**2022 Category A City: BEMIDJI**

Currently a Step Three GreenStep City as of June 2015

 - joined February 2012 -

***Assessor and date****: Kristin Mroz, 11/5/21*

**19**

***Total BPs done:***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Best practices (**required in bold**) Action rules (req. actions in **bold**)  | BP implemented?  | Action summary by # and star level achieved |
| **BUILDINGS:**  |
| **1. Public** **1 & 2; & one action from 3-7** | **YES** | 1.1 @ 2 STARS1.2 @ 2 STARS -- proposed enhancements via GESP underway to the mechanical, electrical, structural and temperature control systems1.3 @ 3 STARS -- one of the first in the state to utilize GESP to undertake a $2.5 million efficiency project for 9 buildings, based on RETAP audit. 1-time rebate of $122,000 and savings of $120,000/yr. in energy and maintenance costs. Also, much of the cities outdoor lighting was upgraded to LEDs 1.4 @ 1 STAR -- computer controlled HVAC units |
| 2. Private any two actions | **YES** | 2.1 @ 1 star2.4 @ 3 STARS -- Luekens Village Grocery built/is selling from a large-scale aquaponics greenhouse; Harmony Food Coop installed city's first solar awning array |
| 3. New 1 or 2; one from 3-5 |  |  |
| 4. Lighting/Signals 2 actions with one from 5-8 | **YES** | 4.4 @ 2 STARS4.8 @ 2 STARS |
| 5. Reuse any one action |  |  |
| **LAND USE:**  |
| **6. Comp Plan** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 6.1 @ 1 STAR -- Greater Bemidji Area Land Use Plan 2007; revised March 9, 2011 to include Active Living6.2 @ 1 STAR – policy for land use and development ordinances be enforced, amended and administered with due consideration of the Greater Bemidji Area Land Use Plan6.3 @ 2 STARS -- Joint Powers Board with 2 townships & orderly annexation agreements |
| 7. Density any one action | **YES** | 7.1 @ 1 STAR7.2 @ 2 STARS – May 2015 adoption of tiny houses: are these zoned by right and what is the minimum house & lot size?7.3 @ 1 STAR7.5 @ NOT RATED zoning code does not reference LEED-ND for as a of-right development |
| 8. Mixed Uses any two actions | **YES** | 8.1 @ 3 STARS MN Design Team visit 20128.2 @ 2 STARS8.3 @ 1 STAR8.5 @ 3 STARS -- Downtown Zoning Urban Renaissance allows retail, recreational, governmental functions, high amenity setting, conducive to bike/ped, vertical mixed-use is very common (typically retail land uses with residential units on the upper level) |
| 9. Highway Development any one action |  |  |
| 10. Conservation Development any one action | **YES** | 10.7 @ 3 STARs – MN Audubon-designated 2017 state’s third Bird City: 18 specific Bird City criteria, including initiative called "Birds, Bees, & Butterflies - Bemidji" (BBBB); # volunteer hours (850); # demo gardens/landscapes (8); # plants planted/sold (2500); # people engaged in BBBB events and activities (400). |
| **TRANSPORTATION:**  |
| **11. Complete Green Streets** **1; & two additional actions** | **YES** | 11.1 @ 1 STAR11.5 @ 3 STARS11.6 @ 2 STARS |
| **12. Mobility Options** **any two actions** | **YES** | 12.1 @ 3 STARS Bemidji was recognized by the League of American Bicyclists as a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Bronze level in October of 2012.12.2 @ 2 STARS Active Living Bemidji program, which is in its 4th year of implementation.12.6 @ 2 STARS – NiceRide launches in June! |
| 13. Fleets any two actions |  |  |
| 14. TOD / TDM any two actions |  |  |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL MANGAMENT:** |
| **15. Purchasing** **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 15.1 @ 1 STAR15.7 @ 1 STAR – council packets on city-supplied IPAD  |
| **16. Trees** **any two actions** | **YES** | 16.1 @ 1 STAR16.6 @ 3 STARS |
| **17. Stormwater** **any one action** | **YES** | 17.2 @ 1 STAR17.4 @ 1 STAR17.5 @ 1 STAR -- impervious surface limitations for storm water; coal tar banned17.6 @ 2 STARS -- every applicant for a building permit … must submit an erosion and sediment control plan |
| 18. Parks & Trails any three actions | **YES** | 18.1@ 1 STAR 18.2 @ 1 STAR18.8 @ 2 STARS |
| 19. Surface Water if state public water: 4; and one additional actionif no state water: any one action | **YES** | 19.2 @ 1 STAR19.4 @ 1 STAR |
| 20. Water / Wastewater 1 & 2; and one additional | **NO** | 20.1 @ 2 STARS -- Data on energy consumption from the Waste Water Treatment Plant has been on B3 Benchmarking since ’07 20.6 @ 1 STAR -- grease waste reduction project aiming for 10% cut in fats, oils and greases entering the Wastewater plant |
| 21. Septics any one action | **YES** | 21.4 @ 2 STARs -- JPB enforces its own ordinance regarding SSTS |
| 22. Solid Waste 1 or 2; & one from 4-8 |  |    |
| 23. Local Air Quality any two actions | **NO** |  23.3 @ 3 STARS – BSU smoke-free policy in residence halls |
| **RESILIENT ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**  |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 24.1 @ 2 STARS -- Sustainability Committee reports their initiatives to the council on a quarterly basis24.2 @ 2 STARS – goals & key measures by department – very nice format in budget24.4 @ 2 STARS Sustainable Tuesdays is a partnership program with the Indigenous Environmental Network, the Minnesota GreenCorps, the Rail River Folk School, and Bemidji State University’s Sustainability Office.24.5 @ 3 STARS -- Sustainability Committee articles 1/mo. in local paper (e.g., permaculture) + S. Tuesdays |
| **25. Green Businesses** **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.1 @ 1 STAR25.7 @ 1 STAR -- Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board working to produce a "local campaign" – post details when available |
| 26. Renewable Energy any two actions | **YES** | 26.1 @ 1 STAR26.2 @ 1 STAR – nice outreach in city hall26.3 @ 3 STARS -- Beltrami Co. signed JPA with St. Paul Port establishing the county as a PACE district, so any business, non-profit, or multi-family housing unit in the county (therefore in Bemidji) can utilize PACE to cover the up-front financing for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects |
| 27. Local Food any one action | **YES** | 27.2 @ 2 STARS -- beekeeping is allowed within city limits by ordinance with several rules attached to that permission27.3 @ 1 STAR |
| 28. Business Synergies action 2, 3 or 4 |  |  |
| 29. Climate Adaptation Action 1 |  |  |

**BEMIDJI** – notable actions

* **2017 MN Audubon-designated Bird City** (3rd in state): best practice actions include 400 "Bemidji Birds, Bees, & Butterflies” events & activities, 850 volunteer hours, 8 demonstration gardens/landscapes, 2500 bird-friendly plants planted/sold
* **Bicycle Friendly Community** recognition at the Bronze level in 2012
* **NiceRide bike-sharing service** launches summer 2014
* **Sustainability Committee reports** their initiatives to the city council on a quarterly basis; goals & key measures by department included in yearly budget highlights
* **Sustainable Tuesdays** offers free weekly learning opportunities to the public, in partnership program with the Indigenous Environmental Network, the Minnesota GreenCorps, the Rail River Folk School, and Bemidji State University’s Sustainability Office
* **Local large-scale aquaponics greenhouse** supplied Luekens Village Grocery
* **Savings of $126,000/yr. in energy & maintenance costs** from a $2.5 million dollar efficiency project for 8 city buildings, streetlights and wastewater treatment plant, based on RETAP audit; the first-in-the-state State of MN GESP-funded project, using a $122,000 rebate