

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Jason Mozol
Green Step Cities Intern
Adam Fulton, CD Director



DATE: March 19, 2015 **Meeting Date:** **March 16, 2015**
SUBJECT: Green Step Cities Resolution **Agenda Item:**

RESOLUTION _____

CITY OF HERMANTOWN
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS
STATE OF MINNESOTA

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

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 public-private partnership, and based upon 28 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, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions and cost savings through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and

WHEREAS, steps taken toward sustainable solutions aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing government efficiency, accountability and transparency; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program assists in facilitating technical assistance for the implementation of these sustainable development best practices; 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;

Be it further resolved that the City:

1. Appoints the Community Development Director to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
3. Will collaborate with the GreenStep program's buildings advisor to provide information regarding its buildings and facilities, including the City's B3 Benchmarking Database, if available, so as to facilitate analysis and cost-savings advice to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and
4. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing any 12 GreenStep best practices, based upon Hermantown's tier B classification, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Hermantown does hereby authorize the City of Hermantown 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.