

RESOLUTION

By Cunningham, Ellison, Reich, and Fletcher

Establishing the Northside Green Zone Task Force to serve as an advisory board to the City Council on the creation, implementation, and evaluation of the Northside Green Zone Work Plan.

Whereas, the City Council of the City of Minneapolis unanimously passed a resolution on April 28, 2017, establishing a Northside Green Zone; and

Whereas, that same resolution stated that the work of Greens Zones shall focus on the needs of those community members who are over-burdened and live in low-wealth areas, as well as people of color, Indigenous people, youth, people with disabilities, low-income residents, and elders; and

Whereas, since the creation of the Northside Green Zone, the Environmental Justice Coordinating Council (EJCC) adopted the following goals for the Northside Green Zone:

1. Clean up soil and water contamination and redevelop brownfields;
2. Improve air quality, livability, and pollinator habitat through vegetation, clean energy, and energy efficiency.
3. Improve air and environmental quality in business and transport.
4. Increase 'green' jobs and career opportunities.
5. Increase the availability of affordable housing and environmentally high quality housing.
6. Increase access to healthy affordable food by supporting local systems of growing, production and distribution.
7. Advance environmental awareness and education in community and schools.
8. Foster community healing from historical trauma and root shock, using community-based approaches to healing and health;
9. Stop the patterns of community violence and the cradle to prison pipeline with which it is associated.
10. Develop an Environmental Justice Scorecard that assesses how well businesses and branches of government do in practicing responsible and responsive environmental stewardship and partnership around environmental justice. Use the scorecard as a tool to drive policy change toward greater environmental justice.
11. Organize the community to develop ecological consciousness and foster a healthy future that takes care of the earth, takes care of the people, and takes care of the future we choose to create together.
12. Work with stakeholders and Native Nations statewide to create an environmental justice partnership that fosters a common platform among environmental justice communities, using a Minnesota Environmental Screen to provide a common basis of measurement and protocols for action.

Whereas, in the Green Zone, the City and community are committed to co-creating conditions for increasing environmental and population health simultaneously. We accept and add to what the World Health Organization recognizes as necessary conditions for health:

- Peace
- Shelter
- Education
- Food

- Income
- Stable ecosystem
- Sustainable resources
- IT Connectivity
- Mobility
- Health Care
- Social Responsibility
- Social and Environmental Justice; and

Whereas, given the high significance of the social determinants of health and the structural determinants of health, it is extremely important to consider pathways toward sustainable realization of health in environmental justice communities; and

Whereas, Minneapolis offers a high quality of life for most people. As the City develops it is extremely important to preserve existing subsidized housing, protect and promote the interests of low income tenants and homeowners, and maximize the production of ecologically sound affordable housing. It is also important to stabilize neighborhoods that are declining or at risk of doing so, improve the quality of life in disinvested neighborhoods, and promote career pathways and asset-building foundations for members of economically and ecologically marginalized communities; and

Whereas, the “One Minneapolis” goals may only be realized through a five-step process, listed below, for more inclusive, equitable, ecological, democratic, and transparent planning and design:

1. Transformative organizing.
2. Adaptive learning and action.
3. Co-creativity and prototyping iteratively.
4. Finalizing an approach as ‘good enough’ with regular opportunities to ‘tweak’ design over time and/or ‘transform’ when necessary.
5. Implementation through healthy and healing partnerships (transformative partnerships).

Whereas, the April 28, 2017, resolution directed City staff and area stakeholders to develop a Northside Green Zone Work Plan based upon community-led planning, prioritization of homegrown development, and community ownership of the Green Zone initiatives that are innovative, creative, courageous, flexible, and adaptive; and

Whereas, that same resolution directed the City Coordinator’s Office to work with the Health, Community Planning and Economic Development, Public Works, Neighborhood and Community Relations, and Regulatory Services departments, and other as needed, to evaluate departmental programs that can help and support the Green Zone goals, as well as identify and recommend new or modified initiatives that can advance Green Zone goals;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Northside Green Zone Task Force is hereby established and that it shall operate according to the following structure:

1. Number of members: 13 voting members; 4 non-voting members.

2. Term Length: 24 months.
3. Term Limit: None.
4. Staggered Terms: None.
5. Compensation: No City funds may be used for compensation, however if grants are available compensation may be provided.
6. Open appointment process: No.
7. Public hearings held for appointees: No.
8. Residency requirement: No, but preference will be given to residents and community members who work, worship and/or play within the Northside Green Zone.
9. Membership structure: 17 members, as described in Section 12 Selection of Officers.
10. Supporting department: City Coordinator's Division of Sustainability.
11. Reporting requirements: The Task Force will develop an action-oriented Work Plan specific to the Northside Green Zone, which includes the neighborhoods of Hawthorne, McKinley, and Near North, and portions of Bottineau, Sheridan and Marshall Terrace closest to the Mississippi River. The Work Plan shall identify actions that promote health and economic well-being using environmentally-beneficial strategies. The Task Force will meet approximately monthly to develop, implement and evaluate the Northside Green Zone Work Plan. Task Force members will be responsible for attending meetings, reviewing materials between meetings, and making a recommendation to City Council no later than Quarter 3, 2019.
12. Selection of officers: Task Force members shall be selected based on their affiliation listed in the Membership Structure outlined below. A selection committee of city staff, City Council offices, and representatives from the Environmental Justice Coordinating Council will make the selection decision:
 - Six seats shall be filled by community members who live, work, worship, and/or play within the Northside Green Zone and is an active member of the Environmental Justice Coordinating Council.
 - Seven seats shall be filled by a balanced number of Northside and Northeast community members who live, work, worship, and/or play within the Northside Green Zone and have one or more of the following experiences:
 - practiced interest in environmental justice.
 - expertise in climate resiliency and/or cumulative health impacts and environmental justice
 - has been impacted by cumulative pollution
 - expertise in green manufacturing or environmentally friendly business practices.
 - Four seats shall be fill by non-voting representatives from City departments that work in or impact areas related to the Northside Green Zone goals outlined in the Whereas clauses.
13. Open meetings: Meetings shall be open to the public, subject to the requirements of the Minnesota Open Meeting Law.