

Workshop for Hennepin County Communities

Simple Steps to Plan for Resilient Cities

Wednesday March 23

Minnetonka Community Center

14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Both Sessions are open to All. Choose the time that is best for you!

1:00 to 4:30pm - City Staff Workshop

5:00 to 6:00pm - Networking Reception

6:00 to 8:30pm - Community Workshop

<http://allianceforsustainability.com/hennepinworkshop>

Co-sponsored by Alliance for Sustainability, MPCA, Great Plains Institute, Hennepin County, City of Minnetonka, Headwaters, Bush & McKnight Foundations, EOR, MN CEE, LHB Corp.



Learn the simple steps to support your city to use *new resources* to plan for

- climate resilience
- economic vitality & equity
- active living & food access

and to join MN GreenStep Cities

Facilitated by Sean Gosiewski, Executive Director, Alliance for Sustainability, 612-250-0389 sean@afors.org
www.afors.org/sustainablecommunities



1:00 to 4:30pm - City Staff Workshop on New Resources for developing your Comprehensive Plan

1:00pm – Welcome, Hennepin County Commissioner, **Cities will give updates**

1:30pm – Resource groups will share updates their comp plan resources for cities

- **Local Planning Handbook** – Michael Larson, Freya Thamman, Met Council
- **Advancing Health & Equity** – Denise Engen, Active Living Hennepin County
- **Active Living** - Kelley Yemen, Hennepin County, Dorian Grilley Bike MN
- **Food Access Planning Guide** – Elizabeth Heyman, City of Bloomington
- **Energy/Resilience** – Abby Finis, Great Plains Institute, Leah Hiniker, Hen. Co.

2:20 pm – Break Out Session #1 with resource speakers

Energy/Resilience, Active Living, Food Access, Economic Vitality & Equity

3:15 pm – Break Out Session #2 (same topics repeated)

4:00 pm – Reconvene to share insights and next steps from the breakout sessions

4:45pm to 6pm – Reception and Networking Time with food sponsored by local businesses



6:00 pm to 8:30 pm – Community Workshop on New Resources to Plan for Resilient Communities

6:00 pm – Welcome, Met Council Member Jennifer Munt. **Quick updates from Cities.**

Learn how your City can join **MN GreenStep Cities** to celebrate your successes!

6:15 pm – Resource groups (see above) will give updates on what they offering cities

7:15 pm – Break Out session #1

Energy/Resilience, Active Living, Food Access, Economic Vitality & Equity

7:45 pm – Break Out session #2 (same topics repeated)



Minnesota
GreenStep Cities
www.MnGreenStep.org

Achieving
sustainability
through proven
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Center for Energy and Environment



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water | ecology | community



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March Workshop Series Simple Steps to Plan for Resilient Cities

FREE - Please **RSVP** at
www.afors.org/sustainablecommunities

- Meet other community volunteers from your city & county
- Learn the simple steps to support your city to use *new resources* to plan for **climate resilience, economic vitality, equity, active living & healthy food access**
- Learn how your City can join **MN GreenStep Cities**, access new funding, save energy and celebrate your successes!

Questions?

Call Sean Gosiewski, 612-250-0389 sean@afors.org



Sign up to attend at the time & location easiest for you!

- Workshop for City Staff - 1:00 to 4:30pm
- Networking Reception - 5:00 to 6:00pm
- Community Workshop - 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm



- Hennepin County Workshop - Wed March 23, Minnetonka Community Center 14600 Mtka Blvd, Mtka,
- Ramsey County Workshop - Mon March 28, Ramsey County Public Works, 1425 Paul Kirkwold Dr., Arden Hills
- Washington County Workshop - Tues March 29 Stillwater Library 224 3rd St N. Stillwater



Speaker Contacts

Workshop Host and Facilitator

Sean Gosiewski, Executive Director, Alliance for Sustainability 612-250-0389 sean@afors.org

Met Council Welcome

Jennifer Munt - Metropolitan Council member 651-357-8544 Jennifer.Munt@metc.state.mn.us

Local Planning Handbook – Michael Larson, Freya Thamman, Met Council

Freya Thamman 651.602.1750 freya.thamman@metc.state.mn.us 1pm

Michael Larson 651.602.1407 michael.larson@metc.state.mn.us 6pm

Advancing Health & Equity

Denise Engen, Active Living Hennepin County, 612-348-4454 Denise.Engen@hennepin.us 1pm

Jennifer Munt, Metropolitan Council member 651-357-8544 Jennifer.Munt@metc.state.mn.us 6pm

Active Living

Kelley Yemen, Bike Coordinator, Hennepin County, 612-543-1963. kelley.yemen@hennepin.us

Dorian Grilley, Executive Director, Bicycle Alliance of MN (651) 387-2445 dorian@bikemn.org

Food Access Planning Guide – Elizabeth Heyman, City of Bloomington

Elizabeth Heyman, Planner, City of Bloomington ehyman@BloomingtonMN.gov 1pm

Miguel Goebel Manager, Midtown Farmers Market, 612-724-745 manager@midtownfarmersmarket.org 6pm

Energy/Resilience

Abby Finis, Great Plains Institute, (612) 767-7295 afinis@gpsid.net

Leah A Hiniker, Hennepin County 612 543-1219 Leah.Hiniker@hennepin.us

Overall Comp Plan for Hennepin County

Dan Patterson | Comprehensive Planner (612) 348-3009 | Dan.Patterson@hennepin.us

Event Sponsors

City of Minnetonka

- Marti Weseloh Minnetonka Community Center 952.939.8390 mweseloh@eminnetonka.com
- Loren Gordon, AICP | City Planner | City of Minnetonka (952)939-8296 | lgordon@eminnetonka.com

Center for Energy and Environment

Stacy Boots Camp Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator 612.244.2429 sbootscamp@mncee.org www.mncee.org

Emmons Olivier Resources – Water, Ecology, Community

Brett H. Emmons, PE, ENV SP, LEED AP 651.203.6003 bemmons@eorinc.com www.eorinc.com

LHB, Corp. Maureen Colburn, Project Manager, at 612.752.6954 or maureen.colburn@lhbcorp.com.

MN Pollution Control Agency/ MN GreenStep Cities www.mngreensteps.org

Philipp Muessig, MPCA, 651/757-2594 Philipp.muessig@state.mn.us

Great Plains Institute – MN GreenStep Cities grant – McKnight Foundation

Abby Finis Great Plains Institute w. 612-767-7295 C: 612-245-4070 afinis@gpsid.net www.betterenergy.org

Local Planning Handbook <http://metro council.org/Handbook.aspx?source=child>

Contacts for Assistance for Cities in Hennepin County

Freya Thamman 651.602.1750 freya.thamman@metc.state.mn.us

Michael Larson 651.602.1407 michael.larson@metc.state.mn.us

- **Community Profiles** are available <http://lphonline.metc.state.mn.us/commportal.aspx>
- **Planning Grants** are available
- **Comprehensive Planning Workshops with Government Training Resources** <http://mngts.org/LandUse>

The Local Planning Handbook

- Provides clear and specific direction on what the minimum requirements are and how to meet them.
- Provides tools, maps, and resources to make it easier to complete minimum requirements.
- Connects communities with available resources, grants, and technical assistance.
- Helps communities understand the Council review process.
- Provides resources for value-added planning/planning beyond the minimum requirements.
- Highlights local planning efforts across the region.



Thrive MSP 2040: One Vision, One Metropolitan Region

Thrive MSP 2040 is the vision for our region over the next 30 years. It reflects our concerns and aspirations, anticipates future needs in the region, and addresses our responsibility to future generations.

<http://www.metro council.org/Planning/Projects/Thrive-2040/Thrive-MSP-2040-Plan.aspx?source=child>

Resilience – Climate Adaptation

<http://metro council.org/Handbook/Plan-Elements/Resilience.aspx>

Resource People

Eric Wojchik, Met Council, Local Planning Assistance 651.602.1330 eric.wojchik@metc.state.mn.us

Laura Millberg, MBA, LEED AP BD+C, Sustainable Development and Climate Resilience Principal Planner, MN Pollution Control Agency, for B3 & green building improvements: 651/757-2568, Laura.Millberg@state.mn.us

Paul Moss MPCA Climate Adaptation Coordinator MPCA (651) 757-2586 paul.moss@state.mn.us

Anne Gelbmann, Green Storm water Infrastructure Specialist, MPCA: 651/757-2384, anne.gelbmann@state.mn.us

Resilience Plan

- INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT
- ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES
- HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
- ECONOMY & SOCIETY

This section provides resources for communities working to integrate strategies into local comprehensive plans to be more resilient in the face of a changing climate. As communities adjust to increasingly extreme weather events, stress on public facilities, and higher costs of services, there is growing need to not only plan for these events, but to also reduce the impacts through conscious climate adaptation and resilience planning. Moreover, resiliency also considers reducing green house gas (GHG) emissions so that the extent of climate change does not exceed the capacity to adapt and become resilient.

Thrive MSP 2040 encourages planning for climate change as part of your comprehensive plan update. Climate mitigation strategies such as promoting land use and development patterns will contribute toward achieving Minnesota’s adopted greenhouse gas emissions goals. Climate adaptation strategies such as recognizing changing rainfall patterns that require additional storm water management capacity acknowledge the new and growing risks associated with climate change.

Not all consequences of climate change are environmental; societal and economic challenges will need to be addressed as well. Resiliency is having the capacity to respond, adapt, and thrive under changing conditions. Consideration of vulnerabilities - and responses to those vulnerabilities - will strengthen your community’s ability to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Resiliency includes planning for more severe weather and prolonged heatwaves, for improved health of your residents, and planning for economic strength and diversity. As you may recognize from these examples, many elements that your community already includes in its plan and in actions it has already undertaken, address some resiliency issues.

TOOL KITS

- **Adapting to Climate Change in MN** www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=15414
- **U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit** <http://toolkit.climate.gov/get-started/step-1-identify-problem>
- **MN Greenstep City Best Practice 29 - Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience:** Plan and prepare for extreme weather, adapt to changing climatic conditions, and foster stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality. <http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bestPractices.cfm>

MN Annual Conference - Climate Adaptation Conference: Transforming Awareness into Action

January 28, 2016 Posted Presentations 2016 <https://www.wrc.umn.edu/climate-2016-0>

Climate Change | MN Environmental Quality Board www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/climate-change

Want to know more about how climate change is impacting Minnesotans? Minnesota and Climate Change: - Video **Our Tomorrow Starts Today** Our climate is changing—and Minnesota is responding. By developing cleaner energy. Lowering emissions. Protecting our water and air. We’re making changes today, and looking forward to a bright tomorrow. See what communities are doing and how you can make an impact at ClimateChangeMN.org.

- **Citations for Minnesota and Climate Change: Our Tomorrow Starts Today** (189 KB PDF)
- **Climate Change One Pagers** (6 MB PDF) Use these to print individual topics.

Resources for Climate Adaptation

MN Greenstep City Best Practice 29: Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience

- **Laura Millberg**, MBA, LEED AP BD+C, Sustainable Development and Climate Resilience Principal Planner, MN Pollution Control Agency, for B3 & green building improvements: 651/757-2568, Laura.Millberg@state.mn.us

Sustainability and Resilience: Different Lenses with Overlapping Benefits - Many best practices support both sustainability and resilience, providing co-benefits to reduce risk, enhance public amenities, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen air and water quality, and more.

- **Sustainable Communities** strive to achieve economic stability, environmental health, and social well-being for all without compromising opportunities for future generations to enjoy the same.
- **Resilient Communities** understand that the impact of climate change is occurring now. Resilient communities prepare for, adapt to, and thrive in the face of abrupt and unforeseen weather, social, and economic changes, while increasing the use of clean energy sources and enhancing local grid infrastructure to limit risk and accelerate recovery from disaster, now and into the future

Best Practice 29: Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience <http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bestPractices.cfm>

Overview: Plan and prepare for extreme weather, adapt to changing climatic conditions, and foster stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality.


Leadership & Strategy: Integrate climate resilience into planning and budgetary processes. | Hazard mitigation planning | Comprehensive planning and safe growth | Capital budget planning

Health & Wellbeing: Prepare to maintain public health and safety, while also taking a preventive approach. | Identify vulnerable populations | Designate community safe shelter | Provide outreach and incentives to reduce risk on private properties

Economy & Society: Help vulnerable residents improve their prosperity. Build social connectedness. | Training and job placement services | Affordable shared community spaces | Engagement and culturally-specific services/mentoring

Infrastructure & Environment: Protect facilities and infrastructure. Reduce urban heat island effect. | Protect buildings and infrastructure from flash flooding/extreme weather damage | Install green/cool roofs and pavements, trees and other vegetation | Improve local grid with distributed renewable power and microgrids

Sustainable Best Practices: Make long-term investments using sustainable best practice actions. | Energy savings, air quality, active living | Green and gray infrastructure, water conservation | Green building and complete streets

	<p>Brett H. Emmons, PE, ENV SP, LEED AP EOR: water ecology community d: 651.203.6003 bemmons@eorinc.com Olivia McGuire, P. Eng., ENV SP Water Resources Engineer omcguire@eorinc.com</p>
<p>Water - Watersheds and Water Resources www.eorinc.com/water.php ECOLOGY - ecosystems + natural resources www.eorinc.com/ecology.php COMMUNITY - civil engineering, landscape architecture, + planning www.eorinc.com/community.php</p>	
<p>Case Studies - Self-Assessment of Edina Road Reconstruction & St. Paul's West Side Flats Redevelopment http://www.betterenergy.org/files/EnvisionandEdina_St.PaulWestSideFlats.pdf</p>	

Resilience – Climate Mitigation - Energy Efficiency and Renewables

<http://metrocouncil.org/Handbook/Plan-Elements/Resilience.aspx>

Moreover, resiliency also considers reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions so that the extent of climate change does not exceed the capacity to adapt and become resilient.

Eric Wojchik, Met Council, Local Planning Assistance 651.602.1330 eric.wojchik@metc.state.mn.us

ONE – decide to include a resilience chapter in your comp plan and include it in your RFP for planning assistance

- **SAMPLE RFQ from Eden Prairie** <http://edenprairie.org/home/showdocument?id=6671> The City of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, is seeking a qualified consulting firm to assist with resilience/sustainability elements for both the Comprehensive Plan update and the Eden Prairie City code.
- **Sample RFP for Cities to hire planning firms to incorporate climate mitigation and adaptation** into their comp plan updates – **Brian Ross**, Great Plains Institute 612-501-1531 bross@gpisd.net
- **Joining the MN Greenstep Cities program is a great way to get started!** www.mngreensteps.org

TWO – begin to think about your plan elements –

Look at examples of other cities Energy Plans and Climate Action Plans

- **Minneapolis Climate Action Plan** - www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate/
- **Burnsville - Sustainability Guide Plan** www.ci.burnsville.mn.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1287

Sample Energy Action Plan Templates for Cities – will be available for workshops this summer through a collaborative grant from the Department of Energy to the MN Department of Commerce –

Minnesota Local Government Energy Planning Project

For more information, contact

- **LHB**, Maureen Colburn, Project Manager, at 612.752.6954 or maureen.colburn@lhbcorp.com.
- **Great Plains Institute** Brian Ross, 612-501-1531 bross@gpisd.net
- **U of MN Energy Transition Lab** – Ellen Anderson, Executive Director 612-625-1981 <http://energytransition.umn.edu/>

THREE – learn about your city’s current CO2 foot print with information provided by the Met Council

- The met council will share with your city an annual report on your Co2 foot print and changes – similar to the regional sustainability indicators initiative <http://www.lhbcorp.com/project/regional-indicators-initiative>

FOUR – Decide your vision and goals – where your city wants to get to.

FIVE - Develop your implementation plan in partnership with your community, businesses and utilities.

Brian Ross, Great Plains Institute (612) 501-1531 bross@gpisd.net

- **Government Sector**
- **Community Wide Sector**

SIX – See your results - The Met Council will collect data and will provide annual GHG reports to metro cities to help them to track their community wide results - similar to the Regional Sustainability Indicators project. Information to be provided will include, **electricity use, natural gas use, vehicle miles traveled, solid waste and water use** <http://minnesota.uli.org/initiatives/environment/regional-indicators-initiative/>

Examples

Sustainability Guide Plan - Burnsville

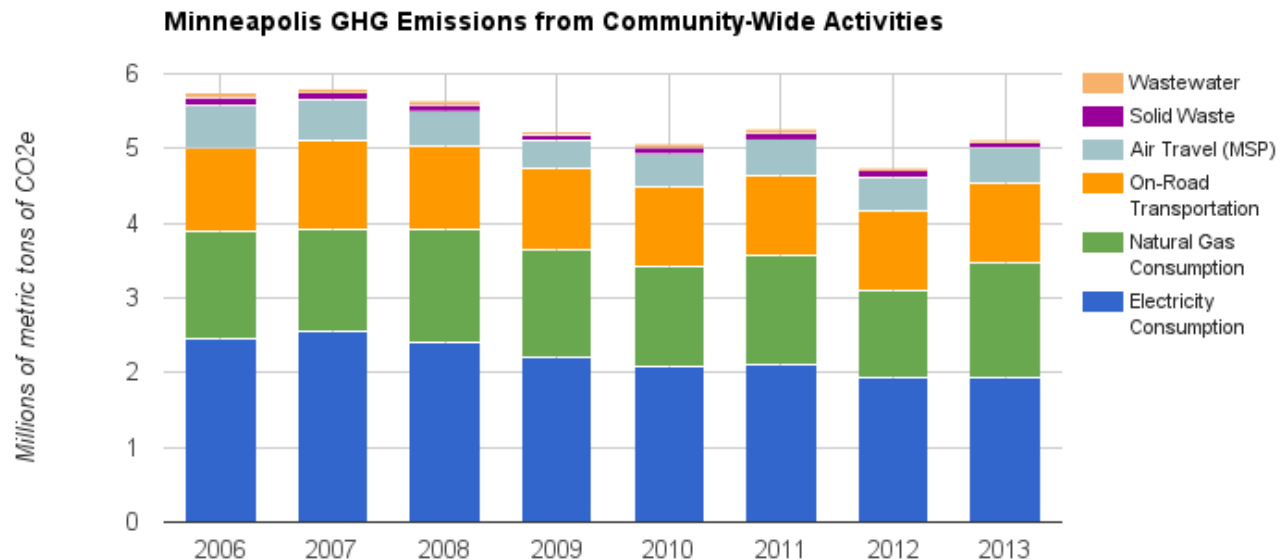
www.ci.burnsville.mn.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/1287

City of Minneapolis Climate Action Plan www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate/

City of Minneapolis Climate Action Plan www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate/

The consensus is clear: the global climate is changing and human activities are major contributors to that change. While climate change is a global issue, local action can make a difference. Minneapolis Sustainability staff are working with partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, as well as the community at large, to update the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan. The plan will provide a roadmap to guide Minneapolis towards our [greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets](#).

- Reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions 15 percent by 2015, 30 percent by 2025, and 80 percent or more by 2050 using 2006 as a baseline.



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Minnesota Local Government Energy Planning Project

For more information, contact Maureen Colburn, Project Manager, at 612.752.6954 or maureen.colburn@lhbcorp.com.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) selected 11 states including Minnesota to receive a total of \$5 million to advance innovative approaches for local clean energy development. This State Energy Program Award will fund the Minnesota Local Government Energy Planning Project through 2018.

LHB is leading the Minnesota Local Government Energy Planning Project team that includes the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Transition Lab at the University of Minnesota, Great Plains Institute, and the University of Minnesota's Center for Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy. The project will create energy planning tools that local governments can use to support significant progress towards Minnesota's sustainability, energy transition, and greenhouse gas reduction goals. Energy planning tools including case studies of exemplar cities, a wedge diagram tool, and an energy planning template are anticipated to be available by March 2017. Training on use of the tools through webinars and workshops is planned for April – December 2017.

Resilience Plan elements

<http://metrocouncil.org/Handbook/Plan-Elements/Resilience.aspx>

Thrive MSP 2040 encourages planning for climate change as part of your comprehensive plan update.

- **Climate mitigation strategies** such as promoting land use and development patterns will contribute toward achieving Minnesota’s adopted greenhouse gas emissions goals.
- **Climate adaptation strategies** such as recognizing changing rainfall patterns that require additional storm water management capacity acknowledge the new and growing risks associated with climate change.

INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Minimum Requirements: None.

Get More Out of Your Plan:

- Evaluate the recommended sustainability and resiliency practices adopted by other communities through the GreenStep Cities program. Consider recommending participation in GreenStep Cities as an implementation strategy in your Plan.
- Explore RELi, the new Resiliency Action List, a national ANSI pilot consensus standard containing direct value credits which are part of an accompanying Green + Resilient Finance Standard. Discover strategies to create safer, healthier and more productive communities that can better handle weather extremes, economic turbulence, and crisis conditions. RELi incorporates many sustainability approaches from various leadership standards, plus additional actions specific to resilient communities.
- The Georgetown Climate Center houses a wealth of resources additional climate adaptation information and resources that can help you get started.

ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES

Minimum Requirements: Local governments in the seven-county metropolitan area are required by state law to include an element in their Plan for protection and development of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems.

Get More Out of Your Plan:

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

- Consider implementing policy options contained in the Georgetown Climate Center report, “MN Options to Increase Climate Resilience in Buildings.”
- Explore including supportive goals and policies for capturing your community’s energy efficiency resources through encouraging sustainable building design, such as Saint Paul’s Sustainable Building policy.
- Engage your energy utilities in your Plan process, specifically to develop partnership opportunities for enhancing local participation in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Consider recommending a formal collaboration with the utility as an implementation step, similar to the Clean Energy Partnership in Minneapolis or participating in a Partners in Energy initiative with Xcel Energy program.
- Explore adopting a commercial building benchmarking ordinance such as has been implemented by the City of Minneapolis.
- Consider Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) as implementation tool in your Plan. PACE is a financing tool that allows property owners to access competitive private financing through a partnership with local governments and the St. Paul Port Authority. Building owners who use PACE financing for their energy improvements pay back the financing through property taxes, as a voluntary special assessment. Consult the Authority about Joint Powers Agreement opportunities.
- Review Minnesota Housing’s “Home Fix Up Fund” to address weatherization and energy conservation in existing buildings.
- Adopt policies supporting enhanced partnership in developing local energy systems that support local generation, micro-grid development, and district heating systems that use of city rights-of-way.

Renewable Energy

- Evaluate options for implementing your policy for solar by reviewing local examples of ordinances, such as Falcon Heights’ ordinance or Rosemount’s ordinance. Include developing a solar ordinance as an implementation strategy in your plan.

- Identify areas of potential solar production in your community using the University of Minnesota’s solar mapping tool (also available on the Council’s mapping tool). This tool shows solar radiation potential taking into account shading from trees and buildings, topography, weather conditions, and the changing sun angle over the year.
- Assess best practices for addressing solar energy development in your comprehensive plan. The Minnesota Grow Solar Planning/Zoning/ Permitting Toolkit contains best practices and model ordinances that are specific for Minnesota communities.
- Solar Outreach Partnership (SolarOPs) hosts information and resources to facilitate solar energy adoption for local governments, including workshops, peer-to-peer sharing, research, and online tools and reports.
- Consider incorporating planning policy ideas and examples on energy efficiency and renewable energy from around the country and incorporate into your plan. The American Planning Association has compiled a large number of examples that provide direction on how to address energy resources in your comprehensive plan. The solar energy PAS examples and the PAS report are free of charge, the energy/climate and wind examples are available for sale at the APA website.

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Minimum Requirements: None

Get More Out of Your Plan:

- Explore opportunities to integrate heat island mitigation strategies into the local comprehensive plan, education and engagement efforts, and other plans and ordinances.
- Consider options for cool pavement alternatives for road construction.
- Consider expansion and maintenance of vegetated open space and green infrastructure installation to improve water quality and manage stormwater, like the City of Maplewood.
- The EPA has a number of resources that explain risks of heat island and the tools for reducing heat island effects. Consider developing policies in your Plan specific to reducing heat island risks.
- Consider conducting a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of your existing plan as part of the development of your 2040 plan, like the City of St. Louis Park.
- Consider how your community could prepare for the health vulnerabilities to climate change identified in the Minnesota Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment prepared by the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Consult GreenStep Cities best practices #11, #12, #16, #23, and #27 regarding Healthy Community for goals and strategies that can be incorporated into your Plan.

ECONOMY & SOCIETY

- Consider planning for the most vulnerable of your population in all aspects of the comprehensive plan,
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved hazard mitigation plan

Minimum Requirements: None

Get More Out of Your Plan:

- Consider alternatives to the traditional planning and public outreach process. Ideas include morning meetings, childcare, venues which are already gathering locations/events, social media, “meeting in a box”, on-line resources.
- Consider planning for the most vulnerable of your population in all aspects of the comprehensive plan, as climate can have varying impacts on vulnerable populations such as elderly, young, and impoverished populations.
- GreenStep City Best practice #24, Benchmarks and Community Engagement, provides best practices examples of how communities can set benchmarks, measure progress, communicate to residents and businesses, and foster a trust relationship with people in the community through communication and engagement.
- Many local governments have a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved hazard mitigation plan in order to be eligible for federal disaster mitigation assistance funds. Consider integrating your hazard mitigation plan into your comprehensive plan to help you assess your community’s vulnerabilities and incorporate resiliency into your plans. FEMA’s fact sheet called Integrating Hazard Mitigation into the Comprehensive Plan provides a good starting point.

- Additional GreenStep Cities best practices that address the Economy and Society component of community resiliency include Best Practice #25 Green Business Development, #27 Local Food, and #28 Business Synergies.

Resilience FACT SHEET

<http://metro council.org/Handbook/Files/Resources/Fact-Sheet/RESILIENCE/Sustainability-and-Resiliency-Overview.aspx>

For building in resiliency into local planning, communities are also encouraged to:

- Implement compact development patterns and create more connected places to reduce auto-dependency and related generation of greenhouse gases.
- Identify local measures that would result in reductions in water use, energy consumption, emission of greenhouse gases;
- Identify local mitigation and adaptation strategies and infrastructure resiliency plans to protect against potential negative impacts to local economies, local resources, and infrastructure that result from more frequent or severe weather events.
- Participate in programs that evaluate and share city sustainability practices, such as GreenStep Cities and the Regional Indicators Initiative.
- Consider development or use community solar gardens.

These efforts help build the foundation for a prosperous, equitable, livable, and sustainable future for communities and the region.

Energy Implementation Resources

Metro Region | Clean Energy Resource Teams

Metro CERT empowers communities and their members to adopt energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and practices www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/regions/metro

Great Plains Institute www.betterenergy.org

Abby Finis Great Plains Institute w. 612-767-7295 C: 612-245-4070 afinis@gpisd.net

Center for Energy and Environment

Stacy Boots Camp Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator | 612.244.2429 sbootscamp@mncee.org
212 North 3rd Ave #560 | Minneapolis, MN 55401
www.mncee.org

The Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) is a nonprofit organization helping Minnesotans save energy and money for over 35 years. Currently CEE is working on the following programs with cities and utilities:

- Home Energy Squad
- One-Stop Efficiency Shop lighting program
- Residential and Commercial Financing
- Engineering Services

MN ENERGY STAR Challenge!

<http://mnenergystarchallenge.com>

Abby Finis Great Plains Institute w. 612-767-7295 C: 612-245-4070 afinis@gpisd.net

- A statewide program that offers incentives directly to building owner who seek certification. There is also the community partner piece where will work closely with one community to come up with a plan to reach out to businesses in their community to become ENERGY STAR certified.
- Article from Finance & Commerce explaining the Challenge: <http://finance-commerce.com/2015/08/new-effort-pushes-energy-star-rating-for-buildings>

Partners in Energy Program An Xcel Energy Community Partnership

Since you're committed to empowering energy sustainability, renewability, efficiency and environmental programs for your community, we would like to be your energy partner. Join our Partners in Energy program to engage your community in a collaborative effort that will enable you to meet your energy goals.

Partners in Energy is a two-year community support program involving more than electric and/or gas services to your municipalities, residents and businesses. It's not a program, service or product that you need to buy. We team up with your community energy visionaries to develop custom action plans and provide implementation support services to help you meet your energy objectives - that will engage and inform your community.

Applications for new Partners in Energy communities in Minnesota and Colorado are due **March 18, 2016**.

www.xcelenergy.com/Community/Community_Projects/Partners_In_Energy_Community_Programs

Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership

www.mpls-cleanenergypartnership.org

This first-in-the-nation agreement brings together the City of Minneapolis, Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy in support of the City's Climate Action Plan

City of Minneapolis Commercial building benchmarking ordinance

Commercial Building Benchmarking and Transparency

In Minneapolis, large commercial buildings make up almost 50% of the city's energy use. This provides a tremendous opportunity for identifying areas with the largest potential for energy savings. In February of 2013, the Minneapolis City Council adopted ordinance 47.190 requiring commercial buildings 50,000 square feet and over and city-owned buildings 25,000 square feet and over to annually benchmark their energy consumption and report this information to the City. This ordinance will allow building owners and the City to track energy and water usage year to year to determine opportunities for improvement, recognize high performers, and determine progress towards the City's Climate Action Plan goals. <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/environment/energy>

Local Energy Efficiency Self Scoring Tool.

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE)

- This is the same tool that ACEEE uses to score cities for their annual *City Scorecard* and they will walk you through the process to see how it works and to use in your own communities. They'll also touch on ways that NGOs can and have used the scoring tool to nudge their cities into action.
- Creating your own city scorecard is a great way to analyze how your city is doing and how it could improve, but some of these questions and measurements can seem daunting. Join us next Tuesday to learn more about how to score your city and use that information to make the case for more energy efficient efforts in your community!
- More info at :<http://aceee.org/blog/2015/12/score-your-community-s-efficiency>

You can also download the Self-Scoring tool (an XCEL file) at <http://aceee.org/research-report/u1511> if you'd like to have it open as the ACEEE reps go over the information.

Community Solar Gardens | Clean Energy Resource Teams

www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/solargardens

Metro Council leading collaboration to spur community solar

Local governments in the Twin Cities metro area soon will have the opportunity to subscribe to solar energy generated at one or more proposed community solar gardens procured through a collaboration of the Metropolitan Council, Hennepin and Ramsey counties, the City of Minneapolis, Metro CERTs, and the Great Plains Institute

www.metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Communities/Newsletters/Metro-Council-leading-collaboration-to-spur-commun.aspx

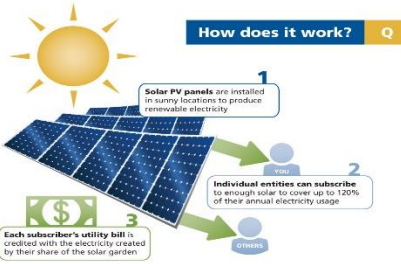
Consumer Friendly Community Solar Pledge

<http://fresh-energy.org/communitysolarpledge/>



Alliance for Sustainability

Ecologically sound, economically viable, socially just and humane



Join our Community Solar Garden!

- Help MN move toward a future with **100% renewable electricity!**
- **Save 10% on your monthly electricity bills.**
- Your community group can receive a \$50 donation per subscription.

Sign up today to begin reserving your spot in our Solar Garden at

www.mncommunitysolar.com/sustainablecommunities

MN Community Solar is great local company that helped develop our State's Solar Legislation that is committed to good land stewardship and diverse job training & placement.

MN Community Solar has received both the good neighbor and community leader designation from the **Consumer Friendly Community Solar Pledge** <http://fresh-energy.org/communitysolarpledge/>

- The Alliance is partnering with the **Lake Street Energy Challenge** and neighborhoods & congregations along Lake Street to sign up 500 neighbors and members of local faith communities !
- Learn more at

www.allianceforsustainability.com/communitysolar

or contact Sean Gosiewski, Executive Director, 612-250-0389 sean@afors.org

MN Background - Resilience & Climate Mitigation and Adaptation –

- In 2007 the State of MN adopted a goal to reduce CO2 emissions by **80% by 2050** – passed by the Legislature, signed by Gov. Pawlenty www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hinfo/newlawsart2007-0.asp?storyid=608
- We are not on track to meet this goal www.mprnews.org/story/2015/02/06/climate-change-enough
- Governor Dayton is making it a priority to get back on track to meet this goal www.eqb.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/documents/EQB%20Climate%20Change%20Communications.pdf
- The MN EQB has created great strategies for cities to mitigate and adapt to climate change
- **CLIMATE SOLUTIONS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES** www.environmental-initiative.org/our-work/environmental-policy/climate-solutions-economic-opportunities
- **The Metropolitan Council has adopted the State's climate action goals** as part of our THRIVE MSP regional vision. www.metrocouncil.org/METC/files/ee/ee4d94c3-0c0a-42d0-b9d5-8bde8512b571.pdf
- **Cities can now help MN achieve its climate change mitigation and adaptation goals** by including CO2 reduction plans & climate resilience plans as part of their comprehensive plan updates <http://metrocouncil.org/Handbook/Plan-Elements/Resilience.aspx>

Economic & Racial Equity & Economic Competitiveness

Cities can help our region create economic opportunity for all and address racial equity in their Comprehensive plans www.metrocouncil.org/Handbook/Plan-Elements/Economic-Competitiveness.aspx

The Met Council's Equity Committee will provide speakers, planning tools and workshops this summer to help communities to integrate this theme in their Comprehensive Plans.

CHOICE, PLACE AND OPPORTUNITY An equity assessment of the Twin Cities region
www.metrocouncil.org/Planning/Projects/Thrive-2040/Choice-Place-and-Opportunity.aspx

A region that shares both opportunities and challenges and seeks to improve the lives of its entire population is stronger and more vibrant. With this report, the Metropolitan Council hopes to raise awareness of the complex interdependencies of income, race, place and opportunity and to challenge both itself and others to think regionally and act equitably for a better region for all.

What we learned

- The Twin Cities region has become far more racially diverse since 1990. The number of residents of color has more than tripled, pulling up their share of the region's population from 9% in 1990 to 24% in 2010. By 2040, people of color will be 40% of the region's population.
- The Twin Cities region has some of the nation's biggest disparities along racial and ethnic lines among our peer metro areas. These disparities include income, poverty, unemployment, homeownership and education.
- Income and race can limit where people live. Since residents of color living in the Twin Cities region tend to have lower incomes than whites, income is more of a constraint for people of color when it comes to housing choice. Above and beyond income, however, race still influences where residents of color live in the region.

REPORT AND RESOURCES CPO full report by sections

Section 1: Regional Disparities

Section 2: Regional Poverty Trends

Section 3: Racial Trends in the Region

Section 4: Place-based Dynamics of Racial Disparities

Section 5: Racially Concentrated Areas of Poverty

Section 6: Opportunity in the Region (11 MB)

Section 7: Public Policies and Investments (8 MB)

Section 8: Metropolitan Council's Policy Responses

Section 9: Policy Responses from Across the Region

Section 10: Next Steps

Appendices

MAP: Areas of Concentrated Poverty

- Looking at the Twin Cities region as a whole, opportunities such as jobs, high-performing schools and safe neighborhoods are unevenly distributed. Because of residential patterns, white residents and people of color live in different proximity to opportunity.
- Public policy can positively influence the geography of opportunity by expanding residential choices, transportation options and the locations of economic opportunity. Key place-based policy areas that affect the geography of opportunity include affordable housing policy, transit service and community development investments.

Next steps The Council has identified equity as one of five key regional outcomes from Thrive MSP 2040, alongside stewardship, prosperity, livability and sustainability. In Thrive MSP 2040, the Metropolitan Council commits to using equity as a lens to evaluate its operations, planning and investments. The Council also commits to exploring its authority to use its resources and roles to mitigate the place-based dimension of racial, ethnic and income-based disparities.

Equity Resources

Met Council EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

<http://metro council.org/Council-Meetings/Committees/Equity-Advisory-Committee.aspx>

- The Met Council's Equity Committee will provide speakers, planning tools and workshops this summer to help communities to integrate this theme in their Comprehensive Plans.

The Equity Advisory Committee advises the Metropolitan Council in its work to advance equity in the metropolitan region. In forming the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) in October 2015, the Metropolitan Council affirms its commitment in Thrive MSP 2040 to ensure that residents and communities are full partners in making the decisions that affect them.

The ultimate goal of this work is to create more equitable outcomes for the people who live and work in the region. For the purpose of this committee, equity is defined by Thrive MSP 2040:

Equity connects all residents to opportunity and creates viable housing, transportation, and recreation options for people of all races, ethnicities, incomes, and abilities so that all communities share the opportunities and challenges of growth and change. For our region to reach its full economic potential, all of our residents must be able to access opportunity. Our region is strong when all people live in communities that provide them access to opportunities for success, prosperity, and quality of life

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL Resolution 31577 -- Passed in 2015

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming that the City of Seattle's core value of race and social equity is one of the foundations on which the Comprehensive Plan

<https://seattle.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2269342&GUID=B0DDC78F-6CEC-4E8C-9A1B-CB913457D663&Options=&Search>

Government Alliance on Race and Equity

<http://racialequityalliance.org/>

Yearlong learning cohort with cities and counties in MN

<http://racialequityalliance.org/tools-resources/>

Advancing Racial Equity and Transforming Government: A Resource Guide for Putting Ideas into Action."

<http://racialequityalliance.org/2015/10/22/resource-guide>

Resource Guides

http://racialequityalliance.org/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/GARE-Resource_Guide.pdf

Advancing Racial Equity and Transforming Government:

A Resource Guide to Put Ideas into Action (October, 2015)

Racial Equity Toolkit: An Opportunity to Operationalize Equity (October, 2015)

http://racialequityalliance.org/newsite/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/GARE-Racial_Equity_Toolkit.pdf

Issue Papers

- Contracting for Racial Equity: Best Local Government Practices that Advance Racial Equity in Government Contracting and Procurement (November, 2015)
- Public Sector Jobs: Opportunities for Advancing Racial Equity (June, 2015)

Policy Link www.policylink.org/focus-areas/equitable-economy

Resources for our region achieve equitable growth without displacement

- **Equity in Place** www.metrostability.org
- **Inclusive Transit Oriented Development** - www.tclisc.org
- **Corridors of Opportunity** www.corridorsofopportunity.org
- **Transformative Equitable Development series** Alliance for Metropolitan Stability www.metrostability.org
- **The Scorecard — Harrison Neighborhood Association** www.hnampls.org/scorecard
- The Scorecard was created by Twin Cities, MN community leaders to make sure that the principles and practices of equitable development, environmental justice, and affordability are available to all communities as they plan for economic development and wealth creation that benefits everyone.

Making the Case that we are all one Region – that our success and prosperity is linked

- **Greater MSP: Minneapolis Saint Paul Economic Development** We serve MSP by promoting job creation, providing regional marketing and assisting in business recruitment and expansion www.greatersp.org
- **Wilder Foundation** – MN Compass Demographic Information www.mncompass.org

One MN To engage and empower Minnesotans to establish racial, social and economic equity for all Minnesotans www.onemn.org

Career Pathway Investment www.growthandjustice.org <http://www.startribune.com/learning-is-a-local-thing-as-minnesota-initiatives-show/320343871>



Minnesota Food Access Planning Guide

Sign up to receive updates on the guide at: <http://mnfoodcharter.com/order-for-minnesota-food-charter-comp-planners-guide>

Eric Weiss, AICP, Center for Prevention at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota 651-662-4505
eric.weiss@bluecrossmn.com

The Need

Changing food system.
Changing demographics, economy, and development trends.
Knowledge gap between food and planning.
Comprehensive planning process in the metro.
A need to focus on equity.

Puurpose

Bridge the Knowledge gap between planners and food systems advocates by providing an overview of the food system and planning
Provide tools and language to facilitate policy, systems, and environmental change.
Empower planners
Empower food systems advocates

Food Access Planning Guide

Part I. provides an overview of both food and planning issues by highlighting important background information, legal/law considerations and impacts, and trend information.

Part II. provide model comprehensive plan language as a resource to ease the process of adoption and implementation of food policy and E changes for local and regional governments and agencies

Stragegy Areas

Land Use

Housing

Transportation

Economic Development

Farmland Preservation

Food Production

Food Aggregation + Processing + Distribution

Healthy Food Retail

Pollinators

Healthy Food Access <http://publichealthlawcenter.org/topics/healthy-eating>

Design for Health –

http://designforhealth.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/BCBS_ISFood_090107.pdf

MN Food Charter

<http://mnfoodcharter.com/resources/>

- **Home Grown Minneapolis Food Council** www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability/homegrown/index.htm
- **Metro Food Access Network** MFAN members envision a safe, just, and healthy food system for all. The mission of MFAN is to leverage collective capacity of partners to advance equitable access to healthy food for all Twin Cities metro residents. <https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mfan/about-us>
- **Healthy Food Financing** <http://mnfoodcharter.com/financing-a-healthy-food-future-minnesotas-food-funders-come-together-to-build-a-coordinated-healthy-food-funding-ecosystem/>
- **Good Food Access Fund** www.change.org/p/help-us-make-healthy-food-available-to-all-minnesotans
- **Blue Zones Project, Albert Lea, MN** www.bluezones.com/community/minnesota

Health In All Policies

APA -Planning4Health resources www.planning.org/nationalcenters/health/

Active Living

Resource People

Kelley Yemen, Bike Coordinator, Hennepin County, 612-543-1963. kelley.yemen@hennepin.us

www.hennepin.us/residents/transportation/biking

Dorian Grilley, Executive Director, Bicycle Alliance of MN (651) 387-2445 dorian@bikemn.org www.bikemn.org

Ellen Pillsbury, Active Transportation Coordinator, MDH 651-201-5493 ellen.pillsbury@state.mn.us

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/hpcd/chp/cdrr/physicalactivity/activetrans.html

Denise Engen, Active Living Hennepin Communities, 612-348-4454 Denise.Engen@hennepin.us

www.hennepin.us/activeliving

Active Living Hennepin Communities

www.hennepin.us/activeliving

- Walkable and bikeable communities have healthier residents. They have better and more equitable access to healthy food, housing, transportation, jobs and physical activity.
- To make the county more walkable and bikeable, Active Living promotes policy, systems, and environmental change.
- Along with the Active Living partnership, the county is concentrating efforts in a few communities at a time. The program collaborates with those communities on a comprehensive approach to active living.
- In addition, Active Living works with communities throughout the county on smaller projects such as funding bike racks, wayfinding, community gardens and policy development.
- Active Living "deep dive" projects
- **Transit and health equity Bottineau light rail transit** - Active Living staff is working to incorporate health and health equity into planning the Bottineau light rail transitway. The Bottineau light rail transit bike study is scheduled for completion in early 2016.

Resources

Hennepin County Complete Streets policy (PDF)
 Model city level Active Living Policy (New Hope) (PDF)
 Model Healthy Eating and Active Living policy (St Louis Park) (PDF)
 Bike parking ordinance (New Hope) (PDF)
 Architectural design guidelines (Brooklyn Center) (PDF)
 Multi-family housing ordinance and design guideline (Brooklyn Park) (PDF)
 Travel Demand Management plan (Brooklyn Center - coming soon)

Tools and reports

Deep Dive 2014 - 2015 reports
 Best Practices for Active Living (PDF 15MB)
 Active Transportation in Brooklyn Center - Existing Conditions report (PDF)
 Active Transportation in Hopkins - Existing Conditions report (PDF 5MB)
 Active Living Hennepin County tools and reports
 Active Living activities checklist (PDF)
 Active Living design checklist (PDF)
 Cross cultural competencies report (PDF)
 Law Enforcement Q&A (PDF)
 Bicycle Parking Guidelines (PDF)

Recommended resources

Walkability Assessment from the Minnesota Department of Health (PDF)
 The Importance of Physical Activity - MDH (PDF)
 Healthy Community Design Toolkit - CDC
 Georgia Tech Built Environment and Health Clearinghouse
 Health and Planning Jargon (PDF)
 New York City Active Design Guidelines
 Health equity in Seattle & King County, WA
 Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention
 Bike Friendly Designator

Bike Plans

Hennepin County Bike Plan www.hennepin.us/residents/transportation/biking

Minneapolis Bike Plan <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/bicycles/WCMS1P-135610>

Edina Living Streets <http://edinamn.gov/index.php?section=LivingStreets>

Richfield Bike Plan www.cityofrichfield.org/departments/public-works/transportation/bicycle-pedestrian-planning

Connect the Park SLP <http://www.stlouispark.org/connect-the-park/connect-the-park.html>

FUNDING

Blue Cross Blue Shield www.centerforpreventionmn.com/what-we-do/our-current-initiatives/active-living-for-all

Bike Advocacy

Bike Alliance of MN - www.bikemn.org

Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition - www.mplsbike.org/

Richfield Bike Advocates <http://bikerichfield.org>

Bike Edina http://edinamn.gov/?section=bike_edina_mission

MN BIKE SUMMIT ON CAPITOL HILL

Wednesday, March 30, 2016 (9:00AM - 5:00PM)

Hosted by Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota @ Christ Lutheran Church

<http://www.bikemn.org/component/events/event/225>

On Wednesday, March 30, 2016, bicycle advocates and enthusiasts from throughout the state will once again gather in Saint Paul for the sixth annual Bike Summit on Capitol Hill to help Minnesota set the pace for the rest of the nation.

Your presence is necessary to inform our elected leaders on bicycling issues and needs in Minnesota, and ensure they know that their constituents want them to make bicycling easy, safe and fun throughout the state. Advocating for bicyclists is one of BikeMN's most important goals. BikeMN focuses on bicycling related issues of statewide and regional significance—and partners with local and national organizations on other issues that impact bicycling.

Transportation Forward Day at the State Capitol

Apr 4, 2016 12 PM - 5 PM

Christ Lutheran Church Saint Paul

Monday, April 4, is Transportation Forward Day at the State Capitol!

<http://www.transportationforwardmn.org/events-and-volunteer>

Join us in Saint Paul to show your support for new investments in better transportation options. Ensure lawmakers know about the outdated infrastructure and other transportation issues facing families, businesses, and communities throughout the state. Speak up for a transportation system that meets the needs of all Minnesotans--whether we walk or bike, drive a car, or take the bus. Transportation Forward will arrange for attendees to meet with their legislators on April 4. Refreshments and same-day training for talking with legislators will be provided.

Questions? Contact Andrea Kiepe, Campaign Organizer, at 651-789-1406 or email info@transportationforwardmn.org.

FUNDING Opportunities

MPCA Environmental Assistance Grant Round: Open Categories State Fiscal Year 2016-17 Request for Grant Application (RFGA) The RFGA assists applicants in applying for and managing state grants. This document describes the State Fiscal Year 2016-17 (FY16-17) Environmental Assistance Grant for Open Categories

Applications are due no later than 2:00 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, April 13, 2016. The applicant should check the MPCA EA Grants Program webpage at

<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/aboutmpca/environmental-assistance-grants> for the most recent updates on competitive grant rounds, including questions and answers, and addendums.

Program overview The Environmental Assistance (EA) Grant Program

Categories

- **Category 1. Communities Adapting to Climate Change and Extreme Weather •**
- **Category 2. City Sustainability Planning •**
- **Category 3. Green Chemistry and Engineering Principles in Curricula**
- **Category 4. Reduce/Reuse/Repair •**
- **Category 5. Choosing Safer Products •**
- **Category 6. Source Separated Organics Composting Access and Training**
- **Category 7. Electric Vehicle Charging in Minnesota**
- **Category 8. Recycling Market Development**

Funding The MPCA has approximately \$1 million available for grant awards. Funding for FY16-17 EA Grant Round comes from the Environmental Fund and other sources as appropriated by the state legislature for programs administered by the MPCA. The EA Grant Round is a competitive application process.

MPCA Green Team Funding for MN GreenStep Cities www.mngreensteps.org

- **Philipp Muessig, MPCA, 651/757-2594** Philipp.muessig@state.mn.us

The overall goal of funding from the MPCA is to create or strengthen the capacity of a “green team” to support accelerated implementation of actions in an existing GreenStep City. MPCA will co-sponsor, up to \$3,000, eleven types of events described below.

Green teams can be an existing city commission or task force, an existing civic group, a city staff green team, or a new group. A new group could include city elected officials/staff and community members, including representatives from civic and religious groups, business organizations and educational institutions. See GreenStep best practice action 24.1 at <http://www.MnGreenStep.org> for tips on creating and sustaining successful green teams.

Eligible Types of MPCA/GreenStep Co-sponsored Events in Existing GreenStep Cities

- Community education and recruitment leading up to a meeting where members of a new, or rejuvenated, green team are nominated for city approval
- In-depth training and discussion at a green team on how to build energy/climate goals and strategies into the city’s comp plan update

- A charrette or other public process for a city, or a group of cities, to develop a GreenStep action road map
- Use a community process to predetermine high, medium and low score ranges on the Equitable Development Scorecard (GreenStep action 8.1) for a significant proposed development
- Work leading up to a community meeting where complete B3 data, and/or GreenStep action reports, and/or Step 4 metrics are displayed, analyzed, and discussed
- A planning retreat for an existing city green team
- An open house to share the city's GreenStep work with the community and to invite traditionally underrepresented people to participate
- A community meeting that reviews progress on recommendations from a Minnesota Design Team visit and serves to strengthen/create a committee charged with working on MDT recommendations
- The Friday and Saturday night Minnesota Design Team community meetings in a GreenStep city that is selected by the MDT for a future design charrette
- A community 'post-visit' meeting that presents and discusses what a community team learned from visiting another Minnesota city, that visit allowing a mixed group of people from city government and city organizations (commissions, business, faith, education) to learn in-depth so as to replicate outstanding achievements in the city visited
- Other events and related work will be considered for co-sponsorship [describe your event]

Funding Program Details

Up to \$3,000 per city, \$12,000+ total

- Proposals not funded by July 2016 may be funded in late summer 2016
- If requests far outstrip funding a mix of proposals will be picked by the GreenStep steering committee to result in events in small and large cities, and in cities distributed across greater MN and the Twin Cities metro area, for existing and new green teams, and for the widest range of eligible types of events
- Funding is to a GreenStep city or to the city's identified GreenStep coordinator who may be a civic group, incorporated or not ; checks cut by June 30 and events could happen after that
- Eligible expenses are for: stipends for people doing work/participating; meeting costs including food and child care; printing; materials; travel costs; mailing costs; publicity

Application Details

- E-mail a short (1 page) proposal to Philipp Muessig, GreenStep Coordinator at the MPCA: philipp.muessig@state.mn.us Feel free also to call Philipp at 651-757-2594 to discuss your proposal
- Proposals will generally be funded on a first-come/first-served basis through February and then monthly thereafter until funds are expended
- Accepted proposals will be sent an MPCA purchase order, in response to which the proposer will send MPCA back an invoice for the total funding approved by MPCA

MN Greenstep Cities www.mngreensteps.org

- Philipp Muessig, MPCA, 651/757-2594 Philipp.muessig@state.mn.us

MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITY PROGRAM: the basics

- **A free, voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program** that provides a framework to help cities achieve their economic, environmental and quality-of-life goals. It's like the Tree City USA program, but covering many more topics and with many more **optional actions** a city can choose to take.
- **Cost-savings, energy use reduction and innovation** underpin the program's 29 best practices, which are based upon what cities in MN have and can accomplish at their **own pace, investing whatever level of time and money** they choose.
- **All information free and available to anyone** via the web; the web site is constantly updated and refined as program staff learn from cities.
- GreenStep cities – currently 91 statewide, encompassing 37% of the state's population – adopt a participation resolution but **are in no legal relationship** now (or in the future) with the GreenStep program or with the State of MN.
- Program grew out of a report to the 2009 Legislature; is governed by a **state agency-non-profit partnership**, led by the MPCA and including the League of MN Cities, and not connected to any non-Minnesota efforts.
- **Like Tree City USA, GreenStep has recognition minimums, not requirements. LMC formally recognizes city accomplishments** once each year at its annual June conference. Claiming credit for a handful of specific high-impact best practice actions garners recognition at Steps 3, 4 and 5.

BENEFITS OF BEING A GREENSTEP CITY

- ✓ **Claim credit, be transparent, invite citizen/business participation**
 - Cities joining the program can immediately claim credit for best practice actions previously completed.
 - GreenStep web site easily allows a city to show community members/businesses city accomplishments.
 - The list of 170 optional best practice actions provides a framework for business and citizen groups, schools and city commissions to work on actions and assist city staff.
- ✓ **Special attention paid to GreenStep cities**
 - Financial support during 2016 to create/strengthen a city 'green team.'
 - Special outreach to GreenStep cities has resulted in funding of several city fleet improvement projects, commercial business assistance, city building energy cost-cutting, and full-time MN GreenCorps members placed in cities.
 - Special assistance targets water conservation, waste water plants, EV charging stations, environmental purchasing, complete streets, stormwater, city building energy savings, renewable energy.
 - Special listserv for GreenStep city contacts; each best practice has an expert topic advisor available to answer city questions.
- ✓ **Access 40 hrs. free consultant help (MSP metro and Bemidji areas only); student interns**
 - The MPCA's Retiree Environmental Technical Assistance Program (RETAP) targets its three city sustainability experts to work with GreenStep cities.
 - During most semesters, undergraduate and/or graduate students are available for use by GreenStep cities.
- ✓ **Learn from other cities**
 - 2,300 reports from cities on how they have completed GreenStep actions are posted on the web site for anyone to read and learn from. Each report lists a city contact of whom one can ask further details.
- ✓ **1-stop shop for the most up-to-date action resources**
 - Information on how to complete 170 actions – in the areas of buildings, land use, transportation, environment, and economic/community development – is updated with Minnesota-specific information more often than any other web site.



Minnesota GreenStep Cities



GreenStep Cities is a free assistance program for all Minnesota cities that supports and recognizes implementation of 29 sustainability best practices.

The best practices focus on cost savings, quality of life and energy use reductions that encourage a culture of innovation. As of February 2016, 90 cities (and one Tribal Nation), large and small, encompassing over one-third of the state's population, have joined and become Step One cities in this voluntary program, which was launched by the League of Minnesota Cities at their June 2010 conference.

Cities that implement a minimum number of best practices within the five categories below will be recognized as Step Two and Step Three GreenStep cities. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more specific actions from a list of four to eight actions. A city's accomplishments are recognized on the GreenStep website. Measuring city performance metrics will garner Step Four & Step Five recognition.

Visit www.MnGreenStep.org to learn more about this program, to see what cities have accomplished, and to understand how your city can become involved.

GreenStep's 29 Best Practices

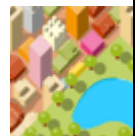
Buildings and Lighting

1. **Efficient Existing Public Buildings:** Benchmark energy usage, identify savings opportunities, and work with utilities and others to implement cost-effective energy and sustainability improvements.
2. **Efficient Existing Private Buildings:** Provide incentives for energy, water and sustainability improvements in existing structures.
3. **New Green Buildings:** Construct new buildings to meet or qualify under a green building framework.
4. **Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals:** Improve the efficiency of public lighting and signals.
5. **Building Reuse:** Create economic and regulatory incentives for redeveloping and repurposing existing buildings before building new.



Land Use

6. **Comprehensive Plans:** Adopt a Comprehensive Plan and tie regulatory ordinances to it.
7. **Efficient City Growth:** Promote financial and environmental sustainability by enabling and encouraging higher density housing and commercial land use.
8. **Mixed Uses:** Develop efficient and healthy land patterns that generate community wealth.
9. **Efficient Highway- and Auto-Oriented Development:** Adopt commercial development and design standards for auto-oriented development corridors and clusters.
10. **Design for Natural Resource Conservation:** Adopt development ordinances or processes that protect natural systems and valued community assets.



Transportation

11. **Living Streets:** Create a network of green complete streets that improves city quality of life and adds value to surrounding properties.
12. **Mobility Options:** Promote active living and alternatives to single-occupancy car travel.



- 13. **Efficient City Fleets:** Implement a city fleet investment, operations and maintenance plan.
- 14. **Demand-Side Travel Planning:** Use Travel Demand Management and Transit-Oriented Design.

Environmental Management

- 15. **Purchasing:** Adopt environmentally preferable purchasing practices and policies.
- 16. **Urban Forests:** Add city tree and plant cover that increases community health, wealth and quality of life.
- 17. **Stormwater Management:** Minimize the volume of and pollutants in rainwater runoff.
- 18. **Parks and Trails:** Support active lifestyles and property values by enhancing green infrastructure.
- 19. **Surface Water Quality:** Improve local water bodies.
- 20. **Efficient Water and Wastewater Facilities:** Assess and improve drinking water and wastewater facilities.
- 21. **Septic Systems:** Implement an effective management program for decentralized wastewater systems.
- 22. **Solid Waste Reduction:** Increase waste reduction, reuse and recycling.
- 23. **Local Air Quality:** Prevent generation of local air contaminants.



Economic and Community Development

- 24. **Benchmarks & Community Engagement:** Adopt outcome measures for GreenStep and other city sustainability efforts, and engage community members in ongoing education, discussion, and campaigns.
- 25. **Green Business Development:** Support the expansion of the green business sector in your city.
- 26. **Renewable Energy:** Remove barriers to and encourage installation of renewable energy generation capacity.
- 27. **Local Food:** Strengthen local food and fiber production and access.
- 28. **Business Synergies:** Network/cluster businesses to achieve better energy, economic and environmental outcomes.
- 29. **Climate Adaptation & Community Resilience:** Plan and prepare for extreme weather, adapt to changing climatic conditions, and foster stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality.





Alliance for Sustainability

Ecologically sound, economically viable, socially just and humane

Sean Gosiewski, Executive Director, 612-250-0389 sean@afors.org www.allianceforsustainability.com



Let's bring home the momentum for climate solutions from the U.N. Climate Conference in Paris!

In December in Paris 195 nations reached a landmark climate accord that will, for the first time, commit nearly every country to switch to 100% renewable energy to keep our earth from warming more than 2 degrees celsius. **We have three great ways for you to bring the momentum from Paris back home.**

1. Join our Community Solar Garden
2. Ask your City Council to Adopt a Climate Action Plan
3. Support our work to empower volunteer teams in 50 metro cities



1. Join our Community Solar Garden!

- Help MN move toward a future with 100% renewable electricity!
- Save 10% on your monthly electricity bills.
- This opportunity is for customers of Xcel Energy.
- Your community group can receive a \$50 donation per subscription.

Sign up today to begin reserving your spot in our Solar Garden at

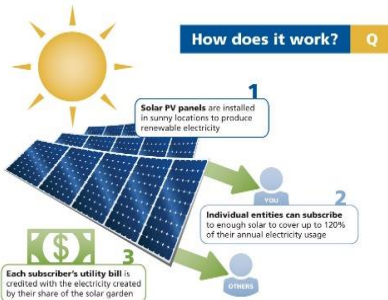
www.mncommunitysolar.com/sustainablecommunities

MN Community Solar is great local company that helped develop our State's Solar Legislation that is committed to good land stewardship and diverse job training & placement.

The Alliance is partnering with the **Lake Street Energy Challenge** and neighborhoods & congregations along Lake Street to sign up 500 households!

Join us at a **Open House** to learn how you can reserve your spot!

www.allianceforsustainability.com/communitysolar



2. Ask your City Council to include a Resilience Action Plan, Equity, Active Living & Food Access, in your City's comprehensive plan

Learn how and meet others from your city at one of our **free Workshops in March** for community volunteers & members of Environmental Commissions & Planning Commissions. **Free, Register** www.afors.org/sustainablecommunities

Meet in your County 1pm staff workshop, 6pm community workshop

- Hennepin Co. – Wed 3/23/16, 6pm - Minnetonka Comm. Ctr.
- Ramsey Co. – Mon 3/28/16, 6pm - Ramsey Co. Public Works, Arden Hills
- Washington Co. – Tues. 3/29/16, 6pm - Stillwater Library



3. **Support the Alliance for Sustainability** as we empower teams of volunteers in 50 metro communities to include climate resilience and equity in their city's comp plans, <http://allianceforsustainability.com/donate>

