**2020 Category B City: LA CRESCENT**

Currently a Step 2 GreenStep City as of June 2017

- joined October 2015 -

**X**

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

***Assessor and date****: Kristin Mroz, 5/29/20*

**12**

**YES**

**YES**

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

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

**X**

*\* 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 done?** | | |
| **1. Public**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | * 1. COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2 yrs data, .36 ratio!, all bldgs./meters   1.2 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- Fire Station, Community Bldg renovation: all LEDs, weather stripping, sealant, HVAC replacements, integrated communications & controls for heating/cooling. Ice arena converted all indoor/outdoor lighting to LED lighting as of 10.31.16. nice B3 graphs!   * 1. COMPLETE @ 2 STARS –solar PV on fire hall |
| 2. Private  any one action |  |  |
| 3. New  any one action |  |  |
| 4. Lighting/Signals  2 actions; one from 5-8 | **YES** | 4.2 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- city's only traffic signal is LED; Xcel is transitioning to all LED street lights  4.4 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- only traffic signal optimized using signal timing & sensors to minimize car idling and maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds  4.5 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- LED lighting in ice arena parking lot; trans- itioned all Christmas lights to LEDs; warning flashers, rotated to different areas, powered by solar energy  4.6 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- city upgraded to LEDs on the bridge, city welcome sign, and several city facilities  4.8 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS |
| 5. Reuse  any one action |  | **YES** |
| **LAND USE: 2 BPs required; are 2 done?** | | |
| **6. Comp Plan**  **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 6.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2016; GreenStep in comp plan  6.2 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- incorporating comp plan references into all ordinance text |
| 7. Density  any one action |  |  |
| 8. Mixed Uses  any one action | **NO** | 8.5 working on a downtown plan: 2017 |
| 9. Highway Development  any one action | **YES** | 9.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- part of La Crosse Area Planning Commission which is working on a number of different items, most extensively transportation improvement in the region |
| 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 @ 3 STARS -- updating 2013 bike/ped plan; applied to be a Bicycle Friendly community; Bicycle Shoppe supported by city  12.6 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- added Saturday bus service in 2016; building a large walking/bike bridge over Highway 61 to help connect City to La Crosse through a biking corridor |
| 13. Fleets  any one action |  |  |
| 14. TOD / TDM  any two actions |  | **YES** |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL MGT: 3 BPs required; are 3 done?** | | |
| **15. Purchasing**  **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 15.1 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2019 policy covering waste minimization, energy efficiency/Dark Sky lighting, recycled content paper  15.7 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- transitioning to paperless city council & planning commission packets; $10,000 2017 budget |
| **16. Trees**  **any one action** | **YES** | 16.2 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- zoning ordinance outlines BPs for tree planting, maintenance, preservation; Tree Board working on Tree City USA recognition; city is the Apple Capital of MN  16.3 working on: 2017 |
| 17. Stormwater  any one action | **YES** | 17.3 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – activities disturbing 20k+ cu. ft. must  submit a storm water pollution control plan and a grading plan |
| 18. Parks & Trails  any two actions | **YES** | 18.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 2nd phase of Wagon Wheel Trail along the Mississippi; approval for 3rd phase – a million dollar+ bridge connection for pedestrians; expanded our park system (2016-2017) with the addition of Stoney Point Park which is over sixty acres of new park, wilderness, and trails for our community  18.2 working on:  18.5 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS – 2020 policy for the protection of pollinators and enhancement of pollinator habitat for bees and butterflies  18.8 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- annual Neighbors Day event in April: organizes neighbors to help each other in work around the community, at their homes, and in public spaces; a group of community members (including one of our own Green Team members) have begun prairie restoration within small areas |
| 19. Surface Water  if state public water: 4; and one additional action  others: any one action |  |  |
| 20. Water / Wastewater  1 & 2; and one additional |  |  |
| 21. Septics  any one action |  |  |
| 22. Solid Waste  one from 1-3; & one from 4-8 |  |  |
| 23. Local Air Quality  any one action | **YES** | 23.2 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- ordinances banning and regulating burning of a variety of substances  23.5 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR – level 2 EV charger at the Best Western, noted on city’s GreenStep page  **YES** |
| **ECON & COMM DEVELOP: 3 BPs required; are 3 done?** | | |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement**  **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 24.1 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- 12-memberGreen Team active since 2016, meets monthly/bi-monthly, includes city staff, community members, school staff; continued work on communicating & engaging citizens; we have seen an increase in awareness by not only city staff, but also community members and city council members. Sustainability is on the tip of everyone's tongue!  24.6 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS -- city council has approved 2 students as members of the city green steps committee |
| **25. Green Businesses**  **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.4 COMPLETE @ 2 STARS -- Public Works brings yard waste to a locally run compost site & buys the compost to use in public works projects  25.6 COMPLETE @ 1 STAR -- green business award - annual recognition |
| 26. Renewable Energy  any two actions | **NO** | 26.7 COMPLETE @ 3 STARS – 2019 SolSmart designation at the Bronze level |
| 27. Local Food  any one action | **NO** | 27.3 working on: 2017 |
| 28. Business Synergies  2, 3 or 4 |  |  |
| **29. Climate Adaptation**  **action 1**  (Category A & B cities must achieve a 1-star rating plus either a 2- or 3- star rating for Step 3 recognition) | **YES** | 29.1 COMPLETE @ 2 Star – Works with Houston County to develop All-Hazard Mitigation plan with goals, objectives, strategies, and emergency response for city. Use County CodeRed communication system. |

**LA CRESCENT** – notable actions

* **Savings of $1 million over 25 years** anticipated for 2019 solar panel installations at Vetsch Park and the La Crescent Animal Shelter
* **Added Saturday bus service in 2016, and other transportation improvements** championed by the La Crosse Area Planning Commission include: building a large walking/bike bridge over Highway 61 in a bike corridor to connect city to La Crosse; updating 2013 bike/ped plan; applied to be a Bicycle Friendly community; Bicycle Shoppe supported by city
* **Annual Neighbors Day** in April organizes neighbors to help each other in work around the community, at their homes, and in public spaces
* **2020 policy for the protection of pollinators** and enhancement of pollinator habitat for bees and butterflies
* **2 student members** on the city’s GreenStep committee
* **2019 SolSmart** designation at the Bronze level