

F. Brown, Chair
McCurn, Vice-Chair
Kay
Moloney
Ellinger
LeGris
Sheehan
Kloiber
Worley
Bledsoe



VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee
May 18, 2021
1:00 P.M.

I.	Approval of March 9, 2021 Special Committee Summary		(1-3)
II.	Single Use Plastics / Energy Conservation	(Kay/B. Early, Et al.)	(4-28)
III.	Home Composting – Pilot Proposal	(LeGris/Poe)	(29-37)
IV.	Urban Forestry / Street Trees Update	(McCurn/Plueger)	(38-65)
V.	Scott County Landfill	(McCurn/Albright)	(n.a.)
VI.	Items Referred to Committee		(66)

"Environmental quality and public works committee to which shall be referred matters relating to the department of environmental quality and public works and its divisions, including capital improvement projects and any related partner agencies.- Council Rules & Procedures, Section 2.102 (3) as adopted by Urban County Council November 1, 2018

2021 Meeting Schedule

January 19	August 24
February 16	October 19
April 20	November 17
May 18	December 7
June 22	



Special Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Virtual Meeting

March 9, 2021

Summary and Motions

Chair F. Brown called the special meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Committee Members Kay, Ellinger, Moloney, McCurn, LeGris, Sheehan, Kloiber, Worley, and Bledsoe were present. Council Member Plomin was also in attendance as a non-voting member.

F. Brown began the meeting by providing the following statement: “Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and State of Emergency, this meeting is being held via live video teleconference pursuant to 2020 Senate Bill 150, and in accordance with KRS 61.826, because it is not feasible to offer a primary physical location for the meeting.”

I. Approval of January 19, 2021 Committee Summary

Motion by Ellinger to approve the January 19, 2021 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary. Seconded by McCurn. The motion passed without dissent.

II. 2020 Environmental Quality & Public Works Highlights

Chair F. Brown announced that this item would be postponed.

III. Stormwater Outreach Materials

Angela Poe, Program Manager with Environmental Services provided a review of this item and she spoke about the survey which was completed in the summer of 2018. She explained that there are over 30 new video ads that feature friendly animated characters and they provide specific actions people can take. She explained that the ads will direct people to the LexingtonKy.gov web pages for more information on specific topics. She reviewed charts to illustrate how frequently participants fertilize their lawn; attitudes toward fertilizer; and knowledge people have about it. She explained the benefits that trees provide and reviewed the results of participants who knew if and how rainwater is treated. She closed by reviewing the next steps which include translating the ads into Spanish.

When Plomin asked how the ads are circulated and what media type is used, Poe explained that there is a contract with Wiser Strategies that is used to create and place the ads with television stations or mainstream radio and 2 or 3 ads are run for 6 weeks at a time. She explained that the placement depends on the budget available and she emphasized that television ads are expensive so stormwater ads run via OTT (over-the-top) media service via the Internet which is more cost-effective and allows the ad to be more specifically targeted. She added that there is also paid advertising through social media which is done internally. Plomin asked how often this is done and Poe explained that the education efforts are ongoing, but the stormwater survey is done every 5 years. In order to measure the impact of the campaign, Plomin asked if the same questions are asked each time and Poe confirmed that other than a few adjustments, the survey would be the same.

McCurn asked about links to web pages and if there is information regarding natural ways to use weed and feeds in yards or if it is specifically fertilizer. Poe said the focus is mostly on fertilizer and the proper

application, but content is constantly added to the web site. An example, she said, is backyard composting which provides a natural way to fertilize and this information could be accessed from the lawn care page. Rather than having a lot of additional information to keep track of, she said, there are various links that provide expertise in specific areas. McCurn asked if there is a schedule for application and Poe said the ads direct people to fertilize in the fall and use herbicides in the spring.

F. Brown asked how many survey responses were received and what the audience was. Poe explained that the audience surveyed included people over 20 years of age living in a residence with a yard, whether they rented or owned the home. She said the number of responses received exceeded the number we targeted for, but she is unsure of that exact number. Jennifer Carey, Division of Water Quality, said the target was 500 responses and over 700 responses were received. F. Brown asked if this could be done more often and Poe said the issue with that is the time it takes to show the impact.

No further comment or action was taken on this item.

IV. Items Referred to Committee

Motion by Bledsoe to remove *Private Waste Collection Enforcement Options* from committee, seconded by McCurn. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Bledsoe to remove *Review of Current Tax District Change Policy* from committee (moving it to Budget, Finance and Economic Development Committee), seconded by McCurn. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by LeGris to remove *Study of Subdivision Infrastructure* from committee, seconded by McCurn. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Bledsoe to remove *Artwork on Utility Boxes* from committee, seconded by Kloiber. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Worley to remove *Glass Recycling, Recycling Practices, and Recycling Subcommittee* from committee and replace with one item titled *Recycling General Practices*, seconded by Ellinger. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kay to remove *Curbs Pavement Assessment* from committee, seconded by LeGris. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kay to remove *NTMP – Radar Speed Feedback Signs* from committee, seconded by McCurn. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kloiber to remove *Kentucky Utilities/LED Streetlight Collaborative* from committee, seconded by Kay. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kay to remove *Stormwater Survey and Stormwater Outreach Materials* from committee, seconded by LeGris. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Sheehan to remove *Environmental Education and Citizens' Environmental Academy* from committee, seconded by Kloiber. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Bledsoe to remove *Review of Hardware and Software for Route/Trip Optimization* from committee, seconded by Kloiber. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kay to remove *Review of Sewer Fund – Financial Update* from committee, seconded by LeGris. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Kay to remove *Keep Lexington Beautiful Report* from committee, seconded by Kloiber. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by McCurn to remove *Fiber Optic Technology (MetroNet)* from committee, seconded by Kay. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Moloney to remove *Division of Water Quality Projects Update* from committee, seconded by Kloiber. The motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Ellinger to adjourn, seconded by Bledsoe. The motion passed without dissent.
Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



Environmental Commission

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

MAY 18, 2021

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

- **FORMED BY**

Chapter 2, Article V, Section 2-96 of the LFUCG Code of Ordinances

- **ADVISES**

The mayor, the council, the planning commission, and all other appropriate bodies concerning the environment and environmental policies of the community.

- **38 COMMISSIONERS**

Representing all districts of Lexington/Fayette County.

● DEVELOP

a sustainability plan focusing on Lexington's contribution to carbon emissions and climate change and update and implement the *Empower Lexington Plan*

● REDUCE

waste by focusing on reducing use of single-use plastics

COMMISSION'S CURRENT OBJECTIVES

EMPOWER LEXINGTON

LFUCG + Community Input
LFUCG, Businesses, Utilities, Trade Groups, Schools and Universities, Community Advocacy Groups represented by 50 participants

Mayor's Initiative
US Conference of Mayors: Climate Protection Agreement



Citizen Concern

Council's
"City for Climate
Protection Program"

Council adopted
resolution
supporting
*Empower Lexington
Plan*

THE PLAN'S FIVE SECTORS



1. Residential
2. Transportation

3. Industrial/Commercial/Institutional

4. Land Use/Food/Agriculture

5. Waste



❖ PLEASE REFER TO TWO-PAGE SUMMARY
and see <https://lfucgec.org>

RATIONALE

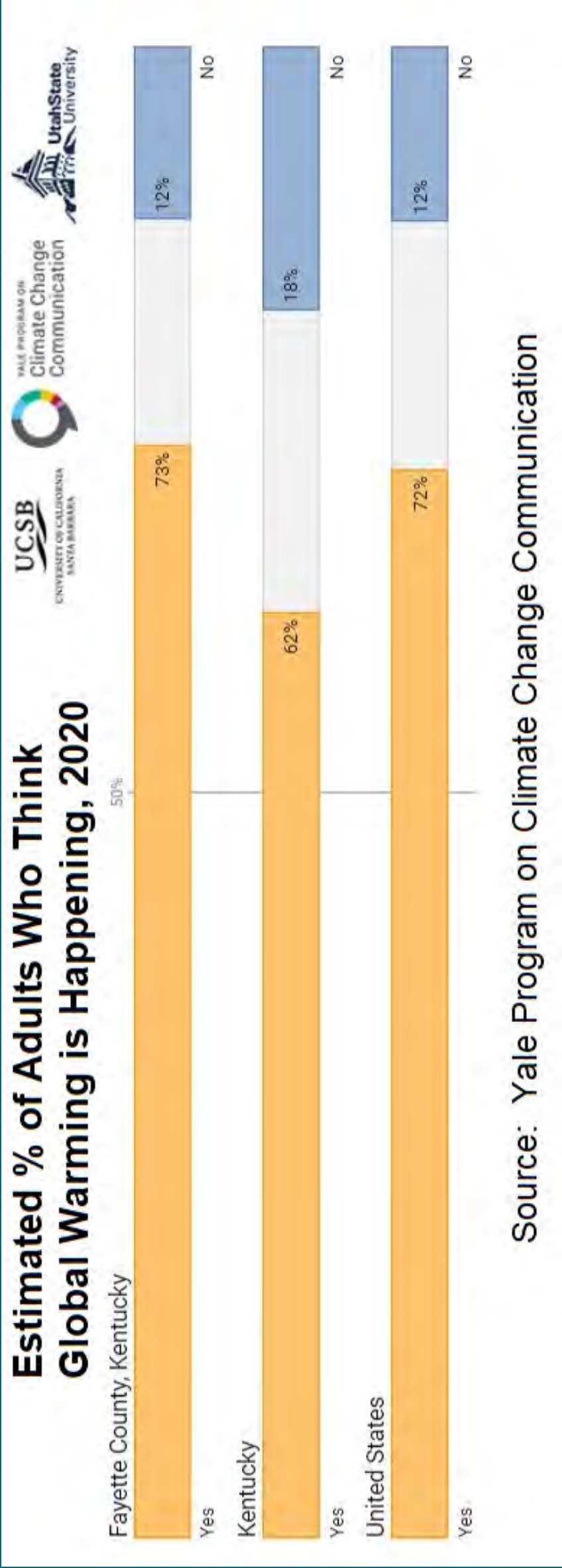


THE PUBLIC RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS and ENERGY USE

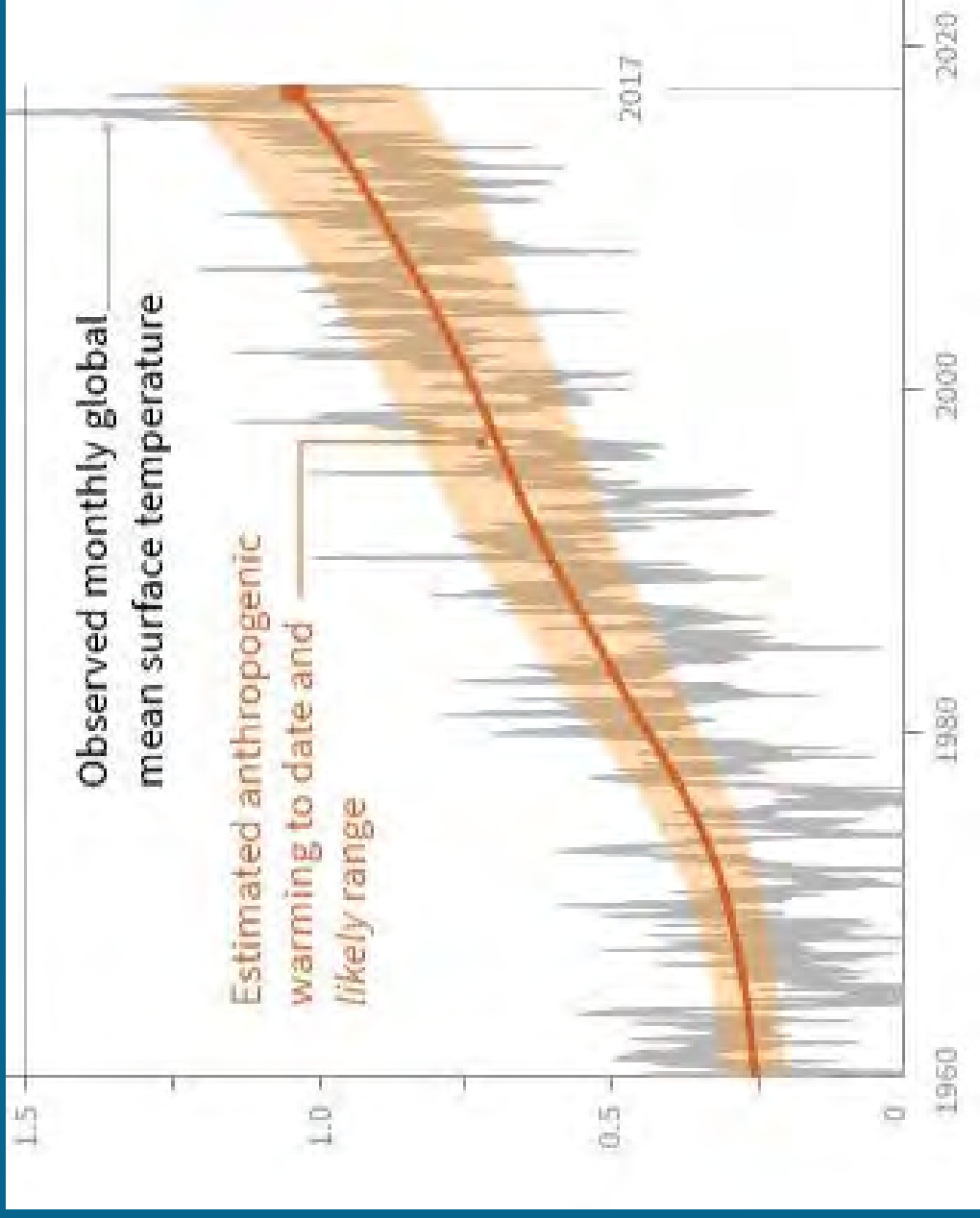
- Environmental Commission
- University of Kentucky
- Bluegrass GreenSource
- Solarize Lexington

| SAVE MONEY BY REDUCING ENERGY USE |

SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION

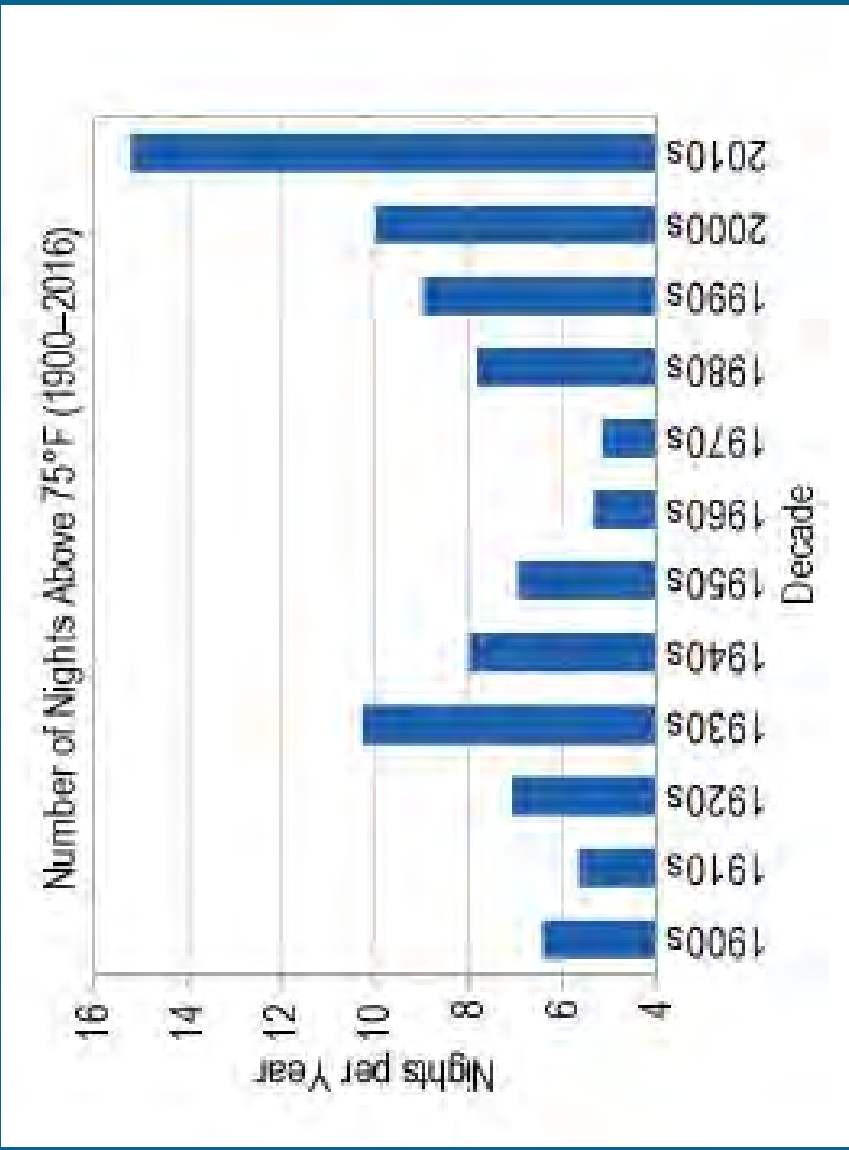
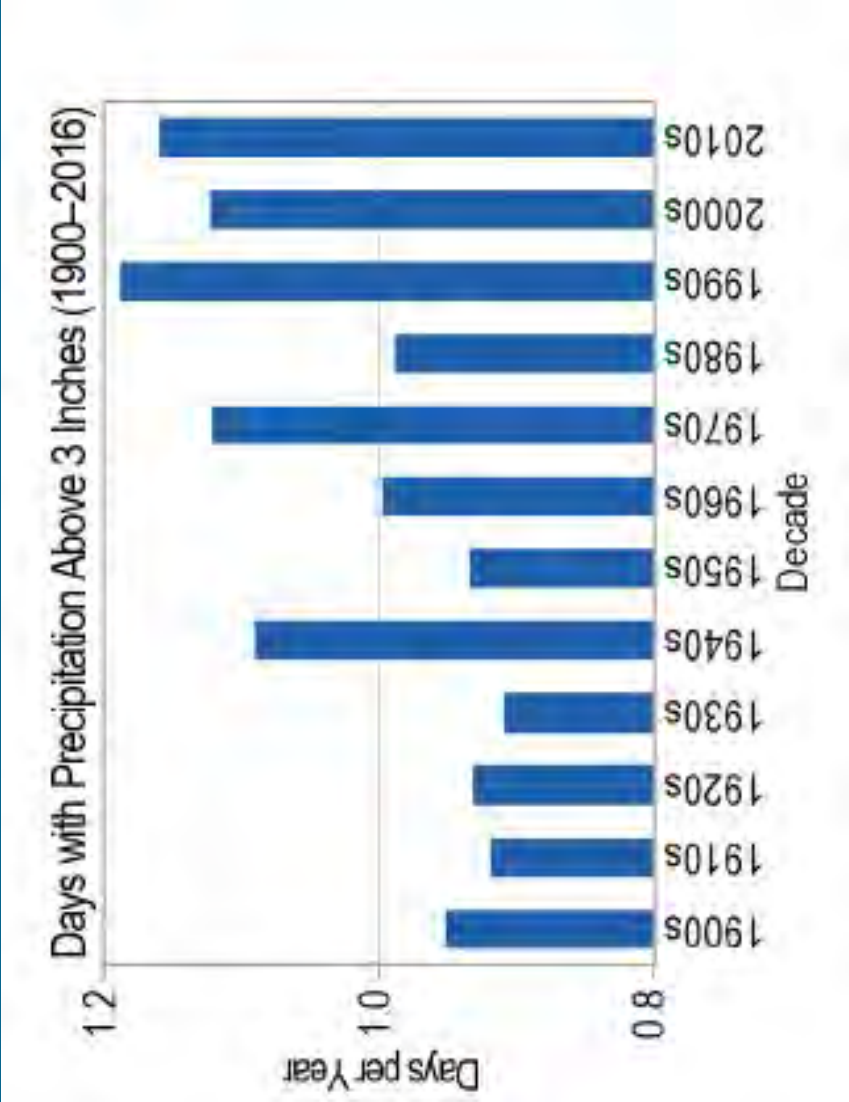


INCREASING GLOBAL SURFACE TEMPERATURES



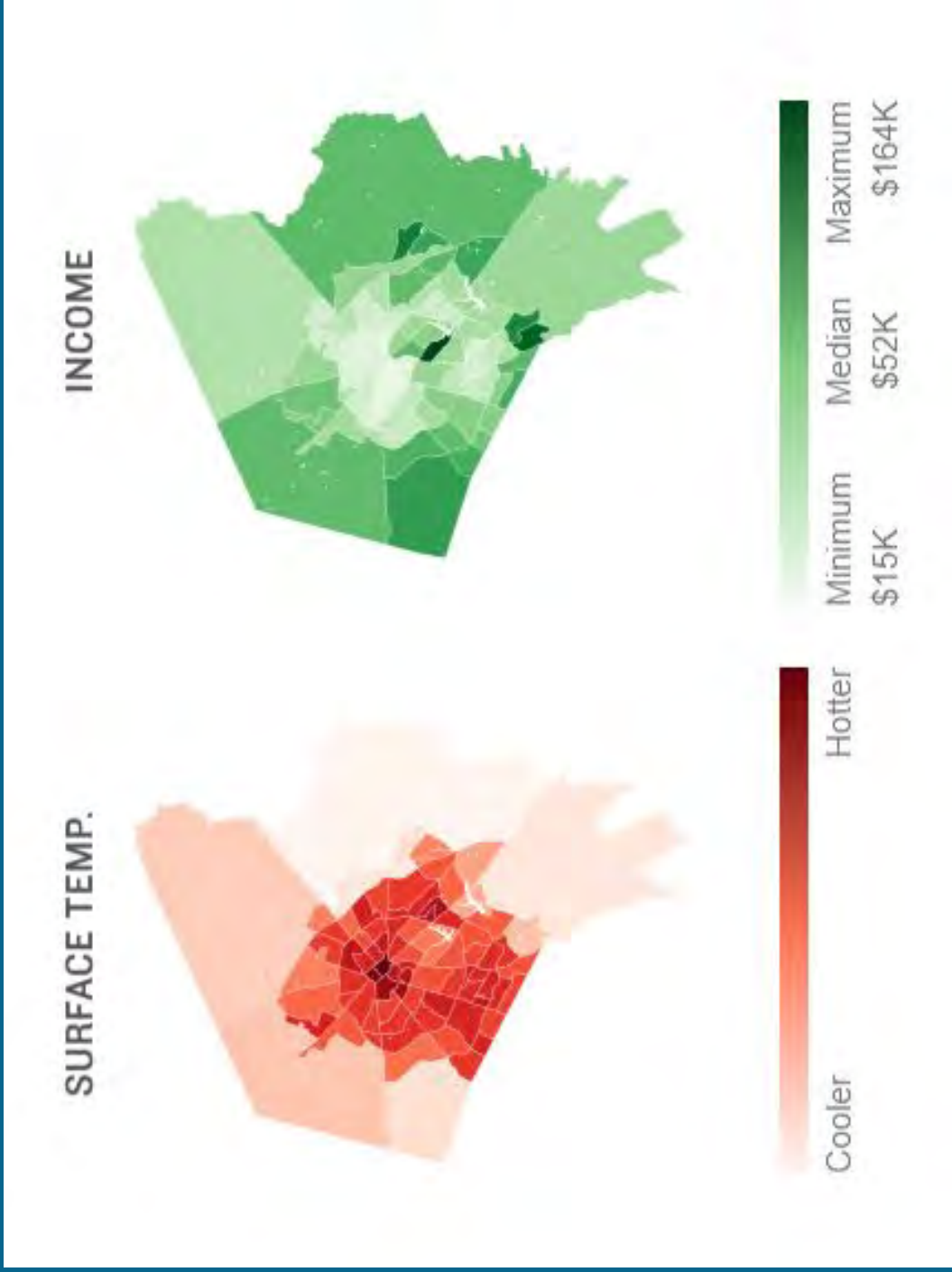
Source: IPCC Special Report

CHANGES IN SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES



TEMPERATURE IMPACTS ARE NOT EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTED

Fayette County distributions
of median household
income and satellite-
measured surface
temperatures



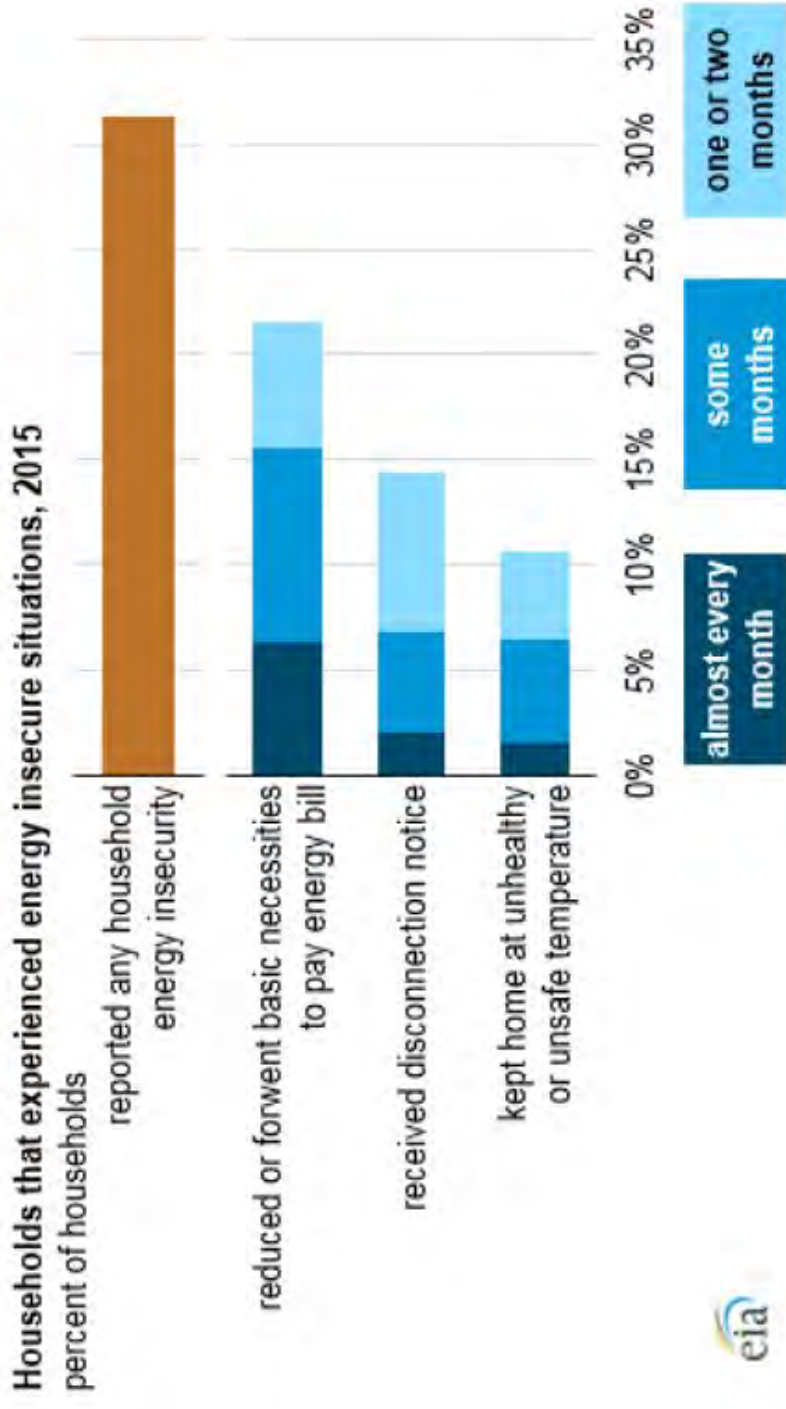
Source: NASA, U.S. Geological Survey,
Census Bureau, NPR, University of
Maryland

CHALLENGING ENERGY COSTS

Almost One-Third of U.S. households report impact of energy insecurity.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Residential Energy Consumption Survey (2015) and National Consumer Law Center (2021)

Energy Affordability Challenges Before COVID-19



PLASTICS, ENERGY USE, AND GREENHOUSE GASES

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS INVOLVE ENERGY USE AND RESULT IN GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN ALL PHASES OF THEIR LIFE CYCLE:



- Extraction and Transport
- Refining and Manufacture
- Decomposition
- Waste Disposal



PLASTICS ARE A LOCAL PROBLEM

- It is estimated that 15%-22% landfill waste are plastics
- Single-Use Plastics production is increasing
- Recycling rates are expected to remain steady
- Many plastics “escape” as pollution



PLASTICS POLLUTION CAUSES ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH PROBLEMS

PLASTIC FILMS, BAGS, AND DURABLE PLASTICS

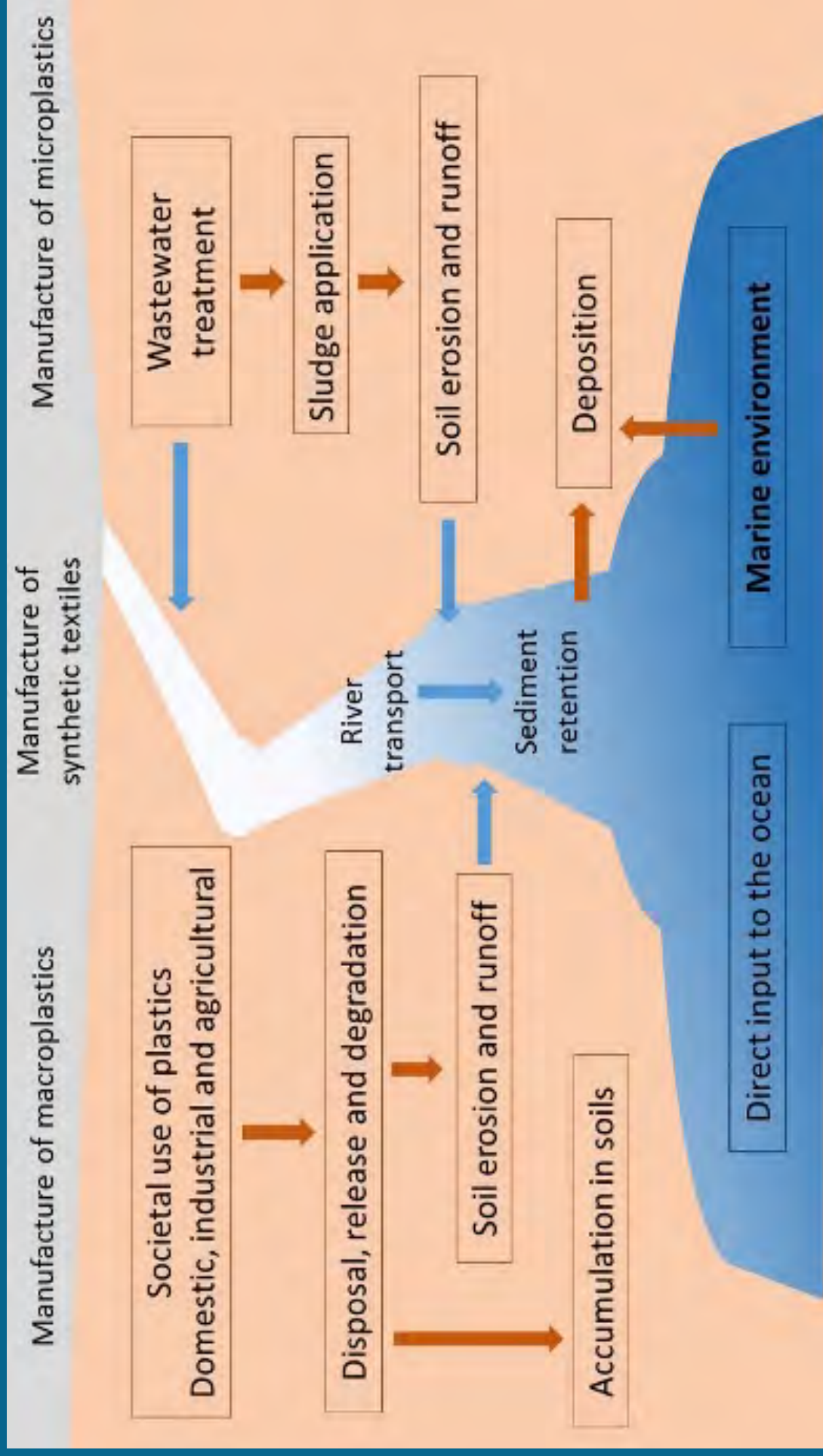
- Disposal problem
- Clog waterways and storm systems
- Form microplastics



MICROPLASTICS (SIZE < 5mm)

- Deposited in soil and water
- Potential health hazards

PATHS OF MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION



**Increased recycling alone
will not solve the environmental
impacts of Single-Use Plastics**

COMMON PLASTIC POLICY OPTIONS

Propose Single Use **Material Bans** to shift use away from plastic
(mixed results)

Propose Single Use **Material Fees** to discourage use but allow choice
(difficult to impose)

Expand **Public Education** impacts of plastics and the
Waste Management Hierarchy of Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, then Recycle
(effective and reliable)

Develop **Alternatives and Incentives**
(greatest opportunity and biggest investment)



OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSED ACTION FOR THE COUNCIL AND LFUCG

UPDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE *EMPOWER LEXINGTON PLAN*

- The LFUCG to appoint, hire, or designate a staff member to update the *Empower Lexington Plan* and assist Council and Environmental Commission in its implementation of the *Plan*

ACTION 1: Work with the designated staff member to implement the *Empower Lexington Plan*

- Climate Change
 - Identify neighborhoods and existing housing types with greatest potential for energy savings
 - Provide focused advice to lower-income areas
 - Communicate these needs and resources to landlords, neighborhood associations, residents, and others
- Plastics Pollution
 - Evaluate and communicate methods to reduce overall waste and, in particular, plastic waste and pollution
 - Continue to support existing City efforts to “Recycle Right”

ACTIONS BY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

ACTION 2: Provide advice to the LFUCG on key policy initiatives to promote energy conservation and reduce waste.

Potential policies include:

- Zero GHG emissions goal according to scientific consensus
- Opportunities for equitable environmental policies
- Property tax rebates or other incentives for energy use improvements
- Building code or other requirements to foster energy conservation
- Subsidies and mini-grants for adopting energy efficient methods
- Innovations in waste disposal and recycling to reduce energy use

ACTIONS BY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

ACTION 3: Increase educational efforts and stakeholder engagement

- Energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate change
- Plastics pollution, importance of plastics pollution in Lexington and central Kentucky, and methods to reduce plastic waste

ACTIONS BY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION



We request the Urban County Council:

- Appoint, hire, or designate a staff member to update and implement the *Empower Lexington Plan*
- Endorse the Environmental Commission's initiatives on Climate Change and Plastics Pollution

City of Lexington and Fayette County Empower Lexington A Plan for a Resilient Community

Lexington is one of the most beautiful places in the world, and we have taken steps as a community to preserve this unique environment. In keeping with this tradition, we are encouraging our community to become more sustainable by becoming more energy-efficient..

Sustainable communities are defined as towns and cities that have taken steps to remain healthy over the long term. Sustainable communities have a strong sense of place. They have a vision that is embraced and actively promoted by all of the key sectors of society, including businesses, disadvantaged groups, environmentalists, civic associations, government agencies and religious organizations. They are places that build on their assets and dare to be innovative. These communities value healthy ecosystems, use resources efficiently and actively seek to retain and enhance a locally-based economy.

- Sustainable Cities Research Institute

We are asking individuals, organizations and businesses in Fayette county to support the Empower Lexington by reducing their annual energy use by 1% per year. These efforts will:

- save our community money;
- create jobs by keeping money in the local economy;
- position us to be more economically competitive;
- conserve natural resources;
- increase our energy independence;
- create a more livable community;
- improve public health and;
- make our air and water cleaner.

Community stakeholders including business, non-profit, institutional, farming, and government representatives, reviewed information from 5 sectors critical to reducing energy consumption for Lexington and developed recommendations for the Empower Lexington plan. The recommendations are included on the back of this page. Representatives from each sector are set up around the room to answer questions about the recommendations and receive your comments and suggestions.



RESIDENTIAL SECTOR

Goal: To provide residents with the resources and knowledge needed so they can live more sustainably, save energy and save money.

Recommendations:

- Increase public awareness of and demand for energy efficiency services and improvements
- Develop and promote systematic and professional “whole house” retrofit awareness and infrastructure
- Develop and promote diverse retrofit finance approaches applicable to the full range of housing types and ownership structures across Lexington

INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL/INSTITUTIONAL SECTOR

Goal: To promote energy efficiency and provide businesses and organizations with the knowledge and tools needed to save energy and money.

Recommendations:

- Develop Aggressive Marketing Effort
- Develop Educational Energy Conservation Programs
- Distribute Tools to Benchmark Energy Usage
- Promote Energy Efficient & Sustainable Building Designs
- Incentivize Energy Improvement for Local Business
- Expedited Local Approval Processes
- Review Zoning Requirements

LAND USE, FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Goal: To preserve and enhance land and Bluegrass soils.

Recommendations:

- Preserve land with vegetative cover, in rural and urban areas, and promote the preservation and expansion of greenspace within Fayette County.
- Continue to expand farmland protection programs and explore innovative land preservation and conservation concepts with focus on protection of our unique and precious bluegrass soils.
- Promote best management practices for agricultural, residential, and commercial areas that maintain vegetation that sequesters carbon dioxide, preserves soil, and reduces surface water runoff.
- Support activities that continue the economic viability of agricultural uses of land in the Bluegrass region.
- Promote programs in the schools and in the community to raise awareness of the importance of food choices and how the production of foods can have far-reaching impacts on human health, the environment, and the communities where the foods are produced.

TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

Goal: To provide an efficient, interconnected transportation system that improves quality of life, saves Fayette County citizens time and money, and moves people and goods with less energy.

Recommendations:

- Develop Bike/Pedestrian Programs and Infrastructure based on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan
- Increase Transit Service and Coverage
- Promote Ridesharing- Regional Carpool/Vanpool/School Pool and commute Trip Reduction Marketing.
- Develop an Eco-driving Program
- Pursue Energy Efficient Highway Infrastructure and Congestion Relief Strategies
- Encourage Low Carbon/Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure
- Promote Energy Efficient Vehicles by Replacing, Retrofitting, Repowering, and/or Right-sizing
- Pursue Smart Streetlights; Remove Streetlights; Reduce Hours of Operation

WASTE SECTOR

Goal: For Lexington to pursue a zero waste vision.

Recommendations:

- Develop a comprehensive program to promote beneficial use of organic waste material
- Increase diversion of materials from landfills
- Energy from Waste- Use waste materials to generate energy
- Periodically investigate (and pursue if warranted) landfill mining

HOME COMPOST PILOT PROPOSAL

Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee

May 18, 2021



LEXINGTON

Purpose

- Provide alternative disposal option for organic materials
 - Landfill
 - (Yard waste) mulching
- Encourage at-home food composting



Program Overview

- Workshop
- Free/discounted composter
 - Worm (free)
 - Stationary backyard (discounted)
 - Tumbler (discounted)
- Pre and post surveys

Participant Requirements

- Residents with city waste service
- (pilot) Homeowners, limit one composter per HH
- Participate in the full, 2 – 2.5 hour workshop
- Complete short surveys:
 - When registering
 - Immediately after the workshop
 - Six months after the workshop
 - One year after the workshop
- Use the composter

Workshops

- 2 – 2.5 hours
- Facilitated by Seedleaf
- All members of a participating household invited; one required
- Topics:
 - Compost overview: What is compost? How does it happen? What are the environmental benefits?
 - Reducing food waste
 - How to compost – cover basics as well as info specific to worm bins, backyard bins and tumblers;
 - DIY compost options
 - Troubleshooting
 - Using compost

Compost Bins

- Purchased by the city and sold to workshop participants
- Option to buy at workshop or submit a request within 3 months of completing the workshop
- Types:
 - Vermicompost bin: estimated cost, \$50; free to participants
 - Stationary backyard composter: estimated cost, \$85; participants pay actual cost less \$50
 - Tumbling composter: estimated cost, \$100; participants pay actual cost less \$50

Workshop Budget

Seedleaf	\$300
Snack stipend (40 ppl)	\$400
Counter compost unit (20)	\$240
City-funded portion of composters (20)	\$1,000
Handouts	printed in house
Promotional expenses	flexible
TOTAL	\$1,940

*There would need to be a one-time expense of approximately \$400 to have demonstration compost units and a composting display. These can be used at workshops and taken to events at which composting is promoted.

Pilot Budget

Program promotion	\$300
Demo/display	\$400
August workshop	\$1,940
September workshop	\$1,940
October workshop	\$1,940
TOTAL	\$6,520

Questions?



URBAN FORESTRY AND STREET TREES UPDATE

Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

May 18, 2021



LEXINGTON

Topics

- **Urban Forestry Organizational Chart**
- **Background on Street Trees in Lexington**
- **Hazardous Street Tree Cost Share Program**
- **Street Tree Clearance Pruning Program**
- **Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives**
- **Path Forward / Future Initiatives**
- **Questions?**



Urban Forestry Organizational Chart

Environmental Services

MANAGER
John Saylor

MANAGER
Demetria Mehlhorn

Streets and Roads

PUBLIC TREES

CITY ARBORIST
Heather Wilson

ARBORISTS
Nathan Skinner
Scott Tyree

**ARBORIST
TECHNICIAN**
Vacant

**TREE NURSERY
MANAGER**
Kent Slusher

**FORESTRY &
HORTICULTURE
CREWS**

PRIVATE TREES COMPLIANCE

**URBAN
FORESTER**
Tim Queary

**ARBORIST
TECHNICIAN**
Rob Ballard

PRIVATE TREES ENFORCEMENT

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ENFORCEMENT
SPECIALIST**
Ben Cornett

EMERGENCIES & RURAL ROADS

MANAGER
Kevin Dennis

**TREE CREW
SUPERVISOR**
Greg Taulbie

APPEALS BOARDS

TREE BOARD: Decisions of Urban Forester
INFRASTRUCTURE HEARING BOARD: Enforcement Actions

Background on Street Trees in Lexington

- Publicly Maintained Street Trees (~10%)



Background on Street Trees in Lexington

- **Privately Maintained Street Trees (~90%)**
 - Property Owners responsible, city programs assist



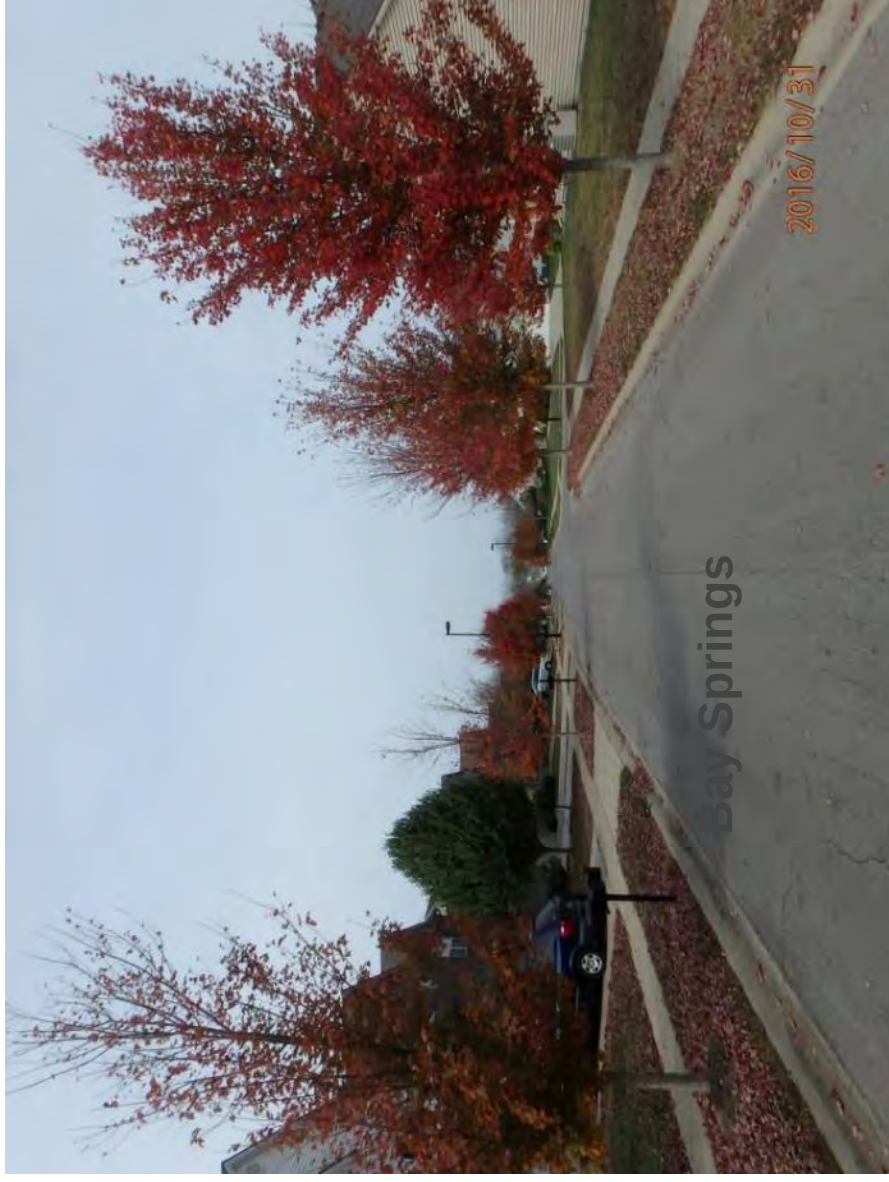
Catalpa

2016/10/26

Background on Street Trees in Lexington

- Privately Maintained Street Trees (~90%)

Example of Street Trees planted in the 2000s



Background on Street Trees in Lexington

- Privately Maintained Street Trees (~90%)

Example of Street Trees planted in a Street Tree Easement



Hazardous Street Tree Cost Share Program

- Provides 50/50 cost share for hazardous tree removal and replacement
- Owner occupied urban residential properties only
- Low income assistance available at 100%
- Requires removal and replacement with acceptable tree in a suitable location (when appropriate)
- Property owner obtains competing quotes from City pre-qualified certified arborist vendors, gets approval from Urban Forester, then has work performed
- Follow-up inspection by Arborist Technician prior to reimbursement



Hazardous Street Tree Cost Share Program

- FY15 – FY20: 1,019 trees removed; 955 replaced
- FY 2020: Original budget was \$150,000; Program suspended due to pandemic in March 2020 after \$104,437 spent
- FY2021: Original budget not funded; \$50,000 allocated - \$36,360 has been paid out to date

LFUCG Assisted Hazardous Tree Removals by Council District

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
FY2015	2	8	4	1	40	22	1	-	21	20	15	39	173
FY2016	-	10	4	8	19	50	15	5	4	9	13	20	157
FY2017	2	7	5	10	21	40	18	-	34	7	16	24	184
FY2018	2	1	4	5	33	45	7	3	20	13	7	23	163
FY2019	3	6	16	-	39	29	12	4	9	16	7	36	177
FY2020	0	3	14	2	19	26	8	10	15	40	4	24	165 ⁴⁶
TOTAL:	9	35	47	26	171	212	61	22	103	105	62	166	1019

Hazardous Street Tree Cost Share Program

- Last 6 years – 1,019 trees removed with 955 replaced

LFUCG'S 50% Share of Expenses and Tree Removal Statistics FY2015 – FY2020

	# of Trees Removed	LFUCG \$ Expended	LFUCG \$/Tree Removed
FY2015	173	\$61,439	\$355
FY2016	157	\$73,906	\$471
FY2017	184	\$101,407	\$551
FY2018	163	\$96,128	\$590
FY2019	177	\$129,192	\$730
FY2020	165	\$96,873	\$587
TOTAL:	1019	\$558,945	

Hazardous Street Tree Cost Share Program

A Compliance Success Story

- Significant reductions in:
 - ✓ Ice storm damage
 - ✓ Hanging/falling limbs
 - ✓ Lexcalls related to dead and dying trees
 - ✓ Time from identification of hazard to removal of hazard
 - ✓ Staff time and costs related to enforcement and abatement
- Many positive comments from citizens
- Low Income Assistance is essential to providing safe environments

Street Tree Clearance Pruning Program



Street Tree Clearance Pruning Program

- 18,890 street trees pruned for clearance from FY2016 – FY2020
- Certified Arborists on contract perform the work
- Work occurs mostly in the winter
- \$220,649 spent in FY2016 – FY2020
- Average cost is increasing: \$10.85/tree (FY16-FY19)
\$13.84/tree (FY20)
- FY2021 budget is ~\$65,000

2016 – 2020 Statistics by Council District

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
FY2016							94					-	94
FY2017	1				207	104	151					-	463
FY2018	318	2832	-	367	96	1133	275	284	245	220	347	-	6117
FY2019	-	1138	-	-	-	1468	3061	-	787	116	418	-	6988 ⁵
FY2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	1732	23	1418	2055	-	-	5228
TOTAL:	319	3970	-	367	303	2705	5313	307	2450	2391	765	-	18890

Street Tree Clearance Pruning Program ***Another Compliance Success Story***

- Significant reductions in:
 - ✓ Ice and wind storm damage
 - ✓ Storm damage response and overtime expenditures in neighborhoods where pruning has occurred
 - ✓ Lexcalls related to trees blocking roads and sidewalks
 - ✓ Incidents of auto-pruning
 - ✓ Damage to waste trucks
 - ✓ Staff time and costs related to street tree compliance assistance

- Many positive comments from citizens – few complaints

Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives

- i. Focus on Kentucky Native Trees & Shrubs
- ii. Growing our own stock of local Bluegrass phenotype trees and shrubs
- iii. Creating local seed bank – saving seeds from historically significant trees in Fayette County
 - Bur oaks from Red Mile, Fayette Mall
 - Catalpa from Coolavin Park
 - Persimmon from Bell Place mansion
 - Shellbark hickory from Hisle Farm barn

Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives

1. *Hisle Park Plant Nursery*

- ~10 acres

2. *Masterson Station Plant Nursery*

- ~3.5 acres

3. *Reforest the Bluegrass Areas*

4. *Legacy Forests in Parks*

- o Partnership with Fayette County Public Schools
- o Tree Week plantings in 5 parks to date – Liberty Trail, Belleau Woods Park, Wellington Park, Highlands Park, Oakwood Park, Pine Meadows Park

Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives

5. *Friends of Parks*

- o Partnership with Friends of Parks
- o Plant around 125 trees annually at various locations, including Shillito Park, Coldstream Dog Park, Meadowbrook Greenway, and Deep Springs Greenway (2021)

6. *Greenways, Greenspaces, and WQ Lots*

- o Giving our water quality/greenspace lots an identity and purpose
 - Pawpaw stand (pending)
 - Edible forest (pending)
 - The Walnut Grove at Liberty Road

Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives

Walnut Grove at Liberty Road

- Water quality lot on Liberty Road
- All black walnut – 3,500 trees across 3.5 acres
- Seeds and seedlings locally collected – e.g. BTC campus



Major Forestry Enhancement Initiatives

Hisle Park Plant Nursery

2018 Beginnings

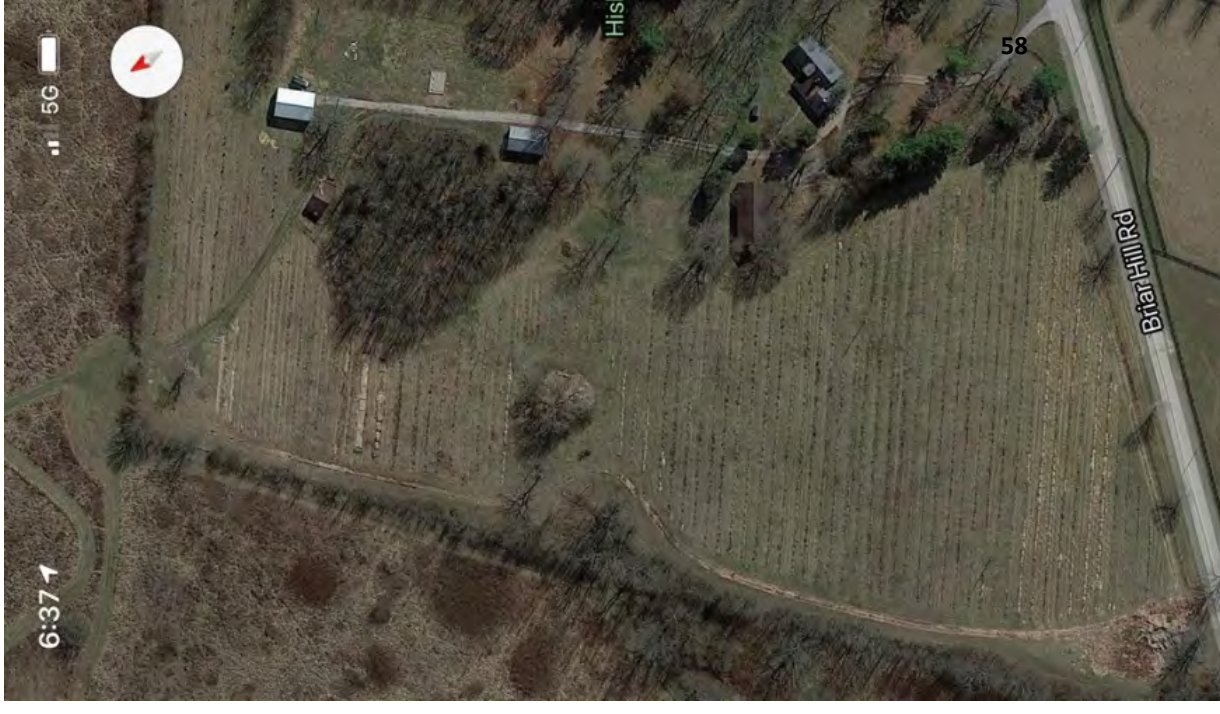
- Generous donation from Shooting Star Nursery and the Friends of Wolf Run
 - ✓ 2,638 trees
 - ✓ 3,338 shrubs
 - ✓ 3,970 perennials
 - ✓ 635 vines
 - ✓ 958 grasses
- All of these plants were transplanted within a year of receipt in city parks, greenspaces, or given to community groups for planting throughout Fayette County.

Hisle Park Plant Nursery



Hisle Park Plant Nursery

- ~10 acres
- Currently have 1,200 spots – 70% filled
- In 2020, 315 trees dug and transplanted for Tree Week, Reforest, and Fayette County Public Schools
- Tree species include sugar maple, yellow poplar, Kentucky coffeetree, and American basswood, red buckeye, eastern hophornbeam, Ohio buckeye
- Shrub varieties include Saskatoon serviceberry, red and black chokeberry, chokecherry, Carolina allspice, buttonbush



Hisle Park Plant Nursery

2019 Gravel Bed Expansion

- \$6,345 grant from the Kentucky Division of Forestry
- Statewide demonstration project
- Staff constructed the 16' by 24' above-ground irrigated planting bed and filled it with sand and gravel.
- Planted 105 small, bare-root trees (35 sycamore, 35 sugar maple, and 35 black gum) in March
- Transplanted the bare root trees in November

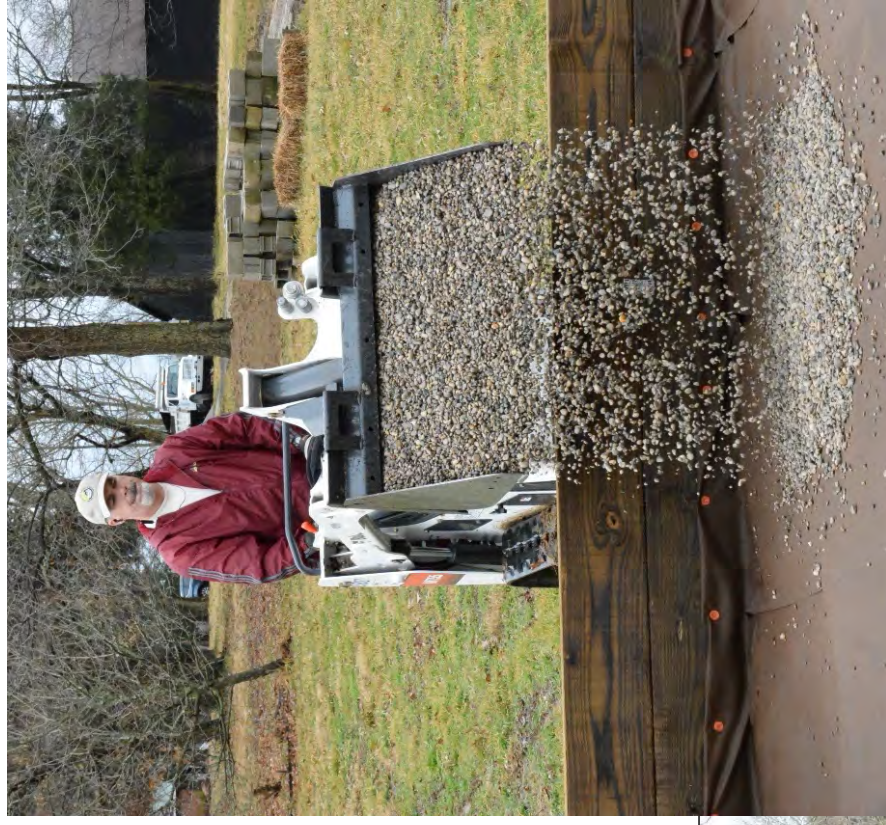
2019 Gravel Bed Expansion



Constructing
frame



Filling with
sand and
gravel



March

2019 Gravel Bed Expansion



October



2019 Gravel Bed Expansion



Removing trees from gravel
with healthy dense root
mass



Hydrating root dip

2019 Gravel Bed Expansion



Planting bare root tree



- Easy to transport
- Easy to plant
- Better health outcomes
- Native soil

Our gravel bed is producing 100 trees/year for transplant

Path Forward / Future Initiatives

- Expand resources as the public part of the urban forest grows – e.g. Town Branch Commons and Versailles Road Streetscape.
- Continue nursery operations.
- Increase operational support for Div. of Water Quality projects for root cutting and tree protection.
- Provide consistent funding of Street Tree Cost Share Program (\$50k FY22 MPB) even if amount has to fluctuate.
- Continue Street Tree Clearance Pruning each winter.
- Consider initiation of a new Tree Canopy Assessment (last one completed based on 2012 fly-over data).
- Continue a comprehensive annual Council update on the urban forestry program.

Questions?



LIST OF COMMITTEE REFERRAL ITEMS

Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

Referral Item	Sponsor/Referred by	Date of Committee Referral	Last Presented	Status	Registrar File ID
1 Solid Waste Trash Compactors	R. Moloney	August 22, 2017		April 20, 2021	
2 Explore Lexington's Sustainability Options	L. Sheehan	February 20, 2018			
3 Waste Management Fines	H. LeGris	April 17, 2018			
4 CNG Conversion and Use	D. Kloiber	October 25, 2016	January 24, 2017		0073-17
5 5G Small Cell Wireless Plan Update	J. McCum	February 12, 2019	September 17, 2019		0983-19
6 Evaluation of Vacuum Leaf Collection (Efficiency and Fiscal Impact)	H. LeGris	November 12, 2019			0302-20
7 Single Use Plastics / Energy Conservation	S. Kay	March 12, 2019		May 18, 2021	0499-21
8 Urban Forestry / Street Trees Update	J. McCum	September 17, 2019	February 4, 2020	May 18, 2021	0501-21
9 Backyard Composting - Home Compost Pilot Proposal	H. LeGris	February 2, 2021		May 18, 2021	0500-21
10 Consideration of a Local Tree Protection Ordinance	D. Kloiber	February 9, 2021			
11 Recycling General Practices	P. Worley	March 9, 2021			
12 Abandoned Shopping Carts	D. Kloiber	March 9, 2021			
13 Scott County Landfill	J. McCum	March 9, 2021		May 18, 2021	0502-21
Annual Committee Presentations					
14 Energy Improvement Fund Update	F. Brown	January 10, 2017	May 5, 2020	January 19, 2021	0073-21
15 Snow/Ice Removal Plan	F. Brown	February 15, 2014	October 6, 2020	November 16, 2021	0962-20
16 Pavement Management Plan / Curbs Assessment	F. Brown	May 26, 2020	June 2, 2020	June 22, 2021	0532-20
17 Vacuum Leaf Collection Plan	F. Brown		September 1, 2020	October 19, 2021	0837-20
18 Capacity Assurance Plan (CAP) Audit	F. Brown	August 30, 2018	October 6, 2020		0964-20
19 Annual Stormwater Priority List Update	F. Brown	February 20, 2018	July 7, 2020	August 24, 2021	0677-20
20 MS4 Program Update	F. Brown	February 20, 2018	September 1, 2020	October 19, 2021	0838-20
21 Consent Decree Remedial Measures Plan Update	F. Brown		February 19, 2020	January 19, 2021	0074-21