

**Resource Package – RCC Climate Action Conference October 6, 2022**

[Keynote Video - Regional Indicators Initiative Summary](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qh2RXCI_nAY&ab_channel=LHBInc) – MN Cities Progress in Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions & Emerging Opportunities

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# Presentation Highlights:

[Efficient Buildings](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Efficient-Buildings.pdf)

[Transportation](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Transportation.pdf)

[Energy](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Clean-Energy.pdf)

[Zero Waste](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Zero-Waste.pdf)

**Resources from RCC Topic Sessions -** [**https://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/**](https://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/)

* **Buildings** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/buildings/>
* **Energy** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/energy/>
* **Green Jobs** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/green-jobs/>
* **Resilience** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/resilience/>
* **Transportation** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/transportation/>
* **Zero Waste** Topic Session <https://rccmn.co/zero-waste/>

**Resources from RCC County Cluster Sessions** [**https://rccmn.co/county-clusters/**](https://rccmn.co/county-clusters/)

* Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, SE MN, NE MN

**Regional Indicator Initiative Tools and Resources** [**https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/resources**](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/resources)

In addition to providing city-wide data, the Regional Indicators Initiative [offers tools and resources](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/resources) to assist local government elected officials, staff, and community members in climate planning and action.

## **Climate and Energy Planning Resources**

* A [wedge diagram tool f](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/wedge/city/2/)or energy and greenhouse gas reduction planning with an associated menu of feasible city actions
* A brief guide on how to incorporate energy and/or climate resilience in a city's [request for proposals](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/EnergyRFP2.pdf%22%20%5Co%20%22Incorporating%20Energy%20and%20Climate%20Resilience%20into%20the%20City%20RFP%20Process%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)
* An energy planning[guide](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/pdf_documents/energyplanningguide.pdf)and[workbook](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/pdf_documents/energyplanningworkbook.pdf)for use in comprehensive planning and/or energy planning efforts
* An [example analysis of energy existing conditions](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/pdf_documents/existingconditionsexample.pdf)documenting a city’s energy use profile and available energy resources
* [Example local government energy goals](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/pdf_documents/energygoalexamples.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)
* A[solar energy calculator](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/wedge/city/2/)to assist in setting solar energy development goals

**Climate and Energy Planning Webinars**

* "Regional Indicators Initiative: Data and Tools for Community Climate Action" (September 2022): [Recording](https://youtu.be/rgaL-HBE_S8)and [Slides](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/2022-09-23_regional_indicators_initiative_webinar_slides.pdf)
* "Tools for Local Government Energy Champions" (October 2017): [Recording](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZrU0KwLr94&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=LHBInc)and [Slides](https://www.regionalindicatorsmn.com/customer_media/pdf_documents/logopep_webinar_slides.pdf)

## **Climate and Energy Planning Stories**

The [Minnesota Sustainability Index](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/page/minnesota-sustainability-index)- an overview of governmental units in Minnesota that have analyses, goals, and/or plans related to climate, energy, and equity

**New Resources available to support your city to achieve its climate action goals on time**

* [MN GreenStep Cities Gold Leaf Program](https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/sites/default/files/2022-09/Gold%20Leaf%20Program%20Proposal_2022_2.pdf) (Coming Soon)

An expansion for the Minnesota GreenStep Cities and Tribal Nations programs to challenge, assist, and recognize local climate action (Kristin Mroz**,** GreenStep Cities Coordinator, MPCA,

kristin.mroz-risse@state.mn.us, (651) 757-2793)

* [Met Council Climate Action Scenario Planning Tool](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/MetCouncil_ClimateActionPlanningTool_Covered_Strategies.pdf) (Coming in early 2023)

New Scenario Planning Tool to support cities to plan and prioritize actions to cut GHGs

(Mauricio Leon,Met Council Indicators, Mauricio.Leon@metc.state.mn.us)

* [Partners in Energy](https://mn.my.xcelenergy.com/s/partner-resources/municipalities/partners-in-energy)

**Deadline for Signing Up to Participate – January 15 and July 15**

Partners in Energy is a program from Xcel Energy that supports the communities we serve by helping them develop and implement these energy plans. Each community has its own unique energy needs and priorities, and Partners in Energy services are tailored to complement each community’s vision.

Partners in Energy is for cities included in the Xcel Energy Service Territory [Application Form](https://mn.my.xcelenergy.com/s/partner-resources/municipalities/partners-in-energy)

**(Contact Tami Gunderzik** Tami.Gunderzik@xcelenergy.com or Deirdre Coleman dcoleman@mncee.org <https://mn.my.xcelenergy.com/s/partner-resources/municipalities/partners-in-energy> )

* [Efficient Buildings Collaborative](https://www.hennepin.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/efficient-buildings-collaborative)

Open for participation by cities state-wide supporting cities to adopt and implement commercial energy benchmarking policies and sustainable building policies

The Efficient Buildings Collaborative brings together the county, cities and buildings owners to do energy benchmarking. Energy benchmarking is the process of monitoring and reporting the energy use of a building. It allows comparison of buildings’ energy use to similar buildings or buildings’ past performance.

Cities can get help from Hennepin County adopting an energy benchmarking ordinance. They can also get help developing and implementing the program.

<https://www.hennepin.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/efficient-buildings-collaborative>

(Leah Hiniker Sustainability manager 612-543-1219 leah.hiniker@hennepin.us)

**Resources from RCC Topic Sessions -** [**https://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/**](https://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/)

**Buildings Topic Session** [**https://rccmn.co/buildings/**](https://rccmn.co/buildings/)

**Facilitator -** **Kristin M**roz, GreenStep Cities Coordinator, (651) 757-2793 kristin.mroz-risse@state.mn.us

[**Buildings Background Slides**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Efficient-Buildings.pdf)

[**Buildings High Impact Actions**](http://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Buildings_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6.pdf)

**Resource staff**

* **Katie Jones**, Community Program and Policy Manager, CEE 612-741-0596 kjones@mncee.org
* **Leah Hiniker**,Energy Manager, 612 543-1219 leah.hiniker@co.hennepin.mn.us

[Update on Hennepin Co Efficient Buildings Collaborative](https://www.hennepin.us/your-government/projects-initiatives/efficient-buildings-collaborative) and how cities can get involved

* **Luke Hollenkamp**,Mpls Sustainability office 612-673-2349 luke.hollenkamp@minneapolismn.gov

Minneapolis policies & funding, benchmarking, TISH, SBP, Green Cost Share <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/>

* **Kurt Schultz**, City of St. Paul, PED, 651 266-6590 kurt.schultz@ci.stpaul.mn.us

St. Paul Sustainable Building Policies, benchmarking, large sites, TISH <https://www.stpaul.gov/sustainable-building-ordinance>

 **RCC Buildings Topic Team Leader**

**Kevin Brauer**, 612 868-0365 kevin@homeperformancestrategies.net

***Next Meeting***

RCC Buildings Topic Team - ***Thurs Nov 17 - Noon to 1pm on*** [***Zoom***](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5156358735?pwd=K1FMVGdjVHJvVlc5UHhDSHpWNnhjUT09)

[Networked Geothermal Webinar Recording](https://fresh-energy.org/event/how-networked-geothermal-can-help-get-minnesota-off-fossil-gas)

Networked geothermal for heating and cooling has been making waves recently among clean energy advocates, researchers, and utilities as the “next big thing” in the energy transition. On September 21, the Energy We Can’t Afford Coalition and special guests from Minnesota to Massachusetts to dug into this new technology.

Given its potential for support across a wide range of stakeholders, geothermal microgrids and district systems could play a key role in de-carbonization of cold climates and provide an opportunity for larger scale implementation of geothermal by utilities. And the good news is that geothermal systems are already up and running right here in Minnesota! <https://fresh-energy.org/event/how-networked-geothermal-can-help-get-minnesota-off-fossil-gas>

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**Transportation Topic Session** <https://rccmn.co/transportation/>

**Facilitator -** **Frank Douma**, Humphrey School 651-690-4344 douma002@umn.edu

[**Transportation RII Background Slides**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Transportation.pdf)

[**Transportation High Impact Actions**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Transportation_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6.pdf)

**Resource staff**

* **KC Atkins,** Hennepin Co Public Works. 612-596-0354 kc.atkins@hennepin.us - Update on Hennepin County’s initiative to reduce vehicles miles traveled <https://www.hennepin.us/-/media/hennepinus/business/work-with-hennepin-county/transportation-planning/comp-plan-2040-2-transportation.pdf>
* **Gina Mitteco** Dakota Co Multi-Modal Transportation Manager 952 891-7114 gina.mitteco@co.dakota.mn.us **-** How Dakota Co is partnering with cities on the Robert Street BRT and bike/ped trail connections <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Transportation/Transit/RobertStreet/Pages/default.aspx>
* **Abdullahi Abdulle** **MN DOT** Transportation Equity (612) 607-4971 Abdullahi.abdulle@state.mn.us

- MNDOTs Transportation Equity Initiatives [www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/program/advancing-transportation-equity/](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/program/advancing-transportation-equity/)

* **Anna Johnson** Policy & Public Affairs Fresh Energy 651 294 7145 Johnson@fresh-energy.org

Update on Federal IIJA grants & IRA tax credits & relevance for EVs and more flexible transportation spending <https://fresh-energy.org/game-changing-policies-in-the-inflation-reduction-act>

* **Mauricio Leon,** Met Council Indicators Mauricio.Leon@metc.state.mn.us

Update on the new Scenario Planning Tool to support cities to prioritize actions to cut GHGs <https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/MetCouncil_ClimateActionPlanningTool_Covered_Strategies.pdf>

* **Peter Lindstrom** CERTS, Met Council (651) 324-4831 plindstr@umn.edu

How Met Council is coordinating with cities on VMT reduction, BRT and transit electrification <https://metrocouncil.org/Transportation/Projects/Transit-Projects.aspx>

* **Connie Bernardy** Active Living Ramsey Communities 651-748-2500 Connie.Bernardy@co.ramsey.mn.us

Ramsey Co Public Works & Parks are partnering w cities in 3 to 4 conversations & bike/ped connections <https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/roads-transportation/future-road-projects/transportation-improvement-program>

**RCC Transportation Topic Team Leaders - convening our next RCC Buildings Topic Team Zoom Call**

* **Jim Erkel**, (651) 353-5935 cjerkel@comcast.net  **Phil Muessig** 612 437-8415 pmuessig@yahoo.com

***Next Meeting***

RCC Transportation Topic Team - ***Thurs Nov 10 Noon to 1pm on*** [***Zoom***](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5156358735?pwd=K1FMVGdjVHJvVlc5UHhDSHpWNnhjUT09)

**New Report:** [**Estimating the Greenhouse Gas Impact of Federal Infrastructure Investments in the IIJA**](https://www.georgetownclimate.org/articles/federal-infrastructure-investment-analysis.html)

James Bradbury, Georgetown Climate Center, james.bradbury@georgetown.edu

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**Energy Topic Session** <https://rccmn.co/energy/>

[**Energy RII Background Slides**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Clean-Energy.pdf)

[**Energy High Impact Actions**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Energy_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6.pdf)

**Facilitator** - **Leo Ndiaye**, RCC Board Chair, 612 203—1952, leondiaye200@gmail.com

**Resource staff**

* **Stacy Miller,** City of Minneapolis Sustainability, 612 673-3110 stacy.miller@minneapolismn.gov
* **Peter Lindstrom** CERTS (651) 324-4831 plindstr@umn.edu

**Green Jobs Topic Session** <https://rccmn.co/green-jobs/>

[**Green Jobs High Impact City Actions**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/GreenJobs_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6-1.pdf)

**Facilitator -** **Michael Krause,** 612) 229-7702 michaelkrause61@yahoo.com

**Resource staff**

* **Sarah Northrup**, CEE Workforce Program Manager 612-335-5879 snorthrup@mncee.org
* **Emilia Gonzalez Avalos**, Unidos emilia@unidos-mn.org
* **Robert Blake**, Executive Director, Native Sun 612-669-1165 robertblake22@gmail.com (Governor’s Workforce Dev. Board)
* **Elena Foshay**, Director of Workforce Development for the City of Duluth. elenafoshay@gmail.com
* **Metro Blooms** (651) 699-2426 info@metroblooms.org [metroblooms.org/landcare-services/#sustainable-landcare-training-academy](https://metroblooms.org/landcare-services/#sustainable-landcare-training-academy)
* **Scott D. Cole** CEO / Co-founder, Collectivity 651-276-5775 scott.cole@collectivity.coop
* **Minneapolis - Marie Larson** - Industry Relations Training Manager 612.673.5292 marie.larson@minneapolismn.gov
* **St. Paul** - **Russ Stark** Chief Resilience Officer 651 266-8511 Russ.stark@ci.stpaul.mn.us

**Resilience Topic Session** [**https://rccmn.co/resilience/**](https://rccmn.co/resilience/)

[**Resilience High Impact Actions**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Resilience_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6.pdf)

[**Resilience Jam Board**](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1IBAqsTR-SFQBLgieEyVNjp7g776y-JRxaKejeDOnC1g/viewer)

[**Hennepin County Natural Resources Plan Update**](https://www.hennepin.us/natural-resources-plan)

**Facilitator - Laura Milberg,** MPCA (651) 757-2568 laura.millberg@state.mn.us

**Resource staff**

* **John Evans** Hennepin Co E & E Assistant Director (612) 348-4046 john.evans@hennepin.us

Natural Resources Plan Update and how to get involved <https://www.hennepin.us/natural-resources-plan>

* **Matt Metzger**, P.E. Barr Engineering 952-832-2830 mmetzger@barr.com

Sharing examples of how Barr is supporting cities to develop climate resiliency and green infrastructure <https://www.barr.com/Insights/Insights-Article/ArtMID/1344/ArticleID/386/Establishing-climate-change-adaptation-strategies>

* **Eric Wojchik,** Met Council Eric.Wojchik@metc.state.mn.us - climate vulnerability assessment tools <https://metrocouncil.org/Communities/Planning/Local-Planning-Assistance/CVA.aspx>

and growing shade tool <https://metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Communities/Newsletters/Growing-Shade-tool-2022.aspx>

**Zero Waste Topic Session** [**https://rccmn.co/zero-waste/**](https://rccmn.co/zero-waste/)

[**Zero Waste RII Background Slides**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RII-Oct6_Breakout-Slides_Zero-Waste.pdf)

[**Zero Waste High Impact Actions**](https://rccmn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ZeroWaste_High_Impact_Actions_Oct6.pdf)

**Facilitator - Lucy Mullany**, Director of Policy & Advocacy. 612 669-2783 LucyM@eurekarecycling.org

**Resource staff**

* **Ben Knudson,** Hennepin County Energy and Environment 612 596-1176 Ben.Knudson@hennepin.us - Update on Hennepin Co Zero Waste Plan Update <https://www.hennepin.us/climate-action/what-hennepin-is-doing/zero-waste-plan>
* **Kellie Kish,** City of Minneapolis Recycling Coordinator 612-673-3536. Kellie.Kish@minneapolismn.gov - Update on Minneapolis Zero Waste Plan <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/zero-waste/>

**Zero Waste Opportunities**

**$139,000 available for waste reduction and reuse grants**

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is offering Environmental Assistance (EA) grants for projects working to expand waste reduction and reuse, rental, and repair efforts around the state. Applications are due no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, November 17, 2022. <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/grants-and-loans>

**Extended Producer Responsibility Legislation**

The Partnership on Waste and Energy, a collaborative effort of Hennepin, Ramsey, & Washington counties, is collaborating with the Product Stewardship Institute <https://www.productstewardship.us/> <https://recyclingandenergy.org/partnership-epr-for-packaging/>

**Update on Federal Funding Opportunities** <https://rccmn.co/expanding-funding/>

**Federal Funding Opportunities for Local Decarbonization**

[**https://cityrenewables.org/ffold/**](https://cityrenewables.org/ffold/)

**Navigating federal funding for local climate action** and making strategic decisions on how to best pursue opportunities can be overwhelming and challenging. This tool helps local governments prioritize and leverage existing federal funding to advance system-wide energy transition goals—from block grants and technical assistance to competitive grants and loans. Use the filters below to filter available funding sources automatically and focus on the funding sources relevant to your project, goals, and community.

**Resource People**

* **Daniel Lightfoot,** **League of Minnesota Cities** IGR Representative & Federal Relations Manager, (651) 281-1295 gro.cml@toofthgild
* **Anna Johnson** **Fresh Energy,** Senior Policy & Public Affairs Assoc, 651 294-7145, Johnson@fresh-energy.org

**MNDOT**

* [Funding opportunities landing page](https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-funding-opportunities)
* [State Aid for Local Transportation](https://www.dot.state.mn.us/stateaid/iija.html)
* [Upcoming Notice of Funding Opportunity Announcements in 2022](https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity)

**US Department of Transportation**

* [USDOT Navigator](https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator)
* C[ompetitive grant programs local governments can apply to directly](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/grant_programs.cfm)
* [Landing page for funding and resources](https://mn.gov/commerce/industries/energy/policy/federal-bipartisan-infrastructure-law.jsp#iijasignup)

**MN Department of Employment and Economic Development**

* [IIJA broadband funding](https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/broadband/infrastructure/)
* [Infrastructure funding (state and federal)](https://mn.gov/deed/government/financial-assistance/infrastructure/)

### White House BUILD Resources

* [White House BUILD Guidebook](https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/)
* [White House Technical Assistance Guide](https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/technical-assistance-guide/)
* [White House BUILD Rural Playbook](https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/rural/)
* [BUILD Tribal Playbook](https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-tribal-playbook/)

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**Join our Resilient Cities and Communities Network!** <https://rccmn.co/the-network/>

**Our Focus -** supporting citizens, commissions, cities and counties to work together to achieve our 2030 and 2050 climate goals while building equitable, vital, resilient communities.

1. [**City Action Teams**](http://rccmn.co/city-action-teams-2/) RCC supports Citizen Coalitions and City Sustainability Commissions to partner with their City Staff and City Council, to work effectively together, and to set and meet community-wide sustainability, energy, and climate goals. <https://rccmn.co/city-action-teams-2/>
2. [**County Clusters**](http://rccmn.co/county-clusters/)help advance the work of your city’s commissions & citizen networks and help strengthen city-county collaborative initiatives <https://rccmn.co/county-clusters/>
3. [**Topic Teams**](http://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/) Add your expertise to a Topic Team - to support cities and counties in taking high impact actions <https://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/>
	1. [**City Teams**](http://rccmn.co/city-action-teams-2/)City Commissions, Staff & Elected Leaders Implementing Climate Action Work Plans
	2. [**County Clusters**](http://rccmn.co/county-clusters/) **-** City teams meeting quarterly by county to support one another’s next steps.
	3. [**Topic Teams**](http://rccmn.co/the-network/topic-teams/) - Resource partners supporting cities & counties to implement high impact actions for Buildings, Energy, Green Jobs, Resilience, Transportation and Zero Waste
	4. [**Policy Team**](http://rccmn.co/policy-team/)**s** advance state & federal funding and policy solutions
4. [**Peer Learning Networks**](http://rccmn.co/peer-learning-networks/) - connecting through conversations, topic workshops, one on one calls to support one another <https://rccmn.co/peer-learning-networks/>
* [City Commission Volunteers](http://rccmn.co/commissions/) [MN BIPOC Local Elected Leaders Network](http://rccmn.co/bipoc-elected-leaders/)
* City Council Members & Mayors active with climate solutions – [MN Cities Climate Caucus](http://rccmn.co/mn-cities-climate-caucus/)
* [YOUTH Leader Network](http://rccmn.co/youth-leader-network/) [Natural Resources/Friends of Parks](https://www.wildernessinthecity.org/legacy-of-nature), [Human Rights Commissions](https://www.facebook.com/leagueofmnhumanrights/)
1. [**Become a RCC Business Partner**](https://rccmn.co/business-partners-sponsors/) - Individuals, cities, counties, nonprofits and businesses can join RCC as **Annual RCC Network Sponsors/Partners** (sliding scale based on organization’s size)
* Connect and collaborate with cities, counties, nonprofits, agencies & businesses active with our RCC Network
* [Guidestar **–**Gold Transparency](https://www.guidestar.org/profile/20-5001106)

**Resilient Cities and Communities - Staff & Board** <https://rccmn.co/about/>

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* [**Maria Tomczik,**](https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-tomczik-ab817376/)Project Coordinator, maria@rccmn.co

**Board of Directors**

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* **Daniel Katzenberger**, **RCC** **Treasurer**, 612 327-4210 dan@katzenberger.org [E.P. Sustainability Commission](https://www.edenprairie.org/city-government/commissions/sustainability-commission),
* **Huda Ahmed, RCC Board Member**  Blaine, MN 952 217-0191 huda@transformational-solutions.com Founder, [Transformational Solutions](http://www.transformational-solutions.com) [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/huda-ahmed-ms-25952911/) Board member, [Isuroon](https://www.isuroon.org/board), Strong Women, Strong Communities
* **Ian Oundo, RCC Board Member** (952) 607-9784 ian.oundo@gmail.com [Coon Rapids, Sustainability Commission](https://www.coonrapidsmn.gov/160/Sustainability-Green-Commission) President, [Ugandan Association of Minnesota](https://ugamn.org/)