



MEMO

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To: Common Council
From: Dave Kittel, Director of Planning and Community Development
Date: 1/2/2025
Re: Green Tier Legacy Communities Program

Kaukauna Utilities has presented City staff with an opportunity to become a Green Tier Legacy Community. This is a program through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that may provide a plethora of resources and benefits to the City of Kaukauna. The program itself would assist the city to create a long-term plan to improve sustainability. A yearly report would be required to collect information to set a baseline for environmental performance and create goals to improve the City's performance. Some of the benefits of the program include:

- Special consideration for select state grants;
- Grant notifications and opportunities for joint grant applications;
- Peer-to-peer learning and resource sharing;
- An assigned DNR liaison;
- Access to the 'Sustainable Strategies' webinar series;
- Regional collaboration opportunities;
- Use of the Green Tier logo and statewide recognition; and,
- Free technical support from subject matter experts.

For more details on the program, reporting requirements and to see other municipalities participating in the program use the link below to the DNR's website:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/GreenTier/Participants/CharterPages/LegacyCommunities.html>

This opportunity directly aligns with the City's Strategic plan in the focus areas of sustainability and community of choice by providing additional resources to the City and Kaukauna Utilities to continue enhancing the City's commitment to sustainability.

Recommendation:

To adopt a resolution to join the Green Tier Legacy Communities