

Greenbelt Strategic Plan Subcommittee
Meeting Notes

Meeting Summary:

Strategic Plan update -- 3-5 year Plan

After reviewing maps (Township Master plan maps overlay with Strategic Plan priority areas, and natural features maps for each of the Townships) consensus was that no major revisions are needed to the strategic plan, but will add language to:

- Provide better connection between farmland preservation and watershed protection.
- Possible tweaks to priority areas defined in plan.
- Adjust goals for building blocks in some areas.
- Connect Greenbelt more to local food growers.
- Connect Greenbelt more to “recreational shed.” Even if public access not granted on properties, how to connect to bike routes, run routes, etc.
- Identified key trends in flux are: 1) price / acre over next 3-5 years, and 2) FRPP funding with next Farm Bill.

Next Steps:

- Add summary of models from different land preservation / farmland preservation programs coupled with summary of agriculture in Washtenaw County to identify noticed changes over the last 2-3 years (new players in local food movement, i.e. Food Hub and Tilian Farm Development Center). This may provide some additional models/framework to pull into our strategic plan.
- Add language for connecting farming and water protection.
- In overview information, add more details on the local partners and other key stakeholders – when Township millages expire; how much remains in their fund balances, what their 3-5 year priorities are, etc. to facilitate discussion on partnerships and expectations for leveraging funds.
- Add language regarding recreational opportunities / connecting to recreational opportunities.
- Work with Shannon and GIS to include new local food farms to the map to tweak / add language to the local food section in Strategic Plan.

Next Meeting: TBD – week before Exec. Committee meeting the end of June.