



Green Initiatives In Progress

Climate

Goal

Departments

Reduce volatile organic (VOC) emission for municipal operations by using low VOC cleaners, paints, and paving practices

PW

Coordinate resiliency efforts with federal, state and regional planning agencies

PW

Assess infrastructure and public safety threats from extreme weather events

PW

ASD = Administrative Services
 CD = Community Development
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Economic Development

Goal

Departments

Promote local goods and services

ED

Create and promote a community brand featuring natural resources or cultural characteristics of community

ED

Promote tourism featuring natural and cultural assets of the community

ED

Promote the economic prosperity of the community

ED

Economic Development

Goal

Departments

Advocate for expanded job opportunities and sufficient wages

ED

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Energy

Goal

Departments

Conduct retro-commissioning studies to optimize public facility performance

PW

Implement energy efficiency measures that have short-term payback (i.e. lighting, occupancy sensors)

FD, PD

Implement energy efficiency measures that have a longer-term payback

PW

Budget and plan for long-term energy efficiency equipment upgrades

PW

Promote the use of ENERGY STAR certified appliances and equipment

FD, PD

Land

Goal

Departments

Reduce sprawl by promoting infill development to reduce adverse impact on natural resources and infrastructure demands

CD, ED

Encourage the development of compact and complete residential neighborhoods

CD

Redevelop underutilized or contaminated properties

CD, ED

Prioritize redevelopment projects and infrastructure investment for transit-served locations

CD, ED

Land

Goal

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Pursue transit oriented development and transit-supportive land uses in new development

CD, ED

Enforce soil erosion and sediment control regulations for construction sites

PW

Collaborate with private property owners to create vibrant public gathering spaces (place making)

CD

Collaborate with park and forest preserve districts

CD, PW

Collaborate to create and maintain hiking, biking, cone and other recreational trails

ED, PW

Develop and implement a management plan to assure a long term vitality of the urban forest

PW

Maintain the health of trees on public right of ways

PW

Assess structural integrity of trees and proactively mitigate risks through strategic removal and other actions

PW

Continually plant hardy, site-appropriate trees to meet tree canopy goals

PW

Engage resident in public stewardship through cost-share planting programs

PW

Using canopy analysis data, strategically plant trees to optimize public health and storm water benefits

PW

Land

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Diversify the urban forest for long term resilience

PW

Earn recognition for urban forest stewardship as a Tree City USA

PW

Optimize tree planting and protect existing trees for maximum carbon storage/sequestration and energy savings

PW

Maintain beautiful landscapes and streetscapes to enhance gateways, business districts and important public spaces

ED, PD

Adopt codes and incentives that guide sustainable development that maximized social benefits and minimized infrastructure demands

CD

Modify zoning and building regulations to allow mixed-use

CD

Promote site design that encourages the development of vibrant, walkable, commercial areas

CD

Protect key natural assets and open space through zoning and planned use unit developments

CD

Integrate resiliency strategies into development policies and plans

CD, ED

Engage the community in programs and special events to celebrate nature, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day

PW

Land

Goal

Departments

Educate city staff about forest, wetlands, and prairie best management practices

PW

Encourage beautiful, sustainable landscaping on private property

ED

Engage residents through a natural resources, conservation and/or tree commissions

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Leadership

Goal

Departments

Report local and regional environmental data to advance national and international collaborative efforts (e.g., GHG reporting, water supply planning)

PW

Mobility

Goal

Departments

Identify gaps in pedestrian and the bicycle networks and barriers to active modes of travel

CD, PW

Implement recommendation from the bicycle and pedestrian plan

CD, ED

Collaborate with regional partners to connect on an off road bicycle facilities with existing and planned regional trail networks

ED

Provide bicycle parking at municipal facilities, business districts and transit stations and in neighborhoods

ED

Maintain streets and sidewalks for efficiency and safety without harming natural resources

PW

Mobility

Goal

Departments

Maintain efficient traffic flow within and around the community

PD

Synchronize traffic signals to reduce vehicle idling

PW

Incorporate sustainable roadways into capital improvement planning, proactively plan for major transportation infrastructure improvements

PW

Coordinate with regional transportation agencies to maximize bicycle, pedestrian, vehicular transit, and rail connectivity and mobility

ED

Incorporate trees and other green infrastructure elements into roadway design and maintenance for functionality and aesthetics

PW

Support regional transportation innovation

ED

Support coordinated investment to improve efficiency in passenger and freight railroads

ED

Seek both public and private partnership to finance transportation system improvements

ED

Strategically manage parking policies and priorities to advance sustainability

ED

Enact and enforce anti-idling policies for public fleet vehicles

FD

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Mobility

| Goal | Departments |
|------|-------------|
|------|-------------|

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|---|----|
| Adapt engineering standards to incorporate sustainable practices into roadway construction and maintenance while assuring public safety | PW |
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| Adopt a Complete Streets policy to benefit all road users | PW |
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| Collaborate to maintain and enhance transit facilities | PW |
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| Collaborate to expand regional transit capacity and improve service | PW |
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| Encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike | ED |
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| Promote the availability of regional transit options | ED |
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Municipal Operations

| Goal | Departments |
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| Educate and train staff on sustainability initiatives | PW |
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| Extend useful life of physical assets | PW |
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| Integrate sustainability into capital planning | PW |
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|---|----|
| Inventory, assess and manage municipal assets sustainably | PW |
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| Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet | PW |
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Sustainable Communities

| Goal | Departments |
|------|-------------|
|------|-------------|

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|---|----|
| Preserve and maintain the community's historic assets | CD |
|---|----|

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Sustainable Communities

Goal

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Formalize support for culture and the arts ED

Engage community volunteers through an arts/culture-oriented citizen advisory group ED

Protect all residents from the effects of pollution PW

Create a community that is resilient and well-prepared for disaster FD, PW

Ensure high quality essential human services programs are available and utilized PD

Collaborate with state and federal partners to prepare for and respond to pest and disease treats to public health PD

Prioritize safe practices and collaborate to reduce accidental injuries and death FD, PD

Integrate planning, policies, and programs to accommodate residents of all ages and abilities FD, PD, CD

Cultivate and preserve a welcoming and inclusive community character ED

Promote diversity of housing stock accessible to diverse residents CD

Distribute public services and resources equitably in the community FD, PD, PW

Identify existing Code impediments and sustainable building and site best practices CD

Sustainable Communities

Goal Departments

Revise and/or develop codes to promote sustainable building and site practices CD

Participate in regional and national sustainability networks PW

Establish or strengthen an inter and intra/agency Green Team PD

Engage residents in sustainability initiatives through an environmentally-focused citizen advisory group ASD

Host Environmentally focused events ASD

Encourage residents and businesses to contribute their time and resources to sustain the community ASD

Waste and Recycling

Goal Departments

Promote and practice waste reduction and recycling in municipal operations PD

Reduce the use of paper in municipal offices FD

Support the proper disposal of pharmaceutical and personal care product waste PD

Support proper disposal of fats, oils, and grease PW

Support proper disposal of electronic waste FD, PD

Organize community wide clean up day PW

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Water

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Implement water efficiency measures at all municipal facilities PW

Encourage residents and businesses to identify and mitigate water loss PW

Participate in regional efforts and programs to conserve water PW

Protect surface and groundwater from runoff and contamination PW

Use sensible salting strategies to reduce chloride contamination PW

Collaborate with regional initiatives to protect Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River PW

Label storm drains indicating the destination of discharge PW

Control water loss by auditing water supply system using AWWA protocols PW

Periodically detect system leaks and develop a strategic plan for repair PW

Comprehensively and sustainably manager water infrastructure PW

Develop a water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system PW

Implement the water infrastructure asset management plan to sustain the system PW

Meter 100% of customers with automated reading technology PW

Water

Goal Departments

Detect and repair water system leaks PW

Repair and replace inefficient water supply infrastructure PW

Invest water revenues into sustaining water infrastructure PW

Coordinate street, utility, and water infrastructure projects PW

Riparian communities: collaborate with other agencies to assess dam performance and support removal when feasible PW

Implement green infrastructure best management practices on municipal projects PW

Build or retrofit paved surfaces with permeable materials PW

Inventive overhead basement sewer conversion PW

Enhance natural features of storm water detention and retention systems PW

Collaborate with regional and state agencies to sustainably manage storm water PW

Allow flexibility (off-site management, payment-in-lieu) to allow developments to meet storm water management requirements sustainably PW

Participate in watershed planning and stewardship efforts PW

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Water

Goal

Departments

Support regional and statewide water supply planning and stewardship

PW

Contribute local data on water supply, quality and operations to support state and regional stewardship

PW

Educate and support the community to conserve water

PW

Educate the community on the value of clean and safe drinking water

PW

Educate customers about public water supply and wastewater operations through media and events

PW

Educate the community on benefits and practices of green infrastructure

PW

Educate and support the community in preparing for and managing floods.

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