**Neighborhood Sustainability Policy**

*This is a neighborhood sustainability policy, drafted with the hopes of being adopted by various neighborhood associations, with the goal of building more equitable, green, and just neighborhoods today and for future years to come*

* We believe that our neighbors--those living beside us, across us, and even down the street, are the beginning places of dialogue for authentic community, and that positive social interactions provide the first steps for neighborhood sustainability
* We believe that everybody – regardless of class, race, age, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation – deserves to live in healthy, safe, connected and vibrant neighborhoods
* We believe that economic opportunity is best achieved through a variety of socially responsible, local participants from all sectors of the community contributing creatively in the marketplace
* We believe that the preservation of nature on our alleys and streets enhances the health and ecology of our community, not just for today, but for future generations to come
* We approach change and challenges with open-minded attitudes, democratic discussion, and teamwork across the neighborhood. We strive to balance public participation around our community with the work of individuals, and value the strengths and knowledge that each person brings to the table.
* We balance the stewardship of our land with areas for food production, human habitat and recreation, all the while restoring the native ecosystem through limiting of excessive consumption and sharing our resources with one another
* We strive to continually learn and grow together, displaying dignity and respect in ways that support the neighborhood's vision and values.
* We welcome in the new faces of our neighborhood as essential to neighborhood growth, inviting the voices and stories of everyone in our community through caring and respectful interactions, and as a means of social equity, inclusion, and democracy