



DU PAGE COUNTY

Environmental Committee

Final Summary

421 N. COUNTY FARM ROAD
WHEATON, IL 60187
www.dupagecounty.gov

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

8:30 AM

Room 3500A

1. CALL TO ORDER

8:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Sheila Rutledge at 8:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

Member Covert arrived at 8:45 AM.

PRESENT	Cronin Cahill, Evans, Garcia, LaPlante, and Rutledge
LATE	Covert

3. CHAIRWOMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR RUTLEDGE

Chairwoman Rutledge informed the committee that Kay McKeen, Director of SCARCE, was featured in the Naperville magazine. She shared that she recently read in an article that electricity generated from renewables exceeded coal for the first time in 2022.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Barcus with Dark Sky spoke during public comment. Mr. Barcus provided event updates and announced the name change for the agency as Dark Sky and no longer International Dark Sky.

Catherine Franczyk with League of Women Voters reminded the committee of the Plastic Pollution Community Solutions event. The event will host multiple speakers and a roundtable discussion, where the Chairwoman and staff of the Environmental Committee will be participating.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. [23-1355](#)

Environmental Committee Minutes - Regular Meeting - Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Attachments: [Minutes Summary](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Lucy Evans

6. PARENT COMMITTEE APPROVAL

6.A. [EN-R-0015-23](#)

Resolution of Support for the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact

Joy Hinz, Environmental and Sustainability Programs Manager, reviewed the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Greenest Region Compact. The Greenest Region Compact has 49 high level goals with 140 communities having already adopted it. The framework include climate, economic development, energy, land, mobility, municipal operations, sustainable communities, water, waste, and recycling. DuPage County is already working in these areas. Participation in the Greenest Region Compact will enable the county to participate in the Caucus' E.V. Readiness Program and potentially qualify for future sustainability funding.

Attachments: [Greenest Region Compact](#)

RESULT:	APPROVED AT COMMITTEE
MOVER:	Paula Garcia
SECONDER:	Lynn LaPlante

7. DISCUSSION

7.A. [23-1356](#)

Campus Cafeteria Packaging Follow Up

Manager of Support Services, Diane Borske, opened the conversation about the Campus Cafeteria Packaging. The cafeteria campus has changed out containers to eliminate Styrofoam use for a eco-friendly alternative. Recently, the price of Styrofoam has increased by two-fold making the turn over to eco-friendly alternatives easier. However, there is still a need for a 35% increase in budget. Nick Kottmeyer, Director of Public Works, stated that this would require a change order through the County Board out of contingency and the budget for the year 2024 would accommodate for this increase moving forward. Committee members supported this change and budget increase for the Care Center.

Attachments: [Memo for Sustainable Packaging](#)

8. PRESENTATIONS

8.A. Fairgrounds Gardens

Executive Director of The Garden Works Project, Jeannie Iseman, presented. The Garden Works Project is a volunteer-run organization that runs home gardens. They partner with food pantries to donate what is grown in the home gardens to provide fresh produce for those in need. They currently have a garden plot located on county grounds that was developed in 2022 in partnership with the fairgrounds. Within the first year, the volunteers were able to harvest over 1,200 pounds of produce from the plot. Due to expressed interest, The Garden Works Project invites partnership with DuPage County to maintain a vegetation plot. In continuance effort to connect home gardeners with local food pantries, The Garden Works Project has come to a licensing agreement for a mobile app called Fresh Food Connect, that supports a home gardener and provides information on local food pantries that may need their donated extra produce. The

Garden Works Project has an interest in erecting a greenhouse to create a winterized garden to supply local food pantries with fresh produce all year long. In order to fund this project, a \$200,000 grant request would need to be submitted to ARPA if the committee wishes to pursue it. The request would have to go to Finance Committee then County Board for approval. All committee members came to a consensus to support the project.

8.B. SCARCE

Kay McKeen, Director of SCARCE, provided a presentation on current and past events. SCARCE recently toured the Groot sorting facility with teachers and community leaders. They hosted a Waste Audit demonstration and provided updates on Earth Flag ceremonies. They are looking forward to hosting their annual Sustainable Design Challenge. SCARCE received a \$5,000 grant from the DuPage Foundation to repair instruments that are donated.

9. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

10. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 AM.



Minutes

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File #: 23-1355

Agenda Date: 4/4/2023

Agenda #: 5.A.



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Tuesday, March 7, 2023

8:30 AM

Room 3500A

1. CALL TO ORDER

8:30 AM meeting was called to order by Chair Sheila Rutledge at 8:30 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT	Cronin Cahill, Evans, Garcia, LaPlante, and Rutledge
ABSENT	Covert

3. CHAIRWOMAN'S REMARKS - CHAIR RUTLEDGE

Chair Rutledge provided a couple of updates on different topics. She mentioned that the state of Illinois is in the process of banning plastic food foam ware. With regards to Lake Shore Recycle Transfer Station Plan in West Chicago, it has been approved and will move on to the next phase. Due to questions from local officials regarding the train derailment, Chair Rutledge is advising those to contact Chris Snyder, Director of Transportation. There was discussion on the affect the train derailment would have on the environment and how the coalition of townships will be addressing those concerns.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Barcus with International Dark Sky reported the agencies in which he has recently gotten involved with. He added that he recently met with the Zoning Coordinator in DuPage County regarding possible ordinances. Mr. Barcus mentioned the upcoming events he will take part of, including an event held by SCARCE.

Executive Director of SCARCE, Kay McKeen, mentioned the 25 recycling events that are currently scheduled. Ms. McKeen reviewed the SCARCE workshop with local educators on Teachers Institute Day. She mentioned upcoming events to continue educating the public and Earth Flag dates.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.A. [23-1051](#)

Environmental Committee Minutes - Regular Meeting - Tuesday February 7, 2023

RESULT:	APPROVED
MOVER:	Cynthia Cronin Cahill
SECONDER:	Paula Garcia

6. DISCUSSION

6.A. [23-1052](#)

2023 Illinois General Assembly Recycling Legislation

Joy Hinz, Environmental and Sustainability Programs Manager, mentioned three significant recycling bills that are under review to push into the Legislative Committee agenda. The Paint Recycling bill will apply an eco-fee on every can of paint that is sold in Illinois and applied toward recycling it. Like the previous bill, the Carpet Stewardship bill will include a fee that will be applied to the cost of the carpet to properly recycle the material afterwards. The third bill is the Packaging and Paper Stewardship Act. The next step for the Packaging and Paper Stewardship Act is to have an amendment be filed and receive feedback from stakeholders.

7. STAFF REPORTS

7.A. Arbor Day Event

Joy Hinz, Environmental and Sustainability Programs Manager, announced an event that will be opened to the DuPage County and the DuPage County Health Department employees in recognition of Arbor Day. The event will be held on April 28th, 2023 in the atrium, a few days in advance of Arbor Day, to allow employee participation. During this event, employees will be provided a tree or shrub and be educated on the benefits, proper planting, and continuous care of the tree or shrub. The expected cost is to not exceed \$600, with an expectation of purchasing a total of about 500 trees or shrubs from an in-state nursery.

7.B. 2023 Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Propane Tank Recycling Partnership

Environmental Specialist, Austin Knight, announced the return of the DuPage County Propane Tank Recycling Program in partnership with the Forest Preserve District. In previous effort to recycle propane tanks from local campgrounds, a crate was temporarily placed for those camping onsite. Roughly 35 lbs was collected from the Blackwell Forest Preserve Campgrounds last year. The propane tank collection crate will be returned to the campsite in late April to early May 2023 for camping season.

8. OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 AM.



Environmental Resolution

421 N. COUNTY FARM
ROAD
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File #: EN-R-0015-23

Agenda Date: 4/4/2023

Agenda #: 6.A.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE METROPOLITAN MAYORS CAUCUS' GREENEST REGION COMPACT

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus provides a forum for the chief elected officials of the Chicago region to develop consensus and act on common public policy issues and multi-jurisdictional challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' participating Mayors and their communities have a history of environmental stewardship, including energy efficiency, water conservation, urban forestry, and participation in Clean Air Counts; and

WHEREAS, it is important for local governments throughout the United States to take leadership roles to advance sustainability, both in their own communities and in concert with regional, national, and global initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus created the Greenest Region Compact to address environmental sustainability issues of global importance at the local level; and

WHEREAS, the Greenest Region Compact synthesizes sustainability goals already adopted by leading communities in the region, and these consensus goals align with common regional, state, national, and global objectives; and

WHEREAS, the consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact will guide coordinated efforts toward enhanced quality of life for residents, protection and stewardship of the environment, and sustainable economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, DuPage County has a long history of environmental stewardship, including approving the Environmental Responsibility and Conservation Policy and the Cool Counties Commitment - now known as Cool DuPage; supporting International Dark Skies and the DuPage Monarch Project; and partnering on the Chicago Region Trees Initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that DuPage County supports the Greenest Region Compact proposed by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and agrees to work to achieve them, both in DuPage County and in collaboration with the region.

Enacted and approved this 11th day of April, 2023 at Wheaton, Illinois.

DEBORAH A. CONROY, CHAIR
DU PAGE COUNTY BOARD

Attest: _____

JEAN KACZMAREK, COUNTY CLERK



Greenest Region Compact

COLLABORATING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The member municipalities of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus seek a vibrant, sustainable future for their communities and the greater Chicago region. The consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact aim for enhanced quality of life for residents; protection and stewardship of the environment and sustainable economic vitality.

To become the most sustainable and successful region in the United States, they, therefore, support the following consensus goals of the Greenest Region Compact and agree to work to achieve them, both in their own communities and in collaboration throughout the region:



Climate

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Maintain clean and healthful air
- Develop resiliency to climate change impacts
- Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation



Economic Development

- Promote innovation and a competitive workforce
- Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses



Energy

- Use energy for buildings and facilities efficiently
- Advance renewable energy
- Reduce energy consumption
- Enact policies that support clean energy
- Engage the community in clean energy practices



Land

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems
- Support networks of accessible, well-used, and enjoyable parks
- Sustain a robust urban forest canopy
- Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services
- Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies
- Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community



Mobility

- Support safe and effective active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
- Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices



Municipal Operations

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability



Sustainable Communities

- Promote cultural vibrancy in the community
- Foster a culture of health, safety, and wellness
- Increase access to sustainably grown local food
- Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable
- Promote a sustainable identity for the community
- Ensure local policies and codes support sustainability
- Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability



Waste & Recycling

- Support sustainable material management
- Recycle materials across all sectors
- Divert waste from landfills
- Enact policies that cause sustainable material management
- Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling



Water

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship



**Greenest
Region
Compact**



Informational

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File #: 23-1356

Agenda Date: 4/4/2023

Agenda #: 7.A.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Environmental Committee

FROM: Diane Borske, Manager of Support Services
Mario Plata, Dining Services Manager

DATE: 3/27/2023

RE: Dining Services – Cafeteria Packaging Study

The three cafeterias on the DuPage County campus have historically used foam, single use food containers and cups to serve our customers. Foam containers and cups are readily available from our vendors and have been the most cost-effective product. The foam products hold food temperatures well; however, they are not friendly to our environment.

The current trend toward sustainability and guidance from our DuPage County Board members have prompted the Dining Services team to review more sustainable options. Supply chain issues and very high costs were significant issues in prior reviews. Over the past 6 months the supply chain has shown improvement and sustainable product costs have gone down. At the same time, the cost of foam containers and cups have gone up more than twofold since the start of the pandemic. Last week the Illinois House passed legislation that would phase out foam products for retail establishments. If passed by the Senate and signed by the Governor, this ban will take effect on January 1, 2024.

The Dining Services Department has been trialing an alternative recyclable clear plastic (#5) container. The proposed containers maintain temperatures well, allow for better food presentation and improve efficiency during the checkout process. Styrofoam cups will be changed to paper hot and cold cups.

The following charts compare the cost of the foam products that have been used versus the proposed sustainable alternatives. The alternative recyclable products will increase the Department's costs by 35%.

Current Supplies	Price/Case	Price/Each
Container, 9x9" foam, 150 ct.	\$27.22	\$0.18
Container, 6x6" foam, 2/75 ct.	\$61.54	\$0.12
Bowl, 10 oz. foam, 20/50 ct.	\$64.24	\$0.06
Lid for foam bowl, 10/100 ct.	\$38.41	\$0.04
Cup, 20 oz. foam, 20/25 ct.	\$40.30	\$0.08
Lid for foam cup, 12/85 ct.	\$115.14	\$0.11

Proposed Supplies	Price/Case	Price/Each
Container, 8x8" clear plastic, 2/75 ct.	\$40.04	\$0.27
Container, 6x6" clear plastic, 4/75 ct.	\$50.97	\$0.17
Bowl, 8 oz paper w/ plastic lid, 10/25 ct.	\$62.73	\$0.25
Cup, 20 oz paper hot, 15/40 ct.	\$81.95	\$0.14
Cup, 20 oz paper cold poly-coated, 24/50 ct.	\$128.84	\$0.11
Lid for hot cup, 12/85 ct.	\$43.40	\$0.04
Lid for cold cup, 12/100 ct.	\$67.98	\$0.06
Sleeve for hot cup, 1300 ct.	\$58.01	\$0.04

The FY2023 budget for Dining Services Operating Supplies is \$117,503. Based on the current prices, a 35% increase for more sustainable supplies would require an additional \$41,126 annually.

The Dining Services team is looking for guidance from the County Board on the proposed products and the correlating increase in cost.

It is the goal of the DuPage Care Center to provide the highest quality of services to our customers, while being good stewards to our environment.

Thank you for your consideration and guidance.