

RESOLUTION #05-021
City of Washburn, Wisconsin

Adoption of Sustainable Community Development Policy

WHEREAS, in the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust, because human society mines and brings into use substances from below the Earth's surface, that along with their emissions are steadily accumulating at levels far greater than their natural occurrence and cannot break down further; and,

WHEREAS, in the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances produced by society, because human society has been manufacturing synthetic substances faster than these materials can be broken down, and,

WHEREAS, in the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing degradation by physical means, because human activity is breaking down natural systems—land, water, forests, soil, ecosystems—by depletion and destruction faster than these natural systems can renew themselves; and,

WHEREAS, in the sustainable society, human needs are met worldwide, because if people around the world cannot meet basic human needs—air, water, food, shelter, means of livelihood, mobility, equal treatment, equal access, safety, participation in decisions that affect our lives, the right to peaceful enjoyment of life, a connection with nature, and psychological and spiritual connection and meaning—then this inequality will continually undermine the goals identified above; and,

WHEREAS, by endorsing sustainable community development, The City of Washburn is joining an international network of eco-municipalities, and taking the initiative to become one of the first four eco-municipalities in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Washburn has a pledge of support through mentorship and consulting from The National Association of Swedish Eco-Municipalities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The City of Washburn hereby endorses the principles of sustainable community development, as proposed in The Natural Step Program, and agrees to apply these principles in its planning, policy making, and municipal practices.

Adopted by the Common Council for the City of Washburn, Wisconsin this 11th Day of July, 2005.

Irene Blakely, Mayor