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# Assessment 2024

City of Burnsville: Category A City

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## About the Program

GreenSteps Cities is a five-step program for cities and tribal nations to work towards sustainability. There are 29 best practices which each provide required and recommended actions. Recommended actions are placed into the following categories: buildings and lighting, land use, transportation, environmental management, and resilient economic and community development. Each action submitted by a city receives a ranking based on a three-star system.

## Graphical user interface, text, application  Description automatically generatedInformation and GreenStep Status

**Joined:** April 2012

**Status:** Step 5

**Total Best Practices (BPs) Complete**:24

**Total BP Actions Complete:** 88 <https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/11881>

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| --- | --- |
| **Step 4** | 2016-2017, 2019-2020, 2023 |
| **Step 5** | 2017, 2019-2020, 2023 |

 **Current Distribution of BP Categories:****Star-Rating of Actions:**

The star-rating system represents the rating of the city’s action, where Not Rated (NR) is an uncompleted action, 1-star represents basic completion, 2-star is full completion, and 3-star is the maximum completion of the given action.

## Notable Actions

See all city-reported actions at https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/city-detail/12437Page

* **Sustainability Hub** tracks 40 metrics related to the goals of the Burnsville Sustainability Plan and displays progress toward goals.
* **Encourages proper solar orientation** and passive solar construction in their 2011 GHG Reduction Goals and Implementation Priorities.
* **Established an Energy Efficiency Fund** to match rebates and purchase energy efficient products with longer payback periods.
* **FIRST city sustainability plan** in Minnesota.
* **17% cut in greenhouse gases** from city operations: 2005-2014.
* **Heart of the City redeveloped** a former large format commercial area in a mixed use commercial and residential area.
* **Uses stormwater to irrigate several parks** and converted four acres of turf grass to native grass
* **Adopted a Sustainable Infrastructure Policy** that guides review and consideration of sustainability features for infrastructure projects.
* **Organics dropsite** at city park was estimated to divert 202,748 pounds of organics in 2022.

## Notable Metrics

See more on the [Step 4 & 5 Metrics Dashboard](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/mpca.data.services/viz/GreenStepCitiesMetrics-2015-2020/Overview/)

* 100% of traffic signals are LEDs.
* Burnsville’s average city gasoline fleet MPG was 16.5 MPG in 2019.
* 98% of housing is located within 1 mile of a bicycle route.
* 90% of housing units within 3/4 miles of transit routes.
* 100% of net new trees planted were considered "likely to thrive" species.
* 12.5% of residential solid waste is composted.
* Increased the number of city-owned and private renewable energy generation sites from 8 (185 kW) in 2019 to 86 (722 kW) in 2022 (more than 10x!).

## Guidelines for Step 2:

[Learn more about Step 2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/page/step-2)

As a Category A city, to be recognized as a Step 2 GreenStep City, **ANY 8 Best Practices** must be reported.

[x]  **Any 8 Best Practices**

## Guidelines for Step 3:

[Learn more about Step 3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/page/step-3)

As a Category A city, to be recognized as a Step 3 GreenStep City, the following must be reported, at minimum:

[x]  **Any 16 Best Practices**

[x]  **Public Buildings:** [x]  [1.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81743), [x]  [1.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81744) and [x] any one additional action from [1.3-1.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81714)

[x]  **Comprehensive, Climate & Energy Plans:** [x]  [6.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81775) and [x]  [6.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81776)

[x]  **Living & Complete Streets:** [x] [11.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81802) and [x] [x] any two additional actions from [11.1-11.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81723)

[x]  **Mobility Options:** [x]  [x] any two actions from [12.1-12.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81724)

[x]  **Sustainable Purchasing:** [x] [15.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81825) and [x]  any one additional action from [15.2-15.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81725)

[x]  **Community Forests & Soils:** [x] [x]  any two actions from [16.1-16.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81726)

[x]  **Stormwater Management:** [x]  any one action from [17.1-17.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81727)

[x]  **Benchmarks & Community Engagement:** [x] [24.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81880) and [x] [24.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81881)

[x]  **Green Business Development:** [x] [x] any two actions from[25.1-25.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81735)

[ ]  **Climate Adaptation & Community Resilience**\***:** [ ] [29.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81912) at a 2- or 3-star rating

 \*Burnsville completed Step 3 prior to the addition of the BP 29 and the 29.1 requirement.

## Guidelines for Steps 4 and 5:

[Learn more about Steps 4 & 5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/page/steps-4-and-5)

Steps 4 and 5 focus on metrics – what are the outcomes of all of the actions that the city has implemented over time?

* **Step 4:** Measure and report a minimum number of core and optional metrics for the previous calendar year or the most recent available data.
	+ Category A communities: In addition to the CORE metrics, include 5 additional metrics of choice.
* **Step 5:** Demonstrate improvement three eligible metrics measured in Step 4, from one data year to the next.
	+ Category A, B, and C communities: Improve upon 3 eligible metric elements.

## Best Practice Actions

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| Buildings and Lighting[**BP 1**: Efficient Existing Public Buildings](#_Best_Practice_1:)[**BP 2**: Efficient Existing Private Buildings](#_Best_Practice_2:)[**BP 3**: New Green Buildings](#_Best_Practice_3:)[**BP 4**: Efficient Outdoor Lighting and Signals](#_Best_Practice_4:)[**BP 5**: Building Redevelopment](#_Best_Practice_5:) |
| Best Practice 1: Efficient Existing Public BuildingsBP 1 Completed? YES Total actions completed: 5**Actions to Complete BP 1**: ~~1.1, 1.2, and any one additional action~~  |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [1.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81743)  | ★★ | Enter/update building information and monthly usage data into the [MN B3 Benchmarking database](https://mn.b3benchmarking.com/Report?r=1). | Monitored monthly using B3; City Maintenance Supervisor will manage | 5/2/2012 |
| [1.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81744) | ★★★ | Make no/low cost indoor lighting and operational changes in city-owned/school buildings. | 2022 ice arena LED updates save 31% on lighting energy use; 2010 Audit at Fire Station 1 led to weather stripping, lighting upgrades, occupancy controls; 2010 HVAC system in the Burnsville Performing Arts Center was fine-tuned | 3/31/2023 |
| [1.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81745) | ★★★ | Invest in larger energy efficiency projects.  | Audit - Fire Station 1 installed exhaust ventilation controls, programmable thermostats, outdoor ventilation controls, high efficiency condensing furnace, infrared heating, outdoor LED lighting fixtures; City Hall – replaced chiller in 2007, TPL roof w/ R34 insulation in 2010, Energy Management System, digital VAV boxes and hot/cold water valves, LED lighting; 2012 Energy Efficiency Fund | 5/2/2012 |
| [1.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81746) | ★★★ | Implement IT efforts and city employee engagement to reduce plug loads, building energy use and workflow efficiency. | Computer power management settings controlled to enter sleep mode after 15 minutes; Multi-function Devices after 30 minutes; Sustainability Team monthly tips to city employees; installed “Last to Ditch, Flip the Switch.”  | 5/8/2012 |
| [1.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81747) | Choose an item. | Meet the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/) or qualify under a green building or energy framework. |  |  |
| [1.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81748) | Choose an item. | Improve operations & maintenance of city-owned/school buildings and leased buildings.  |  |  |
| [1.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81749) | ★ | Install one or more of the following:-A ground-source, closed loop geothermal system.-A district energy/microgrid system.-A rainwater harvesting system | A closed loop geothermal system installed in Ice Center in 2010. 11 of the 14 BPAs identified in the guide were incorporated in the project.  | 5/1/2012 |
| Best Practice 2: Efficient Existing Private BuildingsBP 2 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 2:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [2.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81750)  | Choose an item. | Create or participate in a program to promote energy and water efficiency. |  |  |
| [2.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81751) | ★★★ | Integrate green building and EV charging best practices information and assistance into the building permit process. | Some applications have specific green suggestions tied to their permit, if appropriate; on website. | 5/4/2012 |
| [2.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81752) | Choose an item. | Implement an energy rating/disclosure policy for residential/commercial buildings. |  |  |
| [2.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81753) | Choose an item. | Describe energy/water efficiency outcomes and other green building practices at local businesses and not-for-profit organizations. |  |  |
| [2.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81754) | ★★★ | Create one of the following:-Water-wise landscaping ordinance/ guidance-WaterSense purchasing program-Guidance on rainwater harvesting and home water softener use | Water conservation rate structure with rates for residential, commercial, and include rates for irrigation and off-peak snow making; WaterSmart portal to compare use; odd-even watering policy; smart irrigations rebate program | 3/9/2023 |
| [2.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81755) | Choose an item. | Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who add energy/sustainability improvements, meet the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/), or renovate using a green building or energy framework. |  |  |
| [2.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81756) | Choose an item. | Customize a model sustainable building renovation policy that includes the SB 2030 energy standard and adopt the language to govern private renovation projects. (See [here](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81756) for specifications.) |  |  |
| Best Practice 3: New Green BuildingsBP 3 Completed? **NO**  Total actions completed: **0****Actions to Complete BP 3:** Any one action from 3.1-3.2 and any one action from 3.3-3.5 |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [3.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81757)  | Choose an item. | Require by city policy that new city-owned buildings be built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework.  |  |  |
| [3.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81758) | Choose an item. | Work with the local school district to ensure that future new schools are built using the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81759) | Choose an item. | Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who build new buildings that utilize the [SB 2030 energy standard](https://www.b3mn.org/2030energystandard/) and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81760) | Choose an item. | Provide a financial or other incentive to private parties who build new buildings that utilize the SB 2030 energy standard and/or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [3.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81761) | Choose an item. | Adopt environmentally preferable covenant guidelines for new common interest communities addressing issues such as stormwater, greywater, native vegetation, growing food, clothes lines, electric vehicle charging, and renewable energy.  |  |  |
| Best Practice 4: Efficient Outdoor Lighting and SignalsBP 4 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 4:** ~~Any two actions (including one from 4.5-4.8)~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [4.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81762)  | ★ | Require energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant new or replacement outdoor lighting fixtures on city-owned/private buildings and facilities. | New or replaced outdoor lighting fixtures are all energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant fixtures. Almost all new outdoor lighting fixtures are LED – not a policy.  | 5/3/2012 |
| [4.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81763) | Choose an item. | Purchase LEDs for all future street lighting and traffic signals. |  |  |
| [4.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81764) | Choose an item. | Replace the city's street lighting with Dark Sky-compliant LEDs, modifying any city franchise/utility agreement and adding smart grid attributes. |  |  |
| [4.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81765) | ★★★ | Coordinate traffic signals and/or optimize signal timing to minimize car idling at intersections yet maintain safe and publicly acceptable vehicle speeds. | Worked with Mn/DOT on synchronizing the signals along T.H. 13/ Nicollet Avenue and Burnsville Parkway /35W; Dakota County synchronizing on CSAH 42 | 6/26/2012 |
| [4.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81766) | ★★ | Use LED/solar-powered lighting for a flashing sign or in a street, parking lot or park project. | Two solar signs for pedestrian crossings downtown on Nicollet Ave and near Fairview Ridges Hospital. Solar flashing sign installed at FD for vehicles | 6/8/2012 |
| [4.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81767) | Choose an item. | Relamp/improve exterior building lighting for city-owned buildings/facilities with energy efficient, Dark-Sky compliant lighting. |  |  |
| [4.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81768) | Choose an item. | Replace city-owned parking lot/ramp lighting with Dark-Sky compliant, energy efficient, automatic dimming lighting technologies. |  |  |
| [4.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81769) | ★★ | Replace the city's existing traffic signal indications with LEDs. | Replaced more than 2/3 of existing traffic signals with LEDs  | 6/8/2012 |
| Best Practice 5: Building RedevelopmentBP 5 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **1****Actions to Complete BP 5:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [5.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81770)  | Choose an item. | Adopt an historic preservation ordinance/regulations and encourage adaptive reuse. |  |  |
| [5.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81771) | Choose an item. | Implement the Minnesota Main Street model for commercial revitalization. |  |  |
| [5.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81772) | Choose an item. | Plan for reuse of large-format retail buildings, or work with a local school, church or commercial building to either add-on space or repurpose space into new uses. |  |  |
| [5.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81773) | Choose an item. | Create/modify a green residential remodeling assistance/financing program to assist homeowners in adding space or features such as EV charging, renewables to their existing homes.  |  |  |
| [5.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81774) | ★★★ | Adopt development/design standards and programs that facilitate infill, redevelopment, and adaptable buildings.  | 1999 adopted development and design standards for Heart of the City district (HOC); KMart Store located on Hwy 13/Nicollet Ave redeveloped with mixed use commercial and high density residential | 5/8/2012 |

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| Land Use[**BP 6**: Comprehensive, Climate and Energy Plans](#_Best_Practice_6:)[**BP 7**: Resilient City Growth](#_Best_Practice_7:)[**BP 8**: Mixed Uses](#_Best_Practice_8:)[**BP 9**: Efficient Highway and Auto-Oriented Development](#_Best_Practice_9:)[**BP 10**: Design for Natural Resource Conservation](#_Best_Practice_10:) |
| Best Practice 6: Comprehensive, Climate and Energy PlansBP 6 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **5****Actions to Complete BP 6:** ~~6.1 and 6.2~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [6.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81775)  | ★★ | Adopt a comprehensive plan or (for Category B & C cities) adopt a future land use plan adopted by the county or a regional entity. | Adopted 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update in 2010, includes sustainability goals; 2010 revised solar and wind energy standards of zoning ordinance; 2009 Sustainability Plan adopted; public participation was part of the Governance review process. | 5/4/2012 |
| [6.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81776) | ★★★ | Demonstrate that regulatory ordinances comply with the comprehensive plan. | Utilizes Comp Plan as guiding document for zoning code, Chapter 2; Comp Plan referenced in all land use and development ordinances and regulations | 5/4/2012 |
| [6.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81777) | ★★★ | Include requirements in comprehensive and/or other plans for intergovernmental coordination addressing regional land use and watershed / wellhead impacts, infrastructure, transportation, economic development and city/regional services. | Coordinated action with surrounding/overlapping jurisdiction for land use, watershed impacts, transportation, economic development, housing, and health; Wetland Protection and Management Plan; coordinates transit services with MVTA; collaboration with MN Workforce Center; Livable Communities Agreement with the Met Council in 2011; Healthy Cities Initiative | 5/4/2012 |
| [6.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81778) | ★★★ | Include ecological provisions in the comprehensive plan that explicitly aim to minimize open space fragmentation and/or establish a growth area with expansion criteria. | NRI complete and results are incorporated in Natural Environment Plan of the Comp Plan; natural resource protection areas identified and strategies protection in Natural Resources Management Plan. | 5/4/2012 |
| [6.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81779) | ★★ | Adopt climate mitigation and/or energy independence goals and objectives in the comprehensive plan or in a separate policy document, and include transportation recommendations. | 2009 City Operations emissions level of 23,487 tons; goal to reduce GHG emissions associated with operations to below 2009 levels by the end of 2011 and 4% avg. annual reduction; Sustainability Plan | 5/4/2012 |
| Best Practice 7: Resilient City GrowthBP 7 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 7:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [7.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81780)  | ★★ | Eliminate barriers and actively encourage higher density housing by including Neighborhood single-family density at 7 units/acre or greater wherever urban services are available and multi-family housing at a gross density of at least 15 units/acre adjacent to a commercial zoning district or transit node. | R3A Zoning District allows single family at 4 - 8.7 units/acre and R3C allows multi-family up to 21.78 units/ acre; MIX Zoning District to zoning ordinance in 2011 allows density of 15 - 21.78 units/acre; 1999 added HOC District that allows residential density 21.78 - 56.92 units/acre. | 5/4/2012 |
| [7.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81781) | ★ | Achieve higher density housing with one of the following:a. Flexible lot size/frontage requirement for infill development.b. Density and floor area ratio (FAR) bonuses in selected residential zoning districts.c. Clustered residential development.d. Allowing accessory dwelling units, single-room occupancy housing, senior housing, co-housing or tiny houses / apartments by right in selected zoning districts.e. Implement a vacation rental property registration policy and/or special tax. | Flexible lot size/frontage for Planned Unit Developments Districts allowed.Density bonuses and FAR bonuses allowed for Planned Unit Developments, MIX and HOC. A regulatory standard limits low-density development, as showing in the MIX Zoning District, and the HOC Zoning District. | 5/4/2012 |
| [7.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81782) | ★ | Achieve higher intensity commercial/industrial land uses through at least one of the following strategies:a. Include a commercial district with zero-lot-line setbacks and a FAR minimum of 1.b. Set targets for the minimum number of employees/acre in different commercial zones. | Zero-lot-line setbacks are allowed in the Planned Unit Development District, and all commercial and industrial districts. | 5/4/2012 |
| [7.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81783) | ★★★ | Provide incentives for affordable housing, workforce housing, infill projects, or for life-cycle housing at or near job or retail centers, or for achieving an average net residential density of seven units per acre. | Tax-increment financing and tax abatement for projects that include creation/retention of jobs, eliminate blight, neighborhood revitalization and other goals; 60 day review; Single Family Permit Rebate; Housing Improvement Area Policy | 5/4/2012 |
| [7.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81784) | Choose an item. | Use design to create social trust and interaction among neighbors and allow developments that meet the prerequisites for LEED for Neighborhood Development certification. |  |  |
| Best Practice 8: Mixed UsesBP 8 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **5****Actions to Complete BP 8:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [8.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81785) | Choose an item. | Organize or participate in a community planning process for the city/a mixed-use district, including specific community engagement practices that engage cultural and income diverse community members. |  |  |
| [8.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81786) | ★★★ | Locate or lease a property for use as a school, city building or other government facility that has at least two of these attributes:a. Adjacent to an existing employment or residential center.b. Designed to facilitate and encourage access by walking, biking, or other non-vehicle travel modes.c. Accessible by regular transit service. | Performing Art Center adjacent to the Nicollet Commons Park where walking/biking/transit is accessible for staff. If students miss this bus, the highschool has tokens, free MN Transit bus passes, the students can use to ride public transit. | 5/4/2012 |
| [8.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81787) | ★★★ | Modify a planned unit development (PUD) ordinance to emphasize or require mixed-use development or affordable housing, to limit residential PUDs to areas adjacent to commercial development, and/or to add sustainability features. | Allows for mixed development in its Public Utility District, HOC District, MIX district and R3c District. The MIX district requires mixed uses. | 5/4/2012 |
| [8.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81788) | Choose an item. | Report that a (re)development meets a city/community-determined minimum point threshold under the Equitable Development Scorecard or LEED-ND (Neighborhood Development). |  |  |
| [8.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81789) | ★★★ | Have a downtown zoning district that emphasizes small and destination business, entrepreneurial spaces, and allows or requires residential and residential-compatible commercial development. | HOC, Public Utilities District, and MIX all allow mixed use of office, retail, educational, civic, and residential units within the same building. | 5/4/2012 |
| [8.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81790) | ★★ | Incorporate form-based zoning approaches into the zoning code, in those areas where a diverse mix of uses is desired. | HOC District uses form-based codes; specifies build-to-lines vs. setbacks; standard for building width to height is 25' to 65'. | 5/8/2012 |
| [8.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81791) | ★★★ | Create incentives for vertical mixed-use development in appropriate locations (downtown, commercial districts near colleges or universities, historic commercial districts, commercial districts with minority-owned businesses). | HOC District Livable Communities grant funds for mixed use with 20% of the housing option planned as work force or affordable housing; Grande Market Place and public CDA townhomes affordable housing units |  |
| Best Practice 9: Efficient Highway and Auto-Oriented DevelopmentBP 9 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 9:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [9.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81792) | ★★ | Establish design goals for at least one highway/auto-oriented corridor/cluster. | Burnsville's North Gateway District Design Guidelines including Partnerships for Tomorrow and Vision for Tomorrow | 5/23/2012 |
| [9.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81793) | ★★★ | Participate in regional economic development planning with representatives from surrounding townships, cities, the county and business interests to:a. Estimate commercial/industrial needs among all jurisdictions.b. Jointly implement recommendations to stage highway/auto-oriented commercial development  | Greater MSP Participant, a Dakota Futures member, and a founding member of RLB; collaborated with Dakota County CDA for a land use study; redevelopment options outlined in the Comp Plan. | 5/23/2012 |
| [9.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81794) | ★★ | Adopt infrastructure design standards that protect the economic and ecologic functions of the highway corridor through clustering of development, native plantings and incorporating access management standards. | Adopted North Gateway Design Standards to guide development along highway corridors; Minnesota River Quadrant; study of Highway Corridor 13 to analyze future traffic. | 6/8/2012 |
| [9.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81795) | ★ | Adopt development policies for large-format developments, zoning for auto-oriented commercial districts at the sub-urban edge and/or in tightly defined and smaller urban development corridors/nodes that have some bike/walk/transit access. | Highway commercial district; 98% developed and have always implemented Comprehensive Planning and Capital Improvements Planning. | 6/25/2012 |
| Best Practice 10: Design for Natural Resource ConservationBP 10 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 10:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [10.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81797) | ★ | Conduct a Natural Resource Inventory or Assessment (NRI or NRA); incorporate protection of priority natural systems or resources such as groundwater through the subdivision or development process. | First Natural Resource Master Plan in 1999 and updated in 2007; Conservancy District that preserves sensitive natural areas and enhances wildlife habitats and may be applied to either public or private land; Floodplain District  | 6/22/2012 |
| [10.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81797) | Choose an item. | For cities outside or on the fringe of metropolitan areas, conduct a build-out analysis, fiscal impact study, or adopt an urban growth boundary and a consistent capital improvement plan that provides long-term protection of natural resources and natural systems, and agricultural practices outside the boundary. |  |  |
| [10.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81799) | ★★★ | For cities within metropolitan areas, incorporate woodland best management practices addressing protection of wooded areas into zoning or development review. | Woodland Preservation Packet & Zoning Woodland Overlay District. | 5/4/2012 |
| [10.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81800) | Choose an item. | Adopt a conservation design policy; use a conservation design tool for pre-design meetings with developers and for negotiating development agreements in cities with undeveloped natural resource areas. |  |  |
| [10.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81801) | Choose an item. | Preserve environmentally sensitive, community-valued land by placing a conservation easement on city lands, and by encouraging/funding private landowners to place land in conservation easements. |  |  |
| [10.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81920) | Choose an item. | Conserve natural, cultural, historic resources by adopting or amending city codes and ordinances to support sustainable sites, including roadsides, and environmentally protective land use development. |  |  |
| [10.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81919) | Choose an item. | Receive recognition under the Bird City Minnesota, Bee City USA, or Community Wildlife Habitat program. |  |  |

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| Transportation[**BP 11**: Living & Complete Streets](#_Best_Practice_11:)[**BP 12**: Mobility Options](#_Best_Practice_12:)[**BP 13**: Efficient City Fleets](#_Best_Practice_13:)[**BP 14**: Demand-Side Travel Planning](#_Best_Practice_14:) |
| Best Practice 11: Living & Complete StreetsBP 11 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **3****Actions to Complete BP 11:** ~~11.1 and any two additional actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [11.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81723) | ★★ | Adopt a complete streets policy, or a living streets policy, which addresses landscaping and stormwater. | 2012 adopted a Sustainable Infrastructure Policy that addresses street trees and storm water management. | 6/25/2012 |
| [11.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81803) | Choose an item. | Adopt zoning language or approve a skinny street/development project that follows green street and/or walkable streets principles. |  |  |
| [11.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81804) | NOT RATED | Modify a street in compliance with the city's complete streets policy. | Installed 14 rain gardens surrounding Keller Lake in 2011 | 6/25/2012 |
| [11.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81805) | Choose an item. | Identify, prioritize, and remedy complete streets gaps and lack of connectivity/safety within your road network by, for example, bike/pedestrian plan, adding a bike route/lane, truck route, sidewalk, or mid-block alley. |  |  |
| [11.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81806) | ★ | Identify and remedy street-trail gaps between city streets and off-road trails/bike trails to better facilitate walking and biking. | Gaps filled along MN Hwy 13 with a separate trail, connects to off-road trails through River Hills Park and into trails in Eagan.  | 5/6/2013 |
| [11.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81807) | ★ | Implement traffic calming policy/measures, including lane conversions (road diets), roundabouts, low-speed streets, shared space, and depaving in at least one street redevelopment project. | HOC has bump-out parking, intersection markings, and medians; street project in southwestern Burnsville made the street lanes significantly narrower. | 6/25/2012 |
| Best Practice 12: Mobility OptionsBP 12 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 12:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [12.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81808) | ★ | Increase walking, biking and transit by following recommendations on GreenStep website.  | Parks & Trails Map on website; bike racks in all City Parks and city-owned parking ramps and decks; bike racks and shower facilities at City Hall; partner with the MVTA which provides all infrastructure, including benches, signage, shelters, and park and ride lots. | 5/8/2012 |
| [12.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81809) | ★ | Conduct an Active Living campaign such as a Safe Routes to School program. | SRTS at Sioux Trail Elementary School replacing sidewalk and installing solar powered crosswalks; existing SRTS for Echo Park Elementary School Walk to School Day and signage  | 6/26/2012 |
| [12.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81810) | ★ | Prominently identify mobility options: transit; paratransit/Dial-A-Ride; ridesharing/cab services; rental cars; bikes; airports. | Links to the cities public transit, MVTA, and DARTS are provided on website | 5/8/2012 |
| [12.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81811) | Choose an item. | Promote carpooling or ridesharing among community members, city employees, businesses, high schools and institutions of higher education. |  |  |
| [12.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81812) | Choose an item. | Implement workplace multi-modal transportation best management practices - including telework/flexwork - in city government, businesses or at a local health care provider. |  |  |
| [12.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81813) | ★ | Add/expand transit service, or promote car/bike sharing. | Public transportation provided by MVTA | 5/8/2012 |
| Best Practice 13: Efficient City FleetsBP 13 Completed? **YES** Total BP actions completed: **3****Actions to Complete BP 13:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [13.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81814) | Choose an item. | Efficiently use your existing fleet of city vehicles by encouraging trip bundling, video conferencing, carpooling, vehicle sharing and incentives/technology. |  |  |
| [13.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81815) | ★★ | Right-size/down-size the city fleet with the most fuel-efficient vehicles that are of an optimal size and capacity for their intended functions. | Inventory of City Fleet that includes vehicle's use, MPG and replacement time frame; replaced the entire Building Inspection's Fleet with hybrids | 5/4/2012 |
| [13.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81816) | ★★ | Phase-in operational changes, equipment changes including electric vehicles, and no-idling practices for city or local transit fleets. | Monitor fuel usage and cost on a monthly basis and regular maintenance; staff required to attend training; installed E-85 station that 52 vehicles are equipped to run on; Ice Center has two ice-resurfacing vehicles that run on High Pressure NG | 5/4/2012 |
| [13.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81817) | Choose an item. | Phase in bike, e-bike, foot or horseback modes for police, inspectors and other city staff. |  |  |
| [13.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81818) | Choose an item. | Document that the local school bus fleet has optimized routes, start times, boundaries, vehicle efficiency and fuels, driver actions to cut costs including idling reduction, and shifting students from the bus to walking, biking and city transit. |  |  |
| [13.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81819) | ★ | Retrofit city diesel engines or install auxiliary power units and/or electrified parking spaces, utilizing Project GreenFleet or the like. | Participates in Project GreenFleet; 4 city diesel engines retrofitted; every city vehicle less than Tier 3 will have an upgraded emission system. | 5/4/2012 |
| Best Practice 14: Demand-Side Travel PlanningBP 14 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 14:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [14.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81820) | ★ | Reduce or eliminate parking minimums; add parking maximums; develop district parking; install meters and charge for parking at curb and city-owned lots/ramps. | Maximum parking standards for shopping centers and offices; encourages developers to pursue “proof of parking” | 6/25/2012 |
| [14.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81821) | ★ | For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for the siting of retail services at transit/density nodes. | PUD process incentives for businesses to be located along bus routes, more flexibility in their parking lot designs, and green space requirements |  |
| [14.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81822) | Choose an item. | For cities with regular transit service, require or provide incentives for the siting of higher density housing at transit/density nodes. |  |  |
| [14.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81823) | In-Process | Require new developments or redevelopments to prepare a travel demand management plan or transit-oriented development standards or LEED for Neighborhood Development certification. |  | 6/25/2012 |
| Environmental Management[**BP 15**: Sustainable Purchasing](#_Best_Practice_15:)[**BP 16**: Community Forests and Soil](#_Best_Practice_16:)[**BP 17**: Stormwater Management](#_Best_Practice_17:)[**BP 18**: Parks and Trails](#_Best_Practice_18:)[**BP 19**: Surface Water](#_Best_Practice_19:)[**BP 20**: Efficient Water and Wastewater Systems](#_Best_Practice_20:)[**BP 21**: Septic Systems](#_Best_Practice_21:)[**BP 22**: Sustainable Consumption and Waste](#_Best_Practice_22:)[**BP 23**: Local Air Quality](#_Best_Practice_23:) |
| Best Practice 15: Sustainable PurchasingBP 15 Completed? **YES** Total BP actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 15:** ~~15.1 and any one additional action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [15.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81825) | ★★ | Adopt a sustainable purchasing policy or administrative guidelines/practices directing that the city purchase at least:a. EnergyStar and EPEAT certified equipment and appliances.b. Paper containing post-consumer recycled content. | Council adopted an EPP 2013; 1. Recycled Paper Products and Recycled-Content Products 2. Waste Minimization 3. Energy Saving Products 4. Water Saving Products and 5. Cleaning Products. | 1/5/2013 |
| [15.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81826) | Choose an item. | Purchase energy used by city government - via the municipal utility, green tags, community solar garden, 3rd party - with a higher renewable percentage than required by Minnesota law. |  |  |
| [15.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81827) | Choose an item. | Establish purchasing preferences that support local, Minority, Disability, and Women-Owned businesses and, working with a local business association, develop a list of locally-produced products and suppliers for common purchases. |  |  |
| [15.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81828) | Choose an item. | Require purchase of U.S. EPA WaterSense-certified products. |  |  |
| [15.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81829) | Choose an item. | Set minimum sustainability standards to reduce the impact of your concrete use, asphalt, roadbed aggregate, or other construction materials. |  |  |
| [15.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81830) | Choose an item. | Require printing services to be purchased from companies participating in Printing Industry Midwest’s Great Green Printer initiative, or certified by the Sustainable Green Printing Partnership. |  |  |
| [15.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81831) | ★ | Lower the environmental footprint of meetings and events in the city. | Distributed recycling and green tips for party organizers of Night to Unite in August of 2012; offered recycling “X-Frames”  | 4/17/2013 |
| [15.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81832) | Choose an item. | Use national green standards/guidelines for purchasing/investments such as cleaning products, furniture, flooring/coatings.  |  |  |
| Best Practice 16: Community Forests and SoilBP 16 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 16:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [16.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81833) | ★ | Certify as a Tree City USA. | Certified Tree City since 2001 | 3/7/2013 |
| [16.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81834) | Choose an item. | Adopt best practices for urban tree planting/quality; require them in private developments and/or use them in at least one development project. |  |  |
| [16.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81835) | Choose an item. | Budget for and achieve resilient urban canopy/tree planting goals. |  |  |
| [16.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81836) | ★ | Maximize tree planting along your main downtown street or throughout the city. | HOC has trees on both sides of the street every 30 ft; Boulevard Tree Planting Permit program for residents/businesses | 6/25/2012 |
| [16.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81837) | ★★★ | Adopt a tree preservation or native landscaping ordinance. | Woodland Preservation Overlay District; 2008 updated landscape ordinance to promote native plantings | 6/7/2012 |
| [16.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81906) | ★★ | Build community capacity to protect existing trees by one or more of:a. Having trained tree specialists.b. Supporting volunteer forestry efforts.c. Adopting an EAB/forest management plan or climate adaptation plan for the urban forest. | Four city staff members are certified Tree Inspectors. Burnsville has an Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan | 6/25/2012 |
| [16.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101876) | Choose an item. | Conduct a tree inventory or canopy study for public and private trees. |  |  |
| Best Practice 17: Stormwater ManagementBP 17 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 17:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [17.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81840) | Choose an item. | Adopt and use Minnesota's Minimal Impact Design Standards (MIDS). |  |  |
| [17.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81838) | ★★★ | Complete the GreenStep Municipal Stormwater Management Assessment. | 2023 score of 54% | 3/10/2023 |
| [17.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81839) | ★ | Adopt by ordinance one or more stormwater infiltration/management strategies to reduce impervious surface. | Allow for reduction of road widths to 24-feet for two-way traffic and one-way traffic and fire lanes down to 20-feet; infiltration requirement is 1 inch for new development, and 1/2 inch for redevelopment | 6/7/2012 |
| [17.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81841) | ★ | Create a stormwater utility that uses variable fees to incentivize stormwater infiltration, minimize the volume of and pollutants in runoff, and educate property owners and renters on the importance of managing stormwater runoff. | Stormwater utility fee varied based on Residential Equivalent Unit | 3/10/2023 |
| [17.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81842) | ★ | Adopt and implement guidelines or design standards/incentives for stormwater infiltration/reuse practices. | Pervious pavement/paver systems and rain water gardens allowed in ordinances | 6/7/2012 |
| [17.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81843) | Choose an item. | Reduce de-icing and dust suppressant salt use to prevent permanent surface water and groundwater pollution. |  |  |
| Best Practice 18: Parks and TrailsBP 18 Completed? **YES** Total BP actions completed: **6****Actions to Complete BP 18:** ~~Any three actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [18.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81844) | ★ | Make improvements within your city's system of parks, offroad trails and open spaces. | 2008 acquired a stormwater management pond for Burnsville Center; 1992 acquired 10 acres of land adjacent to Terrace Oaks West Park creating a natural area; 1996 acquired 75 acres for the Rudy Kraemer Nature Preserve | 6/7/2012 |
| [18.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81845) | ★★ | Plan and budget for a network of parks, green spaces, water features and trails for areas where new development is planned. | Parks and Trails Master Plan within Comp Plan; subdivision ordinance requires new developments to have develop open spaces like parks, bike trails | 6/7/2012 |
| [18.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81846) | ★★ | Achieve minimum levels of city green space and maximize the percent within a ten-minute walk of community members. | 46 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents; 25% total land area in parks, open space/conservancy, and open water | 6/7/2012 |
| [18.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81847) | Choose an item. | Adopt low-impact design standards in parks and trails that infiltrate or retain all 2 inch, 24-hour stormwater events on site. |  |  |
| [18.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81848) | ★★★ | Create park/city land management standards/practices that maximize at least one of the following:a. Low maintenance turf management; native landscaping; organic or integrated pest management; pollinator/monarch-safe policies.b. Recycling/compostables collection; use of compost as a soil amendment.c. Sources of nonpotable water, or surface/rain water, for irrigation. | Stormwater ponds used for irrigation at Youth Ball Field Complex Sioux Fisher Memorial, Crystal Park, and Lac Lavon Park (use lake water); Civic center converted three acres of turf grass to native grass. City of Burnsville Ice Center converted one acre of turf grass to native grass | 6/7/2012 |
| [18.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81849) | ★ | Certify at least one golf course in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. | 2010 Burnumwood Golf Course was re-certified as Audubon Coop Sanctuary | 6/7/2012 |
| [18.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81850) | Choose an item. | Document that the operation and maintenance, or construction / remodeling, of at least one park building used an asset management tool, the SB 2030 energy standard, or a green building framework. |  |  |
| [18.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81851) | ★★ | Develop a program to involve community members in hands-on land restoration, invasive species management and stewardship projects. | Residential buckthorn removal program; rental services land restoration equipment from the city; plant sale; worked with Sioux Trail Elementary to restore 1/2 prairie; Keller Park restored 3 acres to native prairie; partners with Dakota County Conservation Districts to provide classes on how to design and build rain gardens; 10 $1,000 grants to community members to restore shoreland through the removal of buckthorn from the property | 6/7/2012 |
| Best Practice 19: Surface WaterBP 19 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: 3**Actions to Complete BP 19:** ~~If the city has a State public water, 19.4 and any one additional action.~~  ~~If the city does not have a State public water, any one action.~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [19.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/93541) | ★★★ | Consistently monitor surface water quality/clarity and report findings to community members. | 8 lakes monitored by volunteers through CAMP and shared on city website | 3/10/2023 |
| [19.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81852) | Choose an item. | Conduct or support multi-party community conversations, assessments, plans and actions around improving local water quality and quantity. |  |  |
| [19.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81853) | ★★ | Adopt and publicly report on measurable surface water improvement targets for lake, river, wetland and ditches. | Black Dog Water Management Organization (BDWMO); Citizen-Assisted Monitoring Program (CAMP) for 7 lakes; Wetland Health Evaluation Program (WHEP); publishes the status of water resources in the city newsletter and provides updates | 6/7/2012 |
| [19.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81854) | ★ | Adopt a shoreland ordinance for all river and lake shoreland areas. | Adopted Shoreland Management Ordinance that is consistent with DNR Rules. | 6/7/2012 |
| [19.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81909) | Choose an item. | Adopt goals to revegetate shoreland and create a local program or outreach effort to help property owners with revegetation. |  |  |
| [19.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81910) | Choose an item. | Implement an existing TMDL implementation plan. |  |  |
| [19.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81911) | Choose an item. | Create/assist a Lake Improvement District. |  |  |
| [19.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101661) | Choose an item. | Reduce flooding damage and costs through the National Flood Insurance Programs and the NFIP’s Community Rating System. |  |  |
| Best Practice 20: Efficient Water and Wastewater SystemsBP 20 Completed? **NO**  Total BP actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 20:** 20.1~~, 20.2, and any one additional action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [20.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-detail/81731) | Choose an item. | Compare the energy use and financial performance of your facilities with other peer facilities using standardized, free tools. |  |  |
| [20.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81856) | ★★ | Plan and budget for motor maintenance and upgrades to assure the most energy efficient, durable and appropriate equipment is available when upgrades or breakdowns occur. | Rehabilitation Plan for it's pumps, motors and variable frequency plans, that operates on a 10 year cycle | 6/22/2012 |
| [20.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81857) | Choose an item. | Establish an on-going budget and program for decreasing inflow and infiltration into sewer lines and losses in drinking water systems. |  |  |
| [20.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81858) | ★★ | Optimize energy and chemical use at drinking water/wastewater facilities and decrease chloride in wastewater discharges. | Pump majority water at night; installed a peaking generator for load/shaving and cost savings in the 1990s | 6/22/2012 |
| [20.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81859) | Choose an item. | 6. Implement a wastewater plant efficiency project (co-generation, water reuse) or a program for local private business operations (water conservation, water reuse, business co-location). |  |  |
| [20.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81907) | Choose an item. | Create a demand-side pricing program to reduce demands on water and wastewater systems. |  |  |
| Best Practice 21: Septic SystemsBP 21 Completed? **YES**  Total BP actions completed: **6****Actions to Complete BP 21:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [21.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81860) | ★★ | Report to landowners suspected noncompliant or failing septic systems as part of an educational, informational and financial assistance and outreach program. | Coordinated with Minnesota Extension Service to provide education to property owners on how to maintain septic systems; City plumbing inspector; time of sale inspection | 6/6/2012 |
| [21.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81861) | ★ | Use a community process to address failing septic systems. | City administers SSTS program and all provisions of the 2011 SSTS Ordinance. | 6/6/2012 |
| [21.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81862) | ★ | Clarify/establish one or more responsible management entities (RMEs) for the proper design, siting, installation, operation, monitoring and maintenance of septic systems. | City administers SSTS program and all provisions of the 2011 SSTS Ordinance; City plumbing inspector  | 6/6/2012 |
| [21.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81863) | ★ | Adopt a subsurface sewage treatment system ordinance based on the Association of Minnesota Counties' model ordinance. | Adopted updated SSTS Ordinance 2011 that complies with MPCA and Dakota County Ordinances/ Rules | 6/7/2012 |
| [21.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81864) | ★★ | Create a program to finance septic system upgrades. | Policies with options for connecting during street/ utility improvements, property assessment payments, connect to public utilities | 6/6/2012 |
| [21.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81865) | ★ | Work with homeowners and businesses in environmentally sensitive areas and areas where standard septic systems are not the least-cost option to promote innovative waste water systems, including central sewer extensions. | The entire City within the Metropolitan Urban Service Area. SSTS need to be located to achieve maximum economic feasibility to allow for future connection to the public sewer system when available | 6/6/2012 |
| [21.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81866) | Choose an item. | Arrange for assistance to commercial, retail and industrial businesses with water use reduction, pollution prevention and pretreatment prior to discharge to septics. |  |  |
| Best Practice 22: Sustainable Consumption and WasteBP 22 Completed? **NO** Total BP actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 22:** Any one action from 22.1-22.3 ~~and any one action from 22.4-22.8~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [22.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81867) | Choose an item. | Improve city operations and procurement to prevent and reuse, recycle and compost waste from all public facilities (including libraries, parks, schools, municipal health care facilities), and minimize use of toxics and generation of hazardous waste. |  |  |
| [22.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81868) | Choose an item. | Address concerns over consumer products and packaging through education, reuse options, recycling/composting options, credits, fees, mandates or bans.  |  |  |
| [22.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81869) | Choose an item. | Improve profitability, legal compliance and conserve resources through adoption of ordinance language, licensing and resource management contracts. |  |  |
| [22.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81870) | Choose an item. | Publicize, promote and use the varied businesses/services collecting and marketing used, repaired and rental consumer goods, especially electronics, in the city/county. |  |  |
| [22.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81871) | ★★ | Arrange for a residential and/or business/institutional source-separated organics collection/management program. | Residential organics drop off site added in 2021 at Civic Center Park – 202,748 pounds collected 2022 | 3/10/2023 |
| [22.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81872) | ★★★ | Improve recycling services and expand to multi-unit housing and commercial businesses. | Updated city code in 2019 to require all multifamily units to provide recycling service; outreach to renters | 3/10/2023 |
| [22.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81873) | Choose an item. | Improve/organize residential trash, recycling and organics collection by private and/or public operations and offer significant volume-based pricing on residential garbage and/or incentives for recycling. |  |  |
| [22.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81874) | Choose an item. | Adopt a construction and demolition (C&D) ordinance governing demolition permits that requires a level of recycling and reuse for building materials and soil/land-clearing debris. |  |  |
| Best Practice 23: Local Air QualityBP 23 Completed? **NO** Total BP actions completed: **1****Actions to Complete BP 23:** Any ~~two~~ one action~~s~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [23.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81875) | Choose an item. | Replace small internal combustion engine lawn and garden equipment (e.g. lawnmowers, weed whips, etc.) with lower polluting equipment. |  |  |
| [23.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81876) | ★ | Reduce residential burning of wood and yard waste and eliminate ‘backyard’ trash burning. | Ordinance regulates outdoor wood burning | 6/6/2012 |
| [23.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81877) | Choose an item. | Decrease air emissions from vehicle idling, business trucking, and pollutants/noise from stationary engines/back-up generators. |  |  |
| [23.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81877) | In-Process | Install, assist with, and promote publicly available EV charging stations or public fueling stations for alternative fuel vehicles. |  |  |
| Resilient Economic and Community Development[**BP 24**: Benchmarks and Community Engagement](#_Best_Practice_24:)[**BP 25**: Green Business Development](#_Best_Practice_25:)[**BP 26**: Renewable Energy](#_Best_Practice_26:)[**BP 27**: Local Food](#_Best_Practice_27:)[**BP 28**: Business Synergies and Ecodistricts](#_Best_Practice_28:)[**BP 29**: Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience](#_Best_Practice_29:) |
| Best Practice 24: Benchmarks and Community EngagementBP 24 Completed? **YES**  Total BP actions completed: **3** **Actions to Complete BP 24:** ~~24.1 and 24.2~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [24.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81880) | ★ | Use a city commission or committee to lead, coordinate, report to and engage community members on the identification and equitable implementation of sustainability best practices. | Annual Sustainability Report; employee based sustainability team | 6/6/2012 |
| [24.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81881) | ★★★ | Organize goals/outcome measures from all city plans (social, environmental, economic) and report to community members data that show progress toward meeting these goals. | 2023 Sustainability Hub on website displays city’s progress toward goals from Sustainability Plan and provides resources for community | 3/7/2023 |
| [24.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81882) | ★★★ | Engage community members and partners in identifying, measuring, and reporting progress on key sustainability and social indicators. | 2023 Sustainability Hub measures 40 metrics and progress; Park and Natural Resources Commission and Economic Development Commission; annual sustainability updates | 8/27/2018 |
| [24.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81883) | Not Rated | Conduct or support a broad sustainability education and action campaign, building on existing city & community relationships, networks & events  | ARROW business workshop | 6/6/2012 |
| [24.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81884) | Choose an item. | Conduct a community visioning and planning initiative that engages a diverse set of community members & stakeholders and uses a sustainability, resilience, or environmental justice framework. |  |  |
| [24.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81923) | Choose an item. | Engage wide representation of community youth and college students by creating opportunities to participate in city government (including commissions). |  |  |
| [24.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/101611) | Choose an item. | Engage Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), renters, low-income, new Americans, differently abled and other traditionally under-represented community members by encouragement, and support to participate in current and new opportunities in city government. |  |  |
| Best Practice 25: Green Business DevelopmentBP 25 Completed? **YES** Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 25:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [25.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81885) | ★ | Grow new/emerging green businesses and green jobs through targeted assistance and new workforce development. | Energy and waste reduction awareness and assistance to local businesses through Awards for Reduction and Recycling of Waste (ARROW); links businesses to incubator space  | 6/6/2012 |
| [25.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81886) | ★ | Create or participate in a marketing/outreach program to connect businesses with assistance providers, including utilities, who provide personalized energy, waste or sustainability audits and assistance. | Green Business Workshop in 2011 through ARROW – energy audits | 6/6/2012 |
| [25.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81887) | Choose an item. | Promote sustainable tourism in your city, and green tourism resources to tourism and hospitality businesses in/around the city. |  |  |
| [25.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81888) | Choose an item. | Strengthen value-added businesses utilizing local "waste" material. |  |  |
| [25.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81889) | Choose an item. | Lower the environmental and health risk footprint of a brownfield remediation/redevelopment project beyond regulatory requirements; report brightfield projects. |  |  |
| [25.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81890) | Choose an item. | Promote green businesses that are recognized under a local, regional or national program. |  |  |
| [25.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81891) | Choose an item. | Conduct or participate in a buy local campaign for community members and local businesses. |  |  |
| Best Practice 26: Renewable EnergyBP 26 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **4****Actions to Complete BP 26:** ~~Any two actions~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [26.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81892) | ★ | Adopt wind energy and/or biomass ordinances that allow, enable, or encourage appropriate renewable energy installations. | Wind Energy Conversion System Ordinance | 6/6/2012 |
| [26.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81893) | ★★★ | Promote resident/business purchases and/or generation of clean energy. | Solar group buy program for residents and businesses in 2022; Sustainability Hub promotes onsite solar, community solar, and green power purchasing | 3/10/2023 |
| [26.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81894) | Choose an item. | Promote financing and incentive programs, such as PACE, for clean energy |  |  |
| [26.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81895) | Choose an item. | Support a community solar garden or help community members participate in a community solar project.  |  |  |
| [26.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81896) | Choose an item. | Install a public sector/municipally-owned renewable energy technology, such as solar electric (PV), wind, biomass, solar hot water/air, or micro-hydro. |  |  |
| [26.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81897) | ★ | Report installed private sector-owned renewable energy/energy efficient generation capacity. | Waste Management methane collection and generation plant by the city landfill  | 6/6/2012 |
| [26.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81908) | ★★★ | Become a solar-ready community, including adopting ordinance/zoning language and an expedited permit process for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. | Bronze level SolSmart designated in 2019; solar panels allowed; permit checklist; ordinance fact sheet; inspection checklist  | 3/10/2023 |
| Best Practice 27: Local FoodBP 27 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 27:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [27.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81898) | Choose an item. | Incorporate working landscapes - agriculture and forestry - into the city by adopting an ordinance. |  |  |
| [27.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81899) | ★ | Facilitate creation of home/community gardens, chicken & bee keeping, and incorporation of food growing areas/access in multifamily and residential developments. | Adopted Urban Agriculture Ordinance 2011; allows local food growing and community gardens throughout city; allows chickens and chicken coops within the city; community gardens in Niell City Park and Wolk City Park, Valley Natural Foods and International Outreach Church; St. Paul Farmer's Market | 6/6/2012 |
| [27.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81900) | ★★ | Create, assist with, and promote local food production/distribution within the city. | Wolk Park Community Garden on city property, city provides water resources  | 6/6/2012 |
| [27.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81901) | NOT RATED | Measurably increase institutional buying, and sales through groceries and restaurants. | Adopted ordinance in 2009 to allow chicken and chicken coops; 2011 Urban Agriculture Ordinance allows community gardens  | 6/6/2012 |
| Best Practice 28: Business Synergies and EcodistrictsBP 28 Completed? **YES**  Total actions completed: **2****Actions to Complete BP 28:** ~~Any one action~~ |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [28.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81903) | ★★ | Document that at least one business/building uses waste heat or water discharge from another business or conducts materials exchange activities with another organization. | City utilizes water pumped from Kramer Quarry for potable drinking water with joint powers agreement; Waste Management operates a plant that converts methane gas produced from the landfill into electrical energy  | 6/6/2012 |
| [28.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81904) | Choose an item. | Require, build or facilitate at least four sustainability attributes in a business/industrial park project. |  |  |
| [28.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81905) | ★★ | Use 21st century ecodistrict tools to structure, guide and link multiple green and sustainable projects together in a mixed-use neighborhood/development, or innovation district, aiming to deliver superior social, environmental and economic outcomes. | HOCity is walkable, with pedestrian friendly development, mixed uses and a mix of housing types and income levels; livable communities grant and develop low to moderate income housing within the HOC | 11/5/2019 |
| Best Practice 29: Climate Adaptation and Community ResilienceBP 29 Completed? **NO**  Total BP actions completed: **1****Actions to Complete BP 29:** 29.1 at 2- or 3-star level |
| **Best Practice Action:**  | **Completed:***(Star Level out of three stars)* | **Action Description:** *(View on GreenStep Website for full description)*  | **Action Summary:** *(Provided by GreenStep Staff)* | **Date of Last Entry:** |
| [29.1](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81912) | ★ | Prepare to maintain public health and safety during extreme weather and climate-change-related events, while also taking a preventive approach to reduce risk for community members. | Person responsible for city preparedness; emergency preparedness plan with Dakota County; hosted a 2015 Climate Resiliency Workshop | 3/9/2016 |
| [29.2](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81913) | Choose an item. | Integrate climate resilience into city or tribal planning, policy, operations, and budgeting processes. |  |  |
| [29.3](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81914) | Choose an item. | Increase social connectedness through engagement, capacity building, public investment, and opportunities for economically vulnerable residents to improve their economic prosperity and resilience to climate change. |  |  |
| [29.4](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81915) | Choose an item. | Encourage private sector action and incentivize investment in preventive approaches that reduce risk and minimize impacts of extreme weather and the changing climate for human health and the built environment. |  |  |
| [29.5](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81916) | Choose an item. | Protect public buildings and natural/constructed infrastructure to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events. |  |  |
| [29.6](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81917) | Choose an item. | Reduce the urban heat impacts of public buildings, sites, and infrastructure and provide resiliency co-benefits. |  |  |
| [29.7](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81918) | Choose an item. | Protect water supply and wastewater treatment facilities to reduce physical damage and sustain their function during extreme weather events. |  |  |
| [29.8](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/bp-action-detail/81922) | Choose an item. | Improve local energy resilience by minimizing fuel poverty, installing distributed renewable energy systems, and developing microgrids that can improve energy system resiliency. |  |  |