

COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY – December 19, 2023

Agenda Location: Consent Resolutions

R) Adopt the City’s 2023 Sustainability Plan.

Attachments:

- Draft Resolution and Sustainability Plan.

Background & Summary: You are being asked to adopt the City’s 2023 Sustainability Plan.

Over the last 30 months and as affirmed and directed by the City Council in August 2022, the Rolling Meadows Environmental Committee (RMEC) has worked with City Staff and the public to develop a Sustainability Plan for the City. The Committee’s approach in drafting the Plan was to rely on the Greenest Region Compact 2 (GRC2) Framework as an authoritative source of goals, objectives, and strategies appropriate to the City, as adopted by the City’s Resolution No. 17-R-42. The result is the attached draft Sustainability Plan, which lays out a roadmap of actions for the City to pursue over the next four years in the following ten categories:

- **Climate** – Providing a strategy to address climate change resulting from greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Economic Development** – Encouraging businesses to adopt sustainable approaches to commerce. Supporting a “green economy”, and supporting businesses which develop products and services which promote environmental improvement.
- **Energy** – Promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy use, and community engagement on energy practices.
- **Land** – Cultivating conservation-minded development, natural landscapes, green spaces, wildlife habitat, and re-forestation.
- **Leadership** – Becoming leaders in public policy development and implementation which supports a sustainable community.
- **Mobility** – Developing infrastructure which encourages sustainable transportation choices, decreases the environmental impact of transportation, and maintains safety as a priority.
- **Municipal Operations** – Demonstrating sustainable practices in all municipal operations. Develop and maintain metrics on progress toward sustainability goals.
- **Sustainable Communities** – Promoting a culture of sustainable living through education, events, and policies.
- **Water and Stormwater** – Promoting sustainable management of natural water resources. Protecting our natural water environment and wetlands.
- **Waste & Recycling** – Developing and promoting sustainable waste management, recycling, and product reuse.

The Environmental Committee conducted its final review of the plan at its regular meeting on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, and unanimously recommended that the City Council adopt the Plan. The final edits by the Committee included deleting a goal regarding the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge (as the City has signed the pledge), and adds goals concerning air quality monitoring (C-3) and residential native landscaping and urban agriculture (L-6). The attached resolution would adopt the Plan’s text. (City Staff is working to finalize the graphic design of the final document, similar to the Business Development Strategic Plan, and this formatted copy would be published after the City Council adopts this resolution.)

Previous Council Action: Committee-of-the-Whole presentation on Tuesday, November 21, 2023.

Recommendation: To approve the Resolution as presented.