



Energy & Conservation Focus Group

DRAFT Goals, Policies, & Strategies as of 8/17/17

City staff needs your feedback by **August 22, 2017**. We are in the final stages of developing policies and strategies. In September the Vision Committee will review the policies and strategies from all the focus groups. The public will have another chance to weigh in on the final policies and strategies in October or November. The final goals, policies, and strategies will appear in the Energy and Conservation chapter of Imagine Duluth 2035. Please send your feedback to Kate Van Daele at kvandaele@duluthmn.gov or to Kathy Wilson at kwilson@duluthmn.gov

Goal (G): desired outcome of the plan (broad concept)

Policy (P): action that will contribute to achieving the desired outcome (more specific)

Strategy (S): specific way to implement the policy (most specific)

G1: Reduce energy use and increase building energy efficiency community-wide.

G2: Increase the use of renewable energy sources.

G3: Support development and growth with efficient public infrastructure and services.

G4: Increase community resiliency by planning and preparing for extreme weather, adapting to changing climate conditions, and fostering stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality.

<p>G1: Reduce energy use and increase building energy efficiency community-wide.</p>	<p>P1: Provide incentives for developers to encourage green buildings and renewable energy use in new residential and commercial buildings.</p>	<p>S1: Establish clear guidelines for green building and solar ready development in all zoning districts where solar is a permitted use.</p>
		<p>S2: Revise the Unified Development Code (UDC) to offer exemptions, such as a reduction in parking requirements, for new buildings with high sustainability points.</p>
		<p>S3: Revise the sustainability points system by increasing the minimum point value requirements and adjust the point values of individual actions to encourage more green buildings and more buildings built solar ready or with solar, or other renewable energy sources, already installed.</p>
	<p>P2: Incentivize commercial and large residential building owners to reduce energy use and increase energy efficiency in existing buildings and community gathering spaces.</p>	<p>S1: Incentivize building owners to voluntarily benchmark and publish building energy use by establishing a city-wide recognition program to promote energy efficient buildings/businesses and buildings/businesses that significantly increase energy efficiency over time.</p>
		<p>S2: Update the UDC to offer incentives for cool surfaces like reflective roofs, green roofs, cool pavement and ground surfaces.</p>
		<p>S3: Market case studies and information about programs and incentives including information about benefits of investing.</p>
		<p>S4: Develop a policy for energy efficient outdoor lighting, such as LED, on public and private property and streets, while ensuring lighting doesn't negatively impact the aesthetics and quality of life of the city.</p>
	<p>P3: Incentivize households and landlords to reduce energy use and increase residential energy efficiency.</p>	<p>S1: Partner with local utilities to encourage residential customers to reduce energy use by providing information about how customers' utility use compares to their neighbors' utility use.</p>
		<p>S2: Prioritize residential energy efficiency retrofit programs and projects for low to moderate income residents with housing rehabilitation funds.</p>
		<p>S3: Compile and widely publicize a list of energy efficiency resources for residents such as, rebates, low interest loans, and affordable energy retrofit programs, and update annually.</p>
		<p>S4: Implement an energy audit and average energy use disclosure policy for rental properties linked to the issuance or renewal of rental licenses to inform potential tenants of the relative energy efficiency of housing and to encourage landlords to increase the energy efficiency of their properties.</p>
		<p>S5: Work with community partners to offer a low fee home visit program to install low cost energy conservation materials such as low flow faucet aerators and energy efficient lightbulbs in residential units.</p>

<p>G2: Increase the use of renewable energy sources.</p>	<p>P4: Increase community awareness regarding decisions about energy and infrastructure investments.</p>	<p>S1: Annually benchmark and publish citywide energy use and emissions by source (ex: residential, industrial, etc.) and type of utility including a metric to track change over time, such as total energy use per resident.</p>
		<p>S2: Educate the community about the financial, social, and environmental costs and benefits of different energy sources, and how energy use relates to land use patterns.</p>
		<p>S3: Identify and promote opportunities for renters and incentives for landlords and homeowners to affordably invest in renewable energy.</p>
	<p>P5: Encourage community-wide investment in renewable energy.</p>	<p>S1: Invest in renewable energy sources and seek out opportunities to invest in renewable energy sources in partnership with private and nonprofit sector institutions and businesses.</p>
		<p>S2: Develop City-owned renewable energy resources to offset consumption.</p>
		<p>S3: Plan for and implement the conversion from liquid fuels to electric- and hybrid-powered cars and transit.</p>
		<p>S4: Work with state partners to establish a carbon trading market.</p>

<p>G3: Support development and growth with efficient public infrastructure and services.</p>	<p>P6: Adopt energy efficiency and energy saving targets for City owned facilities and City operations.</p>	<p>S1: Finalize and adopt a corporate City energy plan, including an annual City of Duluth operations energy savings requirement of at least 2.5%, and require annual public reporting.</p>
		<p>S2: Develop a policy that explicitly prioritizes energy efficiency upgrades and repairs in the course of maintenance and operations of City owned properties and City operated facilities, including energy conservation measures such as low flow faucet aerators and LED light bulbs.</p>
		<p>S3: In order to equitably manage City owned facilities and have transparency in decisions to disinvest in facilities, develop criteria for continued investment in City owned facilities that prioritizes energy efficiency as well as community use and social value.</p>
	<p>P7: Increase efficiency of City owned utilities.</p>	<p>S1: Require Comfort Systems to increase energy efficiency to 1.5% annually from the 2007 state mandate of 1% and report annually on its progress.</p>
		<p>S2: Regularly assess and repair water system leaks with the newest technologies and upgrade old pumps and motors with newer, more efficient versions.</p>
		<p>S3: Work with commercial customers to create tiers of pricing tied to conservation.</p>
		<p>S4: Conduct a study to determine the best investment in the Steam Plant, which considers options such as retrofitting for the use of cleaner fuel sources and decommissioning, and adopt a plan to reduce emissions from the Steam Plant by at least 50% over 30 years.</p>

<p>G4: Increase community resiliency by planning and preparing for extreme weather, adapting to changing climate conditions, and fostering stronger community connectedness and social and economic vitality.</p>	<p>P8: Prepare for extreme weather events and changing climate.</p>	<p>S1: Prioritize green stormwater infrastructure in publically funded projects to reduce the impacts of flooding.</p>
		<p>S2: Work in partnership with local institutions and transportation providers to plan for weather related community emergencies and increase community awareness of emergency protocols.</p>
		<p>S3: Prioritize diversifying energy sources when considering energy investments, including supporting local and community owned power as much as possible.</p>
	<p>P9: Support the growth of an increasingly localized food system.</p>	<p>S1: Review the zoning code to ensure that the City’s land use policies adequately and appropriately support Duluth’s existing and potential local food system.</p>
		<p>S2: Work with Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSDD) to implement a curbside pickup composting program and sell the resulting compost using a sliding scale fee structure to increase low to moderate income community member’s access to food growing resources.</p>
		<p>S3: Include small scale agriculture, local food distribution, and local food retail (grocery and restaurant) in economic development investments.</p>
	<p>P10: Foster community connectedness.</p>	<p>S1: Organize an annual forum to engage nearby tribes and surrounding municipalities regarding regional resiliency and to share innovative projects and best practices for energy and conservation policies.</p>
		<p>S2: Work with utility providers, local low income community members, and low income services providers and coalitions to identify how to better provide reasonable access to clean energy and relief of energy burdens for low to moderate income community members.</p>