

Tuesday, February 28, 2023**5:30 PM****McFarland Municipal Center**
*Community Room***AGENDA**

You are invited to this meeting through a Zoom webinar. The public may attend in-person or remotely through the webinar or telephone options listed below.

PLEASE CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO JOIN THE ZOOM WEBINAR:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88290074009>

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Webinar ID: 882 9007 4009

Press *9 to raise/lower hand. Press *6 to mute/unmute.

1. CALL TO ORDER.
2. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.
 - a. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee of the Whole for items that are not on the agenda. Please remember this is a hybrid meeting conducted in person and through the Zoom online meeting platform. Meeting attendees wishing to address the Committee about items not on the agenda may do so at this time. Zoom attendees should type their name and address in the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform at this time. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. When you are called upon to speak, state your name, address, and provide your comments to the Committee for their consideration. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to village.clerk@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.

Members of the public may also speak during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form or in the Question and Answer feature on Zoom.
4. BUSINESS.
 - a. Discussion regarding 2022 sustainability and natural resource initiatives.
 - b. Discussion regarding 2023-2024 sustainability and natural resource initiatives.
 - c. Discussion regarding Village membership in sustainability organizations.
5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.
6. ADJOURNMENT.

by 2:00 p.m. at least 5 business days prior to the meeting so that any necessary arrangements can be made to accommodate each request. If the meeting or request is less than 5 business days from the meeting, requests for accommodations may still be made and reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate each request.

McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Administration

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding 2022 sustainability and natural resource initiatives.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

ISSUE SUMMARY:

As part of its annual meeting schedule, the Committee of the Whole, which includes all Village Board members, is holding joint meetings with various committees and commissions to discuss the work being undertaken by those committees and to increase two-way communication and awareness of committee activities, particularly for those members of the Board that are not assigned to that committee.

The Village Board accepted the [Sustainability Plan](#) in 2021. In April of 2022, a new Sustainability & Natural Resources committee was formed. The following is a recap of 2022 sustainability and natural resource initiatives. The next agenda item provides an opportunity to discuss additional initiatives for 2023-2024.

- 1st Sustainability & Natural Resources meeting held on May 9, 2022, six total meetings held in 2022.
- 2 Office of Energy Innovation Grant Applications submitted: Municipal Energy Audit and Level 1 Microgrid Battery Storage for Public Safety Center.
- 3 Village Parks and Conservancy improvement projects recommended to the Village Board (Lewis Park Lake Access, Land Transfer of School Forest, and Improvements to McDaniel Park).
- 7 Outlook news articles published relating to the 6 categories of sustainable action outlined in the Sustainability Plan. Many additional sustainability articles published in the Lookout. Refer to the attached public outreach summary schedule.
- 8 acres of land secured by the Village for a future community hosted solar program with the McFarland School District and Alliant Energy.
- 31 solar permits approved and processed.
- Participated in MMSD Salt Savor Pilot program.
- Incorporated community health and wellness considerations into the East Side Neighborhood Plan, a Community Health Mid-Term Action from the Sustainability Plan.
- Started a TerraCycle Program with local Girl Scout Troop 1015.
- Completed tree inventory.



- Continued construction on net zero Public Safety Center.
- Purchased new electric vehicle for Police Department (Dane County 2022 Climate Champions Award)

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

[Sustainability Plan - Village of McFarland, 2021.](#)

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Outreach Schedule (02.17.2023)

Outreach Schedule covering topics related to the categories of actions

02.17.2022

- **Energy Actions:** Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually distribute information on rebates and tax incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- **Transportation (Mid-Term) Action:** Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents of existing ridesharing programs.
- **Solid Waste Action:** Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about recycling, backyard composting, product re-use and waste reduction.
- **Water Actions:** Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about waterway health best practices for lawn care, landscaping and fall leaf management.
- **Land Use & Development Actions:** Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about native landscaping.

Outlook Article Publications

Category of Action	Published on...	Summary of Articles
Energy	2.2021	Climate Champions for new Net Zero Public Safety Center; Solar Group Buy Program; Green Tier Legacy Communities & Sustain Dane
Energy	5.2021	Solar Group Buy Program, Public Works Solar Tracking, Net Zero Public Safety Center
Energy	9.2021	Public Work's Solar Panel Tracking, Solar Group Buy Program, Net Zero Public Safety Center
Energy	5.2022	Solar Group Buy Program
Energy	8.2022	Solar Group Buy
Transportation	9.2021	Ridesharing Resources, E-Bike (BCycle)
Transportation	2.2023	Snow Removal
Solid Waste	5.2021	Includes article about Salt Saver Program,
Solid Waste	9.2021	Hanging Limbs and Fall Lawn Reminders
Solid Waste	9.2021	E-Cycle (disposal of unused electronics)
Solid Waste	9.2022	Tree Pick Up (Holiday Trees), Leaf and Grass Clipping
Water	5.2022	Adopt-a-Storm Drain, Salt Saver Program (Pilot)
Water	9.2022	Salt Brine for Snow Removal, Plastic Bag Dropoff
Land Use & Dev.	2.2021	Do I Need a Building Permit?
Land Use & Dev.	2.2023	Do I Need a Permit?, East Side Neighborhood Plan Update, No Mow May Update
Land Use & Dev.	5.2021	Noxious weeds; yard waste management (grass clippings, weeds, etc.), best practices on tree removal, Landscaping and Vision Triangle and Corner Lots
Land Use & Dev.	5.2022	Noxious Weeds, Yard & Property Maintenance Reminders, Landscaping and Vision Triangle and Corner Lots
Land Use & Dev.	9.2022	Terrace Areas, Hanging Limbs and Fall Lawn

McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Administration

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding 2023-2024 sustainability and natural resource initiatives.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

May 9, 2022 - Staff introduced the Sustainability Plan and asked committee members to review and provide feedback on the plan.

June 13, 2022 - Staff led the discussion on the Village's Sustainability Plan and requested the committee identify several near-term items among the six focused categories to help establish a direction and a budget for 2023.

August 8, 2022 - Staff reported committee's feedback of priority items among the six focused categories.

October 10, 2022 - S&NR Committee discussed the proposed draft sustainability action plan.

ISSUE SUMMARY:

This item includes the draft action plan Staff presented to the Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee (S&NR) at the October 10, 2022 Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee Meeting. The action plan utilizes the Village's 2021 Sustainability Plan's Appendix A. The Sustainability Plan includes actions broken out into near-term (begin 1-2 years), mid-term (begin 2-4 years), and long-term actions (begin 4+ years). Even within the near-term category, there are more actions than the Village can likely complete in 2023 and 2024 due to operational and budgeting limitations. The S&NR Committee and staff reviewed the actions from the Sustainability Plan to develop a work plan for a set of items to focus on in 2023 and 2024. The work plan utilizes the Sustainability Plan's Appendix A format and includes staff comments on the progress on those items identified as a priority by the committee. An annual work plan, utilizing this same format, can be reviewed by the S&NR committee to discuss the progress of each near-term action item to determine if priorities should be shifted.

Staff are currently working on the following items:

1. No Mow May Ordinance. The ordinance is scheduled for adoption at the February 28 Village Board meeting. Staff is working on developing online registration page and signage.
2. Solar Farm with McFarland School District and Alliant Energy. The Village closed on the property on January 6th. Staff, Village and School District attorneys are developing the master lease and sublease with representatives of Alliant. The agreements will likely be brought forward for approval in the next two months. Alliant will then complete design and permitting, with construction to begin in 2023-2024.



3. Energy Audits for municipal buildings. Staff submitted a joint grant application with the McFarland School District to the WI Office of Energy Innovation. An announcement on the grant application is likely to occur by the end of March.
4. Completion of Net Zero Public Safety Center.
5. Completion of the McDaniel Park beach improvements.

Several plan updates are underway and expected to be completed or to be worked on in 2023-2024.

1. Conservancy Management Plan.
2. Urban Forest Management Plan.
3. Policy for Preservation & Maintenance of Native American Mounds.
4. East Side Neighborhood Plan Update, 2023

The East Side Neighborhood Plan Update incorporates themes which include transportation options, land use & development practices, and community health, all of which are identified in the Sustainability Plan.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

The Village Board approved an operating budget of \$500 for yard signs in November 2022 for the no mow May initiative. The 2023 Capital Improvement Plan also included \$300,000 to purchase the 8-acre property for the proposed solar project, which was acquired on January 6. The 2023 CIP also includes \$50K in funding for energy audits and planning.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

Sustainability Plan - Village of McFarland, 2021.

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2023-2024 Sustainability Action Plan (02.20.2023)

Proposed Sustainability Plan Action Plan for 2023-2024

Updated: February 20, 2023

Energy Actions		Impact	Cost	Staff Effort	Duration	Status	Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions								
Conduct energy audits of all municipal facilities to identify potential energy efficiency improvements.		Medium	\$	Medium	6 mos - 1 yr	Not Begun, In Progress	Public Works, C&ED	PW, S&NR
Staff Comments: Funding for this project is included in the draft 2023 Capital Improvement Budget. Next steps after budget approval are to submit a grant application to PSC-OEI to supplement the budget. Application due in January 2023. After receiving notification of any grant funding (~April, 2023), staff can then move forward to develop an RFP and/or solicit qualified firms to complete this plan by year-end 2024 or summer of 2025.								
Establish a policy requiring all major remodeling of municipal buildings and any new municipal buildings include energy efficiency measures.		Medium	\$	Low	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Administration/Public Works	PW
Staff Comments: Based on prior input from S&NR committee this action item was not identified as a priority to complete in 2023. Staff/Committee can revisit for 2024 after audit is finished.								
Replace stoplights with LEDs		Medium	\$	Low	Ongoing	In Progress	Public Works	PW
Staff Comments: All stop lights within the Village are along USH 51 and owned by WisDOT. Staff can work with the WisDOT to advocate that these be replaced with LED fixtures when USH 51 is reconstructed in 2026 or 2028.								
Replace streetlights with LEDs		Medium	\$	Low	Ongoing	In Progress	Public Works	PW
Staff Comments: Most street lights within the Village are owned by Alliant and as they need replacement they are upgraded to LED. The municipal energy audit may present an opportunity to identify other Village owned lights/park lights and opportunities to upgrade to LED.								
Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually distribute information on rebates and tax incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency.		Low	\$	Low	Recurring	In Progress	Community Development/Communication & Technology	n/a
Staff Comments: Ongoing activity. See separate Outreach Schedule								
Work with energy providers to develop a community-scale solar energy installation and/or develop a program for leasing municipal rooftops for solar.		High	\$\$\$	High	1-3 yrs	Not Begun	Community Development/Public Works/Administration	CW/PW/PC
Staff Comments: Village acquired an option to purchase 8-acres of land on the south side of the Wisconsin Power & Light substation (3451 Siggelkow Road) for a joint solar installation with the McFarland School District. Staff from the Village and School District are currently working with Alliant to develop a lease agreement with the goal of closing on the land in January of 2023. Planning, design, and zoning approvals to occur in 2023 with goal of having the installation built and operational in 2024. Funding for acquisition of the property is in the 2023 budget.								

Transportation Actions		Impact	Cost	Staff Effort	Duration	Status	Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions								
Amend the parking ordinance to require bike parking for all new commercial and multifamily buildings.		Low	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Community Development	PC
<i>Staff Comments: This action item will likely be included in the Zoning Code update within the 2024 Capital Improvement Plan</i>								
Amend the parking ordinance to reduce minimum off-street parking requirement and/or add parking maximums for new development to limit excess pavement.		Medium	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Community Development	PC
<i>Staff Comments: This action item will likely be included in the Zoning Code update within the 2024 Capital Improvement Plan</i>								
Any proposal to add lanes to a two-lane roadway will be evaluated for a center turn lane, the preferred option over an expansion to four lanes.		High	\$	Medium	Ongoing	Not Begun	Public Works, Community Development	PW/PC
<i>Staff Comments: This item is relevant to new roadways and collector/arterial roads that require reconstruction. Related to this action, Staff will look to determine the most appropriate use and function of the roadway.</i>								
As municipal vehicles need replacement, evaluate the purchase of hybrid, electric or alternative fuel vehicles.		Medium	\$\$	Low	Ongoing	Not Begun, In Progress	Public Works/Police/Fire & Rescue/Community Development	PW/PS
<i>Staff Comments: The Police Department has already included a hybrid SUV and an electric vehicle to their fleet. Staff will continue to look at hybrid, electric and alternative fuel vehicles when the appropriate time to replace a vehicle occurs. S&NR committee may want to consider creation of a policy as part of any future work to develop a municipal policy on building</i>								
Work with Madison Metro to connect the Village to Metro transit services.		Medium	\$\$\$	High	6 mos - 1 yr	Not Begun, In Progress	Community Development/Administration/Public Works	CW/PC/PW
<i>Staff Comments: Initial conversations with Madison Metro Staff have already begun concerning transit services expansions. Due to funding commitments, likely this action item becomes a Mid-Term priority.</i>								
Develop more on- and off-road bike trails.		High	\$\$\$	High	3+ yrs	In Progress	Public Works/Community Development	PW/PK/PC
<i>Staff Comments: The updated East Side Neighborhood Plan will include proposed locations for new recreational trails as the Village continues to grow. Implementation will occur as new lands are developed or roadways are reconstructed.</i>								
Provide electric vehicle charging stations at municipal facilities.		Medium	\$\$	Medium	6 mos - 1 yr	Not Begun, In Progress	Public Works/Community Development	PW/S&NR
<i>Staff Comments: Staff have begun to gather information on electric vehicle charging stations throughout the Village. Staff anticipate this action item will be included in the renovations to the Municipal Center. The Public Safety Center will have designated electric vehicle ready charging station. The planned 2024 Zoning Code rewrite also provides an opportunity to address this.</i>								
Mid-Term Actions								
Collaborate with the school district to survey students about transportation choices and evaluate safe routes conditions at each school.		Low	\$\$	Medium	Recurring	Not Begun	School District/Community Development	n/a
<i>Staff Comments: Based on prior input from S&NR committee this action item was identified as a priority to complete in 2023. However, Staff have determined this action to be a recurring option and can be met when the opportunity presents itself. Should the school district desire other opportunities for collaboration, the Village is likely open to conversations.</i>								

Solid Waste Actions			Impact	Cost	Staff Effort	Duration	Status	Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions									
Create a municipal purchasing policy that requires consideration be given to whether a product is made from renewable and/or recycled materials.			Medium	\$	Low	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Administration	CW/FC
<i>Staff Comments: Based on prior input from S&NR committee, this action item was not identified as a priority to complete in 2023. Staff/Committee can revisit for 2024.</i>									
Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about recycling, backyard composting, product re-use and waste reduction.			Low	\$	Low	Recurring	Not Begun, Ongoing	Community Development/ Communication & Technology	n/a
<i>Staff Comments: Ongoing activity. See separate Outreach Schedule</i>									
Facilitate a group buy program to offer compost bins to Village residents.			Low	\$	High	Recurring	Not Begun	Public Works	PW
<i>Staff Comments: Recommend using year 2023 to investigate options for public private partnerships with vendors that provide compost kits. Potentially inviting vendors to an S&NR committee meeting to provide information on how the Village could develop a group buy program to lower the price of entry for McFarland households. Possibly utilize Outlook Newsletter to provide information on existing programs or to survey resident interest in participating in a group buy program.</i>									
Mid-Term Actions									
Create a program to encourage and facilitate the practical reuse of waste from private and municipal construction projects.			Medium	\$\$	High	6 mos - 1 yr	Not Begun	Community Development/Public Works	PW/PC
Long-Term Actions									
Create a Village compost site for food waste.			Medium	\$\$	High	1-3 Years	Not Begun	Public Works	PW
<i>Staff Comments: Recommend using year 20XX to investigate options for public private partnerships with vendors that provide residential compost pick-up services. Potentially inviting vendors to an S&NR committee meeting to provide information on how the Village could develop a group buy program to lower the price of entry for McFarland households. Possibly utilize Outlook Newsletter to provide information on existing programs or to survey resident interest in participating in a group buy program.</i>									
Create a community upcycle location or event.			Low	\$\$	High	Recurring	Not Begun	Community Development/Public Works	PW

Water Actions		Impact	Cost	Staff Effort	Duration	Status	Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions								
Exceed county and state minimum requirements for protection of green spaces that play a key role in water infiltration.		High	\$	Medium	Ongoing	Not Begun	Community Development	PC/PW
<i>Staff Comments: Staff are currently working on updates to the Village stormwater management ordinance to bring in-line with recent county updates for approval in 2023.</i>								
Purchase rain barrel kits and hold classes through Library or McFarland Recreation Activities & Play (MRAP) for residents to purchase the kits at a discount and make and decorate their own rain barrels		Low	\$	High	Recurring	Not Begun	MRAP/Library/Public Works, C&ED	PW, S&NR
<i>Staff Comments: Recommend using year 2023 to investigate options for public private partnerships with vendors that provide rain barrel kits. Potentially inviting vendors to an S&NR committee meeting to provide information on how the Village could develop a group buy program to lower the price of entry for McFarland households. Possibly utilize Outlook Newsletter to provide information on existing programs or to survey resident interest in participating in a group buy program.</i>								
Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about waterway health best practices for lawn care, landscaping and fall leaf management.		Low	\$	Low	Recurring	Not Begun, Ongoing	Community Development/Communication & Technology	n/a
<i>Staff Comments: Ongoing activity. See separate Outreach Schedule</i>								
Develop a program or work with existing agencies to assist residents with purchasing and installing low-flow water fixtures and replacing water softeners.		High	\$	High	6 mos - 1 yr	In Progress	Public Works/Administration	PU/FC/CW
<i>Staff Comments: Recommend using year 2023 to investigate options for public private partnerships with vendors that provide residential services or specialty in installing low-flow water fixtures. Potentially inviting vendors to an S&NR committee meeting to provide information on how the Village could develop a group buy program to lower the price of entry for McFarland households. Possibly utilize Outlook Newsletter to provide information on existing programs or to survey resident interest in participating in a group buy program. Water softner replacement and evaluation has already been publicized.</i>								
Minimize and find alternatives to the use of salt on low traffic roadways.		High	\$	Low	Ongoing	Not Begun, In Progress	Public Works	PW
<i>Staff Comments: Public Works has purchased a 1000 gal. tank in Spring 2022 as an alternative method to snow removal in the Village. The tank is to be filled with a salt brine solution and sprayed over road surfaces before, during, and after snow weather events to maximize efficeincy. This method is expected to significantly reduce overall salt usage by the Village.</i>								
Evaluate the Subdivision Ordinance for reductions in required pavement width for new roads in new subdivisions to reduce the amount of impervious surface.		Medium	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Community Development	PC
<i>Staff Comments: Pavement width recommendations for various road types will be addressed in the updated East Side Plan. Ordinance revisions to be consider as part of the Zoning Code rewrite project in 2024.</i>								
Mid-Term Actions								
Installing low-flow water fixtures in municipal facilities.		Medium	\$\$	High	1-3 yrs	Not Begun	Public Works	PW
<i>Staff Comments: Likely to be included in the draft 2023 Capital Improvement Budget. Will be incorporated with next steps after budget approval to develop an RFP and/or solicit qualified firms to complete this plan by year-end 2024 or summer of 2025. This will follow the completion of the Public Safety Center.</i>								

Land Use & Development Actions		Impact	Cost	Staff Effort	Duration	Status	Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions								
Instead of grass lawns, utilize more native landscaping on municipal properties that are not used for recreation purposes.		Medium	\$	Low	Ongoing	Not Begun	Parks/Public Works	PK/PW
Staff Comments: Staff will review action for this near-term item for the upcoming 2023 and determine if action can be completed in 2023 or if action should be taken in 2024.								
Require native landscaping in buffer areas around surface water and wetlands on both public and private property to protect water quality.		High	\$	Low	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Community Development	PC
Staff Comments: This will be considered on a case-by-case basis as public or private development projects are brought forward. The 2023 stormwater ordinance update, and East Side Plan update, provide an additional opportunity to address this through policy updates.								
Utilize the Outlook Newsletter, or other forms of print and social media, to annually inform residents about native landscaping.		Low	\$	Low	Recurring	Not Begun	Community Development/Communication & Technology	n/a
Staff Comments: Ongoing activity. See separate Outreach Schedule								
Amend Village ordinances to allow for a no-mow May.		Low	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun, In Progress	Community Development	PC/S&NR
Staff Comments: Initial research has begun (8.2022) on this action with anticipated completion before May 2023. Funding for \$500 was approved in the 2023 budget.								
Identify streets lacking trees and develop a plan to plant trees.		Medium	\$\$		6 mos - 1 yr	Not Begun, In Progress	Public Works	PW
Staff Comments: The completion of the Tree Inventory was discussed at the 8.8.2022 Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee meeting. PW to plan an approach to tree plantings.								
Mid-Term Actions								
Amend the zoning ordinances to allow for more housing options, including accessory dwelling units and attached unit housing.		Medium	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun, In Progress	Community Development	PC
Staff Comments: Staff have begun initial research on an ordinance amendment in 2023 to addresses accessory buildings/structures, including ADU's. Additional use regulation amendments to be considered as part of the Zoning Code Update in 2024.								

Community Health Actions							Responsible Person or Department	Responsible Committee or Commission
Near-Term Actions								
Adopt a Health and Equity in All Policies resolution.		Medium	\$	Low	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Community Development	CW
Staff Comments: Based on prior input from S&NR committee, this action item was not identified as a priority to complete in 2023. Staff/Committee can revisit for 2024.								
Add additional community service days.		Low	\$	Medium	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Senior Outreach/Parks/Community Development/Library	PK/S&NR
Staff Comments: Staff intends to begin conversations on this action item in 2023 to determine additional department's involvement related to this event. Suggestions to include the Library, the school district, Parks, and Community Development.								
Build a multi-generational community center.		Medium	\$\$\$	High	1-3 yrs	Not Begun, In Progress	Administration	CW
Staff Comments: A study on how the Municipal Center can be renovated to include a Community Center is currently in progress. Funding and timing of implementation TBD based on study recommendations. Study to be completed in 2023.								
Require tobacco-free and e-cigarette free on all municipal properties, including parks.		Low	\$	Low	3-6 mos	Not Begun	Public Works/Community Development	PK/S&NR
Staff Comments: Based on prior input from S&NR committee, this action item was not identified as a priority to complete in 2023. Staff/Committee can revisit for 2024.								
Mid-Term Actions								
Increase recreation programs through the Village.		Medium	\$\$\$	High	1-3 yrs	Not Begun	Parks	PK
Incorporate community health and wellness considerations when updating existing plans.		Medium	\$	Low	Ongoing	Not Begun, In Progress	Community Development	PC
Staff Comments: Consideration for this action has been included in the Economic Strategy Plan for the East Side Neighborhood Plan Update. Staff are working with the consultant MSA to incorporate improvements to Quality of Life which include recreational opportunities, parks, sidewalks, bike trails, etc.								

**VILLAGE OF
McFarland
SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

SECTION: Business

DEPARTMENT: Administration

CONTACT: Kong Thao, Associate Planner, Sayer Larson, Parks Superintendent

AGENDA ITEM: Discussion regarding Village membership in sustainability organizations.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

ISSUE SUMMARY:

This item is presented for discussion to highlight Village membership in sustainability organizations.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Green Tier Legacy Community Program (GTLC). The Village Board adopted Resolution 2020-16 on September 14, 2020 approving participation in this group. The mission of the Green Tier program is to help communities across the state of Wisconsin move continuously toward a sustainable future through initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, economic growth, public health, and social equity.

Meetings are held quarterly and include members from around Wisconsin in the public and private sectors. There is no membership fee but members are asked to complete an annual report to GTLC.

UPDATE: The Community & Economic Development Department (C&ED) participated as beta-testers for the 2021 GTLC reporting and is currently working on the 2022 reporting. The 2022 GTLC draft report will be presented to the Sustainability & Natural Resources Committee at its March or April meeting.

Sustain Dane. In 2020, the Village became a member of Sustain Dane. Sustain Dane's mission is to inspire, connect, and support people to accelerate sustainable actions for community wellbeing. This organization hosts a number of events year-round, including educational workshops, webinars on sustainable growth, and networking opportunities. There is an annual \$275 membership fee that is paid through C&ED Department funds. There is no required annual reporting as part of the Village's membership.

UPDATE: C&ED Staff attended the Sustain Dane Summit on November 4, 2022 at Monona Terrace here in Madison. The summit provided attendees with educational, inspirational, and reflective opportunities on our role in supporting sustainability systems such as environmental health, equity, and social wellbeing. Staff have also attended an accelerated sustainability workshop on activation of sustainable action and water conservation hosted by Sustain Dane.



Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC). The Village Board adopted Resolution 2022-16 on June 28, 2022 to become an official member of this organization.

WLGCC is comprised of local government officials across Wisconsin that work together to seek low carbon and clean energy solutions. WLGCC supports its members through increased data sharing, technical assistance with policy and programming, and sustainable solutions and strategies. WLGCC represents 1 in 3 people in the state of Wisconsin. Meetings are held monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 2:30 PM. An additional monthly meeting comprised of Dane County specific communities is attended by C&ED Staff. This informal meeting includes the City of Madison, City of Middleton, City of Sun Prairie, City of Fitchburg, and Dane County. There is no fee or required annual reporting as part of the Village's membership.

UPDATE: C&ED Staff and Trustee Flaherty attended WLGCC's first summit on October 14, 2022 at the downtown Milwaukee Public Library. The summit was attended by member communities and Chief Executives (such as Mayors, Aldermans, Committee Chairs, etc.). The discussion focused on maximizing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA or Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill) and Infrastructure Reduction Act for local governments. WLGCC continues to provide technical assistance on the aforementioned federally funded programs.

Bird City USA. (Sayer) A conservation and education program created by American Bird Conservancy and Environment for the Americas. This organization is dedicated to foster innovation and connections that lead to advances for birds in natural areas, parks, gardens, main streets, and backyards and to make communities better places to live. The four categories of conservation actions include: 1) Improving bird habitat, 2) Addressing threats to birds, 3) Engaging people in birding & conservation, and 4) Encouraging sustainable practices.

UPDATE: In 2021, the Village reached high flyer status for Bird City.

Tree City USA. (Sayer) A program by the Arbor Day Foundation dating back to 1976. This program encourages communities across the US to support planting and maintenance of trees.

Trees provide communities with many passive energy and recreational benefits. From lower energy costs, creating quieter neighborhoods, and mitigating the effects of climate change, trees are a essential to human activities as they are to the ecosystem.

UPDATE: In 2022, the Village will receive a growth award for Tree City. Staff attend the Wisconsin DNR Community Tree Management Institute, set to be completed in June with the project to create a Village Forestry Webpage. Staff also attended the 2023 WPRA statewide conference this February.

STAFF COMMENTS

Staff's attendance and participation to the associated organizations provides opportunities for growth, learning, and alternative methods of practice that can be brought back to the Village.

Participation in these state and regional sustainability groups is essential to maintaining connectivity among peer communities and staying relevant within sustainable planning. The peer sharing opportunities are unmatched in providing technical assistance and growth for the Department and the Village in our ability to meet our sustainable goals.



FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

VILLAGE PLAN REFERENCE:

ORDINANCE REFERENCE:

BOARD, COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This item is presented for discussion only.

ATTACHMENTS:

None