

**RESOLUTION 2022-323
CITY OF MORA
COUNTY OF KANABEC
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF MORA
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

The GreenStep Cities program aims to provide Minnesota cities a clear pathway to greater sustainability and resiliency based upon implementing best practices specific to Minnesota cities of differing sizes and capabilities. Due to the multiple environmental, economic and social dimensions of the best practices, leadership from the city council is needed to oversee their implementation and integration with other city and community activities and with other governmental jurisdictions (such as surrounding townships) as appropriate.

To join the GreenStep Cities program as a Step One city, cities adopt a GreenStep participation resolution that names a contact person to be the city's GreenStep coordinator. This person can be an existing city staff person, an elected official or an appointed community member. Cities are encouraged to empower an existing or new committee to lead and coordinate the implementation of GreenStep best practices. Many cities find it easier to complete more GreenStep actions faster with a committee. The committee can be an existing city commission or task force, an existing civic group, a city staff "green team," or a new group. A new group could include city elected officials/staff and community members, including representatives from civic and religious groups, business organizations and educational institutions.

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a State agency-non-profit partnership, and based upon 29 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more actions at a 1, 2 or 3-star level, from a list of four to eight actions. These actions are tailored to all Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program provides cost-effective sustainable development best practices in the following five categories: (1) Buildings and Lighting; (2) Transportation; (3) Land Use; (4) Environmental Management; and (5) Economic and Community Development;

WHEREAS, climate changes have been observed in Minnesota and have the potential to negatively impact local, regional and state economies; infrastructure development; habitat; ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose flooding, drought and health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency and quality of life; provide environmentally healthy and cheaper-to-operate public buildings; encourage new economic development and local jobs; and support local food and renewable energy production; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mora has one or more energy/climate/quality of life/sustainability actions or initiatives or resolutions enacted by the city or by others in the city; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Mora does hereby authorize the City of Mora (the City) to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Passage of this participation resolution allows the City to be recognized as a Step One GreenStep City by the League of Minnesota Cities. Be it further resolved that the City:

1. Appoints Alison Holland to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation as the city's GreenStep coordination team; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members, local school districts and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and

3. Grants to the GreenStep program staff review access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-saving technical assistance to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and
4. Will provide feedback once a year on how well the GreenStep program is serving the city and on city needs from the program; and
5. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing any 6 GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement, reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint, and recognition by the League of Minnesota Cities as a Step Two GreenStep City. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted by the City on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

By: 

Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Date: 3/15/2022