



EST. 1955

SPRING VALLEY

V I L L A G E

**Special Called
City Council Meeting
December 15, 2020
5:00 p.m.**

Marcus Vajdos, Mayor
Bo Bothe
Tom Donaho

Allen Carpenter, Mayor Pro Tem
David Dominy
Joy McCormack



Notice is Hereby Given of a Special Called Meeting of the City Council City of Spring Valley Village, Texas, 1025 Campbell Road, Spring Valley Village, Texas, in the Council Chambers, Tuesday, December 15, 2020, beginning at 5:00 p.m., For the Purpose of Considering and Acting upon the Following Items of Business:

In accordance with order of the Office of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City Council of Spring Valley Village will conduct the meeting scheduled at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 1025 Campbell Road, in part by telephone conference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The meeting agenda and agenda packet are posted online at www.springvalleytx.com.

The video link to this meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89539648406>

The public toll-free dial-in numbers to participate in the telephonic meeting are 1-346-248-7799 (Houston), 1-253-215-8782 (US), and 1-301-715-8592 (US); enter the Meeting ID:895 3964 8406 and #.

The public will be permitted to offer public comments as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting.

An audio recording of the meeting will be made, and will be available to the public in accordance with the Open Meetings Act upon written request.

- 1. CALL THE ROLL AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT**
- 2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION CONCERNING:** Contents and Formal Adoption of Sustainability Initiative.
- 3. ADJOURNMENT**

Agenda items may not necessarily be considered in the order that they appear. With regard to any item, Council may take various actions, including but not limited to rescheduling an item in its entirety or for particular action at a future date or time.

I certify that a copy of the December 15, 2020 agenda of items to be considered by City Council was posted on or before the 10th day of December, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Attest:


Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, CPM, CMCC
City Secretary

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. To better serve attendees, requests for accommodations or interpretive services should be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact the City Secretary's office at 713-465-8308, Fax 713-461-7969, or Email secretary@springvalleytx.com for further information.

**Spring Valley Village City Council
Agenda Item Data Sheet**

MEETING DATE: December 15, 2020

TOPIC: **Discussion and Direction Concerning Contents and Formal Adoption of Sustainability Initiative**

BACKGROUND: During the May 21, 2019 meeting, the City Council discussed a proposed Sustainability Initiative as presented by Council Member Donaho, and the consensus from the Council was to proceed in developing the proposed project. Over the next few months, Council Member Donaho, City Administrator Julie Robinson, and Assistant to the City Administrator Matthew Hitt discussed and collaborated on various City projects that could be or had been accomplished that would implement different concepts contained in the draft Sustainability Initiative, and Council Member Donaho provided an update to the Council on our progress during the October 15, 2019 meeting.

While the Council has talked in general about the concept of the proposed Sustainability Initiative, there has been little discussion about what implementation actually looks like.

An adopted Sustainability Initiative would serve not only as a guide for City operations, actions, regulations, and policies, but also a vision for the long-term environmental health and resiliency of the City as a whole. It will be a long-term planning document that includes the Spring Valley Village Sustainability Initiative front-end material, an Environmental Action Plan with sections for each of the six categories of broad goals, specific objectives/items that would work toward achieving each of the broad goals, and proposed action items for achieving the identified objectives. We would also develop organizational metrics to measure results over time.

Like the City's other long-term planning documents, the Sustainability Initiative would be a living policy document that is continually reviewed and updated and taken into consideration by City Staff, elected and appointed officials, and City consultants to ensure that the vision established therein is consistently pulled through with regard to projects, programs, policies, regulations, and events.

Provided with this agenda item are:

- The Spring Valley Village Sustainability Initiative front-end material.
- A Proposed Environmental Action Plan ("EAP") spreadsheet with the six categories of broad goals and objectives and action items for each of the six categories. The spreadsheet

**Spring Valley Village City Council
Agenda Item Data Sheet**

also provides information about what has been accomplished for each of the action items to date.

We would like direction from the Council concerning the following related to the EAP:

- Objectives/Action Items That Have Not Been Accomplished Yet: Does Council wish to keep these Objectives/Action Items in the EAP? Are there additional action items that should be added for these objectives?
- What other objectives and action items should be included in the EAP?

Once Council has provided direction as requested, then the EAP will be developed and a complete document will be presented to the City Council at a future meeting for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff requests direction from the Council as outlined above.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Spring Valley Village Sustainability Initiative Front-End Material
- Proposed Environmental Action Plan Spreadsheet

FUNDING ISSUES:

Not applicable – no dollars are being spent or received.

Full amount already budgeted in Acct/Project# _____

Not budgeted, if approved, the following will be included in the next Budget Amendment:

\$_____ from Acct/Project# _____ will be transferred to Acct/Project# _____

\$_____ from unassigned fund balance will be used and added to Acct/Project# _____

\$_____ will be added to Revenue Acct# __-__ and \$_____ added to Expenditure Acct/Project# _____

FINANCE VERIFICATION OF FUNDING:

Julie M. Robinson

SUBMITTING STAFF MEMBER:
Julie M. Robinson, City Administrator

CITY ADMINISTRATOR APPROVAL:
Julie M. Robinson

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Spring Valley Sustainability Initiative

The City of Spring Valley Village (“the City”) is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and to providing leadership in the community for residents and businesses who wish to join in this effort. To that end, the City has identified a number of objectives (below) that it believes can be accomplished through policy, regulations, programs, and/or public engagement. The Spring Valley Sustainability Initiative is a commitment to accomplishing those objectives.



Objectives

- Support and promote municipal and community-wide energy conservation
- Investigate opportunities for the increased use of renewable energy resources
- Expand opportunities for residents and businesses to recycle
- Ensure the quality and resilience of Spring Valley’s water supply
- Preserve and enhance Spring Valley’s urban tree canopy and open spaces
- Increase urban agricultural opportunities for residents
- Identify and support community improvement projects
- Provide residents with tools to reduce their impact on the environment and improve their community
- Develop communications strategy to better inform the residents about Spring Valley’s environmental policies and initiatives
- Solicit community feedback on how the City can be a better steward of the community’s land and resources
- Raise awareness in the community about the importance of conservation and protecting our local environment

Environmental Action Plan

In order to accomplish the Objectives set forth herein, the City has created an Environmental Action Plan (“EAP”). The EAP will serve as the City’s blueprint for sustainable and environmentally responsible growth and operations. The planning document addresses six (6) categories, including:

- Energy
- Land Use
- Water
- Recycling
- Transportation
- Community Awareness Projects

With respect to each category, the EAP establishes: (1) broad goals; (2) specific objectives; and (3) proposed actions or initiatives. The objectives and actions may, where necessary, provide metrics to measure results over time.

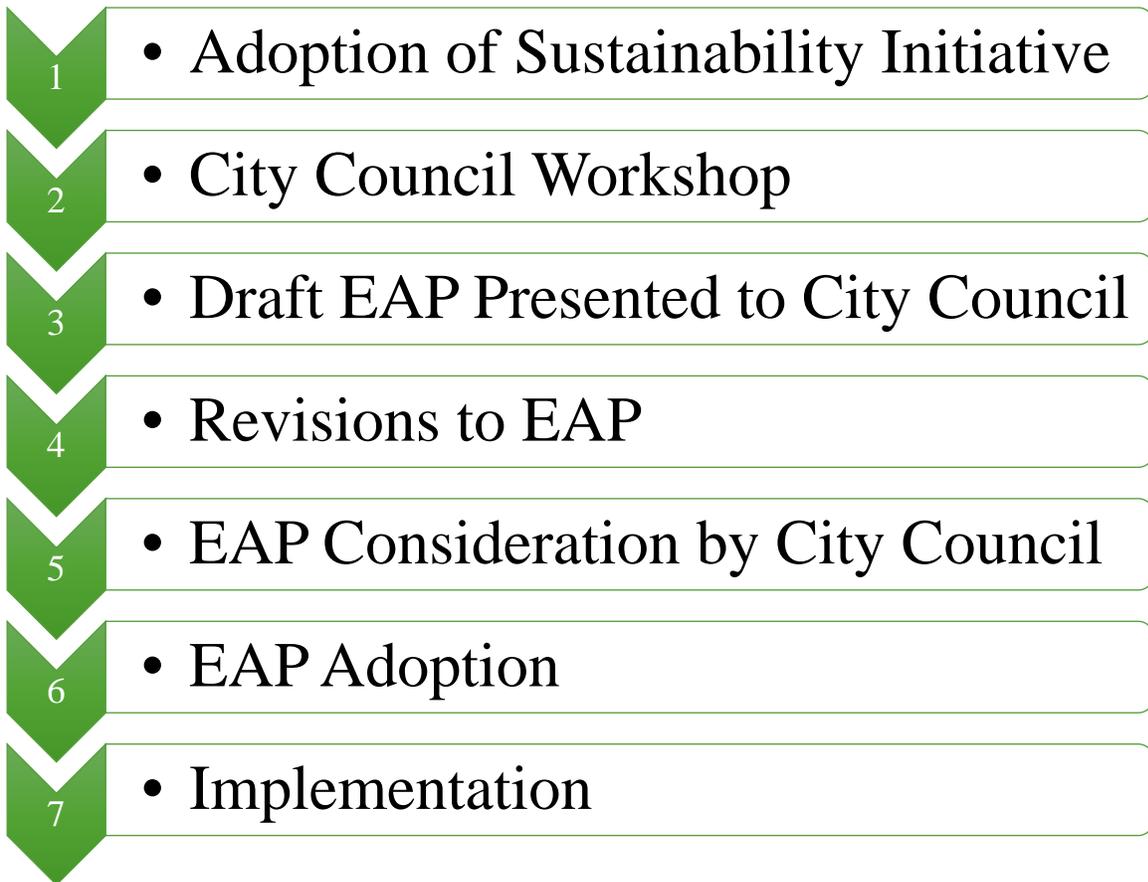
The EAP is intended to be used by City staff, elected and appointed officials for guidance when developing or updating long-term planning documents, regulations, policies, and/or procedures, but may also include objectives or programs that specifically relate to the work of community groups or organizations. Creation, adoption, and implementation of the EAP will occur in accordance with the Process set forth below.

Public Engagement Plan

The City will develop a public engagement plan designed to provide City residents with the following:

- Information about current City programs, policies and regulations designed to accomplish the above-referenced Objectives.
- Details of this Sustainability Initiative and the City’s Environmental Action Plan.
- Resources that provide important information about water conservation, energy conservation, recycling, community improvement opportunities, and environmentally sustainable land use.

Process



DIVIDER PAGE

PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

Goal	Objective	Action Item	Status of Action Item
Energy	LED Street Lights	Upgrade all streetlights to LED where cost effective and use best practices when possible to reduce light pollution.	
Energy	Energy Monitoring	Encourage property owners to monitor building energy use through energy monitors, web applications, and State-required energy use disclosures	
Energy	IECC	Adopt and implement most recent IECC code.	2018 Edition Adopted by Ordinance 2020-06 on February 25, 2020 [Section 3-2301, Chapter 3, Building & Construction, Code of Ordinances]
Energy	Solar Panel	Develop and implement ordinance regulating the installation of solar panels	Ordinance No. 17-28 adopted November 14, 2017 [Section 05:02.19 of Section 5, Building and Use Restrictions in Dwelling District "A" of Chapter 12, Planning & Zoning, of Code of Ordinances]
Energy	City Energy Source	Convert to 100% renewable energy source for all municipal buildings by 2030.	City energy contract with Texas Coalition for Affordable Power is 100% renewable energy sources
Land Use	Urban Forest Preservation and Protection Policy	Review and update City ordinance concerning tree removal and replacement	
Land Use	Native and Pollinator Plants	Draft and implement policy requiring that landscaping on City property incorporate native and pollinator species of plants.	

Land Use	Native and Pollinator Plants	Create list of native and pollinator species of plants for reference by City staff and contractors.	The approved tree and shrub list was reviewed and revised earlier this year to incorporate native and pollinator species. [Ordinance 2020-16 passed on April 28, 2020]
Land Use	Protecting Parks and Green Spaces	Protect designated park spaces from development	Reduced impervious cover from cul-de-sacs on Lariat and Traweek as part of reconstruction project
Water	Incentives	Investigate incentives/rebates for installation of more efficient fixtures, water saving irrigation equipment.	
Water	New Water Well	Secure City water source through completion of new water well.	New water well construction in progress.
Water	Above-Ground Well	Conduct feasibility study for installation of above-ground water well.	Determined not feasible and Council approved replacement with ground storage tank on August 25, 2020. Proposal for Engineering Design for ground storage tank approved on October 27, 2020
Water	Smart Meters	Install automated water meters with early leak detection for all existing and new residences within the city	Installation completed in February 2020
Water	Smart Meters	Provide residents with access to a customer portal that allows them to easily monitor water usage and sign up for alerts	Customer portal live in November 2019

Water	Resources	Develop online resources and outreach materials for water conservation tips, planting guides, available rebates for water-saving equipment, and ways to minimize water pollution	Water Wednesday – Posts giving residents tips about water conservation, e-billing, and the AMI project updates.
Water	Water Conservation Plan	Conduct annual review of water conservation and drought contingency plan	Ordinance No. 2020-15 passed April 28, 2020 updated the City's drought contingency plan. Water conservation plan separated from drought contingency plan based on TCEQ requirements.
Recycling	Concrete	Use low-carbon concrete or asphalt made with a percentage of recycled asphalt and/or recycled asphalt shingles in city projects, including streets, where feasible and applicable.	
Recycling	Recycling Days	Host bi-annual recycling days allowing residents to recycle electronics, chemicals, and other uncommon recyclable products	City participates in annual Villages Recycling Event that occurs in October.
Recycling	Education and Outreach	Provide recycling and composting education and outreach targeted at single family homes.	Social Media Campaigns "Water Wednesday" and Sustainability Saturday"
Transportation	Traffic Lights	Synchronize and recalibrate the timing of traffic signals as needed to maximize signal efficiency	

Transportation	Traffic Lights	Move traffic smartly and efficiently by conducting a yearly audit of traffic light timing	Traffic Safety and Mobility Study approved March 24, 2020 [Resolution 20-09]
Transportation	Pedestrian Traffic	Develop sidewalk, curb ramp, and crosswalks where possible to develop connectivity within the city and encourage pedestrian mobility.	Recently discussed in terms of the Infrastructure Design Manual. Council direction was that sidewalks would be installed strictly on collector streets and major thoroughfares.
Community Awareness Projects	Community Event	Establish yearly event in the Spring to raise awareness concerning sustainability issues.	
Community Awareness Projects	Community Event	Partner with local organizations committed to sustainability and environmental priorities	City is a member of Clean Water, Clear Choice and engaged with H-GAC with regard to possible programs that might apply in Spring Valley Village.