

Jan. 2023 >> to receive recognition from the GreenStep Cities program, you will need to report actions by logging into your GreenStep website account <<

determine your category; delete 2 extraneous columns before printing

Best Practice Actions	Initial inventory column: select which actions are completed, in-process, planned, not relevant.	Category C	Category B	Category A	
		Step 2 Recognition Minimums by Category			
		Complete any 4 Best Practices	Complete any 6 Best Practices	Complete any 8 Best Practices	
		Step 3 Recognition Minimums by Category			
Buildings & Lighting Best Practices Category: BPs 1 - 5		Any ONE of the 5 Building BPs needed for Step 3 recognition	BP #1 plus ONE other Building BP needed for Step 3 recognition	BP #1 plus ONE other Building BP needed for Step 3 recognition	
Best Practice #1: Efficient Existing Public Buildings		Optional BP	needed BP	needed BP	
1. Enter/update building information into the MN B3 Benchmarking database , and routinely enter monthly usage data for all city-owned buildings/infrastructure that consume energy/water .		If implementing this BP, complete at least any ONE action.	needed action	needed action	
2. Make no/low cost indoor lighting and operational changes in city-owned/school buildings to reduce energy costs .			needed action	needed action	
3. Invest in larger energy efficiency projects through performance contracting or other funding or through smaller retro-commissioning/retrofit projects in city-owned/school buildings.			needed: choose one additional BP action from actions (3) - (7)		
4. Implement information technology efforts and city employee engagement to reduce plug loads, building energy use and workflow efficiency .					
5. Document that the new construction or major remodeling of a public building has met the SB 2030 energy standard or has met or qualified under a green building or energy framework .					
6. Improve the operations & maintenance of city-owned/school buildings and leased buildings by using a customized online energy efficiency tool, asset management tool, green building framework or green lease .					
7. Install for one or more city-owned/school buildings one of the following efficiency measures : a. A ground-source, closed loop geothermal system. b. A district energy/microgrid system. c. A rainwater harvesting system for building water use.					
2. Efficient Existing Private Buildings		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP	
1. Create or participate in a marketing/outreach/incentive program to promote/achieve residential energy/water use reduction and energy efficiency .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.	
2. Integrate green building and EV charging best practices information and assistance into the building permit process .					
3. Implement an energy rating/disclosure policy for residential and/or commercial buildings.					
4. Describe energy/water efficiency actions and other green building practices at businesses and not-for-profit organizations located within/nearby the city .					
5. Conserve/protect drinking/groundwater resources by creating a water-wise landscaping ordinance/guidance, WaterSense purchasing program, or guidance on rainwater harvesting and home water softener use .					
6. Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who add energy/sustainability improvements, meet the SB 2030 energy standard, or renovate using a green building or energy framework .					
7. Customize a model sustainable building renovation policy that includes the SB 2030 energy standard and adopt the language to govern commercial renovation projects that: a. Receive city financial support, and/or b. Require city regulatory approval (conditional use permits, rezonings, variances, PUD status).					
3. New Green Buildings		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP	
1. Require by city policy that new city-owned buildings be built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1) or (2) and ...	
2. Work with the local school district to ensure that future new schools are built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework .					
3. Adopt a sustainable building policy for private buildings ; include the SB 2030 energy standard; adopt language governing new development projects that: a. Receive city financial support, and/or b. Require city regulatory approval (planned unit development, conditional use permit, rezoning, variance).				... complete at least ONE	

>>What category is my city in? See your city page for GreenStep City Category.

>> For each best practice, see the hyperlink listed to view detailed guidance, implementation tools and which cities are completing the actions.

4. Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who build new buildings that utilize the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework.				additional action (3) through (5).			
5. Adopt environmentally preferable covenant guidelines for new common interest communities addressing issues such as stormwater, greywater, native vegetation, growing food, clothes lines, electric vehicle charging, and renewable energy.							
4. Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP			
1. Require energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant new or replacement outdoor lighting fixtures on city-owned/private buildings and facilities.							
2. Purchase LEDs for all future street lighting and traffic signals.							
3. Replace the city's existing street lighting with Dark Sky-compliant LEDs, modifying any city franchise/utility agreement and adding smart grid attributes.							
4. Coordinate traffic signals and/or optimize signal timing so as minimize car idling at intersections yet maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this best practice, complete at least TWO actions, including one of actions (5) through (8).	If implementing this best practice, complete at least TWO actions, including one of actions (5) through (8).			
5. Use LED/solar-powered lighting for a flashing sign or in a street, parking lot or park project.							
6. Relamp/improve exterior building lighting for city-owned buildings/facilities with energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant lighting.							
7. Replace city-owned parking lot/ramp lighting with Dark-Sky compliant, energy efficient, automatic dimming lighting technologies.							
8. Replace the city's existing traffic signals with LEDs.							
5. Building Redevelopment	Optional BP				Optional BP	Optional BP	
1. Adopt an historic preservation ordinance/regulations to encourage adaptive reuse.							
2. Implement the Minnesota Main Street model for commercial revitalization.							
3. Plan for reuse of large-format retail buildings, or work with a local school, church or commercial building to either add-on space or repurpose space into new uses.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.			
4. Create/modify a green residential remodeling assistance/financing program to assist homeowners in adding space or features such as EV charging, renewables to their existing homes.							
5. Adopt development/design standards and programs that facilitate infill, redevelopment, and adaptable buildings.							
Land Use Category: BPs 6 - 10		BP #6 needed	BP #6 plus ONE other Land Use BP needed	BP #6 plus ONE other Land Use BP needed			
6. Comprehensive Plans		needed BP	needed BP	needed BP			
1. Adopt a comprehensive plan or (for Category B & C cities) adopt a future land use plan that was adopted by the county or a regional entity.		needed action	needed action	needed action			
2. Demonstrate that regulatory ordinances comply with the comprehensive plan including but not limited to having the zoning ordinance explicitly reference the comprehensive plan as the foundational document for decision making.			needed action	needed action			
3. Include requirements in comprehensive and/or other plans for intergovernmental coordination addressing regional land use and watershed/wellhead impacts, infrastructure, transportation, economic development and city/regional services.							
4. Include ecological provisions in the comprehensive plan that explicitly aim to minimize open space fragmentation and/or establish a growth area with expansion criteria.							
5. Adopt climate mitigation and/or energy independence goals and objectives in the comprehensive plan or in a separate policy document, and include transportation recommendations such as becoming an EV-ready city.							
7. Efficient City Growth		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP			
1. Eliminate barriers and actively encourage higher density housing by including in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map: a. Neighborhood single-family density at 7 units/acre or greater wherever urban services are available. b. Multi-family housing at a gross density of at least 15 units/acre adjacent to a commercial zoning district or transit node.							
2. Achieve higher density housing through at least two of the following strategies: a. Incorporate a flexible lot size/frontage requirement for infill development. b. Use density and floor area ratio (FAR) bonuses in selected residential zoning districts. c. Cluster residential development; tie a regulatory standard to comprehensive plan language defining compact city expansion zones that limit low-density development. d. Allowing accessory dwelling units, single-room occupancy housing, senior housing, co housing or tiny houses/apartments by right in selected zoning districts. e. Implement a vacation rental property registration policy and/or special tax.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.			
3. Achieve higher intensity commercial/industrial land uses through at least one of the following strategies: a. Include in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map a commercial district with zero-lot-line setbacks and a FAR minimum of 1.							

b. Set targets for the minimum number of employees/acre in different commercial zones.				
4. Provide incentives for affordable housing, workforce housing, infill projects, or for life-cycle housing at or near job or retail centers, or for achieving an average net residential density of seven units per acre.				
5. Use design to create social trust and interaction among neighbors and allow developments that meet the prerequisites for LEED for Neighborhood Development certification .				
8. Mixed Uses		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Organize or participate in a community planning/placemaking/design process for the city/a mixed use district, including specific community engagement practices that engage cultural and income diverse community members .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. Locate or lease a school, city building or other government facility that has at least two of these attributes: a. Adjacent to an existing employment or residential center. b. Designed to facilitate and encourage access by walking, biking, or other non-vehicle travel modes c. Accessible by regular transit service.				
3. Modify a planned unit development ordinance to emphasize or require mixed use development, to limit residential PUDs to areas adjacent to commercial development, and/or to add sustainability features .				
4. Report that a (re)development meets a city/community-determined minimum point threshold under the Equitable Development Scorecard or LEED-ND (Neighborhood Development) .				
5. Have a downtown zoning district that emphasizes small and destination businesses, entrepreneurial spaces, and allows or requires residential and compatible-commercial development.				
6. Incorporate form-based zoning approaches into the zoning code, in those areas where a diverse mix of uses is desired .				
7. Create incentives for vertical mixed-use development in appropriate locations (downtown, commercial districts near colleges or universities, historic commercial districts, commercial districts with minority-owned businesses).				
9. Efficient Highway- and Auto-Oriented Development		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Establish design goals for at least one highway/auto-oriented corridor/cluster.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Participate in regional economic development planning with representatives from surrounding townships, cities, the county and business interests to: a. Estimate commercial/industrial needs among all jurisdictions. b. Jointly implement recommendations to stage highway/auto-oriented commercial development in order to avoid overbuilding and expensive low-density development.				
3. Adopt infrastructure design standards that protect the economic and ecologic functions of the highway corridor through clustering of development, native plantings and incorporating access management standards .				
4. Adopt development policies for large-format developments , zoning for auto-oriented commercial districts at the sub-urban edge and/or in tightly defined and smaller urban development corridors/nodes that have some bike/walk/transit access.				
10. Design for Natural Resource Conservation		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment (NRI or NRA); incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources such as groundwater through the subdivision or development process .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. For cities outside or on the fringe of metropolitan areas, conduct a build-out analysis, fiscal impact study, or adopt an urban growth boundary and a consistent capital improvement plan that provides long-term protection of natural resources and natural systems, and agricultural practices outside the boundary .				
3. For cities within metropolitan areas, incorporate woodland best management practices addressing protection of wooded areas into zoning or development review.				
4. Adopt a conservation design policy ; use a conservation design tool for pre-design meetings with developers and for negotiating development agreements in cities with undeveloped natural resource areas .				
5. Preserve environmentally sensitive, community-valued land by placing a conservation easement on city lands, and by encouraging/funding private landowners to place land in conservation easements .				
6. Conserve natural, cultural, historic resources by adopting or amending city codes and ordinances to support sustainable sites , including roadsides, and environmentally protective land use development .				
7. Support and protect wildlife through habitat rehabilitation, preservation and recognition programs.				

Transportation Category: BPs 11 - 14		Any ONE of the 4 Transportation BPs needed	Any ONE of the 4 Transportation BPs needed	BP #11 and BP #12 needed
11. Living & Complete Streets		Optional BP	Optional BP	needed BP
1. Adopt a complete streets policy , or a living streets policy, which addresses landscaping and stormwater.		If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1).	If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1), and ...	Complete action (1), and ...
2. Adopt zoning language or approve a skinny street/development project that follows green street and/or walkable streets principles .				
3. Modify a street in compliance with the city's complete streets policy.				
4. Identify, prioritize and remedy complete streets gaps and lack of connectivity/safety within your road network by, for example, bike/pedestrian plan, adding a bike route/lane, truck route, sidewalk or mid-block alley.			... complete ONE additional action.	... complete TWO additional actions.
5. Identify and remedy street-trail gaps between city streets and off-road trails/bike trails to better facilitate walking and biking.				
6. Implement traffic calming policy/measures , including lane conversions (road diets), roundabouts, low-speed streets, shared space and depaving, in at least one street redevelopment project.				
12. Mobility Options		Optional BP	Optional BP	needed BP
1. Increase walking, biking and transit use by one or more of the following means: a. Document increased infrastructure for pedestrians, bikers, and public transit users. b. Increase the number of employers promoting multiple commuting options. c. Be recognized as a Walk Friendly, Bicycle Friendly, or Age Friendly Community.				
2. Conduct an Active Living campaign such as a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	Complete at least TWO actions.
3. Prominently promote mobility options : public transit; paratransit/Dial-A-Ride; cab services; rental cars; bike lanes; trails; airports.				
4. Promote carpooling, ridesharing, carsharing, and bikesharing				
5. Implement workplace multi-modal transportation best management practices - including telework/flexwork - in city government, businesses or at a local health care provider.				
6. Add/expand public transit service .				
13. Efficient City Fleets		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Efficiently use your existing fleet of city vehicles by encouraging trip bundling, video conferencing, carpooling, vehicle sharing and incentives/technology.				
2. Right-size/down-size the city fleet with the most fuel-efficient vehicles that are of an optimal size and capacity for their intended functions.				
3. Phase-in operational changes, equipment changes including electric vehicles , and non-idling practices for city or local transit fleets.				
4. Phase in bike, e-bike, foot or horseback modes for police, inspectors and other city staff.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
5. Document that the local school bus fleet has optimized routes, start times, boundaries, vehicle efficiency and fuels, driver actions to cut costs including idling reduction, and shifting students from the bus to walking, biking and city transit.				
6. Retrofit city diesel engines or install auxiliary power units and/or electrified parking spaces, utilizing Project GreenFleet or the like.				
14. Demand-Side Travel Planning		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Reduce or eliminate parking minimums ; add parking maximums; develop district parking.				
2. For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for thesiting of retail services at transit/density nodes .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
3. For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for thesiting of higher density housing at transit/density nodes .				
4. Require new developments or redevelopments to prepare a travel demand management plan or transit-oriented development standards or LEED for Neighborhood Development certification.				
Environmental Management Category: BPs 15 - 23		BP # 15 needed	BP #15 and BP #16 and ONE other BP needed	BP #15, BP #16, BP #17 and ONE other BP needed
15. Sustainable Purchasing		needed BP	needed BP	needed BP
1. Adopt a sustainable purchasing policy or administrative guidelines/practices directing that the city purchase at least: a. EnergyStar and EPEAT certified equipment and appliances. b. Paper containing post-consumer recycled content.		needed action	Complete action (1), and ...	Complete action (1), and ...

2. Purchase energy used by city government - via the municipal utility, green tags, community solar garden, 3rd party - with a higher renewable percentage than required by <u>Minnesota law</u> complete at least ONE additional action.	... complete at least ONE additional action.			
3. Establish purchasing preferences that support local, Minority, Disability, and Women-Owned businesses and, working with a local business association, develop a list of locally produced products and suppliers for common purchases.							
4. Require purchase of U.S. EPA WaterSense -certified products.							
5. Set minimum sustainability standards to reduce the impact of your concrete use, asphalt, roadbed aggregate, or other construction materials .							
6. Require printing services to be purchased from companies participating in Printing Industry Midwest's Great Green Printer initiative, or certified by the Sustainable Green Printing Partnership .							
7. Lower the environmental footprint of meetings and events in the city.							
8. Use national green standards/guidelines for purchasing/investments such as cleaning products, furniture, flooring/coatings.							
16. Community Forests and Soils		Optional BP			needed BP	needed BP	
1. Certify as a Tree City USA .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	Complete at least ONE action.	Complete at least TWO actions.			
2. Adopt best practices for urban tree planting/quality , require them in private developments and/or use them in at least one development project.							
3. Budget for and achieve resilient urban canopy/tree planting goals .							
4. Maximize tree planting along your main downtown street or throughout the city.							
5. Adopt a tree preservation or native landscaping ordinance.							
6. Build community capacity to protect existing trees by one or more of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Having trained tree specialists. b. Supporting volunteer forestry efforts. c. Adopting an EAB management plan/climate adaptation plan for the urban forest 							
7. Conduct a tree inventory or canopy study for public and private trees.							
17. Stormwater Management					Optional BP	Optional BP	needed BP
1. Adopt and use Minnesota's Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS) .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	Complete at least ONE action.			
2. Complete the GreenStep Municipal Stormwater Management Assessment .							
3. Adopt by ordinance one or more of the following stormwater infiltration/management strategies to reduce impervious surface: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A narrower streets provision that permits construction of 24-foot roads for public, residential access and subcollector streets (with fewer than 400 average daily trips) b. Use of pervious pavements for streets, trails, parking areas, and sidewalks. c. For sites less than one acre, retain the water quality volume of 1.1 inches of runoff from all impervious surfaces for new and fully-redeveloped construction sites. d. For non-MS4 permittees, adopt an illicit discharge prohibition rule or ordinance and an erosion and sediment control ordinance. Sponsor a robust Adopt-a-Drain program. 							
4. Create a stormwater utility that uses variable fees to incentivize stormwater infiltration, minimize the volume of and pollutants in runoff, and educate property owners and renters on the importance of managing stormwater runoff .							
5. Adopt and implement guidelines or design standards/incentives for at least one of the following stormwater infiltration/reuse practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Rain gardens/infiltration practices. b. Rainwater harvesting practices. c. Green alleys or green parking lots. d. Pervious/permeable pavement or pavers. e. Green roofs / green walls. f. Tree trenches / tree boxes. g. Incorporate compost and/or native plants into landscape design. 							
6. Improve smart-salting by reducing chloride use in winter maintenance and dust suppressants to prevent permanent surfacewater and groundwater pollution.							
18. Parks and Trails					Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Make improvements within your city's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces.							
2. Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails for areas where new development is planned.							
3. Achieve minimum levels of city green space and maximize the percent within a ten-minute walk of community members .							
4. Adopt low-impact design standards in parks and trails that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site.							

5. Create park/city land management standards/practices that maximize at least one of the following: a. Low maintenance turf management; native landscaping; organic or integrated pest management; pollinator/monarch-safe policies. b. Recycling/compostables collection; use of compost as a soil amendment. c. Sources of nonpotable water, or surface/rain water, for irrigation.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.	If implementing this BP, complete at least THREE actions.
6. Certify at least one golf course in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.				
7. Document that the operation and maintenance, or construction/remodeling , of at least one park building used an asset management tool, the SB 2030 energy standard, and/or a green building framework .				
8. Develop a program to involve community members in hands-on land restoration, invasive species management, and stewardship projects.				
19. Surface Water		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Consistently monitor surface water quality/clarity and report findings to community members.		If a city has at least one state-designated public water body within its boundaries and chooses to implement this best practice, complete action (4) and at least ONE additional action. *** If a city has no state-designated public water body and chooses to implement this best practice, complete any ONE of the actions.	If a city has at least one state-designated public water body within its boundaries and chooses to implement this best practice, complete action (4) and at least ONE additional action. *** If a city has no state-designated public water body and chooses to implement this best practice, complete any ONE of the actions.	If a city has at least one state-designated public water body within its boundaries and chooses to implement this best practice, complete action (4) and at least ONE additional action. *** If a city has no state-designated public water body and chooses to implement this best practice, complete any ONE of the actions.
2. Conduct or support multi-party community conversations , assessments, plans and actions around improving local water quality and quantity .				
3. Adopt and report on measurable, publicly announced surface water improvement targets for lakes, rivers, wetlands and ditches.				
4. Adopt a shoreland ordinance for all river and lake shoreland areas.				
5. Adopt goals to revegetate shoreland and create a local program or outreach effort to help property owners with revegetation.				
6. Implement an existing TMDL implementation plan .				
7. Create/assist a Lake Improvement District .				
8. Reduce flooding damage and costs through the National Flood Insurance Programs and the NFIP's Community Rating System.				
20. Efficient Water and Wastewater Facilities		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Compare the energy use and financial performance of your facilities with other peer plants using standardized, free tools .		If a city provides drinking water services and chooses to implement this best practice, complete at least actions (1) and (2), or ...	If implementing this best practice, complete actions (1) and (2) and ...	If implementing this best practice, complete actions (1) and (2) and ...
2. Plan and budget for motor maintenance and upgrades to assure the most energy efficient, durable and appropriate equipment is available when upgrades or break downs occur.				
3. Establish an on-going budget and program for decreasing inflow and infiltration into sewer lines and losses in drinking water systems .				
4. Optimize energy and chemicals use at drinking water/wastewater facilities and decrease chloride in wastewater discharges action (4).	... at least ONE additional action.	... at least ONE additional action.
6. Implement a wastewater plant efficiency project (co-generation, water reuse) or a program for local private business operations (water conservation, water reuse, business co-location).				
7. Create a demand-side pricing program to reduce demands on water and wastewater systems.				
21. Septic Systems		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Report to landowners suspected noncompliant or failing septic systems as part of an educational, informational and financial assistance and outreach program designed to trigger voluntary landowner action to improve septic systems.				
2. Use a community process to address failing septic systems.				
3. Clarify/establish one or more responsible management entities (RMEs) for the proper design, siting, installation, operation, monitoring and maintenance of septic systems.				
4. Adopt a subsurface sewage treatment system ordinance based on the Association of Minnesota Counties' model ordinance .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
5. Create a program to finance septic system upgrades.				
6. Work with homeowners and businesses in environmentally sensitive areas and areas where standard septic systems are not the least-cost option to promote innovative waste water systems , including central sewer extensions.				
7. Arrange for assistance to commercial, retail and industrial businesses with water use reduction, pollution prevention and pretreatment prior to discharge to septic.				
22. Sustainable Consumption and Waste		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Improve city operations and procurement to prevent and reuse, recycle and compost waste from all public facilities (including libraries, parks, schools, municipal health care facilities), and minimize use of toxics and generation of hazardous waste.				
2. Address concerns over consumer products and packaging through encouragement/implementation of one or more of: a. Education on needless consumption, waste prevention and alternatives, including product stewardship / producer responsibility.			If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE of	If implementing this BP, complete at least action (1) or (2), and ...

b. Reuse options.			actions (1) through (3), and at least ONE of actions (4) through (8).
c. Recycling / composting options.				
d. Credits, fees.				
e. Mandates, bans.				
3. Improve profitability, legal compliance and conserve resources through adoption of ordinance language, licensing and resource management contracts .		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.		
4. Publicize, promote and use the varied businesses/services collecting and marketing used, repaired and rental consumer goods , especially electronics, in the city/county.			... at least ONE of actions (4) through (8).	... at least ONE of actions (4) through (8).
5. Arrange for a residential and/or business/institutional source separated organics collection/management program .				
6. Improve recycling services and expand to multi-unit housing and commercial businesses.				
7. Improve/organize residential trash, recycling and organics collection by private and/or public operations and offer significant volume-based pricing on residential garbage and/or incentives for recycling.				
8. Adopt a construction and demolition ordinance governing demolition permits that requires a level of recycling and reuse for building materials and soil/land-clearing debris.				
23. Local Air Quality		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Replace small internal combustion engine lawn and garden equipment (e.g. lawnmowers, weed whips, etc.) with lower polluting equipment .				
2. Reduce residential burning of wood and yard waste and eliminate 'backyard' trash burning.				
3. Decrease air emissions from vehicle idling, business trucking, and pollutants/noise from stationary engines/back-up generators.				
5. Install, assist with and promote publicly available EV charging stations or public fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles.				
		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
Economic & Community Development Category: BPs 24 - 29		BP #24 and BP #29 needed	BP #24, BP #25, and BP# 29 needed	BP #24, BP #25, and BP# 29 needed
24. Benchmarks & Community Engagement		needed BP	needed BP	needed BP
1. Inclusive and Coordinated Decision-Making: Use a city commission or committee to lead, coordinate, report to and engage community members on the identification and equitable implementation of sustainability best practices.		needed action	Complete action (1), and ...	needed action
2. Communicating Progress on Goals: Organize goals/outcome measures from all city plans (social, environmental, economic) and report to community members data that show progress toward meeting these goals.				needed action
3. Measuring Outcomes: Engage community members and partners in identifying, measuring, and reporting progress on key sustainability and social indicators/ including energy use/greenhouse gas emissions, social vitality/social inclusion outcome measures.				
4. Public Education for Action: Conduct or support a broad sustainability education and action campaign, building on existing city & community relationships, networks & events involving: a. The entire community, community leaders b. Homeowners, manufactured home communities, landlords and tenants c. Community-based organizations, block clubs, neighborhood associations, front yards/sidewalks d. Congregations. e. Schools, colleges.			... complete at least ONE additional action.	
5. Planning with a Purpose: Conduct a community visioning and planning initiative that engages a diverse set of community members & stakeholders and uses a sustainability, resilience, or environmental justice framework such as: a. Strong Towns, Resiliency, Transition, Appreciative Inquiry. b. Eco-municipalities, Smart Cities, Healthy Communities. c. Environmental Justice, Race Equity, Equitable Development.				
6. Engaging the Next Generation: Engage wide representation of community youth and college students by creating opportunities to participate in city government (including commissions).				
7. Expanding Community Engagement: Engage Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), renters, low-income, new Americans, differently abled and other traditionally under-represented community members by encouragement, and support to participate in current and new opportunities in city government.				
25. Green Business Development		Optional BP	needed BP	needed BP
1. Grow new/emerging green businesses and green jobs through targeted assistance and new workforce development .				
2. Create or participate in a marketing/outreach program to connect businesses with assistance providers , including utilities, who provide personalized energy, waste or sustainability audits and assistance.				

3. Promote sustainable tourism in your city, and green tourism resources to tourism and hospitality businesses in/around the city.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	Complete at least TWO actions.	Complete at least TWO actions.
4. Strengthen value-added businesses utilizing local "waste" material.				
5. Lower the environmental footprint of a brownfield remediation/redevelopment project beyond regulatory requirements; report brightfield projects.				
6. Promote green businesses that are recognized under a local, regional or national program.				
7. Conduct or participate in a buy local campaign for community members and local businesses.				
26. Renewable Energy		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Adopt wind energy and/or biomass ordinances that allow, enable or encourage appropriate renewable energy installations.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.	If implementing this BP, complete at least TWO actions.
2. Promote resident/business purchases and/or generation of clean energy by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Promoting a local/municipal utility's green power purchasing program that allows residents/businesses to order/buy new renewable energy. b. Creating and sharing a map of the community's solar resource and/or linking to the MN Solar Suitability App. c. Connecting residents/businesses with the Clean Energy Project Builder for potential installers. d. Hosting a community-wide solar bulk-buy program or campaign (also called "solarize programs"). 				
3. Promote financing and incentives programs such as PACE for clean energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. PACE for commercial property owners to install renewable energy systems, energy efficiency measures and EV charging infrastructure for existing or new construction. b. Local, state and federal financial incentives for property owners to install renewable energy systems. c. Local utility renewable energy production incentives and rebates. 				
4. Support a community solar garden or help community members participate in a community renewable energy project by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Serving as a host site for a community solar garden. b. Facilitating development, by the municipal utility or other entity, of a community solar garden for residents. c. Participating in a community solar garden to ensure accessibility and availability to low-income residents. 				
5. Install a public sector/municipally-owned renewable energy technology, such as solar electric (PV), wind, biomass, solar hot water/air, micro-hydro.				
6. Report installed private sector-owned renewable energy/energy efficient generation capacity with at least one of the following attributes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Fueled by flowing water, sun, wind, or biogas. b. Fueled in part or whole by manure or woody (EAB) biomass, optimized for minimal air and other environmental impacts and for energy efficiency and water conservation. c. Distributing heating/cooling services in a district energy system. d. Producing combined heat and power; using a microgrid. e. Energy storage integrated into a renewable energy installation. 				
7. Become a solar-ready community , including adopting ordinance/zoning language and an expedited permit process for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems.				
27. Local Food		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP
1. Incorporate working landscapes - agriculture and forestry - into the city by adopting an ordinance for one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An agriculture and forest protection district. b. A local food production district. c. Incubator farms, emerging farmers, and land access. 		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
2. Facilitate creation of home/community gardens, chicken & bee keeping , and incorporation of food growing areas/access in multifamily residential developments.				
3. Create, assist with and promote local food production/distribution within the city: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A farmer's market or co-op buying club. b. An urban agriculture business or a community-supported agriculture (CSA) arrangement between farmers and community members/employees. c. A community or school garden, orchard or forest. 				
4. Measurably increase institutional buying and sales of foods and fibers that are local, Minnesota-grown, organic, healthy, humanely raised, and grown by fairly compensated growers.				
5. Assess, plan for, and enhance the community's local food system .				
28. Business Synergies and EcoDistricts		Optional BP	Optional BP	Optional BP

2. Document that at least one business/building uses waste heat or water discharge from another business or conducts materials exchange activities with another organization .				
3. Require, build or facilitate at least four attributes in a business/industrial park project : a. Shared parking/access, electric vehicle charging for 3% of parking and/or synchronized with solar generation. b. Green product development, manufacturing or sales OR a green job training c. Buildings located within walking distance of transit and/or residential zoning. d. Renovated buildings, buildings designed for reuse, shared recreation/childcare facilities. e. Green buildings built to Minnesota's SB2030 energy standard OR renewable energy generated on-site. f. Combined heat and power (CHP) generation capacity, shared geothermal heating/cooling, microgrid OR energy storage. g. Low-impact site development.		If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.	If implementing this BP, complete at least ONE action.
4. Use 21st century ecodistrict tools to structure, guide and link multiple green and sustainable projects together in a mixed-use neighborhood/development, or innovative district, aiming to deliver superior social, environmental and economic outcomes.				
29. Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience		needed BP	needed BP	needed BP
1. Prepare to maintain public health and safety during extreme weather and climate-change-related events, while also taking a preventive approach to reduce risk for community members .		needed action	needed action at a 2- or 3-star rating	needed action at a 2- or 3-star rating
2. Integrate climate resilience into city or tribal planning, policy, operations, and budgeting processes .				
3. Increase social connectedness through engagement, capacity building, public investment, and opportunities for economically vulnerable residents to improve their economic prosperity and resilience to climate change .				
4. Encourage private sector action and incentivize investment in preventive approaches that reduce risk and minimize impacts of extreme weather and the changing climate for human health and the built environment .				
5. Protect public buildings and natural/constructed infrastructure to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events .				
6. Reduce the urban heat impacts of public buildings, sites, and infrastructure and provide resiliency co-benefits .				
7. Protect water supply and wastewater treatment facilities to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events .				
8. Improve local energy resilience by minimizing fuel poverty, installing distributed renewable energy systems, and developing microgrids that can improve energy system resiliency .				