

Community Sustainability Element

Introduction

The Community Sustainability Element of the 2009 East Providence Comprehensive Plan is the City's first detailed document that specifically addresses sustainability goals and objectives. The City recognizes that local government can play an important role in community sustainability through the carefully planned provision of City services and infrastructure improvements. Our vision for this plan element is to ensure that wise decisions are made regarding land use, management of City infrastructure,



and use of energy resources that satisfy present needs and also provide tangible benefits for our community well into the future. Aspects of sustainability to be considered in this plan include the conservation of natural resources, improved energy efficiency, low-impact development and green building techniques, sustainable transportation initiatives, and community involvement. Sustainability is central to long-term planning and is a primary theme of this Comprehensive Plan update, and as such many of the goals, objectives, and action items in the Community Sustainability Element reflect items in other Plan elements. The Community Sustainability Element presents a snapshot of ongoing, planned and visualized items directly pertaining to aspects of sustainability that are germane to the City and have the potential to protect and improve the quality of life for East Providence residents.

Community Sustainability Planning Framework

Land Use 2025: Rhode Island State Land Use Policies and Plan: State Guide Plan Element 121

Adopted by the State Planning Council in 2006, *Land Use 2025* expresses a series of goals, objectives and strategies for guiding land development in Rhode Island through the year 2025. The primary land use goal of *Land Use 2010* is:

“A sustainable Rhode Island that is beautiful, diverse, connected and compact with a distinct quality of place in our urban and rural centers, and abundance of natural resources, and a vibrant sustainable economy”.

Specific policies related to Community Sustainability in East Providence are found in the document as follows:

- Achieve a livable, coherent and visually pleasing environment.
- Facilitate public stewardship of healthy and vibrant watersheds that sustain life and support current and future uses.

- Encourage development patterns that protect water for drinking, ecosystems, and other critical purposes, as well as other natural resources.
- Create an interconnected network of bike paths, trails, and walkways to expand pedestrian and bicycle travel options.
- Develop residential, commercial and mixed-use areas that are compactly grouped, attractive, and compatible with the ability of land and water resources and level of public facilities and services available to support development.
- Develop and promote innovative and sustainable land development techniques and apply available technology to make decent housing available for low- and moderate-income households.
- Protect and provide utility services that are adequate to meet the needs of present and future populations.
- Encourage development that applies best management practices for water and stormwater management.
- Promote concentrations of high-density housing and employment near existing mass transit routes.
- Require the integration of appropriate transit, pedestrian, bicycle and other modal choices in new development to lessen dependence on the automobile where feasible.

Conservation of Natural Resources

While the primary source of information regarding goals, objectives and action items for natural resources in the City is found in the Natural Resources, Recreation and Open Space Plan Element, many of these items pertain to community sustainability and are also referenced in this Element. Since the 2004 Comprehensive Plan Update, several actions have been continued or initiated with respect to natural resource conservation that directly address sustainability.

One action of particular interest was continued progress on the Ten Mile River Fish Restoration Project, which includes three fish ladders to be located at the Turner Reservoir Dam, the Hunt's Mills Dam, and the Omega Pond Dam. The goal of this innovative restoration project between The City of East Providence, Save the Bay, the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program, Department of Environmental Management, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is to restore self-sustaining runs of American shad and river herring to the lower reaches of the Ten Mile River including the Turner Reservoir. As of late 2009, construction of the fish ladders at Hunt's Mills dam and Turner Reservoir dam was expected to begin during spring 2010. As a result of a 16-inch gas main that is in conflict with the proposed fish ladder at Omega Pond dam, a section of the gas line less than 100 feet in length must be relocated prior to construction, which will delay the construction of the Omega Pond site to the spring of 2011.

The City continued to secure donations of land along the Runnins River to the south of Route 6. Land donations totaling 22 acres were finalized late in 2008, protecting significant parcels of land and representing progress toward a long-term goal of creating an uninterrupted greenway along the Runnins River from the Route 6 area southward to the Barrington line along Hundred Acre Cove.

Flood mitigation and protection of floodplains became an enhanced priority as a result of major residential flooding near the Runnins River north of Waterman Avenue in 2005

and 2006. A restriction was placed on development within the 100-year floodplain in this area in an effort to preserve floodplain and wetland functions in this area, which include the storage of floodwater and the protection of water quality in and downstream from this area. These factors are carefully considered by City staff during the review process for both residential and commercial development proposals.

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

The City is actively investigating the use of renewable sources of energy and is studying options to achieve greater energy efficiency. A City Energy Committee has been formed to aid in this effort and pursue outside funding for projects that will realize long-term energy savings for the City. Among initiatives already in place in East Providence is a proposal to develop an alternative energy education center at the Hunt's Mills Historic site that would showcase renewable energy and green building techniques. This project could include functioning hydroelectric, solar and geothermal infrastructure and a green roof while restoring the historic Hunt's Mills Pump House for use as both a power station and a community meeting facility. The facility would be unique in the southern New England region and would serve to enhance other sustainable energy initiatives that the City pursues in the years to follow.

City staff has investigated several renewable energy sources with regard to their potential as sources of power generation for East Providence. Some of the findings and future recommendations are presented below.

Wind Energy

The use of wind power has visibly increased across the Rhode Island since 2005 with new turbines recently erected in Portsmouth and in Warwick. Investigation continues as of this time regarding additional land-based turbines in Rhode Island as well offshore wind farms in Block Island Sound where a major utility-scale project may be the most feasible. Landward wind studies indicate, not surprisingly, that aside from Block Island, the immediate South Coast and the lower Narragansett Bay area has the steadiest and strongest winds in the state. This has not prevented wind power development efforts in other areas and the City should continue to investigate potential smaller scale wind projects. East Providence is a partner in the East Bay Wind Consortium (EBEC), a voluntary cooperative effort between nine cities and towns in the East Bay Region extending from East Providence to Little Compton and Newport, with administrative, technical and legal assistance from Roger Williams University. In 2009, the EBEC was evaluating the feasibility of developing a regional wind energy system that would benefit all nine municipalities, and had received a grant in the amount of \$140,000 from a combination of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and the Rhode Island Foundation to pursue this study. The City has supported this effort through both monetary and in-kind services and plans continued support of this unique collaboration of municipalities in our region.

Solar Energy

The Northeastern United States is not as favored for sunshine as are other portions of the nation, in particular the Desert Southwest and High Plains regions. However, the southern New England coastal plain, including the Providence area, receives more

sunshine than the remainder of New England and is competitive with the coastal Mid-Atlantic region with regard to average annual hours of sunshine.

The U.S. Department of Energy has developed a “Brightfields Initiative” to encourage the productive use of brownfield sites and advance the use of solar energy technologies. The term “brightfields” refers to the conversion of contaminated sites into usable land by bringing pollution-free solar energy and high-tech solar manufacturing jobs to these sites. Brightfield options include the installation of photovoltaic arrays that can result in a reduction in cleanup costs, building integrated solar energy systems as part of an area redevelopment, and solar manufacturing plants on brownfields. Large-scale solar energy in a southern New England setting remains an expensive proposition. For example, the groundbreaking Brockton (Massachusetts) Brightfields project, the largest of its kind in the nation when completed in 2006 with nearly 1400 solar modules, was projected to provide power to 70 homes and cost over \$3 million to construct. Substantial outside funding would likely be necessary for any required for any single municipality to develop large-scale solar, and indeed the Brockton project received funding from state and federal grants along with a municipal bond.

Smaller scale solar, consisting of individual solar commercial and residential units, may be a more practicable and realistic use of solar energy in East Providence over the coming decade. Retrofitting of City facilities to incorporate solar technology will be investigated in the coming years. Residential solar still requires a considerable investment for individual homeowners, though standard residential solar kits that provide all or most electricity for home consumption are now available with pricing in low tens of thousands of dollars. Alternative energy tax credits may be available for such purposes as well.

Hydropower

The Ten Mile River system in the northern portion of East Providence offers a unique opportunity within a coastal urban setting to explore the feasibility of producing electricity through hydroelectric generation. The Ten Mile River’s 54 square-mile watershed ensures a reliable year-round flow and features an elevation drop of around 50 feet within East Providence. The City is pursuing funding to conduct an engineering study on the



feasibility of hydropower at two locations along the river; the Hunt’s Mills Dam and the Omega Pond Dam. The existing Hunt’s Mills Pump House has much of the necessary infrastructure in place and was used to produce electricity for several decades up until the 1970s. Recent assessments have concluded that with the proper modifications, the Hunts Mills dam could generate up to 750,000 KWh annually, with the potential for over 1,000,000 KWh annually at the Omega Pond Dam. The City is excited at the prospect of hydropower as a viable renewal energy source in the foreseeable future.

Energy Efficiency

An Energy Committee consisting of City officials was formed in 2009 to study potential opportunities to improve energy efficiency in City operations. Energy audits of City and School Department facilities were planned as an aid in determining how City Buildings can be retrofitted and upgraded to reduce energy costs while provided for improved indoor environmental conditions for the many users of these facilities. Interior lighting fixtures and bulbs were replaced by more efficient lighting systems in some city facilities including City Hall and the City Garage during 2009. Further efficiencies could be realized through the development and implementation of a “green procurement” policy in the City whereby major purchases such as City vehicles, HVAC systems, and more would have the best energy efficiency possible for their intended use. The lack of available capital improvement funding for infrastructure improvements and vehicles in recent years has hindered efforts to develop and carry out a program that would save resources and result in long-term savings in operating expenses. The City is also considering partnerships with Energy Service Companies (ESCOs), and using performance contracting as a way of funding the installation of energy efficient systems. With performance contracting, there are no up-front costs to the City and improvement costs are paid out of long-term guaranteed energy savings.

Low-Impact Development and “Green” Building

The City of East Providence and East Providence Special Waterfront Development District have both established stormwater management programs to effectively deal with added stormwater run-off resulting from development within the City. The Waterfront Development District has received approximately \$334,000 in State and Federal funds for waterfront environmental initiatives over the past three years. The Waterfront Commission received \$234,000 in 2006 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for innovative stormwater management, design, and construction in the Waterfront District. A pilot stormwater management project at Bold Point Park will feature low-impact development (or “LID”) systems: LID is an approach to stormwater management that works with nature to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features, minimizing effective imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product. The project will feature vegetated stormwater systems such as constructed wetlands, permeable pavement and rain gardens. The District also received funds from the EPA’s Section 319 Nonpoint Source program for the project and for the elimination of invasive phragmites and replacement with native vegetation. These funds will enable the City to use innovative technology to improve the water quality of Upper Narragansett Bay.

The Waterfront District received \$234,746 from the Small Business Association (SBA) in 2009 as part of the federal FY2009 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The funds will be used to assist small businesses in constructing or renovating properties using “green” building design and other sustainable development approaches.

In November of 2009, the Rhode Island Green Buildings Act was signed into law. This new law applies to buildings entering the design phase after Jan. 1, 2010, which feature new construction of more than 5,000 square feet and renovation of spaces greater than 10,000 square feet if such projects receive any funding from the state. Under this law,

building design must conform to the internationally recognized United States Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system or an equivalent high-performance green building standard. Those standards are designed to promote a whole-building approach to sustainability in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, energy and water efficiency, improved indoor air quality and environmentally sensitive use of resources and materials (Source: Rhode Island General Assembly)

The City should encourage developers and project managers to adopt “green” building practices during renovation and new construction of residential and commercial buildings. The mixed-use “Village on the Waterfront” development to be located along Veterans Memorial Parkway, featuring over 600 residential units, has been designed to attain Silver Certification through the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program. This proposal represents one of the largest (residential) projects to date in the State of Rhode Island that would attain this level of environmental certification.

Sustainable Transportation

The City of East Providence is very fortunate to have over six miles of dedicated multi-use non-motorized vehicle paths within its borders. The 14-mile East Bay Bike Path is one of the gems of the Rhode Island recreational landscape and is one of 25 trails across the country that the National Rails to Trails Conservancy has selected for their Rails to Trails Hall of Fame. East Providence contains five miles of this highly scenic bikeway. In addition to its recreational and scenic attributes, many local residents also use the facility to commute to work by bike within Providence and the East Bay communities.



Another multi-use trail, the Ten Mile Greenway, spans 2.2 miles in Pawtucket and northeastern East Providence. The East Providence segment of this linear park opened in 2004 and is widely lauded for its scenic attributes. Long-term plans for the Ten Mile Greenway include expansion via a trail extension, or combination of trail and street network, southward to the Hunt's Mills Historic Site, with a goal of eventually creating being a viable and safe connection between the Ten Mile and the East Bay Bike Path.

There are a number of factors that currently make bicycling between these two facilities and within other portions of East Providence problematic. Many of the City's through streets are not bike-friendly, being heavily traveled and relatively narrow considering their traffic volume. On-street parking on both sides of the roadway is a common occurrence, with numerous curb cuts for side streets and commercial uses.

Nonetheless, bicycle commuters are evident on City streets, particularly in the northern portion of the City between the Henderson Bridge and the Seekonk line.

It is acknowledged that the City's established infrastructure and street layout will always present a challenge regarding safe bicycling through portions of the City not directly adjacent to one of bike paths. The City has been studying the street system to determine how to best utilize it to provide links to and between the existing bikeway systems, and to link City residents who are not in close proximity to these facilities. Opportunities to accomplish greater bicycle connectivity exist via planned construction of new roadways and reconstruction of existing arteries, along with relatively minor retrofitting of other streets that could be designated as bike routes. The City is also interested in coordinating with neighboring communities including Providence, Pawtucket, Barrington and Seekonk, Massachusetts to explore opportunities for integration of municipal bicycle path networks.

Pedestrian Initiatives

In 2006, a Pedestrian Plan concept was developed for the City as part of a graduate project for the University of Rhode Island Community Planning program. The Plan analyzed and weighted 16 generators of pedestrian traffic, ranging from census data to the locations of bus stops and civic facilities, to derive a map depicting priority areas for pedestrian safety improvements. This information is being updated to account for changes in some of the criteria, in particular to place more emphasis on City's public schools as pedestrian traffic generators. An available City Sidewalk inventory will be included as part of a final Pedestrian Plan which can help to prioritize areas where new sidewalks or sidewalk improvements are necessitated.

The National Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program was established in Rhode Island in 2007 with a call for proposals from communities to participate in this 100% federally funded reimbursement program. Funding is available through this program for a wide variety of projects and activities, both infrastructure and non-infrastructure, designed to encourage schools and communities to work together to make walking and bicycling to school a safe and routine activity. East Providence successfully attained a grant for \$23,000 in 2007 for improvements to sidewalks and crosswalks in the immediate area of Kent Heights Elementary School, and for the establishment of an SRTS program of activities within the school. School officials and parents have embraced the program, resulting in increased awareness of the pedestrian hazards around the school along with solutions to these issues, as well as activities that encourage more students to walk to and from school. The School will continue this programming, and was planning to apply for additional grant opportunities through SRTS. Other schools in the City will be informed of the SRTS program, and will be encouraged to submit proposals and develop their own in-school safety programs. SRTS represents an excellent opportunity to promote walking and physical activity among elementary and middle school students, and to accomplish infrastructure improvements including sidewalks in the vicinity of schools to improve safety for the school community and area residents alike.

Public Transportation

The Rhode Island Public Transportation Authority (RIPTA) connects many points in East Providence to downtown Providence and other East Bay locations, and through downtown Providence to the remainder of the state. RIPTA Routes serving East

Providence include Routes 32 through 34 servicing central and southern portions of the City, and Routes 35 and 78 serving mainly northern areas. Three of these routes, 33, 34 and 78, traverse the corner of Pawtucket and Taunton Avenues and in the past have all shared a single bus stop in this area that effectively served as a hub for the City and nearby areas. Recent development activity in this area has resulted in the loss of this RIPTA hub. The City has been working with RIPTA to re-establish this important regional transportation hub to enhance service and bus line connectivity, making it easier and more convenient for City residents to use our state's primary public transportation system. This effort and others in cooperation with our State's primary public transportation authority will continue.

Community Involvement

In August of 2008, The City of East Providence implemented a Total Participation Recycling program in an effort to reduce the amount of solid waste material going directly to the state's central landfill. This program, also known as "No Bins-No Barrels", mandates that residents must set recycling bins out to the street each week with their regular trash in order for their trash to be collected. This requirement and an effective public informational campaign resulted in an increase in the City's recycling rate from 21.3% for the year ending June 30, 2008 to nearly 25% for the year ending June 30, 2009. The City's yard waste collection program has also successfully diverted substantial material from the solid waste stream for use as compost. Future initiatives should include the consideration of commercial and multi-family recycling programs. The Town of West Warwick was able to save money and increase their recycling rate significantly through a condominium recycling program that started in 2006. Similar efforts in East Providence along with continued outreach to residents regarding the value of recycling to the City should be continued in order to increase our rate of materials recycling. New multi-family development will be encouraged at permitting stage to incorporate recycling. Developers of the Village on the Waterfront project have included provision for recycling in their development plans.

Youth Involvement

The City recognizes that youth buy-in with regard to sustainability is crucial to the long-term success of programs that promote responsible stewardship of our natural resources and the transition to a more sustainable culture. School and community organizations have involved local youth on a number of City projects. Recent projects include an extensive study and clean-up of the lowland area around Martin Middle School performed by the entire seventh grade at the school, and conservation area and park work by youth crews sponsored by groups such as the Boys and Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, and Groundwork Providence. The City should cultivate these efforts and develop a seasonal annual program for youth involvement on outdoor City projects as an aid in maintenance and beautification, and to foster awareness of our natural surroundings.

Community Sustainability Goals and Objectives

Sustainability and Natural Resources

Goal 1: Maintain, enhance and appropriately manage the City's abundant natural resources.

- Objective 1.1: Identify special districts or special places, and define their character, functions, and contributing features.
- Objective 1.2: Utilize a City-owned property such as the Hunt's Mills site for a seasonal Farmer's Market to showcase locally-grown products.
- Objective 1.3: Support efforts of the City's Conservation Commission and re-invigorate the Land Trust regarding the stewardship of City-owned open space.
- Objective 1.4: Continue to support the long-term effort to construct fish ladders at the Omega Pond, Hunts Mill and Turner Reservoir Dams.
- Objective 1.5: Continue to pursue opportunities to acquire land or attain conservation easements in the Runnins River Critical Area.
- Objective 1.6: Establish an enhanced fee schedule for long-term owners of vacant property that would be sufficient to cover the complete cost of their maintenance, and to provide a disincentive to owners retaining these unutilized properties.
- Objective 1.7: Develop a tree farm on City property that would enable the City to provide street trees for residential and commercial projects.
- Objective 1.8: Continue efforts to protect the City's wetland and floodplain areas to preserve their wildlife sanctuary and natural flood mitigation functions.

Goal 2: Promote the conservation and efficient use of energy and increased use of renewable forms of energy.

- Objective 2.1: Pursue options for the siting of alternative energy systems within the City.
- Objective 2.2: Establish zoning provisions for the development and installation of renewable energy facilities in the Southeast Drainage Area and/or other appropriate locations.
- Objective 2.3: Continue City participation in the East Bay Energy Consortium's effort to develop a regional alternative energy system among the East Bay communities.
- Objective 2.4: Investigate the use of both micro- and larger-scale solar technology for residential, commercial and municipal use.

Objective 2.5: Incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design™ (LEED) “green building” techniques in new construction and rehabilitation wherever possible.

Objective 2.6: Retrofit existing City facilities to incorporate “green” building standards which utilize sustainable and renewable energy and result in energy and resource efficiency.

Objective 2.7: Incrementally replace streetlights and traffic signal bulbs with energy-conserving LED bulbs to save energy and reduce City electricity costs.

Objective 2.8: Explore options for the incremental replacement of City vehicles with more efficient vehicles. Set a goal to have a certain percentage of City vehicles be in the top 25% of efficiency for their weight class by 2025.

Objective 2.9: Continue to pursue the development of an alternative energy education center at the Hunt’s Mill Historic Site.

Objective 2.10: Investigate the feasibility of hydroelectric facilities at appropriate locations along the Ten Mile River.

Objective 2.11: Work with the City’s newly-formed Energy Committee to develop a comprehensive Energy Plan for the City.

Objective 2.12: Continue to pursue Small Business Administration funding for the green rehabilitation of commercial properties.

Goal 3: Utilize “green” building and Low Impact Development (LID) techniques for all new development and modifications to existing development.

Objective 3.1: Utilize the Waterfront District Commission’s Stormwater Management Study and City Stormwater Management Plan to improve the quality of stormwater runoff entering coastal waters, local streams, and wetlands.

Objective 3.2: Require Low Impact Development (LID) techniques for new development such as green roofs, swales and rain gardens, and the reduction of impervious surface.

Objective 3.3: Investigate the use of pervious materials for pavement and sidewalks and encourage their use on City projects where practicable.

Objective 3.4: Continue to offer rehabilitation loans that incorporate construction techniques and equipment that follow green building principles and that utilize renewable energy and promote energy efficiency.

Objective 3.5: Consider vacant and underused properties as opportunities to provide housing, commercial space, community gardens, or recreational space.

Objective 3.6: Encourage the establishment and growth of green businesses in the City through low-interest loans and other economic development mechanisms.

Goal 4: Improve safety and increase opportunities for pedestrians and bicyclists within the City and increase and support public transportation.

- Objective 4.1: Update and expand the Pedestrian Plan developed by the URI Community Planning Program in 2006 as a guide to improving of the City's pedestrian network.
- Objective 4.2: Continue to work with the School Department to pursue opportunities to improve and promote pedestrian safety through the Safe Routes to School Program and other available options.
- Objective 4.3: Construct infill sidewalks and pedestrian connections through capital improvement programs and during roadway or streetscape projects.
- Objective 4.3: Work with the Department of Transportation and local bicycling organizations in the development of a practical street-based bike network.
- Objective 4.4: Investigate options for additional off-street bikeways including the Seekonk River Crossing and other underutilized open land.
- Objective 4.5: Work with RIDOT and RIDEM to expand the Ten Mile Greenway from Kimberly Ann Rock southward to the Hunt's Mill Historic Site.
- Objective 4.6: Coordinate with neighboring communities of Providence, Pawtucket, Barrington and Seekonk to explore opportunities to integrate municipal bicycle networks.
- Objective 4.7: Continue to coordinate with the Seekonk Area Trails Group to create links between the City's trail system in the Turner Reservoir area and trails to be developed in the City of East Providence.
- Objective 4.8: Work with RIPTA to enhance public transportation in the City through investigation of a new East Providence transportation hub in the Shopperstown/ Wampanoag Plaza area, and develop other multi-modal transportation facilities to serve future demand.
- Objective 4.9: Whenever possible, integrate appropriate transit, pedestrian, bicycle and other modal choices in new development to lessen dependence on the automobile.

Goal 5: Maintain and if possible increase recycling, reuse and proper disposal of discarded items.

- Objective 5.1: Encourage additional recycling to continue to reduce the percentage of the city's solid waste stream that goes directly to the Central Landfill.
- Objective 5.2: Promote local and statewide collections of hazardous materials and e-waste and educate residents on the importance of keeping these items out of the solid waste stream.
- Objective 5.3: Require recycling for commercial and multi-family residential properties.

Objective 5.4: Increase City use of recycled products and encourage the reduction of printing and paper use whenever possible.

Goal 6: Increase public awareness of the City’s natural resources and their conservation and stewardship.

Objective 6.1: Work with organizations such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Northern Rhode Island Conservation District to educate the community regarding the use of fertilizers and pesticides.

Objective 6.2: Educate the public, particularly youth, about the importance of wetlands, rare and endangered plants and species, floodplains, and wildlife and fish habitats.

Objective 6.3: Encourage the creation of environmental/sustainable curriculum in City public schools.

Objective 6.4: Involve City youth in natural resources sustainability efforts. For example, develop a “Groundwork” type of program for young people in the City to perform seasonal work in the City’s recreation areas.

Table 17. Community Sustainability Implementation Strategies

	Action	Responsibility for Implementation
Natural Resources		
1	Preserve open land in sensitive areas where possible through acquisitions of conservation easements	Planning Department, Conservation Commission
2	Enhance existing City open space for passive recreational use while conserving the natural characteristics of the land	Planning Department, Conservation Commission
3	Appropriately develop the Hunts Mills Historic Site for passive recreation, renewal energy and sustainable technology education	Planning Department, Parks Department
4	Establish a seasonal farmers market to showcase locally grown products	Planning Department, URI Master Gardeners
5	Continue the process to construct fish ladders along the Ten Mile River	Planning Department, Federal and State Government Agencies, Local Environmental Agencies
Renewable Energy/Resource and Energy Efficiency		
6	Develop a comprehensive Energy Plan for the City	Planning Department, City Energy Committee

	Action	Responsibility for Implementation
7	Investigate feasibility and siting potential for development of renewable energy resources	Planning Department, City Energy Committee
8	Retrofit City facilities using "green" building techniques to aid in energy and resources efficiency	Public Works Department, Public Buildings Division, School Department
9	Improve the average efficiency of City vehicles through the replacement of older vehicles with models that have greater fuel efficiency	City Public Works Department, Central Garage Division, Parks Division
10	Enable renewable energy related uses in the Southeast Drainage area including the former Forbes Street Landfill	Planning Department, City Council
11	Replace streetlights and traffic signal bulbs with energy-conserving LED lighting to save energy and reduce electricity costs for the City	Public Works Department
12	Continue to pursue the development of an alternative energy education center and the potential for hydroelectric power generation at the Hunt's Mill Historic Site.	Planning Department
Low-Impact Development and "Green" Building		
13	Improve the quality of stormwater run-off entering the coastal waters and the City drainage system	Waterfront Commission, Public Works Department, Planning Department
14	Offer rehabilitation loans to encourage low-impact construction and green retrofitting techniques and utilize renewable energy resources	Planning Department, Community Development Division
15	Require new development to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) techniques such as green roofs, swales and rain gardens, and the reduction of impervious surfaces	Planning Department, Planning Board, City Council
Transportation		
16	Develop a public transportation hub to connect the bus lines that serve the City	Planning Department, RIPTA
17	Develop City Pedestrian Plan to guide the improvement of the City's pedestrian network and new sidewalk construction	Planning Department, Public Works Department Engineering Division
18	Improve bicycle transportation connections in the City and provide an improved street-based bike route network	Planning Department, Public Works Department Engineering Division
19	Expand the Ten Mile Greenway southward to the Hunts Mills Historic Site	Planning Department, RIDOT, RIDEM

	Action	Responsibility for Implementation
20	Improve and promote pedestrian safety for at City schools.	School Department, Public Works Department, Planning Department, RI Statewide Planning
Community Involvement		
21	Require recycling for commercial and multi-family residential properties.	Recycling Division, City Council
22	Promote local and statewide collections of hazardous materials and e-waste	Recycling Division
23	Involve City youth in various conservation and sustainability initiatives through education and active engagement in conservation projects	Planning Department, School Department, Department of Parks and Recreation.
24	Establish a system-wide sustainability Education program within the East Providence Public Schools	School Department