**2021 Category A City: SOUTH ST. PAUL**

Currently a Step 3 GreenStep City as of June 2020

(joined April 2016)

***Assessor and date****: Kristin Mroz, 12/24/20*

**17**

***Total BPs implemented:***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Best practices (**required in bold**) Action rules (req. actions in **bold**)  | BP implemented?  | Action summary by # and star level achieved |
|  **BUILDINGS: distribution requirement\* is 2 BPs ; are 2 BPs done? YES** |
| **1. Public** **Actions 1 & 2; & one action from actions 3-7** | **YES** | 1.1 @ 1 STAR1.2 @ 2 STARS --  City’s Doug Woog Arena converted to LEDs: ROI 8 months; $25,000 cost to city with rebates; annual energy cost savings $36,000, maintenance savings $6,0001.3 @ 2 STARS – 2014 City Hall LED replacements & better HVAC regulating: monthly energy savings between $500 and $5000 |
| 2. Private any two actions | **NO** | 2.5 @ 1 STAR – no lawn watering between 10am & 5pm |
| 3. New action 1 or 2; one from 3-5 |  |  |
| 4. Lighting/Signals 2 actions with one from 5-8 | **YES** | 4.3 @ 1 STAR – City replaces all outdoor light fixtures in need of replacing with LED fixtures on all City-owned buildings4.5 @ 2 STARS -- LED Solar-powered flashing signage on 5th Avenue, a very busy street where elementary students cross |
| 5. Reuse any one action | **YES** | 5.3 @ 2 STARS -- long-vacant Wells Fargo Building re-purposed in 2018 into 68 apartment units5.5 @ 2 STARS – 2040 Comp Plan section focusing on infill, adaptive reuse & redevelopment; financing options for redevelopment  |
|  **LAND USE: 2 BPs required\*; are 2 BPs done? YES** |
| **6. Comp Plan** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 6.1 @ 1 STAR – 2009 Comp Plan6.2 @ 1 STAR -- administration of the zoning ordinance will be accomplished with due consideration of the recommendations contained in the comprehensive municipal plan |
| 7. Density any one action | **YES** | 7.1 @ 1 STAR -- majority of housing stock developed at 7.5 DUA; new high density residential would be within the mixed use zones |
| 8. Mixed Uses any two actions | **YES** | 8.2 @ 1 STAR -- City Hall, Library, community center within DT, by residential/commercial uses & sidewalks & bus transit8.5 @ 3 STARS -- C-1 zoning (retail business district) covers DT, allows for office, retail, educational, civic & residential in 1 bldg.  |
| 9. Highway Development any one action |  |  |
| 10. Conservation Development any one action |  |  |
|  **TRANSPORTATION: 2 BPs required\*; are 2 BPs done? YES** |
| **11. Complete Green Streets** **1; & two additional actions** | **YES** | 11.1 @ 3 STARS -- Complete Streets Policy adopted in October of 2019, includes trees/stormwater11.5 @ 1 STAR -- 2019 Wentworth Ave. Sidewalks added to improve ped experience, provide important connections to neighborhoods, local schools, and area parks11.6 @ 1 STAR – 2018 bump outs and intersection markings on Southview Blvd. |
| **12. Mobility Options** **any two actions** | **YES** | 12.1 @ 2 STARS – 2014 bike/ped plan has an existing route map with future trails and bikeways identified12.2 @ 1 STAR – 2010 SRTS Plan; seeking funding |
| 13. Fleets any two actions |  |  |
| 14. TOD / TDM any two actions |  |  |
|  **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: 4 BPs required\*; are 4 done? YES** |
| **15. Purchasing** **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 15.1 @ 1 STAR -- administrative guidelines 30%+ post-consumer recycled content paper; central buyer; city paper purchases down due to electronic agendas, flyers to local schools15.6 @ 1 STAR -- uses GLS Companies (multiple sustainability certifications) for printing15.7 @ 2 STARS -- large city events involving food & City Hall use compostable flatware & collect organics |
| **16. Trees** **any two actions** | **YES** | 16.5 @ 3 STARS – 2020 Native Plant Landscaping ordinance exempts native plans from weed nuisance rules and creates performance standards for native plant landscape areas. 16.6 @ 3 STARS – 2017 Tree Management Plan includes an Emerald Ash Borer Strategy |
| **17. Stormwater** **any one action** | **YES** | 17.2 @ 1 STAR - low 20s assessment score will be used to guide future stormwater management plans17.5 @ 2 STARS -- City with SWCD offers residents rebates to install a rain barrel/garden; Stormwater Runoff Design Standards encourages rain gardens, rain reuse, trees, tree planters, and green roofs |
| 18. Parks & Trails any three actions | **YES** | 18.2 @ 2 STARS – ‘park’ dedication of land and/or cash – 1 lot/unit threshold for plats, replats or subdivisions18.3 @ 1 STAR -- 11.6 acres of park land per 1,000 residents18.5 @ 2 STARS – 2015 resolution for protection of pollinators, enhancement of pollinator habitat for bees and butterflies (avoid neonics, purchasing only bee/butterfly friendly fertilizer and plantings)18.8 @ 3 STARS --  City runs several volunteer parks/landscape programs: Adopt a Street, Park and River Programs; park clean-ups in the spring; Blooming Parks program; Weed Be Goners Club; annual All City Clean-up Day |
| 19. Surface Water if state public water: 4; and one additional actionif no state water: any one action | **NO** | 19.4 @ 2 STARS – MnRRA & shoreline ordinance |
| 20. Water / Wastewater 1 & 2; and one additional |  |  |
| 21. Septics any one action | **YES** | 21.1 @ 2 STARS -- owners notified they need to pump their septic system every 3 years: City provides County with addresses and County maintains a database of owners’ pumping maintenance |
| 22. Solid Waste 1 or 2; & one from 4-8 |  |    |
| 23. Local Air Quality any two actions | **NO** |  23.2 @ 3 STARS – 2019 ban on use of outdoor burners/boilers |
|  **ECON & COMM DVLP: 3 BPs required\*; are 3 done? YES** |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 24.1 @ 1 STAR – City staff GreenStep team; GS page on city web 24.2 @ 2 STARS – annual reports from EDA, Planning Commission; link to GreenStep page; Comp Plan implementation chapter; 2019 resident survey; resident newsletter now 6x/yr. vs. 3x24.6 @ 2 STARS -- Mayor’s Youth Task force: grade 5-12 students participate in city’s annual food drive, fun teen events, community education on various topics including sustainability |
| **25. Green Businesses** **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.4 @ 1 STAR -- Danner Inc., S & S Tree, Twin Cities Pallet resp. reuse concrete, tree debris, pallets25.5 @ 1 STAR -- 2010 EPA Brownfield grant removed contaminated soil and buried debris; site now hosts plumbing, heating and air service company |
| 26. Renewable Energy any two actions | NO |  26.7 @ 3 STARS – 2020 Bronze SolSmart; rewrote solar ordinances; list of solar resources for residents and businesses. |
| 27. Local Food any one action | **YES** | 27.2 @ 2 STARS -- Code permits residential chicken keeping with permit; 2015 pollinator resolution (see 18.5) attached 27.3 @ 2 STARS -- City & Wakota Federal Credit Union host weekly Farmers' Market (2019 pilot to reduce plastic bags, increase reusables); donated produce goes to Neighbors, Inc for free food shelf distribution; Community Garden (107 plots); 2017 school garden-fresh produce to Neighbors |
| 28. Business Synergies action 2, 3 or 4 |  |  |
| **29. Climate Adaptation** **action 1** | **YES** | 29.1 @ 2 STARS -- City included in Co. All-Hazard Mitigation Plan; Police Chief responsible for city preparedness/emergency response; residents can sign up for Emergency Alert Notifications via multiple media |

**SOUTH SAINT PAUL highlights**

* **Stormwater Runoff Design Standards encourages green roofs**, rain gardens, rain reuse, trees, tree planters
* **Mayor’s Youth Task force**: grade 5-12 students participate in city’s annual food drive, fun teen events, community education on various topics including sustainability
* **Complete Streets Policy** adopted in October of 2019, includes trees/stormwater
* **Energy cost savings of $36,000/yr**., maintenance savings $6,000/yr. from converting lights in the City’s Arena to LEDs; $25,000 cost to city with rebates; ROI of 8 months
* **Compostable flatware and organics collection** at City Hall and at large city events
* **City runs several volunteer parks/landscape programs**: Adopt a Street, Park and River Programs; park clean-ups in the spring; Blooming Parks program; Weed-Be-Goners Club; annual All-City Clean-up Day
* **$500 to $5,000/mo. energy savings** from City Hall LED replacements & better HVAC regulating