



Climate/Resilience

**Presentation of FY25 Budget Recommendations to City Council
September 11, 2024, Russ Stark, CRO**



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

STPAUL.GOV

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Agenda

- **Climate Work Overview**
- **Org Chart**
- **Challenges & Opportunities**
- **Grants Overview**
- **Updates on Recent Initiatives**
- **Activities Summary**
- **2025 Proposal**





Saint Paul's Climate Action Work

- **Climate Action and Resilience Plan (2019) is our guide (update work beginning)**
- **Decentralized Staffing Model**
- **Leverage external resources and partnerships to advance City climate goals**
- **Focus on action that benefits disadvantaged communities**
- **Saint Paul recognized as a national leader (ACEEE, CDP, Bloomberg ACCC)**
- **Climate Action Dashboard (www.climateaction.stpaul.gov)**
- **Climate Justice Advisory Board**



Org Chart

- Chief Resilience Officer –
 - Climate Action Coordinator (OFS)
 - Energy Coordinator (OFS-Real Estate)
 - Clean Energy Manager (PED)
 - EV Charging and Electric Carshare Coordinator (Public Works)
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- **Public Works Transportation Planning Division, Solid Waste Team**
 - **Parks Natural Resources, Forestry, Design**
 - **OFS Real Estate, Grants, Fleet**
 - **PED Planning and Housing Teams**
 - **DSI Water Resources Coordinator, Building/Energy Code**



Grants

- **Coordination with OFS and Grants Team on grant-seeking and management**
- **Coordination with Grants Team and Real Estate on Inflation Reduction Act Direct Pay and other incentive programs**
- **McKnight Foundation 2023 Grant – Climate Action Coordinator**
- **USDOE grants supporting EV Spot Network/Evie Carshare**
- **Met Council Regional Solicitation grants supporting Evie, bike, walk, and transit**
- **MPCA planning grant for Climate Plan update community engagement**
- **Unsuccessful USEPA CPRG proposals**
- **USDOE Energy Future Planning Grant for low-income residential weatherization and electrification work**
- **Partnering to pursue USDOE planning grant for next iteration of bikeshare**
- **Partnering with Rondo CLT to pursue EPA Community Change Grant**



Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges

- What are the primary challenges your department faces in fulfilling its mission?
 - Climate Action requires that we all start pulling in a somewhat different direction
 - This requires resources, training, changing practices
 - Urgency of climate change vs. the pace that we can move
- Are there any specific ongoing or future risks that should be named (e.g., external factors that could impact your department's operations or budget)?
 - Rollback of federal or state programs

Opportunities

- Partnerships!
- Grants, Grants everywhere
- Workforce and Business Formation
- Technological innovation everywhere – Flow Env. Systems, Darcy Solutions, Carba
- Community Engagement – CARP Update process will be a great opportunity for expansive engagement



Updates on Recent Initiatives

- EV Spot/Elvie East Side Expansion
- Geothermal and Efficiency upgrades at Como
- Network Geothermal at The Heights
- Municipal Buildings Decarbonization Plan kick-off yesterday
- Green Cities Accord Partnership
- Ramsey County Earn and Learn Construction/Green Careers
- Partner with Ramsey County/NOAA on Urban Heat Mapping
- CARP Update – Committee Appointments coming soon
- Engaged in Riverview, Purple Line, Network Next projects
- Continued work on Rethinking I-94



2025 Proposed Changes: Explanations

- Xcel franchise fee change for 2025 to include residential fees in April and November and fund climate work
- \$1.5 million new revenue
- Requires Council action in October in to begin collecting fees in April
- Power of Home \$300k Year One, \$500k thereafter
- Climate Action Coordinator \$163K
- PED Project Management Tech \$53k (partial funding)
- \$500k Forestry operations for trees
- New PW Snow Operations (one-time)



Power of Home:

- Weatherize and transition away from fossil fuel use in the homes of energy cost burdened residents to:
 - lower utility bills
 - make homes more comfortable and healthier
 - reduce greenhouse gas emissions
 - invest in our housing stock
 - maximize local contracting and workforce development opportunities
- Census block groups with concentration of energy burdened households
- Ramp up new program in 2025, expand in 2026
- Implemented by PED Housing Team
- Learnings from current pilot program and best practices elsewhere



Questions & Discussion