

RESOLUTION 2017-0724-4

Resolution authorizing the City of Moorhead to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary assistance, recognition and challenge program designed 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 29 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more action opportunities, from a list of four to eight action opportunities; 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; and

WHEREAS, uncertainty in energy prices and the transition away from fossil fuel energy sources present new challenges and opportunities to both the City of Moorhead and to the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate changes 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, a broad coalition of public and private stakeholders including the League of Minnesota Cities, the MPCA, Office of Energy Security and CERTs responded to the 2008 legislation by establishing the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program to provide a series of sustainable development best practices focusing on local government opportunities to reduce energy use and greenhouse gases;

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

1. Appoints the City Manager or designee 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. Grants to the GreenStep program's coordinator read-only access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database 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 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 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.


PASSED: July 24, 2017 by the City Council of the City of Moorhead.

APPROVED BY:



DEL RAE WILLIAMS, Mayor

ATTEST:



MICHELLE FRENCH, City Clerk