In October 2022, the Royal Oak City Commission adopted the following community benefits guidelines which serves as a statement of development principles to encourage environmental sustainability, attainable housing, labor and economic development, public safety and wellness, and diversity, equity and inclusion in projects requiring city commission approval.

The purpose of this document is to serve as a guide for developers who are seeking city commission approval for planned unit developments (PUDs) and projects occurring on city-owned property or involving the sale of city-owned property. This checklist is not legally binding, but rather serves to convey the city commission’s values of desirable attributes or outcomes pertaining to the aforementioned land use developments.
The 2022 City of Royal Oak Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (S-CAP) serves as a guiding document for all relevant departments' future master planning, strategic goal planning, and capital improvement plan decision making efforts. The S-CAP ([romi.gov/scap](http://romi.gov/scap)) lists several sustainability efforts applicable to developments, including, but not limited to:

- Energy efficiency
- Water efficiency
- Renewable energy generation
- Renewable energy storage
- Green building certification
- Bicycle infrastructure
- Green roof
- Stormwater management
- Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, public & private
- EV ready development
- Waste reduction in construction/demolition
- Water conservation in landscaping
- Expanding tree canopy
- Green landscaping

### Attainable Housing

As housing costs have continued to increase faster than people's incomes, the city commission encourages developers to consider including attainable housing units in their overall development plans. Attainable housing is housing that is affordable to people earning around the Area Median Income (AMI). Households living in attainable housing and earning between 80% and 120% of the AMI should not need to spend more than 30% of their income on housing costs.

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) is a term used to describe policies and programs that promote the representation and participation of different groups of individuals, including people of different ages, races and ethnicities, abilities and disabilities, genders, religions, cultures and sexual orientations.

The city commission encourages developers to take steps to include diversity, equity and inclusion in their operations that would tend to yield greater productivity, innovation, and more effective teamwork.

With regard to housing, the city commission encourages housing units whose physical accessibility features exceed those required by code, whose features and services meet the needs of older residents, and units that are configured for people with specific disabilities, including group housing for people with developmental or learning disabilities.

### Labor and Economic Development / Public Safety and Wellness

The city commission encourages developments that deliver meaningful labor, economic development, and public safety and wellness community benefits, including, but not limited to:

- Good paying, safe, full-time jobs in the construction and operation of a project
- Access to project jobs for local residents and those with barriers to employment such as a criminal record
- Job and educational training programs that support upward economic mobility and better living wages
- Funding for non-profit community services
- Public parking
- Spaces for ride sharing services
- Quality of life considerations
- Remediation of contaminated property
- Removal or rehabilitation of blighted/dilapidated property
- Use of Royal Oak located businesses in the pre-construction, construction, and operation of a project