

**From:** Pam Thompson  
**To:** Felicia Ojeda  
**Subject:** Pls add to materials for today's mtg. Thanx!  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 16, 2017 8:12:10 AM

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The Visitors Impact Task Force recommends that City Council and Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau review the Global Sustainable Tourism criteria to consider implementing in Austin. Seems that this would simplify & define common goals initially in regards to expectations of business models.

One example: vendors agreeing to recycle in the convention center.

Other possibilities include:

- A) Prioritize the allocation of HOT funds to recipients who are requesting funds for the first time.
- B) Inject into the tourism conversation the idea of a carrying capacity for hard and soft infrastructure.
- C) Use the plan to focus more resources on transportation safety and developing new, low-emission mobility options.
- D) To protect green space in the urban core from encroachment and to enhance the tree canopy.

Funding could come from the cultural/arts program. It could be tourism promotion, it could be historic preservation, it could even be fashioned as a "venue" if it was linking places in a common plan that were not geographically linked. For example, part of a sustainable tourism plan could be agri-tourism, linking our local farms and remaining operating ranches with local breweries and farm to table restaurants with other sustainable sites, including, for example, Austin Energy's East Austin solar farm.

The VITF encourages the City Council to ask the Joint Sustainable Committee to be involved in the review.

<http://www.gstcouncil.org/en/gstc-criteria-hotels-tour-operators-destinations/criteria-for-hotels-tour-operators-industry.html?id=1296:global-sustainable-tourism-criteria-hotels>

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Boards and Commissions

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