

CITY OF GREEN BAY SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION: Collaborating for a Healthier Community and Future



It's time for us to control our own energy future rather than look to state or national institutions that do not understand our city's specific needs.

By exploring sustainability initiatives, we have a unique opportunity to take the lead in renewable energy markets, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, altering behaviors that contribute to climate change, and creating a healthier, more prosperous city.

We propose forming a citizen Commission on Sustainability that will bring together stakeholders from across the community to work toward common goals. Business, community, and government leaders can together explore and recommend specific solutions that will improve the quality of the city's economic, environmental, and social well-being.

It's time to get excited about our energy future! Together we can pursue innovative solutions to keep Green Bay competitive in the 21st century. These are just a few examples:

- Upgrade public buildings to improve efficiency
- Increase funding for energy efficiency and generation in homes and businesses
- Build community solar projects
- Train for renewable energy jobs
- Craft policies that encourage walking and biking while increasing pedestrian safety
- Achieve 100 percent renewable energy by 2050

Recent polling¹ suggests all of these solutions are very popular across political lines. However, there must be a space for a wide variety of people who work and live in Green Bay to come together to craft responsible and responsive energy decisions for the city. We propose that space is a Commission on Sustainability.

Energy is shifting. Unfortunately, state and national government is unresponsive to the changing landscape. No one knows what is best for Green Bay more than its own citizens. Rather than depending on huge bureaucracies to solve our unique problems, it is time to design our own future.

With a Commission on Sustainability, the city and community of Green Bay can innovate. We can build a future that balances social, economic, and environmental needs for a healthier, safer, and more successful city.

You can help make this happen, here's how: contact your city council member and ask them to support the formation of a citizen Commission on Sustainability for the City of Green Bay.

