

**LAUDERDALE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA
7:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026
LAUDERDALE CITY HALL, 1891 WALNUT STREET**

1. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
2. **APPROVALS**
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Minutes of February 17, 2026 Meeting
3. **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS**
4. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM**
 - a. Climate Action Plan Spreadsheet
 - b. Update Member Reach-Out Areas
5. **SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**
 - a. Planning for Sustainability Fair
 - b. Advertising Sustainability Fair
6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Lauderdale Meetings is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: March 18, 2026 Lauderdale Environment and Sustainability Commission

Time: Mar 18, 2026 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85792728419?pwd=QJvou2RTwwaqIF0bzdUd48OGhcSFOv.1>

Meeting ID: 857 9272 8419

Passcode: 010682

One tap mobile

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Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/85792728419/invitations?signature=wq4TftiRk5nCbpPphqL Sfxu6WqU5GZtd2FzzF9pI9qU>

**LAUDERDALE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
LAUDERDALE CITY HALL, 1891 WALNUT STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bryan Carlson, Monika Davis, Ewa Prochniewicz, Josh Keller, and Ann Sisel.

Members Absent: Jess Winkelaar Keegan McKye.

Others Present: Jeff Dains, City Council; Gregory Goodwine, Ramsey County; Sydne Trusky, Great Plains Institute.

Staff Present: Heather Butkowski and Jim Bownik.

APPROVALS

Vice Chair Carlson asked if there were any suggested changes to the commission meeting agenda. There being none, Sisel made a motion to approve. Prochniewicz seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Vice Chair Carlson asked if there were any suggested changes to the commission meeting minutes of January 20, 2026. There being none, Davis made a motion to approve. Sisel seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM

A. Climate Action Plan Overview by Sydne Tursky of the Great Plains Institute

Sydne Tursky of the Great Plains Institute spent the first part of the meeting presenting on what goes into drafting a Climate Action Plan. She answered Commissioners' questions and noted next steps.

B. Climate Action Plan – Public Engagement Survey Results

Commissioners review the results of the climate action survey. To-date, there were 61 responses. Most showed a desire for the City to put effort towards fighting climate change.

C. Review Climate Action Plan Open House Event

Each Commissioner summarized the sentiments of those they talked to at their table. Staff and Goodwine will work on putting the feedback in matrix form before the next meeting.

D. Joint Meeting with Falcon Heights Environmental Commission on March 9, 2026

Staff realized that March 9 is during Roseville's spring break, which is a conflict for some. Staff will follow up with Falcon Height's staff about coordinating the Sustainability Fair another way.

E. Establish Member Reach-Out Areas

Commissioners noted on the large city map which areas they could cover if the group decided to do future event advertising such as disseminating flyers. Staff will prepare a map with those areas noted for finalizing when all members are present.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. Planning for Sustainability Fair
- B. Climate Action Plan Spreadsheet
- C. Update Member Reach-Out Areas

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

City Hall Open House – 02/11/2026

Clean Economy

- Diverse group of folks (students, elders, renters, families, homeowners)
- Reuse projects like appliance swaps (senior items, pass to freshmen)
- Think of ways to use the walls on the highway – beautification/sustainability project
- Buy nothing – free/swap day for our community
- Clean up and restoration from corporate polluters – make them pay for the damage/accountability
- Green funding initiatives/assistance for small businesses

Clean Transportation

- Sidewalks able to be shoveled and maintained
- Sidewalks area +/- in winter maintenance – taking care of them
- Connectivity between Eustis, Como, etc.?
- Smaller garbage trucks in alleys
- Biking is difficult if you must go down/through 280 – something here to examine?
- Single hauler trash pickup
- Bus stop in Lauderdale vs. just on Larpenteur
- Park & ride is wonderful to use to go from Lauderdale to Minneapolis
- Maintain sidewalks
- Single hauler garbage pickup
- Shuttle that picks up in Lauderdale
- Streetcars
- Transportation options for seniors – shopping, etc.
- Transportation options for the Fern residents
- Include garbage pickup in property taxes

Climate Smart Natural Land

- Tree concerns (disease)
- Community gardens
- Community compost and garden
- Nurture trees and forest (Breck Woods)
- Plantings along the sound barrier wall of 280 – trees, bushes, vines for beauty, cool shade
- Encourage leaving leaves in gardens and composting
- Garbage single company
- Concerned about tree diseases and climate change, hail, etc.
- A single mature tree absorbs roughly 48 pounds (21.8kg. of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per year.

Thriving Communities - How Can We Best Use our Resources?

- Shade trees “artificial canopy”
- Places of worship (peace?)
- Cool place during power outages
- Library? Other options?
- Affordable housing
- Winter compost collection
- Community connection and support – more neighborhood activities
- Save the trees
- Pond was good
- Native plants in boulevards
- Single company garbage pickup
- Save the sliding hill
- Thriving communities - feedback
- Reduce H₂O – reuse
- Emergency hub facilities – be prepared

Clean Energy & Efficient Buildings

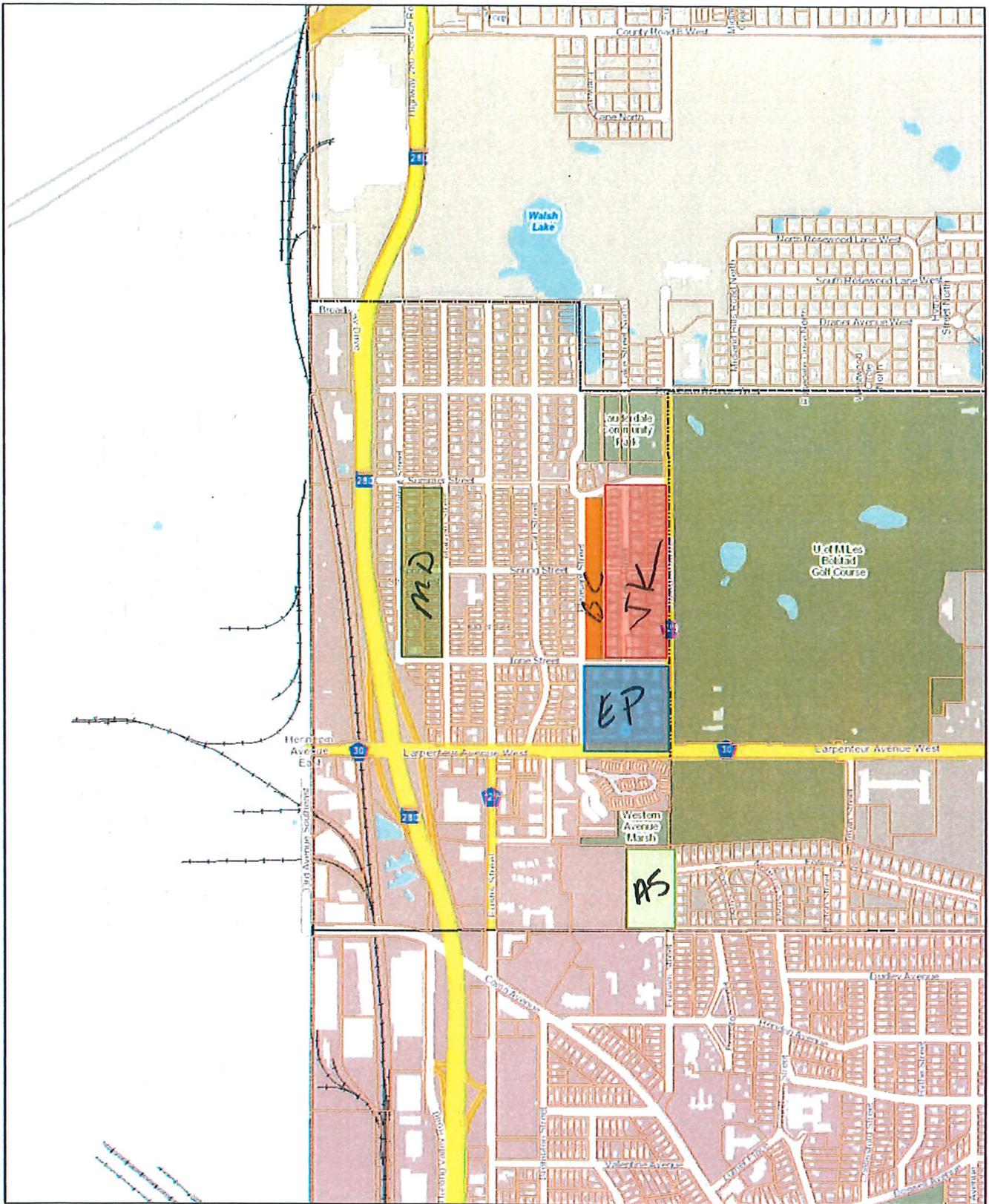
- White building?
- Solar Efficiency improvements? Wait?
- Solar 100% of what you use now? State restrictions?
- Snow loading on solar panels roof angle
- City Hall solar coming soon!
- Big trees in boulevards, smaller trees in backyards
- Invest City resources in solar energy
- Promote solar (how?)
- Generation rate of solar, 10% above what you use, legislative/state policies
- Lauderdale seems vulnerable to wind damage + power & internet outages. Usually due to something that happens outside of city boundaries. But also sometimes overhead lines vs wind and vs big garbage trucks running into poles + motor vehicles of all sizes sliding on icy or wet pavement into poles on the streets and in the alleys. Bad enough in spring and fall but more than a few hours in the summer or winter is hazardous. What can we do to prevent some of these weather-related accidental or storm caused outages? What can we do to make Lauderdale less vulnerable and/or speed recovery from these events? Press telcoms & Xcel to move utilities Underground. Micro grid the city and build Solar + batteries to make Lauderdale, at least temporarily independent from the grid? Get a generator for city hall & maybe wireless internet to provide a close emergency shelter space or at least place to charge & use communication devices?

Healthy Lives

- Unpredictable changes in weather, effects from climate warming on insects, more are moving north
- Plant more trees, it helps to cool the environment
- Are we prepared for weather emergencies? Like tornadoes?
- Pollinator gardens, vegetable gardens in yards
- Help for those who want to plant their boulevards with bee & butterfly friendly native plants
- Encourage residents to landscape for bees to the curb

- Edible landscaping, conservation of resources – rainwater capture, gardener energy
- Wildfire smoke affecting plants and covering with soot/dust
- Excessive use of plastic in food packaging
- Wild-looking gardens are OK
- Noticeable difference of heat and wildfires
- Rain gardens, bee lawns – what's next?
- Get children & youth involved in learning/gardening
- Water quality, testing water

Map Ramsey



2/20/2026, 2:26:15 PM

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|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Areas | Override 4 | Tax Parcels |
| Override 1 | Override 5 | Cities |
| Override 2 | Personal Property | County Offices |
| Override 3 | | |

