



## Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

**Date:** January 4, 2005  
**To:** Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee  
**Referral to:** None

**Subject:** **Green Buildings Update**

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Previous Directives:**

**Prepared by:** Greg Goeke, Property Services, 673-2706

**Approved by:**

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Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

**Presenters:** Greg Goeke, Public Works Property Services

### **Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.  
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

### **Background/Supporting Information:**

The City has made significant progress over the last few years in implementing "sustainable building" initiatives when we are remodeling or building new facilities. Two years ago, a Green Buildings subcommittee of the City's Environmental Coordinating Team (ECT) was formed. At the last ECT meeting, a presentation was given highlighting some of the recent projects and initiatives.

Sustainable building, also called "green" or "high-performance" building, means having a significantly reduced impact on the Earth's resources compared to conventional building. It also means creating a building that is healthier and more comfortable for its occupants, consequently enhancing productivity and is economical to operate. It conserves resources (including energy, water, raw materials and land) and minimizes the generation of pollution and waste in its design, construction, landscaping, and operation. A green building also considers historic preservation and access to public

infrastructure systems, as well as the entire life cycle of the building and its components.

Buildings consume considerable amounts of energy and raw materials as well as being a significant source of airborne contaminants.

- Buildings use more than 65% of all electricity in the U.S.
- Buildings are responsible for 40% of all raw materials use globally.
- Buildings contribute 30% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

Some recent projects for the City that have been designed and constructed in accordance to the Minnesota Sustainable Design Standards include: Animal Care and Control, 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct, Fridley Maintenance Facility, Columbia Heights Filtration Plant, Fire Station #14.