

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**Report For The Village Council Meeting**  
**1/10/2023**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>
New Business Item: Greenest Region Compact	David Fieldman Village Manager

**SYNOPSIS**

At the request of Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, the following proposal has been placed on the New Business Agenda.

Explore joining the Greenest Region Compact and review the GRC documentation to determine the time commitment necessary to join and discuss as a Council adoption of the document.

Pursuant to Village Council policy, this topic shall be a discussion item only to allow the Village Council to direct staff to prepare an action for consideration at a later date. If the Village directs staff to undertake this new business item, staff will prepare a written report for Council review and consideration at a meeting in late February or March.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The Strategic Goals include *Steward of Financial, Environmental and Neighborhood Sustainability*. The following is an excerpt from the 2021-2023 Long Range Plan:

*“Environmental sustainability refers to the Village’s responsibility to deliver its services in a way that protects or enhances natural resources. The Village seizes opportunities to ‘green’ its operations when possible, whether by seeking grants to introduce new environmentally friendly practices or by seeking the most environmentally friendly option for existing services.”*

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION**

Action at the discretion of the Village Council.

## **BACKGROUND**

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt submitted the following request for consideration by the Village Council as New Business:

### **Proposal to join the Greenest Region Compact**

#### **Objective**

Explore joining the Greenest Region Compact.

#### **Rationale**

As one of the largest suburbs in DuPage County, we pride ourselves on innovation and sustainability. Given the GRC is a local compact and does not require extensive time commitments, we should consider joining it to show our residents that we are, on paper, committed to environmental sustainability.

#### **Proposed Action**

Review the GRC documentation to determine the time commitment necessary to join and discuss as a Council adoption of the document. The Greenest Region Compact (GRC) is operated by the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus. Below are excerpts of the Caucus' summary of the GRC. [Click here for the complete summary.](#)

*“The Greenest Region Compact (GRC) leverages the strength of municipal government to build vibrant, sustainable communities across the Chicago region.*

*The foundation of the GRC is 49 high-level goals that have been reached by consensus; not only are the goals aligned with important local, regional, national and global goals, but they are also broadly supported by municipal members of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and allied organizations. These consensus goals guide municipal action, support mayors in their role as environmental leaders, and foster collaboration that has positive impacts on sustainability in the region.*

*Municipalities adopt the GRC by formal resolution and agree to work to achieve GRC goals in their community and in collaboration with other municipalities across the region.*

*To date, 144 communities of all sizes and strengths have adopted the GRC to improve the quality of life for more than 6 million residents, which makes the GRC the largest regional sustainability collaborative for municipalities in the country. See the full list of GRC Communities.*

*All Metropolitan Mayors Caucus member communities are invited to support the GRC by passing a municipal resolution. The GRC's 49 high-level goals are tailored for municipalities and fall into ten sustainability categories: **climate, economic development, energy, land,***

*leadership, mobility, municipal operations, sustainable communities, water, and waste & recycling. Municipalities that adopt the GRC are making a commitment to generally support its consensus goals. Specific actions are prioritized and monitored by communities to best suit their own objectives and abilities.*

*Once your village/county board or city council passes this model municipal resolution supporting the goals of the GRC, and you report your community's adoption of the GRC to Edith Makra, Director of Environmental Initiatives, you become a GRC Community. You will then be given access to GRC promotional material and invited to join in collaborative projects that will help achieve GRC goals for your community and the region. At this time, there is no reporting requirement for GRC Communities and there is no cost to Metropolitan Mayors Caucus members.*

*The GRC Framework is the companion document that provides objectives, strategies, and tools to help communities address goals of the GRC. The Framework is flexible—municipalities of all sizes and resource levels can use the Framework to undertake appropriate and impactful sustainability actions. The Framework incorporates sustainability programs already accessible and popular with local governments. Use the GRC Framework as a self-assessment checklist to inventory your municipal accomplishments. The results can inform residents, staff and guide future planning.”*

## **ATTACHMENTS**