



Ad Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee Report to the Board of Supervisors



August 27, 2020

EAC Purpose

- The Board of Supervisors created the Ad Hoc Environmental Advisory Committee by Resolution 2019-30 on May 2, 2019.
- The main purpose of the Committee was to recommend strategies in support of the Cranberry Plan.
- The Cranberry Plan identifies Environmental goals in the following sections;
 - 13A – opportunities for open-space preservation
 - 13D – Develop a comprehensive street tree program
 - 14A – Explore opportunities to use natural resources for stormwater management
 - 14B – promote environmental education
 - 14C – Review and update land development regulations related to land preservation
 - 14D – Use of indigenous trees



About the Committee

- A total of 8 meetings were held, starting in July of 2019 and culminating in January 2020.
- Committee was comprised of 10 members from the community with Township staff facilitating each meeting and recording notes and recommendations.
- The overall goal of the Committee was to develop a set of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding environmental matters in the Township.



Topics Discussed at Meetings

- PA Municipalities Planning Code, Cranberry Township's Comprehensive Plan
- Land Development Patterns/Density
- Green Space/open space preservation, buffers & landscaping
- Environmental Regulations
- Zoning & planning origins
- Stormwater and MS4 program
- Municipal carbon footprint, fleet management, public facilities, educational opportunities



EAC Summary

- Recommendations were compiled which spanned many different topics.
- The recommendations are separated into 3 categories;
 - Recommendations that can be achieved in 1 to 3 years
 - Recommendations that can be achieved in 3 to 5 years
 - Recommendations that can be achieved in 5 to 10 years



Recommendations....

EAC Summary of Recommendations

Category 1 (1 to 3 year implementation)

1. Examine changes to the Townships open space and buffer requirements
2. Develop incentive programs for the implementation of environmental quality measures
3. Evaluate and adjust landscaping requirements to ensure that our Ordinances are up to date and proactive
4. Consider the installation of Air Quality Monitors
5. Consider having a Cranberry Township Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration
6. Become a permanent committee that meets on a regular basis, with all original Ad-Hoc members being committee members, in addition to Mike DiMonte being added as a member.

EAC Summary of Recommendations

- **Category 2 (3 to 5 year implementation)**
- Provide education tools/brochures to home buyers for preservation of open space and the importance/best practices for tree preservation.
- Provide educational opportunities in Township Parks ranging from plaques and signs about habitat/species to wildflower/pollinator education programs.
- Provide a Township Styrofoam recycling center.
- Consider creating a “living laboratory” for students to educate others and be educated by professionals.
 - Focus on collaboration between local schools and the Township.

EAC Summary of Recommendations

- **Category 3 (5 to 10 year implementation)**
- Evaluate the possibilities of suggesting and/or requiring certain facilities within the Township to be solar powered. Also consider making this an incentive/credit approach to facilitate the transition to renewable resources.
- Recommend that the CTVFC develop a plan for preventing/addressing forest/vegetation fires and include the following:
 - Cranberry Township be segmented into zones for regular forest fire prevention reviews.
 - Develop escape routes.
 - CTVFC personnel contact fire departments in California and Australia to gain insights into the lessons learned as well as best practices for preventing and fighting forest fires.

Committee Member Comments

Anne Gill

Tim Casey



The EAC Members

Ryan Baptiste

John Burglund

Tim Casey

Anne Gill

Fred Peterson

Honora Rockar

Zachary Sanctis

Ed Sarver

Erma Scarfutti

John Skorupan

Allison Smith

Rodney Smith



THANK YOU

Questions
