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SOUTH BEND
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Green Ribbon Commission

Strategy Group: Conserve & Protect Natural Habitats and Green Spaces

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(OVER)

What existing resources do we have/know of that we can use to support this effort?	What do we need to begin, implement, and evaluate this effort (people, money, resources)?
Federal Regulations City Parks Water Treatment Plant SSO efforts DNR River walk Area Institutions/Colleges NGO's (Sierra Club Master Gardeners - Unity Conservation Groups Neighborhood Assns.	Education - change culture City Council, Mayor support Citizen Group involvement Public/Private partnerships $$ Land Trust, Grants Conservation Grants Business/Developers Buy-in Green permitting fast track Cleaning up business properties brownfield to greenfield tax incentives - abatement to provide green space/natural habitats

Next Steps

List the 3 next steps or action items that the group will do and report on at the next GRC gathering:

1) Develop & prioritize an action plan
2) Develop an educational/marketing - how other communities have succeeded
3) Research & benchmarking how other communities are increasing green spaces/habitats

planting native species in open space
protecting river habitat/greenspace

Develop Inventory of our city's green spaces/habitat

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What existing resources do we have/know of that we can use to support this effort?	What do we need to being, implement, and evaluate this effort (people, money, resources)?
	Obstacles / Challenges Mindsets + Culture change Tax base removal / problem Business resistance Limited space what is appropriate?