

adopted 5-20-71

RESOLUTION 71 - 17

A COMMITMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Recognizing that the promotion of environmental quality and the conservation of all the irreplaceable natural resources is the urgent and continuing responsibility of every citizen and every government, and recognizing that this has been a primary goal of the City of Bloomington for at least seven years, the Common Council and the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Indiana hereby affirm together the following:

1. As in the past, no Common Council action or action by the Mayor or any department of the City of Bloomington will be taken before responsible attention is given to the overall effect of such action on the quality of the atmosphere, water, and soil, and on the health and comfort of all persons living now or expected to live in the future.
2. To further implement such action, the City will soon create and strongly support a representative Commission on Environmental Quality and Conservation with the specific and major responsibility of continuously studying and reporting on all relevant matters and of recommending appropriate action. In further planning and action in this area the City will be greatly dependent on the findings and work of this Commission and its committees.
3. Because the City and the larger community, which includes all of Monroe County, are so interdependent every opportunity will be utilized as in the past to encourage and establish further cooperative actions on environmental quality and conservation. This will include continuing effort to minimize water pollution through mutual assistance in the disposal and treatment of liquid and solid wastes.
4. Because many public school and University students are properly concerned about environmental problems, the City will further encourage the participation of limited numbers of such students on a work-study or traineeship basis in Departments of the City where they can learn and be involved in projects on environmental quality and conservation. This will include organized programs to (a) conserve used metals, paper, and glass, and (b) reduce littering and unsightly pollution through education of all concerned and personal involvement in collection and proper disposal of all litter and sources of pollution.
5. The City will continue to move as expeditiously as possible toward a system of waste disposal which will maximize the efficient recycling of all components which need to be saved. This will include metal and glass beverage and food containers, and a host of other items which should not be wasted. The program is expected to involve the separation of conservable components by the

householders, businesses and institutions and the provision of a public pick up system as needed for both categories. Such collected materials will be disposed of through commercial channels or stored in designated areas for such commercial disposal at appropriate times. However, private enterprise and various community agencies, including student organizations, will be encouraged and assisted in such efforts to the extent that this is feasible.

6. Beginning with its own vehicles, the City will continue to extend its efforts to minimize the air pollution that occurs from engine exhaust or other wastes. This will involve the maintenance of the equipment in good repair, proper operation, and use of fuel which minimizes air pollution. Widespread citizen cooperation will be sought not only in following such examples but in finding and encouraging the use of additional ways to minimize the different kinds of pollution that are associated with the use of all motor vehicles.
7. In conservation, the City will move with increasing emphasis on the reduction of all forms of waste involving heating and automotive fuels, lubricants and other materials used by the City that are essentially irreplaceable. The intention is to participate as good citizens of the earth in conserving the resources that future generations are expected to need desperately. Substantial levels of fuel conservation and reduction in air pollution can be attained through the use of less heating fuel in the winter and less air conditioning in the summer. Overheating, overcooling, and unneeded use of hot water and electricity are ^{costly} common and inexcusable forms of waste. Also, they are indirect contributors to air pollution.

Through cooperation with the schools, community organizations, and mass media such conservation will be encouraged on the part of all citizens and businesses throughout the community.

8. The City will continue to encourage its employees and all citizens and visitors to refrain from littering any part of our community. Littering is both unsightly and a form of pollution. Hopefully conscientious citizens will pick up litter they find on the streets and dispose of it in appropriate ways.
9. The City will further discourage the improper use of herbicides, pesticides and other chemicals and it will set an even stronger example than in the past by using such materials with greater understanding and in amounts no greater than may be genuinely needed.

10. In the gradual but urgent movement to a high level of effective involvement in conservation and concern for the environment, the City will seek the kind of individual and corporate commitment which was so comprehensively described in the semester-long project at Indiana University on "Focus: The Environment." With that focus as a major initial guide the City will move forward deliberately and with resolution toward the goal of high environmental quality and in maximum harmony with nature.

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