



## CEC Session Three Resources Tues June 15 1:30 to 3pm [Zoom Link](#)

### Best Practices for Effective Environmental Commissions [Action 24.1](#)

[CEC Session 3 June 15 Agenda/Notes/Worksheets](#)

**[B.P. Action 24.1: Inclusive and Coordinated Decision Making](#)** Use a city commission or committee to lead, coordinate, report to, and engage community members on the identification and equitable implementation of sustainability best practices. [Best Practice Resources and Star Level Examples](#)

### Strengthening communication between City Commissions, City Staff Green Team & your City Council

**Best practices from Environmental Commission Chairs** Tim Sandry, Chair, [Bloomington Sustainability Commission](#)

- City staff and commissioners should seek volunteers with good leadership skills to chair commissions
- Develop good relationships with your City Staff Liaison and City Manager or Administrator
- Cultivate and work with one or more “environmental champions” on your City Council
- Work to expand your commission’s role to be able to create your own action priorities, in addition to working on tasks that your City Council asks you to work on.
- Develop an annual Environmental Commission work plan/next steps for projects/initiatives for climate/energy/resilience with your staff liaison, Council & staff green team (all departments)
- Create an annual work plan review meeting with your City Council to receive feedback and buy in
- Use Sub Teams – (i.e. Energy, Recycling, Water Quality, Natural Resources) to involve additional non-commission volunteers. Each team has a Commission member who reports back to the whole
- Learn from other Environmental Commissions (statewide conferences?) [rccmn.co/commissions/](http://rccmn.co/commissions/)

**Resources for B.P. Action 24.1: Inclusive and Coordinated Decision Making** to lead, coordinate and report on the implementation of GreenStep best practices [Best Practice Resources and Star Level Examples](#)


- Tips for creating/maintaining [successful green teams](#) T
- Tim Sandry’s [PowerPoint on commission formation](#)
- [Organizing Guide](#) from GreenStep and [Green Team Work Plan](#) (2020)

### Accelerating and going deeper with implementation

- **Integrating equity considerations** into your actions/policies/projects - Bloomington Example
- **RCC County Clusters** – groups of adjacent cities working together and with their counties to create shared initiatives to implement local policies and projects to meet city and county climate, resilience and equity goals. City Environmental Commissions, Citizen Coalitions, city staff, elected leaders are all welcome. <http://rccmn.co/county-clusters/>
- **Hennepin County Climate Action Plan Example** cities will collaborate with County departments to implement their new [Hennepin Co. Climate Action Plan](#). [www.rccmn.co/hennepin-communities/](http://www.rccmn.co/hennepin-communities/)
- **Measurement/Indicators** – Steps 4 and 5, New Resources – [Met Council GHG Dashboard](#)

### Coordinating your work with other commissions in your city

- Implementing Council & Comp Plan goals for climate/energy/resilience & equity requires work by Environment, Parks, Planning, Transportation & Human Rights Commissions, watersheds, EDAs
- Ways to link your work – include a seat on your commission, coordination/consultation meetings
- Tool kit for City Commissions to influence new developments/redevelopment - Michael Orange

	<p><b>The Resilient Cities &amp; Communities network</b> supports a powerful peer-learning networks of diverse, local leaders from more than 50 Minnesota cities in achieving their 2030 equity, energy, and resilience goals.</p> <p>Through our <b>County Clusters</b> <a href="http://rccmn.co/county-clusters/">http://rccmn.co/county-clusters/</a> we are re-engaging the following cities that participated in one or more of our Resilient Cities workshops over the past three years.</p>
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<p><b>Twin Cities</b></p>	<p><b>Anoka County</b> – Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids, Columbia Heights, Fridley</p> <p><b>Carver County</b> – Chanhassen, Chaska, Victoria</p> <p><b>Dakota County</b> – Apple Valley, Burnsville, Eagan, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, Lakeville, Mendota Heights, Rosemount, West St. Paul</p> <p><b>Hennepin County</b> – Minneapolis, Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, Bloomington, Champlin, Edina, Eden Prairie, Golden Valley, Hopkins, Minnetonka, Richfield, Shorewood, St. Louis Park, Wayzata</p>	<p><b>Ramsey County</b> – St. Paul, Arden Hills, Falcon Heights, Roseville, Maplewood, North Oaks, Shoreview, St. Anthony Village, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake</p> <p><b>Scott County</b> – Jordan, Belle Plain, Savage, Shakopee</p> <p><b>Washington County</b> – Oakdale, Lake Elmo, Mahtomedi, Marine on the St. Croix, Scandia, Stillwater, Woodbury</p>
<p><b>Greater Minnesota</b></p>	<p><b>Clay County</b> – Moorhead</p> <p><b>Cook County</b> – Grand Marais</p> <p><b>Freeborn County</b> – Albert Lea</p> <p><b>Goodhue County</b> – Redwing</p> <p><b>Olmsted County</b> – Rochester</p>	<p><b>Rice County</b> – Faribault, Northfield</p> <p><b>Stearns County</b> – St. Cloud</p> <p><b>St. Louis County</b> – Duluth</p> <p><b>Winona County</b> – Winona</p>



**Hennepin County Cluster**  
<http://rccmn.co/hennepin-communities/>  
 Leaders from 15 cities in Hennepin County participated in our Resilient Cities Workshops from 2016 to 2019. We are following up to invite the leaders and their cities to become active with RCC’s Hennepin County Cluster to work together with adjacent cities and Hennepin County to implement [high impact actions](#)

**Exciting News!**  
**Hennepin County’s Board anticipates approving their new [Climate Action Plan](#) May 4 2021.**

**RCC Comments**  
[Opportunities for City-County Action](#)

Join us for a **ZOOM Meetup with your Hennepin County Commissioner** to build support on the Board for implementation and to explore new partnerships that cities and Hennepin County can launch to equitably meet their climate goals together on time. Please email [Sean Gosiewski](#) if you would like to participate in or Zoom conversation with your commissioner.