: Establish construction and demolish waste regulations for reuse or recycling

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1 GREENING

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

3 Strategy A: Assess current urban forest

4 Strategy B: Protect our existing trees

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

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

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

9 Strategy F: Identify and pursue opportunities for increasing trees planted on private
10 property

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

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

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

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

16 Strategy D: Develop an urban agriculture plan

17 Strategy E: Implement Baltimore Food Policy Task Force recommendations related to
18 sustainability and food

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

20 **Goal #3: Provide Safe, Well-maintained Public Recreational Space Within ¼ Mile of 21 All Residents**

22 Strategy A: Conduct an inventory and assessment of existing and potential outdoor
23 spaces for recreation

24 Strategy B: Develop a plan with recommendations for increasing the quantity, quality,
25 and use of recreation spaces

26 Strategy C: Create an inclusive organizational system to support stewardship of public
27 spaces

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

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

31 Strategy B: Implement sustainable landscape maintenance practices

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

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

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

36 TRANSPORTATION

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

38 Strategy A: Make software upgrades to allow for transit signal priority

39 Strategy B: Implement an integrated system of downtown shuttle and trolley routes

40 Strategy C: Work with the MTA to expand QuickBuses to more high-volume transit
41 corridors

42 Strategy D: Bring the Red Line Transit project to Baltimore

43 Strategy E: Work with the MTA to develop and implement an ideal transit service
44 profile for MTA routes

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

2 Strategy A: Implement the Baltimore Bicycle Master Plan

3 Strategy B: Develop a Bike-to-Work program for Baltimore

4 Strategy C: Evaluate the creation of a bicycle sharing service

5 Strategy D: Expand the Safe Routes to Schools program

6 Strategy E: Implement “Sunday Streets” recreational street closure program

7 Strategy F: Increase sidewalk repair miles

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

9 Strategy A: Establish a Baltimore Car-Share program

10 Strategy B: Expand the City Commute Rideshare program

11 Strategy C: Leverage new Baltimore Green Building Standards to increase shared-
12 vehicle use

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

14 Strategy A: Track the disparity of transportation costs by neighborhood relative to
15 income

16 Strategy B: Identify strategies to reduce the disparity in cost of transportation relative to
17 income

18 Strategy C: Work with the MTA to measure the quality of transit service in Baltimore
19 neighborhoods

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

21 Strategy A: Advocate for more funding for transit and sustainable transportation

22 Strategy B: Implement goals of Mayor’s Transportation Investment Commission (TIC)
23 report

24 Strategy C: Explore options for a new regional transit funding source and a larger local
25 role in managing the MTA

26 Strategy D: Expand eligible expenses under sustainable transportation programs

27 Strategy E: Advocate shifting funding from roadway capacity expansion to transit,
28 bicycling, and walking projects

29 **EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

30 **Goal #1: Turn Every Baltimore City School into a Green School**

31 Strategy A: Incorporate sustainability into curriculum and activities

32 Strategy B: Build and retrofit green school buildings

33 Strategy C: Adopt a green facilities management guide for school operations

34 Strategy D: Develop a teacher training and certification program for sustainability

35 Strategy E: Recognize schools making strides in sustainability

36 **Goal #2: Ensure All City Youth Have Access to Environmental Stewardship Programs 37 and Information**

38 Strategy A: Develop a sustainability education and community service program

39 Strategy B: Create a website devoted to the youth perspective on the environment

40 Strategy C: Create a Youth Ambassador Team to educate their peers about sustainability

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

42 Strategy A: Utilize a Sustainability Ambassador network for community outreach

43 Strategy B: Coordinate a Year-Long Baltimore Sustainability Calendar

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- 1 Strategy C: Increase public knowledge of alternative transportation options
2 Strategy D: Launch City-wide sustainability challenges to a variety of audiences
3 Strategy E: Engage membership organizations to develop and disseminate targeted
4 sustainability information

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

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

10 **GREEN ECONOMY**

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

- 12 Strategy A: Add clean technology to Baltimore's targeted growth sectors
13 Strategy B: Conduct needs assessment of green job demand
14 Strategy C: Link existing job training programs to the information provided in the green
15 jobs needs assessment (above)
16 Strategy D: Encourage the employment of Baltimore residents in City clean energy
17 projects
18 Strategy E: Convene Green Collar Summit
19 Strategy F: Develop a strategy to secure available funding

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

- 21 Strategy A: Leverage Baltimore's natural amenities attractive to green technology
22 businesses and market them
23 Strategy B: Establish and market creative financing strategies for local green businesses
24 Strategy C: Encourage construction industry to use "green" building practices

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

- 26 Strategy A: Educate Baltimore City residents on the importance of supporting local
27 businesses
28 Strategy B: Develop tools to connect local suppliers to businesses, consumers, and
29 government
30 Strategy C: Increase local government purchasing of local products

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

- 32 Strategy A: Create a brand for Baltimore's Sustainability initiative
33 Strategy B: Attract sustainability-related conventions and events to Baltimore
34 Strategy C: Target the tourism industry to promote Baltimore as a green city
35 Strategy D: Support innovative and pilot projects and technologies

36 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
37 Baltimore City Sustainability Plan, dated _____, 200_, its goals, strategies, and
38 recommendations, are approved. The Sustainability Plan, as approved, shall be incorporated into
39 the City's Comprehensive Master Plan as an appendix.

40 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the Sustainability Commission annually
41 shall review and submit a written report to the City Council on the state of the Sustainability

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1 Plan's implementation, goal achievements, and other effects, and recommend any amendments
2 to the Plan that the Commission finds necessary or appropriate.

3 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That after enactment of this Ordinance, a copy
4 of it and of the Sustainability Plan adopted by it be sent to the Mayor, Mayor's Office of
5 Employment Development, Department of Finance, Health Department, Baltimore City Heritage
6 Area, Baltimore Housing (Department of Housing and Community Development/Housing
7 Authority of Baltimore City), Law Department, Department of Legislative Reference, Mayor's
8 Office of Minority Business Development, Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, Department of
9 Planning, Police Department, Department of Public Works, Department of Recreation and Parks,
10 the Department of Transportation, the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities, the Enoch Pratt Free
11 Library System, the Baltimore City Public School System, and the Board of Municipal and
12 Zoning Appeals.

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