



City Council

June 4, 2024
Packet Addendum #1

From: [tamar krantz](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Jeff Durbin](#)
Cc: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Kudos on the Environmental Assessment in the Existing Conditions Report! -- plus small suggestions
Date: Sunday, June 2, 2024 10:47:39 PM

Dear City Manager Durbin, and City Council,

I read the Comp Plan Update in the city council Packet for this Tuesday. I don't see in the staff memo a question asking Council to provide input on the [Comprehensive Plan Existing Conditions Report-final draft April 2024](#) that was included in the packet. If you are open to suggestions, I have a few comments on the environmental assessment. I'm copying the Planning Commission because I understand they have a deeper role in this process.

First, **thank you** for including the Environmental Assessment in the Existing Conditions Report. Spirit Environmental provided a great overview of our natural environment. What an excellent summary of the environmental hazards and vulnerabilities facing our city! I really hope to see all of the "gaps and opportunities" that they identified included in the comprehensive plan.

This environmental assessment would serve perfectly as the "natural environment" element of the comprehensive plan. The 2013 Comprehensive plan included only a one page description of our natural environment. It didn't include much follow-up to address how our planning and zoning integrates with the natural environment. This environmental assessment inspires me to believe the 2025 plan will include a deeper environmental element and that it will be more integrated into the plan policies.

Thanks for this report!

Tamar Krantz

If it is possible to ask for a bit more in the report, here are a few suggestions. I hope you can share these with the consultant. Thanks!

1. **More information on Water:** The environmental assessment does well to address water availability. I just wonder if this section could go into more depth on our existing water conditions? How much water does Louisville use, purchase, and store? What are the sources of our water and what contracts do we have? What are the projections for our water supply over the next 20 years, 40 years, 100 years? It is important for the public to understand where we are so we can give input on land use decisions that impact our water use.
2. **More information on Energy:** I love that the environmental assessment suggests a proactive approach to heat mitigation and acknowledges that urban development can exacerbate the risks of extreme heat. I appreciate the recommendation to underground power lines over open space. Still, I wonder if our energy supply and infrastructure will be described in the existing conditions part of our comprehensive

plan– perhaps in this environmental assessment? What's the nature of our contract with Xcel, what other sources do we have? How safe and sustainable is our infrastructure? It is important for the public to understand where we are so we can give input on land use decisions that impact our energy use.

3. **More information on Air Quality:** It is significant that Louisville is in a severe nonattainment for the 2008 ozone standard. We are among only a [few areas in the US failing to meet this health based standard](#). Could the report describe this problem? I think this is important baseline information for our future land use planning decisions.
4. **Add policy recommendations on Wildlife:** [Lafayette's May 2024 Wildlife Plan](#) (page 17 or 295) refers to their Comprehensive Plan policies and urban design principles that affect wildlife. I know that their plan is much more in depth than this environmental assessment, but if we don't have a similar plan completed before our comprehensive plan is finalized, could Lafayette's comprehensive plan policies and principles be applied to Louisville? Perhaps these could be included in the environmental assessment "gaps and opportunities" section while we await our own plan. Then we'd have these ideas in our record moving forward.

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From: [Tiffany Boyd](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Jeff Durbin](#)
Subject: Comprehensive Plan focuses
Date: Saturday, June 1, 2024 4:42:39 PM

Dear Council and City Manager Durbin,

Thank you so much for serving our community. Your willingness to always consider public interest is essential to our democratic process and is continually valued.

The consultants the city hired have been putting in a lot of time to create the Comprehensive Plan documents. However, their inclusion of only 8 values seems to have overlooked the importance of community input and the essential need for our municipality to center decarbonization and ecological diversity as a vital response to the science of climate change.

As the screen shot below shows, a large percentage of citizens surveyed are following the science that centers preserving ecological diversity and decarbonization and renewable energy projects in our community.

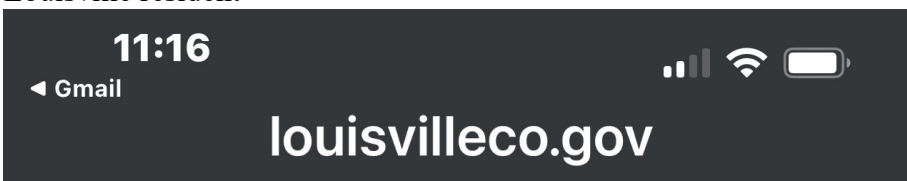
The 8 values summarized by the consultant listed “Prioritizes environmental sustainability and resilience” this is too generic.

Community input and science have indicated clearly that **preserving ecological diversity and decarbonization** should be included in our values that will guide how we respond to climate change for the next 10 years. Naming it will secure its focus, prioritization, public education, policies, and funding.

Please listen to public input and science and create another community value to include these vital issues.

Thanks again for serving our town and looking out for how we respond to the dangerous changes in our climate.

Sincerely,
Tiffany Boyd
Louisville resident



15. Related to the topic of environmental sustainability and energy, which of the following should the city focus on over the next 10 years?

Topic	Survey Responses	
	Count	%
Natural resource conservation efforts	998	64%
Renewable energy projects	838	54%
Reduction in greenhouse gas/carbon emissions	636	41%
Energy efficiency/energy code requirements	541	35%
More environmentally sustainable transportation options	503	32%
Publicly accessible electric vehicle charging	497	32%
Total	4,013 Responses	1,560 Participants

Methodology

This question was asked in the online survey as a multiple-choice question. Respondents were able to select up to three topics that they would like to see addressed over the next 10 years. This question received a total of 4,013 responses from 1,560 participants, a 72% response rate. This question was not asked at the open house.

Key Understanding

Approximately 64% of respondents selected the topic of natural resources and conservation efforts, or 998 total responses. Approximately 54% of respondents selected the topic of renewable energy projects, or 838 total responses. The fewest responses were for more environmentally sustainable transportation options and publicly accessible electric vehicle charging, each only being selected by 32% of respondents.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

16. Related to the topic of transportation and mobility, which of the following should the City focus on over the next 10 years?

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