



CITY OF LAUDERHILL

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CONSERVATION ELEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES



Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc.
EXCEPTIONAL SOLUTIONS™

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GOAL 5

To conserve, manage, use and protect the natural and environmental resources of the City of Lauderhill ensuring continued resource availability and environmental quality.

5.1 OBJECTIVE:

Maintain the best possible air quality, meeting or exceeding state and federal air quality standards.

5.1.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to coordinate and cooperate with Broward County, the MPO, the Regional Planning Council and other agencies relating to the development of efficient and effective transit systems to reduce vehicle miles traveled and relate emissions.

5.1.2 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to enforce the land development code that prohibits the burning of any trash, rubbish, garbage, offal, dead animals, or other waste matter in the city.

5.1.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall strictly enforce the adopted landscaping standards to ensure the preservation and restoration of native vegetation, to promote substrate stabilization, to filter air pollutants, and to produce oxygen.

5.1.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall enforce all adopted measures to contain and stabilize exposed or destabilized soil surfaces at construction sites to prevent erosion and the degradation of ambient air quality through the generation of dust particles.

5.1.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to coordinate and cooperate with Federal, State and County Agencies on implementing air pollution control regulations and remediation measures.

5.1.6 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to amend the land development regulations to adopt specific standards and strategies-such as allowances for electric car charging stations-that address greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficient housing, and overall energy conservation.

5.1.7 POLICY:

As the replacement of municipal vehicles is scheduled, the City of Lauderhill shall consider the availability of replacement with low emission or fuel efficient vehicles.

5.1.8 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall provide educational materials and promote recycling to enhance the efficiency of curbside pick-up, and reduce the materials being sent to landfills to reduce methane production from landfills.

5.1.9 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall encourage the diversion from landfills of materials that are recyclable when issuing construction demolition permits.

5.1.10 POLICY:

Annually review existing air quality reports and confer with the FDEP on the source(s) of air quality violations and the proper abatement methods. If needed, coordinate with the FDEP in their efforts to enforce clean air standards.

5.2 OBJECTIVE

Secure provision of potable water in sufficient quantity and quality to meet present and projected needs, commensurate with sustainable demand.

5.2.1 POLICY:

The City will conserve water by strictly enforcing Florida Friendly principles incorporated in the adopted Landscape ordinance including utilization of irrigation rain sensor devices and pressure controls.

5.2.2 POLICY:

The City will cooperate with Broward County and the South Florida Water Management District on the implementation of water demand management policies and programs.

5.2.3 POLICY:

The City will encourage the use of high efficiency toilets, showerheads, faucets, clothes washers and dishwashers that are Energy Star rated and WaterSense certified in all new or retrofitted residential and commercial projects.

5.2.4 POLICY:

The City will cooperate with the South Florida Water Management District and other agencies, municipalities and service providers to conserve water resources in emergencies and during declared water shortages, as well as year-round conservation rules.

5.2.5 POLICY:

Activities and land uses within designated wellfield protection areas shall be restricted to protect the quality and quantity of this water source.

5.2.6 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall participate in the development of conservation programs contained in the Regional Water Supply Plan in conjunction with the South Florida Water Management District.

5.2.7 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue its efforts to publicize and encourage water conservation.

5.2.8 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall assess projected water needs and sources for the long-range planning period by creating and maintaining a Water Supply Facilities Work Plan with a minimum 10-year planning horizon. Future water supply planning shall emphasize the efficient use of water resources and where possible and financially feasible, utilize alternative water sources.

5.2.9 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall conduct routine, ongoing maintenance on the public lands irrigation system and continuously calibrate the City's irrigation pumps, and incorporate water saving features as a component of the maintenance program.

5.2.10 POLICY:

When source water is available, the City of Lauderhill shall support the use of reclaimed water for irrigation and other uses, with the goal of reducing demands on the Biscayne Aquifer.

5.2.11 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall participate in the development of the Regional Water Supply Plan in conjunction with the South Florida Water Management District.

5.3 OBJECTIVE:

Assure that generation, storage, transport and disposal of wastes in Lauderhill is managed with the best available technology to protect environmental quality.

5.3.1 POLICY:

When new sewers are extended into an area currently using septic systems for wastewater disposal, all buildings must connect with the public wastewater collection system within the time frame required by Florida Statute.

5.3.2 POLICY:

New subdivisions shall provide sewerage and connections for each lot in the development.

5.3.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall cooperate with appropriate public agencies to assure that solid and hazardous wastes within the City of Lauderhill, are properly regulated and managed to protect the environment.

5.3.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall report any hazardous waste violation they may become aware of to the appropriate jurisdictional agency.

5.3.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall coordinate with Broward County and the state to encourage the development of effective strategies to improve the area-wide Solid Waste Management Program to include more innovative solid and hazardous waste management technologies to save energy, produce renewable energy and effectively manage hazardous waste.

5.3.6 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to support County and State-sponsored Amnesty Days to collect hazardous wastes; and shall evaluate the need for scheduling local Amnesty Days.

5.3.7 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to provide public information regarding household hazardous wastes, the proper methods of their disposal and alternative nonhazardous substitutes in cooperation with schools, news media, and civic organizations, and in conjunction with Amnesty Day awareness programs.

5.4 OBJECTIVE:

Conserve and protect the remaining natural systems of Lauderhill, including minerals, soils and native vegetative communities, in recognition of the inherent values of these areas left in their natural state, through appropriate land use designation and regulation.

5.4.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to review, and amend as needed, the Land Development Code to ensure the conservation and protection of wetlands and waterbodies, conservation areas and environmentally sensitive areas, and the oolite limestone bed within the City.

5.4.2 POLICY:

Compliance with approved permits with other local governments, state, federal and private plans and programs for conservation of natural resources shall be incorporated into the City of Lauderhill planning process.

5.4.3 POLICY:

Protect and conserve the natural functions of existing soils, fisheries, lakes and floodplains through enforcement of existing local, and support for the state and federal regulations designed to protect and conserve these functions.

5.4.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall distribute land uses in a manner that avoids or minimizes, to the greatest degree practicable, the effect and impact on wetlands and lands identified by Broward County as Environmentally Sensitive Lands.

5.4.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall require all development projects to adhere to measures to contain and stabilize exposed or destabilized soil surfaces at construction sites to prevent erosion and sediment run-off.

5.4.6 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall adhere to the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System-Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (NPDES-MS4) Permit and shall implement the permit conditions and reporting requirements.

5.5 OBJECTIVE:

Preserve areas of significant environmental and public value including fisheries, wildlife, wildlife habitat and marine habitat, through appropriate land use designations and regulations.

5.5.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to cooperate with adjacent municipalities and Broward County to preserve and protect natural resources, natural areas and native vegetative communities.

5.5.2 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall support state and federal laws for the protection of endangered and threatened species and significant plant and animal habitat, including:

1. Champion trees as recognized by Florida Department of Agriculture;
2. Historic trees as recognized by Broward County; and
3. Protected Natural Lands as recognized by Broward County

5.5.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall support education programs about native plant and listed species and the diversity of natural communities.

5.6 OBJECTIVE:

Ensure that development activities mitigate adverse ecological changes or actually improve previously degraded environmental conditions.

5.6.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall require site-plan review of all proposed development or redevelopment to prevent unnecessary destruction or inappropriate use of existing natural resources and natural sites.

5.6.2 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall strictly enforce the adopted landscaping standards which require the preservation of existing natural growth, the removal of invasive, exotic plant species and the promotion of native plant materials usage. These standards shall contain limitations, restoration and mitigation measures to compensate for the loss of native vegetation and define stabilization measures for areas impacted by development.

5.6.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall use the best available technical criteria and information for the formulation of regulations and ordinances to ensure that future development is compatible with the functions of existing natural systems and resources conservation.

5.6.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall require the owner/applicant to remove all Class I and II invasive exotic vegetation, as recognized by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council, from the subject site as a condition for new development or re-development.

5.7 OBJECTIVE:

Assure the maintenance and preservation of trees within the City of Lauderhill, through continued maintenance of trees within City of Lauderhill properties, and the site plan review process for new development and redevelopment.

5.7.1 POLICY:

Native vegetative communities shall be preserved during development or redevelopment and if any native vegetative community must be removed during development or redevelopment, another native vegetative community shall be replanted to replace the removed vegetative community in equal value in terms of area, quality and quantity.

5.7.2 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to implement the scheduled maintenance plan for the effective removal of invasive vegetation removal on City of Lauderhill lands. This program shall include monitoring and plans for re-vegetation.

5.7.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall encourage and educate the public in the planting and maintenance of trees.

5.7.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall support the efforts of Broward Beautiful, Naturescape Broward, Keep America Beautiful and other similar programs or organizations as appropriate.

5.7.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to enforce the Tree Preservation Ordinance and development code requiring landscaping as a part of development and redevelopment.

5.7.6 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to install street trees and install landscaping on public lands and ensure resources continue to be allocated for such.

5.7.7 POLICY:

The City shall explore the feasible options to increase the number of new street trees planted with a target increase of tree canopy coverage by at least a 20% between 2020 and 2025.

5.7.8 POLICY:

Provide continued beautification, including landscape installation, of streets, rights-of-way and public open spaces and facilities within the City of Lauderhill through grant applications or other funding sources. Applicable local, state, federal and private funding sources will be pursued and used to support projects.

5.8 OBJECTIVE:

Protect wetland habitat and functions through appropriate land use designations and regulations.

5.8.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall require proper landscape buffering between wetlands and designated conservation areas, and land uses that negatively impact these conservation ecosystems.

5.8.2 POLICY:

As a condition of development approval, when applicable, the City of Lauderhill shall require approval from all applicable external agencies regarding the protection of wetland habitat.

5.8.3 POLICY:

Future land uses that are incompatible with the protection or conservation of wetlands and wetland functions shall be directed away from wetlands. Where unavoidable incompatible land uses are allowed to occur, mitigation shall be considered as one means to compensate for loss of wetland functions.

5.8.4 POLICY:

Wetlands and submerged lands shall be used for purposes which are compatible with their natural values and functions, and City of Lauderhill land development regulations shall be revised where warranted to provide these areas with the maximum possible protection.

5.9 OBJECTIVE:

Protect floodplain and floodplain functions through appropriate land use regulations, maintenance and community participation in the Community Rating System.

5.9.1 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall provide for open space as a part of the requirements for all development and redevelopment. No land shall be developed, used or occupied such that the amount of open space on the parcel proposed for development is less than the required open space established by City of Lauderhill ordinance.

5.9.2 POLICY:

Through maintenance and regulations the City of Lauderhill shall protect the natural floodplain functions by keeping swales and drainage ditches clear of debris to ensure water flow, and reporting the dumping of materials to the appropriate agency.

5.9.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System to protect the City's floodplain.

5.9.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall maintain consistency with program policies of the National Flood Insurance Program and shall monitor new cost effective programs for minimizing flood damage and floodplain protection, and require development be consistent with, or more stringent, than the flood-resistant construction requirements in the Florida Building Code and applicable floodplain management regulations set forth in 44C.F.R. part 60.

5.10 OBJECTIVE:

Increase community resiliency by conserving energy, managing stormwater and preserving the urban tree canopy.

5.10.1 POLICY:

To reduce heat island effect and encourage carbon sequestration, the City of Lauderhill shall continue to maintain and enhance its tree canopy through such efforts as implementation and periodic updates of the zoning code and land development regulations, urban forestry grants, and other actions.

5.10.2 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall encourage and accommodate the use of reflective roofing and green roofs to contribute to reduced heat island effect and enhanced stormwater management.

5.10.3 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall encourage and accommodate the use of Low Impact Development (LID) when proposed, and shall review and amend the land development code to provide accommodation for LID.

5.10.4 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to review the Land Development Code provisions to identify means to reduce the amount of impervious coverage and increase the permeability of surface drainage, and amend the code where feasible.

5.10.5 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to maintain pedestrian and bicycle facilities and the efficiency of the roadway system throughout the City of Lauderhill in order to promote energy conservation.

5.10.6 POLICY:

The City shall support the expansion and the use of solar energy systems on all new construction and retrofitting of existing buildings.

5.10.7 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall cooperate with the South Florida Water Management District and Broward County in the evaluation of stormwater management operations in the context of sea level rise to improve the ability of these systems to adapt.

5.10.8 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall support the efforts of State, regional and County environmental and planning agencies to jointly develop, assess, and recommend a suite of planning tools and adaptation strategies for local municipalities to maximize opportunities to adapt and protect from the impacts of climate change.

5.10.9 POLICY:

The City of Lauderhill shall continue to identify site development techniques and best practices that may reduce losses due to flooding and claims made under flood insurance policies and implement these techniques and best practices through the Community Rating System to increase resiliency.