



Village of Downers Grove

Environmental Concerns Commission – Agenda

Table 1 - Detailed information on this Board or Commission meeting.

Meeting Location	Civic Center – Training Room (East Council Chambers)
Meeting Address	850 Curtiss St., Downers Grove, IL 60515
Meeting Date	April 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Call to Order.

Roll Call.

Public Comments.

Approval of Minutes.

- Draft Minutes from March 23, 2026

New Business.

- A. Downers Grove North High School Presentation

Old Business.

- A. Greener Way Guide

Next Meeting.

- May 25, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Adjournment.

Village of Downers Grove Environmental Concerns Commission

Civic Center
850 Curtiss Street
March 23, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Chair Pelloso called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and asked for a roll call.

Commissioner	Present	Absent
G. Baldassari	x	
P. Bolton	x	
L. Dantoft	x	
L. Donnelly	x	
K. Lerner	x	
B. Johnson	x	
L. Pelloso	x	

Also present: Jason Michnick, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, Village of Downers Grove

Chair Pelloso declared a quorum present.

Public Comment - Items not pertaining to the agenda

S. Ruffolo requested that students from Downers Grove North High School be able to present to the ECC at the April meeting for Earth Week. The commission welcomed the presentation and staff will add the presentation to the April agenda.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 23, 2026 meeting was made by K. Lerner. Seconded by L. Dantoft. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

Greener Way

Prior to the meeting, staff shared a draft Greener Way Guide document with the commission. The document is a 37 page PDF that includes a total of 25 sustainability topics organized as one-page lists of recommended actions and URL links pointing to websites, videos, and reports about the associated action. This is the first full draft of the Guide that the commission has reviewed. Below is a summary of the feedback that the commission provided to staff:

Table of Contents -

A clickable table of contents that would allow a reader to go directly to a topic of interest would improve navigation of the document. This could also become a structure for a Greener Way Guide webpage where each one-pager in the document exists as a standalone PDF and the webpage serves as the table of contents.

Rearrange Topics -

Topics within chapters should be organized as a hierarchy of actions. For example, the Materials and Resource section of the document has waste reduction first. Instead, shopping should be moved to the front because reducing waste starts with shopping habits. Reuse, repair, and recycling should also come before waste.

Highlight Local Resources -

Add an icon or some visual indication if a resources is specific to the Village or within DuPage County. There are a number of local resources and highlighting the availability of local programs would be helpful.

Monitoring URLs -

A concern with keeping the Guide relevant is the ability to make sure resources links are still live and active. URLs change or webpages are deleted fairly often. A system should be in place to monitor links and replace them when necessary. Staff indicated that there are online tools that can check URLs effectively. The challenge would be that the document would need to be updated every time a link died. One suggestion was to use web forwarding URLs where the link in the document could stay the same, but the linked URL could be modified on the backend. Staff will investigate the suggestion. Another suggestion is to have a Google Form or email address like sustainability@downers.us that could residents could submit broken links to.

Next Steps-

Staff informed the commission that they are working internally to develop a plan for publishing and promoting the Guide. One challenge is that the document in its current form does not meet certain ADA accessibility standards that the Village will be required to comply with starting in late April. They are working to make the document meet these standards, which means that it may look different than as presented to the commission in this draft. The commission provided several suggestions for promoting the Guide, such as having physical cards with QR codes,

sharing it with community organizations, and having information about the Guide at existing events like the Farmers Market and Rain Barrel sale.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by L. Donnelly. Seconded by R. Johnson. The motion to adjourn was carried on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

DRAFT