

Re: Energy & Sustainability Framework Update
Oct. 28, 2020 City Council Meeting
Submitted by: Shanon Zachidniak

EnviroCollective is appreciative and supportive of this version of the Energy & Sustainability Framework Update. We also greatly appreciate the commitment from city administration to include us on the advisory committee and throughout the planning process. We need to be making plans to improve the sustainability of our entire community and this newest plan can get us closer to the target of a city powered by renewable energy by 2050. We also appreciate that an equity focus is mentioned in the report. It is crucial that our efforts to become a more environmentally sustainable community are going to address the needs of energy workers and marginalized community members. We need to make environmental improvements that will also improve the quality of life for all residents and not simply make life more expensive for folks.

EnviroCollective is a registered non-profit and while we have only existed for two years, we have become a hub for environmental groups and activity within our community. Since our inception, we've always collaborated with other environmental groups and also held space for community members to attend meetings and propose their own ideas for environmental initiatives they would like to see in our community. We strongly believe in the importance of working with existing environmental initiatives and that by working together, we can amplify each other's messages and have a larger impact. On the advisory committee, we will look forward to helping identify community groups and organizations whose perspectives may be missing from the conversation. We are enthusiastic to begin the process of planning a robust Energy & Sustainability Framework.

To wrap up, again I'd like to express appreciation and gratitude to administration and to council for all the effort that has led to this report. We'd like to encourage you all to support the direction of this report. Additionally, in order to be successful with the renewability targets that council unanimously approved and has referred to as a hallmark accomplishment for this council, we need to get started as soon as possible. EnviroCollective is happy to help with that process however we can. Please do not hesitate to let us know how else we can best assist with the continued development of the Energy & Sustainability Framework. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Shanon Zachidniak, EnviroCollective