

iWG Assessment

SWATeam Recommendation Ref #: Res 002 - Biodiversity Plan

Date of iWG Assessment Started: 2-25-21

Assessment Completed: 4-6-21

Original SWATeam Recommendation:

Lisa Merrifield at U of I Extension should coordinate the development of an urban biodiversity master plan for the local urbanized area of Urbana, Champaign, and Savoy, with broad stakeholder input and direct faculty/researcher involvement.

iWG Assessment of budget and policy impacts (*check one*):

X moderate budget and/or policy impact OR _____ major budget and/or policy implications

iWG Routing Need (*check one*):

_____ more detailed study OR X transmit recommendation OR _____ forward to Sustainability Council

iWG Routing Direction (*department name, SWATeam, or Council*): Illinois Extension

iWG Recommendation:

We recommend Illinois Extension proceed with developing a biodiversity plan for the Champaign, Urbana, and Savoy areas, including all related jurisdictions (e.g., University, park districts, school districts), with leadership by Lisa Merrifield. Through community stakeholder engagement, it is particularly important to include the level of interest and ideas of the various communities regarding biodiversity issues.

Individual comments are required from each iWG member (can be brief, if member fully agrees):

iWG Member Name	iWG Member's Comments
Ximing Cai (iSEE)	I support this recommendation. This effort is consistent with iSEE's goals on the environment. It can go beyond the traditional work of Illinois Extension but will be beneficial for the communities of the University and neighbor cities.
Morgan White (F&S)	We support this recommendation and are ready to both represent the university through the University Landscape Architect and to provide assistance toward communicating with campus administration and leadership through our Associate Director for Sustainability.
Sandy Yoo (System Office)	The UOCP/System Office acknowledges that such a plan requires consensus from all neighboring parties. We are in support of the recommendation.
Matthew Tomaszewski (Provost Office)	
Qu Kim (College Facilities)	Not able to comment because was not able to attend the presentation/meeting.
John Dallesasse (Academic Senate)	I support this recommendation.
Marcus Jackson (Auxiliaries)	I support the recommendation
Joey Kreiling (SSLC)	I fully support this recommendation. A biodiversity plan will be a very important document for developing resilience and sustainability across Champaign County. Wide-reaching stakeholder input will also be necessary for the success of such a plan.
Jonah Messinger (SSC)	I support this recommendation.
Creen Ahmad (ISG)	We fully support this recommendation as it incorporates many facets of the greater campus community and will have a great impact on our shared environment. We are excited to see an application of biodiversity research and even would love to see educational campaigns to bring awareness to this effort if it is moved forward.

Attach any comments from subject matter experts (with names and roles).