

# County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

## Ordinance No. O2016-0008

Sponsored by: <b>Councilmembers Miller, Simon and Conwell and County Executive Budish/ Department of Sustainability</b>	<b>An Ordinance</b> amending Section 202.18 of the Cuyahoga County Code to provide for creation and adoption of a County Sustainability Plan.
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WHEREAS, in December 2014 the County Department of Sustainability was established pursuant to Ordinance No. O2014-0023, as codified in Section 202.18 of the Cuyahoga County Code.

WHEREAS, the Department of Sustainability, per Section 202.18 (A) of the Cuyahoga County Code, is responsible for carrying out the following functions:

- a. Promoting environmentally sustainable business practices in the internal operations of the County;
- b. Collaborating with businesses, non-profit organizations, political subdivisions and government agencies to develop programs incorporating environmentally sustainable methods into accepted practice;
- c. Promoting economic development to support businesses that provide environmentally sustainable goods and services;
- d. Educating the public about environmentally sustainable practices;
- e. Advising, when requested, the County Executive and the County Council on policies and programs related to environmental sustainability; and,
- f. Coordinate and collaborate with other directors and departments to achieve operational efficiencies and to eliminate redundancy within County government; and,

WHEREAS, Council now seeks to develop and adopt a five-year strategic plan to achieve the foregoing objectives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 202.18 of the Cuyahoga County Code is hereby amended to read as follows (additions are underlined and bolded, deletions are stricken):

## **Section 202.18 Department of Sustainability**

### **A. The Cuyahoga County Department of Sustainability**

1. There is hereby established the Department of Sustainability for Cuyahoga County under the supervision of the County Executive and the Director of Sustainability. The Department shall be its own appointing authority pursuant to the County Charter and County Code.
2. The Department of Sustainability shall have the following functions:
  - a. Promoting environmentally sustainable business practices in the internal operations of the County;
  - b. Collaborating with businesses, non-profit organizations, political subdivisions and government agencies to develop programs incorporating environmentally sustainable methods into accepted practice;
  - c. Promoting economic development to support businesses that provide environmentally sustainable goods and services;
  - d. Educating the public about environmentally sustainable practices;
  - e. Advising, when requested, the County Executive and the County Council on policies and programs related to environmental sustainability; and
  - f. Coordinate and collaborate with other directors and departments to achieve operational efficiencies and to eliminate redundancy within County government.

### **B. The Director of Sustainability**

1. There shall be a Director of Sustainability who shall be appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by Council. The Director of Sustainability shall serve at the pleasure of the County Executive and shall lead the Department of Sustainability shall serve at the pleasure of the County Executive and shall lead the Department of Sustainability. The Director of Sustainability shall possess the following qualifications:
  - a. Demonstrated knowledge of county, state, and federal environmental regulation;
  - b. Experience in the finance and administration of public or private-sector sustainability projects; and

- c. Experience establishing collaborative relationships with business, non-profit and public entities.
2. The Director of Sustainability shall be responsible for fulfilling the duties of the Department of Sustainability and may employ such number of deputies, assistants, and employees as s/he determines to be reasonably necessary to assist him/her in carrying out his/her powers and duties and as is consistent with approved budgetary parameters determined by Council.

**C. County Sustainability Plan**

1. **The Department of Sustainability shall prepare and present to Council by September 1, 2017 a proposed five-year Sustainability Plan to achieve the objectives identified in paragraph (A) (2) of this section. If the Council shall fail to adopt the proposed plan, with such changes as the Council shall deem advisable, within sixty days of its presentation to the Council, the plan shall be deemed to be adopted. The Sustainability Plan shall be reviewed and revised as needed, but not less than once every five years in accordance with the foregoing procedures.**
2. **The Clerk of Council shall maintain a copy of all versions of the Cuyahoga County Sustainability Plan on the Council's website.**

**SECTION 2.** It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Simon, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas: Jones, Brown, Hairston, Simon, Greenspan, Miller, Germana, Gallagher, Schron, Conwell and Brady

Nays: None

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County Council President

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Date

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County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Clerk of Council

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Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 8, 2016

Committee(s) Assigned: Education, Environment & Sustainability

Committee Report/Second Reading: March 22, 2016

Additional Sponsorship Requested on the Floor: April 12, 2016

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April 12, 2016