

IMAGINE GREEN MADISON VISION STATEMENTS

Carbon Neutrality

“Our green capital region will neutralize our contribution to global warming and ensure healthy air, sustainable energy and transportation to strengthen our local economy and quality of life.”

Open Spaces

“We will protect from development urban and rural open spaces in the capital region. These spaces are crucial for food, fiber and fuel production; recreation; education; water recharge; biodiversity; and other aspects of our quality of life.”

Universal Health Care

“We will have universal health care – one program for all – with flexible choice of providers and type of care, an organizational structure defined by the users, and a focus on preventive care.”

Sustainable Economy

“Capital region businesses, non-profits and consumers will promote and actively participate in the green agenda.”

Production and Consumption of Local, Sustainable Food

“Our community will understand and participate in the furtherance of local, sustainable food systems (markets, retailing and farming) and consumption. People will know their growers. Businesses and institutions will adopt local buying processes into their ‘toolkits.’ Growers and producers are honored for being self-sufficient and in balance with the land.”

Higher-Education Institutions Enable a Sustainable Vision

“The University of Wisconsin-Madison and other universities and colleges are models of sustainability. An Institute for Sustainability provides teaching, research and outreach activities. Faculty has renewed engagement in sustainability issues with all levels of government and community.”

Metrics and Outcomes Reporting

“We are committed to setting goals and objectively measuring progress in a whole community context so that all measured outcomes are clear and easy to understand, are used to motivate public commitment to sustainability and drive public policy decision making and accountability.”

Civic Engagement and Leadership

“An aware, educated public chooses among leaders who place green and sustainable policies and practices as the top priority on all levels: government, business, non-profit, and community. Candidates running for office and applying for leadership positions are all ‘green’ and educated on sustainability issues and consequences.”

Education

“We will have a system of education that engages each young person in learning and assists them in realizing their best potential in each stage of life. Curricula will enable people to understand and practice as members of a sustainable community. Teachers and educators will be trained and renewed in interdisciplinary perspectives that integrate sustainability and regeneration.”

Clean Water and Sustainable Water Use

“Regional lakes, streams and rivers will be healthy for swimming and fishing and inviting for a wide range of recreational activities. Groundwater will be safe for drinking. Water use and withdrawal will be lower than its recharge within the region.”

Building a Culture and Values of Sustainability

“The Capital Region of Wisconsin – its residents, governments, schools, economy and culture – will embody the benefits of a culture of sustainable values in actions that hold a respect for the needs of the generations to come. Through the deployment of these values in a broad and deep range of contexts, the Capital Region will proactively recognize the current and future moral, economic and social benefits for sustained life on Earth.”

Development of Regional Structures

“The Capital Region will provide affordable and readily available resources, amenities and structures for a sustainable lifestyle and options. Everyone in our communities can read about, talk about, understand and make personal and community decisions about living sustainably. The benefits of these activities accrue through a coordinated network of sharing, learning and cooperation among our governments, schools, religious organizations, businesses, media and non-profits. The combined efforts support: an ongoing, strong, cost-effective regional economy; many vibrant communities; and a healthy environment that supports the rich diversity of all life. The public understands sustainability, actively approves its positive implications and is motivated to embrace its principles and adopt new and responsible practices.”

Happiness and Quality of Life

“We now realize that happiness is not determined by what we have or own, but who we are: loving, relating, reflecting, contributing, learning, creating...”

Integrated, Whole Neighborhoods

“We have accessible sources of food, health and other living needs within our neighborhoods. We work within neighborhood distances. We have neighboring communal places for recreation and nature. All neighborhoods include people of mixed income and diverse ethnicity.”

Green Building and Development “We have accessible sources of food, health and other living needs within our neighborhoods. We work within neighborhood distances. We have neighboring communal places for recreation and nature. All neighborhoods include people of mixed income and diverse ethnicity.”