



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY COMMISSION

September 14, 2021

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Ave N.E.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of August 10, 2021.

New Business

Old Business

2. Energy Action Plan, Phase 2
3. Citywide Clean Up

Other Items

4. GreenStep Cities Climate Metrics Tracking

5. Informal Status Reports

Adjournment



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy (EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of August 10, 2021.

Background

Attached are the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of August 10, 2021.

Recommendation

Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of August 10, 2021.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Environmental Quality and Energy Commission Minutes- August 10, 2021.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY COMMISSION

Fridley Municipal Center, 7071 University Ave Ne

MINUTES

August 10, 2021

Item 1.

Location: City of Fridley Civic Campus, Fireside Room

Call to Order

Chair Dritz called the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Amy Dritz, Sam Stoxen, Justin Foell, Nick Olberding, Aaron Klemz

Absent: Mark Hansen, Heidi Ferris

Staff: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Other: Marisa Bayer, Center for Energy and Environment; Tami Gunderzik, Xcel Energy

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Olberding made a motion to adopt the agenda and Commissioner Foell seconded the motion adopt the agenda.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dritz called for a motion to adopt the minutes from the July 10 Environmental Quality and Energy Commission minutes. Ms. Workin noted that Commissioner Hansen was listed as present and absent, and Commissioner Ferris was not listed under the attendance records. Ms. Workin said that Commissioner Hansen should be marked as absent and Commissioner Ferris should be marked as present.

Commissioner Olberding made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Foell seconded the motion to approve the minute with the abovementioned correction.

MOTION PASSED unanimously

New Business

1) Energy Action Plan, Phase 2

Ms. Workin shared the history of the City's participation in the Partners in Energy Program. She said that the City's formal MOU with Xcel Energy to participate in the program has ended, but due to the success of the program the City has the opportunity to continue to enter into another MOU. Ms. Bayer shared a presentation on the program's successes to date. The group discussed potential strategies to work on in Phase 2. Ms. Workin said she would bring these strategies and a draft MOU back to the EQEC for final review.

Old Business**Other**

1) Citywide Clean Up

Ms. Workin said that the City is coordinating a citywide clean up on September 25 and is looking for groups to host up clean up sites. The group decided on either Riverview Heights or Innsbruck. Ms. Workin said she'd check on availability.

2) Informal Status Reports

Ms. Workin said she did not receive a firm number on the amount of water the City can pump. She said there was no further discussion on watering restrictions.

3) Recycling Promotion

Ms. Workin said that a recycling campaign was conducted in the first half of 2021 and many materials are still available on the City's website and Facebook page. She said that the City and the City's recycling provider have been moving away from a numbers based system to focusing on types of items.

Adjournment

Commissioner Klemz moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Foell seconded the motion. The meeting Environmental Quality and Energy Commission adjourned at 8:29 p.m.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy (EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

Energy Action Plan, Phase 2

Background

In March 2018, the City entered into Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy program, which is a community-driven energy planning process designed to help Cities develop energy action plans. Through a series of five workshops, the Energy Action Plan team developed a plan outlining the City's energy vision, goals, and strategies. This Energy Action Plan was adopted by the City Council in November 2018 and implemented between 2019-mid 2021.

Representatives from the Center for Energy and Environment and Xcel Energy attended the August 10, 2021 meeting to discuss if there was interest in doing a Phase 2 of implementation of the Energy Action Plan and to brainstorm potential focus strategies. A draft addendum to the Energy Action Plan was developed based on that discussion.

Recommendation

Review the draft addendum and be prepared to discuss. Revisions will be made and brought to the October meeting with a Memorandum of Understanding for formal implementation

Attachments and Other Resources

- Energy Action Plan Addendum (draft)

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Fridley Energy Action Plan Addendum

INTRODUCTION

This document serves as an addendum to Fridley's Energy Action Plan, adopted by the City Council in November 2018. Fridley prides itself on being a safe, vibrant, friendly, and stable home for families and businesses, and the plan was created through a series of workshops with a diverse group of community stakeholders representing businesses, residents, city government, and other institutions.

Fridley's Energy Vision

Fridley will continue to lead by example by engaging residents, businesses, and institutions to save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the benefit of everyone in the community

Through the planning process, Fridley set a goal to reduce community energy use 5% by 2020 and 20% by 2030, and identified four priority focus areas to achieving this goal: Residential Energy, Businesses and Multifamily Buildings, Institutions, and Transportation and Electric Vehicles. Fridley's Energy Action Plan seeks to launch Fridley towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

This addendum identifies new strategies and near-term targets in each focus area to support Fridley in achieving its energy reduction goals through a second phase of implementation.



Energy Action Plan Impact

Since adopting its Energy Action Plan, Fridley has made tremendous strides in increasing participation in energy conservation and renewable programs.

Energy Reduction Goal

Fridley did not meet its goal to reduce community energy use 5% by 2020. By the end of 2020, total energy consumption increased 1% compared to baseline. Community electricity consumption decreased by 7%, while community natural gas consumption increased by 7%. The increase in natural gas consumption can be explained by 2019 and 2020 having colder winters than baseline years and the addition of many new buildings to the city. Additionally, it is important to note that this energy consumption data is not normalized for weather, economic trends and market changes, and COVID-19 uniquely influenced energy use across all sectors.

Participation Goals

Fridley exceeded its 2020 residential participation goals:

- Add 1,200 new program participants by 2020 measured against business as usual scenario.
- Add 200 new Windsource® subscribers by 2020 against baseline.

Participation in Xcel Energy residential programs increased dramatically with more than 1,300 residential premises saving 4.86 million kWh through program participation, which is approximately 1.3% of community electricity consumption in 2020. Popular residential programs include Home Energy Squad®, refrigerator recycling, and cooling and heating efficiency.

Fridley also exceeded its Windsource subscription goal with 211 new subscribers joining the program, bringing Fridley's renewable electricity to 30.62 million kWh.

Other Participation Impacts

Businesses and multifamily buildings also stepped up to help Fridley achieve its energy goals. Twenty multifamily buildings received energy audits from the Multi-family Building Efficiency Program, compared to zero visits between 2015 and 2018. Commercial building owners also participated in Xcel Energy programs, with 12 Commercial Refrigeration Efficiency assessments, 77 One-Stop Efficiency Shop assessments, and 109 lighting efficiency upgrades.

2022-2023 WORK PLAN

Focusing on the next two years, the City of Fridley and Environmental Quality and Energy Commission (EQEC) prioritized a number of strategies to reduce energy consumption, support renewable energy, and be more energy efficient. To create these strategies, City staff and the EQEC reviewed existing Energy Action Plan strategies and 2019-2021 implementation activities, and brainstormed new strategies.

Goals

Fridley did not meet its original Energy Action Plan goal to reduce community energy use 5% by 2020, but did meet its near-term participation targets. **For the purposes of this addendum, Fridley will continue to strive to reduce energy consumption, working toward a 20% reduction by 2030.**

In addition, near-term targets to measure success of the 2022–2023 workplan strategies were identified:

- **Residential:** Add 500 new residential program participants by 2023.
- **Business & Multifamily Buildings:** Add 50 new commercial and industrial program participants by 2023.
- **Renewable Energy:** Add 200 new renewable energy subscribers by 2023.

Strategies

Focus Area: Residential Energy

Strategy A: Conduct a community-wide residential marketing campaign.

Actions:

- Update existing marketing materials and website with current program information.
- Create outreach calendar for events, newsletter and social media to promote a clear call to action with each season.
- Create new appliance and equipment electrification materials, including case study of residents who have electrified their home.

Target:

- Add 500 new residential program participants.

Strategy B: Host a renewable energy challenge.

Actions:

- Update existing challenge materials with new information, including website, postcard, and social media.
- Integrate challenge into *Strategy A* outreach calendar as primary message and call to action.

Target:

- Host two challenges (2022 and 2023).
- Add 200 new renewable energy subscribers.

Strategy C: Target under-resourced households.

Actions:

- Update existing marketing materials and website with current program information.
- Identify community partners to share resources, including the Fridley HRA, local food shelves, affordable housing property managers, and faith organizations.

Target:

- Support *Strategy A* target to add 500 new residential program participants.
- Focus on promoting Low-Income Home Energy Squad and Home Energy Savings Program participation.

Focus Area: Business & Multi-Family Buildings

Strategy D: Conduct a businesses and multifamily building owner marketing campaign.

Actions:

- Update existing marketing materials and website with current program information.
- Create outreach calendar for events and social media to promote a clear call to action with each season.

Target:

- Add 50 new commercial and industrial program participants.

Strategy E: Host business energy breakfast events.

Actions:

- Identify date, speakers, and host-site for breakfast events, and update *Strategy D* outreach calendar with message and call to action.

Commented [MB1]: Note: Increase from 5-year baseline Business as usual ~40% increase by adding 500 new participants.

25% would be 306
50% would be 611
75% would be 917

Previous goal included Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy. Right now this is only focused on Xcel Energy.

Commented [MB2]: Note: Increase from 5-year baseline Business as usual ~15% increase by adding 50 new participants.

25% would be 86
50% would be 171

Commented [MB3]: Note: Duplicated original EAP goal of adding 200 in a 2-year period. Achieved goal by +211.

Commented [MB4]: Note: I updated wording to be more specific to the strategy and combined some strategies to avoid duplication (e.g. combined marketing campaign and electrification material creation).

• Create agenda, slides, and invitation text to invite businesses to attend breakfast.
Target: • Host two breakfasts (2022 and 2023).
Strategy F: Conduct one-on-one outreach to multi-family buildings to participate in free energy assessments.
Actions: • Update existing marketing materials and website with current program information. • Leverage recycling outreach to contact property owners and managers. • Add program information to rental licensing application and website.
Target: • Support <i>Strategy D</i> target to add 50 new commercial and industrial program participants. • Focus on promoting Multi-family Building Efficiency Program.
Focus Area: Institutions
Strategy G: Achieve Sol-Smart designation.
Actions: • Review SolSmart designation criteria. • Submit written commitment to achieving designation. • Leverage free technical assistance from the Metropolitan Council.
Target: • Achieve SolSmart Bronze designation by the end of 2022.
Strategy H: Add electric vehicle and solar-readiness to City code during recodification process.
Actions: • Review electric vehicle and solar-readiness language from other city code. • Champion readiness language during recodification process.
Target: • Include electric vehicle and solar-readiness language within city code.
Strategy I: Create new energy incentives for residents and businesses.
Actions: • Review existing incentives for residents and businesses to integrate energy as an eligible expense. • Review case studies from other cities on energy incentives. • Create pilot program to provide incentive infrastructure for energy efficiency in partnership with the HRA. • Allocate funding for new bonus rebate incentive to support energy efficiency in through a pilot program with the HRA
Target: • Implement pilot program to fund new energy incentives.
Strategy J: Integrate energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electric vehicle charging into City development review process.
Actions: • Update existing materials with current program information used during development review process. • Create talking points for city staff to use during development review.
Target: • Update development review materials with current program information.
Strategy I: Demonstrate City leadership in reducing energy use in City facilities.
Actions:

Commented [MB5]: @Rachel: Kept both of these in institution since the City would have to make the change/process update.

- Prioritize low-hanging fruit projects.
- Update maintenance schedules and purchasing policy to prioritize energy efficient equipment.
- Create tip sheet for city staff for best practices in energy efficient behaviors.

Target:

- Create one case study featuring City of Fridley energy projects.

Focus Area: Transportation & Electric Vehicles**Strategy G: Increase awareness about electric vehicle ownership.****Actions:**

- Create electric vehicle information materials.
- Integrate electric vehicle information into *Strategy A* outreach calendar.
- Partner with EV organizations and dealerships to host electric vehicle event featuring vehicles.

Target:

- Host one electric vehicle event.

Strategy H: Educate community fleet electrification.**Actions:**

- Create fleet electrification case study.
- Create fleet electrification checklist (“how to get started”).
- Host event with city staff about benefits an EV fleet and additional opportunities with City vehicles.

Target:

- Host one event with city staff.
- Create one fleet case study.

Implementation Plan

Strategy	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Lead	Support	Resources
Conduct a community-wide residential marketing campaign	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Outreach materials
Host a renewable energy challenge.			X	X			X	X	City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Outreach materials -Partners in Energy Renewable Energy Toolkit
Target under-resourced households.	X	X			X	X			City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Outreach materials -Partners in Energy Underserved Toolkit
Conduct a businesses and multifamily building owner marketing campaign.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Outreach materials -Partners in Energy Business and Multifamily Toolkits
Host business energy breakfast events.	X	X			X	X			City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Speakers and host-site -Food
Conduct one-on-one outreach to multi-family buildings to participate in free energy assessments			X	X			X	X	City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Outreach materials -Partners in Energy Multifamily Toolkit
Achieve Sol-Smart designation.				X					City		SolSmart Technical Assistance
Add electric vehicle and solar-readiness to City code during recodification process.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City		Partners in Energy EV and Renewable Energy Toolkits
Create new energy incentives	X								-City -HRA		-Case studies -HRA funding -Utility rebate information
Integrate energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electric vehicle charging into City development review process.		X	X						City	Partners in Energy	Partners in Energy New Construction Toolkit
Demonstrate City leadership in reducing energy use in City facilities.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	City	-Xcel Energy AM -Partners in Energy	-Case studies -Funding for energy upgrades
Increase awareness about electric vehicle ownership.		X	X			X	X		City	-EQEC -Partners in Energy	-Case studies -Partners in Energy EV Toolkit
Educate community fleet electrification.		X	X			X	X		City	Partners in Energy	-Case studies -Partners in Energy EV Toolkit -Fleet Study Results

METHODOLOGY FOR MEASURING SUCCESS

As part of implementation support, Partners in Energy will provide biannual progress reports that include metrics of success and overall progress toward goals. The following section defines how progress toward goals will be measured. All goals will be measured through the end of the stated year. Goals include Xcel Energy data only unless stated otherwise.

Energy Reduction Goal

- Reduce energy use 5 percent by 2020, and 20 percent by 2030, as compared to business as usual.

The community-wide goal will be measured by comparing actual electricity and natural gas consumption, measured in MMBtu, against projected community-wide MMBtu consumption based on the business as usual scenario. Projected community-wide MMBtu consumption in 2020 is 3,747,985 MMBtu, and in 2030 is 3,932,786 MMBtu. Xcel Energy will provide electricity consumption data and CenterPoint Energy will provide natural gas consumption data.

Participation Goals

- **Residential:** Add 500 new residential program participants by 2023.
- **Business & Multifamily Buildings:** Add 50 new commercial and industrial program participants by 2023.
- **Renewable Energy:** Add 200 new renewable energy subscribers by 2023.

Commented [MB6]: Note: Once these numbers are finalized I can estimate the kWh impact

Residential

Residential program participation assumes Xcel Energy average participation 2015–2020 will continue in years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (*This goal will be measured by comparing actual program participation in 2022–2023 to forecasted participation.*

Table 1). This goal will measure participation in years 2022 and 2023, and include all Xcel Energy residential programs. This goal will be measured by comparing actual program participation in 2022–2023 to forecasted participation.

Table 1: Xcel Energy Residential Program Participation 2015-2023

	Actual						Forecasted		
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Participants	506	436	559	587	635	943	611	861	861

Business and Multifamily Buildings

Commercial and industrial program participation assumes Xcel Energy average participation 2015–2020 will continue in years 2021, 2022, and 2023 (*Table 2*). This goal will measure participation in years 2022 and 2023, and include all Xcel Energy commercial and industrial programs. This goal will be measured by comparing actual program participation in 2022–2023 to forecasted participation.

Table 2: Xcel Energy Commercial and Industrial Program Participation 2015-2023

	Actual						Forecasted		
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Participants	137	171	180	187	133	216	171	196	196

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy subscribers are inclusive of Xcel Energy's Windsource and Renewable*Connect programs. This goal will measure participation in both programs and both sectors by comparing 2020 participation to 2023 participation.

Table 3: Xcel Energy Renewable Energy Program Participation

	Actual 2020	Forecasted 2023
Participants	706	726

DRAFT



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy
(EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

Citywide Clean Up

Background

The City, led by our Community Engagement Specialist, is planning a Citywide Clean Up on Saturday, September 25 from 9-11:30. The EQEC will be hosting a clean up at Riverview Heights Park as part of this event.

Recommendation

Discuss potential outreach strategies to promote clean up

Attachments and Other Resources

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy
(EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

GreenStep Cities Climate Metrics Tracking

Background

Commissinoer Dritz will provide information on the Climate Metrics Tracking Program

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

None

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.