



Sustainable and equitable land use planning agenda item

Historic Highland Park Sustainability Committee October 26, 2020



Agenda item #10

Discussion and possible motion to form a Sustainable Land Use Ad-hoc Committee, with both board members and stakeholders, using the proposed recommendations from the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance Sustainable Land Use guidelines and the Greening in Place guidelines (See attached supporting documents.

Change from ad-hoc to group project

According to EmpowerLA, “One point that may need clarification: Groups that are formed to implement a project are not treated as a standing or ad hoc committee under the Act; thus, gatherings to implement a project would not be considered a "meeting" subject to the Brown Act. For example, if a Neighborhood Council approves an action to conduct a tree-planting project along a street, the gathering of those people at a certain place and time to plant the trees would not be treated as a "meeting" under the Act. That would be true of other activities such as, purchasing goods and supplies for the Neighborhood Council or implementing other projects approved by the board, such as a graffiti abatement projects, etc., or activities designed to outreach to stakeholders.”

<https://highlandparknc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/HHPNC-approved-bylaws-6.30.2020.pdf>

New motion proposal

Discussion and possible motion to form a Sustainable Land Use Group to advise board and Land Use Committee on Sustainable Development Guidelines and the Greening in Place guidelines (See attached supporting documents).

NCSA Guidelines for Sustainable Developments (see supporting document)

What is it? Guidelines on an array of opportunities for developers to create more sustainable developments. Board members engaging with developers can further sustainable initiatives through engagement and specific recommendations from this guide.

Why this guide? The Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA), of which we are a member, has taken the citywide lead to suggest councils can ask for and suggests how to better engage developers in their sustainability efforts. The guide was put together by a number of diverse people, including design studios, LA City planning Wildlife Pilot Study and diverse NCs.

Covers a range of topics that we can pick from depending on relevancy to our community:

- Site planning and building design
 - Air quality
 - Energy
 - Water
 - Nature and wildlife
 - Walkability
 - Other transportation modes
 - Community
- Cont
 - Health and well-being
 - Other soil and vegetation
 - Affordable housing
 - Construction
- Operations and maintenance (under which there are a wide range of topics)

Greening in Place

What is it?

- Greening In Place is a **guide** that was produced in partnership with the Audubon Center at Debs Park (ACDP), Public Counsel, and SEACA.
- It is intended to give park and conservation agencies like Audubon the **language, tools and framework to address connections between social and environmental issues and take affirmative steps to ensure that all communities are able to benefit from green investments.**
- As we seek further green developments by developers, **we need to ensure that we do not have unintended repercussions or push out existing neighbors.**
- The toolkit provides **specific actions, including policies and programs, that the board and land use committee can take to prevent displacement.**
- The guide includes structures and systems that advance community engagement and ownership of development projects

Greening in Place cont.

Why this guide? **As we seek a more green neighborhood, how do we ensure that we are not harming people at the same time?** Both through land use and sustainability committee efforts, we must conduct well-planned projects that serve the neighbors that we have, as that is our responsibility as representatives to our stakeholders.

Another report to consider

We may also consider another report with a similar mission. LA THRIVES and Los Angeles Regional Open Space and Affordable Housing (LA ROSAH) Coalition, created a report outlining five strategies that integrate urban greening (i.e. parks and green infrastructure investments) with affordable housing called “Pathway to Parks & Affordable Housing Joint Development”.

<https://www.urbanwaterslearningnetwork.org/resources/pathway-to-parks-affordable-housing-joint-development-may-2019/>

Thank you, Sustainability Committee!

Ideas and questions welcome!