

Summary of the Recommendations made by the Environmental Advisory Committee to the Board of Supervisors

Attachment A to Resolution No. 2020-48 Creating the Environmental Advisory Committee as a Standing Committee of the Township

The following recommendations were compiled through the course of eight public meetings which spanned many different topics. Township staff acted in a participatory and facilitating role and has been tasked with compiling the recommendations for the EAC to the Board of Supervisors. The list of recommendations below is broken up into three distinct categories. Category 1 consists of recommendations that can be achieved within 1-3 years, Category 2 consists of recommendations that can be achieved within 3-5 years, and Category 3 consists of recommendations that can be achieved within 5-10 years.

Category 1 (1-3-year implementation)

1. Examine and recommend changes to the Townships open space and buffer requirements
 - a. Consider requiring an even amount of open space per phase in residential development
 - b. Consider making open space more usable and practical in the overall design of the neighborhood
 - c. Require a minimum size area for green and open space areas
2. Develop an incentive program for preservation of buffers and natural resource corridors, tree canopy preservation, and sustainable design that retains natural, history, and cultural resources.
3. Evaluate and adjust landscaping requirements to ensure that our street tree ordinance is correct, indigenous trees are being planted as a certain percentage of overall landscaping, tree preservation fencing is used, riparian buffers are preserved or planted, and examine more bioretention stormwater management practices with water quality measures.
4. Consider the installation of RAMP Air Quality Monitors through Carnegie Mellon University for coordination and partnerships with local schools prior to the completion of the Shell Ethane-Cracker Plant.
5. Consider having a Cranberry Township Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration.
6. Become a permanent committee that meets every other month and as needed, with all original Ad-Hoc members being committee members, in addition to Mike DiMonte being added as a member.

Category 2 (3-5-year implementation)

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

Category 3 (5-10-year implementation)

1. 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.
2. Recommend that the CTVFD develop a plan for preventing/addressing forest/vegetation fires and include the following:
 - a. Cranberry Township be segmented into zones for regular forest fire prevention reviews.
 - b. Develop escape routes.
 - c. CTVFD 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.

Respectfully submitted by the Ad Hoc EAC

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