Draft Natural Resource & Environmental Quality Policies 6/12/19

Goal 1 – Protect and conserve Milwaukie's environmental quality and natural resources.

1. Protect and enhance the function, quality, and diversity of the City's natural resources and ecosystems through a combination of development regulations, incentives, and partnerships with other public agencies, community groups, property owners, and other residents.

2. Pursue funding for the acquisition, protection, or enhancement of natural resources through local groups, environmental organizations, and federal and State agencies.

3. Promote public education and collaboration in developing strategies for protecting the function and quality of air, water, and other natural resources.

4. Support the clean-up and remediation of brownfields and other potentially contaminated land in an effort to protect natural resources and the City's groundwater supply.

5. Periodically update the City's inventory of wetlands and other natural resources.

Goal 2 – Enhance water quality and water resources.

1. Support programs and regulations to enhance healthy watersheds and maintain resilient floodplains.

2. Support efforts to restore Kellogg and Johnson Creeks and remove the Kellogg Dam.

3. Improve and expand coordination with adjacent jurisdictions on the protection and restoration of local rivers, creeks, and other natural resources.

4. Maintain the City's regulatory hierarchy that requires development to 1) avoid, 2) minimize, and 3) mitigate for impacts to natural resources.

5. Manage floodplains to protect and restore associated natural resources and functions, increase storage capacity, minimize the adverse impacts of flood events, and promote climate change resiliency.

6. Protect water quality of streams by controlling the amount, temperature, and quality of the runoff that flows into them, including through the reduction of sediment, bacteria, hazardous chemicals, metals, and other pollutants.

7. Maintain and improve stormwater detention and treatment standards to meet water quality and wildlife habitat protection goals and standards. Place an emphasis on design of stormwater facilities that incorporate green technology and systems.

8. Monitor and ensure protection of the City's groundwater resources, particularly those water resources that provide the City with potable water.

9. Cooperate with State and federal regulatory programs to protect domestic groundwater resources from potential pollution.

Goal 3 – Protect and conserve fish and wildlife habitat.

1. Protect habitat areas for fish and wildlife species that live and move through the City, with a focus on habitat that is part of or helps create an interconnected system of high-quality habitat.

2. Consider impacts to habitat connectivity when reviewing development proposals.

3. Work with regulatory agencies and private property owners to remove barriers to fish passage between the Willamette River and its tributaries.

4. Protect and enhance riparian vegetation along creeks and streams to better manage water temperature and to provide a source of woody debris for habitat.

5. Require mitigation that replaces the ecological functions and values lost through disturbance of riparian corridors and habitat conservation areas when development is approved.

6. Encourage voluntary restoration of natural resource areas, including removal of invasive-species vegetation and planting of native-species or climate-adapted vegetation.

Goal 4 – Develop a healthy urban forest in Milwaukie.

1. Maintain and implement an urban forestry program.

2. Support achievement of the City's goal of creating a 40% tree canopy through a combination of development code and other strategies that lead to preservation of existing trees and planting of new trees.

3. Provide flexibility in the division of land, the siting and design of buildings, and design standards as appropriate to reduce the impact of development on environmentally-sensitive areas and to retain native vegetation and trees.

4. Enhance protections for existing native-species and climate-adapted trees and tree canopy.

Goal 5 – Encourage sustainable design and development practices.

1. Provide alternatives to conventional construction and site planning techniques; and incorporate sustainable and low-impact building- and site-planning technologies, habitat-friendly development strategies, and green infrastructure into City codes and standards.

2. Identify and diminish or remove existing barriers to sustainable design and development in City codes.

Goal 6 – Maintain a safe and healthy natural environment.

1. Improve air quality to provide a healthy and sustainable environment consistent with federal and state standards.

2. Encourage the monitoring of local industrial activities to ensure that applicable State and federal standards are met.

3. Support community-led efforts such as good-neighbor agreements that aim to evaluate and reduce local sources of air pollution and their impacts on local residents.

4. Encourage building and landscape design and land use patterns that limit and/or mitigate negative noise impacts to building users and residents, particularly in areas near freeways, regional freight ways, major city traffic streets, and other sources of noise.

5. Continue to support enforcement of noise standards and other nuisance codes for industries and vehicles.

6. Evaluate impacts related to light pollution and require appropriate mitigation.