



COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Framework



This page intentionally left blank



The Framework

The details of the Framework are organized around the 10 categories and 49 consensus goals of the GRC.

The 10 categories are:



Climate



Economic Development



Energy



Land Use



Leadership



Mobility



Municipal Operations



Sustainable Communities



Water



Waste & Recycling

The Greenest Region Compact (GRC) presents consensus goals for environmental sustainability to be addressed by local municipalities, yet will have coordinated, positive impacts on a much larger scale.

Municipalities throughout the region are invited to formally endorse the GRC and work in concert to achieve its goals. *(See the complete Greenest Region Compact and sample municipal resolution to endorse it in the Appendix.)*

The GRC Framework is the companion document that provides suggested objectives, strategies and tools to help communities achieve consensus goals of the GRC.

Introduction

The Framework is built on 30 sustainability plans and guiding documents already in use by Illinois municipalities. It also incorporates more than 10 documents from regional, national or global organizations that are widely used to guide sustainable municipal actions *(See Appendix)*. More than 1150 actual sustainability goals and objectives are synthesized into this Framework resulting in a broad and comprehensive guidance for municipal sustainability. Fundamentally, the Framework is built from goals and actions that are broadly applicable and suited to municipal action.

Dozens of partners, advisors and stakeholder groups contributed additional objectives, strategies and tools supportive of the consensus GRC goals, and for this we are grateful. *(See Appendix)* These contributions help connect the consensus goals to achieve greater positive impacts at the regional, state, national and global levels. Many of the partner programs cited in the Framework offer assistance and guidance to help municipalities achieve GRC objectives, thus creating a synergy between local efforts and existing resources.

For more information on the GRC methodology, see the full report: [Greenest Region Compact, Opportunities + Impact, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, 2014.](#)

How to Use the GRC Framework

The Framework can guide municipalities of all sizes and strengths towards sustainability actions. For communities with no formal sustainability plan, the extensive Framework offers a menu of options that could be used to construct a local, tailored sustainability plan. Communities can begin by assessing actions already accomplished and underway. Then they may choose priority objectives and strategies on which they will begin work. The Framework is broadly applicable to most communities so users will need to refine and tailor objectives and strategies to suit. Municipalities may choose as many of the goals and objectives as they wish and address them on their own timeline.

Communities currently guided by their own sustainability plans will likely recognize specific goals and elements of their own plans in the Framework. The Framework may offer additional options for achieving their established goals, or suggestions for updating an existing plan.

Framework Structure

The following pages are formatted to prompt self-assessment and guide preliminary selection of priority objectives and strategies.

The Framework is structured to expand on the GRC goals in each category (column C).

Objectives are adjacent (column E) to each GRC goal and are labeled for reference, i.e., E10 is the tenth objective in the Energy (E) category.

Strategies are preceded with the symbol ">" and labeled with an additional letter, i.e. E10b as they relate to the numbered objective. Not every objective is paired with specific strategies.

Advanced strategies are preceded with the symbol "+". These are extra, progressive steps, usually suggested by stakeholders, that communities may wish to take to advance certain GRC goals.

Links to resources, such as certification programs or model ordinances, which may be considered tactics, are offered for some objectives and strategies. These are indicated by the hyperlink, "Y" in column M-O.

Assessment of the relevance and priority of each objective and strategy may be guided by prompts in columns F-L.

Because the nature of sustainability is its inter-relationship of social, economic and environment elements, objectives and strategies are also interrelated. Actions to improve land stewardship will improve water resources; improved active transportation choices will enhance healthy lifestyles and more. Therefore, actions with complementary outcomes may be found in different sections of the Framework. Policy, Stewardship and Outreach and Education are common elements in nearly every category.


Acknowledgements

The Greenest Region Compact and companion Framework have been made possible due to the generous support of the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust. The Environment Committee of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, under the leadership of John Ostenburg, Mayor, Village of Park Forest, has guided this work. Former co-chairman Barrett Pedersen, Mayor, Franklin Park contributed substantially to the GRC. The Executive Board is gratefully acknowledged for leading the Caucus staff and committees.


Greenest Region Compact and the Future Sustainability Network


The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus plans future supportive programs and resources to accelerate community actions in pursuit of the GRC consensus goals. A future Sustainability Network will develop pathways and leveraging strategies to develop capital sustainability projects. Future metrics, a reporting mechanism, and recognition for participating communities, is also planned.


[illegible]

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | Workforce Development | Promote innovation and a competitive workforce | ED1 | Connect local businesses with education training, and jobs related to sustainability | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | ED2 | Advocate for the development of a competitive 'green workforce' | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | ED3 | Advocate for new opportunities in the clean energy industry | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Innovation | | ED4 | Encourage green innovation among residents and local businesses | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | ED5 | Collaborate to support innovation centers | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Green Economy | | Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses | ED6 | Attract and retain businesses that practice and promote sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | ED7 | | Recognize and support businesses who practice and promote sustainability | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | ED8 | | Promote local goods and services | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ED9 | | Create and promote a community brand featuring natural resources or cultural characteristics of community | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | ED10 | | Promote tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community | | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Policy | ED11 | | Promote the economic prosperity of the community | | | | | | | | | |
| | | ED12 | Advocate for expanded job opportunities and sufficient wages | | | | | | | | | | |

[illegible]

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------|-------------------------|---|------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| LAND | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Sustainable Development | Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles | L1 | Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impacts on natural resources and infrastructure demands | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L1a | >Encourage the development of compact and complete residential neighborhoods | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L1b | >Protect greenfields and open space | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L1c | >Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L2 | Prioritize redevelopment projects and infrastructure investment for transit-served locations | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L2a | >Pursue transit oriented development and transit-supportive land uses in new development | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L2b | >Seek public-private partnerships to create transit-oriented developments | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L3 | Collaborate with neighboring communities to jointly create sustainable developments | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L4 | Encourage conservation design to protect natural resources | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L5 | Promote Sustainable Sites Certification for commercial and institutional landscapes | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L6 | Integrate resiliency into land development decisions | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L7 | Support local food production by assuring access to affordable land | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L8 | Evaluate proposed developments for on groundwater levels and water quality. | | | | | | | | |


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------|-------------------|---|------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| LAND | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Land Preservation | Conserve restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems | L9 | Using data such as the Green Infrastructure Vision and the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory, watershed plans, identify key natural assets, landscape features, parcels with high value for connectivity and ecosystem function | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L10 | Conserve key natural assets and open space | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L10a | >Through direct acquisition and management | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L10b | >Through collaborations and cooperative agreements such as conservation easements | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L11 | Guide future development to conserve natural topography, views, drainage patterns, existing vegetation, and historic or cultural assets | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L12 | Prioritize the acquisition, dedication and management of lands to create connected greenways | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L13 | Prioritize the acquisition of land to protect groundwater recharge areas | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L14 | Manage public and private landscapes to optimize ecosystem services and support biodiversity | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L14a | >Collaborate to restore prairie, wetland, forest and other important ecosystems in the community | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L14b | >Monitor and control invasive species in natural areas and throughout the community | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L14c | >Ensure long-term maintenance and management of protected natural areas within Conservation Design development | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L15 | Protect and restore soil integrity | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L15a | >Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations for construction sites | | | | | | | | |


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------|--------------------|---|------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| LAND | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Parks & Open Space | Support networks of accessible, well-used and enjoyable parks | L16 | Develop a park and open space master plan | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L17 | Maximize the amount of public spaces and parks accessible to residents | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L17a | >Collaborate to provide access to under-utilized land (i.e. utility right of ways) for trails, community gardens, and sustainable landscapes | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L17b | >Optimize linkages between parks and open spaces | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L17c | >Work with developers to integrate and develop open space reserves and trails in developments | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L17d | >Collaborate with private property owners to create vibrant public gathering spaces (placemaking) | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L18 | Enhance parks, open space, and recreational opportunities accessible to all residents | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L18a | >Collaborate with park and forest preserve districts | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L18b | >Collaborate to create and maintain hiking, biking, canoe and other recreational trails | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L18c | >Collaborate to provide accessible recreational services involving parks and open space | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L19 | Foster healthy community relationships through the use of open space | | | | | | | | |

[illegible]


[illegible]

[illegible]


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------|----------------------------------|---|------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| LAND | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Education, Outreach & Engagement | Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community | L38 | Engage the community in programs and special events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L39 | Educate the community about the value of trees, native and sustainable landscaping | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L40 | Engage community volunteers in land stewardship activities on public and shared landscapes | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L41 | Educate city staff about forest, wetlands and prairie best management practices | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L42 | Encourage beautiful, sustainable landscaping on private property | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L43 | Enlist volunteer groups to help in acquisition and stewardship of public lands | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L44 | Engage residents through a natural resources, conservation and/ or tree commission | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L45 | Educate planning commissioners about sustainable development principles and conservation strategies | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L46 | Engage local farmers to adopt conservation practices | | | | | | | | |


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------------|---------------|--|-----|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| LEADERSHIP | Category |  GOAL | | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved In Progress Planned for next 6 months Planned for next 12-18 months Interested in pursuing Not planned Not relevant Link to Resource | | | | | | | |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Leadership | <i>Enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state and national leadership</i> | L1 | Engage with academia and non-governmental organization to support the GRC2 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L2 | Engage with state and national municipal associations to align actions with GRC2 | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | L3 | Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts (e.g., GHG reporting, water supply planning) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L4 | Share information about municipal leadership in sustainability broadly in the community and externally | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L5 | Seek recognition for community sustainability achievements | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Advocacy | <i>Advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2</i> | L6 | Advocate for state policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L7 | Advocate for federal policies and investment that support municipal advances in sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L8 | Seek collaboration with the business sector to support municipal sustainability, (e.g., product stewardship) | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Collaboration | <i>Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region</i> | L9 | Partner with other local governments to achieve efficiency and sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L10 | Participate with regional, state and federal initiatives to plan and achieve sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | L11 | Partner with non-governmental organization to advance sustainability in the community and regionally | | | | | | | | |

[illegible]

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|------------------------|---|--|-------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS | Category |  GOAL | | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Lead by Example | <i>Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices</i> | MO1 | Support or create an interdisciplinary team to coordinate internal sustainability efforts | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO2 | Dedicate staff to direct sustainability initiatives | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO3 | Leverage state/federal and private grants and resources to advance sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO4 | Educate and train staff on sustainability practices | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO5 | Achieve third party certification for sustainable public facilities | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO5a | >Achieve LEED or Green Globes certification for public buildings | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO5b | >Achieve Sustainable Sites Certification for public landscapes | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO5c | >Achieve ENVISION certification for public infrastructure | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO6 | Formalize sustainability goals and plans | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO6a | >Adopt the Greenest Region Compact | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO6b | >Use the GRC Framework to create a sustainability plan and formally adopt it | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO+7 | Consolidate and/or share the delivery of public services with other local governments | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO+8 | + Establish municipal finance practices to re-invest cost savings into sustainability initiatives | | | | | | | | |
| Sustainable Operations | <i>Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations</i> | | MO9 | Adopt an environmental purchasing policy | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO10 | Extend useful life of physical assets | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO11 | Manage special events sustainably | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO+12 | Integrate sustainability into capital planning | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO+13 | Inventory, assess and manage municipal assets sustainably | | | | | | | | |


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|---------------------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS | Category |  GOAL | OBJECTIVE | | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS | Municipal Fleet | <i>Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet</i> | MO14 | Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO14a | >Conduct baseline fleet analysis | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO14b | >Optimize fleet performance by reconciling tasks and vehicle types | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO14c | >Increase fleet efficiency through driver education and training | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO14d | >Modify and retrofit vehicles to use alternate fuels | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO14d | > Migrate fleet to alternate fuel vehicles | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO15 | >Certify as an IEPA Illinois Green Fleet | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO15 | >Join Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and report reduction of petroleum fuel consumption annually | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO+17 | + Collaborate with businesses, industry leaders and other agencies to develop alternative fuel infrastructure | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS | Data Management | <i>Collect and manage data to advance sustainability</i> | MO18 | Track, analyze and manage data to advance sustainability goals | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | MO18a | >Establish performance metrics | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO18b | >Collect and organize data | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO18c | >Report and share data | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO18d | >Continue to track and monitor data over time | | | | | | | | |
| | | | MO+10 | + Use 'smart' technology to efficiently manage waste, water, fleet, air and energy data | | | | | | | | |


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------------------------|------------------|---|--------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Category |  | | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | GOAL | | | | | | | | |
| SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES | Arts and Culture | Promote cultural vibrancy in the community | SC1 | Preserve and maintain the community's historic assets | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC2 | Integrate historical and cultural assets through community programming | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC3 | Formalize support for culture and the arts | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC4 | Engage community volunteers through an arts/culture-oriented citizen advisory group | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC5 | Foster understanding of diverse cultural traditions | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC6 | Promote beauty and livability in community design, stewardship, and through partnerships | | | | | | | | |
| | Health & Safety | Foster a culture of health, safety and wellness | SC7 | Protect all residents from the effects of pollution | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC8 | Create a community that is resilient and well-prepared for disaster | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC9 | Connect community members to existing services that support health and wellness | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC10 | Ensure high quality essential human services programs are available and utilized | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC11 | Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to pest and disease threats to public health | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC12 | Collaborate to offer active and healthy lifestyle programs to residents | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC+13 | + Support balanced, active play for families | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+13a | >Become recognized as a Playful City USA | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+14 | + Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC+14a | >Become certified as a Safe Community | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+15 | + Integrate planning, policies and programs to accommodate residents of all ages and abilities | | | | | | | | |

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Category |  | | OBJECTIVE | | | | | | | | |
| | | GOAL | | > STRATEGY | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES | Local Food | <i>Increase access to sustainably grown local food</i> | SC16 | Educate and engage the community in a sustainable food culture | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC17 | Incorporate local and healthy options into public food-service procurement and events | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC18 | Support and promote family and community gardens | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC+19 | + Analyze and asses the current food system | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC+20 | + Support innovative technologies for food production and distribution | | | | | | | | |
| | Social Justice | <i>Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable</i> | SC21 | Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC22 | Support social justice and equity throughout the community | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC23 | Promote diversity of housing stock accessible to diverse residents | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC24 | Distribute public services and resources equitably in the community | | | | | | | | |
| | Sustainable Community | <i>Promote a sustainable identity for the community</i> | SC25 | Promote third party certification for sustainable private facilities | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC25a | >Promote green certification for private buildings | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC25b | >Promote ENVISION certification for private infrastructure | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC26 | Develop and maintain a community brand that highlights sustainability | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC26a | >Participate in the Green Office Challenge | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+27 | + Assess sustainability achievements relative to comparable cities | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC27a | >Participate in the STAR Community Rating System | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC28 | Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Policy | <i>Assure local policies and codes support sustainability</i> | SC29 | Identify existing Code impediments sustainable building and site best practices | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC30 | Develop housing policies, programs, and regulations designed to support and promote sustainability | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC31 | Revise and/or develop codes to promote sustainable building and site practices | | | | | | | | |
| | | | SC32 | Enact policies to preserve dark skies | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+33 | + Incentivize green building in new construction and re-construction | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | SC+34 | + Require third-party green building certification for appropriate new construction | | | | | | | | |

[illegible]


[illegible]


| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| WASTE & RECYCLING | Category |  GOAL | OBJECTIVE | | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to Resource |
| | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WASTE & RECYCLING | Policy | Enact policies that cause sustainable material management | WR16 | Require commercial & multi-family recycling | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | WR17 | Establish a construction & demolition recycling policy | | | | | | | | |
| | | | WR18 | Eliminate policy barriers to on-site composting | | | | | | | | |
| | | | WR19 | Engage with Solid Waste agencies to manage waste sustainably | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | WR20 | Ban or discourage the use of products resulting in unmanageable waste (e.g. plastic bags) | | | | | | | | |
| | Education & Engagement | Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling | WR21 | Educate the community on recycling and composting practices | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | WR22 | Educate the community to reduce waste by consuming less and reusing | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | WR23 | Discourage fly dumping and littering | | | | | | | | |
| | | | WR24 | Organize a community wide clean-up day | | | | | | | | |
| | | | WR25 | Engage community volunteers in recycling education and events | | | | | | | | |

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------|--------------------|---|------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| WATER | Category |  | GOAL | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | Water Conservation | Use and distribute water efficiently | W1 | Reduce community water consumption per capita | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W1a | >Implement water efficiency measures at all municipal facilities | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W1b | >Encourage residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water loss | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W2 | Become a US EPA WaterSense Partner | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W3 | Designate a staff Water Conservation Coordinator to manage water conservation programs | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W4 | Participate in regional efforts and programs to conserve water | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W+5 | Provide customer incentives to retrofit using high efficiency, Water Sense appliances and fixtures | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W+6 | Provide water use audits to customers | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W+7 | Collaborate with energy utilities to integrate water conservation into energy audits for residential customers | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W+8 | Collaborate to encourage commercial, industrial and institutional customers to conserve water | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Water Quality | Protect and improve water quality | W9 | Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W9a | >Avoid the use of coal tar sealants on municipal property | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W9b | >Resolve to eliminate unnecessary landscape pesticides and fertilizer use on municipal property | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W9c | >Use sensible salting strategies to reduce chloride contamination | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W10 | Collaborate to identify sensitive aquifer recharge areas | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W11 | Support post-development runoff reduction and mitigation | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W12 | Inventory and inspect septic systems | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W13 | Collaborate with regional initiatives to protect Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W14 | Label storm drains indicating the destination of discharge | | | | | | | | |

[illegible]

[illegible]

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------|----------|---|------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Category |  | | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | GOAL | | | | | | | | |
| WATER | Policy | <i>Enact policies to protect water resources</i> | W31 | Conduct a water rate study to determine sustainable rate structure | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W32 | Adopt full-cost pricing policies for water service | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W33 | Amend code to require water efficiency and conservation in commercial and residential development | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W34 | Incorporate conservation practices into new development guidelines and incentives | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W35 | Adopt a water conservation policy and/or plan inclusive of all customers and municipal operations | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W35a | >Enact and enforce regulation to control of wasteful water practices | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W35b | >Enact and enforce outdoor watering regulations responsive to drought conditions | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W35c | >Regulate or incentive water efficiency for customers managing large landscapes | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W36 | Update stormwater ordinance to integrate Illinois State Model Local Stormwater Ordinance | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W37 | Adopt codes that enable rainwater harvesting for non-potable uses | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W38 | Adopt a resolution supporting the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W39 | Review and adopt codes to eliminate barriers to green infrastructure BMPs including cisterns, green roofs, bioswales, permeable paving | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W40 | Allow flexibility (off-site management, payment-in-lieu) to allow developments to meet stormwater management requirements sustainably | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W41 | Enact codes that protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination | | | | | | | | |

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M |
|-------|------------------------|--|------|---|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Category |  GOAL | | OBJECTIVE | Already achieved | In Progress | Planned for next 6 months | Planned for next 12-18 months | Interested in pursuing | Not planned | Not relevant | Link to resource |
| | | | | > STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | + ADVANCED STRATEGY | | | | | | | | |
| WATER | Stewardship | Practice stewardship of water resources | W42 | Sustain supply of high-quality public water | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W43 | Ensure drinking and wastewater systems are operating efficiently | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W44 | Utilize treated effluent as a valuable water resource | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W45 | Participate in watershed planning and stewardship efforts | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W46 | Implement municipal recommendations from watershed plan | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W46 | Allow public access and encourage stewardship of community waterways | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W48 | Support regional and statewide water supply planning and stewardship | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W49 | Contribute local data on water supply, quality and operations to support state and regional stewardship | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W+50 | + Enact a water offset policy for water neutral community growth | | | | | | | | Y |
| | Education and Outreach | Engage the community in water stewardship | W51 | Educate and support the community to conserve water | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W52 | Educate the community on the value of clean and safe drinking water | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W53 | Promote tap water over bottled water | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W54 | Educate the community on practices that reduce contamination of water resources | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W55 | Support private well-owners in water quality monitoring and stewardship | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W56 | Educate customers about public water supply and wastewater operations through media and events | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W57 | Educate the community on benefits and practices of green infrastructure | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W58 | Educate and support the community in preparing for and managing floods | | | | | | | | Y |
| | | | W59 | Collaborate to teach water conservation and stewardship in schools | | | | | | | | |
| | | | W60 | Collaborate to raise watershed awareness and foster stewardship | | | | | | | | |

Contributors to the Greenest Region Compact and GRC Framework

| | |
|---|---|
| 360 Energy Group | Illinois Recycling Association |
| Active Transportation Alliance | Illinois Section American |
| AECOM | Water Works Association |
| Alliance for the Great Lakes | Illinois Sustainable Technology Center |
| America in Bloom | Illinois Wood Utilization Team |
| American Planning Association - Illinois | Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant |
| Argonne National Laboratory | Local Government Education |
| CB&I | and Information Network |
| Center for Neighborhood Technology | Meadows Center for Water |
| Chaddick Institute for | and the Environment |
| Metropolitan Development | Metropolitan Planning Council |
| Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition | Metropolitan Water Reclamation District |
| Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning | Midwest Ecological Landscape Alliance |
| Chicago Wilderness | Midwest Pesticide Action Center |
| Citizens Utility Board | Morraine Valley Community College |
| ComEd | National League of Cities |
| Cook County | Nicor |
| Deerpath Garden Club | Northwest Water Planning Alliance |
| Delta Institute | Openlands |
| DuPage County | Prairie State Network |
| Elevate Energy | Seven Generations Ahead |
| Energy Resources Center | Sierra Club |
| Engineering Enterprises, Inc. | Solid Waste Agency of |
| Environmental Law and Policy Center | Northern Cook County |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency | South Metropolitan Higher |
| Great Lakes Clean Communities Network | Education Consortium |
| Grand Victoria Foundation | South Shore Clean Cities Coalition |
| Green Ways 2Go | South Suburban Mayors |
| Huff and Huff | and Managers Association |
| Illinois Association of Wastewater Agencies | STAR Technical Advisory Group |
| Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation | The Chicago Community Trust |
| Illinois Climate Action Table | The Morton Arboretum |
| Illinois Department of Commerce | The Power Bureau |
| and Economic Opportunity | University of Illinois, |
| Illinois Department of Natural Resources | Environmental Law Department |
| Illinois Emergency Management Agency | US Conference of Mayors |
| Illinois Environmental Protection Agency | US Environmental Protection Agency |
| Illinois Parks and Recreation Association | US Green Building Council |
| | Will County |
| | Woodlands Garden Club |

Appendix

Municipal Sustainability Plans Analyzed and Integrated in the GRC Authoring Organization

| | | |
|--|--|------|
| Village of Algonquin | <i>Environmental Action Plan</i> | 2010 |
| City of Aurora | <i>Sustainability Plan</i> | 2008 |
| City of Batavia | <i>Environmental Identity</i> | 2013 |
| Village of Buffalo Grove | <i>Environmental Plan</i> | 2014 |
| City of Chicago | <i>Sustainable Chicago</i> | 2012 |
| City of Des Plaines | <i>Sustain Des Plaines</i> | 2011 |
| Village of Elburn | <i>Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Chapter</i> | 2013 |
| City of Elgin | <i>Sustainability Action Plan</i> | 2013 |
| City of Elmhurst | <i>Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Chapter Climate</i> | 2009 |
| City of Evanston | <i>Action Plan</i> | 2008 |
| City of Highland Park | <i>Sustainability Strategic Plan</i> | 2010 |
| Village of Hoffman Estates | <i>Sustainability Plan</i> | 2013 |
| Village of Homer Glen | <i>Green Vision</i> | 2004 |
| Village of La Grange Park | <i>Sustainability Plan</i> | 2012 |
| Lake County | <i>Strategy for Sustainable Lake County</i> | 2009 |
| Village of Lombard | <i>Local Climate Action Plan</i> | 2012 |
| Village of Millbrook | <i>Comprehensive Plan</i> | 2009 |
| Village of Monee, Peotone, University Park | <i>Green Communities Vision</i> | 2009 |
| City of Naperville | <i>Environmental Sustainability Plan</i> | 2010 |
| Village of Niles | <i>Environmental Action Plan</i> | 2013 |
| City of Normal | <i>Community-Wide Sustainability Plan</i> | 2010 |
| Village of Northbrook | <i>Strategic Sustainability Plan</i> | 2013 |
| Village of Oak Park/ River Forest | <i>Sustainability Plan</i> | 2011 |
| Village of Orland Park | <i>Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Chapter</i> | 2013 |
| Village of Park Forest | <i>Sustainability Plan</i> | 2012 |
| Village of Robbins | <i>Green Communities Vision</i> | 2004 |
| Village of Schaumburg | <i>Comprehensive Green Action Plan</i> | 2008 |
| Village of Sleepy Hollow | <i>Green Communities Vision</i> | 2004 |
| Village of Winnetka | <i>Environmental & Forestry Commission, Strategic Plan</i> | 2010 |
| City of Woodstock | <i>Environmental Plan</i> | 2010 |

Regional, National, Global Sustainability Guiding Documents Analyzed and Integrated into the GRC

| | | |
|--|---|------|
| CMAP | <i>Green Practices Survey</i> | 2008 |
| CMAP | <i>Go To 2040</i> | 2010 |
| CMAP | <i>Sustainability White Paper</i> | 2015 |
| CMAP | <i>Water 2050</i> | 2010 |
| Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure | <i>Envision</i> | 2014 |
| STAR Communities, ICLEI, National League of Cities | <i>STAR Community Rating System</i> | 2012 |
| US Conference of Mayors | <i>Mayors Climate Protection Agreement</i> | 2005 |
| Metropolitan Mayors Caucus | <i>Greenest Region Compact</i> | 2007 |
| Illinois Parks and Recreation Association | <i>Model Environmental Policy & Toolkit</i> | 2008 |
| Smart Cities Council | <i>Smart Cities Index</i> | 2014 |

Municipal Sustainability Guiding Documents Also Referenced

| | | |
|---|---|------|
| Village of Arlington Heights | <i>Green Initiatives</i> | 2008 |
| DuPage County | <i>Environmental Policy & Cool DuPage</i> | 2010 |
| Village of Glencoe | <i>Sustainability Study</i> | 2015 |
| Village of Glenview | <i>A Plan for Nature</i> | 2010 |
| Village of Hainesville | <i>Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Chapter</i> | 2014 |
| Village of Chicago Heights, South Chicago Heights | <i>Green Community Vision Plan</i> | 2012 |
| Village of Mettawa, Lincolnshire & Bannockburn | <i>Green Infrastructure Plan</i> | 2005 |
| Village of Montgomery & Oswego | <i>Green Community Vision Plan</i> | 2007 |
| Village of Round Lake | <i>Comprehensive Plan, Sustainability Chapter</i> | 2008 |
| Village of Wheeling | <i>Sustainability Report</i> | 2014 |

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Environment Committee Member Communities and Councils of Governments

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| City of Aurora | Village of Lincolnwood |
| City of Blue Island | Village of Lombard |
| City of Chicago | Village of Niles |
| City of Des Plaines | Village of North Aurora |
| City of Evanston | Village of Northlake |
| City of Highland Park | Village of Orland Park |
| City of Rockford | Village of Park Forest* |
| Sauk Village | Village of Richton Park |
| Village of Alsip | Village of Schaumburg |
| Village of Arlington Heights | Village of Streamwood |
| Village of Blue Island | Village of Villa Park |
| Village of Cary | Village of Westchester |
| Village of Deerfield | Village of Woodridge |
| Village of Fox River Grove | Barrington Area Council of Governments |
| Village of Frankfort Village of | DuPage Mayors & Managers Conference |
| Franklin Park Village of | Lake County Council of Governments |
| Grayslake Village of | Mc Henry County Council of Governments |
| Hainesville Village of | Metro West Council of Governments |
| Hanover Park Village of | Northwest Municipal Conference |
| Hazel Crest Village of | South Suburban Mayors & Mgrs Conference |
| Hoffman Estates Village of | Southwest Conference of Mayors |
| Lakewood Village of | West Central Municipal Conference |
| Lemont | Will County Government League |

**Chairman's Community*



COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The member municipalities of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus seek a vibrant, sustainable future for their communities and the greater Chicago region. The consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact aim for enhanced quality of life for residents; protection and stewardship of the environment and sustainable economic vitality.

To become the most sustainable and successful region in the United States, they, therefore, support the following consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact and agree to work to achieve them, both in their own communities and in collaboration throughout the region:



Climate

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Maintain clean and healthful air
- Develop resiliency to climate change impacts
- Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation



Economic Development

- Promote innovation and a competitive workforce
- Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses



Energy

- Use energy for buildings and facilities efficiently
- Advance renewable energy
- Reduce energy consumption
- Enact policies that support clean energy
- Engage the community in clean energy practices



Land

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems
- Support networks of accessible, well-used, and enjoyable parks
- Sustain a robust urban forest canopy
- Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services
- Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies
- Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community



Mobility

- Support safe and effective active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
- Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices



Municipal Operations

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability



Sustainable Communities

- Promote cultural vibrancy in the community
- Foster a culture of health, safety, and wellness
- Increase access to sustainably grown local food
- Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable
- Promote a sustainable identity for the community
- Ensure local policies and codes support sustainability
- Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability



Waste & Recycling

- Support sustainable material management
- Recycle materials across all sectors
- Divert waste from landfills
- Enact policies that cause sustainable material management
- Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling



Water

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship

Endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus provides a forum for the chief elected officials of the Chicago region to develop consensus and act on common public policy issues and multi-jurisdictional challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' participating Mayors and their communities have a history of environmental stewardship, from energy efficiency, water conservation, urban forestry, and participation in Clean Air Counts; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Mayors and local governments throughout the United States to take leadership roles to advance sustainability both in their own communities and in concert with regional, national and global initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus created the Greenest Region Compact to address environmental sustainability issues of global importance at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the Greenest Region Compact, an update to the original pledge and sometimes referred to as the Greenest Region Compact 2, is built on important environmental initiatives already underway in communities, in partnership with many non-profit, state, regional and national organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Greenest Region Compact synthesizes sustainability goals already adopted by leading communities in the region; and these consensus goals align with common regional, state, national and global objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Greenest Region Compact offers a companion Framework to guide communities of all sizes and strengths to assess their current efforts; develop a sustainability plan suited to local priorities; and will offer resources to help them succeed; and

WHEREAS, the consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact will guide coordinated efforts toward enhanced quality of life for residents; protection and stewardship of the environment and sustainable economic vitality.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City/Village of _____ endorses the Greenest Region Compact proposed by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and agrees to work to achieve them, both in their own communities and in collaboration throughout the region.

This page intentionally left blank



The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is a membership organization of the Chicago region's 273 cities, towns and villages. Founded in 1997 by then Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and leading mayors from nine suburban municipal groups, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus pushes past geographical boundaries and local interests to work on public policy issues. The caucus provides a forum for metropolitan Chicago's chief elected officials to collaborate on common problems and work toward a common goal of improving the quality of life for the millions of people who call the region home.

Contact: Edith Makra
Director of Environmental Initiatives
Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago IL,
60660 emakra@mayorscaucus.org
312-201-4506

version updated April 2018