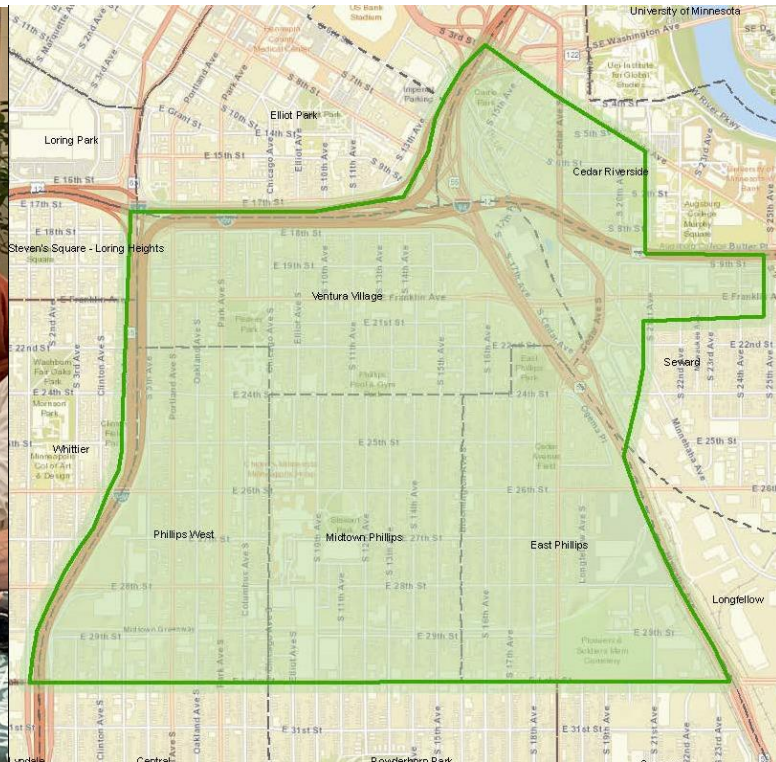


Achieving Climate and Environmental Justice in the Southside Green Zone

Recommendations for City of Minneapolis Work Plan Action (2020-2025)



Developed by City Appointed Southside Green Zone Council
Voted and Approved December 16th, 2019

Workplan drafted on behalf of the Southside Green Zone Council by:
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City Staff: Kelly Muellman, City of Minneapolis, Office of Sustainability



2019 Southside Green Zones Council
Members Appointed by the Minneapolis City Council

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In deep gratitude to the numerous community volunteers and formerly displaced residents who provided their time and expertise at the meetings and working groups. We know this work would not have been possible without the family and friends that helped support everyone who was part of this. It took significant effort to attend and be present for this work over the time of its development.

Many Thanks to the Consulting Policy Advisors

[Full bios in Appendix G]

While broad affiliations are noted, each advised as individual consultants, not representing their institutions.

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The McKnight Foundation*

Facilitation Team

The facilitation team's role was two-fold from May to December 2019: (1) design a community-centered facilitation process for the city appointed 2019 Southside Green Zone (SSGZ) Council; and (2) develop a work plan with the SSGZ Council that reflected their vision and priorities, serving as a guidebook for the City of Minneapolis to address long standing, systemic and intersecting environmental justice issues in the area. The facilitation team worked deeply with the Southside Green Zone Council, in collaboration with Kelly Muellman (City of Minneapolis Office of Sustainability), to ensure the facilitation and workplan design integrated community vision and city program implementation avenues.

Shalini Gupta

Shalini Gupta has been involved with energy, climate and environmental policy - with a focus on building frontline community capacity - for the past 20 years. Her work is centered on solutions to our ecological crises that are grounded in people and place; and our economic and social histories. Through her consultancy work, Shalini works with a range of philanthropic, governmental and community-based organizations across the country. Her recent clients include: the Health & Environmental Funders Network (HEFN), Surdna Foundation, National Audubon Society (Washington D.C.), and work with the Providence, RI, Racial and Environmental Justice Committee in creating their [landmark municipal Climate Justice Plan](#). Shalini's past work experience includes research and policy positions at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, the Kiel Institute for the World Economy in Germany, and the Izaak Walton League of America's Energy Program. A former governor appointee to the Minnesota Next Generation Energy Board, Shalini has served as co-Chair of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice Board of Directors and on the founding leadership team of the Midwest Environmental Justice Network. Prior to starting her consulting work, Shalini was the co-founder and executive director of the Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy, an environmental justice research and policy organization. Her work helped develop Minneapolis' groundbreaking 2013 Climate Action Plan – which established the city's environmental justice focused Green Zones Initiative. She holds degrees from the University of Chicago (BA) and Yale University (MEM). Shalini's descends from the New Delhi area of India and lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota with her two children, husband, mother and extended family and friends. Website: www.sgupta.org

Alejandra Tobar Alatriz

Alejandra C. (Tobar Alatriz) is a queer immigrant storyteller, Healing and Environmental Justice Practitioner, and artist organizer. She helps groups through change and growth, chaos and complexity, and specializes in helping new teams accomplish big tasks together. (Tobar Alatriz) has been doing so for over 15 years. She grounds her work in justice-based values, emergence and the human body at every scale. As a theater-maker, Alejandra has performed and/or directed performance work at many theaters in the Twin Cities region.

Alejandra and Dr. Saby Labor co-founded the People's Movement Center (PMC), a healing justice practice space (2014-2019) in South Minneapolis. She is currently an active board and collective member at Indigenous Roots Cultural Arts Center in East St. Paul. She leads United Bodyworkers and Artists, a Global Somatics Lab, which houses also her bodywork, healing practice. Grounded in this work, she facilitates and organizes gatherings, retreats, and meetings. Recent collaborators include Headwaters Foundation, the City of Minneapolis (Sustainability and Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy departments) and the City of St. Paul (Planning and Economic Development). She descends from people of Chile and Mexico and lives on occupied Dakota land, St. Paul, Minnesota. For more, please visit www.justembody.org.

Table of Contents

Background	<u>1</u>
Process & Work Plan Development	<u>3</u>
Recommendations for City Work Plan Action (2020 – 2025)	<u>7</u>
Self-Determination & Accountability	<u>9</u>
Land Use: Air & Soil	<u>10</u>
Healthy Food Access	<u>13</u>
Health in Energy & Housing	<u>15</u>
Anti-Displacement & Green Economy	<u>17</u>
Further Reading	<u>19</u>
Appendices	
Appendix A: General SSGZ Workplan Refinement Arc	<u>21</u>
Appendix B: Southside Green Zones / EJ History Timeline (generated June 2019)	<u>22</u>
Appendix C: SSGZ Council Environmental Justice Pop Up Funded Groups	<u>23</u>
Appendix D: Letter to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Comment to Volkswagen Settlement Phase 2 Resources - Target to Green Zones, August 16th, 2019	<u>26</u>
Appendix E: SSGZ Council Letter to City Environmental Assessment Worksheet for proposed Hiawatha Expansion, August 28th, 2019	<u>27</u>
Appendix F: SSGZ Council Letter to Climate Action & Racial Equity Fund Collaborative (City of Minneapolis, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation), August 29, 2019	<u>28</u>
Appendix G: Consulting Policy Advisor Reviewer List and Bios	<u>30</u>
Appendix H: Invited City Reviewers List and Bios	<u>32</u>

Background

The Southside Green Zone Council (SSGZ Council) was appointed by the Minneapolis City Council in May 2019, with its first meeting held in June 2019. Over the course of seven months, the SSGZ Council met monthly in addition to actively participating in smaller working group meetings. They gathered at locations across the neighborhoods of the Southside Green Zone. The body of work done in the seven months was extensive and included: (a) development of a five-part Policy Work Plan; (b) designing and executing a SSGZ Environmental Justice Pop Up Fund for environmental health work in the community; (c) providing input into the City’s Climate and Racial Equity Fund Partnership; (d) advising the City’s Creative CityMaking work on Green Zones; and (e) letters to city, state and foundations on leveraging resources to meet the climate and environmental justice goals of the Southside Green Zone [see Appendices for related documents].

The SSGZ Council members summarized the importance of this work in their August 2019 letter to the City of Minneapolis:

“The environmental disparities we face as a community have been institutionalized through decades of planning, decision-making and investment patterns that have sacrificed the health and well-being of our community and families. We hope that the next generation of investments by government, philanthropy and private capital will work to fix this history and be done in partnership with the Southside Green Zone and other critical local groups already doing work in the area. A much higher level of government and philanthropic resources are needed to achieve the sustainability and climate vision of the Southside Green Zone, a transition that must be grounded in justice. This is articulated in the Southside Green Zone’s priorities on tangibly improving Air and Soil Quality, Healthy Food Access and Health in Energy in Housing intertwined with the social and economic priorities on Green Economy, Anti-displacement, Self-Determination, and Accountability. These all go hand in hand to ensure the people living here are benefiting and designing the investments in air, soil, food, housing, and energy.”

Through policy and resolutions over the past seven years, the city has acknowledged the critical need to address the persisting economic and health disparities in Minneapolis.^{1,2,3,4,5} If implemented, this SSGZ Work Plan is a concrete step in moving the City of Minneapolis tangibly toward meeting its stated Climate Change, Racial Justice and Environmental Justice goals. The policy recommendations proposed here work to address the complexity of the pollution-industrial system in the SSGZ, that has been many years in the making. It is a set of place-based solutions, requiring historically siloed areas of city programming to work in collaboration. They center addressing the needs of the community, which in turn, work to address the health impacts of the city’s fossil fuel infrastructure legacy (transportation,

¹2013 Climate Action Plan

²[Promoting racial equity and sustainable community revitalization through the development of a Green Zones Policy and creating the Green Zones Policy Task Force](#) - first City Resolution officially starting Green Zone initiative (Feb 2016).

³[Resolution establishing Green Zones in the City of Minneapolis](#) (May 2017).

⁴[Resolution establishing the Southside Green Zone Task Force](#) (Sept 2017).

⁵[Resolution establishing the Southside Green Zone Council](#) (Nov 2018).

industrial toxics, lead from gasoline, etc.). A suite of solutions is proposed that are intended to work together to address this historic legacy of environmental racism in the city and transition hot spot pollution areas into healthy, regenerative spaces for those that live, work, play and pray there.

The Work Plan is intentionally built around actions the City can directly take to address the intersectional and multi-jurisdictional causes of the environmental health issues in the SSGZ. Its development was community-driven, with the SSGZ Council building on the momentum of the 2018 SSGZ Task Force and working with city staff to fine-tune actionable solutions. The work plan development process acknowledged the years of history and hard work done by the community in its fight for their right to clean and healthy community for their families and children. It is apparent that the technological, policy and financial levers to solve this legacy of environmental in-justice are available, with most of the action items recommended having the means to be completed in the next 2-5 years. These actions are not intended to be implemented piecemeal, but to work together to provide a holistic approach to environmental justice in the Southside Green Zone. While no one document or process can be fully representative of the SSGZ community, this workplan is a contribution to holding some common understanding and measures of accountability moving forward.

Process & Work Plan Development

Five areas of key work were established by the SSGZ Council – (1) Land Use: Air & Soil, (2) Healthy Food Access, (3) Health in Energy & Housing, (4) Green Economy & Anti-Displacement, and (5) Self-Determination & Accountability. The first three are environmental changes in the community, the last two (Green Economy & Anti-Displacement; Self-Determination & Accountability) are key justice components. Without the last two, it is very plausible that the soil, air, housing stock, food access will improve, but the residents living there will not benefit and be pushed out and displaced. Displacement and green gentrification have been shown to be the path of many cities moving toward sustainability planning. The SSGZ Council feels strongly that Minneapolis must do things differently and understand that these are integral pillars to this being a climate and environmental *justice* plan.

Work Plan Action Focus Areas



Work Plan Development Process. The working group process designed and facilitated by the facilitation team, consisted of topic-oriented working groups (SSGZ Council appointees and active community members) engaging with policy advisors and city staff on their issue areas. The process began with a grounding in the community history of environmental justice and green zone development as a policy tool (Appendix B). Facilitators reviewed Green Zone documents developed over the last few years and linked the list of action items to key Community-identified Problem Areas identified by past community engagement.

In the first phase, each working group reviewed the past Southside Green Zones Task Force suggestions for their issue area and provided further input. In the second phase, policy advisors (see full list and bios in Appendix G) were engaged on each Work Plan area to provide advice to the working groups. These policy advisors included a former Minneapolis City Council member, an expert in cumulative impact analyses at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, a former member of the Minneapolis Home Grown Council active on local food policy issues, an energy policy researcher active in local/state/national energy democracy efforts, and an advisor on the nexus of environmental justice, energy and climate policy. Following face-to-face discussions with each working group, the starting policy lists (which in

some areas had up to 90 possible actions) was consolidated into core action items by the working group. Phase three engaged select city staff to provide cross-departmental perspectives on how the policy action items could be made stronger. These invited city reviewers spanned Regulatory Services, Health Department, Community Planning and Economic Development, Office of Sustainability, Division of Race and Equity and Public Works (see full list and bios in Appendix H). At each step, working group members met to discuss reviewer input and determine the best pathways forward. The facilitators incorporated comments at each point. The final Work Plan is reflective of this highly iterative policy process, centered on collaborative learning to meet the community's vision.

SSGZ Environmental Justice Pop Up Fund. While this longer-term work plan was being designed, the SSGZ Council was simultaneously involved in near term impact work in the community as an emergent expression of Self-Determination. They met to design and implement a SSGZ Council Environmental Justice Pop Up Fund that distributed resources for work within the community. The SSGZ Council's priority was to fund tangible and rapidly actionable ideas that: (a) related to the SSGZ Strategic Work Plan draft from September 2019, (b) demonstrated alignment with environmental justice principles, and (c) was in authentic relationship with residents and groups within the Southside Green Zone. The application period was two weeks long and the Council received 25 applications from both groups and individuals spanning the SSGZ area, totaling \$181,069. The group was able to resource 13 of the projects, with a total of \$65,000 distributed. This was half the number of projects that applied and only about a third of the money requested, showing the need for future support and funding. The SSGZ Council is proud of the community-based funding model they showed was possible.^{6,7}

Process Reflections. The high productivity in a short time frame and sustained energy of the SSGZ Council was unique for a city-established community council. While a lot was accomplished due to these factors, the timeframe for this work was intensive for the 7 months and should be considerably longer for future such efforts. This level of work was possible due to multiple factors including:

- ◇ An intentionally designed process that was grounded in deep relationship and trust building among members.
- ◇ Integration of near-term successes/actions (i.e. Environmental Justice Pop Up Fund, letters to agencies/city) as the group was building a longer term, highly collaborative strategic work plan.
- ◇ Adequate resources, with funds to hire experienced facilitators; stipends to compensate for Council member expertise and time; budgets for policy advisors, meals and community spaces. Resources for the group to be active in self-determination by designing and modeling how a community-led fund distribution process (EJ Pop Up Fund) could look like was also an important element.

⁶ See Appendix F: SSGZ Council Letter to City - [Climate Action & Racial Equity Fund Collaborative \(City of Minneapolis, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation, August 29, 2019\)](#).

⁷See Appendix C: SSGZ Council Environmental Justice Pop Up Funded Groups (2019).

- ◇ A facilitation team that was experienced in both engagement and the issue of municipal environmental policy development – with a core value of centering impacted community voice in policy development.
- ◇ An engaged and experienced city staff person who was culturally competent, having undergone white privilege and anti-racism training, with the collaborative skills to take direction from the facilitators and SSGZ Council, and organize city staff to work toward community needs.
- ◇ Engaged and active SSGZ Council members who had a history of being in relationship with their neighboring residents, businesses and government bodies; and who were deeply committed through their lived experience to ensuring their time on this council was well spent and resulted in change for their children, family and neighbors.

The SSGZ Council members, facilitators, city point staff, working groups, policy advisors, and city staff reviewers all learned through this process. This Work Plan is stronger because everyone’s expertise – community experience, relationship-based facilitation, policy, research, city staff experience – was honored for what they had to offer. By centering those most impacted at every phase, the technical knowledge was in service to community and justice in Minneapolis.

Quotes from SSGZ Council and Community Members who participated in this Work Plan development:

"Lots of responsibility needs to be taken. It is easy to point a finger, but there are solutions we can come up with – they may not seem most doable at the moment but there's always a starting point; as long as we have that."

"These things take a lot of time, especially for those that can't spend a fulltime job on it. Collectively we have a really good plan. Bigger and better than we could have imagined."

"Having so many types of people involved to close the knowledge gaps...felt very collaborative and met everyone's needs, which is very rare."

"This was a group of people with good will – that's not to be taken for granted. There's no guarantee that this workplan will be effective though. It's difficult to make these changes. We need to keep persisting."

"This feels like a different space than other policy processes I am part of. I am grateful to have this - the stories that impact us are shaping the plan and eventually positively affecting our communities."

"I am grateful to be part of this, and everyone taking the time out of your day to do this. Drives it home for me, makes me emotional."

"We absorbed so much information and it happened super-fast - made me realize policy development doesn't have to be so complicated and so hard."

"Policy can change, and these situations can happen, doesn't have to be the way it's been done."

"I left meetings feeling good."

"This process has re-affirmed for me that 1) there is knowledge and power in community and 2) this feels like a very different space than a lot of other policy spaces. One way status quo and power gets entrenched is that one is told that you aren't smart enough / you don't know enough. This process, even though it had its limits, is a huge step away from that norm and status quo."

"There's so much I can take from this for my community."

SSGZ Recommendations for City Work Plan Action (2020 – 2025)



Priority Time Frame

O = 1-2 Years (2020-2021)

OO = 3-5 Years (2022-2025)

Community-identified Problems for Work Plan Action Items

Self-Determination & Accountability

- People who don't live, work, play and pray in the Southside Green Zone making policies/programs for the Green Zone
- Fluctuating and unaccountable resources (city, foundations) for the SS Green Zones work
- Community Stress (race-based + otherwise)

Land Use: Air & Soil

- Transportation - Excessive automobile exhaust in the neighborhood
- Cumulative Pollution - Excessive overall air pollution in community
- Soil contamination in community
- Information, education on air and soil contamination in community is not transparent and easily available / understandable

Healthy Food Access

- Healthy food is expensive and not available in our neighborhood
- Healthy food businesses/grocers are few in our neighborhood
- Community needs more planning support and education on growing healthy food


Health in Energy & Housing

- Cost of electric and heating utility bills too high
- Energy and climate resources/planning are not for our housing needs and could displace us
- Old houses that have lead in homes, older piping (drinking water concern), and other indoor health issues

Green Economy & Anti-Displacement

- Hard to purchase and stay in a home
- High rent and hard to rent
- Many businesses in neighborhood not local and wages are low

Self Determination & Accountability			
PROBLEM 1: People who don't live, work, play and pray in the Southside Green Zone making policies/programs for the Green Zone		Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
1	Benchmarks on Community Benefit for Projects in SSGZ. Usually developers already have the rights to a project and THEN the community has to initiate a community benefit agreement (CBA) - this would turn that upside down, requiring a show of benefit and community engagement prior to city approval. Require in planning decisions, particularly in those receiving public dollars/subsidies, community developed goals of positive impact (not just mitigating the negative). For example, the project has a benefit metric (number), such as 70% local hiring, X% reduction in traffic pollution, etc. City approval contingent on clear, measurable community benefit and SSGZ resident support.	○	Community Planning & Economic Development
2	Ensure Other City Plans Effecting SSGZ Incorporate SSGZ Workplan Focus Areas. Show how other plans/initiatives around Climate Resiliency, Traffic Safety, Renewable Energy, etc... are taking the SSGZ Workplan priorities as part of the community input for the SSGZ and incorporating its recommendations into those spaces.	○	All City Departments
3	Annual Review of SSGZ Workplan. City reports to SSGZ Council, on how it is meeting timelines and improving workplan identified problems in community, on an annual, written basis. This should be a truthful and honest assessment, with city staff being careful with their wording to be clear and not use language to confuse the community.	○	Sustainability Division
PROBLEM 2: Fluctuating and unaccountable resources (city, foundations) for the SS Green Zones work			
1	Sustained Budgeting for SSGZ Workplan Focus Areas. City Budget has clearly identified support for SSGZ workplan priorities every year; Mayor and City Council budget sustaining ongoing funds to support the SSGZ council.	○	Mayor and City Council
2	Community Input into City RFPs in SSGZ. Incorporate community voices into RFP/RFQs process to ensure community needs are also being met; and community contractors are able to apply and be accepted. This includes community members on review panels and process for city RFPs effecting SSGZ.	○	Community Planning & Economic Development
3	City Partnerships with Foundations Accountable to Community. A Just Transition in the SSGZ from a space of hotspot pollution to sustainability will require long term sustained focus and resources. In cases where the City enters into partnership with non-elected Foundations, there should be clear mechanisms for transparency, community accountability and community decision-making in design of investments. See SSGZ August 2019 letter to Minneapolis Climate & Racial Equity Fund for SSGZ Council recommendations on improving funding processes; and the SSGZ model funding process 2019 SSGZ EJ Pop Up Fund.	○	Sustainability Division (and all City Departments)
PROBLEM 3: Community Stress (race-based + otherwise)			
1	Honor Community Knowledge and Time. City should not decide who is a leader but consult with community-based organizations leading on issues on who could provide input on various policies/initiatives in the SSGZ. Budgets should include money for people's time to serve and provide input, support for community organizing/education on initiatives, and resources for childcare.	○	All City Departments
2	Training for all City Leadership and Staff. Ongoing trainings on Minneapolis history of race-based zoning, housing, environmental justice and colonialism for all city staff, mayor and city council.	○	Human Resources, Division of Race & Equity, and all Departments

3	Fund Community Workshops on City Policy Change Process. Workshops for SSGZ residents on HOW to hold the city accountable; discussing levers for accountability for SSGZ issue areas (like Nexus Boards and Commissions, but city focused). This includes trainings for how to apply for grants, RFPs and other city opportunities.		Neighborhood and Community Relations and the City Clerk's Office
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Land Use: Air & Soil			
PROBLEM 1: TRANSPORTATION (CARS, TRUCKS, CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES, ETC) Excessive automobile exhaust in the neighborhood		Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
1	Permit Requirements for Transportation Pollution of any new Project in SSGZ. Large projects currently develop Travel Demand Management Plans (TDMPs) prior to permit approval, though their rigor and enforcement are uneven. The City should require permits to have stringent zoning code requirements and TDMPs related to on and off-road vehicle increases occurring from an infrastructure or development project (new build or significant modification) impacting the current state of safety, air emissions, and run-off impacts. Includes during construction and post, such as expected increase from employee cars and other light and heavy-duty operating vehicles. Projects that show a decrease in transportation related pollution and improve local neighborhood health/safety in the SSGZ should be able to get permitting benefits. Community should have a voice in permitting and TDMP processes. If there is not verifiable environmental health benefit to SSGZ residents, the city should have the authority to deny the permit.	O	CPED (for planning) and Public Works (for implementation)
2	Reduce Vehicle Emissions of Large existing Private Employers in SSGZ. Travel Demand Management Plans (TDMPs) previously prepared for any developments in the SSGZ should be audited to verify compliance with TDMP strategies previously committed to. Additional reductions to local air pollution from City, Abbott/Allina, Wells Fargo, etc. operations and employees in the neighborhood should be done.	O	Public Works – Transportation Planning & Programming Director: Jenifer Hager
3	Require Tier 4 Diesel Controls in City Bids. Require in city procurement bid specifications that industrial operations and other construction projects within the SSGZ have the highest controls (Tier 4 diesel controls for engines) in support, delivery and work vehicles.	O	Health– Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
4	Advocate with Community for SSGZ Health Improvements in Major Transportation Infrastructure Projects. Expansion/modification and projects planned for highways (35W and 94) or other major roadways (55, Cedar, etc.) within or adjacent to SSGZ should assess all potential air emissions impacts, and potential run-off to land and water surfaces that may affect public health broadly and within the SSGZ specifically. Based on this analysis City should collaborate with community groups and residents to advocate and submit comments through EIS and other avenues to the county/state/federal agencies for actions to mitigate these environmental justice impacts and improve the health burden the SSGZ experiences from this infrastructure.	O	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
5	Enforce Anti-Idling Ordinance in SSGZ. The enforcement of this ordinance of non-city owned trucks, buses and vehicles is uneven. Enforce anti-idling ordinance in Southside Green Zone via "idling sweeps". Hire extra staff if needed. Focus on enforcement of trucks and school buses. Incorporate an education of parents (flyering cars, etc) on health impacts and officials at schools.	O	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
6	Pro-Actively Partner with Metro Transit to run its Cleanest Vehicles in SSGZ. The City and Metro Transit collaborate frequently. The City should add to its priority list that Metro Transit run its cleanest vehicles in the highest pollution areas on bus routes through Green Zones.	O	Public Works – Transportation Planning & Programming Director: Jenifer Hager
7	Reduce City-owned Vehicle Pollution in SSGZ. City-owned light and heavy-duty vehicles operating in the SSGZ should be required to be low emission vehicles. Target city fleet replacement and conversion (i.e. electric vehicles) to facilities located in the SSGZ. Take focused actions (incentives and disincentives) to reduce single occupancy vehicles by City employees that enter the SSGZ (as destination or pass through via 26th / 28th Ave, etc.).	O	Public Works – Fleet Services Director: Al Thunberg
8	Harness Minnesota's State Volkswagen Settlement Funding for SSGZ Diesel Pollution Reduction. City apply to state for priority projects in SSGZ and support SSGZ community entities to target diesel pollution and exposure to workers/residents. By support we suggest letters of support, providing city data, and assistance with any technical aspect of the grant writing. This funding is managed by MPCA and includes \$47 Million over 10 years.	O	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
9	Expand City Pollution Fees to include Business Mobile Operations and Greenhouse Gases. City fees are same as state fees right now - expand these fees to include mobile sources (vehicles and off-road) that result from business operations. Money should go into to expanding Green Business Cost-share program to reduce emissions and improve energy and climate resiliency efforts within the Green Zone.	OO	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon

10	Non-Toxic Paving Materials Pilot. The city should conduct a review of current Minnesota non-toxic paving projects underway and pilot non-toxic paving products for city-owned and operated roadways/streets/parking lots slated to be repaved soon and in the next few years in the SSGZ. The city should also advocate for the use of non-toxic paving materials for county/state/federal controlled transportation projects within the SSGZ.	O	Public Works – Transportation Maintenance and Repair Director: Mike Kennedy
PROBLEM 2: CUMULATIVE POLLUTION & HEALTH IMPACTS Excessive overall air pollution in community			
1	Advocate to Change State Amortization Law. Put on City’s Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) legislative agenda to change state amortization law to allow for transition of grandfathered, polluting facilities. The City Council can change zoning for any parcel (zoning for Bituminous and Smith sites have changed in Comprehensive Plan if a new facility came in), but City is not currently allowed to set a plan for moving out polluting facilities that are grandfathered.	O	Intergovernmental Relations Director: Gene Ranieri / CPED (implementation)
2	Protective Zoning and Health Measures for Neighboring I3 / Residential Areas. Currently, the distance between I3 zone industries (such as Bituminous Roadways) and the family residences in the SSGZ is very small. Until these grandfathered I3 facilities move out, to protect the children and families in the interim living near them, actively work with industrial facilities and residential landlords to establish emission controls, buffers, set-backs, and other protective health measures (i.e. indoor resident air filters). For new SSGZ residential buildings, in line with Comprehensive Plan, establish higher levels of buffers and set-backs requirements between these industrial zoned areas and new residential areas.	O	Community Planning & Economic Development – Development Services Director: Steve Poor
3	Advocate MDH to Establish an inhalation health benchmarks for Ultrafine Particulate Matter. City advocate that the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) create a health benchmark for ultrafine particulate matter (PM). There is no standard or health benchmark for ultrafine particulate matter, which is less than 0.1um and can reach the innermost parts of the lung. There is a permanent ultrafine monitor at the Near Roadway site (in East Phillips), but community cannot put these concentrations into context with potential health impacts without this additional information.	O	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
4	Dedicated and Funded SSGZ Staff Positions for Upcoming High Impact Projects (94, 35W, Smith, Bituminous, Abbott, Hiawatha Public Works Expansion). Create new staff positions at the city, hired in collaboration with the SSGZ community. Must be adequately funded. This team has cross section of expertise so they can understand the complex cumulative impact and environmental pollution data from city and state studies across agencies; effectively conduct community engagement to communicate complex information to the diversity of SSGZ residents; advocate for cooperation between various levels of government such that communities are adequately served; and coordinate SSGZ attendance of community members at major project and infrastructure information sessions and public meetings. I-94 rebuild/changes, 35W, Franklin road changes; the traffic and other pollution impacts of the Public Works expansion; as well as the Abbott, Smith Foundry and Bituminous Roadways state permit renewal process are expected to all come up in next 2 years. Smith Foundry and Bituminous Roadways are going through a joint state air permit renewal process which requires a cumulative levels and effects analysis. The result of all these major projects will either severely hurt the health of the community or work to improve it, depending on the City and community response. These staff would be the point people and responsive to SSGZ Council/ residents on these major projects.	O	City Council / Mayor’s Office
5	Establish a Low Emissions Zone (LEZ) in the SSGZ. A low-emission zone (LEZ) is a defined area where access by some polluting vehicles is restricted or deterred with the aim of improving the air quality. All LEZs apply to heavy vehicles, some to diesel vans, others also to diesel and gasoline cars.	O	Health Department and/or Public Works – Transportation Planning and Programming
6	Implement MNTAP Reviewed Projects in SSGZ. MNTAP (Minnesota Technical Assistance Program) worked with several businesses in the Phillips community and made recommendations to reduce Volatile Organic Compounds. City staff should review information on this effort from MNTAP and develop an Action Plan for Phillips (http://www.mntap.umn.edu/interns/currentprojects/), expand Green Business Cost Share to assist in emission reductions projects in the SSGZ.	O	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
7	Prohibit Conditional Use Permits for Polluting Land Uses. City Council should no longer allow the establishment of new polluting land uses anywhere in the city, consistent with the Production/Processing and Environmental Justice/Green Zones policies of Minneapolis 2040. Conditional use permits thus should be prohibited and not be available for polluting land uses. An audit of existing conditional use permits (which are attached to the property even if sold) for polluting land uses should be reviewed to assess needed state policy changes so Minneapolis can protect the health of Minneapolis residents.	O	Community Planning & Economic Development – Development Services Manager: Jason Wittenberg

8	City Help Find New Location for Bituminous Roadways. Bituminous Roadways has indicated a strong interest to move out of the City of Minneapolis. The city routinely incentivizes businesses they want to come into the city. The city should also work to help businesses that are hurting the health of its residents move out of the city. The city should work with Bituminous Roadways, Hennepin County and Met Council to identify an alternative site for Bituminous Roadways.	○	Community Planning & Economic Development
9	Adopt Municipal Version of Phillips Cumulative Levels and Effects Legislation. City adopt state language (MN Statute 116.07 subd. 4a: requires analysis and consideration of “cumulative levels and effects of past and current pollution” before an air permit may be issued in a sub area of the SSGZ) so it covers smaller facilities, and multiple sources of pollution impacting human health (i.e not just for permitted facilities, and not just air pollution). City should add incentives for green technology to be pro-actively be targeted in the SSGZ. This would apply in situations such as when city is supporting/authorizing development through a land sale.	○○	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon

PROBLEM: 3/ SOIL contamination in community

1	Strategic Green Infrastructure Measures in High Pollution Areas of SSGZ. Promote Green roofs, green alleys, tree canopy and other air/water filtering plant "technologies" in the South Side Green Zones with a specific southside target. Intent is to heal the soil and remediate toxins in neighborhood; replace polluted ground soil; and reduce impact of air pollution.	○	Public Works Green Infrastructure Coordinator: Katie Kowalczyk
2	Action Plan for Arsenic Pollution. In 2019, all but 9 sites were removed from the federal EPA's Superfund site. City staff develop an Action Plan of current issues persisting with arsenic release in the neighborhood, compiling information from federal/state agencies for community understanding. Action Plan should include any arsenic disturbance from development projects (such as the city's Hiawatha Expansion Project) and advocating for additional (multi-jurisdictional) resources for homeowners to address pollution that spread into community beyond CMC Heartland (Arsenic Triangle) site.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon
3	Study Eminent Domain for Public Health Benefits. Study the use of eminent domain and its possible use for positive community benefit (city taking land for public benefit - getting bad stuff out of the Green Zones).	○○	Community Planning & Economic Development – Director: David Frank

PROBLEM: 4/ Information, education on AIR & SOIL contamination in community is not transparent and easily available / understandable

1	Grants for Community Education. Grants for SSGZ community nonprofits, community groups, public libraries, schools, and community centers to do education and outreach to people on soil, air, lead, pests, mold, etc.. This includes partnering with community organizations and leaders on culturally aware/competent climate preparedness; includes use of traditional environmental knowledge (TEK).	○	Health Dept and/or Sustainability Division and/or Neighborhood and Community Relations and/or Regulatory Services
2	Data Workshops in Community. The SSGZ recommends/advocates for the City to facilitate data workshops for air quality and other environmental quality data that is developed or collected by the City (VOC project) and the state. The goal of these workshops shall be to support prioritization of air pollution sources for further SSGZ recommendations. The data may include: city VOC, state air toxics, PAH, Criteria pollutants, GHG emissions for various sources in the SSGZ, ultra-fine PM2.5, and computer modeled air concentrations (MNRISKS). The data workshops could be centered around existing published data tools (from federal, state and city government, and non-profits), and the workshops could be used to train community members to use them and as well provide tool creators with feedback on making these data tools more useful to community members.	○	Health Department – staff contact depends on the topic.
3	Facility Signage for Community Communication. Establish signs on public property near large facilities / project sites that can easily communicate with the community about when community meetings (related to their facility permitting, air and pollution violations affecting public health, ambient air quality high risk days, etc) are. This is similar to MNDOT signage on highways communicating with drivers. These would provide early communication with residents when there is a potential impact to human health and the environment, so residents can be aware and take precautions.	○	Partnership with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.
4	Action Plan of Key Schools and Day Cares. Based on known pollution data in the SSGZ (soil and air), develop clean-up action plans and initiatives at areas where children in community attend such as childcare facilities, Andersen School, Bdote Learning Center, Anishinabe Academy; increase monitoring systems based on results. Collaborate with MPS for Capital Improvement as needed.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon

5	Link City and State Complaint and Violations Systems. City and state develop a formal process to communicate about complaints received through their separate complaint systems. Make this linked system accessible to community and easily understandable.	OO	Information Technology – Director: Fadi Fadhil
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Healthy Food Access		
PROBLEM 1: Healthy food is expensive and not available in our neighborhood	Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
<p>1 Actively Expand Healthy, Culturally Appropriate Food at SSGZ Food Shelves. Many residents in the SSGZ rely heavily on food shelves to meet their food needs. However, the federal tax code incentivizes large corporate food manufacturers to donate excess or unwanted food products (often highly processed, low-nutrient foods) resulting in unhealthy options affecting the health of residents. Food shelves currently also have limited coordination, resulting in residents needing to go to multiple food shelves to meet their basic needs – this creates hardship for residents and is an inefficient means of distribution. The city should secure resources/partnerships to help more food shelves in the SSGZ make changes and improvements to their space/inventory/practices to support more healthy foods, and becoming more efficient distribution points for local, fresh foods to residents. The city should also study food shelf users to understand desired SSGZ community produce needs/quantities and implement identified city levers that incentivize healthy, culturally appropriate food at food shelves. The city can also help coordinate/support local, multi-cultural growers to distribute and/or donate produce to food shelves.</p>	○	Homegrown Minneapolis Minneapolis Health Department
<p>2 Dedicate Resources, Land and Staffing at the City for Coordinating Community Gardening in SSGZ. There is a major gap in the community for needed community gardening education, technical assistance, supply things people need, seed distributions, longer term land leases, options to preserve land for urban agriculture (through sale, land trust, conservation easements, etc.), safe growing practices (toxic soil), mentoring and trouble-shooting. This need has become acute since Gardening Matters closed. Additionally, City resources to support community gardening are dispersed in different departments across the city and vary based on grants (not city budget funded), with no long-term dedicated city budget for this community need. While neighborhood-based organizations do exist that can provide some of these services in the SSGZ, the city should commit budget resources and staff for supporting and coordinating resources and education for gardening program that is comprehensive and consistent. This could include expanding the City’s Garden Lease Program (purchase of tools, supplies, Garden-in-a-Box kits, etc.). (See Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 3.1)</p>	○	Homegrown Minneapolis Minneapolis Health Department Community Planning and Economic Development
<p>3 Implement Programming and Resources to Clean Up Contaminated Toxic Soil in SSGZ. It is widely researched and understood that soil in the SSGZ is contaminated, due to the history of industrial activity in the community that continues today. This poses a specific challenge to the SSGZ for promoting local food production and the right to healthy food and soil for all residents of Minneapolis. Even when people are aware of the contamination in their soil, they lack the resources to replace it with good healthy soil. The city should provide soil testing kits, remediation planning, soil replacement resources, communication and education to homeowner, rental property owners, small businesses owners (daycares, etc). Where the city has direct control, such as with publicly owned land in the SSGZ, they should ensure the arsenic and other toxic contaminants are contained and remediated. (See Land Use Rec 3.2).</p>	○	Minneapolis Health Department with Homegrown Minneapolis and Regulatory Services
PROBLEM 2: Healthy food businesses/grocers are few in our neighborhood		
<p>1 Invest in Local Commercial Healthy Food Supply Chain Infrastructure in the SSGZ. The SSGZ has a long and rich history in commercial foods across the cultural groups in our community. In order to meet the long-term food security needs of our diverse community, the city should work with established groups and businesses to incentivize the development of a healthy foods supply chain infrastructure. This includes restrictions on public land sales in the SSGZ and focus on how these lands could be better used for enterprises that meet the community’s needs. This is a multi-faceted strategy that should incorporate incentives to integrate agricultural space into existing and new business building rooftops/inner floors, longer land leases and opportunity to purchase land, and expanded areas of allowable land use for commercial food businesses. Commercial food businesses may include aquaponics, year around urban greenhouse growing operations, processing facilities; and multi-faceted retail operations that distribute these foods, such as grocery stores, food shelves, small groceries, cafes, food trucks, food carts and farm stands. (See Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Section 3)</p>	○○	Homegrown Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Minneapolis Health Department
<p>2 Target Small Business Renovation Incentives/Dollars to support Healthy Foods at Local Food Retailers/Grocers. Existing corner stores and other local culturally focused grocery stores/retailers/restaurants in the SSGZ need renovations to handle fresh, organic, locally produced produce. Food safety, handling and</p>	○	Homegrown Minneapolis

	<p>storage training is also required. Stores (especially corner stores) need help with fresh produce procurement, inventory management, merchandising, and marketing; and technical assistance to complete applications and secure funding. The city should coordinate its: Health Department Green Cost Share pilot project, the City's recent state MN Dept of Agriculture grant (Good Food Access grant), CPED Small Business Team resources; and other incentive programs to upgrade refrigeration/freezing/efficiency and meet other SSGZ small business/grocer renovation needs. The city should also include stronger education and enforcement of the existing Staple Foods Ordinance at licensed SSGZ grocery stores and support mobile grocers (i.e. Twin Cities Mobile Market) to start up and operate. This should be coupled with a broader reach of support for programs (such as Veggie RX and Market Bucks) so any potentially higher costs for healthy foods are more affordable to residents but the cost is not borne by the vendor/producer. (See Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 3.4)</p>		<p>Community Planning and Economic Development Minneapolis Health Department</p>
3	<p>Adopt a City Good Food Purchasing Policy for City Contracts Protective of Food Workers, Workers of Color and Local Small Businesses. A Good Food Purchasing Policy (GFPP) would have standards for city contracts/procurement driven by 5 value categories: nutrition, fair labor, environmental sustainability, local economy, and humane treatment of animals. The city should adopt a GFPP with standards for divesting in vendors/contractors with labor violations and sourcing from ones providing living wages/employee protections. A city GFPP should use its power of contracts (particularly at Minneapolis Convention Center and other large publicly owned venues or public-private partnership events) to negotiate with vendors to make improvements. Create additional Racial Equity measures within a GFPP to focus on People of Color (POC) owned businesses and supporting vendors with track records for hiring from POC and low-income communities, including the Southside Green Zone. Work with unions and worker justice organizations to better understand the landscape of food chain jobs, exploitation, and ways to provide protections to food chain workers in the city. (See Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 3.3)</p>	OO	<p>Minneapolis Finance and Property Services - Procurement Department with Homegrown Minneapolis</p>
<p>PROBLEM 3: Community needs more planning support and education on growing healthy food</p>			
1	<p>Prioritize SSGZ Community Food Needs with Minneapolis Park Board Comprehensive Plan and Stewart Park Renovation. The Minneapolis Park Board is both developing a city-wide comprehensive plan and undergoing a redesign process for Stewart Park in 2020. The City of Minneapolis works in close partnership with the Park Board on many initiatives, via the Food Policy Council and other venues. The City should ensure Park Board efforts in its comprehensive planning and Stewart Park renovation are in line with the local food security, land access and food education needs of SSGZ residents. These plans, the people that use the park and live in the surrounding neighborhood should have decision-making over these plans.</p>	O	<p>Homegrown Minneapolis with Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board</p>
2	<p>Review and Integrate Halal and Kosher Marketing Analysis into Food Policy Work at the City. Currently many consumers of halal foods have to rely on shipments from other parts of the country or internationally. There is a project at the University of Minnesota looking at the supply chain for Halal and Kosher food and what could be done locally. When the study done, the city should review the studies recommendations for where the city has levers to improve local access.</p>	O	<p>Homegrown Minneapolis</p>
3	<p>Develop Action Plan for Food Security in the SSGZ. This includes a local definition of what food security means for SSGZ residents and demographics (culturally, income levels, etc); assessment of needs for robust in-city production (i.e. support for community owned commercial enterprises, public land access, community gardens, etc) as well as planning with regional governmental/private partners to ensure the regional network to provide healthy food needs for SSGZ. Regional infrastructure includes integration of regional land, farmers, processing, and storage that work in concert to meet the food security needs of the SSGZ. This must be done in partnership with the existing, robust local food economy that community organizations and members have already developed.</p>	O	<p>Homegrown Minneapolis</p>

Health in Energy & Housing			
PROBLEM 1: Cost of electric and heating utility bills too high		Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
1	Design Landlord Requirement to Disclose Energy Costs to be Understandable to Renters; link to Housing Affordability. The city recently passed a policy that requires landlords to disclose the average energy cost per square foot to renters at time of rent. The intent is that renters understand the full costs (heating and electric bills) of renting a space. As it is a new ordinance, the city is in the process of designing how renters will be informed by landlords. This should be done in conjunction with renter rights and renter advocacy groups in the SSGZ to ensure the way the city designs the disclosure is transparent and understandable to renters, centering the renter's needs. As landlords disclose this information, the city should incorporate this energy bills operating data into the SSGZ Council recommended community definition of housing affordability (see SSGZ Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 2.1). Evaluation of the program should be shared with SSGZ renter and community groups.	○	Regulatory Services, Health Department – Environmental Programs and Sustainability Division
2	Submit Comments that Utility Low Income Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) Plans Require Investment in Minneapolis Green Zones. Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy are required by state law to reserve a percentage of their revenue for low income efficiency and conservation programs. Every three years, they file plans to meet this with the MN Department of Commerce (DOC). The City intervenes (provides comments and recommendations) for utility planning at the PUC, to protect the needs of its residents and economic interests. Xcel and CenterPoint's CIP plans are due for review and public comment in 2020 and implementation in 2021. The City should advocate in its 2020 comments that the proportion of CIP dollars spent in low-income communities should be relative to low-income share of customers in Minneapolis - with a focus on implementation (not just education and outreach) that results in energy burden reduction of SSGZ residents. The Utilities should share with the City data on their past low-income CIP expenditures in Minneapolis and the SSGZ; program penetration; energy burden reduction; and fixing barriers to access. The City should report back on results to SSGZ.	○	Sustainability Division and Intergovernmental Relations
3	Reserve 20% Percentage Franchise Fee Funds to Lower Green Zones Energy Burden. Energy utilities pay the city a certain amount of money for the right to use public land for their distribution lines. The terms of this are outlined in a Franchise Agreement between the City and utilities. Currently, fees the utilities pay go into the city's general budget. A certain percentage (20% is similar to Xcel's Solar*Rewards low income carve out) should be reserved for energy equity of programs directly focused to GZs. Anti-displacement housing policies must be integrated in these measures, with reports on franchise fee spending including penetration by race, income, home ownership, and small business in the SSGZ.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs and Sustainability Division
4	Advocate for Inclusive Financing for Energy Measures and ensure accessed by SSGZ Residents/Small Businesses. Many energy improvements have high upfront costs (refrigerator, insulation, heat pumps, solar, etc.) which are a barrier to adoption. Inclusive Financing is a way to pay for energy improvements over time, with the utility financing the technology and the customer paying it back via the energy savings on their bills over time. The City should ensure implementation of the pilot CenterPoint Energy committed to doing and expand inclusive financing to electric utilities. Inclusive Financing will have some limit to the amount of financing available – the city should pro-actively program/monitor to ensure SSGZ residents and businesses benefits (not just city-wide single-family homes). The city should study the option of the city's water or trash utility incorporating inclusive financing via the City's Water/Garbage Utility programs by using special assessments.	○○	Sustainability Division and Attorney's Office
PROBLEM 2: Energy and climate resources/planning are not for our housing needs and could displace us			
1	Tie City Funding received by Private Developers to Strong Standards for Environmental Health, Energy and Affordability in SSGZ. There is currently a staff direction recommending a "Sustainable Buildings Policy" to the city council, that ties city incentives, tax benefits, etc. to conditions for private developers to meet energy and broad sustainability requirements. This policy direction and final policy should require conditions to developers in SSGZ to be accountable to	○	Community Planning and Economic Development and Sustainability Division

	energy costs, actions that reduce pollution (i.e. renewables onsite versus diesel, reduction in transportation pollution, etc.) and a community generated affordable housing definition that includes a SSGZ focused Area Median Income (see Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 1.1 and 2.1).		
2	Action Plan and Reporting on Multi-Jurisdictional Energy Investments going to SSGZ. There are currently many resources for energy improvements across federal, county, city, and utility programs. This includes programs such as the County's Community Action Partnership weatherization programs, the City's Business Green Cost Share Program, City's Clean Energy Partnership, 4d incentive program for multifamily buildings energy measures, Xcel Energy's Solar Reward Program, Utility Low Income CIP programs, Franchise Fee funded programs, among others. However, these are currently not coordinated to maximize benefit to SSGZ residents, and it is difficult for residents to understand the interplay of all these programs. The city should have an action plan and understanding of how these programs are working together to comprehensively reduce energy burden of low-income communities of color and small businesses in the SSGZ. The City should compile the multiple programs at these different levels and report to SSGZ residents. Reporting should include penetration in the SSGZ and the direct energy costs/burdens and health benefits to SSGZ residents (not aggregated city-wide but specific to SSGZ). This includes the multiple sources of energy funding being invested in the SSGZ, with a break down by race, income, renters, homeowners, and business size. SSGZ residents should be able to see where the money is going in the SSGZ, and if the city is proactively coordinating these resources to meet SSGZ goals and a community definition of housing affordability (see Green Econ. & Anti-Disp. Rec 1.1 and 2.1). The city should make this compilation easily accessible to residents via community-based organizations and other means (such as postings in buildings) and identify city point person/department that will be responsive to SSGZ residents on bundling these incentives for action.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs and Sustainability Division
3	Ensure Clean Energy Partnership (CEP) 2021-2023 Workplan in 2020 is Accountable to SSGZ. The Clean Energy Partnership is a City partnership with CenterPoint and Xcel Energy. The next workplan for the timeframe 2021-2023, will be developed in 2020. When designing and implementing the Clean Energy Partnership workplan, the City, EVAC and Sustainability Office must show benefit to low income residents and specifically the SSGZ. Clean Energy Partnership programs targeted in SSGZ must be coupled with priorities on Green Economy & Anti-Displacement and Self-Determination & Accountability (see full SSGZ workplan). Reports should break down benefit to Green Zones, housing affordability, and health benefit by income, renter/homeowner, race.	○	Sustainability Division and Health Department – Environmental Programs
4	Integrate Emergency Preparedness, Climate Change and Health Impacts in Energy Planning and Programs for SSGZ. Low-income communities of color in the SSGZ are on the frontlines of climate change in Minneapolis. Energy planning should target emergency preparedness (solar, efficiency, onsite renewables for heating and cooling, battery storage) for households and critical community spaces (community centers, nonprofits, libraries, schools, pharmacies, clinics, etc.). This includes supporting community-based organizations to develop community-designed emergency preparedness planning for extreme heat, cold and weather events if residents lose access to grid energy / natural gas pipeline infrastructure. The city should share current information on what residents can currently do in case of heat and cold emergencies and develop a community-centered communications plan so people know what to do as climate change impacts increase.	○○	Sustainability Division and Health Department – Emergency Preparedness
PROBLEM 3: Old houses that have lead in homes, older piping (drinking water concern), and other indoor health issues			
1	Add Indoor Environmental Health Quality Requirement to Rental Licensing and City Inspections. Target indoor air quality problems in SSGZ problematic rental units coming from landlord-controlled pieces such as carpeting, mold in walls, gas appliances or health issues from poorly insulated / air-sealed buildings. Require landlords to test windows and painted surfaces for lead and fix problems found. Adequately fund indoor environmental health inspectors/inspections in rental properties for proactive enforcement (not just complaint based). Ensure fixes are completed and costs of compliance are not passed onto renters and renters are not retaliated against for complaints (see Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Rec 2.5). Report back on implementation within SSGZ.	○	Regulatory Services, Health Department – Environmental Programs
2	Ensure SSGZ Homeowners Receiving City & County Resources for Lead Fixes. Available city and county resources, contractors, etc. for lead abatement activities like painting and soil cover do not reach SSGZ residents. These fixes can be costly and burdensome for many families in the SSGZ. For 2020, the City Health Department and Hennepin County have available over \$1 million in grants to cover cost of this work. The City should work with SSGZ community organizations to investigate barriers to homeowner grant enrollment and remove city institutional barriers. Work in partnership with community-based organizations to conduct outreach and grant enrollment to qualifying SSGZ households (families under the federally defined 80% AMI mark). Enhance this funding for future years given the ongoing need, and expand available resources for homeowners above the federal 80% AMI. Many SSGZ residents do not know lead containment in their homes is an on-going maintenance issue that they could get easily fixed. The city should target for education homes/blocks in the SSGZ they know were built before 1978.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs

<p>3 Conduct Community Workshops on End-of Faucet Water Testing Results. Even though Minneapolis has water that meets standards at the treatment plant, residents have concern that, due to water pipes and old pipes from the street to inside homes, water from faucets may not be adequate. City should conduct community workshops to share the current testing end-of faucet study results and work with residents that have a lead service line to identify next steps for testing; providing resources for fixes needed and protections for tenant displacement during fixes.</p>	<p>oo</p>	<p>Health Dept – Env. Programs Public Works - Water Treatment & Distribution</p>
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Green Economy & Anti-Displacement

PROBLEM 1: Hard to purchase and stay in a home

	Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
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<p>1 Adopt SSGZ focused Area Median Income Home Ownership "Affordability" definition for City-controlled Investments and Evaluations. Currently the city uses a regionally defined Area Median Income (AMI) for determining what is "affordable". While this is required for federal and state funding, this calculation of affordability does not reflect the realities of actual income affordability for SSGZ residents. For city investments (subsidies, incentives, etc.) and city program design/evaluation in the SSGZ, a SSGZ specific AMI should be calculated and used. Moving forward, the City should develop (with residents and community-based organizations in the SSGZ) an even more refined definition of "affordability" - incorporating other costs that AMI usually does not take into account when determining affordability of a home, such as utility costs (heating and cooling bills/energy burden, water, etc.), travel costs, etc.</p>	<p>o</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan</p>
<p>2 Provide Assistance so 'Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Ordinance' is utilized by SSGZ Renters. Once adopted, ensure assistance so SSGZ residents can take advantage of the intended benefits of the ordinance. Assistance could include targeting ownership opportunities and financial programs, technical assistance, helping certain "buyers" become more competitive (i.e. first-time homebuyer programs, other options for real estate ownership, etc.). Reporting data should break out numbers of tenants that purchased homes in the SSGZ by race, neighborhood and income.</p>	<p>o</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan</p>
<p>3 Seed a Funding Pool for Shared Equity Models (i.e. Land Trusts) for Homes in the SSGZ. Target the SSGZ to make a significant investment in a land trust for multiple properties, as they come up for sale. City put their own funds to inspire/leverage other funds into a larger pool of equity with other contributors (foundation, etc.), seeding the pool with city funds. City could also give direct money to use for a shared equity model. Land Trusts are one trusted, reputable and proven model, with Land Trusts that support low-income communities of color growing across the Twin Cities.</p>	<p>oo</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan</p>

PROBLEM 2: High rent and hard to rent

	Priority Time Frame	City Staff / Department (for planning or implementation)
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<p>1 Adopt SSGZ focused Area Median Income Rental "Affordability" definition for City-controlled Investments and Evaluations. Currently, the city uses a regionally defined Area Median Income (AMI) for determining what is "affordable" for renters and rental unit investments/subsidies. While this is required for federal/state funding, this calculation of affordability does not reflect the realities of actual income affordability for SSGZ residents. For city investments (subsidies, incentives, etc) and city program design/evaluation in the SSGZ, a SSGZ specific AMI should be calculated and used. Moving forward, the City should develop (with residents and community-based organizations in the SSGZ) an even more refined definition of "affordability" - incorporating other costs that AMI usually does not take into account when determining affordability of a home, such as utility costs (heating and cooling bills/energy burden, water, etc.), travel costs, etc.</p>	<p>o</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan</p>
<p>2 Resource and Support Proper Maintenance of Public Housing Stock in SSGZ. As federal and state dollars decrease for public housing, the City should acknowledge that public housing is an important part of the Minneapolis housing stock and show that support through resources for maintenance. The City Council should appoint Board members for Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) that are supportive of maintaining public housing in Minneapolis. City should design an HRA levy (property tax levy) for public housing in the SSGZ; as well as support inclusive financing options for MPHA that retains public ownership and control of housing stock.</p>	<p>o</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan</p>

3	Renter-centered RFP and Study on Rent Stabilization/Control Policies. The city's Rent Stabilization Study must be conducted/led by community housing groups with on the ground experience working with low income renters in the Southside Green Zones. The city is in partnership in the city, providing data and other needed support for study to be robust. Study must include as a benchmark a SSGZ focused area median income definition of affordability (see Rec 1 above).	○	City Coordinator's Office, Regulatory Services and Community Planning and Economic Development
4	Target Public Investment Programs for Multi-Family Housing (4d, Green Cost Share) in SSGZ to Community Defined Affordability. 4d is a property tax reduction that is granted in exchange for targeted benefit (i.e. holding rents to particular affordability level) for multifamily properties (2+). The 4d program is combined right now with an incentive program for energy efficiency improvements (Green Business Cost Share) to potentially significantly reduce tenant costs (i.e. utility bills) while keeping rents at reasonable levels or at least preventing large increases. This and other incentives should be prioritized to SSGZ, with measures to ensure and monitor renter benefit and community defined affordability (see Rec 1 above for SSGZ focused area median income definition of "affordability"), with program outcomes reporting on the SSGZ area.	○	Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing Director: Andrea Brennan
5	Effective Enforcement / Implementation of Renter Protection Ordinance and Renter First Resolution in SSGZ. Department of Regulatory Services, who does enforcement of the rental code, should be staffed adequately to meet goals and have stronger enforcement for neglectful or abusive landlords to ensure safe and healthy environments in the SSGZ. Provide a community report out on evaluation/implementation of the internal resolution and city ordinance specifically in the SSGZ and determine if they are achieving outcomes/results for SSGZ renters. If not, identify with SSGZ low-income renters and community groups, what can be done to strengthen it (i.e. adding requirements to Minneapolis Rental Code to ensure healthy homes and safety). Make available resources to fix bad actors, ensuring costs/burdens for fixing don't get passed down to renters (i.e. if landlords have to make major investments and pass on costs to tenants, or property gets condemned and tenants are evicted/retaliated pre or post any waiting period).	○	Regulatory Services and Community Planning and Economic Development – Housing
PROBLEM 3: Many Businesses in neighborhood not local and wages are low			
1	Moratorium/Restrictions on the Sale of Public Land to Private Developers in Green Zones. In circumstances that the City does get a say (giving money, selling land, sale terms, TIF, etc.) ensure the community is aware when these negotiations are happening and in partnership with the city in the negotiations. City can choose who receives city assistance on property sales (including subsidy for purchase); and for property owned by the city, city can choose who to sell to. If sale already in process, require City & Community enter into Community Benefits with developer where City and community jointly have say in development.	○	Community Planning and Economic Development Director: David Frank
2	Invest in Green Job Train Training and Certification of SSGZ residents. This would ensure that residents on the frontlines of climate change and legacy pollution in Minneapolis, are part of the new green economy of the city. This includes not only entry-level maintenance jobs, but also long-term career paths for technical and other green industry jobs. The city should support local and regional Indigenous, Black and People of Color owned businesses to conduct these trainings and invest in technical assistance for locally owned green business development in the SSGZ.	○	Community Planning and Economic Development – Workforce Development Director: Deb Bahr-Helgen
3	Support SSGZ locally owned Businesses in City Procurement. Enhance inclusive procurement policies (from local businesses) by the City; encourage employers and program implementers to do the same. This is a SSGZ focused/subset of the City's Strategic and Racial Equity Action plan goal #2, "increase percent of and spend with racially and ethnically diverse for-profit suppliers across depts."	○	Finance and Property Services – Procurement Director: Pam Fernandez
4	Assist Community-owned Small Businesses in SSGZ to Transition to Cleaner, Green Economy Technologies. The city should provide strategic investments for SSGZ polluting and community-owned small businesses that are important anchors for the community (i.e. Cultural Corridor businesses, local culturally focused grocers/salons, etc). The City's Green Business Cost Sharing Program already has a program that invests in businesses that reduce pollution in Minneapolis through energy efficiency, solar energy, vehicle repair, service and maintenance, and other innovative ways (cost share is 20% citywide, 30% for in Green Zone). This program should be expanded with the City strategically and intentionally investing in locally owned small businesses in the SSGZ for outreach, technical assistance and resources for conversion to lower polluting and green practices (that lower business operating, utility costs) in the SSGZ.	○	Health Department – Environmental Programs Director: Patrick Hanlon Sustainability Division – Director Kim Havey
5	Tie Energy Projects Procured for City's Renewable Energy Goals to Prioritizing Community Ownership Models and Local Hiring. The city has strong goals for purchasing to meet its renewable energy goals. These energy projects should prioritize community-owned green business and clean energy projects that incorporate job opportunities (solar, weatherization, energy efficiency) for residents in the Green Zones.	○○	Sustainability Division and Finance and Property Services – Procurement Director: Mark Ruff

<p>6 Hire Green Zone Small Business Liaison Staff/Team. Hire culturally competent staff to link resources for business transition to green practices; working across governmental jurisdictions to connect community businesses with city and other resources available for the SSGZ, being responsive to small, local business needs.</p>	<p>OO</p>	<p>Community Planning and Economic Development Business Development: Miles Mercer; Small Business Team: Zoe Thiel</p>
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Further Reading

Below is a list of documents and websites that may be helpful for further reading:

- ◇ [Air Permitting in South Minneapolis](#), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- ◇ [City of Minneapolis Southside Green Zones Webpage](#)
- ◇ [City of Providence's Climate Justice Plan](#): Creating an equitable, low-carbon, and climate resilient future (2019)
- ◇ [Environmental Justice and Cumulative Impact Ordinance](#), City of Newark, New Jersey (2016)
- ◇ [Green Zones Across California: Transforming Toxic Hotspots into Healthy Hoods](#), California Environmental Justice Alliance, Green Zones (2015)
- ◇ [Health Impact Assessment for the Phillips Community: Green Zones in the City of Minneapolis](#), (2017)
- ◇ [Life and Breath: How air pollution affects public health in the Twin Cities](#), Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (2015)
- ◇ [Local Policies for Environmental Justice: A National Scan](#), Tishman Environment and Design Center, The New School (Feb 2019)
- ◇ [Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, Green Zones Program](#) - City Website

Appendices

Appendix A: General SSGZ Policy Work Plan Refinement Arc

Appendix B: Southside Green Zones / EJ History Timeline (generated June 2019)

Appendix C: SSGZ Council Environmental Justice Pop Up Funded Groups

Appendix D: Letter to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Comment to Volkswagen Settlement Phase 2 Resources - Target to Green Zones, August 16th, 2019

Appendix E: SSGZ Council Letter to City - Environmental Assessment Worksheet for proposed Hiawatha Expansion, August 28th, 2019

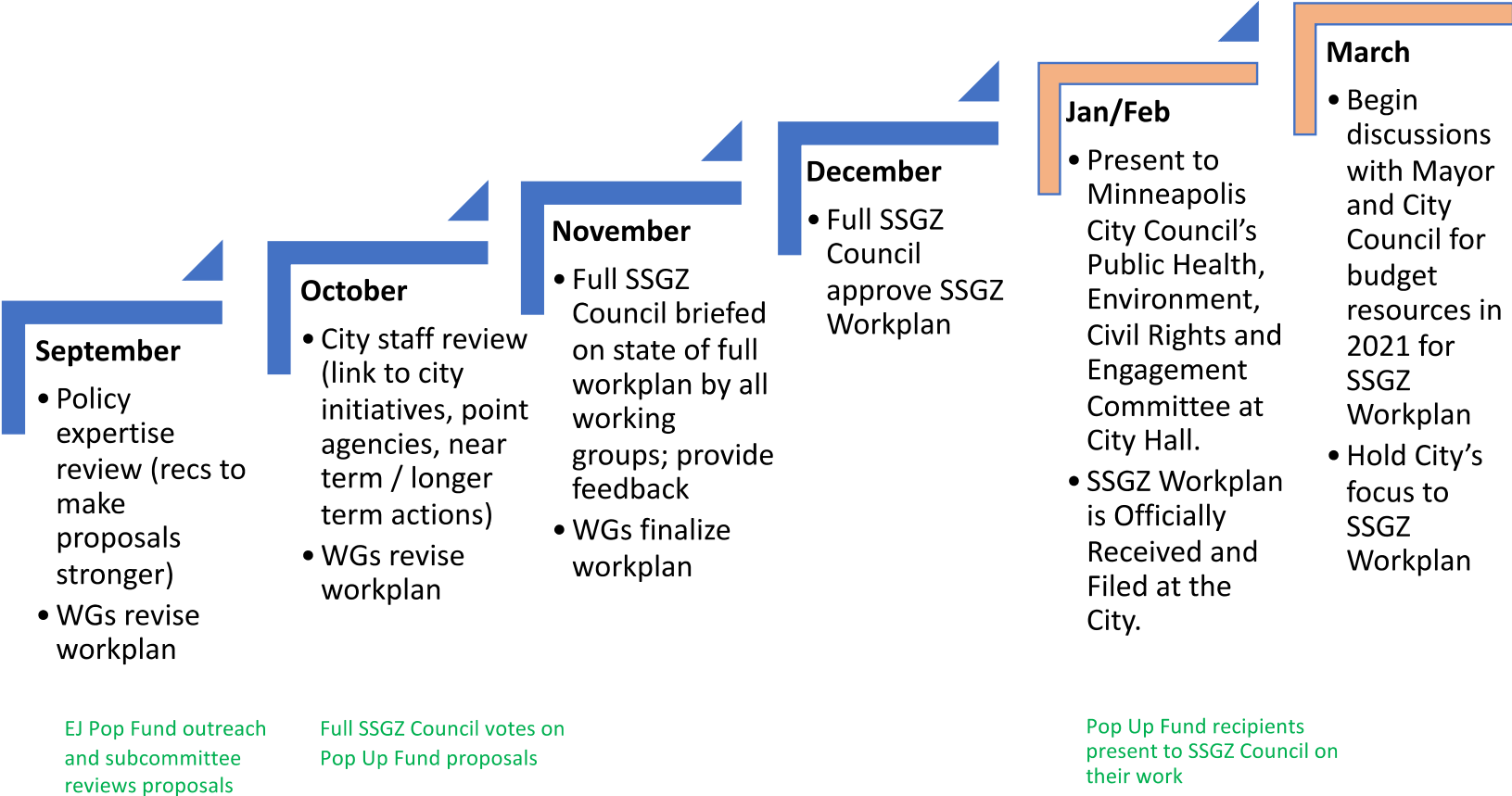
Appendix F: SSGZ Council Letter to Climate Action & Racial Equity Fund Collaborative (City of Minneapolis, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation), August 29, 2019

Appendix G: Consulting Policy Advisor Reviewer List and Bios

Appendix H: Invited City Reviewers List and Bios

Appendix A

General SSGZ Policy Work Plan Refinement Arc



Appendix B

Southside Green Zones / EJ History Timeline

Facilitators led the development of an interactive timeline at the first SSGZ meeting in June 2019. This truncated timeline includes a summary history of the Green Zones in context of a larger movement in the southside and nationally. It was co-developed by the facilitators and meeting attendees, who were asked to list their earliest memory of getting involved in environmental and community health as well as what they saw as landmark moments in this movement.

pre-1900	Colonization of Dakota Land							
1900	Smith Foundry site purchase (1923)	Arsenic Pesticide Plant in Phillips 1938-1963	Bitumunous Roadway (asphalt plant) established (1946)					
1950	Highway 94 built (1968)	Federal Clean Air Act (1970)	May-Day Parade starts (1975)	First National People of Color Leadership Summit / Principles of Environmental Justice (1991)	Federal EJ Executive Order 12898 (1994)	Arsenic Contamination discovered (1994)	ReUse Center established (1995)	
2000	Neighbors stop proposed garbage burner in Phillips	Greenway in Train Corridor completed (2006)	Cumulative Impacts State Legislation for area established (2008)					
2010	East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center built (2011)	EPA partial arsenic clean up of site/600 homes properties in area (2011)	Twin Cities Peoples Agreement on Climate Change (2012)	City Climate Action Plan EJ Working Group recommends Green Zones (2013)	Climate Action Plan adopted unanimously by City Council	EJ advocates push for Green Zones in City 2 yr Plan Priority	MN Legislature approves \$ for Urban Air Quality Research (2014)	Clean Energy Partnership (2015); EVAC established
2015	HIA of Green Zones in South Side (CST Nexus, CEED, Hope Community, LSP, Isuroon)	First Minneapolis City Council Resolution on Environmental Racism & Green Zones	California Green Zones - Los Angeles passes Clean Up Green Up (2016)	Minneapolis City-wide Green Zones Working Group	MPCA publishes state EJ Framework & seats EJ Advisory Group	South and North-side Green Zones Task Forces	Minneapolis Comp Plan 2040 adopts EJ Policy/Definition	Southside Green Zones Council Established (2018)
2019	Southside GZ Council approves Recommendations for City of Minneapolis Workplan Action (2020-2025)							

Appendix C

**Projects funded by the Environmental Justice Pop Up Resource 2019
A project of Self-Determination and Accountability of the Southside Green Zone Council**

Project Title	Organization / Person	Work Proposed	Amount Awarded
Policy Work Plan Focus::: Healthy Food Access			
24th Street Farming Coalition	Mashkiikii Gitigan	We will be continuing our urban gardening work, rebuilding hoop houses that were collapsed by the snow last year, and our garden education work at Mashkiikii Gitigan.	\$4,875.00
Increasing Food Pantry Capacity	Isuroon	Investing an energy efficient cooler to be able to provide fresh produce and refrigerated items.	\$6,750.00
Little Earth Residents Association - Urban Farm	Little Earth	The Little Earth Urban Farm will strengthen its relationship with our local partner Gandhi Mahal Restaurant to deepen our understanding of Aquaponics as a combination of aquaculture, which is growing fish and other aquatic animals, and hydroponics which is growing plants without soil. The Urban Farm will identify a vendor to purchase beginners equipment, set up and begin operation over the winter season, with full intentions of expanding in the spring and summer of 2020.	\$7,500.00
Nurturing Our Soil, Ourselves	Semilla Center	<p>The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts teach food preservation, small scale gardening and soil improvement to 50 youth and adults in Phillips. Education will include a harvest festival, in which families will learn how to can tomatoes and jam in a pressure canner and how to blanch and freeze kale. They will plant rosemary and cilantro in pots to take home.</p> <p>We will purchase bare root native plants to plant with neighborhood youth, including three native fruits that youth will use to make jam in the future. We will teach the importance of natives in the support of pollinators and the health of our food system.</p> <p>Before the festival, youth will work with our artists to craft a multi-media presentation about what they learned about food preservation, the role of native plants and pollinators' critical role in the production of vegetables, fruit and nuts. They will learn—by doing—how to improve soil by wintering over techniques</p> <p>We will also connect with local breweries to source spent grain to use as mulch around the our and Shalom Community vegetable gardens. This biomass will support soil health, suppress weeds and turn a byproduct into an up-cycled resource.</p>	\$700.00

Community Conversations: Urban Greenhouse	Tamales y Bicicletas	Tamales y Bicicletas is organizing a short series of community conversations regarding the implementation of our Deep Winter Greenhouse. The conversations will invite neighbors and community members to discuss ideas and questions regarding the greenhouse. This project aims to 1. inform the community about the greenhouse benefits in providing food access and utilizing urban land and 2. centering the community's needs and visions for the future of this project. This potential funding could assist in: reserving indoor space for gatherings, paying facilitators/organizers, food/catering, childcare, and event supplies. The project aims to host 3 to 4 community conversations from October to the end of December.	\$1,000.00
The Produce Pony	Division of Indian Works	The Division of Indian Work seeks \$10,000 toward purchasing a cargo truck to launch its Produce Pony Mobile Food Shelf program to provide easy access to food for those unable to come directly to our food shelf to obtain food for themselves and their families. Purchasing the van for this purpose will help us realize our plan is to have host sites (Minneapolis American Indian Center and Little Earth to begin with) where we would park the van and deliver perishable and non-perishable food items from our various food sources (such as Four Sisters Market, Dream of Wild Health, etc.) so that those with mobility and transportation challenges can still obtain food to supplement their meager food budgets. We intend to distribute produce, canned and boxed goods, seasonal food items such as turkeys and hams, and eventually offer traditional foods such as wild rice, walleye, bison and venison.	\$7,500.00
Policy Work Plan Focus::: Land Use: Air and Soil			
Air sensor installation for Little Earth of United Tribes	Little Earth	Purchase and installation of three PurpleAir continuous air quality air sensors.	\$1,500.00
Policy Work Plan Focus::: Green Economy and Anti-Displacement			
The T, TransHealth, Trappin for Life	MN Transgender Health Coalition	We will hold a series of health and harm reduction trainings. The series will include syringe exchange and disposal, Naloxone/narcan training and proper disposal of biohazards. The Minnesota Transgender Health Coalition will also host peer to peer support groups for Transgender people of color in the green zone. Trans people of color are some of our most marginalized community members. By creating a safe space for trans folks of color to connect and network we will help reduce isolation which is a barrier to employment.	\$7,500.00
RARE POPS (putting OUT professional stock)	Rare Productions	Artistic Pop Ups. We will gather artists of color monthly starting in October to skill share and frame creative economy strategies for 2020. We will produce 2-3 artist of color driven pop up events in November and December. One pop up will be devoted to green economy education and ideas. We will also outreach to other businesses in the area to gather coupons and gift certificates from their business for the pop ups to encourage participants to shop locally.	\$4,402.50
Public Health, Nutrition, Youth Education	Dr. Frank Afflitto	Dr. Afflitto will purchase a needle container and be the one who does needle pick up and proper disposal, and will be trained in this area. Dr. Afflitto will also carry narcan and be involved in narcan administration when necessary. Funds are for cleaning supplies, needle depository, narcan, and money	\$3,870.00

		for purchasing healthy foods for street people in the zone. From local markets, such as at Lake and Bloomington, fruits, nuts, beef jerky, and other healthy foods will be purchased, bagged and distributed by the youth, along with Dr. Afflitto, to green zone homeless and the housed poor.	
Policy Work Plan Focus::: Self Determination and Accountability			
Community Holistic Healing Pop Ups	Collective of Healers	Provide 2 Community Holistic Healing Pop Up events during November and December. These events will gather independent community based Holistic Health Practitioners of different modalities (including, but not limited to: craniosacral therapy, acupuncture/acupressure, reiki, yoga) together in one location to offer free sessions to community members. These events will center queer, trans, two spirit, indigenous, black and people of color communities. These holistic health modalities are not usually covered by insurance and are difficult to access for folks with or without health insurance coverage. These modalities focus on connection – connection with ourselves, with each other and with our environment. These holistic health modalities support better stress management, decreased pain, awareness and embodiment. These events will be held at RARE Productions studio, near the South Side Green Zone and advertised to community members in the South Side Green Zone and neighboring areas.	\$7,500.00
Discover How to Uplift, Restore, Revive, and Recover the Somali Youth Narrative and Identity Through Culturally Competent Environmental Education	The Qalanjo Project	<p>Through a series of community-led conversations, we would like to identify what areas in environmental programming, planning, curriculum instruction, development, and most importantly community engagement processes Somali students are finding difficulty or great accessibility. We hope to also identify which cultural components students in this era find necessary beyond those we’ve identified in our curriculum instruction and development. Our intended outcome is to provide an opportunity to successfully promote Somali youth leadership, professional preparation, and self-discovery through cultural recovery and the environment.</p> <p>Timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - October - November: Training and workshops for community teachers to develop a curriculum/presentation that highlights the history of environmentally driven inequitable policies and plans in SSGZ where predominately Somali residents reside, work, play, and pray - November: Present the review of books, chapters, academic papers, plans, laws, news articles, blogs, and reports to community members, organizations, and businesses - December: Host convening focused on community-led mitigation efforts towards environmentally driven gentrification 	\$7,500.00
Revealing and Enforcing SSGZ's Health Impact Analysis	Women's Environmental Institute	We are proposing to recover and reveal the previously unpublished, publicly funded, Health Impact Analysis that was done for the Phillips Neighborhood in South Minneapolis over a three year period ending in 2018. We will be working to bring together representatives of the 6 community organizations that worked on the HIA in order to help the impacted residents it studied to gain their right-to-know the report's findings and recommendations. Initial inquiries show accessing that information to be very difficult. We will also work with the MN Dept of Health and MN Pollution Control Agency (the state funding agencies) to gain full access to the data, information, context and challenges involved. This	\$4,402.50

		proposal's most important activities will be to convene several neighborhood gatherings to report the findings/recommendations and then to help strategize community-based actions. We anticipate the need for community organizing support to carry forward the HIA's recommendations, to hold the appropriate public officials accountable and to empower the resident's authentic, community-led environmental justice initiatives--e.g. Roof Depot Project; Smith Foundry & Bituminous Roadway Relocations.	
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Appendix D

August 16th, 2019

To: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)

From: Residents and Members of the Southside Green Zones Council (Minneapolis)

Re: Comment to Volkswagen Settlement Phase 2 Resources - Target to Green Zones

We, as concerned constituents who are also members of the city-appointed Southside Green Zones Council, request that a significant portion of the \$47 million dollars the state of Minnesota is receiving from the federal Volkswagen settlement be targeted to areas in Minneapolis that are overburdened with air pollution and related health impacts, such as the Southside Green Zone.

Attached you will find areas of community priorities on air issues that were identified through a deep community engagement process through the Southside Green Zones process over the past few years. You will see a need for addressing transportation, truck, onsite and construction diesel emissions that are adding to the disproportionate air pollution burden in our community. Any grants allocated in the Southside Green Zone must have transparency and accountability to spaces such as the Southside Green Zone Council and other community-based organizations in the Green Zone.

We ask that the MPCA respond to this request in writing, on:

- How the Phase 2 plan for grant programs covering 2020–2023 will be actively reducing the cumulative air pollution (i.e. via MNRisks) in the Southside Green Zone area in a way that is conducive to the priorities outlined by the Land Use: Air & Soil South Side Council Policy Packet (draft as of 8/9/19) attached document.
- How the investments will not directly or indirectly subsidize polluting industry operations of which the community would like to transition out; and
- How the MPCA is working with community-based organizations in the Southside Green Zone to design and implement this plan.

Signed by:

Timothy Blighton
Karen Clark
Kowsar Mohamed
Viviana Rodriguez
Jason Chavez
Joseph Golish
Samara Adam
Cassandra Holmes
Scott Hergarten

Attachments:

- 1/ Land Use: Air & Soil South Side Green Zone Council Policy Packet (draft as of 8/9/19)
- 2/ Map of South Side Green Zone boundaries

Appendix E

August 28th, 2019

To: Minneapolis City Council Members and Minneapolis City Mayor
From: Southside Green Zones Council - appointed by Minneapolis City Council & Mayor
Re: Environmental Assessment Worksheet for proposed Hiawatha Expansion

The Southside Green Zone Council strongly supports the East Phillips Neighborhood's proposal to the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor that would require that an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) be completed before any further action be taken to move the proposed Hiawatha Expansion forward.

The Southside Green Zone Council further strongly supports a requirement that the draft recommendations (included in the City of Minneapolis' Southside Green Zones Task Force Final Report, January 2019) of the Phillips Neighborhood Green Zones Health Impact Assessment (HIA) be implemented before any further city action be taken to move the proposed Hiawatha Expansion forward.

Note that the cumulative health impact assessment recommended in the Phillips Neighborhood HIA was the result of more than two years of extensive study and community engagement. This HIA was funded by the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. It clearly restates the environmental justice intent of the ground-breaking MN Cumulative Health Impact Analysis law passed in 2008 for East Phillips Neighborhood. This HIA was a result of a collaborative initiative by a coalition of community organizations that included Nexus Community Partners, Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy, Hope Community, Isuroon, Land Stewardship Project and Waite House.

Members of the 2019-2020 Southside Green Zone Council include:

Scott Hargarten
Ashley O'Neil Prado
Cassandra Holmes
Jodi Vermillion
Joseph Golith
Timothy Blighton
Karen Clark
Kowsar Mohamed
Muhubo Mohamed

Viviana Rodriguez
Ariane Alvarado Rojas
Noel Navarro
Samara Adam
Amanda Saathoff
Jason Chavez
Megan Kuhl-Stennes
Jose Luis Villaseñor

Attachment:

- 1/ Map of Southside Green Zone boundaries
- 2/ City of Minneapolis' Southside Green Zones Task Force Final Report, January 2019

Appendix F

August 29th, 2019

To: Kim Havey, Director of Sustainability, City of Minneapolis

From: Southside Green Zones Council - appointed by Minneapolis City Council & Mayor

Re: Climate Action & Racial Equity Fund Collaborative (City of Minneapolis, McKnight Foundation, Minneapolis Foundation)

Dear Mr. Havey,

We, as members of the official city appointed Southside Green Zones Council, are writing in response to the Climate Action & Racial Equity Fund's framing and implementation process of its pilot 2019 funding opportunity. We were deeply concerned that none of our members (who are involved in our community as neighbors and activists) had known of the Fund's existence when it was brought to our attention at the June Southside Green Zones Council meeting by the Office of Sustainability at the City of Minneapolis. This was after the deadline of the first round of applications. Given that the fund states a priority for projects in the Southside Green Zones, this spoke to a deep gap in the transparency of the fund's design and process, despite its focus on racial equity.

While we appreciated the request that two of our members join the City of Minneapolis, Minneapolis Foundation and McKnight Foundation grant review committee, concerns arose out of that process. We request these concerns be rectified by the second round of funding in the fall. Concerns are:

Design of the Funding Opportunity.

- Criteria for proposal review did not have an equity framework that was clear to the SSGZ Council reviewers.
- Community leadership in the drafting and design of the grant framework was absent - we did not see the articulation of the priority areas of work outlined by past Southside Green Zones Taskforce or the current Southside Green Zones Council.
- The reference to the Minneapolis Climate Action plan did not include any of the environmental justice related goals related to reducing co-pollutants. The application was very jargon heavy, creating another barrier for community groups to see themselves in the work.

Engagement.

- Community knowledge of the first round was absent, severely limiting the access of the fund to the targeted community experiencing environmental and climate injustice.
- The timeframe was extremely short, with a week for the Southside Green Zones council to respond to the foundation's request for reviewers, as well as a short turn around for a review of the proposals. Our two reviewers were also not able to make the date of the final larger meeting that had already been planned by the time of their onboarding.
- We had to advocate for stipends for our reviewers - to honor their community knowledge and expertise, as playing this type of role for a foundation effort is not part of what they signed up for when joining the Southside Green Zones Council.

Review Process.

- There were reviewers reviewing southside green zones proposals who were not familiar with the environmental and equity issues the southside green zone faces.
- The reviews from the two southside green zones council members were averaged together, diluting their assessment; with low transparency on how final decisions would be made for investment in our community.
- Concern that there were only a few grant applications that fit the frame of the SSGZ (priority areas).

We understand this is a collaborative \$100,000 pilot initiative. We strongly encourage a philanthropic response to the climate and environmental injustice in the Southside Green Zone that is at par with the scale of the problem. The environmental disparities we face as a community has been institutionalized through decades of planning, decision-making and investment patterns that have sacrificed the health and well being of our community and families. We hope that the next generation of investments by government, philanthropy and private capital will work to fix this history and be done in partnership with the Southside Green Zone and other critical local groups already doing work in the area.

A much higher level of government and philanthropic resources are needed to achieve the sustainability and climate vision of the Southside green zones, a transition that must be grounded in justice. This is articulated in the Southside Green Zone's priorities on tangibly improving Air and Soil Quality, Healthy Food Access and Health in Energy in Housing intertwined with the social and economic priorities on Green Economy, Anti-displacement, Self-Determination, and Accountability. These all go hand in hand to ensure the people living here are benefiting and designing the investments in air, soil, food, housing, and energy.

We request that you share this letter with the City's collaborative partners at McKnight Foundation and the Minneapolis Foundation. We also request these concerns be rectified by the second round of funding in the fall. Thank you for responding to our concerns in writing, and your thoughtfulness and commitment to climate action and racial equity in the Southside Green Zone.

Sincerely,

--Southside Green Zones Council

Approved August 29, 2019

Appendix G

Consulting Policy Advisors: 2019 SSGZ Draft Policy Work Plan

Land Use: Air & Soil Reviewer: Kristie Ellickson

Kristie Ellickson joined the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in 2007 after completing her Ph.D. at Rutgers University and postdoctoral work at both Rutgers and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to her academic pursuits she was a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in the country of Panama. As a graduate student and post doc she conducted research on trace metal speciation and bioavailability in a variety of environmental matrices. Her work at the MPCA includes the incorporation of cumulative risk and impact assessment principles into regulatory risk, the review of human health risk assessments for large permitted facilities, and has been the lead investigator on an EPA community-scale air toxics grant targeting passive and active air sampling for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in an urban and rural environment. More recently she has been developing the statewide cumulative air pollution model, MNRISKS and creating data tools that help inform the prioritization of air pollution sources for emissions reduction work.

Health in Energy & Housing Reviewer: John Farrell

John Farrell directs the Energy Democracy Initiative at the Institute for Local Self-Reliance and is widely known as an expert in distributed energy policy. He is best known for his vivid illustrations of the economic and environmental benefits of local ownership of decentralized renewable energy. John authored Energy Self-Reliant States, a state-by-state atlas of renewable energy potential highlighted in the New York Times, showing that most states don't need to look outside their borders to meet their electricity needs. He's also written extensively on the economic advantages of Democratizing the Electricity System and community renewable energy, published a rich interactive map on solar grid parity, and polished the policies (like Minnesota's solar energy standard) necessary to support locally owned renewable energy development.

Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Reviewer: Elizabeth Glidden

Elizabeth Glidden served on the Minneapolis City Council from 2005 - 2017, including as Vice President, Chair of the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, a position that lobbies for the city at the State Capitol, and Chair of the Committee of the Whole, overseeing enterprise-wide policy and program matters at the City. First elected in 2005, Elizabeth has focused on transformational public policy change including authoring Minneapolis' paid sick time law (first in the State of Minnesota), Ranked Choice Voting election reform (first City in Minnesota to implement RCV), creating Minneapolis' first in nation Clean Energy Partnership with energy utilities, and directing City efforts on race equity plans and policies. Prior to her service on the City Council Elizabeth represented individuals as an employment and civil rights lawyer at Hedin, Goldberg & Glidden P.A for over ten years; today she continues to assist asylum applicants as a long-time volunteer for The Advocates for Human Rights. In March 2018, Elizabeth joined the Minnesota Housing Partnership as their Director of Strategic Initiatives and Policy.

Environmental Justice Policy Reviewer / Integration: Shalini Gupta

Shalini Gupta has been involved with energy, climate and environmental policy - with a focus on building frontline community capacity - for the past 20 years. Her work is centered on solutions to our ecological

crises that are grounded in people and place; and our economic and social histories. Through her consultancy work, Shalini works with a range of philanthropic, governmental and community-based organizations across the country. Her recent clients include: the Health & Environmental Funders Network (HEFN), Surdna Foundation, National Audubon Society (Washington D.C.), and work with the Providence, RI, Racial and Environmental Justice Committee in creating their [landmark municipal Climate Justice Plan](#). Shalini's past work experience includes research and policy positions at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, the Kiel Institute for the World Economy in Germany, and the Izaak Walton League of America's Energy Program. A former governor appointee to the Minnesota Next Generation Energy Board, Shalini has served as co-Chair of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice Board of Directors and on the founding leadership team of the Midwest Environmental Justice Network. Prior to starting her consulting work, Shalini was the co-founder and executive director of the Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy, an environmental justice research and policy organization. Her work helped develop Minneapolis' groundbreaking 2013 Climate Action Plan – which established the city's environmental justice focused Green Zones Initiative. She holds degrees from the University of Chicago (BA) and Yale University (MEM). Shalini's descends from the New Delhi area of India and lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota with her two children, husband, mother and extended family and friends. Website: www.sgupta.org

Healthy Food Access Reviewer: Zoe Hollomon

Zoe is an experienced Community Organizer and Community Planner with a demonstrated history of working with community-based organizations, academics institutions and foundations. Skilled in Food Systems planning, food policy and program development, she has primarily worked with under-represented communities in MN, NY and CA, to engage in the decision-making and systems that impact their lives. Zoe was formally trained as an Urban & Regional Planner at Cornell University and received her Masters of Science in Community Economic Development in 2007. In addition to consulting, Zoe coordinates a regional coalition, the Good Food Purchasing Twin Cities-MN Coalition, to influence institutional food spending and support a more equitable food economy. Zoe served two terms on the Homegrown Minneapolis Food Policy Council and is a Green for All Fellow.

Appendix H

Invited City Reviewers List and Bios

City Review Coordination: Kelly Muellman, Office of Sustainability

Kelly Muellman (she/her) is a Sustainability Program Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis. Kelly staffs the Minneapolis Green Zones environmental justice initiative, supports broader engagement of underserved residents in energy cost saving programs, and advances conversations on climate vulnerability and resilience in the city.

Green Economy & Anti-Displacement Reviewers

Anti-Displacement:

Andra Bosneag / Rose Lindsey / Kellie Rose Jones, Regulatory Services
Katie Topinka / Angie Skildum, CPED Housing
Paul Mogush / Heather Worthington, CPED Long Range Planning
Erik Hansen, CPED Economic Development
Mark Ruff, Chief Financial Officer and Interim City Coordinator

Green Economy

Markeeta Keyes / Patrick Hanlon (cc), Health Department
Marie Larson, CPED Business Development

Health in Energy & Housing Reviewer

Patrick Hanlon / Lisa Smestad / Alex Vollmer / Eliza Schell, Health Department
Kim Havey / Luke Hollenkamp / Stacy Miller, Sustainability Division
Andra Bosneag / Rose Lindsey / Kellie Rose Jones, Regulatory Services

Healthy Food Access Reviewer

Tamara Downs Schwei / Claire Baglien, Sustainability Division
Kristen Klingler, Health Department
Jim Doten / Patrick Hanlon, Health Department
Kellie Kish, Public Works

Land Use: Air & Soil

Patrick Hanlon, Health Department
Paul Mogush / Heather Worthington, CPED Long Range Planning
Erik Hansen, CPED Economic Development
Jen Swanson, Public Works
Kellie Kish, Public Works - Solid Waste & Recycling
Jeni Hager, Public Works - Transportation Planning
Gene Ranieri, Intergovernmental Relations

Self-Determination and Accountability

Joy Marsh-Stevens, Director of the Division of Race and Equity
Erik Hansen, CPED Economic Development
Mark Ruff, Chief Financial Officer and Interim City Coordinator

Staff bios (in alphabetical order)

Alex Vollmer: Project Coordinator for Minneapolis Health Department, Environmental Programs. Oversees the day-to-day activities associated with lead hazard control grants funded by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which aims to eliminate lead hazards for children and families living in Minneapolis homes.

- Exceeded 2012 grant production goal (200 properties) by 17%, assisting 234 dwelling units to reduce lead-based paint hazards, and received a “green” rating on all quarterly reports;
- Initiated cross-sector partnerships to broaden Minneapolis Health Department’s scope of services and deepen its impact;
- Streamlined spending reports and invoice management to better track the grant’s budget and expenditures.

Andra Bosneag: Interagency Coordinator for Regulatory Services. Acts as a liaison between Regulatory Services and all other City departments. Assists staff with policy changes, especially when they involve cross-departmental teams.

Angie Skildum: Manager of the Residential Finance group in the Housing Policy and Development division of the Community Planning and Economic Development department. Plans, administers, and monitors complex financing programs and projects designed to improve or redevelop multifamily affordable housing in Minneapolis, including city housing revenue bonds, low income housing tax credits, tax increment financing, affordable housing trust funds, emergency solutions grants, and other programs. Develops policies on housing issues, collaborates with business, development, and financing partners, and implements programs and financial mechanisms to assist multifamily housing development, preservation, and redevelopment. Manages staff of 13 and annual budget over \$14 million.

Claire Baglien: Urban Agriculture Programs Specialist for Homegrown Minneapolis in the Minneapolis Sustainability Division. Urban agriculture advocate growing and maintaining relationships with community and market gardeners leasing city-owned land through the Garden Lease Program. Advancing other urban agriculture projects, such as the Minneapolis Urban Agriculture Survey, and serving as a resource to the community.

Eliza Schell: Grant manager and environmental health specialist at the Minneapolis Health Department. Has 18 years of experience in environmental and public health. Has background in writing and managing Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants that contribute to decreasing disparities for low income families who live in distressed housing conditions. Sees the duty of the Minneapolis Health Department to close the equity gap in health disparities by creatively using financial resources to implement healthy homes opportunities for families that need the assistance the most.

Erik Hansen: Director of Economic Policy & Development at City of Minneapolis. Erik’s professional goal is to eliminate poverty without displacing people. He focuses on stimulating the local economy and reducing barriers for more equitable outcomes. Together with public and private partners, using his understanding of and influence in systems, he works to improve the overall living conditions of the community. With an unwritten future, he expects to leave the world better off than he found it.

Gene Rainere: Director Government Relations at City of Minneapolis

Heather Worthington: Director of Long Range Housing for City of Minneapolis. Provides leadership to the Long Range Planning Division, which is responsible for the Comprehensive Plan, Small Area Plans, Public Art, Historic Preservation and Parklet Program. One of a seven member leadership team at CPED. Self-described as a strong relator and connector, skilled at building unstoppable teams that successfully tackle large, complex projects. Racial equity accomplice.

Jenifer Hager: Director of Transportation Planning and Programming at City of Minneapolis. Oversees a division of the Public Works Department that is responsible for transportation planning, Public Works' participation on regional planning and capital improvement projects, development and management of Public Works' 5-Year Capital Improvement Program and asset management. Past Projects: Lake Street Reconstruction and Streetscape, Target Field, Hennepin/1st Two-way Conversion, 35W and Lake Street Transit Access Project AKA: 35@94: Downtown to Crosstown.

Jennifer Swanson: Public Works Interagency Coordinator at City of Minneapolis. Acts as a liaison between Public Works and all other City departments. Participated on the citywide Green Zone Working Group in 2016-2017 and has stayed involved with the Green Zones since. Previously worked as a City Council policy aide and for two neighborhood associations for over 10 years combined.

Jim Doten: Supervisor in Environmental Services, Minneapolis Health Department. Jim's unit is in charge of conducting environmental enforcement. Facilitates staff work on pollution reduction initiatives. Created standardized inspector training and performance validation program. Amended numerous environmental ordinances adopted by council. Developed biochar-compost based soil amendment to restore urban soil health. Created sustainable urban forestry study with University of Minnesota and Parks Board. Developing and evaluating techniques to reduce bio-accessibility of lead in urban soils.

Joy Marsh-Stevens: Director of the City of Minneapolis Division of Race and Equity. Joy leads the City in developing, communicating and executing enterprise plans related to eliminating racial and place-based disparities. Experienced racial equity leader with a demonstrated history of leading organizational and systems change in the government administration, financial services, healthcare, nonprofit, and education industries. Skilled in strategic planning, Six Sigma, team development, grants management, contract management, and leadership. Strong finance professional with Master of Education (M.Ed.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Katie Topinka: Housing Policy Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis. Staffs the Minneapolis Housing Advisory Committee. Works with the Director of Housing on policy initiatives and anti-displacement strategies. Formerly worked for Minnesota Housing (state agency) for over 6 six years.

Kellie Kish: Recycling Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis. In charge of Residential recycling including organics recycling for the City of Minneapolis. Helps coordinate the distribution of compost from the City's organics recycling program to community gardens through the Garden Lease Program in collaboration with Sustainability Division/Homegrown Minneapolis.

Kellie Rose Jones: Director of Housing Inspection Services for Regulatory Services. Kellie has helped lead Regulatory Services and rental inspections staff through a cultural transition from a property-owner-first to renters-first orientation. This worked has involved artist-led engagement and racial equity training. Kellie is trained in multiple facilitation methods, including Technology of Participation (ToP).

Kim Havey: Director of Sustainability for the City of Minneapolis. Kim's objective is to utilize his skills in sustainability, renewable energy, urban design and project management for the betterment of our community and the planet. Kim previously worked at the MN State Energy Office, was the Owner and CFO of Sustainable design and consulting firm, and worked for the City of Minneapolis on the Empowerment Zone Director.

Kristen Klingler: is a Public Health Specialist for the City of Minneapolis Health Department's Healthy Living Team. Kristen coordinates the implementation of numerous strategies designed to support policy, system, and environmental changes that increase access to healthy foods, particularly in low-income populations and communities of color.

Lisa Smestad: Manages the Healthy Homes Program for the City of Minneapolis Health Department. She oversees the Lead funding from the federal government, coordinates with Hennepin County Healthy Homes program, and supervises a newly reinstated Asthma Mitigation program.

Luke Hollenkamp: is a Sustainability Program Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Division. He staffs the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership and produces the annual Greenhouse Gas Emission reporting. Luke's passion is in ensuring our built environment and society sustainably exists in harmony with the natural environment. With ten years of energy and sustainability experience and degrees in mechanical engineering and environmental policy, Luke cultivates close collaboration with communities, stakeholders, and government staff and officials, to create, implement, and track sustainability and energy program goals.

Marie Larson: Industry Relations Manager for the City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development. Marie supports workforce development within the City of Minneapolis, working with area businesses to connect them with future employees and with residents to reach the training pathways to get hired. Marie has a demonstrated history of working in government administration, medical device manufacturing and nonprofit management.

Markeeta Keyes: is an Environmental Inspector for the City of Minneapolis Health Department. In addition to inspecting odor, noise and erosion violations, she is developing a renewable energy job pathways program for young adults and is an active member of the Northern Green Zone Task Force.

Mark Ruff: is the Chief Financial Officer and interim City Coordinator at the City of Minneapolis. Before joining the City of Minneapolis Mark worked for Ehlers, a municipal/financial advisory firm. For over 25 years he served as an advisor to cities, counties, and state/regional agencies, primarily in Minnesota, in the area of municipal bonds, real estate transactions, long-term financial planning, property tax policy, and special studies.

Patrick Hanlon: is the Director of Environmental Programs for the City of Minneapolis Health Department. Patrick oversees the Lead and Healthy Homes unit and the Environmental Services unit. The two programs have been incredibly successful in the last 10 years in addressing outdoor and indoor air quality in Minneapolis. The Division is looking to expand on the past success of both units and integrate their work to take on tough issues like lead poisoning, childhood asthma, urban air pollution, climate resiliency and climate change mitigation.

Paul Mogush: has been a Planner with the City of Minneapolis for nearly 15 years. He currently is the Manager of Community Planning for the Long Range Planning Division, supporting a team of planners responsible for the Minneapolis 2040 comprehensive plan, small area plans, and more.

Rose Lindsey: is the Manager of Community Engagement and Grants at City of Minneapolis Department of Regulatory Services. Rose is responsible for developing and executing the department's community engagement and communications plans as well as managing programs for both vulnerably housed homeowners and renters. Rose also provides day-to-day leadership and planning for grant opportunities and supports the department's Equity and Inclusion Team. She has over 20 years of strategic communications/ marketing, cultural outreach, and management experience.

Stacy Miller: is a Sustainability Program Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Division. She utilizes her 17 years' experience in the solar industry to advocate at the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and Minnesota Legislature to advance community interests in solar, utility rates and energy efficiency.

Tamara Downs Schwei: is the Food Policy and Homegrown Minneapolis Program Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Division. Lead and collaborate on development and implementation of initiatives building a healthier food system by improving the community's ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost healthy, local and sustainably grown food.