

Capital Projects

Group Goal Objective

- Pursue the construction of a hydropower dam at the Kimball Street Dam

AE 2 1

Education and Marketing

Group Goal Objective

- Organize a program to educate, citizens and businesses about the benefits of energy audits to identify cost effective ROI-based improvements that conserve energy.
- Consider retaining a high profile public relations firm (international in scope) to draft and launch an ongoing campaign that effectively communicates that Elgin is a business and resident friendly location.
- Promote Elgin’s willingness to embrace the business community through custom incentives.
- Promote Elgin Work Keys Program
- Partner with surrounding organizations to develop “green” workforce training opportunities in Elgin
- Produce guidance in sharing with the community-at-large the City’s green buildings, including facts and figures relating to green building technology and energy efficiency.
- Develop a voluntary list identifying existing building stock that meets accepted “green standards.”
- Establish a clearinghouse of contractors, grants and organizations, that can assist in educating the public on green building practices, recycling programs, sustainable building material listings and associations available in the Elgin area.
- Provide information to the local business and development community to assist them in achieving their sustainable building and energy goals.

AE 1 1

ED 1 2

ED 2 1

ED 3 1

ED 4 1

GBT 1 1

GBT 1 2

GBT 1 3

GBT 2 3

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hold workshops on green building and energy efficiency financing mechanisms for all private properties. 	GBT	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote and standardize a building material salvage, reuse and recycling program available to everyone in the region. 	GBT	4	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Educate building owners and occupants in retrofitting, remodeling, and building greener homes. 	GBT	4	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop Project: “Elgin Green Home”, a fully preserved and retrofitted historical home open to the public showcasing all green building principles honored and or established by the city of Elgin and the Sustainability Action Plan. 	GBT	4	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop Project: “Elgin’s Green School” a completed retrofitted public school effective as a learning tool to the community and students. 	GBT	4	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Initiate momentum towards Green remodeling, redesign, retrofit and building citywide, including all building stock existing as well as new owned and leased property. 	GBT	4	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create ongoing education for the general public in the form of programs, as well as reference material, through websites or brochures for residents to refer back to as needed. 	GI	1	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Present 7 educational programs by December 31, 2011 about stormwater best management practices. 	GI	2	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage the creation of a clearinghouse for existing community groups. 	HLCE	1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To showcase educational venues, create others and identify viewable working examples of sustainable practices. 	HLCE	1	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disseminate information about sustainable practices and healthy living to the community through traditional media and other creative marketing resources. 	HLCE	1	6

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

• Within the next two years, develop and implement a comprehensive recycling and waste reduction education program for local businesses.	RWM	1	1
• Create a recycling booklet in addition to Kane County's that instructs residents on what and where certain materials can be recycled in Elgin.	RWM	2	6
• Educate businesses and community residents about the value of using products made from recycled goods.	RWM	3	2
• Encourage local businesses to stock quality products made from recycled goods	RWM	3	3
• Educate the public and businesses on the benefits of alternative forms of transportation and mobility to reduce pollution and energy consumption.	TM	3	1
• Encourage long-term green technology education at local colleges and high schools to include career training.	WR	1	5
• Perform water conservation community outreach to elementary schools by developing a water lesson for 3rd or 4th graders.	WR	1	5
• Improve water consumer awareness of the amount of water they use, in an effort to reduce their water use.	WR	1	6
• Provide water quality information within quarterly newsletters.	WR	2	2
• Provide water quality educational information on water bills.	WR	2	3
• Perform water quality community outreach to elementary schools by developing a water lesson for 3rd or 4th graders.	WR	2	5

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve water quality connection community awareness with symbolic storm sewer castings. 	WR	2	6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discourage the disposal of automotive liquids into storm drains. 	WR	2	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate educational signage into the Riverfront Esplanade project that explains the importance of the Fox River to the city of Elgin. 	WR	2	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote river and local waterway clean-up days. 	WR	3	2

Grant Programs

	Group	Goal	Objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Elgin’s Center City Commercial Retrofit grant program, focusing on thermal efficiency. 	AE	3	1

Green Technology Installations

	Group	Goal	Objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retrofit lighting fixtures and replace bulbs with CFLs or LEDs in public facilities where appropriate. 	GBT	4	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate creation of charging stations for electric vehicles (EV) in an effort to reduce “range anxiety” and make electric vehicle usage more convenient for average citizens. 	TM	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage investment from public and private sectors to add livability infrastructure to encourage use of public transportation (train, bus, vehicle/ride sharing) and non-motorized transportation (walking, biking). 	TM	2	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead by example by installing WaterSense labeled fixtures in community facilities (i.e. Centre, City Hall, etc.) and educate residents of the benefits of water conservation through signage at the facilities. 	WR	1	2

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install xeriscape gardens with signage at high visibility areas (i.e. Centre, City Hall, etc.) and promote native plant usage in all designs. | WR | 3 | 4 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the City’s detention basin retrofit program* which modifies the construction of the outdated detention basins which provide limited to no water quality benefit, to newer designs that incorporate stormwater treatment components | WR | 3 | 5 |

Incentive Programs

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue establishing a volume-based discount program to provide a standardized before/after energy audit, and make the types of improvements that produce the highest energy conservation ROI. | WR | 1 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the opportunity to contract with a solar leasing company for providing photovoltaic solar panels and installation to viable roof surfaces, parking garages, parking lots and buildings in the downtown business district. | AE | 3 | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer subsidized energy audits to property owners. | GBT | 3 | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Elgin based suppliers to allow for homeowners to obtain sustainable building products at a discount. | GBT | 3 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage property owners to use recycled building materials, keeping these materials out of landfills and explore the feasibility of sales tax incentives for green building materials. | GBT | 3 | 3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore fast tracking building permits and/or reduced building permit fees for any property that is pursuing a LEED or Energy Star certification. | GBT | 3 | 5 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage home energy reduction and efficiency by distribution of energy efficiency and resource conservation kits. | GBT | 4 | 4 |

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an incentive program (much like Elgin’s tree bank planting program) which would include detailed instructions that would enable residents to receive sustainable native plants (at a reduced cost) to create rain gardens to reduce residential runoff. 	GI	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of WaterSense labeled water fixtures through the development of a fixture rebate program. 	WR	1	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of automated lawn sprinkling systems that react to the weather conditions (i.e. do no sprinkle when precipitation levels are sufficient). 	WR	1	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop rain garden cost-share program. 	WR	3	3

Monitor Data

	Group	Goal	Objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track the effectiveness of alternative fuel vehicles within the municipal fleet; encourage the use of alternative fuel vehicles. 	AE	4	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue research on alternative and renewable energies 	AE	4	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze existing waterways and surrounding open spaces. 	GI	1	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an assessment of all open space within city limits. 	GI	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze traffic control device functionality to optimize mobility and alleviate congestion. 	TM	2	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate alternative construction materials for a sustainable transportation infrastructure to reduce energy demand and promote environmental stewardship. 	TM	2	2

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

- Research vehicle sharing programs in an effort to reduce traffic congestion, therefore reducing its pollution, economic and health impacts. TM 3 2
- Research resident’s vehicle usage and conditions to gauge willingness to participate in a vehicle sharing program. TM 3 3

New Operational Program	Group	Goal	Objective
• Create a sustainable and green city-wide recognition program within one year of final adoption of the Sustainability Action Plan	HLCE	1	5
• Within the next four years, develop and implement a solid waste franchise to include, at minimum, the Downtown Business District.	RWM	1	2
• Within three - five years implement a year-long curbside pilot program for composting/organics in Elgin.	RWM	2	1
• Implement a city-wide curbside organics collection program within one year after the conclusion of the pilot program.	RWM	2	2
• Host a yearly community recycling day that provides a central drop off center for various recyclable items that cannot cost effectively be collected curbside.	RWM	2	4
• Within 5 years create a permanent central drop off center for all recyclables that cannot be collected curbside. example: medicine, chemicals, oil, etc.	RWM	2	5
• Within two years, implement a recycling education program in local schools to educate students on the importance of recycling, composting and waste reduction.	RWM	2	8
• Develop pharmaceutical recycling program.	WR	2	1

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

- Promote expanded household hazardous waste drop-off locations. WR 2 8

Ordinance Changes

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|---|-------|------|-----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a city ordinance that recommends businesses consider using stormwater best management practices. | GI | 2 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within five years, pass an ordinance requiring local businesses to recycle a minimum of 30% of their waste stream. | RWM | 1 | 3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within two years, pass an ordinance that requires owners of residential properties with 6 or more units to provide on-site recycling service to their residents. | RWM | 2 | 7 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/enhance water conservation ordinance. | WR | 1 | 3 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop water conservation based water rate structure that provides sufficient revenue to fund operational, maintenance and rehabilitation expenses. | WR | 1 | 7 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplement the County/City's stormwater ordinance by adding language that supports the use of green infrastructure such as bioswales, rain gardens, permeable pavers and other best management practices, focusing on the downtown and new developments | WR | 3 | 1 |

Partnership Opportunities

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish network of public/private partnerships to improve ability to obtain local, State, and Federal grants by December, 2012. | GI | 3 | 6 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a network of information between and among the working groups. | HLCE | 1 | 1 |

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

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| • Become a WaterSense partner | WR | 1 | 9 |
| • Maintain memberships, and actively participate, within water quality based organizations (i.e. Friends of the Fox, Fox River Study Group, Fox River Ecosystem Partnership, etc.) | WR | 2 | 10 |

Policy Changes	Group	Goal	Objective
• Look to adopt a “Heat Island” mitigation policy for solar shading strategies. Focusing on streets, parking pavement, the use of cool roofing products for reroofing existing roof surfaces as well as streetscape-paving material with high reflectivity value.	AE	3	2
• Duplicate successful local and regional TIF programs in older Elgin business parks to rejuvenate specific areas into modern sustainable business communities.	ED	2	2
• Review and evaluate Elgin’s building code, energy code and standards to support green building technology and energy efficiency.	GBT	2	4
• Institute a “green” investment program which will encourage local green job creation, education and workforce training initiatives.	GBT	3	6
• Increase percentage of available public areas per capita.	GI	3	1
• Increase accessibility to open areas, bike trails, neighborhood parks, etc.	GI	3	2
• Establish an Urban and Community Forestry Master Plan with urban tree canopy goal by May, 2011.	GI	3	3
• Promote healthy eating habits	HLCE	1	4

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Endorse Kane County’s “Fit Kids 2020 Plan” to help curb childhood obesity in Kane County. 	HLCE	1	7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Within 5-7 years, divert 30% of organics from the waste stream. 	RWM	2	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lead by example by purchasing products manufactured from recycled goods, such as, paper, rubber, plastic products, etc.. In the short term, increase the amount purchased and utilized by 10% every year for 5 years. 	RWM	3	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce Energy Consumption and Pollution from Transportation Operations 	TM	1	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce idling within the municipal fleet and community-at-large. 	TM	1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus on the development of complete neighborhoods organized on a framework of centers, corridors, and green infrastructure. 	UD	1	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus on the development of a highly interconnected ‘complete/context sensitive’ streets network that will provide acceptable levels of safety and convenience for all street users, and convenient linkages to activity centers and other destinations. 	UD	2	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus and guide development of the built environment in a manner that discourages the premature development of prime agricultural lands, creates opportunity for locally grown foods, and conserves important natural resource and cultural features on the landscape. 	UD	3	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce City of Elgin per capita water use by 17% as recommended by Elgin’s Water Master Plan. 	WR	1	8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage proper use of fertilizers and lawns and gardens. 	WR	2	4

City of Elgin Sustainability Action Plan Recommendations by Category

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute recommendations within the City’s Long Term Control Plan with the goal of separating the storm and sanitary sewers in all parts of the City and removing the City’s 4 Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs). | WR | 3 | 6 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement “sensible salting” recommendations to reduce chloride levels within surface waters and the shallow groundwater. | WR | 3 | 7 |

Strategy Development	Group	Goal	Objective
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the median household income in Elgin. | ED | 1 | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop opportunities for other allied businesses to enjoy Elgin incentives. | ED | 4 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a strategy to address the problem areas identified in the existing waterway and surrounding open space analysis. | GI | 1 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide metrics to establish productivity and service standards for maintenance of city owned green infrastructure resources by December, 2012. | GI | 3 | 5 |

Training Opportunities	Group	Goal	Objective
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a sustainability training plan within the next year to infuse an ongoing commitment to the city’s projects, services and outreach contacts connected to the plan, including building and energy practices. | GBT | 2 | 2 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train municipal staff to lower water and energy utility cost and consumption. | WR | 1 | 4 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement employee training workshop program(s) on sustainability. | WR | 2 | 1 |