ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION UPDATED AGENDA

PUBLIC MEETING ROOM	MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023	6:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Minutes
3. Items for Discussion
   - A. 2024 Work Plan Discussion
   - B. Commissioner Steinkamp's Extended Absence
4. Routine Business
   - A. Announcements and Updates
     - Commissioner Appointments
5. Adjournment

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING ROOM	MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023	6:00 PM

Meeting Items

1. Call to Order

   Chair Wasilowski called the regular meeting of the Environmental Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were commissioners, Martha Brown, Teresa DeMars, Cindy Diessner, Roger Steinkamp and Chair Sonny Wasilowski. Also in attendance were Mathias Hughey, Community Development Coordinator, Kari Casper, Administrative Assistant II and special guest, Mark DuChene, City Engineer.

2. Approval of the Minutes

   Motion by Martha Brown, seconded by Roger Steinkamp to Approve. The motion passed on a 5/0 vote.

3. Items for Discussion

A. 2023 SWPPP Annual Report and Public Hearing

Mark Duchene is our City Engineer and, on an annual basis, the City is required to hold a public hearing to open a discussion on the 2023 Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Report to solicit feedback on the City's activities. DuChene went over some of the activities the City has implemented, such as, under the MCM4 the city has conducted 947 site inspections with 89 enforcement actions for Stormwater runoff control.

In the MCM5 which is the post-construction stormwater management, they have inspected 6 so far in 2023.

For MCM6 the Pollution Prevention and good housekeeping, which is internal, the city is contracting with WSB to conduct pond assessment looking for the sediment and whether it is time to dredge the ponds. Some of the sealers on blacktop driveways have a chemical that has been outlawed in some states and may affect the sediment. If it is found in the sediment, they will need to take it to the landfill, which will be costly. Otherwise, the sediment in the ponds is nutrient rich for soil, which would be the intended purpose. Those chemicals are referred to as PAH's, (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons). Hughey asked if they were wet detention ponds. DuChene said yes, the city has 35 of them. DuChene mentioned that the city doesn't have any problems with their aquifiers. Diesner asked if the city worked with the blacktop agencies. DuCene said that they do not. DuChene said that they inspect construction sites after .5" of rainfall, but since there was not much rainfall this year, they would tend to go out once a week to check.

DeMars asked about the tanks by The Depot that were put in and asked if there were other needs to assist the run-off? DuChene said that they are updating and working on the surface water where locations are susceptible to flooding. They identified 17

projects to address the water quality. The next one they will work on is over by the Library in regrading the stormwater basin. DuChene also identified a joint effort with TruVue to upsize the stormwater basin for flood reduction. The County Club Regional Basin will also be done in the next couple of years.

DeMars asked if they are looking for state funding for those projects. DuChene stated that these are usually funded through utility bills. There is a calculation relating to the impervious surface coverage that ties in to the fees collected. They have tried for grants but found that they need to officially adopt a plan. He mentioned the Bowzer (sp) grant or Heritage Council. Brown asked about the projects by the River and DuChene stated that the project was hindered by the DNR due to the migration of the Box Turtle in the area. Wasilowski asked about the area around the old Tilt-a- Whirl factory being a floodplain. DuChene said that some time ago the floodplain was remapped and he wasn't familiar with any issues in that area.

Hughey asked if there was anything the ENV could do to assist. DuChene said that he appreciated the engaging conversation. They could also partner in a rain garden and he would be willing to come back and talk about other things as well.

B. Gold Leaf Program Final Report

Hughey reported that with the Gold Leaf Program, we had an intern who is no longer available. Right now, the city is stuck on Step 2. He went over the work that's been done and will check on the Young on Boards portion of this. He believed that someone had been identified but he hasn't received the name yet.

C. IRA Ambassador Program

In this portion of the discussion, Hughey went over the "Inflation Reduction Act" and how people could obtain rebates for energy-conserving purchases and the tax incentives that could be achieved. He mentioned that sometimes the retailers will apply for rebates and reduce the cost of the appliance because of what the rebate would be for as an incentive to buy the energy-conserving appliance. Hughey mentioned it could be up to 30%; however, it is based on 150% of the area's median income. He mentioned that the incentives could be stackable.

There was much discussion about heat pump technology. At this time, Minnesota didn't allow this to be the sole system for heating and was not capable of keeping up with the cold winters. It is the reverse in the summer; it draws in the heat and cools the air.

Diessner asked if it covers geothermal? Hughey stated he thought so.

Bottom line, Hughey was looking for ambassadors to help front this cause. No one came forward at that time. Diessner suggested compiling a list of contractors to educate them on these financial advantages. Perhaps a letter from the ENV could benefit? Steinkamp asked if an ambassador would work with CERTS. Hughey stated that any ideas would be helpful. Hughey stated that education would be best on both ends, that being the contractors and the consumers.

4. Routine Business

A. Announcements and Updates

i Energy Action Plan Adopted

Hughey stated that the City Council has approved the Energy Action Plan at the last meeting. Brown asked if Wasilowski's suggestion on sustainable building codes was included. Hughey thought that some sort of language to that effect was included. No action was taken at this time.

ii EV Ordinance Updates

Hughey reported that the EV Ordinance was tabled at the Planning Commission meeting due to the bonus parking reduction incentive and will bring this matter back possibly in January .

5. Adjournment

Motion by Martha Brown, seconded by Teresa DeMars to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. The motion passed on a 5/0 vote.

By:_____
Kari Casper, Adminsitrative Assistant II

Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO:	Environmental Commission
THROUGH:	David Wanberg, Community and Economic Development Coordinator
FROM:	Mathias Hughey, Community Development Coordinator
MEETING DATE:	November 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	2024 Work Plan Discussion

Background:

Every year, the Environmental Commission creates a work plan to advise the City Council on environmental issues and opportunities affecting the city while respecting the city's economic and social environments. Work plan items should focus on manageable projects that commissioners can "champion" and contribute appropriate time towards research, creation, and coalition-building. While staff may occasionally bring ideas to the Environmental Commission for support, commissioners should identify projects of interest that benefit the community. The Commission can rank potential projects and develop an action plan for executing them, including identifying commissioners to support the work of a project, tools, city staff support, timelines, and potential partners or funding sources.

The Environmental Commission's 2024 work plan should identify community issues and commissioner expertise or interest related to possible projects. These work items may be brought before the Environmental Commission periodically for input. City staff also welcomes input about areas or items within the purview or interest of the Environmental Commission and will work to incorporate those items into their efforts where reasonable and appropriate. While the Commission is an advisory board and cannot direct city staff to work on projects or conduct research, some Environmental Commission projects may fall within normal city functions and responsibilities.

To start the 2024 work plan, staff has attached the recently adopted Energy Action Plan, which provides a list of actions for addressing energy efficiency within the city. If commissioners want to be involved in their implementation, and incorporate initiatives into a broader 2024 work plan, they should ask the Community Development Coordinator for more information. The assistance of Commissioners in implementing the Energy Action Plan may lead to substantial benefits for the community.
Another initiative providing more potential projects and tasks for the Environmental Commission is the GreenStep Cities program. Attached is a

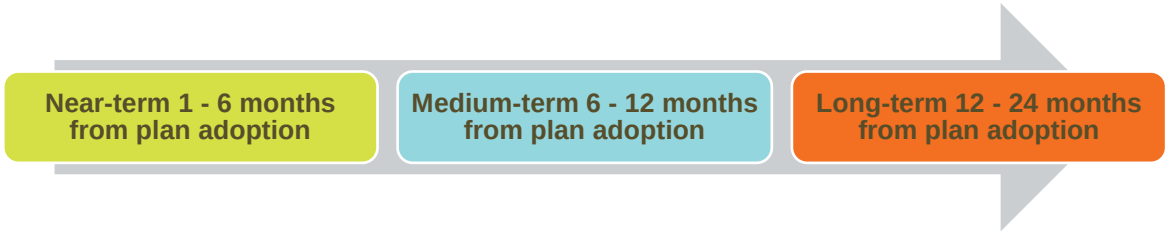
tracking spreadsheet for GreenStep Cities' best practices and associated actions. Commissioners should identify any practices or actions that interest them, and ask the Community Development Coordinator for more information.

An additional source of potential projects and tasks is the GreenStep Cities program. Attached is an action tracking spreadsheet for GreenStep Cities' best practices and associated actions. Commissioners should review these actions and identify any that interest them, or ask questions regarding the actions.

Recommendation:
The Environmental Commission should discuss potential areas of focus for their 2024 work plan.

Attachments:
1. Energy Action Plan 2.0 - Actions
2. GSC Best Practice Actions Faribault

Figure 14. Graphic outline of priority timelines



Focus Area: Energy Efficiency

Strategy 1: Create a targeted outreach campaign encouraging energy assessments for homes and businesses.

As energy efficiency is the primary way to save energy, and it is difficult for audiences to act without advice or direction, energy assessments are a low to no-cost option for residents or businesses to learn about their energy use and inefficiencies. It will also indicate where they have the most potential for return on investment with energy projects.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Address barriers for residents such as cost, timing, language, and awareness and increase Home Energy Squad or other home energy assessment participation by promoting free visits and partnering with trusted messengers to reach underrepresented or hard to reach community members.	Growing up Healthy, Healthy Communities Initiative, school groups, higher education, senior center, community events
2) Showcase residents and businesses that undergo an energy assessment on the City's energy resource hub.	City communications
3) Conduct outreach to Faribault's business community through assessment program implementers and the Chamber of Commerce. Include case studies and incentive information in communications.	Chamber of Commerce, Faribault Futures, community events
4) Conduct a door-to-door campaign to small businesses to encourage energy assessments.	Energy Action Team, City Council Members, Mayor, Energy Smart, utility assessment programs
Communication:	Events, radio, weekly tips in Faribault Daily News/Weekly Shopper
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Strategy 2: Consider the development of an efficient building policy that sets standards for building projects that obtain city incentives.

Grid reliability will also rely on Faribault's buildings to be efficient. Setting some standard for projects that apply for city incentives can increase efficient building stock, and therefore help grid reliability.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Connect with other communities who have building standard policies and review costs and benefits.	Community and Economic Development and Engineering departments
2) Write conclusions and recommendations to be reviewed by city staff, council, and public.	Community and Economic Development and Chamber of Commerce.
Communication:	City, Chamber of Commerce and elected official communications
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 3: Engage multi-family building property owners and managers to take efficiency measures.

Faribault's multi-family buildings constitute a large part of the housing community and significantly impact energy savings. These efficiency measures can be taken in existing buildings and new construction. Faribault has done outreach to multi-family building owners in the past and can build on those efforts and relationships.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
3) Create a targeted outreach campaign to older, existing multi-family building owners and property managers to increase energy efficiency and engage in efficiency programs.	Community and Economic Development and Engineering departments
4) Conduct multi-family building trainings on energy efficiency options for developers, building owners, operations and management staff.	Xcel Energy's Multi-family Building Efficiency program, local HVAC and weatherization experts
5) Lead by example through a City partnership with the Housing Redevelopment Authority to develop a plan to replace existing appliances with energy-efficient models.	Xcel Energy, Housing and Redevelopment, Partners in Energy, HUD, Community and Econ. Development Dept.
Communication:	City, Chamber of Commerce and elected official communications
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 4: Promote energy efficiency in new construction and building retrofits.

As buildings are re-purposed or built, there is an opportunity to implement energy efficiency measures. Getting involved with those projects will require partnerships and communications to help promote these measures early in the design phase of a project.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Educate designers, contractors, etc. with a guide to resources for energy efficient buildings.	Community and Economic Development and Engineering departments, existing guides
2) Review and modify City code where applicable to require or incentivize more efficient buildings.	Other community examples, Community and Economic Development department
3) Encourage new technologies like motion lighting or efficient appliances/electronics through educational pieces.	Lighting consultants and utility programs
4) Promote city rebates, incentives and recognition for efficient buildings.	City webpage, Chamber of Commerce
Communication:	Chamber of Commerce, city permitting, elected official communications, social media
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 5: Create education and awareness campaigns to encourage behavior change and promote energy efficiency programs to residents.

To reach audiences who may not be able to do an energy assessment, or to reach populations that want to start with small steps or are renting their homes, behavior change campaigns can provide a first step to home energy efficiency.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Attend community events with business and resident energy resources and tips to encourage energy efficiency actions.	Parks and Recreation department, Nature Center, senior center, schools, Downtown Business Association
2) Create a weekly energy tip/action and promote them throughout the community.	Energy Hub, weekly shopper, Faribault Daily News, social media, utility bill inserts, radio
Communication:	City website and communications, press, community boards
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Strategy 6: Partner with schools, governmental and community organizations to act as trusted messengers of information and use existing programs to increase energy efficiency.

Creating messaging alongside community partners who may know the unique needs and communication methods of their networks will provide residents with energy information from trusted allies in the community, addressing energy needs more effectively.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Share Xcel Energy student toolkit with teachers and students to encourage behavior change at home.	Xcel Energy, K-12 schools, Partners in Energy
2) Share EmPowered Schools information with school districts.	EmPowered Schools, K-12 schools
3) Review GreenSteps Schools criteria and help in the pursuit of energy initiatives.	GreenSteps, K-12 schools
4) Recruit for a student internship to help perform basic energy assessments or guide residents toward utility programs.	Higher education or high school group
5) Develop energy-related library programming such as educational events on home energy efficiency, renewable energy and utility programs.	Library, community education
6) Create and distribute communications pieces that include education around energy for teachers and students.	K-12 schools and higher education
Communication:	School and library direct communications
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Strategy 7: Increase access to energy and utility data to renters and buyers.

Knowledge of energy efficiency of a property or knowing the cost of an average utility bill can be a useful tool prior to entering into agreements when renting or buying homes.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Explore and consider a time of sale energy disclosure or energy audit for properties prior to selling a home or prior to renting to new tenants.	Peer communities, City departments, commissions and council, realtor and property owner groups.
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 8: Create a tool library resource to support energy efficiency projects at home.

Reach community members who want to do projects and learn more about their home or business energy use. A tool library could help residents and business owners access tools that aren't readily available or are expensive to purchase.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
2) Acquire and create a collection of tools including an infrared camera, kilowatt meter, LED kits, and a guide or set of directions on how to use the tools to find inefficiencies and next steps to take.	Xcel Energy, library, Partners in Energy, local hardware stores
3) Partner with energy library programming to promote and encourage use of this kit.	Library, Partners in Energy
Communication:	City web page, social media, video media, paper, library communications
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 9: Encourage energy efficient, affordable "missing middle" housing development by creating and communicating resources for retrofits of existing buildings and development of those properties.

Faribault is not unique in its position having a significant amount of single-family and multi-family housing stock and fewer "missing middle" housing, which includes duplexes, stacked and courtyard complexes, townhouses, and smaller multi-unit buildings in walkable neighborhoods. Encouraging this type of housing through energy efficiency incentives can grow that area of the housing community.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Work with City departments to identify housing stock and contacts to conduct outreach to existing buildings on available incentives.	City staff and Partners in Energy
2) Create a city/stacked incentive program that encourages developers to build missing middle properties.	Use other community examples and work with city council/commissions
3) Review and update city code to reduce barriers to constructing missing middle housing.	Use other community examples and work with city council/commissions
Communication:	On-on-one outreach
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 10: Use passive energy strategies to reduce heat island effects that will bolster other energy strategies.

Faribault can make strides in reducing energy use (particularly during warm months) through measures that help reduce the urban heat island effects. This strategy can bolster the impact of the other energy efficiency strategies.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Consider green infrastructure and removal of unnecessary pavement or pavement alternatives when implementing or renovating projects.	Partners in Energy, Planning and Parks and Recreation departments
2) Consider light-colored pavement and roofs when building or renovating roofed structures, streets or paths.	Development, business associations
3) Review and update city code to reduce barriers to impervious surfaces.	City council and commissions
4) Plant trees for shade where possible.	Parks and Recreation department
Communication:	Internal to City departments
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Focus Area: Renewable Energy

Strategy 1: Remove barriers for residents to access community solar or other renewable energy subscription offerings.

Alternatives to on-site solar exist for community members or businesses who lease or cannot install solar on their properties. Education is needed to show other available options for participation in renewable energy.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Educate residents on community solar subscription opportunities through information sharing on the City website.	City communications, Partners in Energy
2) Create easily accessible videos and infographics for understanding subscription options.	Partners in Energy and city communications
3) Partner with civic and social service organizations to develop and share incentives to renewable energy options for multi-family building residents and low-income residents.	Community Action Center, senior center, library
4) Launch a renewable energy subscription campaign for residents to access clean energy without on-site installations.	Faith organizations, community education, Partners in Energy
Communication:	City communications, press release, social media
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 2: Build partnerships with organizations that can support outreach to encourage renewable energy among residents.

Organizations that act as a trusted resource can help shape messaging and communicate with their networks to promote renewable energy options. These partnerships can also lead to further sustainability messaging for future campaigns.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Host or partner with a contractor's event to share renewable energy benefits, resources and incentives.	Library, business associations, solar installers, community solar, Xcel Energy, Partners in Energy
2) Showcase businesses that have adopted renewable energy by creating case studies and articles and recognize them through City communications.	Partners in Energy, business association
Communication:	Social Media, direct email campaign
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 3: Create targeted outreach campaigns encouraging large buildings to adopt renewable energy practices.

Using solar suitability mapping and identifying large buildings that could host a large solar array can benefit the business or building itself, as well as make a large advance toward greenhouse gas emissions avoided.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Create an outreach campaign for renters and property owners to engage in renewable energy programs.	Housing department, Xcel Energy, local solar companies
2) Create incentives for multi-family buildings to adopt renewable energy practices while avoiding placing the cost burden on residents.	Planning department, City Council
3) Lead by example on municipal owned buildings and properties (e.g., parking lots and streetlights).	City Council, solar companies, building staff, development, planning
4) Create a targeted outreach campaign for businesses to support renewable energy, including information on funding available for on-site solar projects.	Downtown business association, Faribault Futures, Xcel Energy, Chamber of Commerce
5) Help schools access on-site renewable energy projects and funding.	Higher education and K-12 schools
Communication:	City communications, press release, social media
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 4: Help renewable installers to consider additional sustainability efforts when installing large solar arrays.

Additional sustainability efforts might include incorporating pollinator habitat or native grasses for water infiltration and carbon sequestration**.** This would provide dual purpose for the resources used.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Recognize efforts of solar installers who make additional sustainability actions to installations and include these actions on the Energy Hub.	Solar companies
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Focus Area: Transportation

Strategy 1: Increase access to EV education and resources.

As new incentives are rolled out and EV ownership is expected to increase significantly by 2030, education on available incentives and charging options will inform community members on the adoption of an electric vehicle.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Promote available information, resources and financing opportunities through the City's Energy Hub (such as IRA funds and other incentives).	City communications
2) Host ride and drive events.	Drive Electric MN, Xcel Energy, Parks and Recreation department, community events
3) Share educational materials at events.	Rice County Fair, Concerts in the Park, International Fest, Heritage Days
Communication:	City communications, Faribault Daily News
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 2: Increase convenient charging availability.

Best placement and other installation plans for public EV charging will help the adoption of electric vehicles, make visiting area businesses more attractive, and aid in accessible charging infrastructure.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Explore increasing public charging stations in downtown Faribault as a draw for business.	Xcel Energy, business associations, Chamber of Commerce
2) Develop a site plan and prioritize sites for public chargers to access funding as it becomes available.	Planning department, MnDOT charging infrastructure guides
3) Include charging guidelines/requirements for multi-family buildings and explore charging infrastructure ordinances in new development and retrofits of multi-family buildings.	Community examples of best practices and policies, City Council
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 3: Partner with the utility to ensure reliability in the grid as EV adoptions increase.

Being in close contact with the utility as electric vehicle charging increases will ensure grid reliability as charging is added to public and private locations.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Establish a contact person at the utility who can share information at a regular cadence on grid pressures and intake information on City plans or campaigns.	Xcel Energy
Communication:	Internal
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Strategy 4: Access and promote funding and opportunities for electrification of fleet vehicles.

When replacement is needed for fleets such as public transit, school busses, commercial vehicles, e-bikes, municipal fleets, postal vehicles, etc. the City, residents, and business owners can assess whether an EV makes economic sense. Help those organizations keep apprised of incentives and resources for those updates.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Keep the City website up to date on funding changes or updates to programs while establishing relationships with organizational fleet managers to keep them apprised of resources.	Xcel Energy, business associations, municipal fleet manager
Communication:	Internal
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Strategy 5: Support low-income communities in electric transportation by removing barriers to access.

Faribault's under-resourced community members should be kept apprised of electric vehicle options. Initial resources should include new incentives and low-maintenance costs of EV ownership.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Create a resource guide (digital and printable) for accessing federal and state dollars for EV adoption, e-bikes, and other electric transportation equipment	Xcel Energy, Partners in Energy
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 6: Support the development of a complete network of active transportation infrastructure.

Faribault can aid the energy strategies and add to the greenhouse gas reduction goals of this plan by removing vehicle transportation by adding alternative transportation methods.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Support the creation of more walking and biking infrastructure.	Transportation and Planning departments
2) Support the addition of options to the public transit network (e.g., trains, electric bikes, etc.).	Transportation and Planning departments
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Focus Area: Beneficial Electrification

Strategy 1: Create an education and outreach campaign to share the possibilities of home appliance electrification and qualified contractors.

As incentives and resources become available to homeowners and landlords, the City can help inform the public of those resources and the benefits of electrifying their properties.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Develop a school campaign to include in science courses.	Higher education, K-12 schools, Xcel Energy, Empowered Schools
2) Host community center and library educational sessions.	Transportation and Planning departments
3) Use and promote existing organizations' educational resources and preferred contractor lists.	ASHP Collaborative, MN Geothermal Heat Pump Association
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 1–6 Months	

Strategy 2: Incorporate beneficial electrification into new construction recommendations/requirements and promote existing programs and incentives.

As new homes and businesses are built, contractors or builders will be informed about available incentives and best practices to install electric HVAC and appliances.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Create recommendation packets to distribute to local builders, remodelers, and large construction projects.	Chamber of Commerce, Partners in Energy, Xcel Energy
2) Explore requirements for electric appliances and bring recommendations to City Council.	Other community examples of policy or ordinance
Communication:	City communications
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 3: Support contractor trainings and education on new electrification technologies.

The workforce will be informed of new technology transitions, options, available incentives and installation best practices.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Partner with the MN Air Source Heat Pump Collaborative and other workforce training programs to conduct workshops for contractors.	ASHP Collaborative, Chamber of Commerce, Partners in Energy, Xcel Energy
Communication:	City communications, Chamber of Commerce network
Timeline: 12–24 Months	

Strategy 4: Electrify parks maintenance equipment.

As equipment is replaced in Faribault's parks maintenance selection, electric options will be considered to reduce costs of fuel and maintenance.

Actions:	Partnerships/Resources:
1) Identify procurement processes and update language for considering or requiring electric equipment when replacement is needed for mowers, trimmers, etc.	Parks and Recreation department
Communication:	Internal communications
Timeline: 6–12 Months	

Best Practice Actions	Initial inventory column: select which actions are **completed, in-process, planned, not relevant.**	Category A **Step 2 Recognition Minimums by** Complete any 8 Best Practices **Step 3 Recognition Minimums by**
Buildings & Lighting Best Practices Category: BPs 1 - 5		BP #1 plus ONE other Building BP needed for Step 3 recognition
Best Practice #1: Efficient Existing Public Buildings		needed BP
1. Enter/update building information into the **MN B3 Benchmarking database**, and routinely enter monthly usage data for all city-owned buildings/infrastructure that consume energy/water.	In-Process	needed action
2. Make **no/low cost** indoor lighting and operational changes in city-owned/school buildings to reduce energy costs.	In-Process	needed action
3. **Invest in larger energy efficiency projects** through performance contracting or other funding or through smaller retro-commissioning/retrofit projects in city-owned/school buildings.	In-Process	needed: choose one additional BP action from actions (3) - (7)
4. Implement **information technology efforts and city employee engagement** to reduce plug loads, building energy use and workflow efficiency.		
5. Document that the **new construction or major remodeling** of a public building has met the SB 2030 energy standard or has met or qualified under a green building or energy framework.		
6. Improve the **operations & maintenance** of city-owned/school buildings and leased buildings by using a customized online energy efficiency tool, asset management tool, green building framework or green lease.		
7. Install for one or more city-owned/school buildings one of the following **efficiency measures**: a. A ground-source, closed loop geothermal system. b. A district energy/microgrid system. c. A rainwater harvesting system for building water use.		
2. Efficient Existing Private Buildings		Optional BP
1. Create or participate in a **marketing/outreach/incentive program** to promote/achieve residential energy/water use reduction and energy efficiency.	In-Process	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. Integrate green building and EV charging best practices information and assistance into the **building permit process**.		
3. Implement an **energy rating/disclosure policy** for residential and/or commercial buildings.		
4. Describe energy/water efficiency actions and other **green building practices at businesses** and not-for-profit organizations located within/nearby the city.		
5. **Conserve/protect drinking/groundwater** resources by creating a water-wise landscaping ordinance/guidance, WaterSense purchasing program, or guidance on rainwater harvesting and home water softener use.		
6. Provide a financial or other **incentive to private parties** who add energy/sustainability improvements, meet the SB 2030 energy standard, or renovate using a green building or energy framework.		
7. Customize a model **sustainable building renovation policy** that includes the SB 2030 energy standard and adopt the language to govern commercial renovation projects that: a. Receive city financial support, and/or b. Require city regulatory approval (conditional use permits, rezonings, variances, PUD status).		
3. New Green Buildings		Optional BP
1. Require by city policy that **new city-owned buildings** be built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework.		If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1) or (2) and …
2. Work with the local school district to ensure that **future new schools** are built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework.		
3. Adopt a sustainable building **policy for private buildings**; include the SB 2030 energy standard; adopt language governing new development projects that: a. Receive city financial support, and/or b. Require city regulatory approval (planned unit development, conditional use permit, rezoning, variance).		… complete at least ONE additional action (3) through (5).
4. Provide a financial or other **incentive to private parties** who build new buildings that utilize the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework.		
5. Adopt environmentally preferable covenant guidelines for new **common interest communities** addressing issues such as stormwater, greywater, native vegetation, growing food, clothes lines, electric vehicle charging, and renewable energy.		
4. Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals		Optional BP

1. Require energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant **new or replacement outdoor lighting** fixtures on city-owned/private buildings and facilities.		If implementing this best practice, complete at least TWO actions, including one of actions (5) through (8).
2. Purchase LEDs for **all future street lighting and traffic signals**.	In-Process	
3. Replace the city's **existing street lighting** with Dark Sky-compliant LEDs, modifying any city franchise/utility agreement and adding smart grid attributes.		
4. **Coordinate traffic signals** and/or optimize signal timing so as minimize car idling at intersections yet maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds.		
5. Use **LED/solar-powered lighting** for a flashing sign or in a street, parking lot or park project.		
6. **Relamp/improve exterior building lighting** for city-owned buildings/facilities with energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant lighting.		
7. Replace city-owned **parking lot/ramp lighting** with Dark-Sky compliant, energy efficient, automatic dimming lighting technologies.		
8. Replace the city's **existing traffic signals** with LEDs.		
5. Building Redevelopment		Optional BP
1. Adopt an **historic preservation ordinance/regulations** to encourage adaptive reuse.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Implement the **Minnesota Main Street** model for commercial revitalization.		
3. Plan for reuse of **large-format retail buildings, or work with** a local school, church or commercial building to either add-on space or repurpose space into new uses.		
4. Create/modify a green **residential remodeling** assistance/financing program to assist homeowners in adding space or features such as EV charging, renewables to their existing homes.		
5. Adopt development/design standards and programs that facilitate **infill, redevelopment, and adaptable buildings**.		
Land Use Category: BPs 6 - 10		BP #6 plus ONE other Land Use BP needed
6. Comprehensive Plans		needed BP
1. Adopt a **comprehensive plan or** (for Category B & C cities) adopt a **future land use plan** that was adopted by the county or a regional entity.	Completed	needed action
2. Demonstrate that **regulatory ordinances comply** with the comprehensive plan including but not limited to having the zoning ordinance explicitly reference the comprehensive plan as the foundational document for decision making.	Completed	needed action
3. Include requirements in comprehensive and/or other plans for **intergovernmental coordination** addressing regional land use and watershed/wellhead impacts, infrastructure, transportation, economic development and city/regional services.		
4. Include **ecological provisions** in the comprehensive plan that explicitly aim to minimize open space fragmentation and/or establish a growth area with expansion criteria.		
5. Adopt **climate mitigation and/or energy independence goals** and objectives in the comprehensive plan or in a separate policy document, and include transportation recommendations such as becoming an EV-ready city.		
7. Efficient City Growth		Optional BP
1. **Eliminate barriers and actively encourage higher density housing** by including in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map: a. Neighborhood single-family density at 7 units/acre or greater wherever urban services are available. b. Multi-family housing at a gross density of at least 15 units/acre adjacent to a commercial zoning district or transit node.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. **Achieve higher density housing** through at least two of the following strategies: a. Incorporate a flexible lot size/frontage requirement for infill development. b. Use density and floor area ratio (FAR) bonuses in selected residential zoning districts. c. Cluster residential development; tie a regulatory standard to comprehensive plan language defining compact city expansion zones that limit low-density development. d. Allowing accessory dwelling units, single-room occupancy housing, senior housing, co-housing or tiny houses/apartments by right in selected zoning districts. e. Implement a vacation rental property registration policy and/or special tax.		
3. **Achieve higher intensity commercial/industrial** land uses through at least one of the following strategies: a. Include in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map a commercial district with zero-lot-line setbacks and a FAR minimum of 1. b. Set targets for the minimum number of employees/acre in different commercial zones.		

4. Provide **incentives** for affordable housing, workforce housing, infill projects, or for life-cycle housing at or near job or retail centers, or for achieving an average net residential density of seven units per acre.		
5. Use design to create social trust and interaction among neighbors and allow developments that meet the prerequisites for **LEED for Neighborhood Development** certification.		
8. Mixed Uses		Optional BP
1. Organize or participate in a **community planning/placemaking/design process** for the city/a mixed use district, including specific community engagement practices that engage cultural and income diverse community members.		If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. Locate or lease a **school, city building or other government facility** that has at least two of these attributes: a. Adjacent to an existing employment or residential center. b. Designed to facilitate and encourage access by walking, biking, or other non-vehicle travel modes c. Accessible by regular transit service.		
3. Modify a **planned unit development** ordinance to emphasize or require mixed use development, to limit residential PUDs to areas adjacent to commercial development, and/or to add sustainability features.		
4. Report that a (re)development meets a city/community-determined minimum point threshold under the **Equitable Development Scorecard or LEED-ND** (Neighborhood Development).		
5. Have a **downtown zoning district** that emphasizes small and destination businesses, entreprenurial spaces, and allows or requires residential and compatible-commercial development.		
6. Incorporate **form-based zoning** approaches into the zoning code, in those areas where a diverse mix of uses is desired.		
7. Create incentives for **vertical mixed-use** development in appropriate locations (downtown, commercial districts near colleges or universities, historic commercial districts, commercial districts with minority-owned businesses).		
9. Efficient Highway- and Auto-Oriented Development		Optional BP
1. Establish **design goals** for at least one highway/auto-oriented corridor/cluster.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Participate in **regional economic development planning** with representatives from surrounding townships, cities, the county and business interests to: a. Estimate commercial/industrial needs among all jurisdictions. b. Jointly implement recommendations to stage highway/auto-oriented commercial development in order to avoid overbuilding and expensive low-density development.		
3. Adopt **infrastructure design standards** that protect the economic and ecologic functions of the highway corridor through clustering of development, native plantings and incorporating access management standards.		
4. Adopt development policies for **large-format developments**, zoning for auto-oriented commercial districts at the sub-urban edge and/or in tightly defined and smaller urban development corridors/nodes that have some bike/walk/transit access.		
10. Design for Natural Resource Conservation		Optional BP
1. Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment (**NRI or NRA**); incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources such as groundwater through the subdivision or development process.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. For cities outside or on the fringe of metropolitan areas, conduct a **build-out analysis, fiscal impact study, or adopt an urban growth boundary** and a consistent capital improvement plan that provides long-term protection of natural resources and natural systems, and agricultural practices outside the boundary.		
3. For cities within metropolitan areas, incorporate **woodland best management practices** addressing protection of wooded areas into zoning or development review.		
4. Adopt a **conservation design policy**; use a conservation design tool for pre-design meetings with developers and for negotiating development agreements in cities with undeveloped natural resource areas.		
5. Preserve environmentally sensitive, community-valued land by placing a **conservation easement** on city lands, and by encouraging/funding private landowners to place land in conservation easements.		
6. Conserve natural, cultural, historic resources by adopting or amending **city codes and ordinances to support sustainable sites**, including roadsides, and environmentally protective land use development.		
7. Support and **protect wildlife** through habitat rehabilitation, preservation and recognition programs.		
Transportation Category: BPs 11 - 14		BP #11 and BP #12 needed
11. Living & Complete Streets		needed BP

1. Adopt a **complete streets policy**, or a living streets policy, which addresses landscaping and stormwater.		Complete action (1), and …
2. Adopt zoning language or approve a skinny street/development project that follows **green street and/or walkable streets** principles.		… complete TWO additional actions.
3. **Modify a street** in compliance with the city's complete streets policy.		
4. Identify, prioritize and remedy **complete streets gaps** and lack of connectivity/safety within your road network by, for example, bike/pedestrain plan, adding a bike route/lane, truck route, sidewalk or mid-block alley.		
5. Identify and remedy **street-trail gaps** between city streets and off-road trails/bike trails to better facilitate walking and biking.		
6. Implement **traffic calming policy/measures**, including lane conversions (road diets), roundabouts, low-speed streets, shared space and depaving, in at least one street redevelopment project.		
12. Mobility Options		needed BP
1. **Increase walking, biking and transit** use by one or more of the following means: a. Produce/distribute route maps, signage or a web site. b. Document increased bike facilities, such as racks, bike stations or showers. c. Add bus infrastructure, such as signage, benches, shelters, park and ride lots, and real-time arrival data-streaming. d. Increase the number of employers promoting multiple commuting options, including offering qualified transportation fringe benefits instead of only a tax-free parking fringe benefit. e. Be recognized as a Walk Friendly, Bicycle Friendly, or Age Friendly Community.		Complete at least TWO actions.
2. Conduct an **Active Living campaign** such as a Safe Routes to School program.		
3. Prominently identify **mobility options**: transit; paratransit/Dial-A-Ride; ridesharing/cab services; rental cars; bikes; airports.		
4. Promote **carpooling or ridesharing** among community members, city employees, businesses, high schools and institutions of higher education.		
5. Implement **workplace multi-modal transportation best management practices** - including telework/flexwork - in city government, businesses or at a local health care provider.		
6. Add/expand **transit service, or promote car/bike sharing**.		
13. Efficient City Fleets		Optional BP
1. **Efficiently use your existing fleet** of city vehicles by encouraging trip bundling, video conferencing, carpooling, vehicle sharing and incentives/technology.		If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. **Right-size/down-size** the city fleet with the most fuel-efficient vehicles that are of an optimal size and capacity for their intended functions.		
3. Phase-in **operational changes, equipment changes including electric vehicles**, and no-idling practices for city or local transit fleets.		
4. Phase in **bike, e-bike, foot or horseback** modes for police, inspectors and other city staff.		
5. Document that the local **school bus fleet** has optimized routes, start times, boundaries, vehicle efficiency and fuels, driver actions to cut costs including idling reduction, and shifting students from the bus to walking, biking and city transit.		
6. Retrofit **city diesel engines** or install auxiliary power units and/or electrified parking spaces, utilizing Project GreenFleet or the like.		
14. Demand-Side Travel Planning		Optional BP
1. Reduce or eliminate **parking minimums**; add parking maximums; develop district parking; install meters and charge for parking at curb and city-owned lots/ramps.		If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for the **siting of retail services** at transit/density nodes.		
3. For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for the **siting of higher density housing** at transit/density nodes.		
4. Require new developments or redevelopments to prepare a **travel demand management plan or transit-oriented development** standards or LEED for Neighborhood Development certification.		
Environmental Management Category: BPs 15 - 23		BP #15, BP #16, BP #17 and ONE other BP needed
15. Sustainable Purchasing		needed BP
1. Adopt a sustainable purchasing **policy** or administrative guidelines/practices directing that the city purchase at least: a. **EnergyStar and EPEAT** certified equipment and appliances. b. **Paper** containing post-consumer recycled content.		Complete action (1), and …
2. Purchase energy used by city government - via the municipal utility, green tags, community solar garden, 3rd party - with a **higher renewable percentage** than required by Minnesota law.		

3. Establish purchasing preferences that **support local, Minority, Disability, and Women-Owned businesses** and, working with a local business association, develop a list of locally-produced products and suppliers for common purchases.		
4. Require purchase of U.S. EPA **WaterSense**-certified products.		… complete at least ONE additional action.
5. Set minimum sustainability standards to reduce the impact of your concrete use, asphalt, roadbed aggregate, or other **construction materials.**		
6. Require **printing services** to be purchased from companies participating in Printing Industry Midwest's Great Green Printer initiative, or certified by the Sustainable Green Printing Partnership..		
7. Lower the environmental footprint of **meetings and events** in the city.		
8. Use national green **standards/guidelines** for purchasing/investments such as cleaning products, furniture, flooring/coatings.		
16. Community Forests and Soils		needed BP
1. Certify as a **Tree City USA**.		Complete at least TWO actions.
2. Adopt **best practices for urban tree planting/quality**; require them in private developments and/or use them in at least one development project.		
3. Budget for and achieve resilient urban **canopy/tree planting goals**.		
4. **Maximize tree planting** along your main downtown street or throughout the city.		
5. Adopt a **tree preservation or native landscaping** ordinance.		
6. Build community capacity to **protect existing trees** by one or more of: a. Having trained tree specialists. b. Supporting volunteer forestry efforts. c. Adopting an EAB management plan/climate adaptation plan for the urban forest		
7. Conduct a **tree inventory or canopy study** for public and private trees.		
17. Stormwater Management		needed BP
1. Adopt and use **Minnesota's Minimal Impact Design Standards** (MIDS).		Complete at least ONE action.
2. Complete the GreenStep Municipal **Stormwater Management Assessment**.		
3. Adopt by **ordinance** one or more of the following stormwater infiltration/management strategies to reduce impervious surface: a. A narrower streets provision that permits construction of 24-foot roads for public, residential access and subcollector streets (with fewer than 400 average daily trips). b. Use of pervious pavements for streets, trails, parking areas, and sidewalks. c. For sites less than one acre, retain the water quality volume of 1.1 inches of runoff from all impervious surfaces for new and fully-redeveloped construction sites. d. For non-MS4 permittees, adopt an illicit discharge prohibition rule or ordinance and an erosion and sediment control ordinance. Sponsor a robust Adopt-a-Drain program.		
4. Create a **stormwater utility** that uses variable fees to incentivize stormwater infiltration, minimize the volume of and pollutants in runoff, and educate property owners and renters on the importance of managing stormwater runoff.		
5. Adopt and implement guidelines or design standards/incentives for at least one of the following stormwater **infiltration/reuse** practices: a. Rain gardens/infiltration practices. b. Rainwater harvesting practices. c. Green alleys or green parking lots. d. Pervious/permeable pavement or pavers. e. Green roofs / green walls. f. Tree trenches / tree boxes. g. Incorporate compost and/or native plants into landscape design.		
6. Reduce **de-icing and dust suppressant salt** use to prevent permanent surfacewater and groundwater pollution.		
18. Parks and Trails		Optional BP
1. **Make improvements** within your city's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces.		If implementing this BP, complete at least
2. Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails for areas where **new development** is planned.		
3. Achieve minimum levels of city green space and maximize the **percent within a ten-minute walk** of community members.		
4. Adopt **low-impact design standards** in parks and trails that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site.		
5. Create **park/city land management standards/practices** that maximize at least one of the following:		

a. Low maintenance turf management; native landscaping; organic or integrated pest management; pollinator/monarch-safe policies. b. Recycling/compostables collection; use of compost as a soil amendment. c. Sources of nonpotable water, or surface/rain water, for irrigation.		If implementing this BP, complete at least THREE actions.
6. Certify at least one **golf course** in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.		
7. Document that the **operation and maintenance, or construction/remodeling** of at least one park building used an asset management tool, the SB 2030 energy standard, and/or a green building framework.		
8. Develop a program to **involve community members** in hands-on land restoration, invasive species managmenet, and stewardship projects.		
19. Surface Water		Optional BP
1. Consistently **monitor surface water** quality/clarity and report findings to community members.		If a city has at least one state- designated public water body within its boundaries and chooses to implement this best practice, complete action (4) and at least ONE additional action. *** If a city has no state-designated public water body and chooses to implement this best practice, complete any ONE or more actions.
2. Conduct or support multi-party **community conversations**, assessments, plans and actions around improving local water quality and quantity.		
3. Adopt and publicly report on measurable **surface water improvement targets** for lake, river, wetland and ditches.		
4. Adopt a **shoreland ordinance** for all river and lake shoreland areas.		
5. Adopt goals to **revegetate shoreland** and create a local program or outreach effort to help property owners with revegetation.		
6. Implement an existing **TMDL implementation plan**.		
7. Create/assist a **Lake Improvement District**.		
8. Reduce flooding damage and costs through the **National Flood Insurance Programs** and the NFIP's Community Rating System.		
20. Efficient Water and Wastewater Facilities		Optional BP
1. Compare the **energy use and financial performance** of your facilities with other peer plants using standardized, free tools.		If implementing this best practice, complete actions (1) and (2) and ...
2. Plan and budget for motor **maintenance and upgrades** to assure the most energy efficient, durable and appropriate equipment is available when upgrades or break downs occur.		
3. Establish an on-going budget and program for decreasing **inflow and infiltration** into sewer lines and **losses in drinking water systems**.		... at least ONE additional action.
4. Optimize **energy and chemicals** use at drinking water/wastewater facilities and decrease chloride in wastewater discharges.		
6. Implement a wastewater **plant efficiency project** (co-generation, water reuse) or a program for local **private business operations** (water conservation, water reuse, business co-location)		
7. Create a **demand-side pricing** program to reduce demands on water and wastewater systems.		
21. Septic Systems		Optional BP
1. Report to landowners suspected noncompliant or failing septic systems as part of an educational, informational and financial **assistance and outreach program** designed to trigger voluntary landowner action to improve septic systems.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Use a **community process** to address failing septic systems.		
3. Clarify/establish one or more **responsible management entities (RMEs)** for the proper design, siting, installation, operation, monitoring and maintenance of septic systems.		
4. Adopt a subsurface sewage treatment system ordinance based on the Association of Minnesota Counties' **model ordinance**.		
5. Create a program to **finance** septic system upgrades.		
6. Work with homeowners and businesses in environmentally sensitive areas and areas where standard septic systems are not the least-cost option to promote **innovative waste water systems**, including central sewer extensions.		
7. Arrange for **assistance to commercial, retail and industrial businesses** with water use reduction, pollution prevention and pretreatment prior to discharge to septics.		
22. Sustainable Consumption and Waste		Optional BP
1. **Improve city operations and procurement** to prevent and reuse, recycle and compost waste from all public facilities (including libraries, parks, schools, municipal health care facilities), and minimize use of toxics and generation of hazardous waste.		If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1) or (2), and ...
2. Address concerns over **consumer products and packaging** through encouragement/implementation of one or more of: a. Education on needless consumption, waste prevention and alternatives, including product stewardship / producer responsibility. b. Reuse options. c. Recycling / composting options.		

d. Credits, fees. e. Mandates, bans.		
3. Improve profitability, legal compliance and conserve resources through adoption of **ordinance language, licensing and resource management contracts**.		
4. Publicize, promote and use the varied businesses/services collecting and marketing **used, repaired and rental consumer goods**, especially electronics, in the city/county.		... at least ONE of actions (4) through (8).
5. Arrange for a residential and/or business/institutional **source separated organics** collection/management program.		
6. Improve **recycling services and expand** to multi-unit housing and commercial businesses.		
7. Improve/organize residential trash, recycling and organics **collection** by private and/or public operations and offer significant volume-based pricing on residential garbage and/or incentives for recycling.		
8. Adopt a **construction and demolition (C&D) ordinance** governing demolition permits that requires a level of recycling and reuse for building materials and soil/land-clearing debris.		
23. Local Air Quality		Optional BP
1. **Replace small internal combustion engine lawn and garden equipment** (e.g. lawnmowers, weed whips, etc.) with lower polluting equipment.		If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. **Reduce residential burning** of wood and yard waste and eliminate 'backyard' trash burning.		
3. **Decrease air emissions** from vehicle idling, business trucking, and pollutants/noise from stationary engines/back-up generators.		
5. Install, assist with and promote **publicly available EV charging stations** or public fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles.		
Economic & Community Development Category: BPs 24 - 29		BP #24, BP #25, and BP# 29 needed
24. Benchmarks & Community Engagement		needed BP
1. **Inclusive and Coordinated Decision-Making:** Use a city commission or committee to lead, coordinate, report to and engage community members on the identification and equitable implementation of sustainability best practices.		needed action
2. **Communicating Progress on Goals**: Organize goals/outcome measures from all city plans (social, environmental, economic) and report to community members data that show progress toward meeting these goals.		needed action
3. **Measuring Outcomes**: Engage community members and partners in identifying, measuring, and reporting progress on key sustainability and social indicators/ including energy use/greenhouse gas emissions, social vitality/social inclusion outcome measures. Engage community members and partners in identifying, measuring, and reporting progress on key sustainability and social indicators/ including energy use/greenhouse gas emissions, social vitality/social inclusion outcome measures.		
4. **Public Education for Action:** Conduct or support a broad sustainability education and action campaign, building on existing city & community relationships, networks & events involving: a. The entire community, community leaders b. Homeowners, manufactured home communities, landlords and tenants c. Community-based organizations, block clubs, neighborhood associations, front yards/sidewalks d. Congregations. e. Schools, colleges.		
5. **Planning with a Purpose:** Conduct a community visioning and planning initiative that engages a diverse set of community members & stakeholders and uses a sustainability, resilience. or environmental iustice framework such as: a. Strong Towns, Resiliency, Transition, Appreciative Inquiry. b. Eco-municipalities, Smart Cities, Healthy Communities. c. Environmental Justice, Race Equity, Equitable Development.		
6. **Engaging the Next Generation:** Engage wide representation of community youth and college students by creating opportunities to participate in city government (including commissions).		
7. **Expanding Community Engagement**: Engage Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), renters, low-income, new Americans, differently abled and other traditionally under-represented community members by encouragement, and support to participate in current and new opportunities in city government.		
25. Green Business Development		needed BP
1. Grow **new/emerging green businesses** and green jobs through targeted assistance and new workforce development.		

2. Create or participate in a marketing/outreach program to connect businesses with **assistance providers**, including utilities, who provide personalized energy, waste or sustainability audits and assistance.		Complete at least TWO actions.
3. Promote **sustainable tourism** in your city, and green tourism resources to tourism and hospitality businesses in/around the city.		
4. Strengthen value-added businesses **utilizing local "waste" material**.		
5. Lower the environmental footprint of a **brownfield remediation/redevelopment** project beyond regulatory requirements; report brightfield projects.		
6. Promote **green businesses that are recognized** under a local, regional or national program.		
7. Conduct or participate in a **buy local campaign** for community members and local businesses.		
26. Renewable Energy		Optional BP
1. Adopt **wind energy and/or biomass ordinances** that allow, enable or encourage appropriate renewable energy installations.		If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. Promote **resident/business purchases and/or generation** of clean energy by: a. Promoting a local/municipal utility's green power purchasing program that allows residents/businesses to order/buy new renewable energy. b. Creating and sharing a map of the community's solar resource and/or linking to the MN Solar Suitability App. c. Connecting residents/businesses with the Solar Directory for potential installers. d. Hosting a community-wide solar bulk-buy program or campaign (also called "solarize programs.)		
3. Promote **financing and incentives programs** such as PACE for clean energy: a. PACE for commercial property owners to install renewable energy systems, energy efficiency measures and EV charging infrastructure for existing or new construction. b. Local, state and federal financial incentives for property owners to install renewable energy systems. c. Local utility renewable energy production incentives and rebates.		
4. Support a **community solar garden** or help community members participate in a community solar project by: a. Serving as a host site for a community solar garden. b. Facilitating development, by the municipal utility or other entity, of a community solar garden for residents. c. Participating in a community solar garden to ensure accessibility and availability to low-income residents.		
5. Install a **public sector/municipally-owned** renewable energy technology, such as solar electric (PV), wind, biomass, solar hot water/air, micro-hydro.		
6. Report installed **private sector-owned** renewable energy/energy efficient generation capacity with at least one of the following attributes: a. Fueled by flowing water, sun, wind, or biogas. b. Fueled in part or whole by manure or woody (EAB) biomass, optimized for minimal air and other environmental impacts and for energy efficiency and water conservation. c. Distributing heating/cooling services in a district energy system. d. Producing combined heat and power; using a microgrid. e. Energy storage integrated into a renewable energy installation.		
7. Become a **solar-ready community**, including adopting ordinance/zoning language and an expedited permit process for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems.		
27. Local Food		Optional BP
1. Incorporate **working landscapes** - agriculture and forestry - into the city by adopting an ordinance for one or more of the following: a. An agriculture and forest protection district. b. A local food production district. c. Performance standards for minor and major agricultural retail.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Facilitate creation of **home/community gardens, chicken & bee keeping**, and incorporation of food growing areas/access in multifamily residential developments.		
3. Create, assist with and promote **local food production/distribution** within the city: a. A farmer's market or co-op buying club. b. An urban agriculture business or a community-supported agriculture (CSA) arrangement between farmers and community members/employees. c. A community or school garden, orchard or forest.		

d. A Community Food System Assessment		
4. Measurably increase **institutional buying, and sales** through groceries and restaurants. a. Purchasing of local/organic/humane/equitable foods by schools, hospitals, nursing homes and event centers. b. Sales of local/organic/humane/equitable food in markets, retail food co-ops, rural grocery stores, urban convenience stores, food carts/trucks, hotels and restaurants. c. Promote the Healthy Corners Initiative		
28. Business Synergies and EcoDistricts		Optional BP
2. Document that at least one business/building uses **waste heat or water** discharge from another business or conducts **materials exchange** activities with another organization.		
3. Require, build or facilitate at least four attributes in a **business/industrial park project**: a. Shared parking/access, electric vehicle charging for 3% of parking and/or synchronized with solar generation. b. Green product development, manufacturing or sales OR a green job training program. c. Buildings located within walking distance of transit and/or residential zoning. d. Renovated buildings, buildings designed for reuse, shared recreation/childcare facilities. e. Green buildings built to Minnesota's SB2030 energy standard OR renewable energy generated on-site. f. Combined heat and power (CHP) generation capacity, shared geothermal heating/cooling, microgrid OR energy storage. g. Low-impact site development.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
4. Use 21st century **ecodistrict tools** to structure, guide and link multiple green and sustainable projects together in a mixed-use neighborhood/development, or innovative district, aiming to deliver superior social, environmental and economic outcomes.		
29. Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience		needed BP
1. Prepare to **maintain public health and safety** during extreme weather and climate-change-related events, while also taking a **preventive approach to reduce risk** for community members.		needed action at a 2- or 3-star rating
2. Integrate climate resilience into city or tribal **planning, policy, operations, and budgeting** processes.		
3. Increase **social connectedness** through engagement, capacity building, public investment, and opportunities for economically vulnerable residents to improve their economic prosperity and resilience to climate change.		
4. Encourage **private sector action** and incentivize investment in preventive approaches that reduce risk and minimize impacts of extreme weather and the changing climate for human health and the built environment.		
5. Protect **public buildings and natural/constructed infrastructure** to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events.		
6. Reduce the **urban heat** impacts of public buildings, sites, and infrastructure and provide resiliency co-benefits.		
7. Protect **water supply and wastewater treatment** facilities to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events.		
8. Improve **local energy resilience** by minimizing fuel poverty, installing distributed renewable energy systems, and developing microgrids that can improve energy system resiliency.		

Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO:	Environmental Commission
THROUGH:	David Wanberg, Community and Economic Development Director
FROM:	Mathias Hughey, Community Development Coordinator
MEETING DATE:	November 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	Commissioner Steinkamp's Extended Absence

Background:

Commissioner Steinkamp was appointed to serve a 3-year term on the Environmental Commission beginning in January 2023 and running until January 2026. He has notified the Community Development Coordinator of an anticipated extended absence, beginning in December 2023 and lasting until April 22, 2024. It is unclear if he will attend the April 22, 2024, commission meeting, or if he will return for the May 2024 meeting. Commissioner Steinkamp has indicated he would like to continue to serve on the commission, but is also willing to resign his position should the commission request it.

The Environmental Commission does not have an established attendance policy. The City does not permit virtual participation in commission meetings due to concerns about open meeting laws. The commission should consider the impact of an extended absence on a commissioner's ability to faithfully discharge the duties of the office or the Commission's ability to achieve a quorum or otherwise conduct business.

The commission should determine the anticipated impact and advise the Community Development Coordinator to request Commissioner Steinkamp resign or provide direction on how best to accommodate the planned absence.

Recommendation:

After discussion, the commissioners will hold a voice vote to provide direction to the Community Development Coordinator.

Attachments:

Environmental Commission Memorandum

TO:	Environmental Commission
THROUGH:	David Wanberg, Community and Economic Development Director
FROM:	Mathias Hughey, Community Development Coordinator
MEETING DATE:	November 27, 2023
SUBJECT:	Commissioner Appointments

Background:

Commissioners are appointed to serve for three-year terms on a rotating basis. Each year, two or three commissioner terms expire. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms a commissioner may serve. However, at the expiration of their current term, they must reapply to serve on the commission for another three-year term.

This year, Commissioner Lee Nordmeyer and Chair Sonny Wasilowski's terms are expiring.

A PDF of the application form is attached. If you would like a paper copy, please let the Community Development Coordinator know. The preferred method for application to serve on a commission is electronically, and can be accessed at the following link: https://www.ci.faribault.mn.us/FormCenter/General-4/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-77.

If either of the commissioners don't intend to reapply to serve on the commission, please let the Community Development Coordinator know so that we can work to actively recruit a new commissioner.

Recommendation:

Attachments:

1. Application for Service on a Board or Commission

APPLICATION FOR SERVICE ON
AN ADVISORY BOARD OR COMMISSION

TODAY'S DATE: _____

ADVISORY BOARD OR COMMISSION INTERESTED IN: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (HOME) _____ **(WORK)** _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

EMPLOYER: _____

LIST THE DAYS AND HOURS WHICH YOU ARE AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS:

LIST YOUR REASONS FOR YOUR INTEREST TO SERVE ON THE BOARD/COMMISSION YOU IDENTIFIED ABOVE:

LIST WHAT EXPERIENCE OR EXPERTISE YOU CAN PROVIDE IF APPOINTED TO THIS BOARD/COMMISSION:

PERSONAL REFERENCES:

NAME & PHONE NUMBER _____

NAME & PHONE NUMBER _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

CITY OF FARIBAULT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
208 FIRST AVENUE NW
FARIBAULT, MN 55021
FAX: 507/333-0399

Data Privacy - Board/Commission Applicants

Data on this application are private, except that **the following are public**:

(1) name;

(2) city of residence, except when there is a residency requirement then entire address to be public;

(3) education and training;

(4) employment history;

(5) volunteer work;

(6) awards and honors;

(7) prior government service; and

(8) any data required to be provided or that is voluntarily provided in an application for appointment to a multimember agency.

(b) Once an individual is appointed to a public body, the following additional items of data are public:

(1) residential address; and

(2) either a telephone number or electronic mail address where appointee can be reached.