



## **Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Coordinators Office**

**Date:** January 19, 2012

**To:** Honorable Elizabeth Glidden, Chair - Regulatory, Energy & Environment Committee  
Honorable Don Samuels, Chair - Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health Committee

**Subject:** Revisions to City's Sustainability Indicators and Targets

**Recommendation:** Adopt Revisions to Sustainability Indicators and Targets

### **Previous Directives:**

- Resolution 2009R-471: Adopted Local Food Indicator, Waste Reduction Indicator and revises some Indicators and Targets
- Resolution 2008R-271: Adopted Green Jobs Indicator
- Resolution 2007R-492: Revisions to Sustainability Indicators and Targets
- March 31, 2006: Adopted Sustainability Targets and new Air Quality Indicator
- Resolution 2005R-251: Adopted 23 Sustainability Indicators and directed staff to develop numerical Targets
- Resolution 2003R-133: Originated the sustainability process with the community

### **Department Information**

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### **Financial Impact**

No financial impact.

### **Supporting Information**

Every two years the City's 26 sustainability indicators and targets are re-evaluated and amended as needed. Attachment 1 outlines the recommended changes.

Key departments provided the initial recommended changes. Then these recommendations were discussed with the Citizen's Environmental Advisory Committee. The Tree Advisory Committee and the Bike Advisory Committee also made recommendations. The internal Environmental Coordinating Team reviewed and approved the changes at their October meeting.

The reasoning behind the recommended changes varies:

- Some targets, like Brownfield Sites, are within close reach.
- Other indicators, such as Transportation Alternatives, and changing the Indicator from Affordable Housing to Cost-Burdened Households, have seen more meaningful measurement tools evolve that more accurately reflects the City's goals.

- New census data and new national “Healthy People 2020” goals helped to refine the targets for Healthy Infants, Teen Pregnancy, HIV and Gonorrhea, Healthy Weight, and Asthma.
- For the first time, there are recommended numerical targets for Green Jobs, Local Food, Community Engagement, and Arts and the Economy.
- A few of the indicators – Air Quality, Biking, Homelessness, and Graduation Rate - remain unchanged.

The Sustainability Initiative’s original goal of creating a healthier, more sustainable city by using data to set targets and measure progress remains a high priority. The transparency this model creates increases government accountability and credibility with residents, businesses and other key stakeholders. It allows the City to focus its resources in long-term, sustainable directions. High levels of department and individual staff leadership make all of this possible. We continue to incorporate this more fully into the *Results Minneapolis* progress reports. We also anticipate using the City’s website as a stronger tool to highlight the work. The Minneapolis Sustainability Indicators remains a national model.

Attachment 1: Sustainability Indicators and Target Revisions