

# Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership

2015-2016 Work Plan



Prepared: May, 2015

By: Clean Energy Partnership Planning Team

Attachment B

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## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	4
EVAC Process & Feedback Summary .....	9
Clean Energy Partnership 2015-2016 Work Plan Items.....	11
Tracking Progress .....	17
Timeline.....	19
Appendix A: Original List of Potential Work Plan Items.....	21
Appendix B: Summary of EVAC survey results.....	25
Appendix C: Summary of EVAC discussion on potential additional Work Plan Items .....	33
Appendix D: Link to all survey responses from EVAC members .....	37

## Introduction

The City of Minneapolis, Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy have been partnering for decades on energy-related initiatives. However, the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership (“CEP” or “Partnership”) is a new approach that brings together the City of Minneapolis in a unique way with Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy, its electric and gas utilities, to help the City reach its Climate Action goals and Energy Vision for 2040 goals. The CEP is a collaborative leadership framework through which the City and utilities will study, prioritize, plan, coordinate, implement, market, track, and report progress on clean energy activities in the city.

The Clean Energy Partnership is led by a joint City/Utility Board that will review and approve on going two-year work plans focused on helping the City achieve its energy goals. The work plans are designed to leverage statewide policies, city municipal regulatory authority, community relationships, and utility expertise and programs to increase the penetration rate of energy efficiency and renewable energy as well as education and focus on reliability and equity of energy services in Minneapolis. The CEP Board is also collecting community feedback on all work plans through the Energy Vision Advisory Committee (EVAC). The role of EVAC is stated in the Memorandum of Understanding as:

*The Board shall arrange opportunities for advocates and advisors, including representatives from critical communities within the City, such as business, neighborhoods, environmental justice, technical, and City staff, to provide information and materials to the Board. In order to facilitate the transmittal of such information to the Board, the Board shall appoint members representing these critical communities to a standing advisory committee which shall be charged with reviewing and providing feedback on the biennial work plan and measurement and performance reports; researching special initiatives as requested by the Board; and, providing outreach and promotion of Board initiatives as directed by the Board. Ad hoc advisory committees may be established by the Board at its discretion.*

Many of the ideas presented in this document are based on the Clean Energy Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the three partners in the fall of 2014. Some ideas also originate from the City’s Climate Action Plan and the Minneapolis Energy Pathways Study, completed in February of 2014. The Minneapolis Energy Pathways study identified programs and policies that could be most appropriate for consideration in the CEP, and drive progress towards City and utility goals. Additional ideas are the result of extensive discussions between the partners, based on known issues and emerging topics.

Since the first Clean Energy Partnership Board meeting in February of 2015, the Energy Vision Advisory Committee was formed, at the direction of the Board. This Committee is charged with reviewing and providing feedback on the work plans of the Clean Energy Partnership. During their first two meetings in 2015, EVAC focused on reviewing the list of Potential Work Plan Items that were previously reviewed and approved by the Board, and providing feedback. This process, and the feedback is summarized in this document.

This first work plan is a significant accomplishment for the partners. It lays the groundwork for collaborative work to reduce Minneapolis greenhouse gas emissions, and advance equity in the energy

## Attachment B

system. It should be recognized that this first two-year period will be a learning experience – for the City, the utilities and the community. Along with developing new approaches for climate action in the city, participants will be discovering barriers and learning how best to work together. This work plan should be viewed as a living and learning document, which can adapt as progress is made or as circumstances change.

## Goals of the Clean Energy Partnership

While developing the first two-year work plan, the Planning Team found it useful to organize the work plan program concepts under a framework of goals, strategies and segment-based work plan activities. This framework is shown in Figure 1 below.

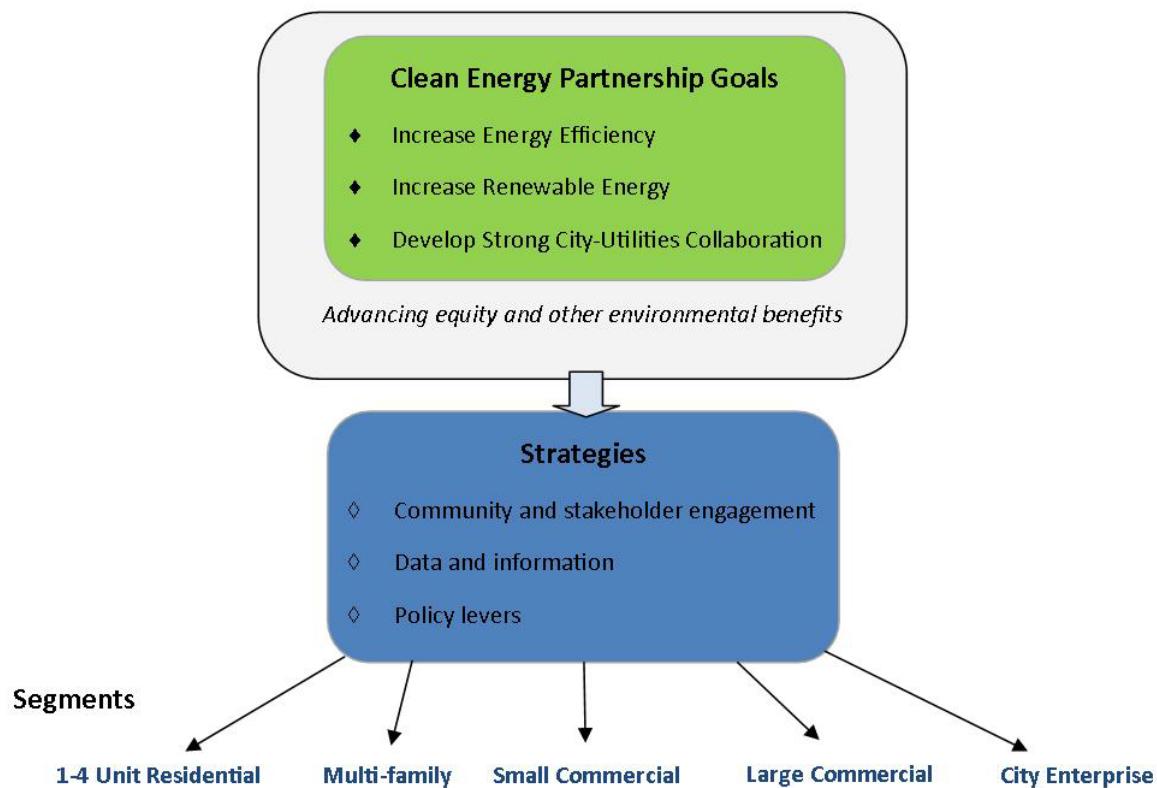


Figure 1. Clean Energy Partnership Goals, Strategies and Segments

In general, the goals of the Partnership are to:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector in Minneapolis by:
  - Making utility customers in Minneapolis more energy-efficient
  - Expanding access to and use of clean and renewable energy by Minneapolis utility customers
- Increase the effective collaboration between the City of Minneapolis and the two utilities to address energy and climate-related issues

These goals should be pursued in a way that advances equity and other environmental benefits.

The three key strategies the Partnership will use to meet the goals include Community Engagement, Access to Information, and City Policy Tools. Within each of the five segments, these strategies will be implemented through different plan activities. The specific activities are discussed in detail in the Work Plan section below.

## Key Strategies

As the Planning Team worked with EVAC to collect feedback, and began generating the final Work Plan, some key strategies began to immerge that will be especially important for the work of the Partnership in 2015 and 2016. These strategies are identified below.

**Enhancing and coordinating community engagement.** A significant focus of the work in 2015 and 2016 will be identifying new and effective community engagement strategies to drive participation in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. This applies to many segments described below (1-4 unit residential, multi-family residential, and large commercial), and may vary depending on the segment. Methods to connect with Minneapolis residents and businesses, especially groups or geographies that are underrepresented in the usage of utility programs, will need to be generated, analyzed and vetted by EVAC and other stakeholders. The success of the Partnership in the long-term depends on identifying and implementing engagement strategies that can move Minneapolis beyond the historic levels of participation in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs.

**Using data on program participation to aide decision-making and develop metrics.** A key to developing effective engagement strategies will be understanding how well utility programs are already serving Minneapolis, what areas are underrepresented, and what programs are most effective. These types of data will also be essential for developing metrics to track the progress of the Partnership going forward. The Planning Team, EVAC and the Board will be engaged in accessing, analyzing and using program participation information to design outreach strategies and generate metrics to track progress.

**Exploring City policy levers.** Many of the utility programs to be used by the Partnership in 2015-2016 are fairly well defined, if not yet fully implemented. However, the Partnership was designed from the beginning to pair utility programs and resources with City communication channels and regulatory authority. A key theme of the work in 2015-2016 will be exploring the most impactful uses of City networks, communication tools and possible regulatory tools that can drive more uptake of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy programs.

The strategies described above will be implemented through specific Partnership activities, which are categorized in this Work Plan according to the following segments:

- Residential (1-4 unit) Buildings
- Multi-family Buildings (5 or more dwelling units)
- Small Commercial Buildings<sup>1</sup>
- Large Commercial Buildings
- City Enterprise

The approach to organizing the Work Plan described here – identifying goals, strategies to meet them, and grouping activities by segment – is a change in organizational format from the list of potential work plan items which was initially presented to the Board and to EVAC. That list was divided simply into

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<sup>1</sup> "Commercial" is used here to simply mean non-residential buildings. Buildings are considered to be small or large based on where they fall relative to the City's 50,000 square foot threshold for the benchmarking ordinance.

## Attachment B

Community Initiatives and City Enterprise Initiatives; many of the individual items were fairly broad and the proposed activity was not always clearly defined.

As the Planning Team worked to consider the feedback received and refine the Work Plan, the organization described above seemed to better facilitate the inclusion of the broader context of the Partnership's work and demonstrate how the proposed activities will fit into that context. The new format also lends itself better to communicating the specific activities to be undertaken by the Partnership, as well as the timing of those efforts.

It is important to note that while the organization of the Work Plan is significantly different from the initial document, all of the individual Potential Work Plan items that were presented to the Board and considered by EVAC remain. In the sections that follow, the Potential Work Plan items that pertain to specific segments are identified, in order to better illustrate the continuity of content from the previous document.

## EVAC Process & Feedback Summary

At their February 2015 meeting, the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership (CEP) Board adopted a set of Potential Work Plan Items for the Planning Team to bring to the Energy Vision Advisory Committee (EVAC) for review. This list of potential items included high-priority items that were the result of an intensive City stakeholder process while developing the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan, as well as the recommendations of the [Energy Pathways Study](#) and the [Memoranda of Understanding](#) between the City and Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy.

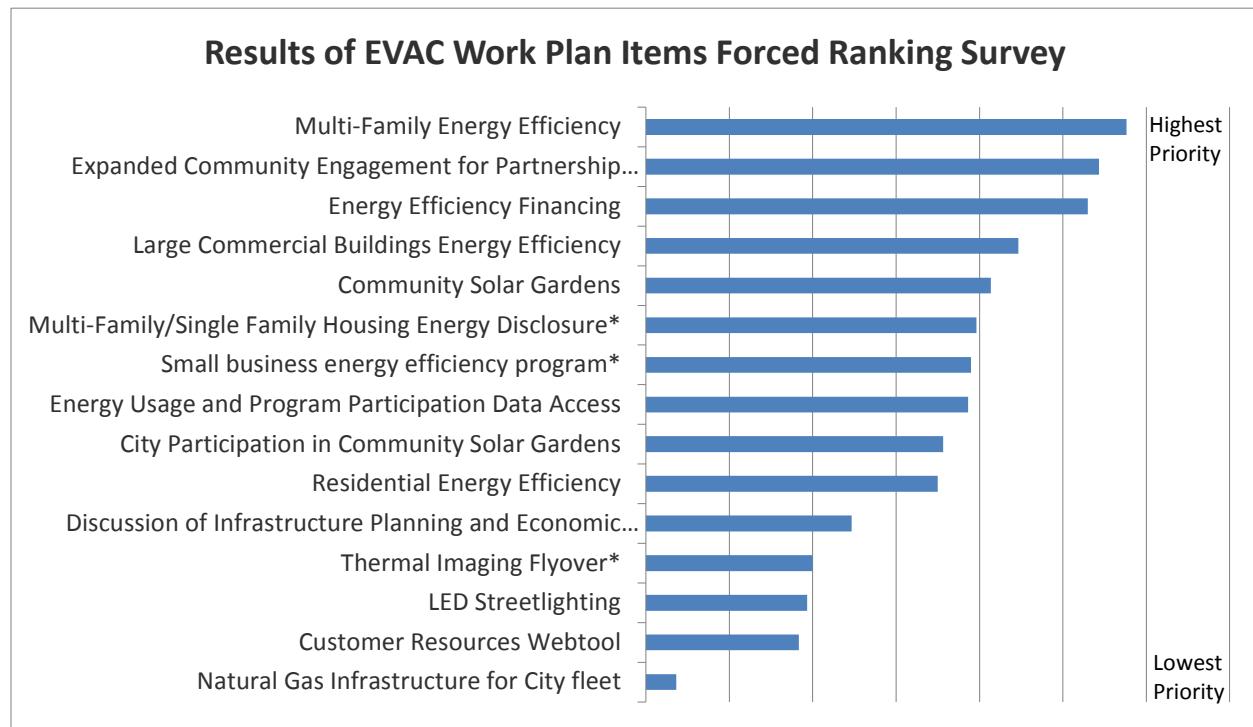
### EVAC Process

EVAC's 15 member committee is charged with reviewing the Potential Work Plan items and providing feedback to the CEP Board before the adoption of a final 2015-2016 work plan. The full list of Potential Work Plan Items that EVAC provided feedback on is available in Appendix A.

The Planning Team convened two EVAC meetings following the Board's approval to review the Potential Work Plan items. The first meeting was held on April 16 where the committee's structure, timeline and co-chair roles were discussed. Between the first and the second meetings, each committee member was asked to complete a survey to prioritize the comprehensive list of work plan items, recommend new concepts, and provide specific recommendations on the Potential Work Plan items. EVAC rated most of the Potential Work Plan items as medium to high priority. Each item was rated on a 1 to 4 scale, 1 being low priority and 4 being high priority. The lowest average score was 2.15, demonstrating that no item was thought of as not a priority. EVAC's recommendations for the Potential Work Plan items included identifying what CEP's role should be for each item, what elements were missing from program designs, and what challenges could come up with each item and how might the challenges be overcome. A summary of the feedback is included in Appendix B. The Planning Team asked EVAC to recommend additional work plan items the committee could discuss at the second meeting. EVAC came up with seven potential new Work Plan items that were appropriate for inclusion as a new program or concept.

The second EVAC meeting was held on May 6<sup>th</sup> which started with the election of the committee appointed co-chair. The co-chairs of the first two year CEP EVAC committee are Billy Weber and Jamez Staples. The second meeting focused on the results of the Work Plan item prioritization the committee completed between meetings, as well as breakout sessions to discuss the new Work Plan concepts. During the breakout meetings, EVAC members were asked to join a breakout group on each of the proposed new Work Plan items. If a breakout group did not receive more than three interested persons, it would not move forward. The three new Work Plan items that gained enough interest to move forward included: multi-family/single family energy housing disclosure, small business energy coaching program and thermal imaging flyover. A summary of the discussion of new Work Plan items that occurred at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting is included as Appendix C.

At the conclusion of the second meeting, EVAC members requested to take a second survey and rank each of the 13 Potential Work Plan items from 1 to 13 (highest to lowest priority) and also indicate what items could be removed from the Work Plan if necessary. The results of the prioritization are shown in Figure 2 below.



\*New items developed by EVAC during their second meeting

*Figure 2. Results of survey of EVAC members on the ranking of work plan items*

The Planning Team considered all feedback from EVAC when developing the final Work Plan. Of the three items EVAC suggested that the Planning Team add to the Work Plan, two are shown in this document. The third – a Thermal Imaging Flyover, was not included in the Work Plan, but will be considered for future two-year work plans. The Planning Team recognized that this item scored relatively low in the prioritization done by EVAC members, and felt that given limited staff resources, time would be more effectively spent on other items during the 2015-2016 time period. The flyover concept is a method to help target outreach related to energy efficiency programs, something the Planning Team felt could also be accomplished by understanding existing program participation, a pre-existing work plan item.

It should be noted that a significant portion of the feedback from EVAC after the first meeting dealt with *how* the Partnership completed its work, rather than the specific work plan items. This feedback will be especially valuable as the Planning Team begins to review potential metrics with EVAC. A summary of this feedback can be found in Appendix B.

## Clean Energy Partnership 2015-2016 Work Plan Items

What follows is a description of the 2015-2016 Work Plan for the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership. Items in the Work Plan are organized under energy user “segments”, including:

1. Residential, 1-4 unit
2. Multi-family (5+ unit)
3. Large commercial
4. Small commercial
5. City enterprise

Each segment below includes a description of the activities relevant to each segment, a list of the work plan items previously presented to the Board and reviewed by EVAC that are relevant to the segment, and a list of specific deliverables the Partnership hopes to complete in 2015-2016. The Planning Team will be working with EVAC over the next year to produce a final list of metrics to track progress made in this and future work plans (see [Tracking Progress](#), page 16).

### **1. Residential, 1-4 Unit**

Many successful energy efficiency and renewable energy programs are currently available that can be utilized by customers in 1-4 unit residential structures. Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy have invested considerably in developing these programs and spend millions of dollars on them for the benefit of Minneapolis customers each year. These programs include home visit and assessment offerings, rebates for a wide variety of energy efficiency upgrades, new construction programs, Solar\*Rewards, Community Solar Gardens, WindSource and others.

A key focus of the Partnership in 2015-2016 should be the development of new community engagement strategies, designed to increase the number of 1-4 unit residential properties participating in the existing energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. New engagement strategies will be informed by utility program participation information and energy usage data. The City will also begin to explore what policy levers it can exercise to drive participation of 1-4 unit properties in these programs.

The Partnership will also be developing at least one new option for financing energy efficiency improvements in 1-4 unit buildings in 2016.

This segment includes the following Work Plan items previously considered by the Board and reviewed by EVAC and a new item suggested by EVAC:

- Residential Energy Efficiency
- Energy Efficiency Financing
- Community Solar Gardens
- Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access
- Expanded Community Engagement
- Multi-family/Single-Family Housing Energy Transparency

The original list of Potential Work Plan items is available in Appendix A. A summary of EVACs discussion of new work plan items is in Appendix C.

## **2015-2016 Activities**

- Analysis and mapping of current and historic participation in utility programs by customers in 1-4 unit properties to help target outreach efforts and inform residents and policymakers about progress. This analysis should identify areas previously under-served by 1-4 unit programs.
- Develop a community engagement strategy for 1-4 unit properties. Strategies could include engaging community-based organizations to conduct outreach, developing a citywide challenge or other innovative approaches. The Planning Team will be working with EVAC to gather feedback on potential approaches. Strategies effective at driving participation in areas of the City previously underserved by programs will be a priority; as such the analysis and mapping described above will be key to informing the work in this effort.
- CenterPoint Energy intends to develop an on-bill repayment offering for customers who need financing for energy efficiency improvements; the offering will be submitted for regulatory approval in mid-2016.<sup>2</sup> The Partnership will work to identify additional lending sources to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.
- Explore potential City policy levers to drive energy efficiency and renewables in 1-4 unit properties. EVAC identified multi-family/single-family housing energy transparency as a priority. They identified the use of a time-of-sale or time-of-rent energy metric, like an asset rating, which could be used for this purpose.

## **2. Multi-family Residential**

Multi-family buildings are eligible to participate in a number of existing energy efficiency programs offered separately by each utility. In addition, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy have recently collaborated to develop a dedicated, jointly-delivered energy efficiency program that specifically targets multi-family buildings. The program draws on national best practices to encourage building owners to invest in energy-saving measures in both resident and common spaces. The program has been filed with regulators, and is pending approval. The utilities plan to begin implementation later this year.

Customers in multi-family buildings can also utilize programs to access renewable energy, such as Community Solar Gardens and WindSource.

A key focus of the Partnership in 2015-2016 should be the development of new community engagement strategies, designed to increase the number of multi-family residential properties participating in energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. New engagement strategies will be informed by utility program participation and energy usage information. The City will begin to explore what policy levers it can exercise to drive participation of multi-family properties in these programs.

This segment includes the following Work Plan items previously considered by the Board and reviewed by EVAC and a new item suggested by EVAC:

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<sup>2</sup> The on-bill repayment option could apply to a variety of segments, not simply residential 1-4 unit buildings, but is included in this section as residential customers are probably the most likely to participate.

- Multi-family Energy Efficiency
- Community Solar Gardens
- Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access
- Expanded Community Engagement
- Multi-family/Single-Family Housing Energy Transparency

The original list of Potential Work Plan items is available in Appendix A. A summary of EVACs discussion of new work plan items is in Appendix C.

### **2015-2016 Activities**

- Analysis and mapping of current and historic participation in utility programs by customers in multi-family properties to help target outreach efforts and inform residents and policymakers about progress. This analysis should identify areas previously under-served by multi-family programs.
- Develop a community engagement strategy for multi-family properties. Strategies could include engaging community-based organizations to conduct outreach, developing a citywide challenge or other innovative approaches. The Planning Team will be working with EVAC to gather feedback on potential approaches. Strategies effective at driving participation in areas of the City previously underserved by programs will be a priority; as such the analysis and mapping described above will be key to informing the work in this effort.
- Explore potential City policy levers to drive energy efficiency and renewables. EVAC identified multi-family/single-family housing energy transparency as a priority. They identified the use of a time-of-sale or time-of-rent energy metric, like an asset rating, which could be used for this purpose.

### **3. Large Commercial**

Information gained through the City's Commercial Building Benchmarking & Transparency ordinance, combined with utility program data and utility expertise, will be leveraged to enhance outreach to large commercial buildings and drive energy efficiency improvements. The City and utilities will work on developing targeted marketing approaches, new data access tools for building owners/managers, educational efforts and enhanced utility energy efficiency programs.

This segment includes the following Work Plan items previously considered by the Board and reviewed by EVAC:

- Large Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency
- Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access
- Expanded Community Engagement

The original list of Potential Work Plan items is available in Appendix A.

## **2015-2016 Activities**

- Analysis and mapping of current and historic participation in utility programs by customers in commercial properties, as well as analysis of benchmarking scores, to help target outreach efforts and inform residents and policymakers about progress. This analysis should identify areas previously under-served by utility programs, or buildings with the greatest potential to improve their benchmarking scores.
- Deploy a tool to allow owners/managers of multi-metered buildings to easily access whole building data for the purposes of benchmarking. Xcel Energy and the City have been working as part of the DOE's Data Accelerator Program to develop such a tool, and it will be ready for use by customers by the end of 2015. This tool has the potential to significantly reduce one barrier to benchmarking in multi-metered buildings.
- Develop and launch a recognition and/or challenge program to promote and encourage energy efficiency improvements in multiple segments of the commercial building segment. This recognition will launch in fall of 2015.
- Develop and launch resource workshops targeted at specific segments of commercial buildings (office, retail/hospitality, health care, non-profit, etc) to connect them with technical assistance, financing, and other resources to drive energy efficiency improvements.

### **4. Small Commercial**

EVAC identified small business/small commercial as a potential new work plan item during discussions. In this concept, the City and utilities would develop a program that collaborates with business-serving organizations in targeted small business districts that help businesses (particularly small, immigrant/minority-owned businesses) make energy-efficient improvements. This program could be modeled on the work occurring in the Lake Street corridor around energy efficiency outreach to small businesses. While small businesses are eligible to participate in a variety of existing energy efficiency programs, these customers tend to be "difficult to reach" for traditional utility offerings for a variety of reasons.<sup>3</sup>

Outreach to small commercial properties has been identified by the Partners in Energy Program as a top priority for their work. Partners In Energy is a new offering from Xcel Energy to support the development and implementation of energy action plans at the local level. Currently, this program is focused on the Lake Street corridor, and overseen by the Midtown Community Works Partnership.

The role of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership in 2015-2016 will be to monitor the progress of the small business outreach occurring through the Partners in Energy Program, glean best practices, and collect potential program design ideas for the 2017-2018 Work Plan.

This segment includes the following Work Plan item previously considered by the Board and reviewed by EVAC and a new item suggested by EVAC:

- Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access

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<sup>3</sup> These reasons can include language barriers, lack of available time and financial resources for small business owners, limited energy expertise among small business owners, and others.

- Small business energy efficiency program

The original list of Potential Work Plan items is available in Appendix A. A summary of EVACs discussion of new work plan items is in Appendix C.

### **2015-2016 Activities**

- Analysis and mapping of current and historic participation in utility programs by customers in small commercial properties.
- Monitor progress of the implementation of small business programs through the PIE program in the Lake Street corridor. This may include updates to EVAC or the Board on activities or program designs presented by leaders of the PIE program.

### **5. City Enterprise & Coordination**

The original list of Potential Work Plan Items reviewed by the Board and EVAC contained four items: a City RFP for a Community Solar Garden Subscription, continued discussion of Infrastructure Planning and Economic Development, LED streetlighting, and Natural Gas Infrastructure for City fleet.

Although some of these items were ranked as low priority by EVAC (namely Natural Gas Infrastructure for City Fleet), the Planning Team feels that the 2015-2016 Work Plan should include all four items. Some of these items are already underway (LED streetlighting, exploration of City fleet alternatives, and the development of the solar garden RFP), and thus the Planning Team feels they should remain on the Work Plan. Continued discussion of infrastructure planning, which was ranked as a high priority by EVAC, is ongoing work that the City and utilities think should now become “business as usual” as the partners work together on a range of issues.

### **2015-2016 Activities**

- Begin the roll-out of LED streetlights citywide. Xcel Energy is developing a strategic system wide plan to replace all their existing fixtures with LED's over the next five years. The plan for Xcel-managed lights in Minnesota will be filed with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in the fall of 2015. Energy efficiency rebates are already available for the purchase of LED fixtures for use in city-maintained streetlights. In 2015-2016 the City and Xcel will work together to determine an implementation schedule for streetlight retrofits in Minneapolis, identify priority areas for retrofit, and begin the retrofit process. It should be noted that the conversion to LED streetlights could result in a significant cost savings for the City on its electricity consumption, as well as a corresponding reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- The City is currently engaged in a study of future fleet vehicle needs and fueling options, including the potential for the use of natural gas. In 2015-2016, the City will finish this study, and identify options for new fueling infrastructure and vehicles.
- The City will release and analyze results of an RFP (or RFPs) for one or more subscriptions to Community Solar Garden or other renewable energy projects. Factors that should be considered in the RFP include local workforce development, especially for communities of color, the competitiveness of projects that are located within city boundaries, support of community-based institutions/organizations through project development, and the ability of a City

Attachment B

subscription to support access to renewables to low income or groups who may not otherwise be able to access renewable energy programs.

- The City and utilities will continue conversations on items of interest related to infrastructure, including plans for specific sites (for example, design options for distribution infrastructure at Hiawatha and 46<sup>th</sup> Street), distribution planning, aligning capital improvement cycles, pilot projects, and long-range carbon reduction planning.

## Tracking Progress

This document contains the programs, concepts and initiatives that the Clean Energy Partnership will work to advance in the 2015-2016 time period. To understand how effective these initiatives may be at meeting City and utility goals, the Partnership will need to adopt a set of performance metrics to track progress. Below are suggestions for potential metrics relevant to the Work Plan developed by the Planning Team.

To effectively measure progress towards City goals, some metrics will need to be broken down to geographic areas smaller than the city as a whole, such as census block groups or neighborhood boundaries. This is to enable the partners and the public to understand whether the impact of CEP initiatives differs across Minneapolis communities, and to plan approaches which work equitably. Discussions currently ongoing on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, as well as utility information technology systems, may impact the specific geographies for which data is available. The Partnership will identify desired geographies, and identify barriers and potential solutions to accessing data necessary for metrics.

The Planning Team will continue working with EVAC in 2015 and early 2016 to finalize a set of metrics for review by the Partnership Board. These metrics will be used for annual reports on progress to EVAC and the Board, as well as analysis of the effectiveness of segment-specific strategies.

### Suggested Metrics

- **Citywide Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
  - Energy usage by customer type
  - Greenhouse gas emissions
- **Home Energy Squad visits**
  - Participant Count (with geographic breakdown)
  - Conversion rate: How many squad visits caused the customer to complete energy efficiency upgrades?
  - What actions were taken/What was installed?
  - Energy/carbon savings
- **Xcel Energy & CenterPoint Energy audits**
  - Participant Count (with geographic breakdown)
  - Conversion Rates
- **Energy usage access**
  - Geographic breakdown of customer energy usage data
  - Develop a list of data access needs and limitations
- **Community Solar Garden subscriptions**
  - Number of subscribers (with geographic breakdown)
  - kW subscribed and annual energy production
  - Locations of gardens subscribed to by Minneapolis customers
- **Distributed solar PV and solar thermal interconnections/installations**
  - Number of installations (with geographic breakdown)

Attachment B

- kW and annual energy production
- **WindSource**
  - Number of subscribers (with geographic breakdown) and percent of subscribers in MN
  - Total kWh

## Timeline

Below is a timeline that the Planning Team has developed as an *illustrative guide* for the specific 2015-2016 activities identified under each segment in the Work Plan above. This timeline is subject to change, as details develop related to each segment and item. Items that include a regulatory change or approval may need to be modified based on the schedule dictated by the Public Utilities Commission. Additionally, items that might include City policy change, additional stakeholder engagement, and/or City Council approval may need to change based on the circumstances of each item.

As outlined in the [Key Strategies](#) section (see page 6), the Partnership will be working on some foundational items in 2015 and 2016. This includes a more detailed understanding of utility program participation and energy usage by Minneapolis customers, which can inform outreach strategies for new and existing programs. This work will set the stage for items in this and future work plans. The Planning Team intends to proceed by presenting the most detailed information that is available as soon as possible, while working towards more a detailed understanding of program participation, including finer geographic breakdowns. Given the potential changes to utility IT infrastructure, and ongoing discussions about data policy at the Public Utilities Commission, some of this more detailed information may not be available until later in 2016. The Planning Team intends to communicate with EVAC and the Board on an ongoing basis about progress, barriers, and the updated timeline.

The colors used in the timeline serve no other purpose than as a visual aid as one task is estimated to end and another to begin.

## Attachment B

CEP Work Plan Timing Overview		2015											
	05/22/15	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Residential 1-4 Units</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Develop high-level reports
Develop community engagement strategies to increase EE and RE participation, particularly in historically underserved areas and populations within the city													Develop engagement and outreach strategies
Develop on-bill repayment mechanism for financing EE improvements for inclusion in CNP's Triennial CIP filing; and explore other sources to finance EE and RE projects													2016 action item
Explore potential City policy levers to drive EE and encourage energy usage transparency													Study options and feasibility
<b>Multi-Family</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Develop high-level reports
Develop community engagement strategies to increase EE and RE participation, particularly in historically underserved areas and populations within the city													Develop engagement and outreach strategies
Explore potential City policy levers to drive EE and encourage energy usage transparency													Study options and feasibility
<b>Small Commercial</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Develop reports
Monitor and assess progress of small business programs of the Partners In Energy (PIE) program in the Lake Street corridor													Midtown Community Works Partners In Energy Program Ongoing
<b>Large Commercial</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation and benchmarking scores, to identify buildings with the greatest potential for improved EE													Develop Benchmarking Report
Develop and deploy tool to allow owners/managers of multi-metered buildings to more easily access whole building data for the purpose benchmarking energy consumption													Prepare to Launch
Develop and launch a recognition/challenge program to promote and encourage EE improvements in multiple commercial building sectors													Plan for implementation
Develop and launch resource workshops to connect commercial building sectors to technical assistance, financing and other resources to help drive EE improvements													Launch
													Workshops ongoing
<b>City Enterprise and Coordination</b>													
Roll-out LED streetlight plan to replace all existing fixtures within the next five years													Filing and Regulatory Review
Explore the potential use of natural gas for use in city fleet vehicles; and identify options for new fueling infrastructure and vehicle purchases.													City Fleet Study
Release and analyze the results of a City RFP for one or more subscriptions to Community Solar Garden projects within the city, to help support access to RE to low income groups who may not otherwise have access													Release RFP, analyze results
Explore opportunities to increase communication and collaboration between Partners to ensure city and utility infrastructure improvements are planned, designed and coordinated to the mutual benefit of all concerned													Ongoing

CEP Work Plan Timing Overview		2016											
	05/22/15	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Residential 1-4 Units</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Review Historic Data
Develop community engagement strategies to increase EE and RE participation, particularly in historically underserved areas and populations within the city													Begin implementation
Develop on-bill repayment mechanism for financing EE improvements for inclusion in CNP's Triennial CIP filing; and explore other sources to finance EE and RE projects													Concept definition and refinement
Explore potential City policy levers to drive EE and encourage energy usage transparency													Stakeholder engagement
<b>Multi-Family</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Review Historic Data
Develop community engagement strategies to increase EE and RE participation, particularly in historically underserved areas and populations within the city													Begin implementation
Explore potential City policy levers to drive EE and encourage energy usage transparency													Stakeholder engagement
<b>Small Commercial</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation													Review Historic Data
Monitor and assess progress of small business programs of the Partners In Energy (PIE) program in the Lake Street corridor													Midtown Community Works Partners In Energy Program Ongoing
<b>Large Commercial</b>													
Analyze and map current and historic CIP participation and benchmarking scores, to identify buildings with the greatest potential for improved EE													Review Historic Data
Develop and deploy tool to allow owners/managers of multi-metered buildings to more easily access whole building data for the purpose benchmarking energy consumption													Launch tool and monitor results
Develop and launch a recognition/challenge program to promote and encourage EE improvements in multiple commercial building sectors													Stakeholder engagement and program communication
Develop and launch resource workshops to connect commercial building sectors to technical assistance, financing and other resources to help drive EE improvements													Ongoing implementation
<b>City Enterprise and Coordination</b>													
Roll-out LED streetlight plan to replace all existing fixtures within the next five years													Regulatory Approval
Explore the potential use of natural gas for use in city fleet vehicles; and identify options for new fueling infrastructure and vehicle purchases.													Feasibility analysis and policy discussion
Release and analyze the results of a City RFP for one or more subscriptions to Community Solar Garden projects within the city, to help support access to RE to low income groups who may not otherwise have access													Implementation
Explore opportunities to increase communication and collaboration between Partners to ensure city and utility infrastructure improvements are planned, designed and coordinated to the mutual benefit of all concerned													Regularly scheduled meetings to communicate and coordinate infrastructure improvement work - ongoing

## Appendix A: Original List of Potential Work Plan Items

### Community Initiatives

#### Community Solar Gardens

The Partnership may explore a number of options for encouraging participation in Community Solar Gardens (CSGs) by Minneapolis customers. These could include City government participating as a customer of one or more CSGs for City-purchased electricity, providing information and training to neighborhoods and communities about participating in CSGs, developing a “one-stop” location for information on CSGs available to Minneapolis customers, or expanded outreach to customers to drive participation.

Xcel Energy customers can subscribe to solar gardens – solar panel arrays constructed by third-party developers at centralized locations – and receive credits on their electricity bills for their portion of energy produced. The program is called Solar\*Rewards Community and is designed for customers who cannot participate in other solar programs because they rent, live in multi-family dwellings, their homes or businesses are not suitable for solar installations, or rooftop solar installations are not right for them for other reasons.

Xcel Energy's Solar\*Rewards® Community® program launched on 12/12/2014.

#### Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access

The City and the utilities will work together to understand energy usage and program participation information at smaller geographic level than city-wide. The City may be able to produce reports for use by neighborhoods and community initiatives, such as energy savings competitions. Energy usage and program participation data will be used to establish metrics to gauge the success of CEP activities.

The (MPUC) is currently reviewing how utilities can manage the aggregation and dissemination of community and building level data. Depending on their decision, more data may be available from utilities on energy usage and energy efficiency program participation in Minneapolis. This information can help identify high energy usage areas to target for energy efficiency outreach and education as well give perspective on what type of energy efficiency programs residents and businesses are currently participating in.

#### Large Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency

Information gained through the City's Commercial Building Benchmarking & Transparency ordinance, combined with utility program data and utility expertise, will be leveraged to enhance outreach to large commercial buildings and drive energy efficiency improvements. The City and utilities may work on developing targeted marketing approaches, new data access tools for building owners/managers, educational efforts and enhanced utility energy efficiency programs.

#### Multi-Family Energy Efficiency

There is much interest in programs that reach the multi-family sector. As a result, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy are collaborating to develop a, jointly-delivered energy efficiency program dedicated to

multifamily buildings. The program will draw on national best practices to encourage building owners to invest in energy-saving measures in both resident and common spaces.

The program is expected to be filed with regulators in early 2015 and pending approval, begin implementation later that year.

The CEP will work collaboratively for regulatory approval of the program and explore targeted outreach and marketing opportunities to engage Minneapolis customers. The CEP may also explore expanding or existing financing options for program participants to further reduce barriers to implementation of efficiency measures.

### **Residential Energy Efficiency**

The CEP will leverage the availability of an expanded residential energy efficiency program and explore targeted outreach and marketing opportunities to engage Minneapolis customers. The CEP may also explore expanding or existing financing options for program participants to further reduce barriers to implementation of efficiency measures.

CenterPoint Energy has proposed a pilot program called the *Residential Engagement Pilot* in the City of Minneapolis to test the effectiveness of enhanced natural gas engagement strategies intended to increase the number of residential customers (in 1-4 unit properties) that follow up on and install recommendations made at home visits.

The Pilot has been approved by the Department of Commerce; Division of Energy Resources and launch is scheduled for February of 2015.

### **Energy Efficiency Financing**

The CEP could engage in work including enhanced marketing of existing financing options available through private lenders and public lenders. The CEP may also explore other innovative models for delivering financing options with low barriers to participation.

CenterPoint Energy is developing a tool that will provide customers the opportunity to finance energy efficiency upgrades and repay the loans via their utility bills. Capital would be provided by one or more third-party lending partners and the utility would service the loan. Customers benefit by the enhanced convenience.

Prior to implementation, the company's IT systems must be upgraded and capital partners identified and secured. Funding for the IT upgrades would require regulatory approval. CenterPoint Energy currently expects to request approval for the system upgrades in their 2017-2019 CIP Triennial Plan filing.

### **Partners in Energy**

Partners in Energy is a new offering from Xcel Energy to support the development and implementation of energy action plans at the local level. Although the objectives will reflect the unique needs of the community, Xcel Energy anticipates that by working with communities the planning process they will be

better able to match their services and offerings to customer needs and inform the marketplace about existing programs and resources that can support their plans. The intent is to provide a unique custom package of Xcel Energy's current services and offerings, identify third party resources, and leverage local distribution channels, to meet community objectives.

The Midtown Community Works Corridor in Minneapolis is the first participant in Partners in Energy in Minnesota and is serving as a testing ground for concept. Feedback from this community and others that participate will be used to improve the Partners in Energy offering, and support identification of potential future resources to aid in the development and delivery of community based energy plans. Future concept development may be directed by the CEP.

### **Expanded Community Engagement for Partnership Initiatives**

The CEP will explore expanded engagement strategies to drive participation in utility and City energy efficiency and renewable energy programs such as the multifamily energy efficiency program, Home Energy Squad, Solar\*Rewards® Community®, financing tools and others. Strategies could include engaging community-based organizations to conduct outreach, developing a citywide challenge or other innovative approaches to engage Minneapolis residents and businesses in pursuing the goals of the CEP.

### **Customer Resources Webtool**

The CEP will explore the development of a comprehensive webtool to help Minneapolis customers easily navigate the resources available to them. These resources could include energy efficiency or renewable energy programs. The webtool could work as a resource for any expanded community engagement initiative.

## **City Enterprise Initiatives**

### **City Participation in Community Solar Gardens**

Xcel Energy customers can subscribe to solar gardens – solar panel arrays constructed by third-party developers at centralized locations – and receive credits on their electricity bills for their portion of energy produced.

The City will explore the possibility for direct participation in one or more community solar gardens, for example as a subscriber. The Energy Vision Advisory Committee, Partnership Board or Planning Team can provide valuable input on the City's potential role or the design of the RFP.

### **Discussion of Infrastructure Planning and Economic Development**

The City, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy will engage in periodic discussions regarding planned utility and city infrastructure changes to create efficiencies and maximize opportunities for infrastructure enhancements and economic development.

### **LED Streetlighting**

The CEP will review the City's plans for retrofit of its streetlights, and explore options for the retrofit of Xcel-owned lights.

## Attachment B

Xcel Energy now offers energy efficiency for customer-owned street-lights. The City owns approximately half of the lights within city limits and currently is developing plans to replace the existing bulbs with high efficiency and low maintenance LED bulbs. Concurrently, Xcel Energy is developing a strategic system wide plan to replace their existing fixtures with LED's.

### **Natural Gas Infrastructure for City fleet**

Investments in new natural gas infrastructure could help create opportunities to reduce emissions. For example, with adequate fueling infrastructure, natural gas vehicles could help achieve reductions in both greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions. Anaerobic digestion of city-collected organic waste could provide a renewable fuel source for vehicles and/or buildings or facilities.

The City and CenterPoint Energy will use the CEP to explore options for new infrastructure to serve city facilities or fleet.

## Appendix B: Summary of EVAC survey results

### Community Initiatives

Community initiatives include non-City projects with the opportunity for community engagement such as helping to define the role of the Clean Energy Partnership, program design elements, challenges to implementation and what role community engagement plays in that implementation for enhanced outcomes.

#### Multi-Family Energy Efficiency

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Aggregating knowledge around implementing increased energy-efficient practices
- Focus on intersection of city policies and utility programs
- Engage community groups to recruit buildings into the program
- Require transparency on EUI or another similar metric
- Promotion and education
- Engage/aid both residents and landlords
- Monitor development of jointly-filed CIP; report on successes and challenges
- Work with community groups, credit unions and others to find way to include low-income renters

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Renters should know upfront the building's energy profile and consumption
  - Landlords should be required to disclose and post publicly total cost of housing (rent + utilities)
  - Landlords should be required to have an energy audit for licensure
- Renters should benefit from energy savings

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Landlords are stretched thin; should take advantage of energy saving programs
- Utilities should seek feedback from city and community partners on initial CIP program before filing an updated request for future years

#### Expanded Community Engagement for Partnership Initiatives)

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Identify funding and enable coordination
- Actively partner with community organizations and neighborhood associations
  - Equip organizations and community leaders with correct information and support networks

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Target areas that have high per capita energy use and poverty rates, low past participation in programs

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Utilities have siloed programs that do not integrate with city or community-based organizing

- Identify and financially support an organizing effort that has sophistication on energy issues and experience reaching city residents/businesses
- Too many programs can be confusing to the public
  - Create a catchy phrase, such as “My Minneapolis”, that would encompass all energy initiatives
  - Involve local artist community to provide inspiration to make community engage cool

## **Large Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Identify ways to combine/package multiple EE programs and financing tools
- Provide best data and clean energy strategies to:
  - Help save energy dollars
  - Adapt to their infrastructure
  - Incentivize/support/facilitate improving EE practices and technologies
- Use city disclosure data to target inefficient buildings to help (not shame) them into improving EE
- Encourage participation by showing how much money can be saved
- Encourage them to pursue deep level retrofits/upgrade existing inefficient systems

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Encourage deep level retrofits
- Encourage or require large commercial entities to meet goals for hiring women and people of color

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Funding to:
  - Research to locate best practices, case studies, implementation and monitoring methods
  - Supplement technologies and systems needed to increase energy efficiencies in commercial sector
- New program design and resources to reach customers
- Code requirement for new construction to meet more stringent energy efficient requirements
- Ensure that commercial sites have concrete incentives to save energy

## **Energy Usage and Program Participation Data Access**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Aggregating, interpreting and disseminating data to various institutions/maximizing data sharing
- Make energy usage data as public and accessible as possible
- City and utilities approach and engage PUC as a united front
- Require transparency in all real estate transactions

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Building-specific data (where there are multiple rate payers)
- Tool to allow citizens to explore public energy data/use in their neighborhood
- Data should be made public; transparency

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Willingness to propose and advocate for the change to the PUC
- Translate data collection into positive chance for residents of all income levels
- Ensure data is as accessible and easily understandable as possible

## **Residential Energy Efficiency**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Track and evaluation appropriateness of pilot
- Coordinate city outreach and utility outreach
- Actively market/promote program with neighborhood groups and community partners
  - Advertise in monthly utility statements
  - Advertise online
- Implement first in low-income and underserved neighborhoods/communities

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Measures to determine acceptable/unacceptable outcomes
- Provide free energy audits to qualified low-income residents
- Specific strategies to serve those who have historically been under-served (i.e., inefficient, low-income) by residential programs
- Description of “natural gas engagement strategies”
- Clear and transparent language

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Program too complicated
  - Provide simple, easy-to-understand examples that customers can relate to
  - Partner with Menards, Home Depot, others to give demonstrations on home improvements to make homes more efficient and that would qualify for utility rebates
- Utilities should collaborate on residential energy efficiency CIP filings
- Tracking data

## **Energy Efficiency Financing**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- On-bill financing/repayment
- Focus on financing programs that fall at the intersection of city policies and the utilities
- Show leadership and commitment to move this forward in a timely manner

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- On-bill financing/repayment; funding sources available for all types of rate payers and types of properties
- Marketing plan rooted in equity and fairness, considering existing disparities (especially economic gap)

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- City should be first organization considered as a possible lender for on-bill financing

- Other funding sources: credit unions, other groups

### **Community Solar Gardens**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Make it accessible and affordable
- Work with community organizations
- Target residents
  - Who are not homeowners
  - Especially low-income
- Educate and market to general public and businesses
  - Incentivize community, neighborhood groups and businesses to participate
- City should be anchor tenant/primary subscriber
- Use program to meet the city's 10% local energy goal
- Create and advocate for consumer protections

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Support local ownership
- Subscription/buy-in rates – not prohibitive
- On-bill financing
- Required to meet workforce hiring and training goals to ensure that low-income and minority workers have a chance to benefit from economic development created by CSGs
- Clear language, easy to understand diagrams and graphics
- Multiple citywide initiatives designed by competent agencies and organizations
- Clear articulation of next steps
- Clear articulation of impact initiative has on overall reduction targets

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Developing a plan/subscription options affordable for all
- Ensuring awareness of residents who qualify for the program
- Make it easy to take advantage of solar energy

### **Customer Resources Webtool**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Update and expand resources frequently
- Ensure webtool:
  - Works properly, is easy to navigate, is readily accessible, and is being used
  - Can be used on mobile devices

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Offer the webtool in multiple languages
- Accessible by mobile devices

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Making webtool as broadly accessible and usable as possible
- Keeping up with changing technology and programs

- Website might not get enough traffic
  - Include with Xcel and CenterPoint bills
- Many city residents are not computer-literate or don't have good access to online resources

## **City Enterprise Initiatives**

These initiatives are City and Utility focused. While they do not have a specific community engagement element, committee members were asked for feedback on all potential work plan items.

### **Discussion of Infrastructure Planning and Economic Development**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Use infrastructure outreach endeavors as opportunities to update residents about other programs
- Ensure that when the City digs up a street or redevelops a property, infrastructure is laid to enable substantial energy savings and GHG reductions
- Coordinate discussions and identifying/directing staff to coordinate
  - Determine priorities in negotiation where utility and City priorities conflict
- Promote meetings outside of same group of people who tend to participate in civic engagement and neighborhood activities
- Work with community organizations who work in city planning and infrastructure in an equitable way
- Ensure city infrastructure are models of conservatism, and that all departments are charged with a mandate for reduction

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Public needs a better understanding of the needs of our aging infrastructure, as well as the promise that grid modernization can bring
- Community engagement to determine priorities
- Discussions on infrastructure, planning and economic development should be highly-publicized, open and transparent

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Public education
  - Might best be done by outside organization that understands these issues
  - City council members will also be important to adequately fund mandates
- Reluctance by utilities to embrace new infrastructure, training programs

## **City Participation in Community Solar Gardens (Prioritization score: 3.15)**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Utilities and City work together to select developers that propose to City's RFP(s)
- Educate general public and businesses on benefits of CSGs and how to participate
- City should promote Xcel projects that increase community usage of solar and other renewable
- Collaborate to make City's CSG effort as big and innovative as possible
- Mandatory inclusionary practices as pertains to MBE/WBI and Vets on both contracting and employment side of developer
- City should lead on community solar gardens

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Focus on equity hiring for construction, project development, and potential subscribers
- Simple, easy to understand diagrams and graphics depicting what CSGs look like and explaining how they work
- Easy to access opportunities to become CSG subscribers at a low or no upfront cost
- Plan that will make sure that there is local workforce, included along with MBE/WBE/Vet participation

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- CSG subscription outreach in multiple languages and focus on low-income communities
- City should require a portion of city-subscribed solar gardens be located in the City

### **LED Street lighting**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Getting it accomplished in a short time frame/by the end of 2016

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Speed

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- [no identifiable common theme]

### **Natural Gas Infrastructure for City Fleet**

*What is the best role of the Clean Energy Partnership in relation to this item?*

- Researching best practices, case studies and other technologies
- Convert their fleets first as a test pilot program to determine viability
- Confirm cost benefit of a natural gas infrastructure/fleet with dollar amounts for an estimated GHG and other pollutant reductions per ton

*Are there any elements missing from the program design?*

- Supporting scientific data

*What challenges come with this program concept? How should they be overcome?*

- Cost difficult to justify
- Lack of understanding regarding the technology and potential for an alternative solution

### **Potential new ideas for the '15-'16 Work Plan**

EVAC members were given the opportunity as part of the first survey to submit ideas for new programs or concepts that were not included in the Potential Work Plan Items adopted by the Board.

The responses received were organized into three groups:

1. Responses that included items appropriate for inclusion as new programs or concepts in '15-'16

2. Responses that dealt with how the Clean Energy Partnership carries out its work, or metrics that could be used to track progress
3. Responses that included items that were deemed by the Planning Team as beyond the scope of the Partnership. For each of these items, the planning team has provided a brief description of why they made this determination in parentheses.

**Items that could be appropriate for inclusion as a new program or concept**

1. Electric vehicle adoption and charging infrastructure
2. Small Commercial Energy Efficiency program, possibly modeled on Lake Street Coaching Program
3. Pass-through tariff for municipal electricity purchases & RFP for projects if necessary
4. District energy program for large redevelopment/infill – consider using Prospect North redevelopment as a pilot
5. Capturing more energy through small hydro on the Mississippi
6. Thermal imaging flyover of the city to aid targeting of community organizing
7. Residential asset rating/benchmarking score made available to buyers at time of sale

**Items related to how the Partnership works/metrics to measure progress**

1. Explore policy levers/city regulatory authority
2. Shrink disparities
3. Clean up pollution in EJ neighborhoods
4. Work towards equitable participation in programs
5. Workforce development in energy efficiency/climate action industries, especially target unemployed, underemployed, women, and communities of color
6. Metrics, benchmarks and targets by sector
7. City should use local developers for acquisition of community solar
8. Green Zones concept
9. Clear evaluation and communication of initiatives (reporting?)
10. Possible metrics (from one respondent):
  - a. Track energy (kWh or therms)
  - b. Track GHG emissions
  - c. Track dollars (bills, wages, within/outside Minneapolis)
  - d. Track employment
  - e. Track participation rate, touches, how reached across city, utility, and all contractors.  
Something as robust as the Voter Activation Network
  - f. By Ward, income, ethnicity, RCI, age of building, per capita
  - g. % renewable energy and MW equivalent served for municipal use and all userseconomic activity generated by partnership activities, dollars, WHERE,
  - h. energy savings generated by partnership activities, by geography
  - i. Track % and \$ of energy dollars, e.g. what percent of \$1 spent on energy by a Minneapolis resident stays within the city
  - j. Implementation rate for recommendations/workplan

**Items that are beyond the scope of the Partnership**

1. Creating a tiered utility pricing structure based on household income (This is a major change to utility rate structures and would likely require state legislation as well as significant action by the Public Utilities Commission.)
2. Energy non-use incentives paid for avoiding energy-consuming appliances altogether. Example: people who do not have air conditioning at all versus those who purchase slightly more efficient versions. (This would entail a wholly new approach to the State's Conservation Improvement Program. It would likely require legislative action as well as significant action by the Public Utilities Commission.)

## Appendix C: Summary of EVAC discussion on potential additional Work Plan Items

Generated at the May 6, 2015 EVAC meeting

### **Group #1: Small Business Energy Efficiency Program**

Members: Leader: Matt Kazinka; Jamez Staples, Sidney Jordan, Trevor Drake

Description: The city and utilities will create a program that collaborates with business-serving organizations in targeted small business districts that help businesses (particularly small, immigrant/minority-owned businesses) make energy-efficient improvements.

Matt: Support business associations and neighborhood organizations to reach and incentivize businesses in their districts (focused on small businesses who face barriers) to make energy efficiency programs.

Jamez: Energy efficiency for small business financing; financial support for the work, incentivize.

Sydney: Small businesses, potential to partner with neighborhoods to create “promise neighborhoods” similar to President Obama’s “promise neighborhoods/districts.”

- Role of CEP?
1. The CEP will oversee development of a program model (based on improved-upon Lake Street model) for partnering with small business organizations across the city.
  2. Identify internal and external sources of funding (city, utility, foundation, corporate grants, etc.) that can flow to organizations to pay outreach staff (or “coaches”).
  3. Bring together various resources and partners (such as financing agencies and efficiency experts) to make the program more robust.

Matt: (1) Oversee development of a city-wide model for partnering with small business districts; (2) Identify internal (city and utility) and external (foundation, donors, corporate, etc.) funding sources; (3) Bring together various partners (CIP programs, financers, etc.) to make the program more robust.

Jamez: (1) Discuss financing mechanisms; (2) Identify targeted areas.

Sydney: (1) Create incentives; (2) Communicate/facilitate communication between Xcel and CenterPoint and small businesses; (3) Analyze and create models to replicate success.

## Attachment B

Outcomes?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Create a program housed in the city (or another central body) that has funding to pass through to small business organizations.</li><li>2. Select districts to target based on data and need. Focus on high-barrier businesses.</li><li>3. Create a model that can be expanded throughout the city and to other cities in Xcel/CenterPoint territory.</li></ol> <p>Matt: (1) Create a program housed in the city (or somewhere else central) that partners with existing business-serving organizations; (2) Identify and select districts to target; (3) Create a model for future development.</p> <p>Jamez: (1) Community-building, lower bills, more economic for business owners; (2) More efficient buildings.</p> <p>Sidney: (1) Small businesses save money and become more energy efficient; (2) CEP has guidelines to be replicated; (3) Utilities have greater community engagement.</p>
Impacts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- More support to keep costs low for small, family-owned and minority-owned businesses.</li><li>- Achieving Climate Action goals for commercial energy efficiency: reduced 20% by 2025.</li></ul> <p>Sidney: Economic development and equity. Investing in small businesses stimulates local economy. Small business owners live and spend money in area of their small business. Focus on areas with many business owners of color as well.</p>
Metrics?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of businesses implementing efficiency upgrade</li><li>- Number of organizations participating in outreach</li><li>- Number of energy kWh saved and dollars saved</li><li>- Increase in conversion rate in the city for small businesses efficiency; very low traditionally.</li></ul>
Other Notes:	Will help small businesses stay in business through gentrification and other issues that they face in the City.

**Group #2: Multi-Family/Single Family Housing Energy Transparency**

Members: Leaders: Chris Duffrin & Janne Flisrand; Louis Alemayehu, Tim Gaetz, Cameran Bailey

Description: At time of marketing a single family house or an apartment, a consistent energy metric would be required in advertising or on MLS, including a unit and (if different) a whole building metric.

Janne: [Residential, broadly with multi-family] At time of transactions (advertisement) consistent metric is advertised to create market benefit for efficiency. Unit and whole building.

Louis: Residential housing energy efficiency.

Cameran: Who: Residential (MF/SF). What: Bring transparency and monitoring of energy usage f home/building to the rental/purchasing process and occupation.

- Role of CEP?
1. Select a task force, or have staff confer with experts, to develop a metric or metrics.  
Identify best practices for implementation.
  2. Aggregate data of ratings/benchmarking to measure effectiveness.
  3. Ensure a trained workforce/infrastructure to get the work done.
  4. Education/marketing.

Janne: (1) Regulatory – require publication, work with realtor; (2) Identify metric for owner/rental sections; (3) Aggregate data/use to target programs, identify obstacles and solutions.

Louis: (1) Identify any public policy changes they would facilitate addressing this energy-efficiency issue; (2) Identify what changes should happen in energy production and distribution; (3) energy consumption disclosed at time of sale or rental.

Cameran: (1) Identifying case studies/best practices for the (a) technology, (b) implementation, (c) monitoring effectiveness of rate of implementation; (2) Working with realtors as well.

- Outcomes?
1. A market incentive to do EE for SF owners/landlords.
  2. Greater fairness for renters and buyers and sellers.
  3. Good data collection that can inform future decisions.

Janne: (1) Market incentives; (2) Honest/fairness for renters and buyers, especially low-income.

Louis: (1) Lowering energy consumption; (2) Facilitate lowering of carbon footprint.

Cameran: Better budgeting/more accurate budget of true costs of occupancy.

- Impacts?
- Equity for renters and for those who have made EE investments to realize the value of their investment.
  - Significant economic development in the retrofit market.

Metrics?

The effect the policy has on the retrofit market. The effect on housing prices and on rental demand.

Janne: EUI, quarterly benchmarks.

Other Notes:

Retrofit market might be able to market to utilities' programs. People will demand more efficient housing and rental units.

<b>Group #3:</b>	<b>Thermal Imaging Flyover</b>
Members:	Leader: John Farrell; Kirk Washington Jr., Kevin Lewis, Karen Monahan
Description:	Aerial imaging with an infrared camera of all buildings in Minneapolis, as Cedar Falls, Iowa has done.
Role of CEP?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Identify financing for aerial imaging, e.g. all partners contribute and share data or city pays and sells to utilities (and third parties?).</li><li>2. MAP IT. GIS overlay so individual properties can be viewed by public and by CEP.</li><li>3. Do a pre- and post-image to capture change (e.g., 5 years).</li></ol> <p>Karen: Finance the project.</p>
Outcomes?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Have data on energy use for all buildings in the city → used to target partnership programs toward low-hanging fruit and traditionally disadvantaged neighborhoods.</li><li>2. GHG reductions, energy savings, job creation from EE retrofits solution to racial/economic disparities in energy costs/jobs.</li></ol>
Impacts?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Sales of MN/Minneapolis EE products and services.</li><li>- Health.</li></ul> <p>Karen: I would like to gather information from data and prioritize Environmental Justice neighborhoods.</p>
Metrics?	Less red, reduce heat loss and energy savings.
Other Notes:	Residents would be able to type in their address to see their energy use. The Partnership and utilities would have the data to use in concert with other programs: CIP, multi-family/single-family.

## Appendix D: Link to all survey responses from EVAC members

The full text of the survey presented to EVAC, along with all individual responses to survey questions, can be found at the Clean Energy Partnership website at the following link:

<http://bit.ly/1Szn6c4>