**2020 Category B City: NORTH BRANCH, MN**

Currently a Step 2 GreenStep City as of June 2019

- joined January 2018 -

***Which assessment****? Preliminary: for city review Final: May 1st recommendation to LMC*

***Assessor and date****: Philipp Muessig, 3/13/20*

**10**

***Total BPs implemented: All required\* BPs done? BP distribution requirements\* met?***

***Recommend June public recognition by LMC at: Step 3***

Recognition at a Step 3 level involves implementing, at a minimum, these additional actions:

* 1 action from BP 2, or BP 3, or BP 4 (actions 5-8), or BP 5
* Action 6.2 (zoning code referencing comp plan)
* Action 15.1 (purchasing policy)

***\* note****: requirements are for Step 3 recognition*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Best practices (**required\* in bold**) BP implemented? Action summary by # and star level achieved  Action rules (req.\* actions in **bold**) | | |
| **NO**  **BUILDINGS: distribution requirement is 2 BPs; are 2 done?** | | |
| **1. Public**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | * 1. COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- monthly energy data entry; 12 months of consecutive data has been entered   2. COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- building-wide computer/office equipment power management software to go in sleep mode; staff training to turn off all computer-related equipment; 20% streetlights LEDs; one building 100% LEDs   1.4 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- implementing cloud-based technology information systems; multi-function copiers; goal for 100% green and paperless in the next five years |
| 2. Private  any one action |  |  |
| 3. New  any one action |  |  |
| 4. Lighting/Signals  2 actions; one from 5-8 | **NO** | 4.4 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- collaborates with MnDOT on signal synchronization  4.8 threshold for one star is 1/3 traffic signals LEDs |
| 5. Reuse  any one action |  | **NO** |
| **LAND USE: 2 BPs required; are 2 done?** | | |
| **6. Comp Plan**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **NO** | 6.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- 2018 Comp Plan has environment / sustainability vision statement, sustainability % active living policies / objectives; City is recognized as Shovel Ready and an Opportunity Zone |
| 7. Density  any one action |  |  |
| 8. Mixed Uses  any one action | **YES** | 8.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- Minnesota Design Team (MDT) in 2018  8.2 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR  8.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – 2019 zoning code update planned |
| 9. Highway Development  any one action |  |  |
| 10. Conservation Development  any one action |  |  |
| **YES**  **TRANSPORTATION: 1 BP required; is 1 done?** | | |
| 11. Complete Green Streets  1; & one additional action |  |  |
| 12. Mobility Options  any one action | **YES** | 12.1 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Parks Trails and Open Spaces Commission continuously advises on active recreation  12.3 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Chisago-Isanti County Heartland Express provides curb-to-curb service  12.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – taking steps to make telework possible |
|  |  |  |
| 14. TOD / TDM  any two actions |  | **YES** |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL MGT: 3 BPs required; are 3 done?** | | |
| **15. Purchasing**  **1; and one additional action** | **NO** | 15.7 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- 100% paperless agenda/minutes/video for all City meetings through cloud based technology |
| **16. Trees**  **any one action** | **YES** | 16.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- existing Tree ordinance |
| 17. Stormwater  any one action | **YES** | 17.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Street & Utility Design Standards, SWPPP, Engineering Design Standard for Stormwater Management |
| 18. Parks & Trails  any two actions | **YES** | 18.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 30 miles of sidewalks; Sunrise Prairie Trail connects with Hardwood Creek Trail in Washington Co.; 232 acres of parkland at 19 sites for outdoor recreation  18.8 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- North Branch Area Athletics, NBA Community Ed, Williams Parks Community Garden, Monarch Pollinators, MDT work on land restoration and stewardship projects |
| 19. Surface Water  if state public water: 4; and one additional action  others: any one action |  |  |
| 20. Water / Wastewater  1 & 2; and one additional | **NO** | 20.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- MPCA 2017-18 recognition of wastewater facilities for operational excellence |
| 21. Septics  any one action |  |  |
| 22. Solid Waste  one from 1-3; & one from 4-8 |  |  |
| 23. Local Air Quality  any one action |  | **YES** |
| **ECON & COMM DEVELOP: 3 BPs required; are 3 done?** | | |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement**  **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 24.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Mayor, 2 CMs, City's GreenStep Coordinator on green team  24.4 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – MDT FB page; social media to promote annual recycling, composting; further expansion to other sustainability issues |
| **25. Green Businesses**  **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.3 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Beautification Association is a major actor in attracting new residents, elevating tourism and sustaining the economy  25.7 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- Council support for buy local campaign; encouragement for residents to buy local |
| 26. Renewable Energy  any two actions | **NO** | 26.6 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 100 MW North Star Solar Project: largest solar photovoltaic energy facility in the Midwest, producing enough energy to power approximately 20,000 homes |
| 27. Local Food  any one action | **YES** | 27.3 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- City actively supports a local farmer's market and community garden |
| 28. Business Synergies  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 -- active city promotion of FB, and CodeRED -- to keep community members informed of emergency notifications, general community notifications, severe weather warnings |

**NORTH BRANCH** – notable actions

* **Cloud-based** information systems implemented for improving efficiency across departments promoting accountability, accessibility, transparency, reliability and sustainability, aiming for 100% paperless in five years
* **MN Design Team** community planning charrette in 2018
* **100 MW North Star Solar Project**: largest solar photovoltaic energy facility in the Midwest, producing enough energy to power approximately 20,000 homes