**2022 Category B City: NORTH BRANCH, MN**

Currently a Step 2 GreenStep City as of June 2019

- joined January 2018 -

**X**

***Which assessment****? Final: April 1st recommendation to LMC*

***Assessor and date****: Kristin Mroz, 4/5/2022*

**X**

**X**

**14**

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

**X**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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 done? YES** |
| **1. Public Buildings** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 1.1 @ 1 STAR -- monthly energy data entry; 12 months of consecutive data has been entered1.2 @ 2 STARS -- building-wide computer/office equipment power management software to go in sleep mode; staff training to turn off all computer-related equipment; 20% streetlights LEDs; one building 100% LEDs1.4 @ 2 STARS -- implementing cloud-based technology information systems; multi-function copiers; goal for 100% green and paperless in the next five years |
| 2. Private Buildings any one action |  |  |
| 3. New Green Buildings any one action |  |  |
| 4. Lighting/Signals 2 actions with one from 5-8 | YES  | 4.4 @ 2 STARS -- collaborates with MnDOT on signal synchronization4.8 @ 3 STARS – 100% LED  |
| 5. Building Redevelopment  any one action |  |  |
|  **LAND USE: 2 BPs required; are 2 done? YES** |
| **6. Comp Plan** **Actions 1 & 2** | **YES** | 6.1 @ 2 STARS -- 2018 Comp Plan has environment / sustainability vision statement, sustainability % active living policies / objectives; City is recognized as Shovel Ready and an Opportunity Zone6.2 @ 2 STARS – Comp plan referenced throughout zoning code and decision made in compliance with plan.  |
| 7. Density any one action |  |  |
| 8. Mixed Uses any one action | YES | 8.1 @ 3 STARS -- Minnesota Design Team (MDT) in 20188.2 @ 1 STAR 8.5 @ 1 STAR – 2019 zoning code update planned |
| 9. Highway Development any one action |  |  |
| 10. Conservation Development any one action |  |  |
|  **TRANSPORTATION: 1 BP required; is 1 done? YES** |
| 11. Complete Green Streets 1; & one additional action |  |  |
| 12. Mobility Options any one action | YES | 12.1 @ 1 STAR -- Parks Trails and Open Spaces Commission continuously advises on active recreation12.2 @ 1 STAR – SRTS plan 201112.3 @ 1 STAR -- Chisago-Isanti County Heartland Express provides curb-to-curb service12.5 @ 3 STARS – Telecommuter Forward! Community 2021; city cloud based system allows for employees to work remotely  |
| 13. Fleets any one action | YES | 13.3 @ 1 STAR – EV Ford 150 purchased for city fleet  |
| 14. TOD / TDM any two actions |  |  |
|  **ENVIRONMENTAL MGT: 3 BPs required; are 3 done? YES** |
| **15. Purchasing** **1; and one additional action** | **YES** | 15.1 @ 1 STAR – 30% recycled content paper, SFI certified15.7 @ 1 STAR -- 100% paperless agenda/minutes/video for all City meetings through cloud based technology  |
| **16. Trees** **any one action** | **YES** | 16.5 @ 1 STAR -- existing Tree ordinance |
| 17. Stormwater any one action | YES | 17.5 @ 1 STAR -- Street & Utility Design Standards, SWPPP, Engineering Design Standard for Stormwater Management17.6 @ NOT RATED  |
| 18. Parks & Trails any two actions | YES | 18.1 @ 3 STARS -- 30 miles of sidewalks; Sunrise Prairie Trail connects with Hardwood Creek Trail in Washington Co.; 232 acres of parkland at 19 sites for outdoor recreation; Meadows North Park 202118.5 @ 2 STARS - pollinator resolution 201718.8 @ 2 STARS -- North Branch Area Athletics, NBA Community Ed, Williams Parks Community Garden, Monarch Pollinators, MDT work on land restoration and stewardship projects |
| 19. Surface Water if state public water: 4; and one additional actionif no state water: any one action |  |  |
| 20. Water / Wastewater 1 & 2; and one additional | NO | 20.1 @ 2 STARS -- MPCA 2017-18 recognition of wastewater facilities for operational excellence |
| 21. Septics any one action |  |  |
| 22. Solid Waste one from 1-3; & one from 4-8 |  |  |
| 23. Local Air Quality any one action |  |  |
|  **ECON & COMM DEVELOP: 3 BPs required; are 3 done? YES** |
| **24. Benchmarks & Involvement** **1; and any one additional**  | **YES** | 24.1 @ 2 STARS -- Mayor, 2 CMs, City's GreenStep Coordinator on green team; innovation in education 202124.4 @ 1 STAR – MDT FB page; social media to promote annual recycling, composting; further expansion to other sustainability issues |
| **25. Green Businesses** **any two actions** | **YES** | 25.3 @ 1 STAR -- Beautification Association is a major actor in attracting new residents, elevating tourism and sustaining the economy25.7 @ 1 STAR -- Council support for buy local campaign; encouragement for residents to buy local |
| 26. Renewable Energy any two actions | NO | 26.6 @ 3 STARS -- 100 MW North Star Solar Project: largest solar photovoltaic energy facility in the Midwest, producing enough energy to power approximately 20,000 homes  |
| 27. Local Food any one action | YES | 27.3 @ 2 STARS -- City actively supports a local farmer's market and community garden |
| 28. Business Synergies any one action |  |  |
| **29. Climate Adaptation** **action 1 at a 2 or 3-star rating** | **YES** | 29.1 @ 2 STARS -- active city promotion of FB, and CodeRED -- to keep community members informed of emergency notifications, general community notifications, severe weather warnings |

**NORTH BRANCH** – notable actions

* **Telecommuter Forward! Community** designated in 2021 after the city used COVID-19 relief funds to expand high-speed internet access through wireless towers
* **Cloud-based** information systems implemented for improving efficiency across departments promoting accountability, accessibility, transparency, reliability and sustainability, aiming for 100% paperless in five years
* **MN Design Team** community planning charrette in 2018
* **100 MW North Star Solar Project**: largest solar photovoltaic energy facility in the Midwest, producing enough energy to power approximately 20,000 homes