

Environmental Advisory Board

Minutes of August 28, 2024

Members Present:

- **In person:** Dave Schmitt, Kylie Johnson; Savannah Sullivan; Susan Sprigg
- **Virtual:** Andrew Musgrave; Ericka Copeland; Nathan Alley

Members Absent: Ashlee Young; Chad Day; Diana Hodge; Julie Shifman; Rico Blackman; Tanner Yess

Staff Present: Oliver Kroner; Amanda Testerman

Meeting: A meeting of the Environmental Advisory Board was held on August 28, 2024 at 3:00 PM at Centennial II HR Conference Room A, 805 Central Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. **Public Comment**
- II. **Call to Order at 3:04 PM**
- III. **Administrative Action***
 - Approval of July 31, 2024 Meeting minutes with amendment to show Kylie Johnson as attending meeting in-person.
- IV. **Office of Environment and Sustainability Comments**
 - Bloomberg Youth Climate Action Fund Grant – closed 7/15/24, awards to be announced in September
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grant – Cincinnati MSA application not awarded
 - Bloomberg I-team Update – Director and Civic Designer in place and beginning innovation process
 - Green Infrastructure Accelerator – City of Cincinnati and non-profit partners was accepted into the Center for Regenerative Solutions Green Infrastructure Accelerator to learn as a team about how to successfully implement green infrastructure in urban areas.
 - DOE – \$10M grant for four Ohio Cities to implement a Building Performance Standard (BPS) for the most recent building codes. Project is designed to address major barriers to BPS in Ohio by providing direct implementation resources to cities, aligning with energy equity goals, and creating Ohio’s first statewide building resource hub.
 - Federal Highway Administration - \$850K for EV charging in LMI communities
 - i. Sites were determined based on a 2022 study completed by an Environmental Defense Fund fellow.
- V. **Information/Updates**
 - Savannah Sullivan will be absent from the September and October meetings, returning in November. Vice Chair Kylie Johnson will lead these meetings.
 - Futures Commission Report – discussion lead by Nathan Alley
- VI. **Open Discussion**
 - Environment & Sustainability Committee discussion and break-out groups. The board separated into two working groups to continue to discuss GCP actions with a policy-focus which could be visited first for policy recommendations.
 - i. Environment Group (Natural Environment, Resilience & Climate Adaptation, Zero Waste): Actions NE.4/NE.13/NE.15: Engage non-traditional groups in ; Draft comment with policy recommendations on co-benefits. ZW 8: Draft comment for futures commission, determine how to build off of futures commission comment to address zero waste.

- ii. Sustainability Group (Buildings & Energy, City Operations, Community Activation, Food, Mobility): Action BE.1: Energy benchmarking, Building Performance Standards, Electrification Tax Incentives; RECI grant presentation would be helpful for team. Action CA 3: “Support codification of climate justice and racial equity in City decision-making mechanisms.” Determine what are the steps that need to happen to codify climate equity, bringing NCAAP into conversation.

VII. Action Items*

I. Next Meeting

- Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 3:00 PM

II. Adjournment at 4:30 PM