

**West Windsor Township, NJ  
Environmental Commission**

**RESOLUTION ADVOCATING ADOPTION OF THE  
“SUSTAINABLE WEST WINDSOR 2007 PLAN”  
September 17, 2007**

WHEREAS, global, regional and local trends indicate that traditional approaches to protecting the environment may no longer be sufficient, that strategies beyond pollution regulation are needed, and that all societal sectors – residential, government, commercial and industrial, transportation -- must play active roles in slowing and reversing critical environmental and natural resource decline;

WHEREAS, some of the most crucial environmental concerns include, but are not limited to, global warming due to excessive use of fossil fuels, potentially serious shortages of clean and safe drinking water due to over-consumption and pollution, loss of valuable biodiversity and natural resources to rapid land utilization and sprawl, and human exposure to toxics from consumer products, building materials and general pollution;

WHEREAS, West Windsor Township has an obligation to not only address local environmental concerns but to also do its part to address regional, national and global existing and emerging environmental problems;

WHEREAS, the concept of sustainability is gaining global recognition as an effective and important approach to designing environmental programs seeking to balance and integrate environmental, economic and social objectives;

WHEREAS, the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” defines sustainability as *adopting practices for living, today, that will complement and enhance, without depleting, the opportunity and quality of life tomorrow. It is a principle of sustainability that sustainable practices will attempt to balance the environmental, economic and social impacts of any action.*

WHEREAS, local sustainability planning is an important and growing trend across NJ, the US, and the world;

WHEREAS, the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” defines an environmentally sustainable community as *one that manages and stewards its natural resources and environmental assets such that their value is preserved, restored and enhanced for the present and future generations and in which such stewardship complements the community’s efforts to foster economic and social health.*

WHEREAS, the Township of West Windsor, recognizing the close relationship between a healthy environment and a high quality of life, has strong record of environmental management and natural resource conservation;

WHEREAS, the West Windsor Township Master Plan serves as comprehensive blueprint for maintaining a high quality of life in the township and presently includes policies consistent with a sustainability approach in the areas of smart growth, circulation, ecological and cultural preservation, open space as well as the goal of the Conservation Element which seeks to maintain and enhance the overall quality of life for Township residents by balancing multiple social and natural resource objectives;

WHEREAS, one role of the West Windsor Environmental Commission is to monitor local and regional environmental trends and make recommendations to the West Windsor administration and Council concerning actions to address these trends;

WHEREAS, West Windsor Township can be a state leader in setting a more sustainable direction at the local level;

WHEREAS, the West Windsor Environmental Commission advocates that the Township builds on its strong environmental protection track record and adopt sustainability as the new paradigm enabling the Township to become a committed and effective environmentally sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” is *to establish environmental sustainability as a guiding principle for municipal government planning and practices, and ultimately influencing the planning and practices of the broader community to become more sustainable.*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Environmental Commission, Township of West Windsor, State of New Jersey, strongly urges 1) the West Planning Board accept the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” as the basis for integrating sustainability policies and actions into future updates of the Township Master Plan; 2) the Township Administration accept the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” and utilize it as the basis for introducing and implementing sustainability policies and practices into Township operations; and 3) the Township Council accept the “Sustainable West Windsor 2007 Plan” as the framework and priority actions for moving West Windsor in a more sustainable direction.

BY IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Mayor Shing-Fu Hsueh and all members of the Council, Township of West Windsor.