

**CITY OF NAPERVILLE
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: November 10, 2011

TO: Douglas A. Krieger, City Manager
Marcie Schatz, Director – TED Business Group

THROUGH: Anastasia Urban, Project Manager – TED Business Group

FROM: Suzanne Thorsen, AICP, Community Planner – TED Business Group

SUBJECT: Information Only Item: **Environmental Sustainability Plan FY11 Year-End Report**

PURPOSE:

To provide an update regarding implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Plan in Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

BACKGROUND:

Over the years, the city has led many initiatives and programs to positively impact the community and the environment. These efforts and numerous others have helped the Mayor and City Council to endorse a Strategic Plan Initiative to define the city's vision for environmental sustainability, address areas in need of improvement, and establish measurements for determining progress. The results of this initiative are incorporated into the *Environmental Sustainability Plan*, which will serve as a long-range planning tool for the city.

The *Environmental Sustainability Plan* was initiated in 2009 and adopted by the City Council in June, 2010. The plan sets forth a vision for environmental sustainability in the City of Naperville that builds upon previous initiatives and programs to focus on five key areas:

- Leadership & Education
- Resources & Energy
- Transportation & Mobility
- Waste Management & Recycling
- Sustainable Development & Infrastructure

A prioritized set of implementation strategies is also provided to move the city further in recognizing its goals of environmental stewardship and sustainability over the next five years.

DISCUSSION:

Since adoption of the *Environmental Sustainability Plan*, the City has undertaken numerous efforts over the past year that with the plan's goals and work program. Key efforts are highlighted below.

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Leadership & Education

- Fuel Conservation –The Fleet Services Division of DPW has established a Fuel Conservation Program in 2005 to reduce fuel consumption and help the environment. The program addresses proper engine start and warm up procedures, vehicle routes and speeds, vehicle weight, and driving habits; however, the greatest impact on fuel economy comes as a result of reduced idling. Taken together, the city’s fuel conservation policies have resulted in 9% reduction in fuel consumption since FY04-05, amounting to savings of \$102,434. In October, 2010 staff reached out to School Districts 203 and 204 to share Naperville’s anti-idling policies in an effort to increase community education about fuel conservation.
- Office Supply Contract – As a consumer, the City of Naperville has options to make environmentally conscious decisions through everyday business practices. On November 3, 2010, the City Council awarded a new office supplies contract, which requires 35% of the products identified as core supplies to contain recycled content.

Resources & Energy

- Smart Grid – The Naperville Smart Grid Initiative will allow for direct monitoring and real-time pricing of electric energy usage, resulting in increased customer control over the time and quantity of energy consumption and reduced demand on the electric grid. In addition to reduced energy consumption, which will in turn reduce the greenhouse gas emissions contributed by consumers in the City of Naperville, smart grid will help the utility to identify “leaks” in the system and negotiate lower prices for wholesale energy purchase, saving the city approximately \$81 million over the next fifteen years.
- Home Energy Savings Program – Funded by the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) and authorized through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), this local initiative has provided no-cost home energy evaluations and up to 50% reimbursement for eligible energy efficiency improvements up to \$1,500 for single-family homes in the Naperville Community. To date, more than 400 homes have received energy evaluations and residents have invested over \$700,000 (including city match) on energy efficiency improvements ranging from caulking and insulation to new heating and cooling systems. Naperville received the 2011 Illinois Governor’s Sustainability Award for its development and implementation of the Home Energy Savings Program.
- Greener Business Program – Funded by the EECBG, the Greener Business Program provides up to 50% reimbursement and/or no-interest loans for local businesses, not-for-profit organizations and multiple-family buildings to complete qualifying energy efficiency improvements. To date, more than \$340,000 has been distributed to local organizations and property owners, contributing to over \$953,000 in total energy efficiency investments ranging from efficient lighting upgrades to HVAC.
- Renewable Energy Program – The Naperville Renewable Energy Program (NREP) offers Naperville residents and businesses the option of purchasing renewable energy, which consists of 100% new, and all locally produced, pollution-free resources. The NREP is one of the leading renewable energy programs in the country, and has been ranked 5th in the nation for customer participation. On May 18, 2010 the administrative contract for this program was extended to May 3, 2012.

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Transportation & Mobility

- DuPage River Trail - The DuPage River Trail is a multi-use paved trail, first conceived in a 1992 intergovernmental agreement between the City of Naperville, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County and the Naperville Park District. In 2010, the City of Naperville completed Segment 4 of the DuPage River Trail, a 2.5 mile extension of the existing path that follows the DuPage River south from 87th Street to the DuPage Sports Complex on Royce Road. The DuPage River Trail now encompasses approximately 8 miles, extending from Jefferson Avenue on the north to Royce Road on the south, and connecting Naperville regionally with the Southern DuPage County Regional Trail.
- Downtown Parking Guidance System – Funded by the EECBG, the parking guidance systems for Central Parking Facility and the Van Buren Deck were launched in August 2010. The systems provide real time information about parking supply in the city’s public parking decks to a 95% level of accuracy, providing customers with important information about parking availability and reducing the amount of time spent by motorists in searching for a parking space downtown. In turn, congestion and vehicle emissions in the downtown area are reduced, making it a more inviting place for pedestrians.
- Bus Depot and Commuter Access Feasibility Study -- An implementation action item from the *5th Avenue Study*, the Naperville Metra Station Bus Depot and Commuter Access Feasibility Study will evaluate the potential for a bus depot in the vicinity of the Naperville Metra Station. Approximately 4,000 people access the Naperville Metra Station daily. The proposed bus depot would support and improve efficiency of operations by consolidating passenger pick-up/drop-off activity; minimizing bus queues on residential streets; and reducing bus conflicts with pedestrian and kiss-and-ride activity.

Waste Management & Recycling

- Electronics Recycling – State legislation prohibits the deposit of electronics in landfills beginning in 2012. In response, the City of Naperville has partnered with DuPage County to host a one-year electronics recycling pilot program at the Public Works Service Center Recycling. Residents can drop-off their unwanted electronics on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To date, 90,000 pounds of electronics have been collected for recycling at this location, resulting in revenue of approximately \$3,600 for the city (\$0.04 per lb).
- Holiday Lights Recycling Program – In 2010, the Department of Public Works hosted the first Holiday Lights Recycling drop-off program. Between November 30, 2010 and March 31, 2011 residents dropped off approximately 3,300 pounds of used holiday lights. In addition to diverting holiday lights from the waste stream, the city received \$658 in revenue.

Sustainable Development & Infrastructure

- Renewable Energy Ordinance – The Naperville City Council passed the Renewable Energy Ordinance in 2010, establishing zoning standards to guide the installation of solar and wind renewable energy systems. To date, the city has received two requests for conditional uses (a wind turbine at Brighton Car Wash and a solar array at All Saints Catholic Academy) as well as issued one permit for a permitted solar installation at 1842 Centre Pointe Circle.
- Stormwater Team – To more effectively address concerns about stormwater issues in residential areas, the Department of Public Works and T.E.D. Business Group established a Stormwater Team comprised of staff from both department to assist residents with their stormwater questions

and concerns. Since its implementation of in 2010, the Stormwater Team has responded to more than 1,200 resident stormwater inquiries related to grading, drainage, flooding, sump pumps, maintenance and functionality of storm structures and stormwater management facilities. The Stormwater Team handles a range of issues that affect one resident to entire neighborhoods. An integrated, multi-disciplinary process allows the Stormwater Team to more effectively respond to residential stormwater concerns and provides the opportunity to work with the residents and neighbors to alleviate the stormwater concern by providing potential solutions and in some cases assisting with the implementation of the solution.

- Arbor Day Tree Sale – The City of Naperville has been named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for 20 consecutive years. The city recognizes that trees beautify and lend value to our homes, but also have environmental benefits. As a means to increase tree planting on private property, the city hosts the Arbor Day Tree Sale. The April 30, 2011 Tree Sale resulted in an additional 626 trees being added to the community.

Work Plan Highlights and Activities for FY12

It should be noted that many environmental activities noted in the work plan are on-going, however there are a number of projects that are underway, or anticipated to be completed in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012:

- Smart Grid – Implementation of the Naperville Smart Grid Initiative continues to be a priority for the city, which will provide Naperville and its utility customers with increased reliability and technology that empowers customers to control energy use.
- Green Fuels Depot – In partnership with Argonne National Laboratory, the College of DuPage, Packer Engineering, Inc and the Center for Application Based Learning; the Green Fuels Depot demonstration project will use emerging alternate energy technologies to convert collected yard residue into fuel. Once the prototype is complete, results can be used develop business models.
- Tree Preservation – A review of the tree preservation ordinance will be conducted by the Planning Team.
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – In conjunction with the Naperville Smart Grid Initiative, two electric vehicle charging stations will be installed as part of a pilot program. Information collected from the pilot program can be used to identify opportunities to expand this infrastructure in the future.
- Residential Electronics Recycling – In preparation for state law changes in 2012, which will prohibit the deposit of electronics in landfills, the Department of Public Works initiated a pilot electronics recycling program. In addition to the drop off site and the Public Works Service Center, Will County residents have an option for free pick-up at their homes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Include this information in the November 10, 2011 Manager's Memorandum.