**2022 Category A City: GOLDEN VALLEY**

Currently a Step 5 GreenStep City as of June 2021

(joined April 2016)

***Assessor and date****: Kristin Mroz, 12/23/21*

**230**

***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 Buildings**  **Actions 1 & 2; & one action from actions 3-7** | | **YES** | 1.1 @ 3 STARS – As of 2016, 10 years of energy use data for 20 City-owned buildings; every 6 months entered; annual review by staff and Environmental Commission  1.2 @ 2 STARS – 2016: changing out T12s for T8s in all buildings; some motion activated lighting added  1.5 @ 2 STARS – 2018 new Brookview Community Center built to LEED Silver: priority parking for Low Emissions Vehicles, bicycle parking, solar reflective roof and terrace, stormwater quality control features, all LEDs. Exterior lighting 67% more efficient than code; interior lighting 13% more efficient than code  1.6 @ 1 STAR -- Energy Efficient Operations Manual created for City Hall: approx..savings of 27,000 kWh, $6,000 | |
| 2. Private Buildings  any two actions | | YES | 2.1 @ 3 STARS – CEE contract to bring free remodeling advisor visits and the Home Energy Program to residents in 2009; 24 yrs. co-sponsored W. Metro Home Remodeling Fair (incl. energy topics)  2.4 @ 1 STAR – 3 city water bottle filling stations with filters at City Hall and Brookview Community Center | |
| 3. New Green Buildings  action 1 or 2; one from 3-5 | | NO | 3.3 @ 2 STARS – 2015: PUD approval requires minimum options to total 5 points; options include a green roof (5 pts.), a renewable energy source (4 pts.), LEED gold (3 pts.) or platinum (4 pts.) building, community garden (3 pts.), enhanced storm water | |
| 4. Lighting/Signals  2 actions with one from 5-8 | | YES | 4.3 @ 3 STARS -- all 558 cobrahead street lights replaced by utility with 3000k LEDs: savings of 221,000 lbs CO2, 23% cut in energy bill  4.4 @ 3 STARS -- All 43 traffic signals have pavement sensors; Hwy 55+ signal interconnections; all County signal upgrades include video detection; flashing yellow arrow left turn signals; first 2 roundabouts are being built  4.5 @ 2 STARS -- entire City Hall campus LEDs (signs, parking, bollards, security lights); retrofits to LEDs within park buildings and other public spaces as resources allow (working on an inventory of these conversions); City Hall parking lot LEDs cut annual cost from $3,173 to $1,436  4.8 @ 2 STARS -- Annual costs to city 2009 $31,924 >> 2015 $16,566 | |
| 5. Building Redevelopment  any one action | |  |  | |
| **LAND USE: 2 BPs required; are 2 BPs done? YES** | | | | |
| **6. Comp Plan**  **Actions 1 & 2** | | **YES** | 6.1 @ 3 STARS -- 2040 Comp Plan includes: chapter on sustainability and resilience; sustainability goals highlighted in all chapters; bike/ped transportation chapter expands multi-modal transportation; Capital Improvement Plan catalogues public investments by date and cost; CIP yearly review by Planning Commission for consistency with Comp Plan  6.2 @ 3 STARS – Comp Plan reference often in “Purpose and Intent” subdivision of each Zoning Code section; zoning application findings acknowledge consistency with Comp Plan  6.3 @ 3 STARS -- Joint Water Commission (incl. joint ductile iron pipe water main), mill/overlay shared equipment, 2-city fire mutual aid agreement, 2-city lodging taxes support joint to tourism bureau, 3-city recycling contract, inter-city (& JPA) access to parks/schools, joint hydrologic modeling project  6.4 @ 3 STARS -- 2040 comp plan will ID natural resource protection areas, recommend strategies for integrating protection into the development process, use 2013 NR Mgt. Plan (incl. 2002 NRI) to make LM decisions | |
| 7. City Growth  any one action | | YES | 7.1 @ 2 STARS -- R-2 up to 8 DUA, R-4 allows over 12 DUA; 2040 Comp Plan, where R-3 & R-4 zoning districts adjacent to commercial, will consider higher DUA  7.2 @ 2 STARS -- density bonuses: in R-3 for underground parking, locating near transit route, substantial recreation facilities onsite; senior/physical disability housing; PUDs | |
| 8. Mixed Uses  any two actions | | YES | 8.1 @ 2 STARS -- 2008 facilitated community planning meetings for the I-394 mixed use district for the comprehensive plan; resident and business surveys; visual preference survey  8.2 @ 3 STARS -- City Hall campus connected via paths/walks to Co. Library; adjacent to commercial; senior housing, bus within 0.1 miles. 4 schools along public transit lines -- Perpich Center has reduced-fee bus passes for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch  8.7 @ 2 STARS -- Live/work vertical units allowed in the I-394 mixed use district; shared parking allowed in some areas | |
| 9. Highway Development  any one action | |  |  | |
| 10. Conservation  any one action | | YES | 10.1 @ 3 STARS -- 2013 NRI; 2015 NR Mgt. Plan IDs high/low quality natural areas and strategies; ordinances to preserve HQ areas during evaluation of development; PUD ord. preserves and protects substantial desirable portions of sites; option and incentive in the Tree and Landscape Code to plant a larger massing of native grasses and wildflowers in developments.  10.5 @ 3 STARS -- As of 2016 city established 13 conservation easements, totaling 25.7 acres; excellent 2015 Environmental State of the City report | |
| **TRANSPORTATION: 2 BPs required; are 2 BPs done? YES** | | | | |
| **11. Living & Complete Streets**  **1; & two additional actions** | | **YES** | 11.1 @ 2 STARS -- 2011 Council resolution; 2016 bike/ped task force to assess routes and connectivity for 2040 comp plan  11.3 @ 3 STARS -- Douglas Drive 2016-17 corridor project: streetscaping, sidewalks, bike lanes, roundabouts, undergrounding utilities & adding duct banks/conduits for future utility expansions; existing stormwater pond expanded to irrigate nearby ballfields; excess ROW=filtration basins  11.4 @ 2 STARS -- 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan budgets for $400,000 in sidewalk and trail system upgrades  11.5 @ 3 STARS -- 2002 City facilitated MNDOT’s construction of ped bridge over Hwy. 100 connecting Bassett Creek Park in Crystal to Briarwood Nature Area in GV; 3 park-street connections  11.6 @ 2 STARS -- Douglas Dr. 2016-17 corridor project; reconstruction of Winnetka & Zenia Aves. incorporated perennial, shrub, and tree plantings in medians and boulevards, curves; road diets on 3 Co. roads; almost every street reconstruction project the City has completed for the last 15 years has narrowed roadway widths and reduce impervious surfaces: 2004, 2010, 2017 | |
| **12. Mobility Options**  **any two actions** | | **YES** | 12.1 @ 3 STARS -- Interactive bike/ped maps; Bike/Ped Planning Task force; park & ride lot; taprooms, cocktail rooms allowed to substitute 2 bicycle spaces for every 1 required car parking space up to 15% of required parking spaces; bike parking required for residents in 12+ unit developments, for all other developments at 5% of the required vehicle parking (minimum of 4 spaces). 2 businesses are 2 bronze Bicycle Friendly Businesses; 2016 WalkScore of 29  12.4 @ 3 STARS -- park and ride lots at General Mills Boulevard and Interstate 394 and at Highway 100 and Duluth Street. These lots give access to bus routes and car-pool services.  12.5 @ NOT RATED – city employee telework, flexwork, and job-sharing policy. Other businesses in community offer remote work options as of 2021.  12.6 @ 3 STARS -- 2018 (& 19) contract with Lime to deploy 53 dockless bikes & 61 scooters | |
| 13. Fleets  any two actions | | YES | 13.2 @ 1 STAR -- public works staff routinely survey vehicles by department for usage, function, and miles per gallon  13.3 @ 2 STARS -- Review of vehicle fuel usage & costs; 2013 snowplowing zones/routes for streets/sidewalks optimized for fuel and labor efficiencies; GPS automatic vehicle location technology in all snow removal equipment resulting in reduced fuel/salt use; 2008 staff no-idling policy; exploring police squad car computer systems that reduce idling; 22 E85 vehicles  13.4 @ 3 STARS -- Parks & police bike patrols; annual police bike-along (20 residents in 2015) | |
| 14. TOD / TDM  any two actions | | NO | 14.4 @ 2 STARS -- Transportation demand management overlay district along I-394 requires TDM plans for dense developments (0.6+ of gross sq. ft. floor area per sq. ft. of land in parcel); plans may require incentives for ridesharing, public transit, bike/ped, variable/flex work hours, shared parking | |
| **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: 4 BPs required; are 4 done? YES** | | | | |
| **15. Purchasing**  **1; and one additional action** | | **YES** | 15.1 @ 1 STAR – 2017 sustainable purchasing guidelines: EnergyStar, WaterSense, Green Seal, EcoLogo and/or US EPA Safer Choice cleaning products, 30%+ recycled-content paper; 10% price leyway  15.4 @ 1 STAR – Water Sense sinks, toilets, urinals, showerheads, pre-rinse spray valves, irrigation controllers | |
| **16. Trees**  **any two actions** | | **YES** | 16.1 @ 3 STARS -- Tree City USA since 1987; $13/resident  16.2 @ 3 STARS -- survival rates of plantings tracked (86-100%)  16.3 @ 3 STARS – annual tree planting in public spaces $10k-$30,000; also budget for tree replacement as part of Pavement Management Program; 2016 EarthDefine Geospatial [LiDAR] Data and Services -- overall city tree canopy of 40.5%  16.6 @ 3 STARS -- residents directed to MnDOT Plant Selector online tool; Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan 2010; use of 10-20-30 rule | |
| **17. Stormwater**  **any one action** | | **YES** | 17.1 @ 3 STARS – MIDS adopted 2015  17.3 @ 3 STARS -- code requires stormwater runoff rates be limited to pre-project rates for the 2-year, 10-year and 100-year, 24-hour precipitation events; public & private street width proposals between 24- and 26-feet (& some 18’) consistently approved  17.5 @ 3 STARS -- residential rain garden, native vegetation guidelines; infiltration, evapotranspiration, reuse/harvesting, conservation design, urban forestry and green roofs are given preference as design options for those seeking a permit (esp. PUD); stormwater harvesting helps irrigate Sandburg Athletic Complex; advanced techniques implemented in smaller street projects as opportunities arise; use of Atlas 14; 8 public, 36 private rain gardens; 1 private green roof; 2 public, 2 private pervious pavers | |
| 18. Parks & Trails  any three actions | | YES | 18.3 @ 3 STARS -- 2016, 15% land in parks/open space; 55 acres/1000 residents; 100% within one-half mile of a park/open space  18.5 @ 2 STARS -- 25 native buffer areas (54 acres) using IPM (herbicides only on athletic fields if weeds constitute over 70%); no milkweed removal and is included in public planters, medians and along roadways; park and public event recycling; in 2015 6 acres pollinator habitat planted  18.8 @ 2 STARS -- Adopt-a-park, -space, -pond, -storm drain | |
| 19. Surface Water  if state public water: 4; and one additional action  if no state water: any one action | | YES | 19.4 @ 3 STARS -- new shoreland development or alteration requires protection or restoration; new requires dedication of permanent conservation easements over a significant portion of the shoreland  19.5 @ 2 STARS – 5 out of 16 miles with stream bank buffer; over 30 private properties by 2016 stabilized their own shorelines; 20 private properties have shoreline conservation easements  19.6 @ 2 STARS | |
| 20. Water / Wastewater  1 & 2; and one additional | | YES | 20.1 @ 2 STARS -- uses B3 to compare energy usage of water reservoir to Crystal; JWC pumps and delivers drinking water at a rate of 1.0267 kWh per 1,000 gallons  20.3 @ 3 STARS -- Inflow/infiltration inspections required before house sale, plumbing permits ($10,000+), variances, subdivisions, other planning actions; voluntary I/I inspections part of Pavement Management Program; 2004-2015 reduced I/I flow 3.1 MGD (24%) = savings at wastewater treatment plant of up to $2,772,175/year  20.4 @ 2 STARS – 3rd party yrly. check of water/wastewater pumps; peak shaving generator in pump house; 2 out of 4 new efficient water reservoir pumps, 2020 plan for other 2 | |
| 21. Septics  any one action | |  |  | |
| 22. Solid Waste  1 or 2; & one from 4-8 | | YES | 22.1 @ 2 STARS – internal city organics collection & compostable products & plastic film recycling & 2016 447.7 tons of leaves collected and composted for local retail/wholesaling, from City properties; recycling in city buildings and parks and at special events  22.4 @ 2 STARS -- annual “Mighty Tidy Day” (data available) for furniture, household items for Bridging reuse; several second-hand shops in the City  22.5 @ 2 STARS -- organics recycling curbside is available through select residential trash haulers  22.6 @ 2 STARS -- city curbside recycling since 1987 to all 1-4 family residences; private garbage haulers must follow the City organized schedule; larger MF dwellings/C&I required to provide/contract for recycling collection at least every 2 weeks; 2018-new city contract for recycling services; 2016 - 2,174.05 tons of materials were diverted to city recycling  22.7 @ 2 STARS – Organized recycling and organics programs started 2022 for all 1-4 unit residences. | |
| 23. Local Air Quality  any two actions | | YES | 23.2 @ 3 STARS -- ordinance regulates recreational fires; guidance for recreational burning on the City website; Code prohibits the installation, use, and maintenance of outdoor wood boilers  23.3 @ 2 STARS – no smoking in public parks/recreation facilities; no-idling policy for the police/other departments saved $1,600/mo. For police in the first summer with the new policy  23.5 @ 1 STAR -- 2018 EV charger at City Hall | |
| **ECON & COMM DVLP: 3 BPs required; are 3 done? YES** | | | | |
| **24. Benchmarks & Community Engagement**  **Actions 1 & 2** | | **YES** | 24.1 @ 2 STARS -- Environmental Commission with annual report to council, GS on city web  24.2 @ 1 STAR -- As part of 2040 comp plan staff reviewed objectives completion & reported to Planning Commission; CIP catalogues public investments by date and cost  24.3 @ 1 STAR – Environmental State of the City report  24.6 @ 3 STARS – Multiple committees include a youth position; multiple city internship opportunities | |
| **25. Green Businesses**  **any two actions** | | **YES** | 25.4 @ 2 STARS -- City annually hosts Mighty Tidy Day with value-added businesses (Shred-N-Go, Tech Dump, Better Futures) for resident disposal of items that cannot be donated; city regularly contracts with companies that use recycled materials in street re-construction projects  25.5 @ 3 STARS -- Liberty Crossing redevelopment site: a mix of housing adjacent to transit and flood storage; reduction of impervious surface area; establishment of native vegetation buffer areas; development of public open space and trails; onsite renewable energy generation | |
| 26. Renewable Energy  any two actions | | YES | 26.1 @ 2 STARS -- solar & wind ordinance; since 2001 16 solar installations, aggregate value $363,793  26.2 @ 3 STARS -- City web lists green power purchasing, solar ap to assess property’s solar potential; in 2016 3 businesses, 435 residents participated in Windsource; as of 2016, 4 businesses, 13 residences have installed onsite solar  26.5 @ 1 STARS -- 2015 2 PV arrays (80 kW total) on public buildings; 2 more to come; 15% & 100% of building demands met; $2,213/yr. savings | |
| 27. Local Food  any one action | | YES | 27.2 @ 2 STARS -- 2013: chickens allowed by permit (2017: 9 licenses); 1 PUD option is a community garden  27.3 @ 3 STARS -- Market in the Valley: farmers market in City Hall parking lot every Sunday morning June-October, ~1000 shoppers/Sunday; 7,072 out of 9,610 residential units are within a mile of CSA drop-off points or the farmers market (74% of the population) | |
| 28. Business Synergies  any one action | | NO | 28.3 @ NOT RATED - transit service through Downtown West area, which is within 0.5 miles of single-family zoning; City-facilitated shared parking for the Central Park West property | |
| **29. Climate Adaptation**  **action 1 at a 2 or 3-star rating** | | **YES** | 29.1 @ 2 STARS -- part of regional Emergency Operations Plan/Group; includes a crisis communication plan  29.2 @ 1 STAR -- developing Resilience Plan to be part of its 2018 comp plan  29.3 @ 1 STAR – 2017 focus group of professionals who work to provide services to vulnerable populations to develop objectives, policies, and strategies outlined in the City’s Resilience and Sustainability Plan  29.5 @ 2 STARS – “red book” with critical maps, procedural information, contacts for emergency events and disasters; comprehensive facility analysis in 2006 incorporated into the Capital Improvement Plan each year for building improvements; investments to ensure new buildings are built to be durable and resilient to natural hazards; several roofs repaired; 5.2 miles of shorelines restored | |

**GOLDEN VALLEY** – notable actions

* **2040 Comp Plan includes**: chapter on sustainability & resilience; sustainability goals highlighted in all chapters;  bike/ped transportation chapter expands multi-modal transportation; Capital Improvement Plan, to be reviewed yearly by Planning Commission, catalogues public investments by date and cost
* **PUD approval includes sustainability elements; requires** minimum options that must total 5 points; options include a green roof (5 pts.), a renewable energy source (4 pts.), LEED gold (3 pts.) or platinum (4 pts.) building, community garden (3 pts.), enhanced storm water
* **Transportation demand management overlay** district along I-394 requires TDM plans for dense developments (0.6+ of gross sq. ft. floor area per sq. ft. of land in parcel); plans may require incentives for ridesharing, public transit, bike/ped, variable/flex work hours, shared parking
* **Inflow/infiltration inspections required** before house sale, plumbing permits ($10,000+), variances, subdivisions; voluntary I/I inspections part of Pavement Management Program
* **$2,750,000/yr. savings** at wastewater plant due to 2004-2015 24% inflow/infiltration reduction of 3.1M gal./day
* **Detailed annual Environmental State of the City** report: tracking data and costs savings on buildings, lighting, forestry
* **Narrowed roadway widths & reduced impervious surfaces** are part of almost every street reconstruction project the City has completed for the last 15 years
* **Green complete street project** (Douglas Drive: 2016-17) included sidewalks, bike lanes, roundabouts, stormwater infiltrated & for irrigation of nearby ballfields, duct banks/conduits for future utility expansions added to undergrounding of utilities
* **Bike promotion/parking minimums** includes bike parking required at 12+ unit developments, and for all other developments at 5% of the required vehicle parking; up to 15% of required car parking spaces at bars can be for bikes; interactive bike/ped maps; Bike/Ped Planning Task force; 2 Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Businesses; park & ride lot
* **2018 savings of** 221,000 lbs. CO2, 23% cut in energy bill, by replacing 558 cobrahead street lights with 3000k LEDs
* **53 dockless bikes & 61 scooters** deployed via 2019 contract with Lime
* **City-facilitated shared commercial parking,** commercial parking minimum reduced in exchange for evidence of adjacent shared parking