City of Saint Cloud

Background Information

County: Stearns

Population: 67,136

GreenStep City category: A

Full-time equivalent city staff (approx.): 437

Participating township(s) / school district(s):

GreenStep Coordinator

Matt Glaesman
City staff
Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us
320-255-7218

City web page relating to sustainability/GreenStep activities:
www.ci.stcloud.mn.us

GreenStep City resolution: Click here to view the file.

GreenStep City status and date: STEP 2 (06/13/2011)

Best Practice Actions Underway and Completed

Completed actions are denoted by stars. Mouse over a star for its definition.

Buildings and Lighting

Efficient Existing Public Buildings { BP no. 1 }

Action 1: Enter baseline information into the **Minnesota B3 Benchmarking database** and routinely enter monthly energy use data from all city-owned buildings.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud conducted a detailed assessment of all City facilities in 2004. In addition to determining existing conditions and future space needs, it includes energy recommendations. Also, the St. Cloud Area Sustainability Framework Plan includes Greenhouse Gas Reduction as a best practice area and an action to enter public building data into the MN B3 database and rank buildings in regard to energy performance. Benchmarking data will be entered in the MN B3 database beginning in June, 2011.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/Sustain.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Action 2: Make no/low cost **facility operations & maintenance** changes to city-owned/school buildings to reduce energy costs.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
To be completed after the B3 data has been entered and analyzed.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 5: Document that the new construction or major remodeling of a public building has met or qualifies under a green building framework.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
With the recent construction of the St. Cloud Public Library, the St. Cloud Police Department, Kennedy Community School and the Stearns County Westside Service Center, GLT Architects has helped the City of St. Cloud, the St. Cloud School District and Stearns County create highly sustainable public buildings. All have daylight harvesting and lighting sensors and controls, reducing or eliminating the need for artificial light. Storm water is managed at all three through a variety of strategies including green roofs, infiltration basins and rain gardens. Kennedy School and the Westside Service Center both have geothermal heating and cooling systems, and the other two have highly efficient HVAC systems. All have water saving plumbing fixtures; and highly sustainable, easily maintainable materials were used in their construction.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 7: Install for one or more city-owned/school buildings one of the following energy efficiency measures:

b. A district energy/microgrid system.

a. A ground-source, closed loop geothermal system.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
Through the recent installation of a GeoExchange system at the Municipal Athletic Complex, the community has a high performance green arena that reduces gas usage by 95% and electric usage by 30%. Nearly 4,000,000 gallons of water usage will be eliminated along with the yearly elimination of 300,000 pounds of green house gases.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stcloudmac.com/

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient Existing Private Buildings { BP no. 2 }

1 Star(s) Action 1: Create or participate in a marketing/outreach program to promote/achieve residential energy/water use reduction and energy efficiency.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
Tri-County Action Program, Inc. (Tri-CAP) is the federally designated Community Action Program for Benton, Sherburne and Stearns counties in central Minnesota of which St. Cloud is a part of. Programs administered by the agency may serve one or more counties, and in several cases, go beyond the boundaries of the three counties. Tri-CAP offers a link on their home page for available energy programs that provide energy saving tips as well as information on the Energy Assistance Program offered through the State s Department of Energy. The City of St. Cloud offers a direct link to Tri-Cap from multiple locations its website including the "Area Links" page and the "Whitney Senior Center" page as a reference to the transportation opportunities Tri-Cap provides from rural areas surrounding the community to inside the city where it links to the Metro Transit service.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.tricap.org/energy_programs.html

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Action 5: **Conserve drinking/groundwater** resources by adopting a watering ordinance, water-wise landscaping ordinance/guidance, or a WaterSense purchasing program.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
Section 245:15 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of St. Cloud authorizes the Director of the St. Cloud Public Utilities to implement a ban on all nonessential uses of water, including watering. The subsequent code section,

Section 245:20 identifies that a penalty of disconnection of water service may be imposed on the utility account for noncompliance with the watering ban. Service will only be restored after payment of a turn-on fee.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: **view file**

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals { BP no. 4 }

1 Star(s) Action 2: Require all new street lighting to be Dark-Sky compliant and all new traffic signals to be EnergyStar compliant.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
All new street lighting and traffic signals in St. Cloud are Dark-Sky compliant. There is not a formal policy requiring Dark-Sky compliant, but the City does require them as practice on new signals and to explore the possibility for old signals if possible.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 4: Coordinate traffic signals and/or optimize signal timing so as minimize car idling at intersections yet maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud manages ELMS (Electric Light Management System) in an effort to promote traffic efficiency and safety as well as to minimize car idling. In the past few years, five roundabouts were built in the St. Cloud area also reducing idling time.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

3 Star(s) Action 8: Replace the city's existing traffic signals with energy efficient LED or equivalent lighting technologies.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
100% of St. Cloud's traffic lights are LEDs.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Building Reuse { BP no. 5 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Adopt an historic preservation ordinance/regulations to encourage adaptive reuse.

Date completed/entered: 06/03/2011

Implementation details:
The City of Saint Cloud adopted a Historic Preservation Ordinance in 1990 for the purposes of protecting and preserving the historic neighborhoods, structures and properties within the city. In 2003 the City adopted the Residential Historic District Preservation Design Manual and the Downtown Preservation Design Manual as tools for property owners to design and build new structures within the historic districts, and/or renovate existing structures within the districts. Both the Residential and Downtown Design Manuals encourage in-fill development and designing and building structures to maintain the historic character of the district including design elements, facades, window and sign structure and placement and setbacks. In addition, the Manuals encourage the use of modern building techniques, styles and materials to achieve the design guidelines which would include green building materials and practices aimed at reducing energy and resources.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/HeritagePreservation.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 2: Implement the Minnesota Main Street model for commercial revitalization.

Date completed/entered: 06/03/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud Downtown Council is an associate member of the Minnesota Main Street association. The St. Cloud Downtown Council (DTC) strives to build a dynamic urban center valued at the heart of the region. The DTC is committed to effectively serving its members, and dedicated to the development and promotion of a strong, economically healthy and exciting Downtown. The Downtown Council is dedicated to promoting the downtown area, building a neighborhood downtown, and advocating the interests of local businesses and property owners. Among other things, the Downtown Council provides these services for the downtown businesses: Marketing and Promotion Services to enhance the image of Downtown St. Cloud by emphasizing the variety of services, events and amenities available, and by encouraging the public to live, work, play and visit downtown. Parking and Transportation Services to provide the public with information about parking and public transportation while coordinating with the City and other organizations to develop efficient access to downtown for visitors, residents and employees. Cleaning, Safety, and Beautification Services to enhance public perception about downtown, to provide hospitality resources, and to beautify the public space through landscape and streetscape improvements. Advocacy Services to speak as a voice for downtown businesses, property owners, and other stakeholders on issues of importance to the future Downtown St. Cloud.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stclouddowntown.com/index.php

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Land Use

Comprehensive Plan and Implementation { BP no. 6 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Adopt/have an adopted comprehensive plan OR, Category B and C cities may simply adopt a land use plan that was adopted by a regional entity or the county.

Date completed/entered: 11/19/2010

Implementation details:
In September of 2003, the City of St. Cloud adopted an update to its comprehensive plan following a twenty-six month planning process. The Comprehensive Plan is divided into several elements including Community Facilities; Parks/Open Space/Recreation; Transportation; Land Use and Growth; and Downtown. Within the Land Use and Growth element there are five master plans. In addition, master plans (in-depth study of a particular geographic area) were prepared Minden Township Orderly Annexation Area, Haven Township Growth Area, Airport Area, 33rd Street South Corridor, and I-94 Corridor. Each master plan yielded a future land use plan for the specific area along with a set of development principles to guide future development in the area. The Comprehensive Plan also contains Target Area Plans, that address specific issues such as the West St. Germain Street Corridor, Community Gateways, Northstar Commuter Rail Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), and a land use plan for the North Star Collision Property.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/CompPlan.aspx view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) 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.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud Land Development Code was adopted in 2009 to comply with the 2003 Comprehensive Plan. Applications for items such as rezoning, and text amendments to the Land Development Code explicitly require that the proposed changes be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 3: Include requirements in comprehensive and/or other plans for intergovernmental coordination addressing land use and watershed impacts, infrastructure, economic development and city/regional services.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has joined with Benton, Sherburne, and Stearns County as well as the communities of Sartell, Sauk Rapids, Waite Park and St. Joseph in the formulation of a Joint District Plan. The St. Cloud Area Joint Planning Project was a multi-jurisdictional response to concerns about growth and urban sprawl in the St. Cloud Metropolitan Region. This planning effort was the largest pilot project pursuant to the Community-Based Planning Act passed by the 1997 Minnesota State Legislature. The St. Cloud area, consisting of the five cities and three counties covered by this Plan, was specifically identified in the legislation of the Act. The Community-Based Planning Act establishes a statewide planning framework outlining 11 goals and emphasizes strong public participation and intergovernmental communication and cooperation in the planning process. The goals of Community-Based planning include citizen participation, cooperation, economic development, conservation, livable community design, housing, transportation, land use planning, public investments, public education, and sustainable development. The St. Cloud Joint Planning District Plan does not supercede the different entities Comprehensive Plans, but instead, it creates an area wide framework for on-going planning activities by the cities and counties. The District Plan recommends that each entity update its Comprehensive Plan to reflect the larger regional vision developed through the Joint Planning District process. The St. Cloud Joint Planning District Plan was approved in May 2000 by the St. Cloud Area Joint Planning District Board.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/jointdistrictplan/jpdp.htm

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient City Growth { BP no. 7 }

3 Star(s) Action 1: Limit barriers to higher density housing by including in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map:

a. Neighborhood single-family density at seven units per net acre or greater.

b. Multi-family housing at a gross density of at least 15 units per acre adjacent to a commercial zoning district or transit node.

Date completed/entered: 06/06/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud limits barriers to high-density housing in several of the zoning districts. Of the 10 residential zonings districts within the City, 4 provide for a high density housing options by allowing single-family density at 6 units per acre and above and multi-family housing density of 15 units per acre and above. The R-3, R-5, R-6, and R-7 zoning district all allow single family density at 7.26 units per acre and multi-family density at 21.78 units per acre for districts R-3, R-5 and R-6 and density of 29.04 units per acre for district R-7. In addition, several of the R-5 Zoning Districts are located adjacent to several commercial corridors within St. Cloud. In particular, this higher density zoning is located along the Highway 10 commercial corridor and along the County Road 74/Saint Germain Street commercial corridor.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/docs/2009%20zoning%20map.pdf view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 3: Encourage a higher intensity of commercial land uses through at least one of the following strategies:

a. Include in the city zoning ordinance and zoning map a commercial district with reduced lot sizes and zero-lot-line setbacks, or a FAR minimum between .75 and 1.

b. Set targets for the minimum number of employees/acre in different commercial zones.

Date completed/entered: 05/05/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud adopted the Land Development Code (LDC) as its official Zoning Code on February 10, 2008. Article 9 of the LDC established the C-3 (Central Business District) and C-4 (Fringe Central Business District) to provide for high-density commercial development within the downtown core and surrounding fringe areas. These areas are defined as being highly accessible by customer foot traffic. Both of these areas do not require a minimum lot size to be maintained and allow for zero-lot-line setbacks.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/docs/2009%20zoning%20map.pdf view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Mixed Uses { BP no. 8 }

1 Star(s) Action 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 and biking.

c. Accessible by regular transit service.

Date completed/entered: 05/10/2011

Implementation details:
a. The St. Cloud City Hall building is located within the downtown urban center of the City of St. Cloud. Located along US Highway 23 (2nd Street South), City Hall is located along the major east-west thoroughfare through the city. City Hall is located adjacent to the C-3 Central Business Zoning District, the historic core of the city served by intense pedestrian activity. In addition, the St. Cloud City Hall building is located on the northern boundary of intense residential development located south of the location into the St. Cloud State University neighborhood(s). c. The St. Cloud City Hall building is located within approximately 1/10th of a mile of the St. Cloud Metro Bus Transit Center. The Transit Center is the hub for all metro buses operating within the St. Cloud metropolitan area and a regular scheduled stop for over half of the routes. The close proximity of the Metro Transit Center to St. Cloud City Hall makes City Hall accessible for both employee and customer transit riders.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 3: Modify a planned unit development - PUD - ordinance to emphasize mixed use development or to limit residential PUDs to areas adjacent to commercial development.

Date completed/entered: 05/10/2011

Implementation details:
Article 11.2 of the St. Cloud Land Development Code identifies the purpose, standards and procedures for Planned Unit Development (PUD) Districts with the City of St. Cloud. The PUD District provides a mechanism for development that would otherwise not be allowable within a given zoning district by allowing exceptions to bulk, setback, parking, landscaping, loading and sign regulations. In addition, the PUD District is also set up to encourage flexibility in the development of the land by allowing mixed-use development to occur that would otherwise not be allowed using strict residential, commercial or industrial zoning classifications.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 5: Have a downtown zoning district that allows residential and compatible commercial development.

Date completed/entered: 05/10/2011

Implementation details:
The C-3 Central Business Zoning District is designed to reflect central location and ease of access of being the hub of a system of radial thoroughfares. A prime characteristic of this district is the historic core of intense pedestrian activity. The C-3 District allows a myriad of residential uses including dwelling units above the ground floor, assisted living facilities, convalescent homes, dormitories and independent living facilities. The C-3 District allows many of the permitted uses of the Downtown Mixed-Use District as identified in the 2009 Minnesota Model Ordinances for Sustainable Development including, but not limited to, retail space, personal services, hotels, theaters, health clubs, restaurants, taverns, offices, day care centers and churches. In addition, the C-3 District established bulk and setback regulations that mirror those identified in the 2009 Minnesota Model Ordinances for Sustainable Development including zero minimum lot width, depth, and area requirements, zero front side and rear yard setbacks, and no maximum lot coverage requirement. The C-3 District does not require any off-street parking.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/docs/2009%20zoning%20map.pdf view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient Highway-Oriented Development { BP no. 9 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Establish design goals for at least one highway corridor.

Date completed/entered: 06/06/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud 2003 Comprehensive Plan identifies design goals for five highway/entryway corridors into the City. The five highway corridors include States Highways 15, 10, and 23, Interstate 94 and CSAH 74. The design goals are a part of the Target Area Plans identified in the 2003 Comprehensive Plan. The design goals include creating a strong sense of arrival into the community, enhancing the corridors with landscaping, lighting, signage and architectural features, including gateway monuments, and landscaping to screen industrial areas and to promote the open space and natural wetlands, prairie and wooded areas surrounding the community. The Comprehensive Plan was developed following extensive meetings with community members and stakeholders to gather input and recommendations before the Plan s adoption.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) 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 commercial development in order to avoid overbuilding and expensive low-density development.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud is an active partner in the joint district planning efforts of the surrounding jurisdictions. The following jurisdictions actively participate in the joint planning effforts: Stearns County, Sherburne County, Benton County, St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Sartell, Waite Park, and St. Joseph. The participating jurisdictions have complete the St. Cloud Area Joint District Plan in 2000 to govern planning activities throughout the region. The St. Cloud Joint Planning District Plan does not supercede the different entities Comprehensive Plans, but instead, it creates an area wide framework for on-going planning activities by the cities and counties. The District Plan recommends that each entity update its Comprehensive Plan to reflect the larger regional vision

developed through the Joint Planning District process. In addition, the 2003 St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan outlines master development plans for all areas of the city. A specific master plan is targeted for the I-94 Corridor to help ensure orderly and proper development.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/jointdistrictplan/jpdp.htm view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Adopt a highway commercial zoning district that permits only auto-oriented land uses.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud adopted the C-5 Highway Commercial Zoning District as a part of the Land Development Code. The purpose of the Highway Commercial District is to provide an area of service facilities to the motoring public adjacent to arterial traffic routes as defined in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/docs/2009%20zoning%20map.pdf view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Conservation Design { BP no. 10 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment (NRI or NRA); incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources through the subdivision or development process.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
137 natural areas were inventoried and priortized as apart of the Environmentally Sensitive Areas Ordinance. This innovative ordinance helps protect land while allowing for development. Based on solid ecological information and written input from local developers, the ordinance is implemented by the City with the help of a local team of scientists. The success of the ordinance can be seen through the completion of over seventeen developments that balance protection yet see a return in investment.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 3: For cities within metropolitan areas, incorporate woodland best management practices addressing protection of wooded areas into zoning or development review.

Date completed/entered: 06/06/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has adopted in the Land Development Code (Zoning Ordinance) a Woodland Best Management Practice ordinance. This section identifies specific practices that should be followed when proposing development or redevelopment in a wooded area. These practices seek to protect large areas of forests, protect large and historic trees, avoid fragmenting forests, protecting understory, control exotic species and protect trees during construction among others.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Transportation

Complete Green Streets { BP no. 11 }

1 Star(s) Action 1: Adopt a complete streets policy that also addresses street trees and stormwater.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The 2003 Comprehensive Plan includes a goal to promote alternative transportation such as bicycling, walking, transit and rail. The St. Cloud Area Joint District Plan also states a regional goal to create an interconnected system of open spaces, parks and trails reflective of the Central Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Plan. Also, the St. Cloud Metropolitan Area 2035 Transportation Plan includes a chapter on non-motorized transportation discussing initiatives, goals/objectives, regional efforts, key infrastructure, multimodal funding, and facility maintenance and development. The City of St. Cloud is working to coordinate such efforts into a City complete streets policy. The development of the policy is expected to begin in Summer, 2011.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/Default.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Action 3: Document inclusion/installation of **green infrastructure elements** as well as grey infrastructure elements in at least one complete streets reconstruction project.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
As part of the new regional library constructed in 2009 the City implemented green stormwater practices by utilizing pervious pavers to allow for rainwater absorption. Also as part of the streetscaping the City planted trees on the plaza and boulvards using engineered soils to support maximum tree health and rain water infiltration. The project also provided for a best management practice that installed a primary treatment area in a large rain water garden adjacent to the large parking area.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Identify, prioritize and remedy complete streets gaps and lack of connectivity within your road network by, for example, adding a bike route/lane, truck route or sidewalk.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
Each year the City of St. Cloud targets specific areas in the core neighborhoods to reconstruct and/or rehabilitate streets, curb and gutter, install/repair sidewalks, sanitary sewer, as well as water main and storm drain facilities. The total cost of Neighborhood Revitalization Projects ranges from approximately $2,000,000 to $4,000,000 every year. These projects are programmed in the Capital Improvement Program and comply with the City s Sidewalk and Boulevard Use Policy.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/CIP.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 6: Implement traffic calming measures , including road diets, shared space and depaving, in at least one street redevelopment project.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud proactively utilizes a number of traffic calming measures when developing or reconstructing streets including narrower width (32'), speed hump, gateway island, roundabout, and diversions such as a straight curb,

bollards or landscaped medians among others. In the past few years, five roundabouts were built in the St. Cloud area. In a residential development, Westwood Parkway was constructed at a width of 32'.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/e/Default.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Mobility Options { BP no. 12 }

1 Star(s) Action 2: Launch an Active Living campaign such as a Safe Routes to School program.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud community actively participates in the Safe Routes to School program, receiving two grants from the MN Department of Transportation to improve conditions and promote physical activity of kids through infrastructure projects. In 2006, Madison Elementary was awarded $175,000 to create multiple safe routes for students walking and biking to three local school facilities. Westwood Elementary received $175,300 to create a safer environment for students and community members that utilize the splash pad, park and playground adjacent to the school.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/projectstructure.html

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 3: Prominently identify mobility options : transit; paratransit/Dial-A-Ride; cab service; rental cars; bikes.

Date completed/entered: 05/10/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud maintains a web site that provides a link to the city s available mass transit options. Under the Area Links section of the home page, visitors can access information about the Metro Transit Bus and Dial-A-Ride services operating within the St. Cloud metropolitan area. In addition, links to information on the Northstar Link Commuter Bus between St. Cloud and Big Lake and the Northstar Commuter Rail Line between St. Cloud and Minneapolis are also provided.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/AreaLinks.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 6: Add/expand transit service, or promote car/bike sharing .

Date completed/entered: 05/10/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud State University s Outdoor Endeavors started the Yellow Bike Project in 2004. Bikes have been donated and have been painted entirely yellow. The bikes are for university students to use, free of charge. All we ask is that bikes are kept on campus, damaged bikes brought to Outdoor Endeavors and users respect the time and energy that goes into the program. The program operates with the generosity of those who donate the bikes and student staff that put a lot of time, energy and love into the effort. In addition, St. Cloud State University has beginning Fall 2010, piloted the Husky Ride GREEN Initiative offering rental bikes to faculty, staff and students for rental on a semester or annual basis. Their goal is to see a future campus that puts a priority on sustainable transportation and promotes bicycles over cars. There is no doubt that this vision eases traffic, promotes health/wellness and reduces collective carbon footprint. Through a sustainable transportation grant, it has purchased brand new Diamondback Sorrento mountain bikes available for lease through the program.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stcloudstate.edu/campusrec/outdoorendeavors/yellowbike.asp

For more information contact:

Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient City Fleets { BP no. 13 }

1 Star(s) Action 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.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
Since 2008, the Public Services Department has been tracking and assessing the carbon footprint of operations by tabulating energy consumption by fuel type and associated carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. In addition, equipment maintenance and vehicle consolidation is an ongoing City-wide effort reducing costs, inventories and promoting cross department sharing. Police and Fire Departments schedule vehicle and apparatus replacement to ensure useful life and to ensure most fuel-efficient vehicles are considered.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 3: Phase-in no-idling practices, operational and fuel changes, and equipment changes including electric vehicles, for city or local transit fleets.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
Since 2008, the Public Services Department has been tracking and assessing the carbon footprint of operations by tabulating energy consumption by fuel type and associated carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Included are offsets related to power generation at the Hydroelectric Facility, and bio-solids recycling. In 2009, carbon offsets exceeded carbon emissions by a factor of three to one. Also, an oil analysis program exists to extend engine oil drain interval and monitor the wear condition of large truck engines. All City vehicles and equipment undergo monthly preventative maintenance, and are included in the equipment maintenance consolidation effort to reduce equipment inventory and share across departments. The City has a no-idling policy requiring vehicles to be shut off during non-mobile work activities such as loading. Through community partnerships, the St. Cloud Metro Bus is home to the nation s first public bus powered by recycled vegetable oil coming directly from St. Cloud State University s on-campus dining, saving an estimated $2.30 per gallon.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/PublicWorks/Default.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Phase in bike, foot or horseback modes for police, inspectors and other city staff.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud currently has bike police patrols. Officers participate in yearly training to ensure public safety is met.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Demand-Side Travel Planning { BP no. 14 }

2 Star(s) Action 2: For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for the siting of retail services at transit/density nodes.

Date completed/entered: 06/06/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud Metro Transit service provides regular and dial-a-ride transit service to all of the retail centers within the cities of St. Cloud, Sauk Rapids, Sartell and Waite Park. The transit service routes are routinely revised to accommodate new, expanding and relocating retail centers in the St. Cloud area. In particular, transit service was revised in the fall of 2010 to accommodate the new Wal-Mart and Sam s Club retail stores opening in Sartell. In addition, transit expansion at retail centers is identified in the 2003 St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan. Among the Operational and Capital Improvement goals for the transit service is the development of a Sauk Rapids transit hub and a new intermodal transit facility located at the Crossroad Mall centrally located at the crossroads of Highways 15 and 23. The continued expansion of transit service to the south side of St. Cloud to include St. Augusta and the I-94 Industrial Park is also projected.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stcloudmtc.com/ view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Adopt a travel demand management plan for city employees or incorporate into development regulations TDM or transit-oriented development standards.

Date completed/entered: 06/03/2011

Implementation details:
The 2003 St. Cloud Comprehensive Plan identifies Target Area Plans identified because specific land use plans, goals, policies and/or development standards were developed. Included in these Target Area Plans are the North Star Commuter Rail Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) sites. To date, these Plans have yet to come to fruition as the North Star Commuter Rail has not been extended to the St. Cloud area. However, the goals set forth in the 2003 Comprehensive Plan identifies specific goals for the sites which mimic those outlined in the 2009 Updated Model Ordinances for Sustainable Development. Those goals include: good vehicular access to the site, adequate parking by encouraging structured parking, excellent pedestrian access, aesthetic lighting, landscaping and streetscape considerations, residential densities of 20/units per acre and above, building heights of at least 3 stories, mixed uses both vertically and horizontally and reduced parking ratios. Development regulations will differ depending on the specific TOD site whether the St. Cloud East (Neighborhood/Town Center) or Northstar West Spur (Urban Downtown/Core) sites. At which time the North Star Commuter Rail extends service to the City of St. Cloud, these goals, plans and development standards may be implemented as development moves forward.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Environmental Management

Urban Forests { BP no. 16 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Certify as a Tree City USA.

Date completed/entered: 05/05/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud boasts a forestry program responsible for all tree-related issues including maintenance, management of a nursery, planting, and the processing of tree waste. As such, the National Arbor Day Foundation has recongnized St. Cloud as "Tree City USA" for 31 consecutive years and reveived Tree City USA Growth Awards for three separate years since 2004.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/treecities.cfm?chosenstate=Minnesota

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Action 3: Budget for and achieve urban **canopy/tree planting goals**.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
The City is currently engaged in a tree canopy study to determine the species composition and percent of canopy. The canopy study is part of an ongoing Community Preparedness Project with the University of Minnesota

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Maximize tree planting along your main downtown street or throughout the city.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City is commmitted to improving the downtown streetscape with quality design. The direction set in the Streetscape Guidelines and Urban Design Plan is reinforced in the Downtown Framework Plan of the Comprehensive Plan. A number of trees are planted in Downtown following the recommendations of primary, secondary or local street streetscape treatments stated in the Downtown Framework Plan.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/CompPlan.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 5: Adopt a tree preservation or native landscaping ordinance.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
In an effort to protect the community's abundance of natural beauty, St. Cloud created the Environmentally Sensitive Areas Ordinance to help protect natural lands while allowing for development. Based on solid ecological information and written input from local developers, the ordinance is implemented by the City with the help of a local team of scientists. The success of the ordinance can be seen through the completion of over seventeen developments that balance protection yet see a return in investment. St. Cloud has recently also implemented changes to the Disease Tree Ordinance allowing for condemnation of tress for the looming threat of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Efficient Stormwater Management { BP no. 17 }

1 Star(s) Action 2: Adopt by ordinance one or more of the following:

a. A narrower streets provision that permits construction of 24-foot roads for public, residential access and subcollector streets (with fewer than 500 average daily trips).

b. A 1.5 inch rainfall on-site rainwater infiltration design requirement for construction sites.

c. A stormwater runoff volume limit to pre-development volumes for the 5-year, 24-hour rainfall maximum event.

d. For non-MS4 permittees, adopt an illicit discharge prohibition rule or ordinance.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has post construction stormwater standards in the Land Development Code, Article 19-Off-Site Development Standards. The infiltration/volume reduction standard varies from 1/2"to 1/4" depending on development type. Also, there are rate control standards adopted in the Land Development Code, Article 19-Off-Site Development Standards stating stormwater runoff volume limits to pre-development volumes.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 4: Create a stormwater utility that uses variable fees to incentivize enhanced stormwater management, minimize the volume of and pollutants in runoff, and educate property owners.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud's Stormwater Utility has an important role in maintaining and improving water quality. The Stormwater Water System Use Code includes fee adjustment procedures to incentivize enhanced stormwater management. St. Cloud is an active member of the Central Minnesota Water Education Alliance (CMWEA) providing education outreach to promote water quality stewardship. Also, the City has a program that intends to reduce storm water pollution through employee training, proper materials handling, and fleet maintenance.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Utilities/Default.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 5: Adopt and implement guidelines for, or adopt required design standards/incentives for, at least one of the following stormwater infiltration/reuse techniques :

a. Rain gardens or green roofs.

b. Cisterns and other stormwater reuse strategies.

c. Green alleys or green parking lots.

d. Pervious/permeable pavement or pavers.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has design standards for rain gardens, green roofs, and green parking lots in the Development Code, Appendix F, Permanent Storm Water Design Checklist. These design guidelines were developed in accordance with MPCA's, Minnesota Stormwater Manual.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 6: Adopt an ordinance with erosion and sediment control provisions as well as requirements for permanent stormwater treatment.

Date completed/entered: 05/11/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has erosion and sediment control provisions adopted in the Land Development Code, Article 19- Off-Site Development Standards. It requires an erosion and sediment control plan to be developed in accordance with MPCA's- Stormwater Permit Program Construction Activity. It also requires maintenance of development-wide erosion and sediment control measures.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Parks and Trails { BP no. 18 }

1 Star(s) Action 1: Identify and remedy gaps within your city's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
The City has identified a gap in the park and trail system and is taking steps to implement a new trail and park project titled River Bluffs Regional Park & Trail Project.

Outcome measures/metrics:
1. A 140 acre park will be fully accessible 2. 1.o mile of accessible trail will be constrcuted

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/Park/RiverBluffsProject.aspx

1 Star(s) Action 2: Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails for areas where new development is planned.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud has planned for and budget for a network of parks, trails and open space in new residential developments through implementation of park land dedication requirements. The requirements are subject to residential zoning and are functional based on zoning type (R1, R2, Multi-family and PUD. The requirement for land dedication and/or cash in lieu of land dedication are options to fulfill dedication requirements.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/LandDevCode.aspx

1 Star(s) Action 4: Adopt low-impact design standards in parks and trails that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
As a best management practice the City has adopted a one inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site standard. The Park Department often exceeds this standard and most recently implemented a greenhouse building construction project that applied best management practices by constrcuting wet and dry native vegetation ponds/gardens for two inch events.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

1 Star(s) Action 7: Document that the operation and maintenance, or construction / remodeling , of at least one park building used a green building framework.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
The City designed and constructed a skate plaza structure at our Heritage Park location. The innovative design allows for the 20,000 square feet of hard surfaces to drain into designed rain water features to take up a minimum of one inch rain in 24 hour period. The facility also uses elements of green and tree plantings to highlight the improvements. Adjacent to this facility is a renovated green roof/earth roof style park shelter for park users that is 100% covered with native plantings.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/Park/SkateProject.aspx view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 8: Develop a program to involve community members in hands-on land restoration and stewardship projects.

Date completed/entered: 05/27/2011

Implementation details:
The city has an Adopt-A-park program when many community members and citizens have became engaged in hands on volunteer efforts in land restoration and stewardship. Most recently high school studenst have created a native plant buffer around Lake George and Master Gardners have created rain gardens along the Mississippi River to take up rail run off of municipal strutures and parking areas.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.ci.stcloud.mn.us/Park/AdoptAPark.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Surface Water Quality { BP no. 19 }

Action 3: Adopt and report on measurable, publicly announced **surface water improvement targets** for water bodies.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
St. Cloud is an active member of the Central Minnesota Water Education Alliance (CMWEA) providing education outreach to promote water quality stewardship. It is a coalition of central Minnesota cities, counties and other organizations working in concert to provide consistent water quality educational message in a cost-effective manner. The ongoing public education campaign includes rain barrel sale, a video contest, a water blog, eco-graffiti, and a number of other innovative educational efforts.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://mnwaterconnection.com/index.php

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 4: Adopt a shoreland ordinance for all river and lake shoreland areas.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has adopted a Shoreland Overlay District ordinance as a part of the Land Development Code (LDC). The Shoreland Overlay District governs the permitted and conditional uses, standards, bulk requirements, alterations and design criterias.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Local Air Quality { BP no. 23 }

1 Star(s) Action 2: Regulate outdoor wood burning , using model ordinance language, performance standards and bans as appropriate, for at least one of the following:

a. Recreational burning.

b. Outdoor wood boilers.

Date completed/entered: 06/02/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has regulated recreational fires by establishing a policy that requires property owners to obtain a Recreational Burning Permit from the Fire Department. These annual permits require the permit holder attest to holding recreational fires in accordance with the setback requirements established by the policy and the Land Development Code. All recreational fires must be located outside of the front, street and interior side yard setbacks and must be located a minimum of 25 feet from all buildings or combustible materials. Treated lumber may not be burned in a recreational fire. The Fire Chief, or designee, may require the recreational fire extinguished if it creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation. In addition, all recreational burning permits are considered temporarily void during declared burning bans and may be reinstated upon such time that the burning ban is lifted.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 3: Conduct one or more policy or education/behavior change campaigns on the topics below and document:

a. Decreased vehicle idling in specific locations.

b. Increased sales by retail stores of low and no-VOC household products.

c. Replacement of gasoline-powered equipment with lower polluting equipment.

d. Adoption of a smoking-free policy at one or more multi-unit housing buildings, private or public.

Date completed/entered: 06/02/2011

Implementation details:
The City has enacted a section of the Ordinance that prohibits that idling of vehicles longer than 5 minutes within a two-block long section of and main thoroughfare in the downtown area. The measure was enacted to implement the City s transportation control plan for air quality improvements. Enforcement measures are directed toward the time period of greatest need for air quality improvement between 8am and 5pm. The Public Works Department has implemented a No-Idling policy for city vehicles on coffee and restroom breaks and to keep travel distances to a minimum. The division continues to look for new ideas to conserve fuel and keep fuel costs to a minimum.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Economic and Community Development

Benchmarks & Community Engagement { BP no. 24 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Use a committee to lead, coordinate and report to community members on implementation of GreenStep best practices.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The community-based committee, St. Cloud Area Sustainability Committee will be launching a St. Cloud Sustainable website in Summer, 2011. There will progress reporting on the identified best practices from the Sustainability Framework Plan as well as progress in ICLEI, GreenStep Cities, and MN B3 Energy Benchmarking. Also, there are quarterly sustainability updates at the St. Cloud Area Joint District Board meetings.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/Sustain.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 2: Organize goals/outcome measures from all city plans and report to community members data that show progress toward meeting these goals.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud community has found success in its established planning hierarchy beginning with the St. Cloud Area Joint District Plan into the Comprehensive Plan leading into target area plans such as corridor studies or neighborhood master plans and finally strategic plans such as the St. Cloud Area Sustainability Framework Plan.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links:

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 4: Conduct or support a broad sustainability education and action campaign involving:

a. The entire community

b. Homeowners

c. Block clubs/neighborhood associations

d. Congregations

e. Schools and youth

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The development process of the St. Cloud Area Sustainability Plan actively engaged the community to establish a baseline and establish a local vision, goals and initiatives. The process also included a number of education sessions on sustainability and the Natural Step Framework. The community celebrated the passage of the first sustainability plan with a Sustainability Event in April, 2011. The event featured free food produced by local farmers, educational workshops on topics ranging from rain barrels to chemical-free gardening, the presentation of the first annual sustainability award, live music and even a yak! Given the success of the event, plans to make in an annual event highlighting sustainability and celebrating local efforts are already in the works.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/Sustain.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

3 Star(s) Action 5: Conduct or support a community education, visioning and planning initiative using a sustainability framework such as:

a. Strong Towns, Natural Capitalism.

b. Transition initiatives, resiliency, Post-Carbon Cities.

c. Eco-municipalities/The Natural Step, ecological footprinting, permaculture.

d. ISO 14001, Genuine Progress.

e. Healthy communities, multi-generation learning.

Date completed/entered: 06/02/2011

Implementation details:
The development process of the St. Cloud Area Sustainability Plan actively engaged the community to establish a baseline and establish a local vision, goals and initiatives. The process also included a number of education sessions on sustainability and the Natural Step Framework. The community celebrated the passage of the first sustainability plan with a Sustainability Event in April, 2011. The event featured free food produced by local farmers, educational workshops on topics ranging from rain barrels to chemical-free gardening, the presentation of the first annual sustainability award, live music and even a yak! Given the success of the event, plans to make in an annual event highlighting sustainability and celebrating local efforts are already in the works.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/Sustain.aspx

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Green Business Development { BP no. 25 }

1 Star(s) Action 2: Connect businesses with assistance providers , including utilities, who provide personalized energy, waste or sustainability audits and assistance.

Date completed/entered: 05/13/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud Area Sustainability Committee has worked extensively with Xcel Energy to make businesses and homeowners aware of the programs available for reducing energy costs including on-line and on-site energy audits. Xcel Energy presented their program options at a regular meeting of the Sustainability Committee and was a participant at the St. Cloud Area annual Sustainability Event to educate businesses and homeowners on available programs to reduce energy waste.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

2 Star(s) Action 7: Conduct or participate in a buy local campaign.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce operates a buy local campaign with the message, Shop Local&Eat Local&Invest Local&STAY LOCAL . As a part of the campaign, a toolkit is available to members to assist them in keeping resources local and helping members weather the recession. In addition, the St. Cloud area farmers operate a Farmer s Market in the downtown on Saturday mornings as a way for local residents to connect with local farmers and obtain food sources directly from the growers.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stcloudareachamber.com/StCloud/Stay-Local.aspx view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

Renewable Energy { BP no. 26 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Adopt solar energy standards or a wind energy ordinance that allows or encourages appropriate renewable energy installations.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud adopted a Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) ordinance as a part of the Land Development Code. Small-scale non-commercial WECS are Permitted or Conditional Uses in all agricultural, residential, commercial and industrial zoning districts as either free-standing or building-mounted towers depending on the specific district. A maximum of 100kW generating capacity is allowable as a Conditional Use within the Industrial District. Lot size minimums, setback requirements, height restrictions and tower type restrictions are in place for all districts. System design standards, including security, signage, lighting and compatibility with nearby properties are also included in the ordinance. WECS are not permitted within the Shoreland Impact Zone or the Mississippi River District Districts.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

3 Star(s) Action 5: Install a public sector/municipally owned renewable energy technology, such as solar electric (PV), biomass, solar hot water/air, micro-hydro or wind.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The Veterans Hospital wind turbine was installed in St. Cloud in winter 2010-2011. The 245-foot tall tower produces 600-killowatts of electricity that serves the Veterans Hospital. The turbine is anticipated to produce approximately 15% of the facility s annual electricity usage. The turbine was constructed using an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant and is part of a nation-wide VA energy conservation initiative that includes renewable energy generation technologies, metering systems, and energy conservation and water-saving measures.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.stcloud.va.gov/features/Wind_Turbine.asp view file

Local Food { BP no. 27 }

2 Star(s) Action 1: Incorporate working landscapes - agriculture and forestry - into the city by adopting an ordinance for one or more of the following:

a. An agriculture and forest protection district.

b. A local food production district.

c. Performance standards for minor and major agricultural retail.

Date completed/entered: 06/07/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud adopted an Agricultural Zoning District as a part of the adopted of the Land Development Code in 2008. The purpose of the Agricultural District is to establish and preserve areas within the City for the continuation of viable agricultural operations, preserve areas unsuitable for use other than agricultural or open space, protect agricultural uses from untimely encroachment by potential conflicting urban uses, protect natural amenities, provide very low residential density and preserve the rural character of the area. The permitted and conditional uses of the district as well as the bulk and setback regulations closely mimic those set forth in the 2009 Minnesota Model Ordinances for Sustainable Development.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/Planning/docs/2009%20zoning%20map.pdf view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 2: Facilitate creation of home/community gardens, chicken & bee keeping, and incorporation of food growing areas/access in multifamily residential developments.

Date completed/entered: 11/15/2010

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud has been working very closely with the Central Minnesota Sustainability Project on developing neighborhood organic gardens for the community. With special focus on new americans and education of proper plant selection for this zone. The City has allowed gardens to be developed in local neighborhood parks.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.sustainmn.org/

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218

1 Star(s) Action 3: Inventory and promote local food production /distribution within the city:

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.

Date completed/entered: 05/12/2011

Implementation details:
The City of St. Cloud offers many options for access to local foods for residents. A Farmer s Market is operated on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings during the summer months connecting local farmers with local residents to provide local food sources. In addition, community-supported-agriculture (CSA) arrangements have been supported by the city in particular through its support of the 2011 Sustainability Event. The City of St. Cloud operates in conjunction with the Central Minnesota Sustainability Project, several community gardens throughout the community.

Outcome measures/metrics:

Descriptive links: http://www.sustainmn.org view file

For more information contact:
Matt Glaesman (City staff) | Matt.Glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us | 320-255-7218