



**Town of Davidson  
Sustainability Board Regular Meeting  
Community Room 120  
251 South Street  
Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:30 PM**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

**III. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

**IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Meeting Minutes**

**Summary:** Review meeting minutes from previous meeting for approval.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Staff Updates**

**Summary:** Town staff liaison shares Town updates.

**b. Subcommittee Reports**

**Summary:** Sustainability Board Subcommittees report to Sustainability Board.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Climate Action Plan FY27, 28 Implementation Strategy**

**Summary:** Town staff will present the Climate Action Plan FY27, 28 Implementation Strategy for review by the Sustainability Board. The Sustainability Board will be asked to approve the the Climate Action Plan FY27, 28 Implementation Strategy.

**b. Presentation on Urban Heat Islands by Veronica Westendorff.**

**Summary:** Veronica Westendorff, landscape architect, will present about urban heat islands.

**VII. ADJOURN**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
Sustainability Board  
Town of Davidson, NC  
April 20, 2026

A meeting of the Davidson Sustainability Board was held at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Davidson Town Hall & Community Center at 251 South Street.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Time: 6:31 pm

**II. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

- Present Board Members: Kasia Worsham, Veronica Westendorff, Teresa Isakson, Gordon Clarck, Manjula Dhupati, Lyn Batty
- Absent Board Members: Beth Wytiaz, Bruce Batman, Izzy Paris, Sandy LaCorte, Cathy Denham
- Tardy Board Members: NA
- Town Representatives: Kayla Kovach

**III. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

- Motions to change the agenda: Yes
- Agenda item update: Lauren Collver will present as representative of DLC instead of Beth Wytiaz
- Motion to adopt the agenda: Veronica Westendorff
- Second: Gordon Clark
- Vote: unanimous

**IV. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Review/approval of the March 16, 2026 meeting minutes:
  - i. Motion to recommend approval of the minutes:
    1. Motion: Gordon
    2. Second: Manjula Dhupati
    3. Vote: unanimous

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Town Staff Reports:**

- i. At the April 14, 2026 Town Board of Commissioners meeting Town Manager Jamie Justice presented about the Tree Canopy Assistance Pilot Program. The Program will provide certified arborist services and tree canopy work to income-qualified homeowners who have trees that pose a risk to people or property. Because pruning or removing trees can cost thousands of dollars, the Program helps reduce barriers to proper tree care. The Board of Commissioners will be asked to consider approval of the Tree Canopy Assistance Pilot Program at the April 24, 2026 meeting on the consent agenda. If you would like to learn more about the program, visit the Town's website to watch the April 14 meeting.
- ii. The Town of Davidson, Davidson Lands Conservancy (DLC), and Davidson College held a combined celebration of Earth Day and the DLC NatureFest on Saturday, April 18. The event was a great success filled with native plant giveaways, environmental education exhibits, and fun activities for kids. If you attended the event and have any positive or constructive feedback, please email [sustainability@townofdavidson.org](mailto:sustainability@townofdavidson.org), we would love to hear from you so we can continue making this event wonderful in the years to come.
- iii. Join the Creation Care Team of Davidson United Methodist Church and the Green Group of Davidson College Presbyterian Church for a practical program on recycling, composting, and simple waste-reduction strategies that make a real impact. Representatives from Mecklenburg County and the Town of Davidson will explain how our recycling system works and highlight innovative sustainability initiatives that reduce waste in our community. This event will be held at 6 PM in the Upstairs Youth Fellowship Hall, Seymour Education Building at Davidson United Methodist Church, [233 S Main St, Davidson, NC](#).
- iv. On May 2 at 10 AM, join us on the Town Green for Town Day. The event will include activities, fellowship, and a time to support our local non-profits. For more details about the event, visit the Town website.
- v. May is Bike Month, and the Town has multiple events and activities planned. The events include a Bike Expo on May 2, Bike/Walk to School Day on May 6, and National Bike to Work Week May 11-17. For details about the events occurring during National Bike Month, visit the Town website.

**b. Subcommittee Reports:**

- i. Kayla Kovach shared the draft implementation strategy for the Climate Action Plan with subcommittees for review.
- ii. Continued discussion around memos to Town staff.
- iii. Sustainability Board members may reach out to Livability Board members to discuss the proposed Beaty Rd. multi-use trail.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Presentation by the Davidson Lands Conservancy.**

- i. Lauren Collver presented to the Sustainability Board about the work DLC does in Davidson and beyond.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT: (time)**

- a. Motion: Gordon Clark
- b. Second: Lyn Batty
- c. Vote: unanimous

**Climate Action Plan**  
**Priorities Table for FY27, 28**  
**Progress updated through end of 2025**

Municipal Operations									
Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal M1: Reduce Mobile Source Emissions in Town Operations	Strategy M1.1: Convert 100% of the Town fleet to EVs, hybrids, or use clean fuels by 2037.	M1.1.1: Develop a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Strategy for the Town fleet that evaluates fleet conversion to achieve 72.3% emissions reduction. Strategy may include the following: fleet right-sizing, replacement and/or early retirement schedule, costs and funding opportunities, infrastructure needs, employee work vehicle miles traveled (VMT), idle reduction policy adoption, and opportunities for public-private partnerships.	2	Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$1,000	Preliminary fleet analysis was completed by a Davidson College Sustainability Scholar in 2024. Additionally, each year the Davidson College Sustainability Scholar (Scholar Program cost: \$500 per year) assists with evaluating fleet data among other CAP tasks. The Town was also accepted into the Charging Smart program with no cost expert technical assistance, expecting to have a vehicle electrification analysis to evaluate conversion potential completed during the cohort (FY27).
		M1.1.2: Ensure all newly acquired vehicles for town use are either EVs, hybrids, or use clean fuels in line with ZEV Strategy. Establish annual targets to transition fleet to achieve 100% EVs, hybrids, or clean fuels by 2037 target.		Chris (Finance) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$360,000	Town staff continue evaluating fleet options through the procurement process. Funding: estimated investment assumes 3 lower emission vehicle purchases per year using interdepartmental replacement funds.
	Strategy M1.2: Reduce emissions from Employee Commuting by 30% by 2037	M1.2.1: Evaluate and monitor emissions from employee commute VMT. Develop and implement telecommuting policies for eligible municipal employees to reduce daily commutes. Develop annual targets, education, and awareness campaign(s) to increase adoption of commute alternatives, idle reduction behaviors, car share, and clean fuel vehicles including, but not limited to, EVs and hybrids (T2.2).	1	Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				Work from home policy implemented and on-going for eligible employees.
		M1.2.2: Offer incentives to municipal employees for commuting via walking, public transit, carpooling, or bicycling, promoting alternatives to solo driving.		Jamie/Austin (Manager) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		M1.2.3: Develop incentives for employees to adopt electric vehicles or hybrids, potentially matching federal tax credits.		Jamie/Austin (Manager) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
	Strategy M1.3: Reduce off-road emissions in Town Operations by 100% by 2037	M1.3.1: Replace gasoline or diesel-powered Town tools and machinery with electric or battery-powered alternatives by 100% by 2037.	3	Jesse (Public Works)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$10,000	General estimate - if funding becomes available or as equipment needs to be replaced.
		M1.3.2: Consider requiring the use of electric or battery-powered equipment by contractors for Town contracts.		Jesse (Public Works)	Not started				
Goal M2: Operate Sustainable Buildings	Strategy M2.1: Reduce Municipal Building Energy Use by 75% by 2037.	M2.1.1: Conduct an energy audit on town buildings to identify savings opportunities and commit to implementing the highest-impact measures in the earliest feasible budget cycle. Formulate a detailed Energy Action Strategy outlining the steps, timeline, and methodology for implementation to ensure prompt action and accountability (May be combined with solar feasibility study (M2.2.1)).	2	Kayla (Sustainability) Jesse (Public Works)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Continuing to explore assessment needs for additional Town buildings.
		M2.1.2: Subscribe to and participate in a building performance-tracking platform for all municipal buildings to increase automation, smart controls, and real time adjustments (E2.2.3). Monitor through real-time, monthly/periodic data reports from the platform, and/or conducting annual assessments to ensure continuous data oversight to allow timely implementation of building improvements.		Kayla (Sustainability)	Completed	FY 25,26 Priorities		\$16,000 per year	Town subscribes to a building performance-tracking platform. Annual cost for the service is \$16,000/year.
		M2.1.3: Install energy measures as outlined in the Energy Action Strategy (M2.1.1).		Jesse (Public Works)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Continuing to explore energy efficiency measures in Town buildings. Energy Action Strategy is yet to be developed, however, energy efficiency measures will continue to be identified, reviewed, considered, and installed as funding is available.
	Strategy M2.2: Obtain 80% of Municipal Energy from Renewable Energy Sources by 2037	M2.2.1: Conduct a Solar Feasibility Study to evaluate the potential and practicality of installing solar panels on town-owned buildings, facilities, and other suitable properties (may be combined with community study E1.1.4).	3	Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				Solar feasibility site evaluations conducted for 3 Town buildings in 2023 (Fire 2, Town Hall, Public Safety) and for 2 Town buildings in 2025 (McEver Concession and Fire 2- updated).
		M2.2.2: Implement solar panel installations on town-owned buildings, facilities, and other suitable properties to generate renewable energy.		Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$774,142	\$644,142 of grant funding awarded for solar projects at Fire Station 2 and McEver Baseball Fields. CIP funds allocated for sustainability projects expected to be used for the remaining project cost.  Exploring other potential solar projects using CIP funds allocated for sustainability projects (\$65,000 annually) in FY27/28.

Municipal Operations									
Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
		M2.2.3: Integrate battery storage solutions with energy installations to store excess energy generated into town operations and support greater resiliency.		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started		FY 27,28 Priority	See M2.2.2	Battery storage is a part of the solar grant projects mentioned in M2.2.2.
Goal M3: Increase Efficiency in Public Street Lighting	Strategy M3.1: Decrease Energy Usage in Street Lighting by 50% by 2037	M3.1.1: Upgrade all street lights and traffic signals to LED or other more energy-efficient technology.	3	Jesse (Public Works)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities			Continuing to monitor number of streetlight conversions completed by Duke Energy annually.
		M3.1.2: Implement smart lighting systems in appropriate areas that adjust brightness based on traffic and pedestrian patterns to optimize energy use, consistent with LEED for Cities.		Jesse (Public Works) Jason (Planning)	Not started				
		M3.1.3: Encourage the use of solar-powered lighting in appropriate areas to further reduce energy consumption.		Jesse (Public Works) Doug (Projects)	Not started				
Goal M4: Reduce Solid Waste in Town Operations	Strategy M4.1: Reduce Waste to Landfill by 75% by 2037 in Municipal Operations	M4.1.1: Conduct a Waste Characterization Study specifically for municipal operations and establish diversion rate targets. Following this, implement a tracking system to monitor and manage waste diversion effectively.	2	Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	No cost associated at this time; Town staff are working to evaluate path forward.
		M4.1.2: Promote the phasing out of non-recyclables, non-biodegradable materials, and single-use plastics in all municipal activities and building operations. This initiative should also apply to any contractors and be included in new contractual agreements.		Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	No cost associated at this time; Town staff are working to transition to more sustainable alternatives where possible.
		M4.1.3: Develop a comprehensive municipal Zero Waste Strategy for recycling, organics, and special wastes (C&D, Universal Waste, E-waste, Hazardous Materials, difficult to recycle materials, etc.). Include management strategies tailored for different municipal departments such as firefighting, public works, parks and recreation, and town hall administration, to increase diversion across all areas of municipal operations. Include management strategies tailored for different municipal departments such as firefighting, public works, parks and recreation, and town hall administration to increase diversion across all areas of municipal operations. This initiative should also apply to any contractors (including but not limited to janitorial agreements) and be included in new contractual agreements. (Combine with community plan R1.1.1)		Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
Goal M5: Demonstrate Leadership in Sustainable Operations	Strategy M5.1: Adopt Municipal Policies and Procedures by 2030 to Encourage and Accelerate Strategy Adoption	M5.1.1: Establish a green building policy for all municipal construction and renovations, setting a standard for sustainable development within the community.	2	Kayla (Sustainability) Doug (Projects)	Completed	FY 25,26 Priorities			The Town of Davidson Board of Commissioners approved a Sustainable Municipal Building Policy at the November 18, 2025 regular meeting. The policy was developed in coordination between Town staff and the Town Sustainability Board.
		M5.1.2: Develop and Implement an Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (EPPP) for municipal operations to maximize source reduction, consider life-cycle impact, prioritize energy-efficient equipment in town facilities (consistent with Davidson's Energy Action Strategy M2.1), and reduce mobile source emissions from vehicles and off-road tools, machinery, and equipment (M1.1, M1.3).		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Town staff are evaluating strategies for EPPP implementation.
		M5.1.3: Develop sustainable special event and meeting protocols for all town-sponsored or town-permitted events, or those held on town properties, facilities, or open spaces.		Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Town staff have been reviewing current event protocols to prepare a path forward. Sustainable event protocols expected to be developed internally.
		M5.1.4: Evaluate additional policy options including but not limited to: zoning adjustments to support smart growth, recycling/composting/waste equal space, etc.; permitting requirements, fee structures or incentives to increase EV readiness, renewables installation, energy efficiency adoption, historic building preservation, stormwater capture and management, etc.; establishment of dedicated annual climate capital fund allocations; etc.		Kayla (Sustainability) Jason & Trey (Planning)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Town staff plan to review planning ordinance for sustainability conflicts.

## Transportation & Mobility

Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal T1: Electrify Transportation	Strategy T1.1: Expand Electric Vehicle (EV) Community-wide Infrastructure	T1.1.1: Install 4 new Level 2 (or higher) EV charging stations throughout the town, prioritizing areas that have faced disinvestment and ensuring equitable access, and actively pursue grant funding to support the installation and maintenance of these stations.	2	Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$25,000	PAVE funds expected to be allocated (\$25,000 annually).
		T1.1.2: Create a guide for local businesses and residents on setting up EV charging stations on their properties including information on various types of chargers, electrical requirements, and the installation procedure for EV chargers.		Kayla (Sustainability), Jason (Planning)	Not started		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	As part of the Charging Smart program, Town staff are working to develop charging infrastructure permitting checklists for residential and nonresidential EV charging.
		T1.1.3: Promote the integration of EV charging infrastructure in new developments by encouraging pre-wiring for both residential and governmental fleet EV charging, including provisions for at-home and in-building installations.		Jason (Planning)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	In 2026, the Planning Department will begin distributing charging station resources at permit approval for individual building permits and at the start of the development process for commercial buildings.
	Strategy T1.2: Promote Community-wide Alternative Vehicle Awareness and Adoption	T1.2.1: Facilitate collaborations with EV, hybrid, & other clean fuel vehicle owners and leverage testimonials from residents and government staff who use EVs to promote electric vehicle adoption and awareness. Engage with dealerships beyond municipal boundaries for demonstration events and to inform the community about available EV options and incentives.	1	Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	Completed				Complete and on-going. Town staff collaborate with EV owners who bring their EVs to two Town events each year to share their electric vehicle experience with others. Expect to continue educating about cleaner vehicles at two events each year.
		T1.2.2: Develop and promote a comprehensive information hub that outlines available federal tax credits and local incentives to support potential EV purchasers, incorporating specific incentives designed for disadvantaged groups.		Kayla (Sustainability)	Completed				Complete and on-going. Resources provided on webpage, at events, social media, and other Town communications.
	Goal T2: Reduce City-Wide Vehicle Miles Traveled	Strategy T2.1: Create a Walkable, Bikeable, and Transit-Friendly Town	T2.1.1: Fully implement the 2019 Mobility Plan by 2027 and make adjustments as needed using up-to-date data to identify and address barriers to active transportation.	2	Andrew G. (Planning)	In Progress			
T2.1.2: Develop regional education and outreach strategies and tools designed to increase demand for and utilization of public transit by increasing ease of public transit options.			Andrew G. (Planning) Kayla (Sustainability) Charlene (DPR)		In Progress				
T2.1.3: Develop and maintain a network of safe and well-lit pedestrian and bicycle pathways, focusing on tree-lined routes for climate resilience and comfort, in alignment with the 2019 Mobility Plan. Improve infrastructure, such as shade, shelters, restrooms, and seating areas along greenways and other transportation routes to enhance the comfort of pedestrians and cyclists.			Leslie (DPR) Andrew G. (Planning)		In Progress				Mobility Plan implementation on-going. Infrastructure improvements on-going as part of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
T2.1.4: Review current parking policies to reduce car reliance, such as adjusting parking minimums and promoting shared parking, alongside exploring paid parking strategies in alignment with the mobility plan.			Andrew G. (Planning) Kim (Ec Dev)		In Progress				
T2.1.5: Explore the feasibility of shared micro-mobility program such as e-bike, bicycles, or electric scooters, focusing on strategic station placement, user safety, ease of use, and cost-effectiveness.			Andrew G. (Planning)		Not started				
Strategy T2.2: Encourage Alternate		T2.2.1: Develop commuter incentive programs in partnership with businesses to create trip reduction outreach programs and offer alternative transportation incentives for business employees.	2	Charlene (DPR)	Not started				
		T2.2.2: Encourage carpooling by exploring partnerships with existing vanpool programs, providing preferential parking for carpoolers. Collaborate with large employers and commercial regions to incentivize participation in strategic locations where commute volume is highest.		Charlene (DPR) Kim (Ec Dev)	Not started				

	Commuting Practices in the Community	T2.2.3: Initiate an idle reduction campaign focused on government buildings, schools, and transit points to raise community awareness about the environmental and health consequences of vehicle idling.		Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started	FY 25,26 Priorities			Removed from priorities list - other actions have become higher priority due to funding, resources available, etc.
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Buildings & Energy									
Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal E1: Increase Renewable Energy Usage	Strategy E1.1 Promote and Facilitate Commercial & Residential Renewable Energy Adoption	E1.1.1: Advocate for utility policies and monitor utility programs to ensure accountability and fulfillment of their commitments.	1	Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress			\$395 per year	Continuously monitoring utilities through Town staff participation in the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network and Environment Defense Fund Cities Initiative (membership cost \$395 annually). Both of these monitor and provide information related to NC utilities. Town staff also attended Duke Energy's 2025 Carolina Resource Plan Engagement Meetings in 2025. CIPRP joint comment letter submitted May 24, 2024.
		E1.1.2: Identify and eliminate barriers to small-scale distributed renewable energy production by exploring programs such as the DOE SoSmart Funding program for streamlined permitting.		Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress			Solar Panel Permit Guide for Davidson Residents available at Sustainability Resident Resources webpage.	
		E1.1.3: Develop and promote initiatives that encourage renewable energy adoption among residents and businesses, such as group purchasing programs similar to Solarize The Triangle.		Kayla (Sustainability) Charlene (DPR)	Completed	FY 25,26 Priorities		Solarize Charlotte-Mecklenburg Campaign took place June - December 2025.	
		E1.1.4: Conduct Feasibility Studies for Community Solar to assess the viability, potential locations, and scale of community solar projects within the town. (May be combined with M2.2.1)		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		E1.1.5: Develop targets for residential and/or commercial solar energy systems adoption (e.g., achieve 20% adoption in 5 years, achieve 80% renewable energy generation by 2050). Include specific targets, incentives, and resources for low-income communities, renters, and multifamily housing to address social equity and increase access especially for disadvantaged populations.		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
Goal E2: Improve Efficiency of New & Existing Buildings	Strategy E2.1 Encourage Energy Efficiency of Residential Homes	E2.1.1: Promote incentives and programs specifically designed for homeowners and renters to improve the energy efficiency of residential properties, including historic buildings. Highlight initiatives like Duke Energy's On-bill financing and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) tax credits, which can significantly reduce the cost of energy-efficient upgrades in homes.	1	Kayla (Sustainability) Charlene (DPR)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Information is shared via website, social media, e-newsletters, Town Events, and more. In 2026, the Planning Department will begin distributing resources at permit approval for individual building permits and at the start of the development process for commercial buildings.
		E2.1.2: Increase home energy audits by promoting training programs to enhance the local workforce of certified energy auditors and installers in addition to promoting utility-provided audit services.		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Promotion of utility-provided audit services.
	Strategy E2.2 Encourage Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings	E2.2.1: Promote incentives for businesses, including but not limited to those in historic buildings, to adopt energy-efficient technologies and green building practices. Examples include tax rebates for retrofitting facilities with LED lighting or high-efficiency HVAC systems, and grants for achieving LEED certification. Highlight the long-term cost savings and environmental benefits to motivate business participation.	2	Kim (Ec Dev) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				Resources shared via website. In 2026, the Planning Department will begin distributing resources at permit approval for individual building permits and at the start of the development process for commercial buildings.
		E2.2.2: Specifically target small and medium-sized businesses with energy retrofit and rebate opportunities, including those in historic buildings.		Kim (Ec Dev) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		E2.2.3: Offer subsidies for local institutions (schools, churches, businesses, historic buildings, etc.) to join the building performance-tracking municipal buildings initiative to foster a collaborative effort towards a town-wide energy management program (M2.1.3).		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
	Strategy E2.3 Ensure New Developments Meet High Energy-efficiency Standard	E2.3.1: Apply the Utility Service Annexation Criteria (USAC) to direct developers towards energy-efficient building, encouraging electrification, and providing 'make-ready' infrastructure for solar and EV charging capabilities.	2	Trey (Planning)	Completed				USAC in-progress through Planning Department.
		E2.3.2: Provide resources, tools, and checklists to builders and developers to achieve green certifications.		Trey (Planning)	Not started				
	Strategy E2.4: Improve Energy Efficiency in Low-income Households	E2.4.1: Promote programs such as the Weatherization Assistance Program to promote access to energy audits, weatherization services for low-income households, and emerging NC Clean Energy Fund low cost financing options, with outreach and support services to guide them through the process of applying for and benefiting from these programs.	1	Austin (AH) Jason (Planning) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Resources shared via website. Continuing to explore most effective ways to share resources including HOMES/HEAR program, LIEAP, and more.
E2.4.2: Advocate for and support the implementation of policies that protect low-income tenants from the impacts of energy inefficiency, such as high utility bills and poor indoor environmental quality.				Austin (AH) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress			Town's Essential Home Improvement program incorporated Energy Star certified appliances in 2024. Also see E1.1.1.	

		E2.4.3: Encourage all new housing units to comply with Enterprise Community Partners Green Communities criteria or other green building program to ensure sustainability practices are considered and incorporated in affordable housing developments.	<b>Austin (AH)</b> Jason (Planning) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Town's Essential Home Improvement program encourages the use of the Enterprise Community Partners Green Communities criteria starting in 2024. Continuing to evaluate strategies for affordable housing developments.
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## Resource Conservation

Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal R1: Advance Sustainable Waste Management Practices in Davidson	Strategy R1.1: Reduce Consumption & Solid Waste	R1.1.1: Adopt a Zero-Waste Goal and create a Solid Waste Management Plan or Waste Reduction Plan to achieve diversion targets for all waste streams (may be combined with R1.1.2 Study). Expand or enhance service agreements to include minimum diversion targets for franchised waste haulers for residents, businesses, and multifamily facilities within the Town.	3	Charlene (DPR)	Not started				
		R1.1.2: Conduct Davidson specific or collaborate with County to conduct an updated regional Waste Characterization Study to guide diversion programming and focus areas (may be combined with R1.1.1 Plan).		Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		R1.1.3: Continue, expand, and promote the Davidson Composts program with food waste hauler for residential participation (Pilot initiated 2023, continued for 2023/24), while also promoting backyard composting as an alternative practice, tracking participation through frequent community surveys.		Charlene (DPR)	In Progress			\$16,000 per year	On-going program.
		R1.1.4: Establish and promote commercial services for the Davidson Composts program with food waste hauler (currently unavailable as a free service; businesses, schools, and nonprofits organizations can contract directly with Crown Town Compost, promote these services in absence of Town program).		Charlene (DPR) Kim (Ec Dev)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities			Baseline businesses are already composting, no new interest identified for expansion. Town staff will reach out to businesses on an annual basis to gauge interest.
		R1.1.5: Assess and improve current yard waste management by promoting efficient and sustainable best practices like 'leave the leaves'.		Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Completed	FY 25,26 Priorities		\$3,000 per year	Complete: Developed annual, voluntary leave the leaves initiative. On-going: Will continue to promote on annual basis.
		R1.1.6: Leverage grants, such as those from NCDEQ, to fund and incentivize programs like food waste collection, encouraging businesses and multifamily residences to implement new and sustainable waste management practices.		Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
	Strategy R1.2: Promote Reduction in Water Usage and Wastewater Management	R1.2.1: Develop and promote standard operating procedures for water-efficient fixtures and equipment in all building types and landscapes, in collaboration with Charlotte Water.	3	Doug (Projects) Jesse (Public Works) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		R1.2.2: Explore the implementation of cistern systems for commercial buildings to utilize rainwater for irrigation and vehicle washing, in collaboration with Charlotte Water.		Doug (Projects) Jesse (Public Works) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
	Strategy R1.3: Education and Community Engagement	R1.3.1: Launch a comprehensive education and outreach campaign with specific goal(s), such as achieving zero waste by 2037 (may be combined with R1.1.1 Plan). This could encompass organizing informative visits to waste centers and introducing programs that elucidate the complexities of recycling.	2	Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$3,000 per year	Plastic Free Challenge on-going. Working with partners to expand education and outreach around recycling.
		R1.3.2: Develop a waste audit (or waste assessment) education and outreach program targeting community sectors like commercial entities (businesses/restaurants/grocery), schools, multifamily facilities, and residents. Set an annual target for completed assessments and distribution of incentives, tools, and/or support materials.		Charlene (DPR)	In Progress				
		R1.3.3: Continue providing community workshops on backyard composting and food management techniques (food purchasing, preservation, cooking, canning, storage, and edible food donation).		Charlene (DPR)	Not started				
		R1.3.4: Develop a circular economy education program to promote opportunities for residents and businesses to increase source reduction through reuse, recycled content procurement, donation, and other programs. Develop recycled market development incentives for local businesses working to utilize recycled content in new product development or remanufacturing, or other mechanisms for utilization of traditional 'waste' as a resource.		Charlene (DPR) Kim (Ec Dev)	Not started				

## Green Community

Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal G1: Preserve and Strategically Develop Landscapes	Strategy G1.1: Prioritize Conservation and Sustainable Land Practices	G1.1.1: Assess and prioritize areas for preservation by collaborating with experts such as The Green Infrastructure Center and Davidson Lands Conservancy, ensuring land with significant conservation value is protected. Evaluate the 2008 Green Print Plan and update as appropriate.	3	Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Establishment of staff committee to develop Natural Assets Work Plan in alignment with the 2026-2027 Strategic Plan Goal E, Strategy E.3 Conserve and steward natural assets within the Town. Collaboration with local partners will be incorporated into the process.
		G1.1.2: Explore funding opportunities to support land and wildlife conservation efforts, prioritizing land with high conservation value and areas with limited green space to improve livability and improve air quality. Coordinate with natural resources, fish and wildlife, and other appropriate state and local agencies to leverage technical assistance, incentives, and resources.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	On going effort.
		G1.1.3: Promote and connect agricultural and open space landowners to incentives and resources for land conservation, carbon sequestration, and soil health, which may include carbon capture and credits, University extension office, USDA, NRCS, Mecklenburg County Farmland Preservation Plan, and similar resources.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Will continue exploring opportunities to promote incentives and resources.
Goal G2: Strengthen Green Infrastructure and Stormwater Management	Strategy G2.1: Enhance Stormwater Management	G2.1.1: Assess and modify the town's stormwater management infrastructure to integrate rainwater capture and distributed treatment best management practices, emphasizing low impact development measures and permaculture design principles at the municipal and community level. This approach would involve implementing numerous smaller-scale BMPs, such as rain gardens, green roofs, permeable pavements, and bioswales, rather than relying solely on larger retention ponds. Ensure that these modifications align with Mecklenburg County stormwater guidelines and comply with state regulations.	3	Doug (Projects) Jesse (PW)	Not started				
		G2.1.2: Launch rainwater collection programs, such as rain barrel distribution, and explore collaboration possibilities with Mecklenburg County Soil & Water, Rain Water Solutions, or similar entities.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	
Goal G3: Engage the Community in Green Initiatives	Strategy G3.1: Elevate Awareness on Green Benefits and Practices	G3.1.1: Launch a comprehensive Green Business Program that includes creating and maintaining a green business database, providing a curated catalog of sustainability resources, to encourage and showcase measurable environmental improvements across all businesses, with special town promotion for actively participating companies.	3	Kim (Ec Dev) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		G3.1.2: Explore initiatives to integrate affordable housing solutions within green benefits and practices awareness campaigns. Incorporate and promote equity and inclusion as a central theme throughout CAP program design and implementation.		Austin (AH) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Continuing to explore opportunities for what this could encompass.
		G3.1.3: Continue BeeCity affiliate status established in 2017 and actively promote the BeeCity initiative within the community to raise awareness of pollinator-friendly practices and their significance in environmental sustainability. Lead by example by expanding the presence of pollinator gardens throughout the Town wherever feasible.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR) Andrew (Arborist)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$5,000 per year	BeeCity status on-going; pollinator education and seeds provided to residents at events; Arborist is now pollinator certified and educates through Ask the Arborist; and two beehives at Fisher Farm with educational workshops for the community. Annual maintenance: \$3,300 for two hives Meet the Bees workshops: \$600 each (assume 2) Educational Materials: \$500
		G3.1.4: Promote the Davidson Farmers Market's role in promoting locally sourced food and highlight any sustainable practices used to help educate the community.		Kim (Ec Dev) Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	In Progress				
		G3.1.5: Launch a program for the installation of green roofs, rain gardens, and private property tree planting, funded by stormwater impact fees, drawing on successful models from Washington D.C., Raleigh, and Montgomery County, MD.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR) Andrew (Arborist) Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				
		G3.1.6: Identify, prioritize, and designate park land as a demonstration site for sustainable practices and community engagement.		Leslie & Charlene (DPR)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	\$35,000	Will continue exploring opportunities in alignment with the 2026-2027 Strategic Plan Goal E, Strategy E.2. Exploring potential Food Forest in West Davidson (estimated at \$35,000).
Goal G4: Strengthen	Strategy G4.1: Reinforce Tree Canopy Management.	G4.1.1: Investigate incentives for encouraging the planting of shade trees and native plants on private property, drawing inspiration from models like the Casey Trees (DC) program and the Cherry Blossom Festival sponsored tree initiative on private land.		Andrew S. (Arborist)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Continue providing trees to community members at events - expecting a large portion of trees to be donated as previous years. Implement Tree Canopy Assistance Pilot Program.
		G4.1.2: Develop a comprehensive Urban Community Forestry Plan incorporating findings from the second Tree Canopy inventory (approximately 3,000 trees total) and two canopy assessments to guide tree canopy management and conservation efforts.		Andrew S. (Arborist)	Completed	FY 25,26 Priorities			Complete and on-going. Implementation and reporting continues.

Ecosystem Health and Green Space Conservation	Sustainable Landscaping, and Land Conservation	G4.1.3 Continuously update the Tree Canopy inventory to ensure accurate and current data on Davidson's tree canopy coverage. Develop and promote incentives to maintain and increase tree canopy. Continue Tree City USA affiliate status.	2	Andrew S. (Arborist)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	\$23,000	TreeCity USA on-going; Street Tree Inventory on-going; Davidson street tree inventory implementation (estimated at \$23,000). Tree Canopy Enhancement grant on-going.
		G4.1.4 Utilize Town-owned or operated open spaces to demonstrate sustainable landscaping and low-impact design planting strategies, such as planting native trees and plants, community gardens, water management design, and educational natural areas.		Leslie (DPR) Andrew S. (Arborist)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	Will continue exploring opportunities in alignment with the 2026-2027 Strategic Plan Goal E, Strategy E.2.

## Climate Resilience

Goals	Strategies	Action Steps	Priority Score	Department Contacts	Progress as of Dec 2025	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority_draft	Estimated Investment	Notes
Goal C1: Enhance Community Resilience Against Extreme Climate Events	Strategy C1.1: Integrate Adaptation into Emergency Preparedness and Response	C1.1.1: Establish and equip designated municipal facilities - like the police department, fire department, library, and town hall - as climate resilience hubs, providing safe spaces during extreme weather events.	3	<b>Ryan (Fire)</b> Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				The Town works with Mecklenburg County through their sheltering plan which provides designated shelters for emergencies. The Town will continue communicating about shelters during extreme weather events.
		C1.1.2: Launch community awareness campaigns on the dangers of heat-related illnesses and the locations of cooling centers.		<b>Betsy (Communications)</b> Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress		FY 27,28 Priority	No cost associated at this time	The Town is working on strategies for effectively communicating about extreme weather events. See also: C1.3.1.
		C1.1.3: Conduct a comprehensive assessment and upgrade of essential infrastructure—including electrical grids, water supply systems, and communication networks—to prevent storm-related damage and ensure continuity during emergencies.		<b>Ryan (Fire)</b> Kayla (Sustainability)	In Progress				Community Risk Assessment Standards of Cover completed by Fire Dept. in 2022. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan under development, see C1.2.2.
		C1.1.4: Strengthen early warning systems specifically for climate hazards and heat episodes.		<b>Betsy (Communications)</b> Ryan (Fire)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	See C1.3.1	The Town shares CharMeck alerts. Additionally, the Town is working on strategies for effectively communicating about extreme weather events. See also: C1.3.1.
	Strategy C1.2: Understand & Reduce Physical Risk	C1.2.1: Participate in regional vulnerability assessments, emphasizing comprehensive recovery actions to help offset associated costs.	3	<b>Ryan (Fire)</b>	In Progress				Community Risk Assessment Standards of Cover completed by Fire Dept. in 2022; the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and approved by all municipalities in the county in 2025.
		C1.2.2: Establish a town-level vulnerability assessment team, tasked with creating an energy assurance plan to evaluate energy infrastructure, emergency management protocols, and critical infrastructure resilience, ensuring the town's adaptability to emerging climate challenges, in coordination with regional partners.		<b>Ryan (Fire)</b>	Not started	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$36,985	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan under development.
		C1.2.3: Prioritize green infrastructure such as permeable surfaces and cool surfaces in new developments to reduce the heat island effect and manage stormwater.		<b>Jason (Planning)</b>	In Progress				Town staff routinely review and make adjustments to the planning ordinance and will continue to look for opportunities to incorporate green infrastructure.
		C1.2.4: Integrate resilience measures in future housing developments, especially in affordable housing projects, in alignment with the 2009 Energy Plan.		<b>Austin (AH)</b> Ryan (Fire) Kayla (Sustainability)	Not started				
		C1.2.5: Explore the feasibility of community microgrids in collaboration with local colleges as part of a local and regional resilience strategy.		<b>Kayla (Sustainability)</b>	Not started				
	Strategy C1.3: Educate and Protect Residents	C1.3.1: Establish a centralized communication platform detailing climate-related risks, including wildfire smoke, heat, drought, and flooding.	2	<b>Betsy (Communications)</b> Ryan (Fire)	In Progress	FY 25,26 Priorities	FY 27,28 Priority	\$29,400 per year	The Town is working on strategies for effectively communicating about extreme weather events. Exploring integration of these notices with MyDavidson app.
		C1.3.2: Conduct regular community engagement sessions to gather feedback on climate communication effectiveness.		<b>Betsy (Communications)</b> Ryan (Fire)	Not started				
		C1.3.3: Implement targeted outreach programs to ensure vulnerable and underserved populations (e.g. isolated seniors, outdoor workers, long-term care residents) receive tailored information and resources. This could involve working with local community leaders and organizations to address language barriers, accessibility issues, and cultural sensitivities, ensuring equitable access to climate information and resources.		<b>Betsy (Communications)</b>	Not started				

**NOTE:**

- (1) Lead Department/Contact is listed in bold for each action item
- (2) AH = Affordable Housing
- (3) Ec Dev = Economic Development
- (4) DPR = Department of Parks and Recreation