October 2nd, 2019
Committee Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall
101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC

Voting Members – Matthew Kopac (chair), Jessalee Landfried (vice chair), Laura Marie Davis (secretary), Donald Addu, Jessie Birckhead, Casey Collins, Jennifer Hill, Rashmi Joglekar, Wafa Khalil, Tyjuanna LaBennett, Roberto Valle Kinloch, Chi Vo

Ex Officio Members/Staff – Paul Cameron, Vicki Westbrook, Sandi Wilbur, Summer Alston, Michelle Woolfolk, Mayor Schewel, Javiera Caballero, Heidi Carter

I. Call to Order at 6:02 pm

II. Approval of Minutes, 12-0

III. Announcements

a. Next meeting November 6th from 6-8pm

b. V. Westbrook encouraged everyone to be conscious and conscientious of their water use due to the current drought conditions, noting that there are designated watering days for odd & even numbered addresses, and no watering may occur between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on allowed watering days. [https://durhamnc.gov/1114/Odd-Even-Watering-Schedule](https://durhamnc.gov/1114/Odd-Even-Watering-Schedule)

c. V. Westbrook also shared that there will be a Water Summit in Field Auditorium at Grainger Hall on October 23rd in collaboration with the Sierra Club and the Nicholas School of the Environment

d. The Water Efficiency Team will be given an Award of Excellence from the EPA, the fourth consecutive win for this Team.

e. All EAB Members are invited to attend a discussion on the circular economy and its potential applicability here in Durham and the Triangle, October 14th from 6-7:30PM at Burt’s Bees. [RSVP Here](https://durhamnc.gov/1114/Odd-Even-Watering-Schedule).

f. Green to Go won the opportunity to participate in Innovate Durham and will be testing what types of renewable/reusable materials can make it through the current waste & recycling system in Durham.

g. Everyone is invited to attend the TreesDurham Forum on Friday October 4th from...
2:30 – 7:00PM at the Hayti Heritage Center. More information here.

h. Thanks to C. Vo we’re on social media! Find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/DurhamEAB/ and Instagram @durhameab https://www.instagram.com/durhameab/

i. Energy Week at Duke University will take place November 4-7. Some events are free to attend, and there will be a presentation of electric cars. https://www.energyweekatduke.org/

j. City & County Staff are participating in the Keep Durham Beautiful Big Sweep on Thursday, October 10th from 2-4pm.

k. The Education & Outreach Committee has reserved a Booth for the EAB at the Durham Farmers Market on the morning of Saturday, November 9th. This is an opportunity for us to meet and share information & educational activities with the public.

l. L.M. Davis is facilitating a program this fall for veterans and national service alums who are considering running for office. For more information and the register please visit: https://www.newpoliticsacademy.org/answering-the-call

IV. New Business and Continuing Business

a. DataWorks – John Killeen, Executive Director:
   - Joined by L’Tanya Durante, Data Action Coordinator
   - Provide a range of GIS and data visualization work with and for underserved communities that have been impacted by past policies.
   - “Where people and data merge is usually driven by history.”
   - Data use is led by communities through facilitated sessions. Stories are used to verify what the data shows and determine which visualizations work best.
   - DataWorks manages the Durham Neighborhood Compass, which grew out of Neighborhood Improvement. The site pulls public data including tax information, evictions, and other statistics from government agencies and surveys. https://compass.durhamnc.gov/en
   - The Durham Community Health Indicators Project is a similar site that provides narrative illustrations based on aggregated health & environment data: https://health.dataworks-nc.org/en
   - The environment category could be expanded and improved.
   - Both sites are available in English and Spanish.
   - Reports can be generated to provide charts and trendlines based on chosen metrics and subsets of data.
• There are opportunities to expand the information provided through links to additional resources.
• C. Collins recommended including infrastructure metrics within the environmental category.
• R. Joglekar recommended adding data on exposure to toxins, including air & water pollution.
• J. Hill asked about the process of engaging the broader community to get input on which environmental metrics would be most valuable.
• J. Birckhead suggested that we loop in DOST and the BPAC to expand community input, and also recommended adding State & National Heritage sites.
• D. Addu agreed with including parks & rec sites and asked whether there are more specific subsets within the commute time category. (There are!)

b. Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association – Rickie White, Executive Director; Chris Dreps, Land & Water Programs Director:
• Working to protect & restore Durham’s most urban watershed.
• Annual Meeting will be held at the Durham Armory on November 17th
• Big Sweep cleanup will be on the morning of Sunday, October 27th
• The Ellerbe Creek watershed lies mostly north and northeast of downtown, across 450 acres.
• ECWA manages 5 nature preserves and 100 stormwater projects.
• At the Pearl Mill Preserve along the East Fork of Ellerbe Creek, work is starting on a bioretention area to collect & filter urban runoff.
• Duke Energy provided the land for this project and grants were provided by the City of Durham and City of Raleigh.
• A hands-on raingarden workshops will be held in November.
• The EAB is invited to schedule a CreekSmart tour of the site.
• Also at the Pearl Mill Preserve, the Strayhorn Branch Enhancement project will create grading to help the floodplain drain.
• Unfortunately, state and local floodplain regulations do not prevent housing developments from being sited too close to the stream.
• In other cases, development (such as Duke’s East Campus) were constructed before stormwater regulations, which can lead to frequent flooding at adjacent (private) properties.
• Data from complaints made to the City show points where the current stormwater infrastructure leads to frequent flooding on private property that is not necessarily adjacent to streams.

Notice under the Americans with Disabilities Act - A person with a disability may receive an auxiliary aid or service to effectively participate in city government activities by contacting the ADA Coordinator, voice 919.560.4197 or ADA@DurhamNC.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.

Staff Contact: Paul Cameron, Sustainability and Energy Analyst
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• Low-income communities and public parks are most impacted, bearing the brunt of outdated infrastructure and a system that turns a precious resource (rainwater) into a waste product and a problem.
• ECWA’s goals are strongly in-line with the EAB’s goals to embed sustainability into our planning & ordinances through the Comp Plan.
• Specific requests are:
  o Provide/create a forum to review current rules & programs
  o Use the City’s next watershed management plan to make comprehensive recommendations
  o Encourage City & County to increase protection on publicly owned floodplains
• J. Hill asked how green roofs can be a part of sustainable water management, and also whether there would be opportunities to collaborate with local Circular Economy efforts.
  o “Green roofs last 50 years. Other roofs don’t”
• D. Addu confirmed that we are interested to know what specific changes can be made to the UDO, especially given the most recent data on climate change and its impacts.
  o In Raleigh a group of 30+ stakeholders had 12 meetings over a year to answer part of that question.
  o A comprehensive approach would be for the City to prioritize this process and hire a consultant.
  o The Comp Plan process could be an opportunity to focus on water issues, perhaps by designating a subgroup.
• J. Landfried asked about the status of the Trinity project. S. Wilbur shared that soil excavation will probably start next year and the wetland construction will start after that.

Adjourn 7:30pm

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