General Government & Planning (GGP) Committee

June 2, 2026

Summary and Motions

Committee members Liz Sheehan (Chair), Shayla Lynch, J.D. (Vice Chair), Dan Wu, James Brown, Chuck Ellinger II, Emma Curtis, Dave Sevigny, Jennifer Reynolds, and Hil Boone were present. Committee member Whitney Elliott Baxter was absent. Council members Tyler Morton and Tom Eblen were present as non-voting members. Chair Sheehan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF APRIL 28, 2026 COMMITTEE SUMMARY (Sheehan)

A motion by Sevigny to approve the April 28, 2026 Committee Summary was seconded by Curtis and approved unanimously.

II. REVIEW OF THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE POLICY (Curtis/Rodgers)

CIO Rodgers presented the city's artificial intelligence (AI) policy and practices. She began by summarizing the evolution of AI, key definitions, and policy intentions. She described how AI has developed from early algorithms and machine learning to modern generative and agentic AI systems capable of creating content and performing autonomous tasks. For policy purposes, LFUCG uses clear definitions of AI, generative AI, and agentic AI to set governance expectations.

Rodgers outlined the rationale for the policy: protecting city data and infrastructure, preventing reputational or trust harms, mitigating bias, and ensuring that any use of AI remains human-supervised. She emphasized that technology is a tool—not a replacement for employee responsibility—and that AI-generated work must be checked for accuracy, appropriateness, and bias. Acceptable uses include writing assistance, process efficiency, analysis, and training, while prohibited uses include unapproved tools, inputs containing sensitive data, autonomous decision-making affecting residents, misrepresentation, unsafe outputs, and circumventing security controls.

The enforcement strategy relies on technical monitoring, blocking unapproved tools, requiring exception requests, and potential disciplinary action. Rodgers highlighted ongoing employee training, future risk-awareness training for supervisors, and collaboration with national AI-policy networks. She also described current and emerging AI use cases under evaluation—such as validation of planning/permitting documents, AI-assisted plan review, live language interpretation, and computer vision applications for object detection and analysis.

Council members asked questions about data storage practices, training participation, compliance issues, and external vendors' responsibilities under the policy. Rodgers noted that vendor contracts prohibit unilateral activation of AI features, that data storage currently spans multiple systems and is gradually migrating to secure cloud environments, and that policy enforcement is largely limited to city devices and networks. She reported no major violations to date and reiterated that exception pathways exist for legitimate needs.

III. SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS FOR LFUCG BUILDINGS (Sheehan/Mason)

Patrick Mason, Director of Policy Development for the Environmental Commission, presented sustainability standards for LFUCG buildings. The intent is to convert Lexington's climate goals—such as net-zero emissions by 2050—into enforceable, durable policy. Drawing on examples from Louisville and Cincinnati, the proposal focuses on building-performance standards, long-term energy savings, and a revolving fund to finance efficiency improvements. It establishes benchmarks for energy-use reduction, the phasing out of on-site fossil-fuel systems by 2045, and the requirement of solar-ready design in new construction. Mason described these standards as achievable over the coming decades, stressing that energy-efficient practices during new construction and major system replacements offer the greatest returns.

Councilmembers raised questions about feasibility, funding, gaps in the existing building portfolio, and long-term accountability. They also expressed broad support for the direction of the sustainability work, noting its importance for climate leadership and operational savings. Chair Sheehan confirmed that the proposal would undergo additional staff review before returning to the committee for potential adoption. Commissioner Chris Ford of General Services affirmed his department's willingness to collaborate to refine the proposal through careful cross-departmental planning.

IV. ITEMS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE (Sheehan)

Chair Sheehan provided updates on data-center-related planning efforts, including upcoming Blue Sky Small Area Plan discussions that may include zoning changes affecting data-center development.

Chair Sheehan adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m.