Proactivity and responsible operating methods

City of Tampere environmental policy 2020

THE CITY OF TAMPERE
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Approved by the Tampere City Council on 10 December 2012.
Starting points

The City of Tampere environmental policy 2020 clarifies and provides guidelines for the city’s environmental management and governance. This document supplements the sustainable development perspective and environmental objectives of the Tampere Flows 2020 city strategy and promotes the implementation of the city’s environmental commitments. The implementation of objectives and actions requires that their preparation is linked to annual financial and operational planning and that separate decisions are made by the competent authority in each matter.

Sustainable development dimensions and environmental policy

- **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
  - Management and administration
    - City strategy
    - Aalborg Commitments
    - Corporate Governance Policy

- **Economic sustainability:**
  - Sustainable income base and successful industrial policy:
    - budgeting
    - Open Tampere
    - ECO²
    - etc.

- **Ecological sustainability**
  - Effective environmental policy and governance
  - Eco-efficient operating methods and the proactive assessment of impacts:
    - EIA procedures
    - Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP)
    - Nature conservation programme
    - Eco-support network
    - ECO²: ILMANKOS project,
    - etc.

- **Social and cultural sustainability**
  - High-quality basic services
  - Effective democracy and transparency in preparing decisions
  - Active stakeholder networks,
  - etc.
Environmental management in Tampere

- Environmental policy 2020
  Sustainable development commitment (Aalborg)

- Process description and control

- Impact assessment and environmental programmes for investments and projects

- Identifying and managing the environmental impacts of production

- Auditing, monitoring and reporting

  Environmental objectives for service strategies, annual plans, calls for proposals and purchases

  Environmental criteria in the purchasing process

- Identifying and managing the environmental impacts of production

THE CITY OF TAMPERE
The environmental impacts of urban planning and construction

In the process of developing the urban environment, the various phases of planning and construction have significant environmental impacts that can be anticipated and managed. In land acquisition, plot conveyance and the construction of urban infrastructure and premises, as well as environmental monitoring and building inspection, negative environmental impacts can be considerably reduced and anticipated by appropriate assessments, operating methods and joint analyses of implementation.

The environmental impacts of service production

Tampere has implemented the purchaser-provider model. The purchaser defines the framework for service production. Services are produced under service contracts either by the city organisation itself or by purchasing the services from an external provider. Environmental quality criteria for services can be defined in calls for proposals and purchasing. Environmental objectives can also be specified in service contracts. Environmental responsibility can be required from the Tampere Group’s subsidiaries by means of ownership steering.

The environmental impacts of operations and maintenance

All of the city’s operations have direct and indirect environmental impacts. These impacts can be reduced through careful planning, effective policies and guidelines and environmentally friendly operating methods that are jointly investigated and agreed upon.

Governance in Environmental Issues in Tampere

- Environmental policy 2020
  - Vision 2050
  - Objectives 2020
  - Implementation 2012-2016

Environmental management:
- Developing operating methods
- Service contracts
- Purchases

Instruments for anticipating impacts:
- Indicators of environmental economy
- Environmental impacts and criteria
- Assessment of eco-efficiency

Monitoring impacts:
- Indicators
- Reporting
- Auditing

Evaluating effectiveness:
- Projects
- Operating methods
- Reviewing and adjusting objectives
1. ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE OPERATING METHODS AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

**Vision 2050:** The City of Tampere is known as an eco-efficient city. The management of the city utilises and develops environmentally friendly operating methods.

This vision is pursued with the support and guidance of the city management, using an open operating culture and extensive cooperation projects. The Corporate Governance policy approved by the City Board on 30 January 2012 provides guidelines for self-assessment and the openness of the city’s operations.
Objectives for 2020

- City-owned corporations and significant partially owned corporations have a certified environmental system in place.
- The Group administration and purchasing group, internal production units and the city’s public utilities have defined the environmental perspectives of their operations and the criteria by which they are monitored.
- The city’s regional development projects and major construction projects have defined environmental objectives and programmes.
- Instruments for assessing environmental impacts, eco-efficiency and environmental accounting have been implemented and are developed further in the city’s projects and planning.
- The work of the eco-support network for the city’s units is systematic and regular. Training and communications have been used to ensure that city employees and elected officials operate in an environmentally sustainable manner in their work and in preparing decisions. They are aware of environmentally responsible operating methods and the environmental impacts of their work.
- The city creates opportunities for an environmentally sustainable lifestyle. The environmentally sustainable actions of the city and its residents are supported by campaigns and theme weeks in cooperation between various actors.
2. ECO-EFFICIENT PURCHASING AND MATERIALS ECONOMY

Vision 2050: Material and eco-efficiency is a key criterion in all city investments, projects and purchases. The material and eco-efficiency of the city’s operations has improved significantly.

This vision is pursued by developing guidelines, assessment methods, cooperation with enterprises and the management of material flows. Waste management logistics will be developed further.

2.1 Purchasing

Objectives for 2020

- The environmental impacts of service purchasing have been analysed in the purchaser’s and producer’s processes and the relevant criteria are included in the quality factors and operating methods of purchases and production.
- In centralised purchasing, environmental criteria are used as requirements or as comparison criteria in calls for proposals.
- Purchasing has promoted the implementation of ecological innovations.
2.2 Waste management

Objectives for 2020

- An established method for assessing the amount of waste generated at city properties will be in place in 2012. Waste reduction targets for main property categories, such as schools, day-care centres, office buildings, hospitals and medical centres, will be prepared by 2015.
- The recovery rate of the city organisation’s municipal solid waste will be improved with the implementation of guidelines.
- The total waste generated by households in the City of Tampere per resident will decline by 10% compared to 2012.
- Waste management responsibilities will be clarified and communicated effectively.
3. ECO-EFFICIENT CITY STRUCTURE AND TRAFFIC SYSTEM

**Vision 2050:** Tampere has a dense and integrated city structure with comprehensive, diverse and efficient public transport. Emissions from motor traffic have decreased substantially. Conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists are among the best in Europe. The green area network is functional and protected and it has been developed.

**Objectives for 2020**

- The eco-efficiency perspective in the city strategy has been strengthened.
- The functionality of the green area network has been ensured and development needs have been determined.
- Zoning, urban planning and construction projects utilise instruments for assessing eco-efficiency and ecosystem services.
- The urban structure has become increasingly integrated. Supplementary construction projects have been planned and implemented on the basis of the EHYT programme, taking the annual zoning plan and environmental impact assessments into consideration.
- The development of the city centre has progressed according to the strategic plan.
- The share of total traffic represented by public transport has increased as planned. Efforts have been made to improve the efficiency of private car use and reduce emissions from automobile traffic.
- The first line of the city’s light rail system has been built.
- There is an extensive, high-quality network of bicycle paths and good regional links.
4. ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TECHNICAL NETWORKS

Vision 2050: Technical networks are planned and constructed in an environmentally sustainable and eco-efficient manner and they operate at a high level of energy and material efficiency. Environmental risks during construction and operation have been identified and systematically managed. The operation of information networks has been secured and implemented in an eco-efficient manner.

Objectives for 2020

- The public utilities and corporations responsible for the green area network, water, electricity, heating and waste management services have implemented certified environmental systems.
- The water and waste water management development plans have been implemented.
- Calls for proposals and construction guidelines for the planning and implementation of technical networks include environmental perspectives and criteria.
- Pneumatic waste collection systems will be piloted and developed in regional development projects and their implementation will be promoted.
5. NATURE CONSERVATION AND THE FUNCTIONALITY OF THE GREEN NETWORK

Vision 2050: Nature conservation areas have been systematically added to the city. Tampere’s diverse urban nature and its special characteristics have been maintained with a focus on functionality and vitality as the city structure has become increasingly integrated and dense. The preservation of endangered habitats, species and traditional rural biotopes has been ensured. Opportunities for the recreational use of nature have been improved.

The vision is pursued through open and goal-oriented planning cooperation. Planning and construction guidelines include instructions and criteria to promote nature conservation and the vitality of the green network.
Objectives for 2020

• There are approximately 1,200 hectares of valuable nature sites proposed to be conserved in various ways in the City of Tampere nature conservation programme 2012–2020. Of these, some 900 hectares are protected by the Finnish Nature Conservation Act and approximately 300 hectares by other means.
• The total area of nature conservation sites has increased from the current level of approximately 400 hectares to 1,300 hectares, which represents some 2.5% of the total land area.
• The statutory favourable conservation status (Section 5 of the Finnish Nature Conservation Act) of species protected by EU directives and other endangered species has been secured. The habitats of such species have been taken into consideration in land use planning and forest management by preserving, maintaining and restoring them.
• The ecological functionality of a comprehensive green area network as part of a regional whole has been ensured.
• The biodiversity of cultural environments has been protected by restoring and managing them with a long-term view that takes natural values into consideration.
• The recreational use of nature has been increased by planning and developing high-quality outdoor recreation and hiking routes and areas.
• The overall assessment of where the extraction of resources takes place will progress as part of the regional plan and cooperation between the region’s municipalities.
6. IMPROVING AND MONITORING THE STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

6.1 Mitigating climate change and preparing and adapting to changes

**Vision 2050:** Tampere will be a carbon-neutral city by 2050. The city will adapt to the progress of climate change and prepare for the risks brought about by the changes.

**Objectives for 2020**

- The City of Tampere implements the regional climate strategy and its international energy commitments.
- As a result of improved energy efficiency, energy generation with low life-cycle emissions and a move to renewable fuels, greenhouse gas emissions have declined by a minimum of 20% by 2020.
- Adaptation to climate change has begun and the preparation programme is being implemented.
6.2 Ensuring air quality

Vision 2050: Tampere’s traffic and energy generation are characterised by low emissions.

Objectives for 2020

• As the city structure becomes increasingly dense, the placement of residential areas and other sites that are vulnerable to disturbances in areas burdened by traffic emissions will be minimised.
• The use of low-emission cars will be promoted.
• Street cleaning will be improved to reduce airborne dust.
• Energy generation based on the increasing use of renewable fuels will not compromise air quality through e.g. higher particle emissions.
6.3

Vision 2050: The guideline values for environmental noise are not exceeded. Residents are not exposed to extended loud noise, especially traffic-related noise.

*The vision is pursued by land use and traffic planning measures to prevent environmental noise and by building structures to contain noise.*

Objectives for 2020

- Noise exposure has declined so that the absolute number of residents living in areas where the average daytime noise level exceeds 55 dB is, at a minimum, 20% lower than in 2003.
- Exposure to loud noise has been reduced so that there are no residents exposed to daytime average noise in excess of 65 dB or night-time average noise in excess of 60 dB.
- In localities with sensitive population groups, such as children playing outside day-care centres, schools and at playgrounds or the outdoor recreation areas of nursing institutions, the daytime average noise level will not exceed 55 dB.
- Noise levels are not perceived as disturbingly high in key recreational areas.
- The preservation of quiet urban areas with peaceful soundscapes has been ensured.
6.4 Protection of waterways

**Vision 2050:** The environmental load on waterways has been reduced substantially. Drinking water quality remains excellent and groundwater basins are effectively protected. Waste water cleaning and the reutilisation of sewage sludge are efficient.

The vision is pursued by developing processing systems and exercising effective quality control.

**Objectives for 2020**

- A good ecological state has been achieved for the lakes, rivers and aquifers in the Tampere region by 2015.
- Tap water quality has remained good and the delivery reliability of the municipal water supply is high.
- The organisation of water supply for the northern area will be supported in accordance with the model for supporting water cooperatives. The city is active in launching water supply projects for the northern area.
7. MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The implementation of the City of Tampere environmental policy 2020 will be monitored and reported to the City Board and its planning section as part of the city’s annual environmental reporting. A follow-up report on the environmental policy will be prepared in 2015.

The environmental policy 2020 and its action plans will be reviewed in 2015.

The unit in charge of the preparation of the monitoring is the Sustainable Community unit in the Economic and Urban Development group.