



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of

Date: April 7, 2009

To: Honorable Scott Benson, Chair, Health, Energy and Environment Committee

Subject: 2009 GreenPrint – Sustainability Report

Recommendation: Receive and File

Department Information

Prepared by: June Mathiowetz, Sustainability Project Coordinator 612-673-2027

Approved by: Steven Bosacker, City Coordinator 612-673-2032

Presenters in Committee: Gayle Prest, June Mathiowetz, Greenprint Staff Leads

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

City Goals - The data tracking and reporting found within the GreenPrint help facilitate progress on the City's "Enriched Environment", "Connected Communities" and "Premier Destination" goals.

Supporting Information

Attached is the 2009 Minneapolis GreenPrint – the fourth annual report on the City's sustainability activities related to the environment. Each of the eleven indicators highlighted has a target, trend analysis and recent City and community activities section, allowing us to measure our progress and match actions with goals. The report can be found on the City's sustainability website. www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability

Highlights of this year's report include that the City:

- Added an 11th indicator to this report that focuses on green jobs as part of an effort to define, develop and track the green job economy in the city.
- Met its target for no combined sewer overflows all year during rainstorms for the second year in a row.
- Met the water quality improvement target for Lake Calhoun for the fourth year in a row while Brownie Lake reached the goal for the first time.

- Adopted an ordinance restricting vehicle idling in the city and raising awareness about the effects of vehicles on global warming.
- Revised the zoning code to require bicycle parking for most developments.
- Made biking a more feasible option for moving around the city by increasing opportunities for people to use bikes with more new trails, the new Midtown Bike Center, and the launching of the Bike Walk Ambassador program.
- Awarded 25 climate change grants for a second year to support grassroots efforts motivating residents and businesses to take action to reduce global warming.
- Completed the City Hall and Courthouse building's 5,000-square-foot green roof with plantings as part of a waterproofing and stormwater management project. Plants will be irrigated with water from a 10,000 gallon cistern installed as part of the project.
- Became one of the first cities in the country to implement a pilot residential collection program that is turning three tons of weekly food waste and non-recyclable paper into organic compost to help enrich soils and gardens.

A number of other important efforts are also already under way for 2009 including implementing an environmental purchasing policy for City staff in making purchasing decisions, advancing a Homegrown Minneapolis initiative to increase local food production in the city and generating more sources of clean energy.

For a listing of sustainability awards received by the City, visit the sustainability website at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/sustainability

Completing this report requires a coordinated effort involving the City's Citizen Environmental Advisory Committee, Environmental Coordinating Team, numerous staff from departments including CPED, Communications, Health and Family Support, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Public Works and Regulatory Services, Mayor R.T. Rybak, the City Council, businesses, nonprofits, other organizations and residents working with us toward a sustainable city. A special thanks to the following staff leads: Emily Stern, Dan Huff, Lois Eberhart, Don Pflaum, Shaun Murphy, Anna Flintoft, Brette Hjelle, Merland Otto, Jeff Schneider, Ralph Sievert, Elizabeth Haugen and Marlena Bromschwig.

Cc: Sustainability Steering Committee members, Citizens Environmental Advisory Committee

Attachment 1: 2009 GreenPrint Report