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**Assessment Date:** 2/21/2024

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# Assessment 2024

City of Golden Valley: Category A City

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## About the Program

The GreenStep Cities program is a five-step program for cities and tribal nations to work towards sustainability. There are 29 best practices which each provide required and recommended actions. Recommended actions are placed into the following categories: buildings and lighting, land use, transportation, environmental management, and resilient economic and community development. Each action submitted by a city receives a ranking based on a three-star system. 

## Information and GreenStep StatusGraphical user interface, text, application Description automatically generated

**Joined:** April 2016

**Status:** Step 5

**Total Best Practices (BPs) Complete**: 25

**Total BP Actions Complete:** 80

[Golden Valley’s GreenStep Page](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/12069)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Step 4** | 2019-2023 |
| **Step 5** | 2021-2023 |



**Current Distribution of BP Categories:****Star-Rating of Actions:**

The star-rating system represents the rating of the city’s action, where Not Rated (NR) is an uncompleted action, 1-star represents basic completion, 2-star is full completion, and 3-star is the maximum completion of the given action.

## Notable Actions

See all city-reported actions at <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/12069>

* **2021 updates to Medley Park** included a 40-plot ADA-accessible raised garden and supplies, added 8.8 acre-feet of additional flood storage for residents (removing 11 from 25- and 100-year flood risk), removes an additional 16.4 pounds of phosphorus, adds 1.2 acres of open water habitat, and restored 0.6 acres of wetland prairie and 0.6 acres of upland prairie habitat
* **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 streetlights 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

## Notable Metrics

See more on the [Step 4 & 5 Metrics Dashboard](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mpca.data.services/viz/GreenStepCitiesMetrics-2015-2020/Overview/)

* 100% of traffic signal lighting is LED.
* 16 private buildings in Golden Valley have green building certifications through LEED and/or EnergyStar.
* 100% of housing units are located within 1 mile of a bike route and ¾ mile of public transit options.
* Increased the number of public EV charging stations from 2 in 2016 to 16 in 2022.
* The city added an electric vehicle to their fleet in 2022 (two total).
* Improved Stormwater Assessment scores from 55 in 2018 to 60 in 2022; adaptation scores from 54 to 55.
* Increased the number of city-owned and private renewable energy generation sites from 65 (839 kW) in 2017 to 305 (4268 kW) in 2022.
* Golden Valley residents have a mixed recycling participation rate of 97%; organics recycling participation rate of 45%.
* In 2022, Golden Valley completed the initial 18-month implementation phase of the city's Energy Action Plan with Partners in Energy, making us a graduate community.

## Step Advancement Guidelines

### Guidelines for Step 2:

Learn more about Step 2

As a Category A city, to be recognized as a Step 2 GreenStep City, **ANY 8 Best Practices** must be reported.

**Any 8 Best Practices**

### Guidelines for Step 3:

Learn more about Step 3

As a Category A city, to be recognized as a Step 3 GreenStep City, the following must be reported, at minimum:   
  
 **Any 16 Best Practices**

**Public Buildings:**  [1.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81743),  [1.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81744), and  any one additional action from [1.3-1.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81714)

**Buildings & Lighting:**  any one additional Buildings & Lighting BP (2-5)

**Comprehensive, Climate & Energy Plans:**  [6.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81775) and  [6.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81776)

**Land Use:**  any one additional Land Use BP (7-10)

**Living & Complete Streets:** [11.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81802) and any two additional actions from [11.1-11.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81723)

**Mobility Options:**  any two actions from [12.1-12.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81724)

**Sustainable Purchasing:** [15.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81825) and  any one additional action from [15.2-15.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81725)

**Community Forests & Soils:**  any two actions from [16.1-16.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81726)

**Stormwater Management:**  any one action from [17.1-17.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81727)

**Environmental Management:**  any one additional Environmental Management BP (18-23)

**Benchmarks & Community Engagement:** [24.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81880) and [24.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81881)

**Green Business Development:** any two actions from[25.1-25.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81735)

**Climate Adaptation & Community Resilience:** [29.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81912) at a 2- or 3-star rating

### Guidelines for Steps 4 and 5:

Learn more about Steps 4 & 5

Steps 4 and 5 focus on metrics – what are the outcomes of all of the actions that the city has implemented over time?

* **Step 4:** Measure and report a minimum number of core and optional metrics for the previous calendar year or the most recent available data.
  + Category A communities: In addition to the CORE metrics, include 5 additional of choice.
* **Step 5:** Demonstrate improvement three eligible metrics measured in Step 4, from one year to the next.
  + Category A, B, and C communities: Improve upon 3 eligible metric elements.

## Best Practice Actions: Detailed Descriptions

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Buildings and Lighting [**BP 1**: Efficient Existing Public Buildings](#_heading=h.26in1rg) [**BP 2**: Efficient Existing Private Buildings](#_heading=h.lnxbz9) [**BP 3**: New Green Buildings](#_heading=h.35nkun2) [**BP 4**: Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals](#_heading=h.1ksv4uv) [**BP 5**: Building Redevelopment](#_heading=h.44sinio) | | | | |
| Best Practice 1: Efficient Existing Public Buildings BP 1 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 1**: ~~1.1, 1.2, and any one additional action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [1.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81743) | ★★★ | Enter/update building information and monthly usage data into the [MN B3 Benchmarking database](https://mn.b3benchmarking.com/Report?r=1). | 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 | 8/8/2017 |
| [1.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81744) | ★★ | Make no/low cost indoor lighting and operational changes in city-owned/school buildings. | 2016: changing out T12s for T8s in all buildings; some motion activated lighting added | 12/5/2016 |
| [1.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81745) | Choose an item. | Invest in larger energy efficiency projects. |  |  |
| [1.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81746) | Choose an item. | Implement IT efforts and city employee engagement to reduce plug loads, building energy use and workflow efficiency. |  |  |
| [1.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81747) | ★★ | Meet the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/) or qualify under a green building or energy framework. | 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. | 3/30/2018 |
| [1.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81748) | ★ | Improve operations and maintenance of city-owned/school buildings and leased buildings. | Energy Efficient Operations Manual created for City Hall: approximate savings of 27,000 kWh, $6,000 | 11/16/2018 |
| [1.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81749) | Choose an item. | Install one or more of the following:  -A ground-source, closed loop geothermal system.  -A district energy/microgrid system.  -A rainwater harvesting system |  |  |
| Best Practice 2: Efficient Existing Private Buildings BP 2 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 2:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [2.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81750) | ★★★ | Create or participate in a program to promote energy and water efficiency. | 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) | 9/22/2017 |
| [2.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81751) | Choose an item. | Integrate green building and EV charging best practices information and assistance into the building permit process. |  |  |
| [2.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81752) | Choose an item. | Implement an energy rating/disclosure policy for residential/commercial buildings. |  |  |
| [2.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81753) | ★ | Describe energy/water efficiency outcomes and other green building practices at local businesses and not-for-profit organizations. | 3 city water bottle filling stations with filters at City Hall and Brookview Community Center | 1/29/2019 |
| [2.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81754) | Choose an item. | Create one of the following:  -Water-wise landscaping ordinance/ guidance  -WaterSense purchasing program  -Guidance on rainwater harvesting and home water softener use |  |  |
| [2.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81755) | Choose an item. | Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who add energy/sustainability improvements, meet the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/), or renovate using a green building or energy framework. |  |  |
| [2.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81756) | Choose an item. | Customize a model sustainable building renovation policy that includes the SB 2030 energy standard and adopt the language to govern private renovation projects. |  |  |
| Best Practice 3: New Green Buildings BP 3 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 1  **Actions to Complete BP 3:** Any one action from 3.1-3.2 ~~and any one action from 3.3-3.5~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [3.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81757) | Choose an item. | Require by city policy that new city-owned buildings be built using the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/) and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81758) | Choose an item. | Work with the local school district to ensure that future new schools are built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81759) | ★★ | Adopt a sustainable building policy for private buildings; include the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/); adopt language governing new development projects. | PUD approval requires minimum options: a green roof, a renewable energy source, LEED gold or platinum building, community garden, enhanced storm water | 11/16/2018 |
| [3.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81760) | Choose an item. | Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who build new buildings that utilize the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/) and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81761) | Choose an item. | Adopt environmentally preferable covenant guidelines for new common interest communities addressing sustainability. |  |  |
| Best Practice 4: Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals BP 4 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 4:** ~~Any two actions (including one from 4.5-4.8)~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [4.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81762) | Choose an item. | Require energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant new or replacement outdoor lighting fixtures on city-owned/private buildings/facilities. |  |  |
| [4.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81763) | Choose an item. | Purchase LEDs for all future street lighting and traffic signals. |  |  |
| [4.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81764) | ★★★ | Replace city street lighting with Dark Sky-compliant LEDs, modifying any city franchise/utility agreement and adding smart grid attributes. | all 558 cobrahead street lights replaced by utility with 3000k LEDs: savings of 221,000 lbs CO2, 23% cut in energy bill | 1/29/2019 |
| [4.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81765) | ★★★ | Coordinate traffic signals; optimize signal timing to minimize car idling at intersections yet maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds. | All 43 traffic signals have pavement sensors; Hwy 55 signal interconnections; County signal upgrades video detection; flashing yellow arrow left turn signals; 2 roundabouts | 7/17/2017 |
| [4.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81766) | ★★ | Use LED/solar-powered lighting for a flashing sign or in a street/parking lot/park project. | City Hall campus LEDs; retrofits to LEDs within park buildings and other public spaces as resources allow; City Hall parking lot LEDs cut annual cost from $3,173 to $1,436 | 3/29/2017 |
| [4.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81767) | Choose an item. | Relamp/improve exterior building lighting for city-owned buildings/ facilities with energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant lighting. |  |  |
| [4.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81768) | Choose an item. | Replace city-owned parking lot/ramp lighting with Dark-Sky compliant, energy efficient, automatic dimming lighting technologies. |  |  |
| [4.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81769) | ★★ | Replace city's existing traffic signal indications with LEDs. | Annual costs to city 2009 $31,924 reduced to $16,566 in 2015 | 12/5/2016 |
| Best Practice 5: Building Redevelopment BP 5 Completed? NO Total actions completed: 0  **Actions to Complete BP 5:** Any one action | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [5.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81770) | Choose an item. | Adopt an historic preservation ordinance/ regulations and encourage adaptive reuse. |  |  |
| [5.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81771) | Choose an item. | Implement the Minnesota Main Street model for commercial revitalization. |  |  |
| [5.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81772) | Choose an item. | Plan for reuse of large-format retail buildings, or work with a local school, church or commercial building to either add-on space or repurpose space into new uses. |  |  |
| [5.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81773) | Choose an item. | Create/modify a green residential remodeling assistance/financing program to assist homeowners in adding space or sustainable features. |  |  |
| [5.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81774) | Choose an item. | Adopt development/design standards and programs that facilitate infill, redevelopment, and adaptable buildings. |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Land Use [**BP 6**: Comprehensive, Climate and Energy Plans](#_heading=h.3j2qqm3) [**BP 7**: Resilient City Growth](#_heading=h.1y810tw) [**BP 8**: Mixed Uses](#_heading=h.4i7ojhp) [**BP 9**: Efficient Highway and Auto-Oriented Development](#_heading=h.2xcytpi) [**BP 10**: Design for Natural Resource Conservation](#_heading=h.1ci93xb) | | | | |
| Best Practice 6: Comprehensive, Climate and Energy Plans BP 6 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 5  **Actions to Complete BP 6:** ~~6.1 and 6.2~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [6.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81775) | ★★★ | Adopt a comprehensive plan or a future land use plan adopted by the county or a regional entity. | 2040 Comp Plan chapter on sustainability and resilience; sustainability goals highlighted in all chapters; bike/ped multi-modal transportation; CIP yearly review by Planning Commission for consistency with Comp Plan | 6/27/2017 |
| [6.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81776) | ★★★ | Demonstrate that regulatory ordinances comply with the comprehensive plan. | Comp Plan reference often in “Purpose and Intent” subdivision of each Zoning Code section; zoning application findings acknowledge consistency with Comp Plan | 6/27/2017 |
| [6.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81777) | ★★★ | Include requirements in comprehensive and/or other plans for intergovernmental coordination. | Joint Water Commission; mill/overlay shared equipment; 2-city fire mutual aid agreement; joint to tourism bureau; 3-city recycling contract; inter-city (& JPA) access to parks/schools, joint hydrologic modeling project | 6/28/2017 |
| [6.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81778) | ★★★ | Include ecological provisions in the comprehensive plan that explicitly aim to minimize open space fragmentation and/or establish a growth area with expansion criteria. | 2040 comp plan IDs natural resource protection areas, recommend strategies for integrating protection into the development process; 2013 Natural Resources Management Plan; 2002 NRI | 6/27/2017 |
| [6.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81779) | ★★ | Adopt climate mitigation and/or energy independence goals/objectives in the comprehensive plan or in a separate policy document; include transportation recommendations. | 2021 Energy Action Plan adopted with goal to eliminate 65,000 tons GHG (approx. 30%), save energy, help households | 1/26/2024 |
| Best Practice 7: Resilient City Growth BP 7 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 7:** ~~Any one action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [7.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81780) | ★★ | Eliminate barriers and actively encourage higher density housing in city zoning ordinance and map. | R-2 up to 8 DUA, R-4 allows over 12 DUA | 6/27/2017 |
| [7.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81781) | ★★ | Achieve higher density housing with one of the following:  a. Flexible lot size/frontage requirement for infill development.  b. Density and floor area ratio (FAR) bonuses in selected residential zoning districts.  c. Clustered residential development.  d. Allowing accessory dwelling units, single-room occupancy housing, senior housing, co-housing or tiny houses / apartments by right in selected zoning districts.  e. Implement a vacation rental property registration policy and/or special tax. | density bonuses in R-3 for underground parking, locating near transit route, substantial recreation facilities onsite; senior/physical disability housing; PUDs | 6/27/2017 |
| [7.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81782) | Choose an item. | Achieve higher intensity commercial/industrial land uses through at least one of the following strategies: a. Include a commercial district with zero-lot-line setbacks and a FAR minimum of 1. b. Set targets for the minimum number of employees/acre in different commercial zones. |  |  |
| [7.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81783) | Choose an item. | Provide incentives for affordable housing, workforce housing, infill projects, or for life-cycle housing at or near job or retail centers, or for achieving an average net residential density of seven units per acre. |  |  |
| [7.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81784) | Choose an item. | Use design to create social trust and interaction among neighbors and allow developments that meet the prerequisites for LEED for Neighborhood Development certification. |  |  |
| Best Practice 8: Mixed Uses BP 8 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 8:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [8.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81785) | ★★ | Organize or participate in a community planning process for the city/a mixed-use district, including specific community engagement practices that engage cultural and income diverse community members. | 2008 facilitated community planning meetings for the I-394 mixed use district for the comprehensive plan; resident and business surveys; visual preference survey | 12/5/2016 |
| [8.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81786) | ★★★ | Locate or lease a property for use as a school, city building or other government facility that has at least two of these attributes:  a. Adjacent to an existing employment or residential center.  b. Designed to facilitate and encourage access by walking, biking, or other non-vehicle travel modes.  c. Accessible by regular transit service. | City Hall campus connected via paths/walks to Co. Library, adjacent to commercial, senior housing, and bus within 0.1 miles; 4 schools along public transit lines; Perpich Center reduced-fee bus passes for students who qualify for free or reduced lunch | 12/5/2016 |
| [8.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81787) | Choose an item. | Modify a planned unit development (PUD) ordinance to emphasize or require mixed-use development or affordable housing, to limit residential PUDs to areas adjacent to commercial development, and/or to add sustainability features. |  |  |
| [8.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81788) | Choose an item. | Report that a (re)development meets a city/community-determined minimum point threshold under the Equitable Development Scorecard or LEED-Neighborhood Development. |  |  |
| [8.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81789) | Choose an item. | Have a downtown zoning district that emphasizes small and destination business, entrepreneurial spaces, and allows or requires residential and residential-compatible commercial development. |  |  |
| [8.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81790) | Choose an item. | Incorporate form-based zoning approaches into the zoning code, in those areas where a diverse mix of uses is desired. |  |  |
| [8.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81791) | ★★ | Create incentives for vertical mixed-use development in appropriate locations. | Live/work vertical units allowed in the I-394 mixed use district; shared parking allowed in some areas | 12/5/2016 |
| Best Practice 9: Efficient Highway and Auto-Oriented Development BP 9 Completed? NO Total actions completed: 0  **Actions to Complete BP 9:** Any one action | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [9.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81792) | Choose an item. | Establish design goals for at least one highway/auto-oriented corridor/cluster. |  |  |
| [9.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81793) | Choose an item. | Participate in regional economic development planning with representatives from surrounding townships, cities, the county and business interests to:  a. Estimate commercial/industrial needs among all jurisdictions.  b. Jointly implement recommendations to stage highway/auto-oriented commercial development in order to avoid overbuilding and expensive low-density development. |  |  |
| [9.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81794) | Choose an item. | Adopt infrastructure design standards that protect the economic and ecologic functions of the highway corridor through clustering of development, native plantings and incorporating access management standards. |  |  |
| [9.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81795) | Choose an item. | Adopt development policies for large-format developments, zoning for auto-oriented commercial districts at the sub-urban edge and/or in tightly defined and smaller urban development corridors/nodes that have some bike/walk/transit access. |  |  |
| Best Practice 10: Design for Natural Resource Conservation BP 10 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 10:** ~~Any one action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [10.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81797) | ★★★ | Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment; incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources such as groundwater through the subdivision or development process. | 2013 NRI; 2015 Natural Resources Management Plan IDs high/low quality natural areas and strategies; ordinances to preserve 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 | 10/27/2016 |
| [10.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81798) | Choose an item. | For cities outside or on the fringe of metropolitan areas, conduct a build-out analysis, fiscal impact study, or adopt an urban growth boundary and a capital improvement plan that provides long-term protection of natural resources/systems, and agriculture outside the boundary. |  |  |
| [10.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81799) | Choose an item. | For cities within metropolitan areas, incorporate woodland best management practices addressing protection of wooded areas into zoning or development review. |  |  |
| [10.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81800) | Choose an item. | Adopt a conservation design policy; use a conservation design tool for pre-design meetings with developers and for negotiating development agreements in cities with undeveloped natural resource areas. |  |  |
| [10.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81801) | ★★★ | Preserve environmentally sensitive, community-valued land by placing a conservation easement on city lands, and by encouraging/funding private landowners to place land in conservation easements. | 13 conservation easements, totaling 25.7 acres; 2015 Environmental State of the City report | 12/20/2016 |
| [10.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81920) | Choose an item. | Conserve natural, cultural, historic resources by adopting or amending city codes and ordinances to support sustainable sites, including roadsides, and environmentally protective land use development. |  |  |
| [10.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81919) | Choose an item. | Support and protect wildlife through habitat rehabilitation, preservation and recognition programs. |  |  |
| Transportation [**BP 11**: Living & Complete Streets](#_heading=h.qsh70q) [**BP 12**: Mobility Options](#_heading=h.3as4poj) [**BP 13**: Efficient City Fleets](#_heading=h.1pxezwc)[**BP 14**: Demand-Side Travel Planning](#_heading=h.49x2ik5) | | | | |
| Best Practice 11: Living & Complete Streets BP 11 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 5  **Actions to Complete BP 11:** ~~11.1 and any two additional actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [11.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81723) | ★★ | Adopt a complete streets policy, or a living streets policy, which addresses landscaping and stormwater. | 2011 Council resolution; 2016 bike/ped task force to assess routes and connectivity for 2040 comp plan | 4/25/2017 |
| [11.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81803) | Choose an item. | Adopt zoning language or approve a skinny street/development project that follows green street and/or walkable streets principles. |  |  |
| [11.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81804) | ★★★ | Modify a street in compliance with the city's complete streets policy. | 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 | 4/25/217 |
| [11.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81805) | ★★ | Identify, prioritize and remedy complete streets gaps and lack of connectivity/safety within your road network. | 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan budgets for $400,000 in sidewalk and trail system upgrades | 4/25/2017 |
| [11.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81806) | ★★★ | Identify and remedy street-trail gaps between city streets and off-road trails/bike trails. | 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 | 4/25/2017 |
| [11.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81807) | ★★ | Implement traffic calming policy/measures in at least one street redevelopment project. | 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; narrowed roadway widths and reduce impervious surfaces | 4/25/2017 |
| Best Practice 12: Mobility Options BP 12 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 12:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [12.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81808) | ★★★ | Increase walking, biking and transit. | Interactive bike/ped maps; Bike/Ped Planning Task force; park & ride lot; bike parking incentives; 2 businesses are 2 bronze Bicycle Friendly Businesses; 2016 WalkScore of 29 | 3/13/2017 |
| [12.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81809) | Choose an item. | Conduct an Active Living campaign such as a Safe Routes to School program. |  |  |
| [12.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81810) | Choose an item. | Prominently identify mobility options: transit; paratransit/Dial-A-Ride; ridesharing/cab services; rental cars; bikes; airports. |  |  |
| [12.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81811) | ★★★ | Promote carpooling or ridesharing among community members, city employees, businesses, high schools and institutions of higher education. | Park and ride lots at General Mills Boulevard and Interstate 394 and at Highway 100 and Duluth Street | 3/13/2017 |
| [12.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81812) | ★★ | Implement workplace multi-modal transportation best management practices - including telework/ flexwork - in city government, businesses or at a local health care provider. | City employee telework, flexwork, and job-sharing policy. Other businesses in community offer remote work options as of 2021. | 12/7/2021 |
| [12.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81813) | ★★★ | Add/expand transit service, or promote car/bike sharing. | 2018 (& 19) contract with Lime to deploy 53 dockless bikes & 61 scooters | 1/29/2019 |
| Best Practice 13: Efficient City Fleets BP 13 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 13:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [13.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81814) | ★★ | Efficiently use your existing fleet of city vehicles by encouraging trip bundling, video conferencing, carpooling, vehicle sharing and incentives/technology. | Conference room technology updated to enhance webinars and video; flexible work arrangements allow telework and flexible hours; no idling policy | 1/26/2024 |
| [13.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81815) | ★ | Right-size/down-size city fleet with the most fuel-efficient vehicles that are of an optimal size and capacity for their intended functions. | Public works staff routinely survey vehicles by department for usage, function, and miles per gallon | 6/27/2017 |
| [13.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81816) | ★★ | Phase-in operational changes, equipment changes including electric vehicles, and no-idling practices for city or local transit fleets. | Review of vehicle fuel usage & costs; 2013 snowplowing zones/ routes for streets/ sidewalks and technology optimized for fuel and labor efficiencies; 2008 staff no-idling policy; 22 E85 vehicles | 6/27/2017 |
| [13.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81817) | ★★★ | Phase in bike, e-bike, foot or horseback modes for police, inspectors and other city staff. | Parks & police bike patrols; annual police bike-along (20 residents in 2015) | 6/27/2017 |
| [13.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81818) | Choose an item. | Document that local school bus fleet has optimized routes, start times, boundaries, vehicle efficiency and fuels, driver actions to cut costs including idling reduction, and shifting students from the bus to walking, biking and city transit. |  |  |
| [13.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81819) | Choose an item. | Retrofit city diesel engines or install auxiliary power units and/or electrified parking spaces. |  |  |
| Best Practice 14: Demand-Side Travel Planning BP 14 Completed? NO Total actions completed: 1  **Actions to Complete BP 14:** Any ~~two~~ one action~~s~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [14.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81820) | Choose an item. | Reduce/eliminate parking minimums; add parking maximums; develop district parking; install meters and charge for parking at curb and city-owned lots/ramps. |  |  |
| [14.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81821) | Choose an item. | For cities with regular transit service, require/provide incentives for the siting of retail services at transit/ density nodes. |  |  |
| [14.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81822) | Choose an item. | For cities with regular transit service, require/provide incentives for the siting of higher density housing at transit/density nodes. |  |  |
| [14.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81823) | ★★ | Require new (re)developments to prepare a travel demand management plan or transit-oriented development standards or LEED for Neighborhood Development certification. | 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); incentives for ridesharing, public transit, bike/ped, variable/flex work hours, shared parking | 11/16/2018 |
| Environmental Management [**BP 15**: Sustainable Purchasing](#_heading=h.3o7alnk)[**BP 16**: Community Forests and Soil](#_heading=h.23ckvvd) [**BP 17**: Stormwater Management](#_heading=h.ihv636) [**BP 18**: Parks and Trails](#_heading=h.32hioqz)[**BP 19**: Surface Water](#_heading=h.1hmsyys)[**BP 20**: Efficient Water and Wastewater Systems](#_heading=h.41mghml)[**BP 21**: Septic Systems](#_heading=h.2grqrue)[**BP 22**: Sustainable Consumption and Waste](#_heading=h.vx1227)[**BP 23**: Local Air Quality](#_heading=h.3fwokq0) | | | | |
| Best Practice 15: Sustainable Purchasing BP 15 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 15:** ~~15.1 and any one additional action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [15.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81825) | ★ | Adopt a sustainable purchasing policy or administrative guidelines/practices directing the city purchase at least:  a. EnergyStar and EPEAT certified equipment and appliances.  b. Paper containing post-consumer recycled content. | 2017 sustainable purchasing guidelines: EnergyStar, WaterSense, Green Seal, EcoLogo and/or US EPA Safer Choice cleaning products, 30%+ recycled-content paper; 10% price leyway | 7/26/2018 |
| [15.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81826) | Choose an item. | Purchase energy used by city government with a higher renewable percentage than required by MN law. |  |  |
| [15.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81827) | Choose an item. | Establish purchasing preferences that support local, Minority, Disability, and Women-Owned businesses and, working with a local business association, develop a list of locally-produced products and suppliers for common purchases. |  |  |
| [15.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81828) | ★ | Require purchase of U.S. EPA WaterSense-certified products. | WaterSense sinks, toilets, urinals, showerheads, pre-rinse spray valves, irrigation controllers | 6/27/2017 |
| [15.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81829) | Choose an item. | Set minimum sustainability standards to reduce the impact of your concrete use, asphalt, roadbed aggregate, or other construction materials. |  |  |
| [15.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81830) | Choose an item. | Require printing services to be purchased from companies using sustainable practices. |  |  |
| [15.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81831) | Choose an item. | Lower the environmental footprint of meetings and events in the city. |  |  |
| [15.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81832) | Choose an item. | Use national green standards/ guidelines for purchasing/investments such as cleaning products, furniture, flooring/coatings. |  |  |
| Best Practice 16: Community Forests and Soil BP 16 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 16:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [16.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81833) | ★★★ | Certify as a Tree City USA. | Tree City USA since 1987; $13/resident | 12/20/2016 |
| [16.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81834) | ★★★ | Adopt best practices for urban tree planting/quality; require them in private developments and/or use them in at least one development project. | Survival rates of plantings tracked (86-100%) | 12/20/2016 |
| [16.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81835) | ★★★ | Budget for and achieve resilient urban canopy/tree planting goals. | Annual tree planting in public spaces $10k-$30,000; budget for tree replacement as part of Pavement Management Program; overall city tree canopy of 40.5% | 12/20/2016 |
| [16.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81836) | Choose an item. | Maximize tree planting along your main downtown street or throughout the city. |  |  |
| [16.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81837) | Choose an item. | Adopt a tree preservation or native landscaping ordinance. |  |  |
| [16.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81906) | ★★★ | Build community capacity to protect existing trees by one or more of:  a. Having trained tree specialists.  b. Supporting volunteer forestry efforts.  c. Adopting an EAB/forest management plan or climate adaptation plan for the urban forest. | Residents directed to MnDOT Plant Selector online tool; Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan 2010; use of 10-20-30 rule | 12/20/2016 |
| [16.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101876) | Choose an item. | Conduct a tree inventory or canopy study for public and private trees. |  |  |
| Best Practice 17: Stormwater Management BP 17 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 17:** ~~Any one action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [17.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81840) | ★★★ | Adopt and use Minnesota's Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS). | MIDS adopted 2015 | 11/16/2018 |
| [17.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81838) | Choose an item. | Complete the GreenStep Municipal Stormwater Management Assessment. |  |  |
| [17.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81839) | ★★★ | Adopt by ordinance one or more stormwater infiltration/management strategies to reduce impervious surface. | 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 between 18- and 26-feet | 11/16/2018 |
| [17.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81841) | Choose an item. | Create a stormwater utility that uses variable fees to incentivize and educate property owners. |  |  |
| [17.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81842) | ★★★ | Adopt and implement guidelines or design standards/incentives for stormwater infiltration/reuse practices. | Residential rain garden, native vegetation guidelines; infiltration, evapotranspiration, reuse/ harvesting, conservation design, urban forestry and green roofs are given preference as design options; stormwater harvesting at Sandburg Athletic Complex; 8 public, 36 private rain gardens; 1 private green roof; 2 public, 2 private pervious pavers | 4/25/2017 |
| [17.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81843) | Choose an item. | Reduce de-icing and dust suppressant salt use to prevent permanent surface water and groundwater pollution. |  |  |
| Best Practice 18: Parks and Trails BP 18 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 18:** ~~Any three actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [18.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81844) | ★ | Make improvements within your city's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces. | Medley park 2021 updates of stormwater, landscaping, and amenities | 1/26/2024 |
| [18.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81845) | Choose an item. | Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails for areas where new development is planned. |  |  |
| [18.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81846) | ★★★ | Achieve minimum levels of city green space and maximize the percent within a ten-minute walk of community members. | 15% land in parks/open space; 55 acres/1000 residents; 100% within one-half mile of a park/open space | 12/20/2016 |
| [18.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81847) | Choose an item. | Adopt low-impact design standards in parks and trails that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site. |  |  |
| [18.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81848) | ★★ | Create park/city land management standards/practices that maximize at least one of the following:  a. Low maintenance turf management; native landscaping; organic or integrated pest management; pollinator/monarch-safe policies.  b. Recycling/compostables collection; use of compost as a soil amendment.  c. Sources of nonpotable water, or surface/rain water, for irrigation. | 25 native buffer areas (54 acres) using IPM; park and public event recycling; 6 acres pollinator habitat planted in 2016 | 2/27/2017 |
| [18.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81849) | Choose an item. | Certify at least one golf course in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. |  |  |
| [18.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81850) | Choose an item. | Document that the operation and maintenance, or construction / remodeling, of at least one park building used an asset management tool, the SB 2030 energy standard, or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [18.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81851) | ★★ | Develop a program to involve community members in hands-on land restoration, invasive species management and stewardship projects. | Adopt-a-park, -space, -pond, -storm drain | 12/27/2016 |
| Best Practice 19: Surface Water BP 19 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 19:** ~~If the city has a State public water, 19.4 and any one additional action.~~  ~~If the city does not have a State public water, any one action.~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [19.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/93541) | Choose an item. | Consistently monitor surface water quality/clarity and report findings to community members. |  |  |
| [19.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81852) | Choose an item. | Conduct/support multi-party community conversations, assessments, plans, and actions to improve local water quality/quantity. |  |  |
| [19.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81853) | Choose an item. | Adopt and publicly report on measurable surface water improvement targets for lake, river, wetland and ditches. |  |  |
| [19.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81854) | ★★★ | Adopt a shoreland ordinance for all river and lake shoreland areas. | New shoreland development or alteration requires protection or restoration; dedication of permanent conservation easements | 6/27/2017 |
| [19.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81909) | ★★ | Adopt goals to revegetate shoreland and create a local program or outreach effort to help property owners with revegetation. | 5 out of 16 miles with stream bank buffer; over 30 private properties stabilized their own shorelines; 20 private properties have shoreline conservation easements | 12/5/2017 |
| [19.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81910) | ★★ | Implement an existing TMDL implementation plan. | Sweeny Lake TMDL; Upper Mississippi River Bacteria TMDL and Protection Plan; BCWMC CIP and Surface Water Management Plans | 6/27/2017 |
| [19.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81911) | Choose an item. | Create/assist a Lake Improvement District. |  |  |
| [19.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101661) | Choose an item. | Reduce flooding damage and costs through the National Flood Insurance Programs and the NFIP’s Community Rating System. |  |  |
| Best Practice 20: Efficient Water and Wastewater Systems BP 20 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 20:** ~~20.1, 20.2, and any one additional action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [20.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81731) | ★★ | Compare the energy use and financial performance of your facilities with other peer facilities. | 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 | 12/5/2017 |
| [20.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81856) | Choose an item. | Plan and budget for motor maintenance and upgrades. |  |  |
| [20.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81857) | ★★★ | Establish an on-going budget and program for decreasing inflow and infiltration into sewer lines and losses in drinking water systems. | I&I inspections required before house sale, plumbing permits, variances, subdivisions, other planning actions; voluntary inspections part of Pavement Management Program; 2004-2015 reduced I/I flow 24% | 12/5/2017 |
| [20.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81858) | ★★ | Optimize energy and chemical use at drinking water/wastewater facilities and decrease chloride in wastewater discharges. | 3rd party annual check of water/wastewater pumps; peak shaving generator in pump house; 2 new efficient water reservoir pumps | 12/5/2017 |
| [20.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81859) | Choose an item. | Implement a wastewater plant efficiency project or a program for local private business operations. |  |  |
| [20.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81907) | Choose an item. | Create a demand-side pricing program. |  |  |
| Best Practice 21: Septic Systems BP 21 Completed? NO Total actions completed: 0  **Actions to Complete BP 21:** Any one action | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [21.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81860) | Choose an item. | Report to landowners suspected noncompliant or failing septic systems as part of an educational, informational and financial assistance and outreach program. |  |  |
| [21.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81861) | Choose an item. | Use a community process to address failing septic systems. |  |  |
| [21.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81862) | Choose an item. | Clarify/establish one or more responsible management entities for the proper design, siting, installation, operation, monitoring and maintenance of septic systems. |  |  |
| [21.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81863) | Choose an item. | Adopt a subsurface sewage treatment system ordinance. |  |  |
| [21.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81864) | Choose an item. | Create a program to finance septic system upgrades. |  |  |
| [21.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81865) | Choose an item. | Work with homeowners/ businesses in environmentally sensitive areas to promote innovative waste water systems. |  |  |
| [21.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81866) | Choose an item. | Arrange for assistance to commercial, retail and industrial businesses with water use reduction, pollution prevention and pretreatment prior to discharge to septics. |  |  |
| Best Practice 22: Sustainable Consumption and Waste BP 22 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 5  **Actions to Complete BP 22:** ~~Any one action from 22.1-22.3 and any one action from 22.4-22.8~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [22.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81867) | ★★ | Improve city operations/ procurement to prevent/reuse/recycle/compost waste from all public facilities, and minimize use of toxics and generation of hazardous waste. | Internal city organics collection & compostable products & plastic film recycling; leaves collected and composted for local retail; recycling in city buildings, parks, special events | 1/28/2020 |
| [22.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81868) | Choose an item. | Address concerns over consumer products and packaging through education, reuse options, recycling/composting options, credits, fees, mandates or bans. |  |  |
| [22.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81869) | Choose an item. | Improve profitability, legal compliance and conserve resources through adoption of ordinance language, licensing and resource management contracts. |  |  |
| [22.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81870) | ★★ | Publicize, promote and use the varied businesses/services collecting and marketing used, repaired and rental consumer goods, especially electronics, in the city/county. | Annual “Mighty Tidy Day” for furniture, household items for Bridging reuse; several second-hand shops in the City | 11/16/2017 |
| [22.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81871) | ★★ | Arrange for a residential and/or business/institutional source-separated organics collection/ management program. | Organized curbside organics for all 1-4 units; dropsite collection of yard waste | 1/25/2022 |
| [22.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81872) | ★★ | Improve recycling services/expand to multi-unit housing and commercial businesses. | Curbside recycling since 1987 to all 1-4 family residences; organized schedule; recycling requirement for multi-family and commercial/industrial properties; 2016 - 2,174.05 tons of materials were diverted to city recycling | 4/25/2017 |
| [22.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81873) | ★★ | Improve/organize residential trash/ recycling/organics collection by private/public operations and offer significant volume-based pricing on residential garbage and/or incentives for recycling. | Organized recycling and organics programs started 2022 for all 1-4 unit residences | 12/7/2021 |
| [22.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81874) | Choose an item. | Adopt a construction and demolition ordinance governing demolition permits that requires a level of recycling and reuse for building materials and soil/land-clearing debris. |  |  |
| Best Practice 23: Local Air Quality BP 23 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 23:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [23.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81875) | Choose an item. | Replace small internal combustion engine lawn/garden equipment with lower polluting equipment. |  |  |
| [23.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81876) | ★★★ | Reduce residential burning of wood and yard waste and eliminate ‘backyard’ trash burning. | Recreational fire ordinance; guidance on website; Code prohibits the installation, use, and maintenance of outdoor wood boilers | 11/16/2018 |
| [23.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81877) | ★★ | Decrease air emissions from vehicle idling, business trucking, and pollutants/noise from stationary engines/back-up generators. | No smoking in public parks/ recreation facilities; no-idling policy for the police/other departments saved $1,600/mo. | 11/16/2018 |
| [23.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81877) | ★ | Install, assist with and promote publicly available EV charging stations or public fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles. | 2018 EV charger at City Hall | 1/29/2019 |
| Resilient Economic and Community Development [**BP 24**: Benchmarks and Community Engagement](#_heading=h.4f1mdlm)[**BP 25**: Green Business Development](#_heading=h.2u6wntf)[**BP 26**: Renewable Energy](#_heading=h.19c6y18)[**BP 27**: Local Food](#_heading=h.3tbugp1)[**BP 28**: Business Synergies and Ecodistricts](#_heading=h.28h4qwu)[**BP 29**: Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience](#_heading=h.nmf14n) | | | | |
| Best Practice 24: Benchmarks and Community Engagement BP 24 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 24:** ~~24.1 and 24.2~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [24.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81880) | ★★ | Use a city commission/committee to lead, coordinate, report and engage community members on sustainability best practices. | Environmental Commission with annual report to council, GS on city web | 4/25/2017 |
| [24.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81881) | ★ | Organize goals/outcome measures from all city plans and report to community members data that show progress toward meeting these goals. | 2040 comp plan reviewed objectives completion & reported to Planning Commission; CIP catalogues public investments by date and cost | 4/25/2017 |
| [24.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81882) | ★ | Engage community members/ partners in identifying, measuring, and reporting progress on key sustainability and social indicators. | Environmental State of the City report | 4/25/2017 |
| [24.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81883) | Choose an item. | Conduct/support a broad sustainability education/action campaign. |  |  |
| [24.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81884) | Choose an item. | Conduct a community visioning/ planning initiative that engages a diverse set of community members & stakeholders and uses a sustainability, resilience, or environmental justice framework. |  |  |
| [24.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81923) | ★★★ | Engage wide representation of community youth/students by creating opportunities to participate in city government. | Multiple committees include a youth position; multiple city internship opportunities | 12/6/2021 |
| [24.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101611) | Choose an item. | Engage Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), renters, low-income, new Americans, differently abled and other traditionally under-represented community members. |  |  |
| Best Practice 25: Green Business Development BP 25 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 25:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [25.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81885) | Choose an item. | Grow new/emerging green businesses and green jobs through targeted assistance and new workforce development. |  |  |
| [25.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81886) | Choose an item. | Create/participate in a marketing/ outreach program to connect businesses with assistance providers. |  |  |
| [25.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81887) | Choose an item. | Promote sustainable tourism. |  |  |
| [25.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81888) | ★★ | Strengthen value-added businesses utilizing local "waste" material. | Annual Mighty Tidy Day with value-added businesses (Shred-N-Go, Tech Dump, Better Futures) for resident disposal of items that cannot be donated; regularly contracts with companies that use recycled materials in street re-construction projects | 6/27/2017 |
| [25.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81889) | ★★★ | Lower the environmental and health risk footprint of a brownfield remediation/redevelopment project; report brightfield projects. | 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 | 12/5/2017 |
| [25.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81890) | Choose an item. | Promote green businesses that are recognized under a local, regional or national program. |  |  |
| [25.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81891) | Choose an item. | Conduct/ participate in a buy local campaign for community members and local businesses. |  |  |
| Best Practice 26: Renewable Energy BP 26 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 3  **Actions to Complete BP 26:** ~~Any two actions~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [26.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81892) | ★★ | Adopt wind/biomass ordinances that allow, enable, or encourage appropriate renewable energy installations. | Solar & wind ordinance; since 2001 16 solar installations, aggregate value $363,793 | 12/20/2016 |
| [26.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81893) | ★★★ | Promote resident/business purchases and/or generation of clean energy. | City web lists green power purchasing, solar ap to assess property’s solar potential; in 2016 3 businesses, 435 residents participated in Windsource; 4 businesses, 13 residences have installed onsite solar | 9/22/2017 |
| [26.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81894) | Choose an item. | Promote financing and incentive programs for clean energy. |  |  |
| [26.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81895) | Choose an item. | Support a community solar garden or help community members participate in a community solar project. |  |  |
| [26.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81896) | ★ | Install a public sector/municipally-owned renewable energy technology. | 2015 2 PV arrays (80 kW total) on public buildings, 15% & 100% of building demands met, $2,213/yr. savings | 2/17/2017 |
| [26.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81897) | Choose an item. | Report installed private sector-owned renewable energy/energy efficient generation capacity. |  |  |
| [26.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81908) | Choose an item. | Become a solar-ready community, including adopting ordinance/zoning language and an expedited permit process for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. |  |  |
| Best Practice 27: Local Food BP 27 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 2  **Actions to Complete BP 27:** ~~Any one action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [27.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81898) | Choose an item. | Incorporate working landscapes - agriculture and forestry - into the city by adopting an ordinance. |  |  |
| [27.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81899) | ★★ | Facilitate creation of home/ community gardens, chicken & bee keeping, and incorporation of food growing areas/access in multifamily and residential developments. | 2013: chickens allowed by permit; 1 PUD option is a community garden | 11/16/2018 |
| [27.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81900) | ★★★ | Create, assist with and promote local food production/distribution within the city. | Market in the Valley farmers market in City Hall parking lot June-October; 74% residential units within a mile of CSA drop-off points or the farmers market | 12/5/2017 |
| [27.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81901) | Choose an item. | Measurably increase institutional buying, and sales through groceries and restaurants. |  |  |
| Best Practice 28: Business Synergies and Ecodistricts BP 28 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 1  **Actions to Complete BP 28:** ~~Any one action~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [28.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81903) | Choose an item. | Document that at least one business/ building uses waste heat or water discharge from another business or conducts materials exchange activities with another organization. |  |  |
| [28.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81904) | ★ | Require, build or facilitate at least four sustainability attributes in a business/industrial park project. | Transit service through Downtown West area within 0.5 miles of single-family zoning; City-facilitated shared parking for the Central Park West property | 12/5/2017 |
| [28.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81905) | Choose an item. | Use 21st century ecodistrict tools to structure, guide and link multiple green and sustainable projects together in a mixed-use neighborhood/development, or innovation district. |  |  |
| Best Practice 29: Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience BP 29 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 4  **Actions to Complete BP 29:** ~~29.1 at 2- or 3-star level~~ | | | | |
| **Best Practice Action:** | **Completed:** *(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:**  *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)* | **Action Summary:**  *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [29.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81912) | ★★ | Prepare to maintain public health and safety during extreme weather and climate-change-related events, while also taking a preventive approach to reduce risk for community members. | Part of regional Emergency Operations Plan/Group; includes a crisis communication plan | 11/16/2018 |
| [29.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81913) | ★ | Integrate climate resilience into city or tribal planning, policy, operations, and budgeting processes. | Developing Resilience Plan to be part of 2018 comp plan | 12/5/2017 |
| [29.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81914) | ★ | Increase social connectedness through engagement, capacity building, public investment, and opportunities for economically vulnerable residents. | 2017 focus group on services to vulnerable populations to develop objectives, policies, and strategies outlined in the City’s Resilience and Sustainability Plan | 12/5/2017 |
| [29.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81915) | Choose an item. | Encourage private sector action and incentivize investment in preventive approaches that reduce risk and minimize impacts. |  |  |
| [29.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81916) | ★★★ | Protect public buildings and natural/ constructed infrastructure to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events. | Red Book with critical maps, procedural information, contacts for emergency events and disasters; comprehensive facility analysis in 2006; new buildings built to be durable and resilient to natural hazards; several roofs repaired; 5.2 miles of shorelines restored; Medley Park 2021 stormwater and flood control | 12/20/2016 |
| [29.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81917) | Choose an item. | Reduce the urban heat impacts of public buildings/sites/infrastructure. |  |  |
| [29.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81918) | Choose an item. | Protect water supply and wastewater treatment facilities to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events. |  |  |
| [29.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81922) | Choose an item. | Improve local energy resilience. |  |  |