



**Request for City Council Committee Action
Health Department**

Date: June 2, 2014

To: HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
COMMITTEE

Subject: PRESENTATION OF GREEN BUSINESS AWARDS

Recommendation:

Presentation of the 2014 Minneapolis Green Business Awards for Pollution Reduction in recognition of Dan Nelson of University Auto, Mark Wold of Martinizing Dry Cleaners, and Paul Oberstar of Paramount Collision for their investment in the health of their workers, customers, and neighbors in the City of Minneapolis by converting to cleaner technology through the Green Business Matching Grant Program.

Previous Directives: None

Prepared or Submitted by: Becky McIntosh, Director of Planning & Administration
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Approved by:

Gretchen Musicant, Commissioner of Health

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval ____ Not Applicable X
Policy Review Group (PRG) Approval ____ Date of Approval ____ Not Applicable X

Presenters in Committee: Patrick Hanlon, Manager Environmental Initiatives

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

X No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information).

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The Green Business Matching Grant Program is the City of Minneapolis' investment alongside our business partners in the community to create a healthier community and environment through a win-win approach. We would like to recognize and thank:

Dan Nelson of University Auto for switching to a lead free tire weight balancing system.

Wheel weights are clipped to the rims of every automobile wheel in the United States in order to balance the tires. These weights often come loose and fall off. They are either washed into storm sewers and end up in waterways or are gathered during street cleaning and placed in municipal landfills. The weights are susceptible to atmospheric corrosion. Currently, there are no regulatory controls governing the use of lead wheel weights.

Mr. Nelson also switched all of his lighting over to LED lighting. The LEDs have drastically cut down on Dan's energy cost improving lighting conditions in the surrounding neighborhoods to provide safer conditions for residents near his business at 1625 Como Ave SE.

Mark Wold of Martinizing Dry Cleaners for switching away from perc in the dry cleaning process. Perc is a hazardous chemical that is labeled as a probable cancer causing agent by the EPA. The chemical has already been banned in residential applications and will soon be banned entirely in the state of California. Mark's customers and employees have already noticed the difference at his dry cleaning shop located at 5559 Xerxes Ave S.

Paul Oberstar of Paramount Collision. Paul switched his paint booth to a waterborne paint application reducing the use of Volatile Organic Compounds by close to 90%. VOCs are a main contributor to ground level ozone or what we all commonly refer to as smog. Businesses like Paul's are helping to clear the air in Minneapolis in a way that consequently improves the service time of his business. Paramount Collision is located at 224 West Lake Street.

Pat Mulroy of Mulroys Auto: Pat was not a participant in our Green Business Matching Grant Program but was a part of an Environmental Initiative pilot a few years ago. Mulroy's Auto is the poster child for an unassuming Minnesota Green Business. He started off by making the entire office energy efficient through lighting upgrades. He has 174 microinverters of solar panels on his roof. He has a waterborne paint system like the one just installed at Paramount Collision. He has spent many of his off years planting trees in WI.