

Business Item 2012-48: Approval of Sustainability Policy for Operations and Maintenance

Presented to the Environment Committee

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Jason Willett, MCES Finance Director





Sustainable Operations Task Force

- **Made up of staff from each division**
- **Developed:**
 - **Sustainability policy**
 - **Sustainability procedures**
 - **Sustainability plan**



Sustainable Policy

- **The policy of the Metropolitan Council is to conduct its own operations in a sustainable manner, when economically feasible, specifically to:**
 - **Increase energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources**
 - **Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council operations**
 - **Conserve and protect water resources**
 - **Reduce solid waste generation, reuse and recycle materials**



Terms

- **Sustainability: Meeting present needs without compromising future resources, options or opportunities**
- **Economic Feasibility:**
 1. **Funding exists to cover the costs of the improvements or the financing for them is secured, and**
 2. **The net present value of the expected cash flows of the improvement over its life cycle is greater than zero**
- **Operation and Management: The proposed policy only applies to internal activities**



NPV Example

Hypothetical Project with NPV > 0

Year	Capital Costs	O & M Costs	Energy Savings	Total Cash Flow	Present Value
0	300,000			(300,000)	(300,000)
1		9,000	46,000	37,000	35,577
2		9,000	46,000	37,000	34,209
3		9,000	46,000	37,000	32,893
4		9,000	46,000	37,000	31,628
5		9,000	46,000	37,000	30,411
6		9,000	46,000	37,000	29,242
7		9,000	46,000	37,000	28,117
8		9,000	46,000	37,000	27,036
9		9,000	46,000	37,000	25,996
10		9,000	46,000	37,000	24,996
				70,000	103



Purpose of Sustainability Policy

- **Making a difference in own operations**
- **Leading by example in the region**
- **Responding to the Governor's executive order 11-13**
- **Improving/updating existing policy**



Sustainability Procedures

- **Energy and Greenhouse Gases**
- **Water**
- **Solid and Hazardous Waste**
- **Fleet**



Governor's Executive Order 11-13

- **Requires state agencies to develop sustainability plan and strongly recommends the Metropolitan Council develop one as well**
- **Plan to be submitted to the MPCA annually**



Sustainability Plan Components

- **Energy and Greenhouse Gases**
- **Water**
- **Solid and Hazardous Waste**
- **Fleet**



Energy and Greenhouse Gases

- **Meet specific energy goals (Transit and MCES)**
- **Meet Sustainable Building 2030 guidelines or achieve a 75% or higher energy star rating – new or substantially renovated buildings**
- **Conduct energy audits**
- **Report GHG emissions according to Climate Registry protocols**
- **Purchase Energy Star rated office equipment**
- **Implement at least two significant renewable energy opportunities by 2015**



Water

- **Perform study to recommend opportunities for water reduction or reuse in Council facilities**
- **Purchase Water Sense labeled fixtures and appliances for all new construction or major renovation**
- **Perform case study evaluation(s) to further assess the wastewater effluent reuse potential and barriers at select industries**
- **Create inventory of existing stormwater BMPs and identify maintenance needs for each site**



Solid and Hazardous Waste

- **Identify quantify solid waste streams at each facility and provide recommendations for reduction**
- **Implement policy to authorize paperless transactions**
- **Purchase copier paper that is at least 30% post consumer recycled content and meets sustainable timber harvest guidelines**
- **Modify specifications to increase the recycling of building materials, where applicable**
- **Hire caterers for large events that use reusable, recyclable or compostable containers, dishes and utensils**



Fleet

- **MCES: Reduce gasoline use 10% by 2018**
- **Improve annual average miles per gallon (MPG) of revenue and non-revenue passenger vehicles fleets**
- **Increase video conferencing technology**
- **Further develop and promote Council's policy on telecommuting**
- **Reduce particulate emissions fleet average through bus replacement program**



Request

- **Metropolitan Council approve the Sustainability Policy for Council Operations and Management**