

Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee

City of Oregon

Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday September 9th, 2026, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

City Hall Conference Room

115 N. 3rd Street, Oregon, IL 61061

Public Access to Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 861 1169 1310

Passcode: 783685

One tap mobile

+13092053325

1. Public Comment
2. Approve August 10th, 2026, Minutes
3. Old Business
 - a. Eco Oregon
 - b. 2nd Street Native Planting
 - c. Rock River Clean Up
4. New Business
5. Other Business
6. Adjourn

Committee Members

Melanie Cozzi, Tim Benedict,

Joyce Lewis, Tom Pacey, Steve Rypkema, Vic Zaderej

Ex. Officio Member Darin DeHaan, City Manager

City of Oregon
Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

The Sustainability Ad Hoc Committee met Monday August 10th, 2026, at 9 am.

Present: Tim Benedict, Melanie Cozzi, Darin DeHaan, Cheryl Hilton, Tom Pacey, Steve Rypkema, and Vic Zaderej.

Meeting called to order at 9:05.

No public comment.

Tom Pacey moved to approve the minutes of July 13th, 2026, Seconded by Tim Benedict.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Eco Oregon: Darin completed the online application form. He will send the link out again for committee review. He asked everyone to verify the content and resource links. Tim said it is important to inform everyone they are free to participate in the program. The committee discussed the Winnebago County landfill and the possibility of non-union companies being unable to use the landfill.

Rock River Clean-Up: Steve and Mel will complete the news release. Tim and Tom said they would reach out to secure a radio spot once the news release is completed. The committee discussed volunteer groups and flyer distribution. They also discussed the impact of the boating community's involvement. Volunteers on boats can reach more places than volunteers on foot. They decided to meet on September 9th at 9 am so they can finalize any last-minute preparations. The river cleanup will be held on September 12th. The rain date is scheduled for September 19th.

2nd Street Native Plants: Tom and Vic met with Austin Webb about three weeks ago. Austin put together a draft budget. The project is not in the budget for this year. The committee will pursue other funding options such as the ComEd grant and private donors. They also discussed educational signage, plaques for private donors, and collaborating with the park district for the prescribed burns.

New Business: Tom said the Bird City designation was approved. He said they would like to present the designation at a city council meeting. He would like to have the committee attend the meeting to accept the award. Melanie said the committee needs to look at the Sustainability Plan for projects to work on next year. She said she is very proud of the committee and she thanked everyone.

Steve Rypkema moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Tom Pacey.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Submitted by City Clerk Cheryl Hilton