**2020 Category A City: INVER GROVE HEIGHTS**

Currently a Step 3 GreenStep City as of June 2020

(joined March 2016)

***Assessor and date****: Philipp Muessig, 8/5/19*

**17**

***Total BPs implemented:***

\* note: requirements are for Step 3 recognition

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Best practices (**required\* in bold**) BP implemented? Action summary by # and star level achieved  Action rules (req.\* actions in **bold**) | | |
| **YES**  **BUILDINGS: distribution requirement is 2 BPs ; are 2 BPs done?** | | |
| **1. Public**  **Actions 1 & 2; & one action from actions 3-7** | **YES** | 1.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – benchmark index ratio of 1.07  1.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2012 remodel of City Hall added white thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO) roof to reduce cooling and heating costs, also added ~130 motion censored lights; 2017 12 LED replacement fixtures at the Veterans Memorial Community Center  1.7 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS – 2012 City Hall ground-source, closed loop geothermal system; 2016 - 796,000 kWh of PV installed on City Hall & Community Center |
| 2. Private  any two actions | **YES** | 2.1 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – city web info on utility/appliance rebates, energy/water calculators  2.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- water conservation strategies sent out annually: in the Insights Newsletter and the Annual Water Quality Report |
| 3. New  action 1 or 2; one from 3-5 | **NO** | 3.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- 20%+ of a PUD in the NW Area Zone must be open space/natural area, Vertical Access Wind Turbine Ordinance (2013), allows wind turbines in specified zoning districts |
| 4. Lighting/Signals  2 actions with one from 5-8 |  |  |
| 5. Reuse  any one action |  | **YES** |
| **LAND USE: 2 BPs required; are 2 BPs done?** | | |
| **6. Comp Plan**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 6.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- 2010 comp plan; sustainability goals & strategies discussed throughout; most common theme was "Healthy  Community" that preserves & respects its natural environment  62. COMPLETE @ 1 STAR  6.3 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- intergovernmental coordination on planning, AQ, GW monitoring, EM solid waste mgt., environmental protection, transportation, and land use  6.4 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 2010 Comp Plan references 2003 NW Area NRI & 2008 NW Area ordinance requires 20%+ of a PUD to be preserved as open space/natural areas, with 75% of open space contiguous & 50% natural area with native vegetation |
| 7. Density  any one action | **YES** | 7.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2002 Zoning Ordinance allows ADUs in all single-family zoning districts throughout the city; NW Area allows increased density and approves development on substandard lots through flexible frontage and lots sizes |
| 8. Mixed Uses  any two actions | **YES** | 8.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Concord Boulevard Neighborhood Plan, Design Guidelines & Master Plan completed; many groups participated  8.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Community Center & City Hall co-located; they, Simley High School, Inver Hills Community College have sidewalks, trails; CC, HS & Library accessible by Metro Transit |
| 9. Highway Development  any one action | **YES** | 9.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- new developments in NW Area (public Collector Road Study) required to adhere to goals/designs in code: 1-1 developer-engineer/planner meetings |
| 10. Conservation Development  any one action | **YES** | 10.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 2008 NW Area Ordinance IDs priority areas from the 2003 NRI, 2016 stormwater ordinance requires 3.6 (vs. 1.0) inch infiltration for new NW Area developments. City won the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) 2015 National Grand Award for accomplishing the City's zero runoff development goal in its Northwest Area. MnDOT standard for bridge inspections to protect forest bats enforced  10.3 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Woodland removal thresholds set for all zoning districts; planting offsets allowed  **YES** |
| **TRANSPORTATION: 2 BPs required; are 2 BPs done?** | | |
| **11. Complete Green Streets**  **1; & two additional actions** | **YES** | 11.1 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – Comp Plan direction in several chapters: “Provide a transportation system that supports multi-modal transportation whenever and wherever feasible and advantageous “Ensure pedestrian connectivity via trails and sidewalks within community commercial districts as well as to adjacent and nearby neighborhoods”  11.5 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- multiple gaps IDed in 2011 SHIP-funded Trail Gaps Study eliminated; study consulted during redevelopment, development, and street reconstruction projects  11.3 this action is about a completed street project, not plans for such  11.6 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- 2009 roundabout; 2nd planned in 2018; raised cross walk outside of Gertens; city promotes medians & narrower streets to developers |
| **12. Mobility Options**  **any two actions** | **YES** | 12.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- 2008 printed trail/park map; 2012 signage at 30 parks via Wayfinding Project; 2015 bike fix-it station/racks at Ms. R. trailhead  12.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- workout facility at the City Community Center; city-school district arrangements for resident walking inside schools after business hours |
| 13. Fleets  any two actions |  |  |
| 14. TOD / TDM  any two actions |  | **YES** |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: 4 BPs required; are 4 done?** | | |
| **15. Purchasing**  **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 15.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – Sustainable Purchasing Policy, paper cost tracking, Sustainable Workplace Guide covering printing, energy, recycling, reducing paper use and waste  15.2 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS – city-owned roof-top solar; 10 solar gardens supplying city operations with 3 million kWh annually, $3,840,000 savings over 25-yr. contracts (net savings after year 3) |
| **16. Trees**  **any two actions** | **YES** | 16.5 COMPLETE @ STARS – zoning code has tree preservation standards that include tree diversity & disease susceptibility  16.6 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- Parks Super. a certified Arborist; 2010 EAB Mgt. Plan for removing Ash from public ROW & tree replacement from fund developers (who cannot replace cut trees) pay into |
| **17. Stormwater**  **any one action** | **YES** | 17.1 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- green infrastructure design required in NW area; other areas must be implemented wherever possible  17.3 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – NW area permits 24’ streets (for under 300 ADV), requires 3.6” infiltration, has zero runoff development goal  17.4 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2015 Stormwater utility with variable fees 17.5 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 60 city rain gardens, rain harvesting for irrigation. Allowed are rain barrels, previous pavement, green roods, cisterns, stormwater reuse. Since 2015, code requires Atlas 14; City won American Council of Engineering Companies National Grand Award for accomplishing City's zero runoff development goal in NW area (2015). |
| 18. Parks & Trails  any three actions | **YES** | 18.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 4 trail gaps eliminated; connections made to Ms. Regional trail (Rosemount, S St. Paul), Mendota-Lebanon Hills Greenway (will connect to the North Urban Regional Trail)  18.5 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – parks’ integrated pest plan, low/no mow areas; recyclables are collected  18.8 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- Adopt-A-Park program incl. removing invasive plants, restoring natural areas, working with tree trust, sentence to serve, and eagle scouts |
| 19. Surface Water  if state public water: 4; and one additional action  if no state water: any one action | **NO** | 19.4 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR |
| 20. Water / Wastewater  1 & 2; and one additional | **NO** | 20.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2015 SCADA systems upgrade; 7 wells on a 7 year maintenance plan that facilitates reduced energy usage  20.3 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- annual survey of 70,000 sewer lines for re-lining; annual 3-wk.city-wide leakage detection/repair: water losses est. under 5%  20.4 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- water wells/booster station powered by generators at time to cut peak energy demand; variable frequency drives upgraded last 20 yrs. Added fluoride cut from 1ppm to 0.7ppm |
| 21. Septics  any one action |  |  |
| 22. Solid Waste  1 or 2; & one from 4-8 | **NO** | 22.4 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Fix-it Clinics; annual city-wide garage sale with city-created map a month before City's annual Clean-Up Day; community sale at city Community Center |
| 23. Local Air Quality  any two actions | **NO** | 23.2 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS – 2010 Outdoor Wood Burning ban  **YES** |
| **ECON & COMM DVLP: 3 BPs required; are 3 done?** | | |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 24.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Environmental Specialist, senior staff and the Environmental Commission coordinate the GreenStep Cities program  24.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS |
| **25. Green Businesses**  **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.2 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Business Assistance Providers web page  25.3 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – visitIGH.com has extensive natural resource-based offerings |
| 26. Renewable Energy  any two actions | **NO** | 26.1 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Vertical Access Wind Turbine Ordinance (2013) allowS wind turbines in specified zoning districts |
| 27. Local Food  any one action | **YES** | 27.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- chickens allowed by permit; community gardens & home gardens permitted in all zoning districts; community garden in the city’s Salem Park contains 20 plots  27.3 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- farmer's market every Sunday, June-Oct at Community Center, food not sold donated to food shelf; one community garden in a municipal park |
| 28. Business Synergies  action 2, 3 or 4 |  |  |
| **29. Climate Adaptation**  **action 1**  (includes targeted emergency communications in appropriate languages to address vulnerable populations) | **YES** | 29.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2006 was 1st city All-Hazard Mitigation Plan; since 2016 city working with Co. to do required 5-year update; 2017-city mitigation strategies developed; designated shelters; TYY and multi-language phone line  29.3 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Night to Unite: city dept. heads visit neighborhoods throughout to listen, inform, discuss; results used to inform city's planning of future goals and projects  29.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – inventory & maps for the sanitary sewer system, roads, and bridges |