



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
Osceola Lake Inn | 159 Osceola Road Hendersonville, NC 28739
Monday, November 10, 2025 – 5:30 PM



AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Approval of October 2025 meeting minutes
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Annual Retreat
- 5. ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Hendersonville is committed to providing accessible facilities, programs and services for all people in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you need assistance or an accommodation for this meeting please contact the City Clerk no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting at 697-3005.



CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
 City Operations Center - Assembly Room | 305 Williams St. | Hendersonville,
 NC 28792



Tuesday, October 14, 2025 – 4:30 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 4:45pm

Present: Emily Davdison, Fiona McColley (virtual), Virginia Tegel, Omar Zafra, Alicia Stump (virtual), Jane Edgar, Kyla Christensen, and Joan Zaki
 Absent: Jill Carter, Judy Moolten

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Emily motioned to approve first followed by Virginia

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of September 2025 ESB meeting minutes – Emily motioned to approve first followed by Kyla

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. *Reminder of board appreciation dinner - Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison*
- b. *Hendo Earth Fest Update - Emily Davidson, Chair, Virginia Tegel, Member, Elle Travis, Caregivers of Mother Earth*
 - i. Elle Travis went over her support and involvement in Hendo Earth Fest. ESB members are strongly encouraged to consider joining the Hendo Earth Fest planning committee as we are still needing an ESB member to be chair.
- c. *Sustainability Demonstration Station Update - Virginia Tegel, Member and Alicia Stump, Member*
 - i. Board members signed up for once/month (ideally weekly) checkin on maintenance. Members, please record on sheet below when you checkin on station and follow protocol listed:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hUcxz-eGyUD387ihl3VKwvSqOpyuzPL6lIYw6tLlJ6E/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.bi11dhoys7ls>

Caitlyn is going to put up signage on trash at station.

d. Hendo Green Partnership Update - Jane Edgar, Member

Jane is organizing a check in meeting at Ecusta Market and Café and Stump Farms to review and approve new Hendo Green Partnership members.

6. CITY COUNCIL UPDATE

- a. Follow up on Solar canopy letter to City Council – Caitlyn is following up with City engineer on ensuring a solar canopy is included as an add on option for the Whitmire and Patton Park design plans.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Upcoming board retreat - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison, Emily Davidson, Chair*

This will be a hands on interactive retreat to reflect on ESB's recent wins and discuss future goals and priorities. We will meet at the small pavilion at Patton Park and members are encouraged to bring their own potluck dish to share. There will not be a Zoom option for this meeting so please plan to come in person.

- b. New City newsletter - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison*

If board members are interested, you can submit Caitlyn an ESB related topic to include in the newsletter.

- c. Vote on new November meeting time - *Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison*

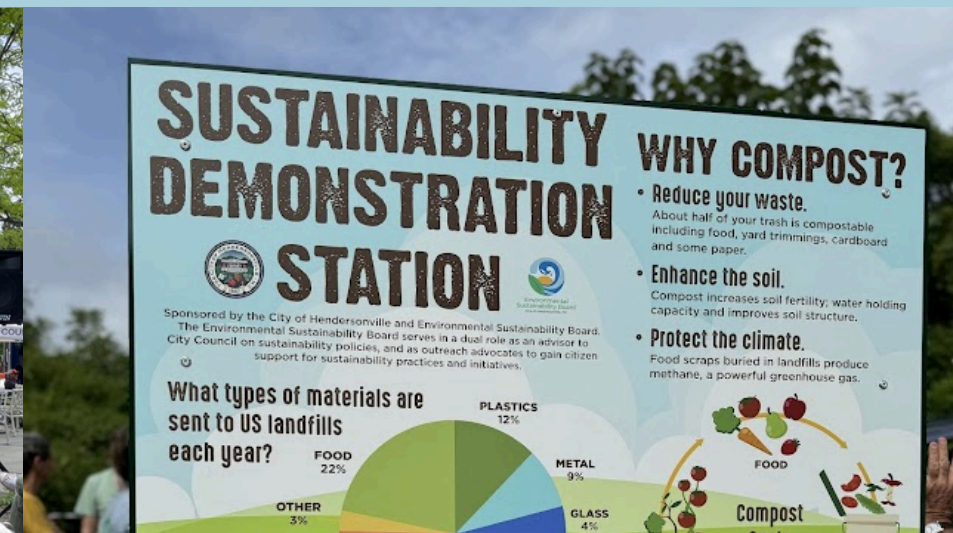
The board voted to have the next meeting which will be an annual retreat on November 10th at 5:30pm at the Osceola Lake Inn.

ADJOURNMENT

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CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY BOARD ANNUAL RETREAT



2025

Agenda

5:30pm-5:40pm

Settle in and grab food
Welcome – Emily Davidson, Chair

ESB Housekeeping before retreat kicks off:

- Henod Earth Fest – Due to lack of subcommittee members and no Chair or Vice-Chair, ESB may want to consider if we are still wanting to have a 2026 Hendo Earth Fest
- Hendo Green Partnership – Now that Jane has resigned, is another member wanting to spearhead this effort or should this be removed as an ESB initiative?

5:40pm-5:55pm

Overview of how ESB's work fits within broader City priorities relating to sustainability & other boards/staff working on sustainability areas – Caitlyn Gendusa, Staff Liaison



5:55pm-6:05pm

Breakout session 1: Members spend 5 minutes in teams of 2 sharing what the ESB has done this year that they are proud of. When done, add a sticky note on the poster to share with the group.

Overview of 2025 accomplishments, Emily Davidson, Chair

6:05pm-6:15pm

Breakout session 2: Members spend 5 minutes in teams of 2 sharing what What is one thing you wish the board was doing or something the board is already doing that could be better? When done, add a sticky note on the poster to share with the group.

6:15pm-6:35pm

As an open discussion with all members, map out what ESB's 2026 goals are and focus areas.

6:35pm-6:45pm

As an open discussion with all members, draft the FY27 (July 1, 2026–June 31, 2027) budget

6:45pm-7:00pm

Wrap up and gratitude to members

How does ESB's work fit amongst other City efforts?

1

Who is the ESB?

2

What departments & boards are working on sustainability?

3

How does ESB's work fit amongst broader City Council priorities?



1 Role of Environmental Sustainability Board

Policy Support

Advise, deliberate and make recommendations to the City Council to help facilitate the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan as it relates to environmental sustainability in the city;

Provide City Council with representative community participation in preparing and implementing plans and reports concerning environmental sustainability in the City of Hendersonville;

Advise Sustainability Manager on the City's Sustainability Strategic Plan progress and implementation; and

Recommend to City Council an overall policy for continued sustainability and assist with citizen-led efforts in furtherance thereof.

Outreach Support

Promote, facilitate, and act as liaison to educate citizens on environmental sustainability issues affecting the City of Hendersonville.



2

Sustainability in other departments/boards/initiatives

- **Sustainability and Stormwater Divisions**
 - millions of dollars in grants for stream restoration
 - New rooftop solar on firestation
 - energy efficiency building systems and retrofits
 - waste reduction grant funds
 - Discounted compost bin program
- **Water & Sewer Dept.**
 - Water conservation rebate program
- **Bike & Pedestrian Infrastructure Staff Committee**
- **Tree Board**
 - Pollinator gardens
 - Invasive species removal
 - Educational events on trees
 - Neighborwoods tree donation program
- **Affordable Housing Committee and related strategic plan in the works**



3

How ESB's work fits into the overall City priorities surrounding sustainability

- **Gen H Comprehensive Plan Goals (pages 285-301)**

- Connect people to the outdoors
- Protect & restore natural systems
- Improve bikeability & walkability
- Reduce invasive species & promote pollinator plants
- Explore options to help community pursue renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements
- Implement Sustainability Strategic Plan

- **Sustainability Strategic Plan**

- Connect people to the outdoors
- protect & restore natural systems
- Affordable housing
- Improve bikeability & walkability
- Reduce invasive species & promote pollinator plants
- Maintain & expand tree canopy
- Explore options to help community pursue renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements
- Implement Sustainability Strategic Plan



Breakout Session 1

(Working in teams of 2, brainstorm ideas on the following question to share with the group):

What is one thing ESB has done this year that you are proud of?



2025 Accomplishments and Focus Areas

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Sustainability Demonstration Station

LAND MANAGEMENT

- Mayor's Monarch Pledge & Bee City

COMMUNITY

- Most robust public outreach completed to date with Farmer's Market tabling events on topics such as composting, energy efficiency, and more.

ALL AREAS OF SUSTAINABILITY

- Hendo Earth Fest
- Sustainability Hero Award
- NEW - Hendo Green Partnership
- NEW - Student member position added



Breakout Session 2

(Working in teams of 2, brainstorm ideas on the following question to share with the group):

What is one thing you wish the board was doing or something the board is already doing that could be better?



2025 Goals Brainstorm Session



FY26 Proposed Budget Brainstorm Session

