CITY OF FAIRBORN
COUNCIL MEETING
July 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

COUNCIL MEMBERS	Present	Absent
Dan Kirkpatrick, Mayor	☒	☐
Clint Allen, Councilman	☒	☐
Sylvia Chess, Councilwoman	☒	☐
Adam Fritzsche, Councilman	☐	☒
Rodney McCubbins, Councilman	☒	☐
Mary Reaster, Deputy Mayor	☒	☐
Tana Stanton, Councilwoman	☒	☐

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to excuse Councilman Fritzsche from the meeting. Councilman Allen seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Councilman Fritzsche excused from the meeting.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Browning, E. Gay, Gebhart, Jacobs, Kerry, Myers, Rose, and Taylor.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Stanton moved to approve the June 16, 2025, Work Session Meeting Minutes. Councilman Allen seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to approve the June 16, 2025, Regular Council Meeting minutes. Councilman McCubbins seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared the minutes approved as written.

PRESCHEDULED BUSINESS

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, explained originally there were going to be three recipients of milestones at the meeting tonight. Due to a family emergency Jaylen White was unable to attend, but Haley Myers and Emily Gay were both present to accept their one-year milestones.

Manuel Jacobs, City Engineer, explained that Haley Myers, Assistant City Engineer, is an integral part of the Engineering team. As well as the many projects that she oversees for the City she also tested and passed the professional engineer's exam this year. She is

an exemplary employee and a great addition to the Engineering division. Mr. Gebhart stated he would say nothing but good things about her. Everyone will tell you that the Engineering division is so much better with her there. He congratulated her on her milestone.

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, presented Emily Gay, Communications Manager for the City, with her one-year milestone. He stated she helps keep him on the right track. He stated we are lucky to have her. They actually went out and purposely sought out someone with her skill set to do this job. He has known Emily for years, at least 12, and he cannot tell everyone the difference in the city's communication style over the last year. He is thrilled to be giving her this one-year milestone and hopes that he is doing the same at five and ten years also. He thanked her for everything she does for the City.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 16-25 ADOPTING A DEBT MANAGEMENT AND BOND POLICY FOR THE CITY OF FAIRBORN.

Councilman Allen motioned to read Ordinance 16-25 for the first time by title only Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 16-25 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 16-25 for Monday, July 21, 2025.

ORDINANCE 17-25 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND FAIRBORN CODIFIED ORDINANCES 126.04(A) AND 126.03(A) TO ALIGN WITH OHIO REVISED CODE 9.17 AND ALLOW FOR ONGOING REVISIONS AS OHIO REVISED CODE 9.17 IS UPDATED ANNUALLY.

Councilman McCubbins motioned to read Ordinance 17-25 for the first time by title only Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 17-25 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 17-25 for Monday, July 21, 2025.

ORDINANCE 18-25 AN ORDINANCE SUPPORTING THE PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN JOINT OR COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAMS OR CONTRACTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, SUPPLIES OR SERVICES.

Councilwoman Chess motioned to read Ordinance 18-25 for the first time by title only Councilwoman Stanton seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Ordinance 18-25 by title only.

Mayor Kirkpatrick set the public hearing of Ordinance 18-25 for Monday, July 21, 2025.

RESOLUTION 22-25 TO ADOPT THE FAIRBORN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN AS AN OFFICIAL GUIDING DOCUMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Deputy Mayor Reaster motioned to read Resolution 22-25 for the first time by title only. Councilwoman Stanton seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Resolution 22-25 by title only.

Brad Kerry, City Planning Analyst, explained this is an overview of the Active Transportation Plan that the Planning and Zoning area of the City has been working on. This plan provides improvement plans for both walking and cycling within the community. It focuses on connecting major spots in the City to each other. Including our downtown area, our schools, our parks, and shopping areas. This has input from approximately 200 citizens providing positive feedback. Improvements would include Dutch intersections, which are protected intersections designed to allow cyclists to come through the bend or straight through without interacting with vehicles that are trying to turn. The cyclists would have a different signal which our computers on signaling can handle. This aim is to keep vehicle and bike/pedestrian interactions at a minimum. Part of the plan calls for some separated lanes based off of traffic volume and speed of the road. They would have some form of physical barrier depending on speed and volume of that area. Physical barriers can be as simple as movable planters or a permanent structure depending on decisions made. The reasons for this area to improve safety to encourage more riders of all ages to utilize this and to keep bikes out of the main road as much as possible. Another part of this plan includes the installation of mountain bike and obstacle course infrastructure known as MTB. This would call for placement of separate mountain bike facilities along major routes of the City. Other cities have done this with the most prevalent being Bentonville, Arkansas where they have seen great success. That not only allows their citizens to move throughout the City in a fun way, but it also attracts many visitors annually.

The routes that are proposed have been derived from open-source software such as Strava, which is a workout tracking app. This was overlaid onto the GIS information to find routes that people are already commonly using since there will be demand for routes along the frequently used areas. It focuses on trying to get through the residential areas into the parks and the downtown areas. Part of this plan would be the integration and other planned projects for a budget reduction when we are doing street maintenance so we would not have to do a separate project to install. The final summary of the plan is to designate routes that were shown previously as part of the Active Transportation Plan. Along these routes we would do our best to install measures such as Dutch intersections multi-use trails, rest facilities for those that would need it and to improve green space areas such as Central Park. The plan is designed to continue to expand with new development. Staff recommends approval of Resolution 22-25.

Councilman Allen likes what Mr. Kerry shared about moving about the city in a fun way. He thinks that is what this Active Transportation Plan allows us to do. As he mentioned in the work session it is great that we were able to get 200 people to provide feedback and us be able to respond back to them and work through this plan. He thinks it also

leans into the beautification of the City, which is one of the keys he likes to see about the City.

Deputy Mayor Reaster stated what the greater community did not get a chance to see in the work session we talked about the fact that having the plan provides the City with a roadmap when opportunities present themselves for funding from the state. She is super excited to see this and knows that we have a vision. She looks forward to the future when we have the ability and the plan to put it in place and get people off their devices and outside.

Councilwoman Chess feels the same way her colleagues feel. She appreciates the extensive work Mr. Kerry put into this and the comparisons he made with other cities. They discussed that in the work session as well. This will be a great move for the City if we can work toward the transportation plan goals. She thanked him for the presentation.

Councilman McCubbins thanked Mr. Kerry and the committee that met and put all the work and effort into this. One of the things he was impressed with was that they had 200 people to respond. It is consistent with over the last four to six years that he has been involved with planning and housing and other things in the City. This is what the developers are telling us people want. It seems to be very important to people. Looking at a lot of the things he presented today, a lot of it can be done with concurrent projects at minimal costs. He thinks Tana might agree with a lot of this they can do sustainably. It wouldn't cost the environment anything. He is glad the City has this plan so when the opportunities are present, they can capitalize.

Councilwoman Stanton loves the plan. She wishes she were 20 years younger. It would be great for the kids, young people, and older people to have these additional amenities. She understands that we aren't going to do them tomorrow, but having a plan enables us to grab that money when it is available. She thanked him for the presentation.

Mayor Kirkpatrick stated this is a great opportunity for us to get Fairborn healthier by getting people outside and on bicycles instead of riding in cars everywhere. Anything we can do to enhance and improve this is great. As mentioned in the work session he met with the Fairborn High School Environmental Club, and they want more bike paths and more things like this. He thanked Mr. Kerry and the groups that he worked with in putting this together. Mr. Kerry thanked all the groups that were involved outside of us, especially Greene County Health, Warriors on Wheels and Five Rivers.

Deputy Mayor Reaster moved to adopt Resolution 22-25. Councilman Allen seconded. Yeas six: Reaster, Allen, Chess, McCubbins, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Resolution 22-25 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION 23-25 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 1235, THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE, AND THE FOP DISPATCHER UNIT (OHIO STATE AFFILIATE LODGE #1), AND DECLARING THAT

ALL THREE AGREEMENTS SHALL BE INTERPRETED IN A CONSISTENT MANNER GIVEN THEIR ANALOGOUS NATURE.

Councilwoman Stanton motioned to read Resolution 23-25 for the first time by title only. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Resolution 23-25 by title only.

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, explained there would not be a power point for this particular presentation. He will be staying for the next presentation, filling in for Finance Director and there will be a power point for that one. He explained in 2024 Council approved three new contracts for Fire, Police and for AFSCME which is our Public Works Department. Those contracts cover 2024-2026. In early 2025 they engaged in a discussion with both the International Association of Firefighters and the Fraternal Order of Police about how steps are executed in our paygrade allocation list. A grievance was filed and the City and the two unions worked collaboratively to come up with a solution, They went through agreed upon mediation and then through those collaborative efforts they came to an agreement on how to settle their grievance fairly to those individuals as well as the City. What Council sees before them is the approval for the City Manager to enter into those agreements to move forward and complete the grievance and then mediation process on all affected properties. Staff recommends approval of Resolution 23-25.

Councilwoman Chess thanked him for his hard work put in on this because she knows it was quite tasking for the City as well as the people in uniform.

Councilman McCubbins thanked Mr. Gebhart for the hard work. Safety is something that is very important to him for the citizens. We make sure the citizens are safe by ensuring that our first responders are properly compensated. This is such a tough area in today's society and the competition is fierce. We have to stay on top of our game so we can keep our first responders and citizens safe.

Councilwoman Stanton thanked him for the work. He knows she is a process improvement person so her questions will relate to that aspect of it. Her first question was what the point of failure in our existing process was and what has been done to correct it to prevent issues in the future, like going into a negotiation and then having a grievance later. Mr. Gebhart explained the City has changed the Human Resources' legal counsel from the individual and firm that negotiated this contract to a different one. Both have different approaches to the process. Our former HR legal counsel was excellent. We have nothing bad to say about the individual or the firm, but we just needed a change. So that has been executed so that in future negotiations hopefully there are no issues. This particular HR legal counsel was recommended by the City Solicitor so there is a close working relationship between Mr. McNamee and this individual although she is with a different firm. She came highly recommended by Mr. McNamee. We did not necessarily have that relationship with the two legal counsels prior to that and now we do and that should help with this. She is not familiar with the details of how this works, but have we documented anything in the procedures? Mr. Gebhart stated they and the unions will approach negotiations a little differently next time. We will be more aware of the situation. Ultimately at the end of the day they were trying to become more competitive with our pay scale and eliminated the entry and the "A" step so that we were

more competitive with agencies that were essentially competing against for employees in both the Fire and Police side. There was a disagreement on what happened to those folks at the entry and "A" step moving forward then those folks at the subsequent steps. This just clarified that situation and makes everyone whole. He would say we will look at this currently and, in the future, differently than they did prior to this experience. It was a learning experience. Our HR Director, Police and Fire Chief were all integral in assisting with this process as well as legal counsel. Team effort from Human Resources, Fire, Police and Legal to get an agreement that everyone was satisfied with on both sides.

Councilman Allen appreciates the work that was put in with Fire, Police, HR, and himself for trying to right the ship. The lessons that we learned and what Councilman McCubbins talked about of making sure that we are providing fair wages and we are competitive amongst a tight market is important. Mr. Gebhart added that our Finance Department was part of those discussions. He wanted to make sure that Finance Director Hilary Browning and her staff get credit for that as well. He apologized for leaving them out.

Deputy Mayor Reaster stated that anytime we have to navigate negotiations with unions it is always challenging, especially when you have three different unions, so she appreciates the entire team's work on this. She thanked them for putting everyone's best interest at heart, not just the staff here at the City offices but also the first responders.

Mayor Kirkpatrick thanked Mr. Gebhart for his work on this. He has said repeatedly that we have the best Fire and Police Departments in the state. The way we keep doing that is to do things like this to make sure that they get what they need to be satisfied employees for the City. He thanked him and the rest of the team that made this happen.

Councilman McCubbins moved to adopt Resolution 23-25. Councilman Allen seconded. Yeas, six: McCubbins, Allen, Chess, Reaster, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Resolution 23-25 duly adopted.

RESOLUTION 24-25 AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PURCHASE AND USE "EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY AND FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF DUTY POLICY" THROUGH PUBLIC ENTITIES POOL OF OHIO FOR THE CITY MANAGER AND ASSISTANT FINANCE DIRECTOR.

Deputy Mayor Reaster motioned to read Resolution 24-25 for the first time by title only. Councilwoman Stanton seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Nate Rose, City Solicitor, read Resolution 24-25 by title only.

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, stated he hates the title of this Resolution. Anything that starts off with dishonesty. He explained this Resolution is authorized through Ohio Revised Code Section 3.061. A political subdivision may adopt a policy by Ordinance or Resolution to allow for the use of employee dishonesty and faithful performance of duty policy rather than a surety bond that would otherwise be required by law. So currently, the Finance Director has a $1,000,000 surety bond since she is the Finance Officer of the City. This protects the City and her should there be any problems that occur that we would have some type of financial finding against us. Currently, he does not have that

as the City Manager nor does the Assistant Finance Director. He does not know how they never had this, but just like the Finance Director's name is on a check that is cut by the City so is his. There is some responsibility for whomever is the City Manager to have some type of insurance or bond in the role as the City Manager as well as the role of the Assistant Finance Director who acts on behalf of the Finance Director if she is either unavailable or is incapacitated. Again, the Finance Director, Hilary, has a surety bond. This particular item would not be a bond, it would be insurance, and it has a maximum amount of $250,000 for the City Manager and a maximum of $250,000 for the Assistant Finance Director. What they do does not quite come up to the level of what the Finance Director does and that is the difference, and the PEP pool does not allow for more than a quarter of a million dollars for anyone other than the Finance Director. That is why theirs is less. Council has already approved in the supplemental appropriations for June of 2025 what they believe is the cost for this and this Resolution would allow Hilary to go out and procure that insurance for the City Manager and the Assistant Finance Director when we have that person hired. Again, it is budgeted for, and the total cost is $4,600 and can be up to five employees total at that amount. Examples of other people who could fall under this insurance would be the Chief Building Official, the Fire Marshall, and an Assistant City Manager, when and if they get one. Again, it would be $250,000 per individual. We would utilize the government risk sharing pool called the Public Entity Pool of Ohio or PEP. They cover over 600 cities, counties, townships, and other special districts within the state of Ohio.

Councilman Allen stated this particular insurance protects the City. Mr. Gebhart agreed. It is one of those things that could be looked for in an audit to say where the coverage is for these additional employees. Councilman Allen stated this is something that is routinely seen in other municipalities. Mr. Gebhart stated, correct.

Deputy Mayor Reaster had no questions or comments.

Councilwoman Chess had no questions. She prides herself on saying that Fairborn is good at being accountable and that is important for the City when it comes down to the tax dollars and monies the citizens have paid into the City. She is not sure why they did not have it previously, however, putting it in place is a really good idea.

Councilman McCubbins had no questions or comments.

Councilwoman Stanton had a question for Mr. Rose. When she was reading the details of it, she saw that section five says "elected officials prior to taking the oath of office and holding office shall obtain approval of the intent to use the PEP coverage agreement and affirm that the public entity's coverage complies with ORC 3.061. Said approval shall be obtained by the City of Fairborn in Greene County." She asked if that is because some people who are elected serve in roles that would need it. It does not have anything to do with Council, right? Mr. Rose stated it is boilerplate language from what PEP provides that they need and prefer. For us to carry it we must pass a Resolution that authorizes that specific language. She thanked Mr. Gebhart for filling in this gap.

Mayor Kirkpatrick thanked Mr. Gebhart for taking care of this and it looks like it is the right thing to do. Mr. Gebhart stated Finance, and the Legal Department are working very hard to make sure that we have all the things in place that we need. Examples of which are the first readings they had this evening for finance-related Ordinances so that we have all the basis covered. He sent out thanks to all of them.

Councilman Allen moved to adopt Resolution 24-25. Deputy Mayor Reaster seconded. Yeas, six: Allen, Reaster, Chess, McCubbins, Stanton and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. Mayor Kirkpatrick declared Resolution 24-25 duly adopted.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mayor Kirkpatrick opened Citizens Comments.

Joann Drew stated she was present on behalf of Greene County Public Health. She stated they collaborated with Brad Kerry and the City on the Active Transportation Plan. They just received their second round of funding for the Creating Healthy Communities grants, so they are looking forward to continuing to support the City in the implementation of this plan. They are going to use this funding to help to continue to collaborate to promote healthy lifestyles in Fairborn and create a more active and connected community.

Gill Asparsa, a resident of Fairborn, and his wife reside here along with their four children and 14 grandchildren. They just had two graduates from Fairborn High School. He wanted to thank Council for adopting the Transportation Plan that Brad Kerry and his team worked so hard on. He is the founder and director of Warriors on Wheels Cycling. It is a veterans' foundation that also works with first responders and are the members of the service who have left military service. Their main purpose is health and wellness. Their foundation provides bikes at no cost to the veterans and first responders to get them back into the fight after leaving military service or leaving service from law enforcement, Fire, EMS, and things like that. Their foundation covers 125 local veterans that they serve. On the 20th of this month, they will be in the Miami Valley Mountain Bike Association's six-hour mountain bike race and John Bryan State Park. Many of their mountain bikers are from the region of Greene County and they love coming through Fairborn. One of the difficult things they have doing when they are planning rides is finding hubs to leave from. He lives in Fairborn and loves his City, and they want to do a hub ride straight out of Main Street in downtown. It is very difficult because most of the riders want to go somewhere else. On any given day there may be 17 to 25 of them riding. He thinks this is a great opportunity to not only educate our young people about the importance of safety in cycling but also get our other families and friends walking and cycling. They are happy to be a part of the plan and thank Council for adopting the plan for this great city.

Chris O'Connor 1737 Swindon Court, Fairborn, Ohio stated she was reviewing last week's minutes and going over the Environmental Sustainability Committee and how important that is. Everything that has been talked about here tonight is just continuing to make our City stronger. Healthy things, the protection with our Police and Fire. She is proud to be

a resident here. She also wanted to thank Rodney, Sylvia and Clint for the get together and opportunities to get to talk to Council at those meetings. She thanked them for all the work being put into the sustainability of the environment.

Mayor Kirkpatrick closed Citizens Comments.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Mike Gebhart, City Manager, reviewed the July milestones.

He announced that we welcomed Gage Jensen who was sworn in as our newest police office this morning. Gage came to us from Georger where he was a Sherriff Deputy. His wife is assigned to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, so he recently moved here.

The Memorial Park Dedication was July 3rd, and it went very well. He cannot say enough good things about that park. He came back through town after the fireworks on July 4th and went downtown just to see what it looks like lit up and it is impressive. Everything about that dedication was outstanding. Where it went from an empty lot next to the Government Center just a few short months ago has a new life. He thanked Parks and Recreation for that. There will be a separate dedication for Alicia Eckhart, our former Parks, and Recreation Director's Memorial Fountain, which will be arranged by Parks and Recreation. As soon as he has that date and time, he will let Council know. Any of them who could attend would be great.

He sent a big thank you to our Parks & Recreation Department for their hard work on 4th of July related events. From the 3rd of July block party, to the parade, the community event and concert at Community Park prior to the fireworks show and the fireworks…everything went very well. It is very demanding for the Parks and Recreation staff, especially the parade and changes to the line up and people moving when they should not. Coordinating 150 plus units is very challenging. He sent thanks to Cherise Schell, the City's Economic Development Director, who also assisted in the parade day activities.

Thank you to our Police, Fire and Public Works Departments for all their work to also make the July 3rd and 4th of July events wonderful. It was 25 minutes of the best fireworks he has seen in years. The crowd was great. It is always a little congested getting out of the park either going left or right on Dayton-Yellow Springs Road, but Parks and Recreation did a great job. Thank you to the Police Department for assistance in getting people out of the locations for the parade and the fireworks.

He announced that the Fairborn Citizen's Academy information is available on the City's website under communications and will be posted on social media this week. The academy is for 15 residents on a first come basis for the 15 slots. The academy begins on Wednesday, September 3rd from 6-8pm for 9 weeks with the last class being graduation (October 29, 2025).

He announced future Civic Engagement Sessions for July 2025:

- Council Conversations: Tuesday, July 15th, 9:00am-11:00am, Fairborn Family Diner
- Council Conversations: Wednesday, July 30th, 11:00am to 1:00pm, Giovanni's
- Please see Emily Gay with your availability for future events.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Chess congratulated the milestone recipients. She paid special attention to Emily Gay. The City of Fairborn made a promise to make sure they are very transparent with all of their dealings in the City when it comes down to our citizens and everyone else. What she appreciates about Emily is even through her social media posts if a citizen asks a question about what she posted she always answers them to the best of her knowledge. She really works hard to make sure that we keep the promise to be transparent. She appreciates that and she works really well with City Council and has a great spirit. She is always smiling, and she does work hard to make sure they are transparent on the website and social media outlets. The Fourth of July parade went very well. They could see the fireworks from their home. She is glad everyone was safe.

Councilman McCubbins thanked the citizens that came out and spoke at the meeting tonight. He congratulated the milestone recipients and of course a major congratulations to the Parks and Recreation Department. They put in a lot of work for the City. Also, they had a good citizens forum last Monday. They had four or five citizens show up and they engaged in some good conversation for two hours. He still owes some answers to some of the questions, but he has to get those answers. He will get back with them. Over the weekend it was a special moment. He spent his entire adult life in the military until he retired and moved back to Fairborn. July 4th holds a special meaning for him. This year it meant something more special because of the dedication to Memorial Park. Not because he is a veteran, because they do have a veterans' memorial in there, but all the other memorials that are there and to see what people hold near and dear to their heart. July 4th does hold a special place for him. While they were waiting on the parade to start, he was having a conversation with Councilman Allen, and he shared an article with him that had some information in it that he did not know. Fairborn is home to one of Ohio's largest and longest running July 4th celebrations. It spans over two days. This year's July 4th celebration was our 74th and we have only been incorporated for 75 years. That is a long time for a City to maintain. It has been wonderful and spectacular to be involved in that. He thanked everyone who came out for the parade. He thinks they broke attendance records this year. When they rounded the corner on Central, he was stunned by the number of people. They were almost to Broad Street with attendance. Let's keep it up Fairborn and hopefully in the next four years, they will reach Broad Street.

Councilwoman Stanton thanked everyone who came out tonight. It is great to hear everyone's feedback. It makes her happy to hear they are on the right track. She thanked and congratulated the milestone recipients for their service to the City of Fairborn. She thanked Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Police, Fire and Development Services,

everyone who pitched in for the long holiday weekend and the events that they put on for the citizens. She continued with an update of events that happened with the FEAB. A copy of that update is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". She announced an opportunity to provide feedback about the Miami Valley Climate Action Plan which is currently underway.

Councilman Allen gave a shout out to the milestone recipients. He gave a shout out to Gill and Joann for speaking during the citizens' comments. They truly appreciate them coming forward. He gave a big shout out to the Active Transportation Plan. We are on a path to making things enjoyable, beautifying the City which is great to him and just making Fairborn a happy place. The Council Conversations were interesting and one of the first things to come out during that meeting was about traffic on Old Yellow Springs Road and how there are no sidewalks. The young lady who came forward and expressed it said that she lives in apartments and to cross the road she has seen seven near misses. It is challenging. It is interesting that it was the first thing that came up. He encourages everyone to come out to the Council Conversations. It is a great way to engage and be a part of the process. The Fourth of July celebration, the 3rd and 4th, again a big shout out to the City. It is a full press and involved everyone in the City from HR to the Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, Police and Engineering and the citizens are the beneficiaries of that because we get to see fireworks and cars cruise down the highway. He gave a shout to the Fairborn Citizens Academy. He learned a lot when he went through the Fairborn Citizens Academy. He learned a ton about the City. He had a lot of assumptions going in and all of his assumptions were sideways after the first interaction. You get to learn a lot about the City government and how it operates. It takes a lot to get things done. He is happy to see the Fairborn Citizens Academy be reinstated.

Deputy Mayor Reaster thanked the milestone recipients. She thanked them for choosing to serve the citizens of Fairborn. She was privileged to be here when they swore in Officer Jensen this morning. He is a super enthusiastic person, and she thinks he is going to be a great addition to Fairborn. She welcomed Officer Jensen. As with what everyone said, the Fourth festivities and the parade were awesome. The Memorial Park dedication was awesome. It was succinct, It was perfect. There was representation from all the different forces. There is so much going on at that park. It is more than just the veterans. It is Alicia. It is an incredible addition to the City. If we don't display it well enough every time they get up there and talk, they are so proud of their City. They are proud of their staff. They are also proud of their citizens for showing up not only to the parade and the festivities and things like that. She interjected her point of personal privilege. A little over a week ago she was walking down Central at the corner of Hebble where there was a nasty accident. A van with small children and a family came running out of their house, mom, dad, daughter, did an amazing job comforting the kids. Police and Fire responded quickly. It was amazing and that is the part of this community that she loves. You don't see that in big cities. Our Fire Department was super fantastic. These big, scary, burly guys getting down on their hands and knees wiping faces and calming the children. The Police Department and neighbors showing up for people they don't know. She loves this community. She is super proud to serve this community. Not only here on Council, but in the various capacities beyond this meeting. She loves it here and she loves her home.

Mayor Kirkpatrick thanked those who came up and spoke during Citizens Comments. It is always good to hear their thoughts. He addressed Gill and asked him to stick around after the Council meeting so he could get his contact information. He would like to introduce Gill to the Fairborn Military Veterans Coalition group. He reminded everyone of the upcoming Council Conversations and the Free on Friday events at the Amphitheater on the 11th and 25th at Community Park.

He thanked all the vendors from the Block Party and those who attended. He especially thanked the Senior Center for providing a shuttle bus for those who were attending the block party over to the Fairborn Memorial Park dedication ceremony. The dedication for the park was fantastic. He thanked all the veterans who showed up to help raise the flag and stood beneath the branch that they served under. They had two tv stations there interviewing people. He jumped back to the block party saying the Mayor's Beautification Committee does rock painting. Victor Hanus, who is the Chair of the MBC, ran the rock painting booth for the entire day by himself. They had several hundred rocks, and they all got painted.

He thanked all those that were involved with the parade. He was particularly glad that our own Karen Race, our Fairborn Daily Herald reporter, was in the parade and she got a chance to see how enthusiastic the Fairborn citizens are with the Fourth of July parade. It was an amazing parade. He also thanked the Miami Valley Miata Club who had 16 different cars there to drive dignitaries. The Corvette Club didn't have quite as many, but they drove some dignitaries as well. The parade itself was fantastic.

He gave kudos to Emily Gay for arranging the Council Conversations. He gave a shout out to Chuck Stout who contacted him several weeks ago and said would you be ok if we had a Mayor's breakfast at Tim Horton's. They ended up with several City and School staff at the meeting, but they had 25 citizens show up for breakfast with the Mayor at Tim Horton's. They asked a lot of great questions.

He stated the next Council work session and meeting are July 21, 2025. The Sweet Corn Festival is coming up in August. September 20, 2025, is the Air Force Marathon and on the 21st is the Car Show as well as the Heels for Heroes event. Also on September 21, 2025, there is the Honor Flight. This will be a very special event. It is not going to be at Dayton airport. It is actually going to be on the Base where the 445th Airlift Wing meets. It is going to be an afternoon concert. There will be big name entertainment at the event. You will hear more about that. There will be tickets provided. There are several things going on.

The last thing he wanted to say was that our thoughts and prayers are with the people in Kerrville, Texas. He was stationed in San Antonio, Texas for four years and Kerrville holds a big arts and craft fair every year. It is a wonderful community. They are obviously going through a very difficult time.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Chess made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman McCubbins seconded the motion. Yeas, six: Chess, McCubbins, Allen, Reaster, Stanton, and Kirkpatrick. Nays, none. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

MAYOR

CLERK, CITY OF FAIRBORN

Fairborn Environmental Sustainability & Resiliency City Council Goal
7/7/25 Update:

What has been accomplished? (through Tana's 6/16/25 update)

February 2020 - At its annual retreat, the Fairborn City Council established the goal of Environmental Sustainability, including the development of a citizen-led Fairborn Sustainability Committee, with Council Members Clint Allen and Tana Stanton serving as City Council liaisons.

2020 - 2021 - The Fairborn Sustainability Committee accomplished the following:

- Recruited students from Wright State for unpaid internships to work with sustainability experts and present findings to City Council on the following topics:
    - Energy Efficiency Evaluation of City fire stations using the EPA Energy Star analysis tool called Portfolio Manager, with mentoring support from a professional energy manager
    - Alternatives for a community composting program and public survey that confirmed public interest, with mentoring support from a composting professional
- Partnered with University of Dayton's Sustainability program, allowing a team of students to analyze the city's stormwater flooding issues and make recommendations as part of their sustainability coursework
- Established a partnership with Fairborn City Schools and the Student Environmental Club to host Earth Day events, including an annual educational student contest.
- Evaluated the benefits of the city joining Power a Clean Future Ohio, and recommended that the city would benefit from the membership, getting access to no-cost expertise in developing a sustainability plan

January 2022 - The City Council passed Resolution 4-22, authorizing the city to become a Power a Clean Future Ohio Community.

2022(?) - The City began transitioning to hybrid police cruisers.

February 2022 - At the annual City Council Retreat, the council agreed to an Environmental Advisory Board to develop a sustainability plan for the city.

February 2022 - February 2023 - The following progress was made regarding the transition from the citizen-led Fairborn Sustainability Committee to a city Environmental Advisory Board:

- Council members Allen and Stanton communicated the City Council's wishes to the Fairborn Sustainability Committee
- Fairborn Sustainability Committee Chair and Vice Chair worked with PCFO consultants to learn how to establish a successful city environmental advisory board, and reviewed charters, bylaws, and websites of successful environmental advisory boards from other cities

- Fairborn Sustainability Committee Chair and Vice Chair reworked their by-laws so that they would be appropriate for a city board called the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board, and created a charter, sample MOU, and presentation for City Council.

July 2022 - Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board presentation was made to City Council at work session

- The City Manager recommended that instead of being a city advisory board with members appointed by council and led by a city staff member, the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board should be a self-recruiting and self-managed organization with a Memorandum of Understanding with the city. Some advantages of this were that the board could use zoom meetings and city council members could serve on it. The majority of City Council members preferred this option.

February 2023 - August 2023 - The Environmental Advisory Board accomplished the following:

- Established their monthly meeting schedule
- Completed its revised by-laws and charter
- Competed its recommended text for the memorandum of understanding, as requested by the city manager
- Met with consultants from Power a Clean Future Ohio for training on the process of creating a city sustainability plan
- Selected sustainability plan scope and focus areas

August 2023 - City Council passed resolution 26-23, "authorizing the city manager to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board which sets out the basic framework to complete projects concerning sustainability and resiliency for the city." Per the MOU, the role of the city would be as follows:

- The City will maintain a page on its website with information regarding sustainability efforts in the City and containing links to external sustainability resources, including the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board. The City may also share Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board public announcements and events, when necessary and appropriate in City communications.
- The Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board may request the presence of City employees at their meetings from time to time to share experience.
- The City will work with the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board for the development and implementation of the Fairborn Sustainability and Resilience Plan.

August 2023 - A City intern was assigned to assist FEAB part-time as the city sustainability coordinator. The intern was given the primary responsibility of providing PCFO with data for a greenhouse gas emission analysis, and she attended all FEAB meetings.

November 2023 - FEAB held a public meeting to discuss the possible content of the sustainability plan and to learn from the City of Dayton Sustainability Department and Solar United Neighbors. The public meeting was coordinated by the city student intern, and was

publicized on the City's Facebook page. The presentations were recorded and uploaded to the Fairborn Environmental Advisory Board's YouTube channel.

By September 2024 - FEAB had accomplished the following:

- The City's intern sustainability coordinator worked with Power a Clean Future's Technical Consultant to create a Greenhouse Gas Data Analysis.
- FEAB worked with experts to develop and evaluate alternatives for city sustainability projects to include in the sustainability plan.
- FEAB invited the City Manager and City Staff to participate in evaluating the projects to include in the sustainability plan.
- FEAB created a draft environmental sustainability and resilience plan presentation.
- FEAB Chair presented the draft environmental sustainability and resilience plan to City Council for feedback on June 17, 2024, and collected the following feedback to be used to amend the draft sustainability plan:
    - What are the costs, and will they be funded by the city or by grants?
    - What are the responsibilities and time commitments for the city staff?
    - Are the goals and timeline realistic when minimizing city staff hours and costs to the city?
    - Council would like FEAB to be involved in implementing the plan to limit the workload on city staff.
    - Is the plan too ambitious for the timeline?
    - For recommended programs, what are the costs, benefits, and risks?
    - What other cities in Ohio have already done these things, and how do they compare demographically to Fairborn (we are not a wealthy city, may not have same size government and tax revenue)
    - Would the city benefit from hiring an energy manager at some point because the infrastructure improvements could span up to 10 years?
    - The city supports continuing with hybrid police vehicles, but does not support transitioning to EVs at this time due to infrastructure considerations.
- FEAB updated the draft sustainability plan based on City Council and City Manager feedback:
    - Removed EV projects
    - Replaced SolSmart Silver & Gold Designation goals with Bronze Designation goal
    - Replaced the goal of upgrading all city building to Energy Star efficiency level with a project to explore the cost, benefits, and risks of energy efficiency upgrades, without a commitment to implement them
    - Replaced the goal of installing solar panels on city facilities with a project to explore the cost, benefits, and risks of installing solar, without a commitment to implement them
- FEAB created a spreadsheet for each project that includes the tasks, dates, costs, and estimated work hours for city staff, FEAB members, and the no-cost expert consultants
- FEAB reached out to the City Manager and staff to confirm the tasks, dates, costs, and city staff hours in the new spreadsheet.

- FEAB obtained agreement from the City Manager to start presenting the projects confirmed by the city at council work sessions as we work towards getting city confirmation on the remaining unconfirmed projects.
- FEAB subcommittee for Tree City USA completed training from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and are ready to assist the city in achieving the designation.

Summary of Hours Spent Developing Plan - Feb 2023 through May 2025:

- From February 2023 through September 2024, FEAB held monthly board meetings for the purpose of working with experts and the city to develop a city sustainability plan and presentation. The total hours spent in these meetings are as follows:
    - FEAB voting members - 128 hours
    - FEAB non-voting members (MVRPC, PCFO), experts, and guests - 58 hours
    - City intern - 10 hours
    - City staff - 3 hours
- From February 2023 through June 2025, FEAB subcommittees attended additional meetings for training, consulting with experts, and meeting with city staff about potential sustainability plan projects. The estimated hours spent as are follows:
    - Tree City USA Subcommittee
        - FEAB - 208 total hours, including travel & training
    - Waste Management Subcommittee
        - FEAB - 10 total hours
        - Experts (Greene County Environmental Services, Rumpke) - 5 hours
        - City staff - 2 hours
    - National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitat Certification Subcommittee
        - FEAB - 14 total hours, including presenting at WSU
        - NWF - 1 hour
        - City staff - 6 hours
    - Renewable Energy Subcommittee
        - FEAB - 16 total hours
        - Experts (PCFO, SolSmart, ChargingSmart, SOPEC, Solar United Neighbors, ARP Solar, and City of Dayton Sustainability Department) - 8 hours
        - City staff - 8 hours
    - Energy Efficiency Subcommittee
        - FEAB - 8 total hours
        - Experts (PCFO, IMT, Energility, Ohio Department of Development, and City of Dayton Sustainability Department) - 6 hours
        - City staff - 4 hours
- Grand total of hours from February 2023 through May 2025:
    - FEAB Members - 384 hours (176 hours if tree city training hours are excluded)
    - Experts - 78 hours
    - City Staff - 26 hours
    - City Intern - 10 hours

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Progress made since my last update: (Between 6/16/25 and 7/7/25)

- 6/16/25 - The work session meeting minutes approved tonight contain a detailed discussion about the obstacles we are facing to get our sustainability plan completed and ideas on how to move forward.
    - Tana explained that the FEAB had stopped meeting monthly and was focused on trying to get meetings with the city to finalize the documents that estimated project tasks, timelines, roles, responsibilities, estimated cost, and estimated hours of city staff time.
    - In the meeting Tana, Clint, and Sylvia advocated for FEAB to become a board of the city that meets quarterly (after the sustainability plan is adopted), based on lessons learned about communication gaps with the current MoU process.
    - Tana provided information that addressed concerns raised by the city finance director, city manager, and council. (please see meeting minutes for the very detailed discussion)
    - Council members agreed to a future special meeting without the 45-minute time limit of the work session meetings to get the sustainability plan finalized.
- 7/2/25 - I had a great meeting with Mike Gebhart to plan to get the sustainability plan completed with city staff input:
    - There will be 30-minute monthly meetings with FEAB and city staff on the third Thursday of each month from 4:00 - 4:30, beginning on July 17th to get our sustainability plan across the finish line.
        - Each meeting will be dedicated to one or two of the proposed sustainability plan projects.
        - FEAB will invite subject matter experts to be available to answer questions and provide all data needed to make decisions.
        - FEAB members and city staff will finalize the project tasks, timelines, roles, responsibilities, estimated cost, and estimated hours of city staff time.
        - The July 17th joint FEAB / city staff meeting will focus on National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat Certification. I will have the criteria with these notes so that you can read them in the meeting minutes, and you can also find it at communitywildlifehabitat.nwf.org. This program evolved from the Fairborn Rotary program Operation Pollination, and our FEAB subcommittee is led by Dottie Meade, who initiated Operation Pollination. The goal is to certify all city parks and properties, and to partner with interested residents, businesses, and schools to meet the requirements to achieve community certification. This builds on the existing achievements:
            - Operation Pollination pollinator gardens established in Hobson Freedom Park and at the Fairborn Senior Center in 2023
            - Fairborn Fairborn Community Garden became a NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat in 2024
        - The August 21st joint FEAB / city staff meeting will probably focus on the SolSmart Bronze designation project.

    - Other conversations about the passage and implementation of our 2026 - 2028 city sustainability plan included
        - Passing the ordinance needed for Tree City USA
        - Meeting the accountability, transparency, and public engagement portion of the sustainability plan by formalizing FEAB as a city board that meets quarterly with the city and also serves as the Tree Board and the PACE Board.
- 7/3/25 - Tana and Clint coordinated meetings with UD and Sinclair about their energy efficiency and renewable energy student internships which could provide Fairborn with high quality energy efficiency audits and energy efficiency monitoring software setup.

What still remains to be accomplished?

- Joint FEAB / City meetings to finalize the tasks, dates, costs, and city staff hours in the new spreadsheet so that those updated projects can be presented to council.
    - SolSmart Bronze Designation
        - solsmart.org
        - Nationally recognized program to remove unintended obstacles to solar in city's zoning and permitting processes, and use best practices to create a better experience for residents and businesses who want to go solar
        - Free experts, and free templates, free expert analysis of solar feasibility on city properties
    - Tree City USA Designation (arborday.org/our-work/tree-city-usa)
    - Explore Solar Opportunities for City Properties
    - Explore Energy Efficiency Opportunities for City Properties
    - Increase Recycling and Decrease Landfill Waste for City Properties
    - Explore Development Best Practices for Stormwater
    - Include Residents and Small Businesses with Net-Metering in City Electric Aggregation Program

- FEAB - Present updated sustainability plan to the City Council for adoption.
- City Council - Decide if the updated sustainability plan is ready or if it needs more changes.
- City Council - Pass an ordinance to become a Tree City USA
- City Council - Pass a resolution to adopt the sustainability plan
- City Council - Pass an ordinance to create a city Environmental Advisory Board which meets quarterly, to serve as the mechanism of accountability and transparency for the sustainability plan implementation, the Tree Board required by Tree City USA, and the PACE Board required for the city's existing Property Assessed Clean Energy program.

Recommended by Tana, Clint, and Sylvia

National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat Certification Requirements

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To achieve certification through the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program, you must create or restore wildlife habitat in your community and do education and outreach.

First, a certain number of homes, schools and common areas must **become National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitats** by providing the four basic elements that all wildlife need: food, water, cover and places to raise young. The NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat program also requires sustainable gardening practices such as using rain barrels, reducing water usage, removing invasive plants, using native plants and eliminating pesticides. These requirements are based on population – see chart below.

Second, communities **earn education and outreach points** through a flexible checklist that includes educating citizens at community events, hosting a native plant sale, organizing a stream clean up, bringing new partners to the effort and hosting workshops – see pages 2 and 3.

Property Certification Requirements:

Activity / Type of Certification	Points
For each *home* certified, including townhomes and apartments	1
For each *common area* certified, including public parks, HOA common areas, businesses, places of worship, farms, universities and municipal buildings	3
For each *school* certified as an NWF Schoolyard Habitat - Pre-K - 12 or nature center	5

VERIFICATION: Homes that were certified more than 15 years prior to a community's registration date must be verified. Schools certified more than 5 years prior to a community's registration date must be verified.

Minimum Habitat Certification Points	Sliding Scale Based on Population Size
20	500 or Less
40	501-1,000
100	1,001-5000
150	5,001-10,000
175	10,001-15,000
200	15,001-20,000
225	20,001-25,000
250	25,001-50,000
300	50,001-100,000
400	100,001-300,000
500	300,001-500,000
750	500,001-1,000,000
1000	1,000,001 or More

Education and Outreach Requirements:

Registration Goals – 40 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Name your NWF Community Wildlife Habitat project	5
Identify your Team Leader & Habitat Team Members (typically 3-7 total) & Register as NWF Volunteers	5
Set up system for tracking progress (journal, google doc, etc.)	5
Establish project goals & vision for one, three and five years with a budget	5
Submit your community summary for the NWF website	5
Complete the Community Assessment Form	5
Attend NWF Welcome Webinar for New Communities	5
Create plan for keeping all Habitat Team Members in regular communication	5
One member of your Habitat Team becomes an NWF Habitat Steward or Habitat Host Volunteer (not avail in all areas) (up to 5)	5
Send out a press release for about your community registration	5
Hold a call with NWF's state affiliate in you state if they are active in this program (NWF can facilitate)	5
Meet, call or otherwise connect with another Community Wildlife Habitat in your area (NWF can facilitate)	5
Obtain letter of support from community government officials (mayor, county commission, HOA president)	10
Pass a proclamation announcing your community's registration at your city council meeting	10
Plan & organize a kick-off celebration	10

Outreach Goals – 50 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Improve your community's weed ordinances or other public policies to make them more wildlife-friendly	10
Work with municipal or other local park agencies to convert parkland to wildlife-friendly landscapes	10
Provide Garden for Wildlife information at a booth or table at a community event (up to 3 events)	5
Coordinate a stream cleanup, tree planting, invasive species removal, native plant rescue, native plant sale, trail clean-up, family nature event or other restoration event (up to 10 events)	10
Work with local nurseries to label and/or provide native plants	10
Each Habitat Team Member that serves on a community board or council related to environmental issues (up to 3)	5
Each presentation to an organization not yet associated with your project (up to 5)	5
Other Community Project (please discuss with NWF staff)	TBD

Education Goals – 40 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Create an information kiosk or permanent display at a public place (rec center, library, school) where the community can learn about the project (up to 3 kiosks / displays)	10
Create an NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat project brochure or fact sheet specific to your community	5
Create a website or web page where community members can learn about your project	10
Create and maintain a Facebook page or group or other social media site for your project	10
Write a regular column in your community newsletter or newspaper paper to about your project	10
Secure a feature article in the local media about your project (up to 3 feature articles)	10
Secure a radio or TV interview or PSA on your project	10
Host a workshop to educate community members about wildlife gardening (up to 5 workshops)	5
Create & distribute a native plant list for your community	5
Hold a garden tour that features certified habitats (up to 3 garden tours)	10
Create a demonstration garden at a public site with educational signs (up to 3 demonstration sites)	10
Launch a campaign to educate the community about an iconic plant or animal species for your community (i.e. - Baltimore's focus on the Oriole)	10
Recruit another community to register as an NWF Community Wildlife Habitat (up to 3)	5
Other Education Project (please discuss with NWF staff)	TBD

Administration Goals – 20 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Maintain and submit to NWF your online or paper project notebook / log	5
Identify the individuals that will make up the post-certification Habitat Team (typically 3-7 people)	5
Donate 5 wildlife, garden or other project-related photos to NWF	5
Per new volunteer registered with volunteer team (up to 10)	3
Per partner organization affiliated with your project (up to 5)	5
Each grant application submitted to support project (up to 3)	10
Participate in an NWF Community Wildlife Habitat conference call (up to 4)	5

National Wildlife Federation's GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE™

Certified Wildlife Habitat® Checklist

Use this walk-through checklist to confirm you have all the elements necessary to be certified:

*Note: this checklist is only a tool to prepare your garden, please certify online at www.nwf.org/certifiedwildlifehabitat

FOOD: Your habitat should provide a minimum of three of the following types of food. Supplemental feeders are optional.

- ☐ Native Plants
- ☐ Berries/Seeds
- ☐ Nectar
- ☐ Foliage/Twigs
- ☐ Fruits
- ☐ Sap
- ☐ Pollen
- ☐ Suet
- ☐ Bird Feeder
- ☐ Squirrel Feeder
- ☐ Hummingbird Feeder
- ☐ Fallen Leaf Layer
- ☐ Butterfly Host plants to feed caterpillars-

National Wildlife Federation recommends a habitat garden space strive for a minimum of 50-70% native plants.

WATER: Your habitat needs one of the following sources to provide clean water for wildlife to drink and bathe:

- ☐ Birdbath
- ☐ Lake
- ☐ Stream
- ☐ Seasonal Pool
- ☐ Ocean
- ☐ Spring
- ☐ River
- ☐ Butterfly Puddling Area
- ☐ Rain Garden
- ☐ Water Garden/Pond

COVER: Wildlife needs at least two places to find shelter from the weather and predators:

- ☐ Wooded Area
- ☐ Bramble Patch
- ☐ Ground Cover
- ☐ Rock Pile or Wall
- ☐ Roosting Box
- ☐ Evergreens
- ☐ Brush or Log Pile
- ☐ Burrow
- ☐ Meadow or Prairie
- ☐ Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- ☐ Water Garden or Pond
- ☐ Leave dead perennial stems 12-18 inches for overwintering insects

PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG: You need at least two places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior, mate and then bear and raise their young:

- ☐ Mature Trees
- ☐ Meadow or Prairie
- ☐ Nesting Box
- ☐ Wetland
- ☐ Cave
- ☐ Burrow
- ☐ Dead Trees or Snags
- ☐ Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- ☐ Fallen Leaf Debris
- ☐ Water Garden/Pond
- ☐ Host Plants for Caterpillars

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES: You need to employ practices from at least two of the three categories below to help manage your habitat in a sustainable way- *to better help wildlife, we advocate employing one or more practices from each category*:

☐ Soil and Water Conservation:
- *Riparian Buffer*
- *Capture Rain Water from Roof*
- *Xeriscape (water-wise landscaping)*
- *Drip or Soaker Hose for Irrigation*
- *Limit Water Use*
- *Reduce Erosion*
- *Use Mulch*
- *Rain Garden*
- *Leave the leaves in garden beds and around the base of trees and shrubs.*

☐ Controlling Exotic Species:
- *Practice Integrated Pest Management*
- *Remove Non-Native Plants and Animals*
- *Use Native Plants*
- *Reduce Lawn Areas*

☐ Organic Practices:
- *Eliminate Chemical Pesticides*
- *Eliminate Chemical Fertilizers*
- *Compost*

Miami Valley Climate Action

Miami Valley Climate Action Planning Overview

Miami Valley's changing climate presents many challenges for the health of our communities, environment, and economy. Working together to reduce climate pollution and enhance natural areas, we can prevent future impacts and ensure the region is a more resilient, equitable, and thriving home for future generations.

With funding from the Inflation Reduction Act through the US Environmental Protection Act's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) will develop a climate action plan for Miami Valley. This plan will connect and uplift existing state, regional, and local plans while preparing communities to be competitive for $4.6 billion in implementation grant funding for the policies and programs it identifies.

With this plan, MVRPC will engage regional stakeholders to collaboratively:

- Develop and prioritize measures to reduce climate pollution and enhance natural areas that capture carbon;
- Perform extensive outreach, community engagement, and cross-sector coordination;
- Ensure that this effort considers and benefits the region with a focus on equity and environmental justice, and
- Present technical analysis with easy to understand, transparent data.

Here Are Some Ways That You Can Help!

Help Shape the Future of the Miami Valley Region – Draft Plan Open for Public Comment



The Miami Valley Community-First Energy Plan draft is ready, and we want your input! This plan outlines how our region will cut greenhouse gas emissions and build a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

We're inviting residents, businesses, and organizations to review the draft and share feedback during the **public comment period, which is June 9, 2025 – July 8, 2025.**

- View the Draft Plan
- Submit Your Comments
  - In person at MVRPC offices, 6 North Main Street, Suite 400, Dayton, OH, 45402, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday)
  - Written comments will be accepted on MVRPC's online comment form at the bottom of the webpage, or via email at mlindsay@mvrpc.org

Please note: All feedback will be carefully reviewed by MVRPC. While some elements of the plan, such as adopted targets and modeled action levels, are less flexible at this stage, public input remains essential. Comments will help shape refinements to the final plan and inform future actions and updates.

Let's shape a sustainable future together!

Learn About and Share Ideas to Reduce Climate Pollution



The decisions we make today shape the future for us and the generations to come. Miami Valley is creating a carbon pollution reduction plan as part of the new climate law, which climate researchers say will cause a 40% reduction in toxic air and carbon pollution within the next ten years.

We need your help to implement solutions, and here, you can find a set of alternatives in your community to implement.

The Miami Valley Climate Action Planning Team
contact@miamivalleyclimateaction.com

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