



An Enduring Role for the  
Urbana Sustainability  
Advisory Commission

# Outline

- Enabling Ordinance
- Accomplishments
- Enduring Role
- Action Requested

# Enabling Ordinance

- “identifying the highest priorities for city government and citizens to achieve sustainable management of natural resources –water and energy in particular- and shall recommend to the Mayor and City Council goals to achieve and workable mean to reach such goals.”

# Accomplishments

- February 2010 updated  
May 2012
- Sustainability Goals  
integrated into Council  
Goals

## Urbana City Council and Mayor Goals

Adopted Feb. 1, 2010.

Updated May 2012.

The City of Urbana recognizes that stewardship of the city means not only addressing the needs of today's residents but planning for the future -- short and long term -- in a cohesive, coherent way. These City Council and Mayoral Goals represent the core principles we will apply over our term in office as we help guide Urbana on the path forward. They form a common point of understanding from which the planning and government of Urbana proceeds.

Our specific goals include enhancing public safety, achieving financial sustainability, promoting economic development, maintaining a vibrant, innovative downtown, working toward environmental sustainability and improving the quality of life in Urbana.

**Public safety:** Our top goal always must be to provide for the safety of our residents by maintaining sufficiently staffed and well-trained police, fire and public works departments and providing modern facilities for them to work in.

**Financial sustainability:** Our goal is to have a financially stable city, with sufficient reserves to cover periodic downturns in the economy. Longer-term, the city should investigate securing new sources of revenue including city ownership of public utilities, such as broadband, water and electricity/energy.

**Economic development:** To minimize the tax burden on residents, Urbana must continue to grow and attract new jobs. The city should pursue infill development whenever possible, work to enhance new development corridors to the north and east and work to attract new high-tech jobs. The city should also strive to make sure new projects are as attractive and environmentally sustainable as possible.

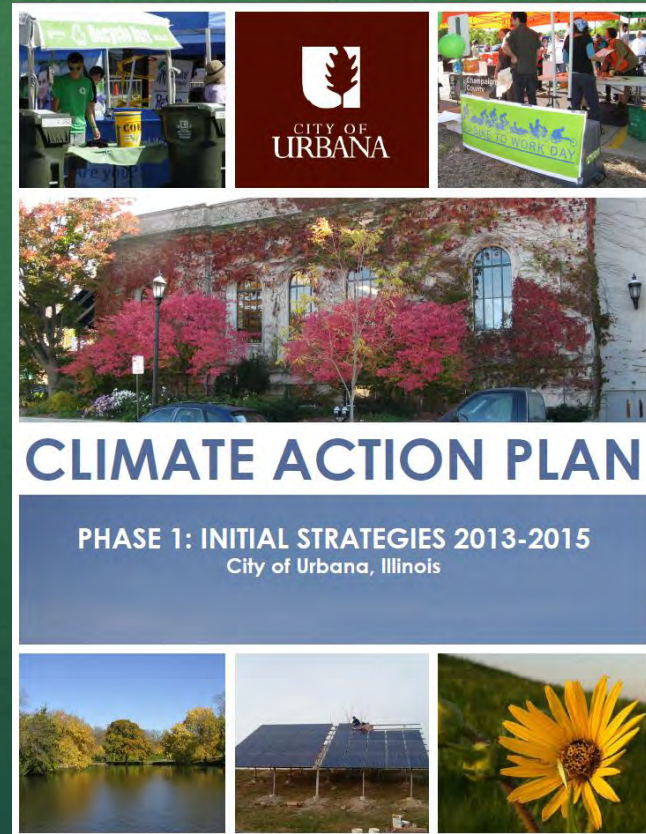
**A vibrant, innovative downtown:** The heart of a city is its downtown, and Urbana must continue to maintain its downtown as a vibrant, attractive place to live, work and shop. The city will strive to retain existing businesses, to attract new businesses and to fill vacant buildings and sites. The city also will begin implementing the Boneyard Creek Master Plan to transform Boneyard Creek into a downtown amenity.

**Environmental sustainability:** The city must implement and encourage environmental sustainability, including evaluating all city projects for sustainability and incorporating energy-savings systems. The city should establish partnerships and develop programs to encourage residents and businesses to adopt sustainable practices. The city council will adopt a climate action plan and work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through a variety of measures, including making the city more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.

**Quality of life:** The city must take the steps necessary to ensure a high quality of life for its residents. Those steps include maintaining a social services-based safety net, diversity in the city work force,

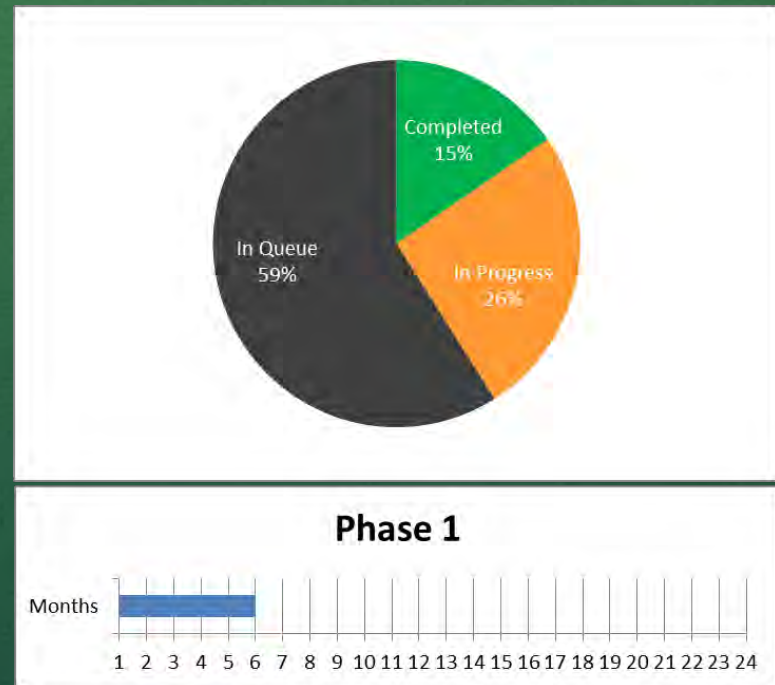
# Accomplishments

- January 2013
  - Climate Action Plan Phase 1
    - Through 2020 Phase 1
- 2020
  - Climate Action Pan Phase 2
    - Through 2050 Phase 2



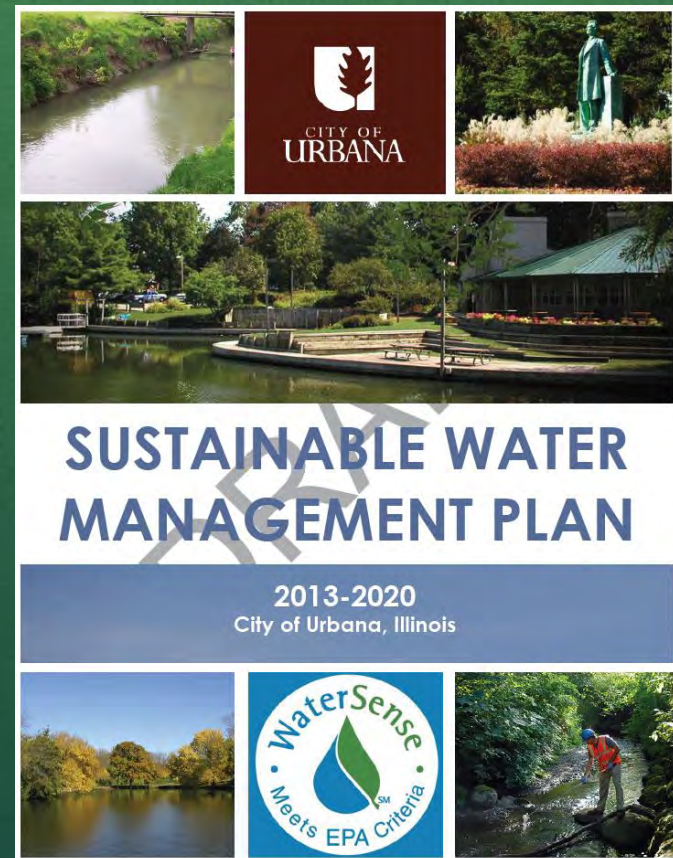
# Accomplishments

- Jan. 2013
  - Climate Action Plan
    - 15% Completed
    - 26% In Progress
    - 59% In Queue



# Accomplishments

- May 2013
  - Draft Sustainable Water Management Plan
    - Through 2020
- Final expected Summer 2013



# An Enduring Role

- SAC has substantially addressed the two items specified in the enabling ordinance
  - Energy
  - Water
- Enabling ordinance also calls for SAC to address sustainable management of natural resources
- SAC work on Phase 2 of the Climate Action Plan will begin in approximately 12-18 months



# An Enduring Role

- Sustainability Advisory Commission meeting discussion identified roles
  - To serve as a forum for sustainability issues with a focus on actions to be taken on each. At least some of the meetings would include presentations by experts, and all meetings would involve plans for engagement or other actions.
  - To serve as a forum for sustainability issues with a focus on public discussion. Presentations by experts would be a vital part of this focus.
  - To identify synergies among other groups such as governmental agencies, boards, and commissions. The focus would be on building collaborative relationships with and among the groups by having individual commission members attend their meetings/events and/or by initiating joint meetings.

# Action Requested from Committee of the Whole

- Discuss the SAC's enduring role for the next 12-18 months
- Determine if ordinance, policy, or resolution describing enduring role is necessary