

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Wednesday, October 19 – 5:00 PM
Lake Forest City Hall, 220 E Deerpath.**

AGENDA

Agenda items I and II to take place at the History Center of Lake Forest / Lake Bluff at 509 E Deerpath Rd, Lake Forest, IL.
All remaining agenda items to be reviewed at City Hall (220 E Deerpath).

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (:30 for Presentation)**
 - a. HISTORY CENTER OF LAKE FOREST / LAKE BLUFF GARDEN TOUR – Lisa Frey, Director of Development**
- III. ACTION ITEMS (:10 - :15 per item)**
 - a. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**
 - b. REVIEW AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO CITY COUNCIL NET CIVIC GRANT CONTRIBUTION, NORTH SHORE ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION CONSORTIUM (NSEAC) – Reagan Walsh, Management Analyst**
 - c. FOODCYCLER PILOT-COST SHARE PROGRAM RECOMMENDATION – Reagan Walsh, Management Analyst**
 - d. CAPITAL PROJECTS REVIEW – Jim Lockefeer, Assistant to the Director of Public Works**
- IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS (:15 - :20 per item)**
- V. ADDITIONAL ITEMS (Packet Material Only)**
 - a. STATUS REPORT ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES**
- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- VII. NEXT MEETING DATE(S) – TBD**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**



History Center of Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Garden Tour



DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, September 19, 2022 – 5:15 P.M.
IN-PERSON MEETING

I. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Melanie Rummel called the meeting to order at 5:15 P.M. Aldermen Eileen Weber and Jim Preschlack were present.

Staff in attendance included Jim Lockefer, Assistant to the Director of Public Works and Reagan Walsh, Management Analyst.

II. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (:05 – :15 per item)

a. FOOD CYCLER AT-HOME COMPOSTING UNIT PRESENTATION – Alex Hayman, VP Business Development

Alex Hayman, Vice President of Business Development at FoodCycler Municipal Solutions attended the meeting virtually to present preliminary information on the FoodCycler product and their pilot municipal program. Based on FoodCycler's current partnerships with municipalities, Lake Forest demographics, and general counsel, the presentation described in detail how both the product and pilot program would work and operate in Lake Forest. Included in this information was accompanying financial, social, and environmental impacts for the City of Lake Forest. The presentation concluded with an estimated ROI (return on investment) analysis.

After a lengthy discussion, the Committee had several questions for the consultant, including what specific communities have implemented a pilot project as presented, credibility of both the product and company, functionality of the return-on-investment model, environmental impact returns, and other financial cost that the city could potentially incur.

The Committee thanked Alex for attending and requested internal staff review the return-on-investment model for accuracy and potential project outcomes to be presented at the next Committee meeting. The Committee ended the discussion with positive notes about the product but emphasized the financial and environmental impacts must align to consider moving forward with the project.

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or comments from members of the public.

Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

49 **III. ACTION ITEMS (:10 - :15 per item)**

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51 **a. APPROVAL OF JULY 12, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

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53 Chairman Rummel moved to approve the July 12, 2022, Environmental
54 Sustainability Committee meeting minutes. Alderman Weber seconded
55 the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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57 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or
58 comments from members of the public.

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60 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

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63 **IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS (:15 - :20 per item)**

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65 **a. UPDATE ON COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT –** Reagan Walsh,
66 Management Analyst

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68 A Community Garden Program Update was presented to the Committee
69 by both staff members present. The update gave insight into what work
70 has been conducted in preparation for a potential community garden, in
71 addition to outlining the strong alignment with the city's strategic and
72 sustainability plan. Preliminary garden details were also presented,
73 including location, acreage, financial structure, garden design, and
74 funding opportunities. The presentation concluded with a timeline of the
75 entire project, emphasizing that community feedback and
76 design/engineering work would be coming in the pending months to
77 decipher the project's overall viability.

78
79 The Committee shared a collective interest for the project, with emphasis
80 on collaborating with the many potential community partners that could
81 assist in the preparation, operation, and promotion of the project.
82 Additional insight was given on possible funding avenues and the
83 importance of community feedback throughout the process. The
84 discussion ended with the Committee thanking the presenters, with the
85 notion that more project updates would be given at the next Committee
86 meeting.

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88 Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or
89 comments from members of the public.

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91 Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

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94 **V. ADDITIONAL ITEMS (Packet Material Only)**

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Monday, September 19, 2022

a. STATUS REPORT ON SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRIORITIES - Jim
Lockefeer, Assistant to the Director of Public Works

Jim Lockefeer, Assistant to the Director of Public Works, provided an update on the 2022-2023 Work Plan attached in the meeting packet. Included in the Work Plan are initiatives currently being undertaken by the Committee and upcoming projects slated for the next quarters.

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any additional questions or comments from members of the public.

Seeing none, she moved to the next agenda item.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Rummel asked if there were any public comments on any non-agenda items.

Seeing none, Chairman Rummel moved to the next agenda item.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee confirmed the next meeting date for October 19, 2022, at 5:30PM located at Lake Forest City Hall.

Chairman Rummel moved to adjourn the meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Committee at 7:03 P.M. seconded by Alderman Preschlack. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reagan Walsh
Management Analyst



MEMORANDUM

THE CITY OF LAKE FOREST

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

TO: Members of the Environmental Sustainability Committee
FROM: Reagan Walsh, Management Analyst
DATE: October 19, 2022
SUBJECT: Allocation of the Annual (2022) Net Civic Grant Contribution

Purpose and Action Requested

The purpose of this memorandum is to request action on the allocation for the \$90,000 Annual Net Civic Grant Contribution the City of Lake Forest received in 2022 resulting from its Power Supply Agreement presented at the June 21, 2021, City Council meeting.

Per the Agreement, the contributions received can be used as revenue for the City that may be used to purchase renewable energy credits ("RECs") and or to fund other environmentally sensitive or sustainability-related purposes. A combination of both purchasing RECs and using the leftover funds for sustainability-related purposes is also permitted. The City has within ninety (90) calendar days after the conclusion of each annualized period of the Agreement term to decide how to receive the contributions.

Recommendation

Based on conversations with North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium ("NSEAC") communities, the City's credit rating agency, and internal City staff, it is recommended that the City receive the \$90,000 Civic Contribution in full, with the assumption as mandatory to fund environmentally sensitive or sustainability-related projects. With several sustainability initiatives and programs that are in progress and being developed, the funding dedicated to these projects would have a noticeable, and direct benefit to the community.

Background

In 2011, the Cities of Highland Park, Lake Forest and Park Ridge, and the Villages of Deerfield, Glencoe, Lake Bluff, Northbrook and Skokie formed the NSEAC through an intergovernmental agreement. The NSEAC was established to act as a collective body of municipalities to create and manage municipal electric aggregation services on behalf of their residents and eligible businesses.

Since this time, the NSEAC members have formed into a new aggregation model, coined "Aggregation 2.0", that allows municipalities to generate new revenue that can be used to fund municipal operations, sustainability initiatives and/or purchase RECs without risking rates that exceed ComEd's default rate. Under this new model, a select portion of the community's residential and small commercial customers, based on their average consumption, are enrolled in an alternative supplier offering that would be equal to the ComEd default supply rate, for the duration of the contract. Unlike the original aggregation program, this new model allows for the savings in providing electricity to these consumers to be made available to the municipality in the form of grant funding.

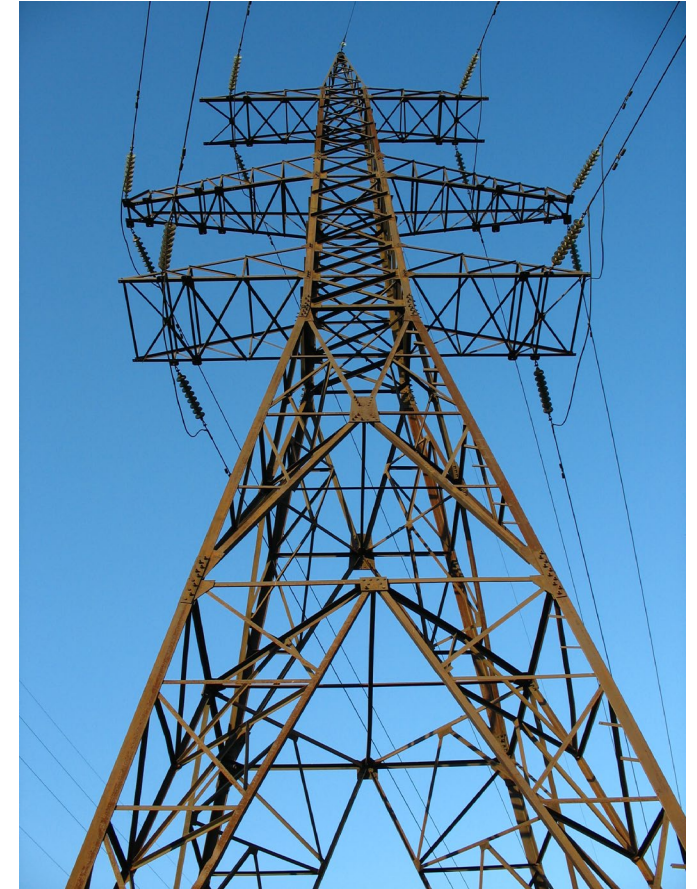
Per the Power Supply Agreement the contributions can be used as revenue for the City that may be used to purchase renewable energy credits ("RECs") or to fund other environmentally sensitive or sustainability-related purposes. The City, and all accompanying NSEAC members, have received its first Net Civic Grant Contribution to date. All members of the NSEAC recently met to discuss how each municipality plans to spend their funds, with all but one municipality using the funds towards sustainability projects.

Financial Impact

The City is receiving \$90,000 for the year 2022 in Net Civic Grant Contributions. Revenue is not projected to stay at this amount in the coming years. The revenue that is earned may be used by the City for any purpose or the funds may be applied to the purchase of RECs to reduce the City's carbon footprint as previously described.

Annual Net Civic Grant Contribution

- North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium (NSEAC) Electricity Aggregation (2.0) Program
- 2022 Annual Net Civic Grant Contribution: \$90,000
- Contributions can be used as revenue for the City that may be used to purchase renewable energy credits (“RECs”) *and or* to fund other environmentally sensitive or sustainability-related purposes
- All members of the NSEAC recently met to discuss how each municipality plans to spend their funds, with all but one municipality using the funds towards sustainability projects
- **Action Requested: ESC Committee Recommends the City receive the \$90,000 Civic Contribution in full, with the assumption to fund environmentally sensitive or sustainability-related projects.**



10/19/22



Survey Results

- 194 Responses
- Of responses, 43% currently compost, 57% do not
 - Earth Machine and Backyard/Outdoor Bins are the most common ways people currently compost
 - Top reason people do not currently compost is they do not know how, and the equipment is expensive
- 56% would be interested in the product, 37% would like more information before buying, and 7% would not be interested
 - Main points of concern are size, cost, efficiency, and use of electricity
- Majority of people would like to spend under \$150
- Over 150 people put contact information down



Maestro “Residential” ROI

Description	Output	Label
Estimated annual cost per household food waste	\$ 59.88	dollars
Estimated annual City cost for food waste	\$ 390,837	dollars
Annual savings	\$ 56.89	dollars
Payback period	2.20	years
7-year saving	\$ 398.20	dollars
7-year net saving	\$ 273.20	dollars
ROI	3.19	ROI

Assumptions/Data	
Household refuse cost per month (2021)	\$19.96
Tipping fee per tonne (2021)	\$43.87
Homes with collection service (2021)	6,527
Estimated percentage food waste	25%
Maestro Data	
Capture rate	95%
Purchase price after grant	\$400
Purchase price after grant (10%)	\$360

Maestro Factors	
Municipal contribution	\$125
Resident contribution	\$235

*We assume the Maestro captures almost all food waste

**We assume a minimum lifespan of 7 years with the Maestro

Maestro “Municipal” ROI

Description	Output	Label
Est. Divertable Tons of Food Waste Collected	1,305	tons
Est. Food Waste Per Household	0.200	tons/house
Homes with Food Cycler	326	homes
Annual Total Diverted Food Waste	52.2	tons
Municipal Annual Total Savings	\$ 2,290	dollars
Total Savings after 7 Years	\$ 16,027	dollars
Municipality Up-Front Investment	\$ 48,953	dollars
ROI	0.33	ROI
Dollars to Break Even	\$32,925	dollars

Factors	
Food Waste %	20%
Households with Product	5%
Compliance Rate	80%
Municipality Investment	\$150.00

Assumptions/Data	
2021 Solid Waste Tonnage Collected on Route	6,523.78
Homes with collection service (2021)	6,527
Tipping fee per tonne (2021)	\$43.87
Actual 2021-22 Refuse Disposal Services Expenses	\$325,984

Opportunity for Increased ROI

Cheaper Unit Price

Smaller Municipality Investment

Higher Tipping Fees

Longer Shelf Life

More Food Waste

Recommendations / Thoughts

- Pilot Program not financially feasible for Lake Forest
 - Promotion Option
 - Funding opportunities
- Large interest to compost in the community
 - Education and convenience top components
- Continued Research!





Questions/Comments

REVIEW OF SUSTAINABILITY ENHANCEMENTS TO CIP PROJECTS FOR FY2024

Environmental Sustainability Committee

Wednesday, October 29, 2022

ROCKEFELLER / MCCORMICK / LOCH STORM SEWER RAVINE

Base Budget - \$750,000 (priority 1nf)

Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$50,000

- Base design will address failing City storm sewer outfalls that convey roadway stormwater to ravines
- Projects have been combined due to their close proximity and similar repair work
- Ravine project designs feature sustainability components
 - Native plant material for project construction / slope stabilization & stormwater flow dissipation
- Funding requested to add additional stone in the ravine beds of all three areas
 - Stone placement (based on design) in the ravine beds can help to control fast moving stormwater and help to reduce erosion.



1. Rockefeller



2. McCormick



3. Loch

ELAWA PARKING LOT

Base Budget - \$375,000 (priority 1nf)

Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$25,000

- The base budget to resurface the existing deteriorating Elawa parking lot as well as potential expansion to the north in order to increase capacity
- Funding requested to install a bioswale located adjacent/downstream of the parking lot to improve stormwater runoff quality prior to entering the Middlefork Watershed



SOUTH PARK IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN

Base Budget - \$75,000 (priority 5)

Sustainability Component Incremental Cost Increase - \$50,000

- The base budget to design improvements for splash pad, ballfields, shelter/restroom, pitching mound, regional trail connection (McClory Bike Path), fitness station, and completion of ADA trail loop and a woodland trail loop
- Project design and construction funding has been proposed through an OSLAD Grant Program
- Funding requested to complete ecological restoration of the wood before the path is installed
 - Includes invasive brush removal and planting the wetland and woods with native plant species



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Base Budget - \$150,000 (priority 1nf)

- Entire project is sustainable
- Expansion of healthy food access highlighted in the City's long-range Strategic and Sustainability Plan



ACTION REQUESTED

- Motion to recommend approval to City Council the incorporation of the identified Project sustainability components into the Capital Improvement Program



Environmental Sustainability Committee

Current/Future Sustainability Initiatives & Priorities

Updated October 2022

Project/Initiative	2022				2023	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Greenhouse Gas Inventory						
Solar Facilities on City Facilities						
Community Gardening Program						
Composting Program						
Vehicle Idling Campaign						
“Green Infrastructure” Incentives						
Single-Use Plastics Discussion						

	Planning/Research
	Presentation/Recommendation
	Follow Up Actions

Current Projects/Status:

1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory

- Status: ESC Meeting in June reviewed Initial GHG report and discussed emission reduction targets (Based on ICLEI recommendations)
- On Deck:
 - Develop finalized list of future actions for ESC based on ICLEI recommendations (Oct-Dec 2022)
- Target Timeline:
 - Target November/December ESC meeting for follow up actions; with follow-up to City Council in early winter (No formal action needed – report will inform future priorities/opportunities)

Recommendations and Next Steps



- **Short Term:** Bolster community engagement around emissions results
 - Focused on high impact areas (e.g. fuel combustion, transportation, energy efficiency, etc.)
 - Leverage communication modalities, social media, newsletter, etc.
- **Medium Term:** Finalize forecast modeling to help inform Climate Action Planning work
- **Long Term:** Plan and implement a Climate Action Plan for community



2. Investigation of Solar Facilities on City Facilities

- Status: Motioned in July ESC Meeting to NOT move forward with solar facility projects presented
- On Deck:
 - Investigate new opportunities for solar generation and work with the qualified consultants to find potentially new viable options outside of the options presented
 - In particular exploring rooftop and ground mount solar options for facilities that are not under a rider-FCA arrangement.
- Target Timeline:
 - Follow back with consultants, review past information, and come forward with new plan and timeline for solar facilities in first quarter of 2023.

3. Develop Community Gardening Program

- Status: Finalize internal work committee, meet with design consultants, and present preliminary information to ESC & necessary Department heads
- On Deck:
 - Send out citizen survey to gauge interest
 - Receive design and estimates, discuss plans in greater detail with Elawa, work on partnerships/presentations (Civic Beauty Committee)
 - Capital Requests
- Target Timeline:
 - Initial meeting and discussion in early September, with recommendation to ESC in late fall

4. Provide greater access to composting programs or services for residents and businesses

- Status: Presented program to ESC, met with Food Cycler Representatives to determine financing and program structure
- On Deck:
 - Present ROI Analysis to ESC
- Target Timeline:
 - Provide recommendations to ESC in late fall on if program is sustainable/financially feasible

Future Projects/Initiatives (As directed by Committee in April 2022)

5. Develop plan to discourage vehicle idling on City Properties

- Proposed Scope: Explore opportunities to reduce car idling on city properties
 - Soft approach, signage in key areas
 - Collaboration with community partners

- Target Timeline: Discussions have commenced with schools and Lake Forest Open Lands; campaign planning underway. Anticipated for discussion late summer

6. Promote the use of permeable pavers, rain gardens or other “green infrastructure” implements throughout the community

- Proposed Scope: Marketing/communications on City projects utilizing infrastructure
- Develop “green infrastructure” permit or reduced permit fees
- Explore cost-share opportunities or grant program for residents to offset infrastructure investment through (e.g. Overhead sewer cost-share program)
- Target Timeline: Research opportunities between September-December
- Potential recommendations to ESC in Jan-Feb

7. Develop strategies to further reduce the City’s use and collection of single-use plastics

- Proposed Scope: Explore opportunities to reduce the City’s use of single-use plastics (e.g. City facilities, meetings/events, etc.)
 - Can we eliminate use of single-use plastics at our community events?
 - Can we promote/incentivize special event permit holders to not sell bottled water? What alternatives might exist?
 - May need to discuss with the City Council further – how far do they want to go with banning/incentivizing these products
- Target Timeline: First quarter of 2023 for research/further policy decisions

Additional initiatives that have been discussed:

- Coal tar sealants – Awaiting monitoring report from NBWW; anticipated in late fall 2022
- Conversion of Mowed Areas to Natural Areas – No update/report
- Landscape Equipment recommendations (Leaf Blowers) – No update/report