

# CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

### MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission

FROM: Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager

DATE: Tuesday, November 1, 2016

**RE:** Staff Report

### **Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress**

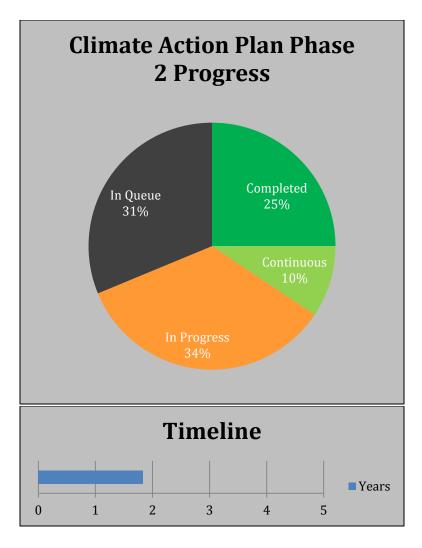
Goal 3 Action 2: Purchase Green Power Partnership qualified renewable energy credits and/or the installation of onsite renewable energy for City facilities

Staff is negotiating some amendments to the successful bidder's power purchase agreement document. We hope to conclude this effort in the next month.

## Goal 3: Action 3 Pursue long term purchase of bundled renewable power and renewable energy credits

Staff has discussed a future facilities electricity purchasing opportunity with the developer of the Grain Belt Express Clean Line <a href="http://www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com">http://www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com</a>. This project will bring low cost Southern Kansas wind into the Missouri and Illinois electric markets with an opportunity for bundled power and RECs. The project will be primarily if not exclusively offering longer term contracts from 15 to 25 years. The primary customers of the project will be utility companies and other electric market participants. However, staff is exploring the possibility that the project developers may sell electric supply to a retail customer such as the City of Urbana through an Alternative Retail Electric Supplier.

Goal 3: Action 4: Propose strategies to improve the local onsite renewable energy market. Staff are continuing to work towards a bronze level SolSmart designation. Staff has evaluated permitting fees, application approval durations, and posted complete procedural information on the city website. Staff is currently evaluating planning and zoning topics, fire training, and brownfield solar.



#### **Public Engagement**

Staff spoke at the UP201 Planning in Action class at the University of Illinois about municipal sustainability work.

Staff promoted U-Cycle and electronics recycling at the Fall Housing Fair at the Illini Union, at UIUC Sustainability Week at the Quad, and at UIUC Sustainability Celebration at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center.

### **U-Cycle**

Staff conducted a countywide residential electronics collection event on Saturday, October 15. A new registration system worked beautifully and we received many compliments from residents. 675 vehicles came to the event. Based on our experience from this event, we will be able to create a larger number of registration slots per hour in the future. The cost for the event was \$31,000 which is divided among municipalities. We filled 5 semi-trailers and are currently waiting for the weights of materials collected.

### **Next SAC Meeting**

December 6 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers