



Environmental Commission Strategic Planning Session July 9, 2022

Final Report

The Environmental Commission of the City of Dallas met for a strategic planning session on Saturday, July 9, 2022. The meeting was held in the Flag Room of City Hall. The purpose of the session was to identify the commission's strategic priorities as they work toward fulfilling their mission. The meeting was led by the Chair of the Commission, Kathryn Bazan. Commissioners and staff liaison to the commission attended the meeting, which was open to the public. Mike Mowery, the President of Leadership Development for Strategic Government Resources (SGR) led the commission in a discussion to help them identify their strategic priorities. This report is a summary of that discussion.

Format

The Commission reviewed its purpose, role, and procedures. Several commissioners shared updates on critical issues and challenges in their districts. SGR then led the commission to focus on the strategic priorities that they felt were most crucial to pursue in the upcoming months and years.

The participants were randomly divided into four small groups, which consisted of approximately 4 or 5 in each group. They were asked to develop a list of their top five priorities. After each group compiled their list, they were combined with one other group. The groups compared their lists and synthesized them into a list of their five top priorities. After they accomplished this, each of the combined groups presented their synthesized list of five priorities to everybody.

The Commission discussed these two lists and identified the common priorities. The two groups had very similar lists. The final step of this process was to synthesize the priorities of both groups into one list of unified priorities. That list is as follows:

Unified Priorities

- 1. Advance environmental equity by encouraging the city to codify equity into its laws and processes. Equitable solutions should meet the varying need of each community.**
- 2. Prioritize public and environmental health by advancing the city's Greenhouse Gas emissions reductions efforts to meet the 2030 Interim Target and 2050 Carbon Neutrality Target.**
- 3. Identify and leverage all resources, including data, funding, incentives and strategic partnerships needed to accomplish the CECAP's goals.**
- 4. Create inclusive, two-way community communication and support community-led accountability related to environmental issues.**
- 5. Transform the City of Dallas into a hub for environmental innovation.**

Before adjourning, the Commissioners discussed takeaways and next steps. Included in those steps is the possibility of creating subcommittees to ensure that the Commission can successfully accomplish its goals.