

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-165

**CITY OF STILLWATER
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF STILLWATER
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 29 best practices; 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 Stillwater and to the economic health of its citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, climate changes have been observed in Minnesota and have the potential to negatively impact local, regional and state economies; infrastructure development; habitat; ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve energy use and reductions and cost savings 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 and quality of life; 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, 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Stillwater does hereby authorize the City of Stillwater to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program. 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. Will facilitate the public/private partnership as well as involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
2. Grants to the GreenStep program's buildings advisor review access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-saving technical assistance to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and
3. Will provide feedback once a year on how well the GreenStep program is serving the City and on City needs from the program; and
4. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing eight GreenStep best practices. 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.

Enacted by the City Council of the City of Stillwater, Minnesota this 31st day of July, 2018.

CITY OF STILLWATER



Ted Kozlowski, Mayor

ATTEST:



Diane F. Ward, City Clerk