



**SUSTAINABLE  
COLUMBUS**

# External Advisory Committee

Third Quarter 2020 Meeting





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- Update – Electric Aggregation
- Sustainable Columbus – Post 2020 Goals
- Department Updates
- Partner Updates
- Wrap Up



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- Erin Beck  
Office of Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther



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# Sustainable Columbus – Post 2020 Goals

- Alana Shockey  
Assistant Director, Sustainability  
Department of Public Utilities

## KEY INITIATIVES & GOALS



### GreenSpot

GreenSpot asks households, businesses and community groups to make pledges to conserve energy, conserve & protect water, and reduce waste.



### 2020 GOALS

Increase the number of GreenSpot memberships to **20,000**, reducing the environmental impacts of daily life by **motivating** behavior change.



### Climate & Energy

Columbus is committed to taking action to become a carbon neutral city and to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions to do its part to help the U.S. meet the Paris Agreement.



### 2020 GOALS

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **30%** from City operations, and by **20%** from the community.



### Resource Protection & Conservation

Through our Recreation & Parks and Public Health initiatives we connect the people of our community through the power of nature, wellness and creativity.



### 2020 GOALS

Increase the number of City **parks** to **400**, adopt a tree canopy strategic plan, provide **greenspace** within a 10-minute walk of all residences, and support local **food initiatives**.



### Waste Reduction

To build stronger, safer communities, we are dedicated to working with residents in our opportunity neighborhoods to address illegal dumping and activate recycling.



### 2020 GOALS

Increase illegal dumping case resolutions by **15%** and increase the recyclable materials collected per participating household citywide by **5%**.



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# What Makes a Good Goal?

## Attributes of Effective Visions of Change

**Ambitious** – It makes a difference in residents' lives

**Urgency** – It inspires a sense of urgency

**Attainable** – It is challenging, but do-able

**Clear** – It can be communicated easily, including in public

**Measurable** – Progress against it can be tracked and monitored

# Vision

The **City of Columbus** has committed to an **ambitious Sustainable Columbus agenda:**

**100% Renewable Energy**

through **Community Choice Aggregation** by 2022

**Carbon Neutrality**  
by 2050

**Prosperous neighborhoods**  
with green space, clean air,  
and safe drinking water



# Strategies

## Conserve and Protect Natural Resources

by promoting greenspace, preserving tree canopy, and protecting water resources

**Invest in Systemic Change around Climate and Energy** by transforming how energy is generated, used, and conserved in the building and transportation sectors

**Grow Columbus GreenSpot** by increasing membership and expanding member programming

**Reduce Waste** by reducing residential waste and supporting the circular economy

# Goals (end of 2030)

## Increase Equitable Access to Green Space:

More than 64.5% of residents live within a 10 minute walk of a park or trail

## Preserve Tree Canopy: *In Progress*

To align with 2030 Urban Forestry Master Plan goals

Support Local Food Initiatives

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions from **Municipal Operations** by **40%**

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions **by 25% Community-wide**

**40,000 Columbus GreenSpot members**

**Expand** membership programming opportunities

Achieve **25% Residential Waste Diversion**

Support the Circular Economy

# Action 1: GreenSpot – Inform and Educate

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



**40,000 GreenSpot members**



**Increase partnership in Opportunity Neighborhoods**



**Improve Internal/external engagement**

## Description

Overall increase membership. Grow the number of GreenSpot members with program development and implementation done in partnership with local partners, stakeholders, and advisory board members while increasing the enrichment for existing members through technical assistance, tours, webinars, etc. Focus on Opportunity Neighborhoods. Tie in with other city sustainability efforts to magnify their efforts and to increase GreenSpot membership.

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: David R. Celebrezze

**Ambitious**

**Urgent**

**Attainable**

**Clear**

**Measurable**

**Would you suggest tweaking the goal?**

**How?**



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# Action 2: Preserve and Create Access to Green Space

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



**More than 64.5% of Columbus Residents will live within a 10 minute walk of a park or trail.**



**Maintain an overall Level of Service of at least 9.4 Acres of Parkland per 1,000 residents.**

## Description

Parks and trails are key city infrastructure and vital for thriving Columbus communities. To reap the benefits of green space, residents must have both proximity and ease of access. To keep pace with Columbus' rapid development and population growth, Recreation and Parks prioritizes new parkland acquisition and construction of trail segments in areas that will connect residents who have been out of reach of our city's green spaces. Success is measured using two methodologies, the 10-minute walkshed, and Level of Service (Acres of parkland/ 1,000 residents).

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: Brad Westall, Capital & Strategic Planning

**Ambitious**

**Urgent**

**Attainable**

**Clear**

**Measurable**

**Would you suggest tweaking the goal?**

**How?**



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# Action 3: Preserve Columbus' Tree Canopy

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



**2030 Urban Forestry goals will be made public after the release of Columbus' Urban Forestry Master Plan**



**Measure the % of Forestry's work activities in UFMP Priority neighborhoods (inventories, tree care, plantings)**

## Description

Growth in overall tree canopy cover will not occur until we can maintain current canopy levels. Over the next 10 years, we will work to stabilize existing tree canopy losses. We lose trees every year from storms, old age, pests, and development. Maintaining baseline canopy (22% in 2013; may change with updated data) by 2030 is a challenge in and of itself, and quality data is critical to developing accurate goals. A 2022 assessment of Urban Tree Canopy Coverage will provide up-to-date data about Columbus city-wide coverage, and Columbus Urban Forestry Master Plan which will be released publicly in late 2020 will introduce Urban Forestry goals for 2030 and beyond, and outline key steps in achieving them.

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: Rosalie Hendon, Strategic Planning & Forestry

**Ambitious**

**Urgent**

**Attainable**

**Clear**

**Measurable**

**Would you suggest tweaking the goal?**

**How?**



# Action 4: Expand Urban Agriculture

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



50 % increase in lbs. produce grown in the City of Columbus\*



3-5 additional regulatory clarifications or updates that support urban agriculture



50 % increase in \$ spent at local farmers markets



## Description

Increase the amount of locally and sustainably produced food in the diets of Columbus residents to reduce reliance on food that has a larger carbon footprint through production and transportation methods.

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: Cheryl Graffagnino

Ambitious

Urgent

Attainable

Clear

Measurable

Would you suggest tweaking the goal?

How?

\*Pending currently determining baseline.

# Action 5: Reduce GHG Emissions

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



**25% Reduction in GHG Emissions Community-wide**



**40% Reduction in GHG Emissions from Municipal Operations**

## Description

Implement the near term goals of the Sustainable Columbus Climate Action Plan and stay on track to meet the City's carbon neutral by 2050 goal by reducing GHG emissions by 25% community-wide and 40% from municipal operations.

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: Alana Shockey

Ambitious

Urgent

Attainable

Clear

Measurable

Would you suggest tweaking the goal?

How?



# Action 5: Increase Residential Waste Diversion

## 2030 Goal

What would success look like in 2030?



**25% residential waste diversion.**



**85% participation in residential recycling**

## Description

Columbus has very successfully managed to put systems in place to divert yard waste and construction and demolition debris, residential recycling participation continues to grow, but overall residential waste diversion rates in 2020 were approximately 7-8%. We want to improve this rate to 25% by 2030.

## Ownership

Who is the primary lead?

Owner: Timothy Swauger

**Ambitious**

**Urgent**

**Attainable**

**Clear**

**Measurable**

**Would you suggest tweaking the goal?**

**How?**

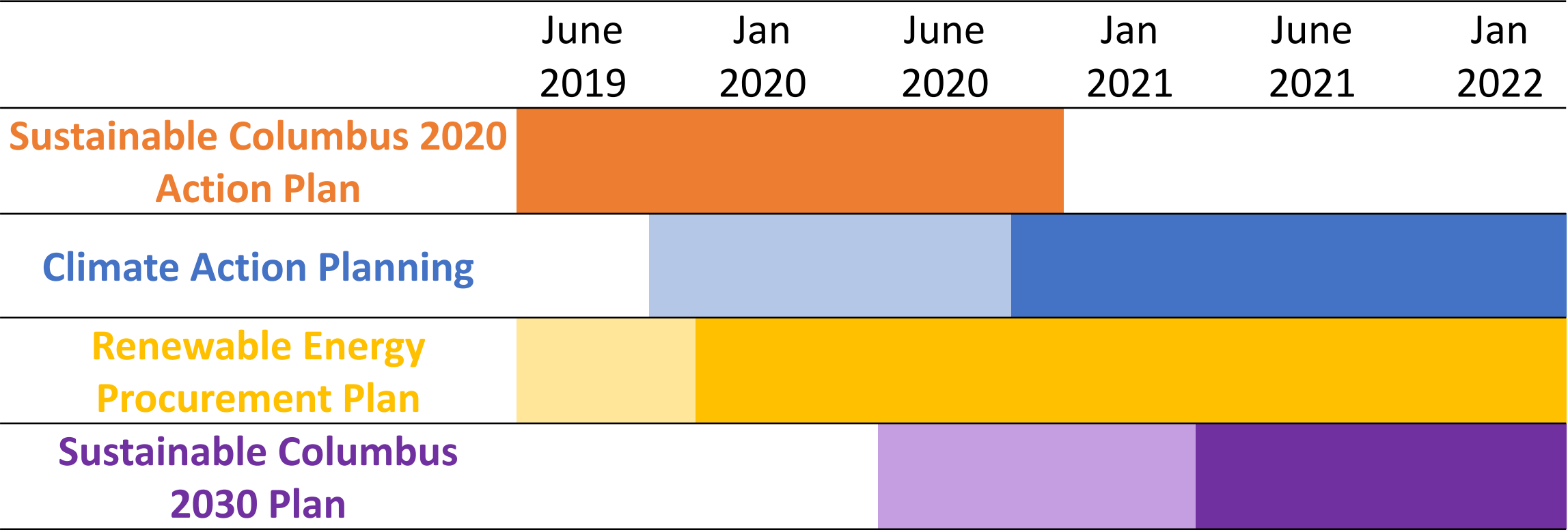




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# Big Picture: Columbus Sustainability Initiatives





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## Department Updates

What's going in the  
Departments?



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➤ Round Robin Partner Updates

➤ Next Meeting: Dec. 3, 2020, 1 p.m. Virtual