

**City of Green Bay Sustainability Commission
Renewable Energy Work Plan**

In order to meet our stated goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy, the Sustainability Commission for the City of Green Bay may take the following steps:

- I. Conduct research and compile a white paper report that outlines various considerations towards transitioning to renewable energy that includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Scientific evidence for reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
 - b. Overview of types of renewable energy;
 - c. Define different areas, both at the municipal and community level, that require various forms of energy;
 - d. Define carbon neutrality;
 - e. Discuss energy conservation;
 - f. Economic considerations: the cost of the initial transition vs. the cost of doing nothing, the long-term economic benefits to renewable energy;
 - g. Policy recommendations to meet the scientific needs with consideration to the economic realities.

This report may be presented to the full Sustainability Commission in April, and upon approval sent to Common Council for presentation.

- II. Following the report's presentation and discussion at Common Council, the Sustainability Commission may submit a resolution with stated recommendations with consideration to the feedback from council that outlines our target dates and goals for a transition to renewable energy at the municipal and/or community level.
- III. Enlist the help of UW-Green Bay faculty and students to conduct a study to determine a baseline for greenhouse gas emissions to be used as a reference for any possible carbon reduction goals. This should be started right away, but does not need to be finished prior to the passage of a resolution outlining goals.
- IV. Work with city staff to determine current levels of renewable energy versus other energy sources and identify any existing efforts to transition, cost estimates, and barriers to transition.
- V. Work with WPS to determine current energy sources at the community level, and identify future plans towards transitioning to renewable energy that already exist.
- VI. Solicit feedback from the community on specific possible actions towards transitioning to renewable energy before passing a final resolution. This can include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Commission members reaching out to community organizations, individuals, and other key stakeholders;
 - b. Receiving feedback from partner organizations' sustainability listening sessions by providing them a list of possible recommendations for them to include in any programming;

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- c. Enlisting the help and advice of expert organizations (ex. RENEW Wisconsin);
 - d. Developing and sending out a survey to a random sample of city residents and also making the survey available online for residents of the City about possible solutions;
 - e. Advertise the findings of the white paper and subsequent resolution and encourage public dialogue and civic engagement prior to any policy votes.
- VII. Following the potential passage of a resolution outlining goals towards the transition to renewable energy, the Sustainability Commission may work with city staff and any key stakeholders to develop a Renewable Energy Action Plan that will outline exactly how the municipality and community will make that transition toward any stated goals. This plan may be developed in consultation with third-party consultants, and the commission may identify grant opportunities to fund such plan (including but not limited to the annual grants from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission). The Sustainability Commission will facilitate further community input in this plan.
- VIII. Ensure the inclusion of energy policy, among other sustainability issues, in the city's next comprehensive plan.
- IX. Prior to and following any resolution that states specific goals, the Sustainability Commission may work to identify and recommend any other policy suggestions or programmatic opportunities to encourage the use of renewable energy in the city.
- X. The Sustainability Commission may engage and collaborate with other local and tribal governments in the region, the State of Wisconsin (DNR Green Tier Legacy Community Program), and the federal government (Environmental Protection Agency), higher education (e.g., Northeast Wisconsin Technical College), business and industry to encourage progress towards these goal
- XI. The Sustainability Commission may constantly be identifying funding opportunities from grants, public-private partnerships, possible city budget requests, or any other opportunities that become available.