



Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016

Joint Sustainability Committee

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:

- to advise the council on matters related to conservation and sustainability; and
- review City policies and procedures relevant to the Austin Community Climate Plan, including planning, implementation, community engagement, goal setting, and progress monitoring; and
- promote close cooperation between the council, City management, City boards, commissions, committees, and taskforces, and individuals, institutions, and agencies concerned with the politics, procedures, and implementation of the Austin Community Climate Plan with the goal of coordinating all similar activities within the City and the community in order to secure the greatest public benefit; and
- forward to the city manager all advisory material that the joint committee provides to the council, the Office of Sustainability, City departments and offices, or City boards, commissions, committees, and task forces.

- 1. Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

(Reference all reports, recommendations, letters or resolutions presented to the City Council on mission-specific issues. If some of the elements of the mission statement were not acted on by the board in the past year, the report should explain why no action was taken.)

The first meeting of the Committee was held on March 30, 2016. At this meeting the Committee elected officers, and reviewed the ACCP and discussed future agenda items.

At subsequent meetings, the Committee adopted bylaws, established a meeting schedule, and formed three Working Groups around the themes of the ACCP, Transportation and Land Use, Electricity and Natural Gas, and Materials and Waste Management.

The Working Groups began reviewing the ACCP Phase 1 strategies and providing additional commentary related to implementation of the strategies in the upcoming City budget cycle. We anticipate delivering a brief to City Council in early August.

As of June 30, 2016, the Committee has held three regular meetings. Almost all aspects of the Committee's mission have been discussed as the Committee has gotten underway.

2. Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.

(If any of the board's actions were outside the scope of the mission statement, the report should explain the non-compliance issues.)

All actions to date align with the mission statement of the Committee.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

(Make sure the goals and objectives fall within the mission statement of the board/commission.)

Use the additional commentary from the Working Groups to establish Committee level priorities and to collaborate with various City departments and the City Manager, through the Office of Sustainability staff, on planning and implementation of the ACCP in order to better advise City Council.

Form a committee to focus on the development of a Carbon Impact Statement methodology as recommended in the ACCP.

Work with staff on a plan for coordinating and possibly expanding outreach activities to all community stakeholders about the ACCP and sustainability efforts in general.

Work with staff on ensuring ACCP actions continue to reflect the goals of Imagine Austin and other city-level planning documents.

Work with community stakeholders to update the ACCP to include a section on environmental justice, to include an analysis of inequitable distribution of environmental harms and benefits, and strategies for the equitable implementation of carbon reduction strategies.

Work with staff on investigating local carbon sequestration through biological approaches and/or new technologies as a strategy.