Sustainability Commission Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

4-6PM

Welcome and Introductions

Opening Comments

Commission and Staff Updates

Food distribution during COVID-19 and beyond

* Holly Freishtat, Food Policy Director - Covid-19 Food Resiliency Strategy to Address Long-Term Food Insecurity
* Abby Cocke, Environmental Planner, Office of Sustainability

Transportation during COVID-19 and beyond

* Steve Sharkey, Director, Department of Transportation – Safe Streets
* Samuel Jordan, Transit Equity Coalition – Regional Transportation Authority
* Patrick McMahon, Maryland Transit Administration – Safety of drivers and transit reliant residents and Regional Transportation Plan

[Forest Conservation Act Update](https://www.baltimoresustainability.org/permits/forest-conservation/):

Updates to the City’s forest conservation code and manual are being proposed to (1) meet updated state requirements, (2) add existing policies to the code, and (3) align the code with related codes and policies.  The Office of Sustainability is seeking public input on the draft code update through **June 16th**. You can find the draft updates [here](https://baltimoreplanning.konveio.com/) and add your comments.  Introduction of the bill is expected to be scheduled later this month or early July.

Black Women Build – Baltimore is a home ownership initiative that trains black women in carpentry, electrical and plumbing by rehabilitating vacant and deteriorated houses. Once completed, the participant has an opportunity to buy the home. Candidate applications are now being accepting as are candidates for a materials manager, and board members.

<https://blackwomenbuild.org/>



**Community Gardeners and Growers**,

Baltimore Green Space, Baltimore City University of Maryland Master Gardeners and the Baltimore Office of Sustainability are working to increase food access in communities during COVID-19 and beyond. We are seeking to provide support to those growing food for themselves and their communities during the COVID-19 crisis. The Office of Sustainability will have **free seedlings available** for sites (supplies limited, first come first serve). Please take a few minutes to answer this [survey about your needs](file:////Users/annedraddy/Downloads/HYPERLINK%20%22https%3A/gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/%3Furl%3Dhttps%3A//umdsurvey.umd.edu/jfe/form/SV_dpAkJ0ZhTvFH1lP%26data%3D02%7C01%7CAnne.Draddy%40baltimorecity.gov%7C23f49225ae1f40fa36b908d80cac8132%7C312cb126c6ae4fc2800d318e679ce6c7%7C0%7C0%7C637273282319401640%26sdata%3DHW4CyVwP9u75jAF5vxil5sfRa0GYxqb2qu3kX6UCLS0%3D%26reserved%3D0%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank%22%20https%3A//umdsurvey.umd.edu/jfe/form/SV_dpAkJ0ZhTvFH1lP).

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**Grant Opportunity:**

The Department of Public Works, in partnership with the Chesapeake Bay Trust, is accepting applications for their Outreach and Restoration grant program through August 4th. Projects that improve communities, reduce polluted runoff, plant trees, and restore or create green spaces will be considered. A portion of the funding for the grant program comes from the Department’s stormwater utility fee. A **Virtual Grant Workshop** will be held **June 17th from 5-8pm**.

<https://cbtrust.org/grants/outreach-and-restoration/>