

# 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, December 6, 2016

**RE:** Staff Report

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

Goal 2 Action 2: Reduce single occupancy vehicle mode share from 51.6% to 40%. The MCORE project which would improve multimodal transportation on Green Street recently received bids that were over the engineer's cost estimates by more than 10%. The partner agencies engaged in the MCORE project decided to reject all bids and work to cut costs in the design. A new request for proposal is currently open. Bids will be opened at the November 2016 IDOT letting. Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2017. More information is available at https://www.cumtd.com/the-inside-lane/green-light-progress-on-mcore-project/.

Updates to the Urbana Bicycle Master Plan reviewed by the Sustainability Advisory Commission early this year were approved by the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Commission on November 15 and are scheduled for the Plan Commission December 8. After Plan Commission, the updates will go to City Council. Staff are aiming to get the updated plan approved in December 2016.

Attached is a document regarding plans for a Curtis Road Corridor Study. The goal of the study is to identify instrastrucure needs and aspirations for this corridor. Planning will continue throughout 2017.

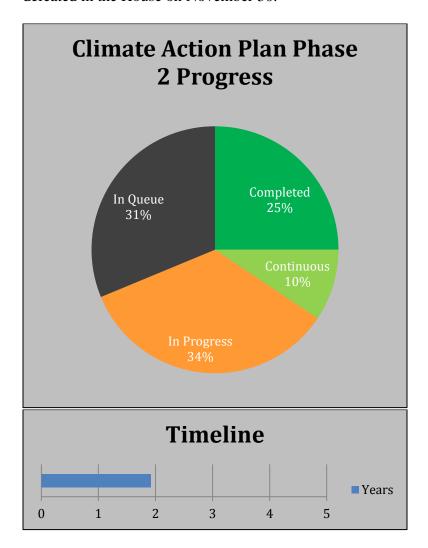
## Goal 3 Action 2: Purchase Green Power Partnership qualified renewable energy credits and/or the installation of onsite renewable energy for City facilities

Staff has presented a solar power purchase agreement for a solar installation at the Arbor Division shop to the City Council Committee of the Whole for consideration. Councilors had questions regarding the desirability of keeping or selling the renewable energy credits and the desirability of an outright purchase or a power purchase agreement. The Committee of the Whole voted to move the ordinance approving the agreement to the City Council meeting on December 5.

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. We are currently one item away from earning Bronze level designation. We are evaluating whether we might be able to achieve the points for conducting a landfill solar feasibility analysis.

Goal 3: Action 5: Propose strategies to increase renewable energy purchasing in the commercial sector.

On November 21, the Urbana City Council approved a resolution authorizing the Mayor to send a resolution of support for SB0116 the property assessed clean energy bill (PACE). The bill was defeated in the House on November 30.



#### Sustainable Water Management Plan

Aspect 2: Goal 1 Action 3 Collaborate with Mahomet Aquifer stakeholders in coordinated messaging and policies

- Consider common messaging which encourages water conservation and proper disposal of household hazardous wastes.
- Consider policies or ordinances to protect Mahomet Aquifer recharge areas in need of protection.

Over the course of two and half years, the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission has been working with stakeholders including City of Urbana staff to create A Regional Water Supply Framework. The mission statement of the Framework reads:

"To help protect the quality and quantity of the water supply for Champaign County by fostering a shared understanding of the current status of water quality and quantity in East

Central Illinois and recommending an array of informed public policies and strategies useful in achieving those policies."

The scope of the report is primarily Champaign County and focuses on three types of actions: research, policy, and outreach. The intention of the report is to present a menu of 36 actions in support of four general recommendations that stakeholders can choose from. The four general recommendations are

- Emphasize the connectivity between surface water and groundwater.
- Prioritize research on the Mahomet Aquifer and other parts of the regional water system.
- Develop informed public policy relating to water quality and water quantity issues.
- Partner on outreach and education efforts.

The report in its entirety is available at <a href="http://www.ccrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Regional-Water-Supply-Framework\_2016\_FINAL\_1108.pdf">http://www.ccrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Regional-Water-Supply-Framework\_2016\_FINAL\_1108.pdf</a>.

This action has been marked as complete in Sustainable Water Management Plan tracking.



<u>Public Engagement</u>
Staff spoke at the UP211 Local Planning, Government and Law class at the University of Illinois about municipal sustainability work.

#### **U-Cycle**

Six months ago U-Cycle began accepting mercury thermometers for recycling through a mail in service. We didn't advertise it at the time, but just made it available upon request. We were wary that we might get a flood of thermometers. Having received very few, we promoted the service on the website and Facebook. The marginal cost of thermometer recycling is high, but the expected annual cost is very low.

U-Cycle partnered with the Urbana Park District, the IDEA Store, and the Gadget Garage to conduct an America Recycles Day event trouble-shooting electronic device problems and repurposing discarded electronics into new crafts. This year's America Recycles Day event saw the highest attendance ever at 90 persons.

#### 2017 SAC Schedule

1/3/2017	Executive Conference Room
2/7/2017	Council Chambers
3/7/2017	Council Chambers
4/4/2017	Council Chambers
5/2/2017	Council Chambers
6/6/2017	Council Chambers
7/11/2017	Council Chambers
8/1/2017	Council Chambers
9/5/2017	Executive Conference Room
10/3/2017	Council Chambers
11/7/2017	Executive Conference Room
12/5/2017	Council Chambers

### Next SAC Meeting

January 3 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers