

RESOLUTION**OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
CREATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AND ABOLISHING THE BEAUTIFICATION AND
TREE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the City of Bowie has historically supported such environmental issues as smart growth, recycling, green buildings, biological nutrient wastewater management, wildlife habitat preservation, tree preservation and beautification concepts; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing need to focus on environmental issues and to establish new initiatives that address global warming, green infrastructure and sustainable energy concepts; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to involve the community in developing and planning initiatives to improve and protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bowie is fortunate to have among its residents, those with the skills and talents necessary to conceive, plan and develop strategies to address the critical environmental issues of our time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, that an Environmental Advisory Committee is hereby established on the following basis:

Section 1. Purpose and Functions

- A. The purpose of the Environmental Advisory Committee shall be to recommend policies and programs to the City Council relating to the environment.
 1. These policies and programs shall promote a sustainable community through initiatives relating to such issues as natural resource management and development, wildlife and wildlife habitat protection, energy efficiency, watershed stewardship and protection, pollution prevention, beautification, tree canopy preservation, and green policies.
 2. Public education and outreach on these issues shall be an important part of the Committee's mission.

B. The Environmental Advisory Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Assisting in the development of policies, programs and ordinances that could have an impact upon any aspect of the environment;
2. Assisting in monitoring and implementing the City's Environmental Infrastructure Action Plan;
3. Reviewing existing policies, programs, ordinances and open space expenditures to enhance the Green Infrastructure network, the Green Infrastructure Strategy and such future development proposals and public land acquisitions as may be referred to them by Council, and making recommendations upon related environmental implications;
4. Identifying, researching, consulting and bringing forward to the City Council local and global issues that may affect the environment;
5. Soliciting and facilitating public input on matters of environmental significance to the Council;
6. Consulting with, and receiving submissions from, local environmental groups and reporting upon such submissions with recommendations;
7. Increasing awareness of City environmental policy, programs and issues which have an environmental impact by recommending to Council appropriate educational campaigns, public meetings, media articles, etc.;
8. Advising on the design, maintenance and frequent updating of a City database on the natural, built and socio-economic aspects of the City's environment and future environmental health information and indicators;
9. With staff support, assessing the City's progress in achieving goals contained in its Environmental Infrastructure Action Plan for submission to the Council within two years of appointment of its Chairperson and first eight members. The Environmental Infrastructure Action Plan is intended to serve as the primary document guiding the development of environmental initiatives within the City and will serve to identify, prioritize and budget for various environmental initiatives within all City Departments; and
10. Planning and assisting in coordinating the City's annual Arbor Day and Beautification Awards Programs.

Section 2. Membership and Tenure

- A. The Committee shall consist of 12 members. One of the twelve seats on the Committee shall be reserved for a student member.
- B. The student member of the Committee shall be a high school junior or senior or a college student.
- C. Committee members shall be appointed to serve for a term of two years.
- D. Committee members shall be appointed by the City Council. Members should have an interest or expertise in environmental issues. Those with an educational background or career experience in environmental matters are preferred, but such background or experience is not a prerequisite for membership on the Committee.
- E. Once appointed, the Committee shall make a recommendation to the Council on the chairmanship of the Committee. The recommendation must be approved by the City Council.

Section 3. Meetings

The Committee shall establish its own schedule of meetings. The City Clerk shall be notified of the regular meeting schedule for the Committee.

Meetings shall be held in public and shall follow all requirements of the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

Section 4. Rules and Regulations

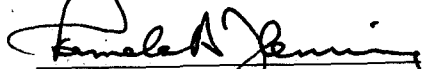
The Committee shall operate under the Rules and Regulations of City Committees as established and amended by City Council Resolution R-16-01.

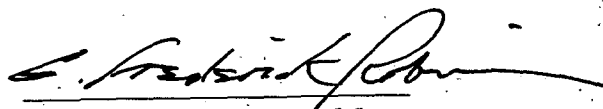
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of Bowie, Maryland, that the Beautification and Tree Preservation Committee is abolished and that its functions are consolidated within the Environmental Advisory Committee being established by this Resolution.

Current members of the Beautification and Tree Preservation Committee are encouraged to seek appointment to the appointment to the new Committee to ensure their continued contributions and continuity of initiatives already established.

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Regular Meeting on October 1, 2007.

WITNESS:


Pamela A. Fleming, City Clerk


G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor