



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM

City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of the 01-15-25 meeting minutes
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Research on LEED for Cities and Communities
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
- 7. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

(3-Minute Limit)
- 8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
- 9. NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, 03-12-25 AT 6:00PM**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION 01-15-25
MEETING MINUTES (PREPARED 01-28-25)
PAGE 1 OF 3

Date: Wednesday, 01-15-25

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Conference Room on 10th floor of City Hall, 161 W Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan

I. Call to Order *Chairperson Kazmier called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.*

II. Roll Call

Present: *Commissioner Kelli Kazmier (Chair)*
Commissioner Jane Flores
Commissioner Andrew Johnson

Absent: *Commissioner Kelsey Heck Wood*
Commissioner Samantha Kloos

Staff: *Jeffrey Crow, City of Jackson Engineering*

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the agenda as presented approved unanimously.

IV. Approval of the minutes for the 11-20-24 meeting

Motion made by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes for the 11-20-24 meeting as presented approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

i. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus

Commissioner Kazmier presented an overview of the "LEED for Cities and Communities" documents attached to the agenda, followed by a review of the scoring categories for certification. She mentioned that the City may already have a non-zero score in some categories. She briefly discussed the scoring potential of each category as 1) possibly already having points, 2) points that could be easily achieved through an ordinance or by low time and cost , and 3) categories that would be difficult or costly and time intensive to achieve.

Commissioner Kazmier requested and Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Flores agreed that each will individually review the "LEED for Cities and Communities" documents and provide feedback at the next meeting.

Commissioner Kazmier suggested and Mr. Crow agreed that Mr. Crow will provide available City information as needed to support the review process when identifying achievable opportunities in the scoring categories.

Commissioner Johnson provided a paper copy of the Commission's "Composition" within Division 10, Sec. 2-368 of Article II, Chapter 2 of the City of Jackson, Michigan Code of Ordinances. He discussed the need to fill the currently vacant ex-officio positions to boost manpower for achieving the Commission's goals.

Commissioner Johnson requested and Mr. Crow agreed that Mr. Crow will include an Environmental Commission membership summary in the next agenda packet.

Commissioner Kazmier requested and Mr. Crow agreed that Mr. Crow will provide an update on the Environmental Action Plan previously submitted to the City for review.

ii. Committee assignments

Not discussed; designated assignments are within i. Prioritization of issues for Commission focus.

VI. New Business

- i. Election of Officers*
 - a) Chair*
 - b) Vice Chair*
 - c) Secretary*

Motion made by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to select Commissioner Kazmier as Chair, Commissioner Johnson as Vice Chair, and Mr. Crow as Secretary for calendar year 2025 approved unanimously.

VII. Citizen Comments

None.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

None.

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, 02-12-25 at 6:00pm

X. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Flores to adjourn approved unanimously. Meeting ended at 7:10 pm.

CITY OF JACKSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

161 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49201

January 21, 2025

Jeff Crow, Engineering
City of Jackson
161 W Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

RE: LEED for Cities Information Base, Part I

Toward our goal of transitioning the City of Jackson to a more sustainable future, we are interested in pursuing an informal and preliminary assessment of our current status as a community on a range of issues. As a part of this memo, I have included specific questions to facilitate information gathering.

Green Building Policy and Incentives

1. Are there any current formal or informal policies or incentives regarding green building construction or certification for city-owned or privately-owned buildings? If so, what are they?
2. Are any existing city-owned/operated buildings above 5000 square feet current registered as LEED, EDGE, or other green building rating system certified? If so, what percentage of total?

Green Spaces

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying publicly accessible green space as a percentage of total city area. If so, what is this value?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of city residents that live within walking distance of a green space (1/2 mile/800 meter radius). If so, what is this value?

Light Pollution Reduction

1. Do we have a lighting ordinance? Are there any current formal or informal policies regarding street and/or public lighting? If so, can this information be provided to us for review?
2. Do new streetlights conform with IES's TM-15-11 "BUG" classification? Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of streetlighting that conforms to these standards. If so, what is this value?

Compact, Mixed Use, and Transit Oriented Development

1. Do we have a compact and complete center as defined by any of the following: a location that within ½ mile walking distance has a minimum residential density of 12 units /acre, non-residential density of 0.8 FAR, Walk score and Transit score of at least 70, at least 2 transit stops from different routes served by at least 71 weekday trips and 30 weekend trips and has access to civic buildings, a major employment center, urban parks, or other important destinations?

Safe, Multimodal Accessibility

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of population within ½ mile walking distance of high frequency transit? If so, what is this value?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of population that uses pedestrian/bike to commute to work? If so, what is this value?
3. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying both pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities and severe injuries? If so, what is this value?

Clean Transportation

1. Are there any current formal or informal policies or incentives regarding development of electric vehicle charging for commercial, multiunit residential, or single-family residential properties? If so, what are they?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of municipal fleets and school buses that are currently electric vehicles? If so, what is this value?
3. Are there any current plans to transition municipal fleets or school buses toward electric vehicles? If so, what are they?
4. What percentage of public parking spaces contain electric vehicle supply equipment at level 2 or greater? Does the number of private and public electric vehicle charging stations exceed 1.07/10,000 residents?

Priority Development Sites

1. Are there any current formal or informal policies, guidelines, or incentives regarding designation or preservation of historically significant buildings, districts, or cultural sites? If so, what are these?
2. Do we have an existing inventory for priority infill of previously developed, brownfield, greyfield, or sites otherwise prioritized for development? Are there any current formal or informal policies, guidelines, or incentives regarding development of these sites? If so, what are they?

Water Access and Quality

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying percentage of habitable structures within the city that have access to public water supply and wastewater collection systems including wells and septic systems? If so, what are these values?
2. Are we compliant with local, state, and national regulations for contaminants in drinking water pipes within the last year?
3. Are we compliant with US EPA's NPDES program of the CWA for 100% of wastewater generated and stormwater pollution from industrial and municipal sources within the last year?

Water Performance

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying per capita domestic water consumption within the city for an entire year within the last 5 years? If so, what are these values?

Integrated Water Management

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the total water available for use by the city? If so, what are these values?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the total water demand for buildings, and landscaping for the past 12 months? If so, what are these values?
3. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the total amount of water supplied for the past 12 months broken down by source including freshwater, treated waste water, harvested waste water, and desalinated water? If so, what are these values?

Smart Water Systems

1. Do we routinely or have we recently conducted a water audit to quantify water use, identify means of improving water efficiency, and discover losses, leaks, and infiltration?
2. Have we adopted automation of water supply system for efficient operation, data collection, and monitoring?

Sincerely,



Kelli Kazmier
Environmental Commission Chair

CITY OF JACKSON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

161 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, JACKSON, MICHIGAN 49201

January 21, 2025

Jeff Crow, Engineering
City of Jackson
161 W Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

RE: LEED for Cities Information Base, Part II

Toward our goal of transitioning the City of Jackson to a more sustainable future, we are interested in pursuing an informal and preliminary assessment of our current status as a community on a range of issues evaluated by the LEED for Cities and Communities program. As a part of this memo, I have included specific questions to facilitate information gathering. I understand that this will be a significant undertaking, so please just complete and report back as you are able.

Power Access, Reliability, and Resiliency

1. Do all buildings within the city have access to electricity?
2. Is there a system to continuously monitor and record disruptions for the complete electricity distribution network?
3. Is there a system to identify critical loads and essential city-owned/operated service providers? Does the city have an effective system in place to provide backup power to these facilities during outages or disasters?

Energy Efficiency

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the percentage of city's heating, cooling, and electric load or demand supplied by a district energy system (not community-wide) excluding single family residential? If so, what are these values?
2. Are there any current formal or informal policies or incentives regarding energy efficiency? If so, what are they?

Renewable Energy

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the percentage of city's total energy consumption originating from renewable sources including solar RP, wind, geothermal, hydro, or biomass? If so, what are these values?

Demographic and Social Equity Assessment

1. Has the city conducted a demographic and social equity assessment to map access to social infrastructure, assets and services by age, race/ethnic, and other prominent sociocultural designations? If so, where can this assessment be found?

Quality of Life Performance

1. Has the city conducted a quality of life assessment to indicate educational attainment, median gross rent, Gini coefficient, median household income, unemployment rate, AQI, and violent crime for its residents? If so, where can this assessment be found?

Social Services and Infrastructure

1. Has the city conducted a community needs assessment to identify priority social services and infrastructure needs? If so, where can this assessment be found?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying number of social infrastructure assets or services accessible to each neighborhood/ward? If so, what are these values?
3. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the percentage of residents that live within a 1 mile radius of a community venue that is open to the public and offers free services and events? If so, what are these values?

Economic Growth and Opportunity

1. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying median earnings of the total population and as distributed by gender and race/ethnicity? If so, what are these values?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying educational attainment of the total population and as distributed by gender and race/ethnicity? If so, what are these values?
3. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying unemployment rate of the total population and as distributed by gender and race/ethnicity? If so, what are these values?

Housing and Transportation Affordability

1. Has the city conducted a housing needs assessment to identify issues with affordability, diversity of housing stock, ownership type, demographics, fair housing practices, and displacement risks? If so, where can this assessment be found?
2. Do we have or could we easily obtain information quantifying the percentage of households that spend less than 45% of their income on housing and transportation combined? If so, what are these values?
3. Are new affordable housing units being produced at an annual rate of 5% or more?
4. Are the number of subsidized affordable housing units equal to more than a baseline year set no more than 5 years prior?

Civil and Human Rights

1. Does this City have a policy-based mission statement that promotes discrimination-free quality of life for employment, housing, and public accommodations on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, marital or familial status and gender identity or expression?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli Kazmier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and 'Z'.

Kelli Kazmier
Environmental Commission Chair

Jackson LEED for Cities Informal Roadmap (Complete, close to complete, very doable, or actively working on)

I. Integrative Process

a. LEED for Cities Team

- i. Status: No team compiled. Environmental Commission could meet requirements with the right composition. Probably long-term goal to formalize with City Staff. But informally, we could act as team.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

b. LEED for Cities Roadmap Development

- i. Status: No formal Roadmap, but Environmental Commission is completing preliminary work toward this end. Probably long-term goal to formalize with City Staff. But informally, we this document could act as roadmap.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

c. Sustainability in Planning

- i. Status: This statement probably needs to formally originate from the City Manager's office. However, environmental action plan seeks to provide guidelines for staff and council.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

d. Stakeholder and Public Engagement

- i. Status: Another statement from the city required. Probably once we are more advanced in the process this will be an easy lift.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

II. Natural Systems

a. Green Building Policy and Incentives

- i. Status: I consider some of the policy doable in the near term. It is possible that we already have some of these requirements. I have requested information about green building policies and inventory from city staff.
- ii. Future Plan: Make a request to city to make new construction undertaken by city to be green building certified. Request that existing buildings be registered and certified where appropriate. Request that structural and financial incentives for green building are enacted in the city.

b. Ecosystem Assessment

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

c. Green Spaces

- i. Status: I believe that we are moving on this issue with the Tree Canopy Survey initiative. It is possible that we already have some of these requirements. I have requested information about accessibility of green spaces from city staff and expect regular updates regarding urban forestry going forward.
- ii. Future Plan: Once we have information bases, we can assess access to green space and make recommendation to the city to increase to idealized levels. We also plan to request the development of an urban forest master plan once tree canopy survey is complete. We also plan to make recommendations to increase urban forest cover.

d. Natural Resources Conservation and Restoration

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

e. Light Pollution Reduction

- i. **Status:** I consider some of the policy doable in the near term. It is possible that we already have some of these requirements. I have requested information about lighting policies and inventory from city staff.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Make a request to city to adopt a policy/ordinances for street lighting and public lighting that conforms to guidelines outlined in LEED for cities descriptions.

f. Resilience Planning

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

III. Transportation and Land Use

a. Transportation Performance

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

b. Compact, Mixed Use, and Transit Oriented Development

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I think we might be close to these standards due to our small size.
- ii. **Future Plan:** I suspect that downtown already fulfills our requirements. If not, we might ask for modifications that allow us to qualify for a compact and complete center downtown. Then we will ask for a commitment to ensure population and job growth happens in this center.

c. Safe, Multimodal Accessibility

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I think we might be close to these standards due to our small size.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to increase public transportation ridership and accessibility to and feasibility of sidewalk/bike lane-based transportation.

d. Clean Transportation

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I think we might be close to these standards due to our small size.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to increase access to electric vehicle charging stations and to transition municipal fleet to electric vehicles.

e. Mobility Management

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

f. Priority Sites

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to address historic preservation and infill incentives.

IV. Water Efficiency

a. Water Access and Quality

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with maybe a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
- ii. **Future Plan:** I suspect no action will be necessary as we likely meet all requirements.

- b. **Water Performance**
 - i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to water usage.
- c. **Integrated Water Management**
 - i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to decrease reliance on freshwater resources.
- d. **Stormwater Management**
 - i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.
- e. **Smart Water Systems**
 - i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to increase water system efficiency.

V. **Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- a. **Power Access, Reliability, and Resiliency**
 - i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a little bit of policy. I suspect we already meet these requirements.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to ensure electricity access and power grid resiliency.
- b. **Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
 - i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.
- c. **Energy Efficiency**
 - i. **Status:** I believe that we are moving on this issue with the Veregy Energy audit. I expect routine updates from city staff about energy efficiency moving forward.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information bases, we plan to support development of local alternative energy sources and energy conservation approaches.
- d. **Renewable Energy**
 - i. **Status:** I believe that we are moving on this issue with the Veregy Energy audit. I expect routine updates from city staff about energy efficiency moving forward.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for policy to incentivize development of renewable energy sources and utilization.
- e. **Net-Zero Carbon and Climate Action**
 - i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.
- f. **Grid Harmonization**
 - i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
 - ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

VI. Materials and Resources

a. Solid Waste Management

- i. **Status:** I believe that we are moving on this issue with the Waste Management Assessment Team. It is possible that we already have some of these requirements. I expect regular updates regarding waste management going forward.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information bases, we can advocate for sustainable waste management services.

b. Waste Performance

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

c. Special Waste Streams Management

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

d. Responsible Procurement

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

e. Material Recovery

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

f. Smart Waste Management Systems

- i. **Status:** This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. **Future Plan:** No immediate plan for progress.

VII. Quality of Life

a. Demographic and Social Equity Assessment

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering with a statement. I suspect we may already have this information or could collaborate with REC to get it.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for plans to address inequities in future development.

b. Quality of Life Performance

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering. I suspect we may already have this information.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for plans to address quality of life improvements.

c. Social Services and Infrastructure

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering. I suspect we may already have this information.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for plans to address issues with social service access.

d. Economic Growth and Opportunity

- i. **Status:** This is mostly information gathering. I suspect we may already have this information.
- ii. **Future Plan:** Once we have information requested, we can ask for plans to address issues with economic inequality.

e. Environmental Justice

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

f. Housing and Transportation Affordability

- i. **Status: This is mostly information gathering. I suspect we may already have this information.**
- ii. **Future Plan: Once we have information requested, we can ask for plans to address issues with housing and transportation affordability.**

g. Public Health

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

h. Educational Opportunity and Attainment

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

i. Civil and Human Rights

- i. **Status: This is mostly information gathering. I suspect we may already have this information.**
- ii. **Future Plan: I suspect no future action will be needed.**

VIII. Innovation

a. Innovation

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.

b. Regional Priority

- i. Status: This is a major initiative that I think we should ask the city for after they have completed Urban Forestry, Energy Audits, and Waste Management Initiatives.
- ii. Future Plan: No immediate plan for progress.