

Manhattan Beach

Sustainability Task Force 2018

Purpose, Qualifications, & Composition

The City's Sustainability Task Force (STF) is comprised of a diverse cross-section of community stakeholders from business, scientific, non-profit, environmental, and education fields with professional experience, demonstrated expertise, education, or volunteer experience in at least one of the key sustainability areas listed below. Members are selected by the City's Environmental Sustainability Division through a written application process. In addition to community members, the STF also includes key city staff from multiple departments, appointed by the City Manager.

The purpose of this working task force is assist the City in developing long-term Sustainability Goals, share technical skills and lessons learned from previous environmental and sustainability pursuits, volunteer at STF events, and contribute to the development of initiatives and policies related to a variety of topics including:

- climate action and energy
- low-impact development and sustainable building
- plastic pollution reduction
- smart water management; and
- climate adaptation and resiliency

Terms, Duties, & Environmental Work Plan

STF members will serve the City in a technical working group for a term of 12 months with the possibility to extend service at the end of one year. The full STF will meet once a month, to start, with an adaptive meeting schedule to evolve as initiatives are pursued. As needed, the STF may hold working meetings prior to the monthly meetings, most often in subject-area sub-committees. STF members are volunteer positions and will serve without compensation.

The role and duties of STF members is to provide technical expertise in environmental sustainability topics, and provide original research and analysis to help form initiatives and policy recommendations to the City Council regarding environmental sustainability issues. Although the Environmental Work Plan for the City has already been developed and approved for 2018-2020, the STF will have a role in revising and prioritizing initiatives in the Work Plan as needed. In future years, the STF will help with the development of the City's bi-annual Environmental Work Plan. Environmental work evolves quickly, as such, the STF will need to be nimble as the group addresses issues of emerging concern.

Procedures & Decorum

The City's Environmental Manager will run meetings, with City staff assisting with meeting logistics, such as taking notes. STF members may speak during City Council meetings on topics that have or have not been addressed in the STF. For STF meetings, City Staff will prepare a basic agenda and accompanying documentation in advance of STF meetings.

Everyone sees the world in a slightly different way, and individuals serving on the STF are no different. Members will have their own opinions and views on certain issues; however, all members are expected to respect the opinions and views of others on the STF, as well as pursue widely-accepted science-based recommendations and actions.

The City is honored to have STF members as part of the City's Environmental Sustainability team! STF members are valued for their volunteer service and commitment to the community, sustainability, and fellow citizens of the City of Manhattan Beach. Members of the STF play a very important role in making Manhattan Beach a healthy, livable, and sustainable place to live and work.