TRACKING SUCCESS TOWARDS BALTIMORE’S SUSTAINABILITY
The 2018 Baltimore Sustainability Plan

Open Comment Period: April 12–May 11, 2018
To share your comments on the plan, please visit: bmoresustainable.civicomment.org
Establishing the Process

Sustainability Commission

Grant Writing

Advisory Committee

Equity Consultant

Documentation of Process
Engagement Process

- **Resident Engagement**
  - Recruited and trained 125 Sustainability Ambassadors
  - Co-created survey
  - 1200 residents interviewed
  - Public meetings
Engagement Process

- Institutional Engagement
  - Attended issue-based meetings
    - Reached over 500 people
  - City agency engagement
  - Focus groups
  - Commission Working Groups
EMBEDDING EQUITY

- Built a whole new constituency / Monthly email
- Equity lens in the Planning Dept.
- Equity Action Plan
- City’s capital budget viewed through an equity lens
- Hired Asst Director of Equity and Engagement
- Equity Assessment Bill
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Building on Success

We’ve always used data to track our successes:

- Reducing residential gas use by 2.7 percent and electric use by 8.1 percent from the 2007 baseline by the Baltimore Energy Challenge

- Weatherizing more than 10,000 units inhabited by low-income families, collectively saving these families $10 million in reduced utility bills

- Training more than 820 residents for green construction careers, maintaining an 85 percent graduation rate and 87 percent job placement rate, with average wages of $13 to $18 per hour. The solar installation training program alone trained 55 residents, with an average wage placement of $15 per hour.

- Serving over 1 million pounds of local produce in 2015 in Baltimore City Public Schools, and using composting trays, instead of polystyrene, starting in June 2018

..what’s new is the equity lens.
human-made systems:

**Neighborhoods**

Places where people have what they need within a 10-minute walk.

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**THE BIG PICTURE**

The neighborhood where you live can have a major influence on your success in life.

Great neighborhoods are the building blocks of great cities. Great neighborhoods offer walkable access to many amenities, meaning public transportation, quality public education, fresh foods, recreational opportunities, and public services. A walkable neighborhood is not exclusive to pedestrians, but safely accommodates and is welcoming for wheelchair- and scooter-dependent residents. Great neighborhoods are places that people care about and care for. Great neighborhoods also flow into and are connected to one another, enabling residents to move easily between them. Great neighborhoods that are connected to each other by physical infrastructure and those interconnected by committed and engaged residents ultimately make up a vibrant city.
STRATEGIES & ACTION

1. Implement incremental, resident-led, neighborhood improvements.

   Action 1: Ensure commercial outlets, such as corner stores, are not operating in a nuisance manner.
   Action 2: Support resident-led improvements in distressed neighborhoods.
   Action 3: Require new developments to be walkable,
   Action 4: Increase high-quality renovations and infill construction,
   Action 5: Identify and increase funding

2. Increase the number of safe, well-maintained indoor and outdoor public gathering places and connect residents with one another.

   Action 1: Increase available tools to create new spaces and maintain existing neighborhood gathering spots.
   Action 2: Initiate and support outdoor neighborhood events,
   Action 3: Designate spaces for youth
3. Strengthen community capacity to collaboratively work through neighborhood issues, obstacles and opportunities, including influencing decisions regarding community investments, revitalization and renewal.

*Action 1:* Create a Neighborhood Planning Academy  
*Action 2:* Engage residents and private, risk-tolerant investors as near-term sources of capital for reinvestment activities.  
*Action 3:* Expand historic preservation and other renovation tax credit programs  
*Action 4:* Review the Design and Landscape Guidelines

4. Improve neighborhood quality of life through walkable, vibrant streets that are safe and accessible for all.

*Action 1:* Engage communities to identify neighborhood walkability priorities and transit issues  
*Action 2:* Support the establishment of small businesses in neighborhoods  
*Action 3:* Review all city government capital projects, with an emphasis on dollars being spent equitably by neighborhood
How we’ll measure success

- Track increases in the number of housing renovation permits granted in distressed neighborhoods.
- Track increases in the number of community gathering spots or accessible green spaces.
- Track the number of renovation tax credit programs available in Baltimore.
- Track increases in the number of children who are able to walk or bike to school.
Health and Well-Being Chapter

Health

Active Living
Clean Air
Food
Health
Safety