

CITY OF BEMIDJI SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Member Expectations

Members should have demonstrated experience and expertise in sustainability practices and efforts.

Member Term and Time Commitment

The term of each Board Member shall be three years. No Board Member may serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. After the initial appointment of original members*, all appointments shall be three-year terms. (**There shall be three initial one year terms, three initial two year terms and three initial three year terms which will be selected through a randomized process.**)

The Commission will meet monthly. Meetings of the Commission are open to the public.

Member Duties

The Commission shall advise the City Council on matters relating to resiliency, sustainability, and green initiatives on city owned or controlled property, as well as property owned or controlled by the BEDA; shall recommend to the City Council best practices, sustainability measures and green initiatives, and shall perform such other duties as the City Council may direct.

The Commission shall develop and implement policies and procedures as necessary, with approval by the City Council, to meet the purpose and objectives of the Commission including, but not limited to resiliency, sustainability, and green initiatives.

The Commission may study and develop standards and guidelines for energy efficiency, sustainability practices and programs, and green initiatives, and recommend the same to the City Council for adoption and implementation.

The Commission shall develop and maintain an inventory of data pertaining to energy efficiency, green initiative requirements, and sustainability practices and programs.

The Commission shall forward to the City Council an annual Sustainability Plan and budget for consideration, including a current list of sustainability projects throughout the City and a report regarding the activities of the Commission and recommended projects.

The Commission may network with community partners on Sustainability matters, and collaborate with the JPB and its staff on planning initiatives, including review and revision of the GBAJPB Comprehensive and Transportation Plans.

Finding and evaluating funding sources for sustainability projects.

In accordance with policies and procedures developed by the Commission and approved by the City Council, the Commission may review and provide advisory recommendations to both the City Council, BEDA, Bemidji Regional Airport, Bemidji/Beltrami Joint Paul Bunyan Transit Board, the Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board (JPB), and other intergovernmental and community partners regarding Sustainability Projects.

Commission may review and provide advisory recommendations to the JPB regarding Sustainability Projects related to conditional or interim use permits, variances, or other permitting or actions requiring approval of and/or issued by the JPB.

Member Conflict of Interest

If a member of the Commission has a conflict of interest with regard to any applicant or proposal, that conflict is to be declared when the applicant or proposal is first discussed. When a conflict of interest occurs, the Commissioner shall refrain from ranking or voting on the applicant or proposal and shall refrain from advocating for the applicant or proposal in any discussion by the Commission.

Member Compensation

Board members will serve without compensation.