

**CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION 2012-067**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL  
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Next Generation Act of 2007, Minnesota Session Laws 2007 - Chapter 136:

- (1) sets State greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals of cutting emissions to 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2015, 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, and 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050;
- (2) sets a State energy conservation goal of achieving annual energy savings equal to 1.5 percent of annual retail energy sales of electricity and natural gas;
- (3) establishes an energy policy goal that the per capita use of fossil fuel as an energy input be reduced by 15 percent by the year 2015, through increased reliance on energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives;
- (4) establishes an energy policy goal that 25 percent of the electricity used in the state be derived from renewable energy resources by the year 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Session Laws 2008, Chapter 356, Section 13 directed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (“MPCA”) and Office of Energy Security in the Department of Commerce (“Office of Energy Security”), in collaboration with Clean Energy Resource Teams (“CERTs”), to recommend municipal actions and policies that work toward meeting the State’s greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals; 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; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and climate change gas reductions through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development; and

**WHEREAS**, efforts to address energy and climate issues provide an opportunity to move toward energy self-reliance and greater community resiliency; 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 GreenStep Cities program aims to provide Minnesota cities a clear pathway to greater sustainability based upon implementing best practices specific to Minnesota cities of differing sizes and capabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the multiple environmental, economic and social dimensions of the best practices, leadership from a city’s council is needed to oversee their implementation and coordination/integration with other city and community activities, and with other governmental jurisdictions (such as surrounding townships) as appropriate; 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan for the City of North St. Paul has identified goals in the areas of transportation, land use, environment and economics and the GreenStep Cities program aligns with the goals set forth in the Comprehensive Plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of North St. Paul does hereby authorize the City of North St. Paul (the "City") to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program. Be it further resolved that the City:

1. Appoints Jessica Anderson to serve as the city's GreenStep coordinator to facilitate best practice implementation; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members, civic, business and educational organizations, the city's Environmental Advisory Commission and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
3. Grants to the GreenStep program's buildings advisor 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 identify a short list of best practices for initial implementation by December 31, 2012; and
5. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work toward implementing at least 12 required and optional GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings and reduction in the community's greenhouse gas footprint. A summary of the city's implementation of best practices will be posted on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

**ADOPTED** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2012.

Motion by Council Member Walczak  
Second by Council Member Furlong

Voting:   Aye:       Council Member Furlong  
                      Council Member Petersen  
                      Council Member Walczak  
                      Council Member Bruton  
                      Mayor Kuehn  
          Nay:       None  
          Abstain:  None  
          Absent:  None

/s/ Michael R. Kuehn, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Walter T. Wysopal, City Manager

*As Deputy Clerk of the City of North St. Paul, I hereby certify that this Resolution is a true and correct copy of the one adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2012.*

*Mary H. Mills*

Mary H. Mills, Deputy Clerk