



Resilient Cities & Communities

Visionary People. Vibrant Places. Regenerative Futures.

RCC Dakota County Cluster Meeting – Thursday June 15, 12:30 – 2:00pm

On ZOOM <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81585748512?pwd=VS9NN0tsbktQWEIBT3gyMWZscE1ZUT09>

Connect with staff, commission & community volunteers from 8 Dakota Co cities to share updates.

Learn about new Federal and State energy and resilience funding opportunities & Legislation.

Agenda

- 1. Greetings and Short Introductions (12:30pm)**
- 2. Dakota County Updates** - current sustainability initiatives with Q&A - **Commissioner William (Bill) Droste**, District 4, 651-438-4428 bill.droste@co.dakota.mn.us (12:35pm)
- 3. Partners in Energy - (PiE) City Energy Action Plans (12:45pm)**
 - **Hastings:** Megan Schlei - Human Resources Technician, City of Hastings, 651-480-6159, mschlei@hastingsmn.gov, <https://www.hastingsmn.gov/residents/my-home/energy>
 - **Faribault:** Roger Steinkamp, Faribault Environmental Commission, (507) 208-7047 rsteinkamp@gmail.com <https://ci.faribault.mn.us/705/2023-Energy-Action-Plan-Update>
 - **Inver Grove Heights:** (invited) Allie Hoshum - City of Inver Grove Heights 651-604-8511 ahillstrom@invergroveheights.org <https://www.ighm.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10282/IGH-Energy-Action-Plan->
 - **Rosemont** <https://www.rosemountmn.gov/692/Energy-Sustainability>
 - Possibility of cities joining together? West St. Paul & South St. Paul, Eagan, Apple Valley, Lakeville?
 - **How cities can apply to join Partners in Energy:** Sofia Troutman, Xcel Energy (612) 216-5705 Sofia.Troutman@xcelenergy.com <https://xcelenergycommunities.com/>
- 4. MN 2023 Legislative Update (1:15pm)** - New environmental, energy and climate policies & funding approved in 2023 and what they mean for MN cities: **Rep Rick Hansen**, Chair, House Environment and Natural Resources Finance and Policy rep.rick.hansen@house.mn, [Link](#), <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wjdL9qCiM52kfBQ6TIFVCYCM9HZN2-LARZo5e0aVtOk/edit?usp=sharing>
- 5. New Federal & State matching funds for Cities (1:30pm):** Faith Krogstad, MPCA Climate and Energy Coordinator, (651) 757-2086 faith.krogstad@state.mn.us
 - **EPA Carbon Pollution Reduction Program** - How the state plans to engage local governments in the development of the state's Priority Climate Action Plan to ensure priority strategies of local governments are eligible for EPA Climate Pollution Reduction grants <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/federal-funding-opportunities>
- 6. Update on Federal IIJA & IRA Funding and new state funding cities (1:35pm)** - able to apply for together or individually, [Link](#) <https://rccmn.co/funding-opportunities/>
 - Transportation Policy & Funding** Ryan Wilson, 651-775-4216 ryan.wilson@state.mn.us MNDOT South Area (roads, E.V.s, transit, bike/ped) [Carbon Reduction Program \(CRP\)](#) [PROTECT Formula Program](#)
 - Energy and Buildings Policy & Funding** - Sean Gosiewski, RCC 612 250-0389 sean@rccmn.co
 - 100% Clean Energy,,Solar, Solar Gardens Commercial Building Codes, Pre-weatherization,
 - **New MN Competitiveness Funding** to Assist Cities Applying for Energy-Related Grant Programs <https://www.mncee.org/mn-competitiveness-fund-passes-cee-support>
- 7. Opportunity for Cities to develop Climate Action Work Plans** using Met Council's new GHG Scenario Planning Tool [Link](#) (1:40pm) <https://metro council.org/Planning/Climate.aspx>
- 8. Brainstorming our Dakota Co Cluster Next Steps (1:45pm)**
 - Developing 3-year climate action work plans together?
 - Dakota County cities applying for Federal funding together?
 - Bison Tour, habitat restoration, visiting compost facilities, etc.



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Detailed Resources

MN 2023 Legislative Update (1:15pm) - New environmental, energy and climate policies & funding approved in 2023 and what they mean for MN cities:

RCC MN State Climate 2023 Successes for Cities

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wjdL9qCiM52kfBQ6TIFVCYCM9HZN2-LArZo5e0aVtOk/edit?usp=sharing>

MN's 2023 Climate, Clean Energy, & EJ Wins Round-Up (100% Campaign)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1owzL_bjW-rzYanuF9_n2wLHL4arfG5l/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101670233461923423744&rtprof=true&sd=true

2023 #MNLeg Climate & Clean Energy Round-Up - Budget Spreadsheet (100% Campaign)

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VwimFfDatyHC6l55Y37Hc1Qdf1W6kfs3/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101670233461923423744&rtprof=true&sd=true>

Fresh Energy Legislative Update: Forward-looking investments and sound policy outcomes

<https://fresh-energy.org/legislative-update-forward-looking-investments-and-sound-policy-outcomes>

Minnesota Environmental Partnership Legislative Wrap-Up 2023

<https://www.mepartnership.org/2023-legislative-wrap-up/>

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EOveQVIYdTj8D6GY_fNpHT81mpUyQBH1Tzq2JXhJN8/edit?usp=sharing

New Federal funds for Cities EPA Carbon Pollution Reduction Program -

Faith Krogstad, MPCA Climate and Energy Coordinator, (651) 757-2086 faith.krogstad@state.mn.us

EPA Carbon Pollution Reduction Program - How the state plans to engage local governments in the development of the state's Priority Climate Action Plan to ensure priority strategies of local governments are eligible for EPA Climate Pollution Reduction grants <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/business-with-us/federal-funding-opportunities>

Update on new state and Federal IJA & IRA Funding funding cities – cities can to apply together or individually, [Link https://rccmn.co/funding-opportunities/](https://rccmn.co/funding-opportunities/)

Energy and Buildings Policy & Funding - Sean Gosiewski, RCC 612 250-0389 sean@rccmn.co

100% Clean Energy, Solar, Solar Gardens Commercial Building Codes, Pre-weatherization

- [New MN Competitiveness Funding to Assist Cities](#) Applying for Energy-Related Grant Programs
- **EECBG Program.** [Applications](#) for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funding are open and available now. The deadline for eligible applicants to **submit a required [Pre-Award Information Sheet](#) has been extended to July 31, 2023** with full applications due by January 31, 2024. The Department of Energy (DOE) has put together templates and instructions for applications, as well as offering streamlined reporting and management for smaller governments eligible for less than \$250,000, by allowing those entities to apply for vouchers. The EECBG program also allows eligible entities to team up with peers to carry out larger projects across a wider area.
- **Adaptation and Resilience** June 30 GLISA Climate Adaptation Grants <https://glisa.umich.edu/our-work/small-grants-program/>

Transportation Policy & Funding Ryan Wilson, 651-775-4216 ryan.wilson@state.mn.us MNDOT South Area (roads, E.V.s, transit, bike/ped)

- Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) is a new program created by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/carbon-reduction-program/>
- PROTECT Formula Program <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/protect/> In 2023, MnDOT will work with a consultant to develop a Resilience Improvement Plan. The Plan will document program priorities and program processes to invest PROTECT funds. It's planned to be finish by early 2024

DAKOTA CO Multi Modal Transportation Planning

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Transportation/PlanningPrograms/Pages/default.aspx>

Gina Mitteco 952-891-7114 gina.mitteco@co.dakota.mn.us Regional and Multi-Modal Transportation Manager

- We regularly work with our cities to identify bicycle and pedestrian needs and projects on the County highway system and greenway network.
- These discussions are typically held through our annual Capital Improvement Program meetings with each city.
- State Health Improvement Program (SHIP) on active transportation issues and will be holding SHIP coordination meetings with our cities this summer.