

CHELTENHAM TOWNSHIP SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

DRAFT – 2/9/2012

In June 2011, Cheltenham Township launched an effort to create a Community Sustainability Plan. After much discussion and analysis of existing community conditions, the Sustainable Cheltenham Committee drafted the following ten sustainability goals. The goals are broad and encompassing, providing a vision for the community to uphold as it moves ahead into the future. Over the next six months, the committee will consider, research, and prioritize specific actions items for the Township government and community stakeholders to implement to achieve these goals. A final draft plan will be presented to the community at public meetings in the fall of 2012.

- (1) **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Engage and educate all Cheltenham residents and stakeholders to unite behind a shared set of goals to build a sustainable future.
- (2) **ENERGY:** Maximize energy efficiency, minimize energy demand and emissions, and shift all community electricity consumption to renewably-sourced energy generated within the township and the region.
- (3) **MOBILITY:** Minimize vehicular travel and emissions, increase use of alternative modes of transportation, and make it desirable, safe, and convenient to walk and bike throughout the township and connect to the region.
- (4) **WASTE REDUCTION:** Minimize solid and hazardous waste disposal, and maximize the re-use of waste products as a resource.
- (5) **WATER MANAGEMENT:** Minimize stormwater hazards, reduce wastewater flows, increase natural absorption of rainwater, and maximize the utility of rainwater as a resource.
- (6) **ECOLOGICAL STEWARDSHIP:** Protect and improve the overall health and ecological diversity of the Township's habitats, waterways, and soils, both on public and private lands.

- (7) **HEALTHY LIVING FOR ALL:** Promote healthy living in Cheltenham through equitable, affordable, and safe access to information, education, recreation, natural areas, car-free transportation, fresh local foods, health care services, clean air, and clean water.
- (8) **LOCAL ECONOMY:** Encourage and support local and regional agriculture, artisans, businesses, institutions, and industry by strengthening connections to, and markets for, local goods and services.
- (9) **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:** Promote building, site development, and landscaping that respects the natural environment and maximizes clean and efficient use of resources, and ensure that all permitting, codes, and regulations support the community's sustainability goals.
- (10) **MONITOR PROGRESS:** Track and report the progress of measurable implementation strategies; re-evaluate and update goals and targets as needed.