



# Sustainability Commission

## Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway  
De Pere, WI 54115  
[www.deperewi.gov](http://www.deperewi.gov)

## Agenda

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Tuesday, August 12, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers and Virtual

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Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 19.84, Notice is hereby given to the public that a meeting of the **Sustainability Commission** of the City of De Pere will be held on **August 12, 2025** at **5:30 PM** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2ND FLOOR CITY HALL, 335 S. BROADWAY STREET. DE PERE.**

**The Public or Members of the Sustainability Commission, which may count toward an official quorum, may attend the meeting either in person in the Council Chambers or telephonically or electronically via video conferencing or other appropriate technological means. Telephonic or electronic access to the meeting is provided below:**

Computer/smart phone accessing <https://www.gotomeet.me/DePere>

OR

**You can also dial in using your phone.**  
United States (Toll Free): [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679)  
United States: [+1 \(312\) 757-3117](tel:+13127573117)  
Access Code: 154-883-285

*This meeting may also be rebroadcast on TV throughout the week and available on demand at <https://deperewi.portal.civicclerk.com/>.*

- I. Call to Order
  1. Roll Call
- II. Public Comment on Matters not on the Agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. §6-3(f) DPMC
- III. Items
  1. Approval of the July 8, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
  2. Consideration and possible action on election of Vice Chairperson
  3. C.A. Lawton Company Presentation
  4. Consideration and Possible action on Clean Energy Work Plan
  5. Update on Composting Reimbursement Program Quarter 2

6. Consideration and possible action on 2026 Budget Request
7. Consideration and possible action on Sustainability Commission Initiatives and Draft Work Plan
8. Consideration and Possible action on Enviroscape Watershed Model

IV. Future Agenda Items

V. Adjournment

Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the Clerk's office at 339-4050 by Noon, the previous day so that arrangements can be made.

Agenda Sent To:

Alderspersons  
City Manager  
Mayor  
Department Heads  
TV, Newspapers & Radio Stations  
Kress Family Library  
De Pere Chamber of Commerce  
Definitely De Pere



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.1

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Betty Marovich, Administrative Assistant  
**SUBJECT:** Approval of the July 8, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends approving the July 8, 2025 Sustainability Commission meeting minutes

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ATTACHMENTS:  
2025 0708 Sustainability\_Minutes



# Sustainability Commission

## Regular Meeting

### Minutes

335 South Broadway  
De Pere, WI 54115  
[www.deperewi.gov](http://www.deperewi.gov)

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

5:30 PM

Council Chambers/Virtual

I. Call to Order

1. Roll Call

Aldersperson Quigley called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

**Present:** Emily Henrigillis, Randall Lawton, Nicole Slavin, John Quigley

**Absent:**

**Excused:** Jayne Black, Carmen Van Schyndel, Rachel Weber, Anna Metzler

II. Public Comment on Matters not on the Agenda. Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. §6-3(f) DPMC

None

III. Items

1. Approval of the April 8, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Aldersperson Quigley moved to approve the April 8, 2025 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Lawton. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	John Quigley
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Randall Lawton
<b>AYES:</b>	Emily Henrigillis, Randall Lawton, Nicole Slavin, John Quigley
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Jayne Black, Carmen Van Schyndel, Rachel Weber, Anna Metzler

2. Discussion with Toni Burns Regarding Composting

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, introduced Toni Burns to further discuss her ideas for composting alternatives and food waste reduction.

Ms. Burns shared some articles and information she found about food waste in America. Mr. Kuffel stated that he would provide copies to the Commission of the articles Ms. Burns brought. Ms. Burns shared her belief that De Pere residents are forward thinking and prepared to bring about change on food waste and composting.

Commissioner Henrigillis asked Ms. Burns what her ideal composting program would look like for De Pere. Ms. Burns shared that she would like to see all homes, businesses, and schools composting within their location and added that she had brought the Mill Food Recycler forward to staff during initial discussions. Ms. Burns added that she would also like to see the food not be wasted and rather given to people in need or feed animals. Commissioner Henrigillis asked Ms. Burns how she composts. Ms. Burns

shared that she has a kitchen compost bucket and a bin in her yard with worms that she rotates to create her own compost matter. Ms. Burns shared that she would like to see composting and food waste reduction taught in the schools. Commissioner Henrigillis asked Ms. Burns if she knew about the City compost reimbursement program. Ms. Burns stated she did and shared how it works and her thoughts on it. Ms. Burns stated that she believes there would be interest from the community if a resolution could be found to create a home/community composting program that doesn't cost a lot of money.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

### 3. Discussion with Carrie Gillman Regarding Curbside Food Scrap Pickup Programs

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, introduced Carrie Gillman to further discuss her graduate degree project regarding curbside food scrap pickup programs.

Ms. Gillman shared her research on curbside food scrap pickup programs and why she believed De Pere was in a position to be successful with this type of program and how the City could use the finished product. Ms. Gillman offered to leave a one-page summary of her research with staff to share with the commission members.

Aldersperson Quigley moved to open the meeting for public comment at 5:49 PM, seconded by Commissioner Lawton. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Toni Burns, 1032 S. Seventh St, shared her interest in this type of program and her appreciation of Ms. Gillman for sharing.

Aldersperson Quigley commented that residents have indicated that environmental stewardship is often ranked highly in community surveys.

Commissioner Henrigillis asked if Ms. Gillman looked at anaerobic digesters as part of her project. Ms. Gillman stated that she did and added that they are pricey to build. Commissioner Henrigillis added that there are some in the immediate area and could be a viable option to add to a curbside service. Ms. Gillman added that digesters require a smaller footprint and can be placed on less-desirable/less-useful land.

Aldersperson Quigley moved to return to regular session at 5:51 PM, seconded by Commissioner Slavin. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

### 4. Composting Program Update

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, updated the Commission on the number of participants and budget status for the Composting Reimbursement Program. Mr. Kuffel shared the numbers from 2024 and also current numbers.

Commissioner Henrigillis asked if the individuals that have not participated in the City reimbursement program have also terminated services with Greener Bay Compost. Mr. Kuffel stated he would not know unless the resident had contacted the City to provide that information. Aldersperson Quigley stated that he subscribes to Greener Bay Compost services but has yet to turn in a receipt for reimbursement. Aldersperson Quigley asked if he was included in the number of current participants. Mr. Kuffel stated he was not because the City has not received invoices or receipts for reimbursement.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

5. Discussion on Pollinator Garden RFP

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, explained that staff sent out an RFP for Pollinator Gardens at Urban Orchards and did not receive any proposals back. Mr. Kuffel stated that staff received feedback from three companies regarding why they would not be submitting a proposal; this feedback is included in the agenda packet. Mr. Kuffel stated that the Commission will need to determine how to move forward with pollinator outreach/programming.

Commissioner Lawton shared his experience working with Will Dickinson on his personal pollinator garden. Commissioner Henrigillis suggested planting the pollinator gardens as a commission with the help of volunteers. Mr. Kuffel stated he would reach out to Mr. Dickinson to get quote or get an idea of what could be changed on RFP to get better participation. Mr. Kuffel asked Commissioner Henrigillis if the City would still issue an RFP for the plants and provide volunteer labor or if the Commission would do both the purchasing and planting in-house. Commissioner Henrigillis suggested doing the planting and purchasing in-house and offered to lead the program. Mr. Kuffel stated that staff will bring this item back at the next meeting to decide which avenue the Commission wishes to focus on between Mr. Dickinson or in-house. Commissioner Slavin suggested possibly splitting the RFP between plant supplier and labor supplier or offering a small salary to hire a crew to plant.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

6. Consideration and possible action on initiative advertising opportunities

Betty Marovich, Administrative Assistant, shared advertising opportunities and prices for the commission to consider for their sustainability initiatives. Opportunities included: City Newsletter, promotional swag, printed brochures, Reid Street banner, water bill inserts, movie theater ads, and radio ads. Ms. Marovich also suggested a partnership opportunity with City of Green Bay and/or Northeast Wisconsin. Ms. Marovich added that the pollinator gardens and advertising would come from the same budgeted amount of money.

Aldersperson Quigley asked if certain times are reserved for specific events. Ms. Marovich stated that certain blocks are set aside, to a degree, for recurring events such as the Brown County Fair. Aldersperson Quigley asked if the movie theater ad could be for a shorter duration than a year. Ms. Marovich stated she would ask if that was possible. Commissioner Henrigillis asked if the ad could change within the year at the theater. Ms. Marovich stated she would also ask that and get the information to the commissioners. Commissioner Henrigillis spoke in favor of having a printed brochure that outlined the current initiatives and the Reid Street banner.

No action taken.

7. Discussion on Sustainability Commission Initiative Prioritization

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, suggested tabling the item until the August meeting for further discussion.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

8. Clean Air Initiative Update

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, suggested tabling the item until the August meeting for further discussion.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

9. Adopt-a-Drain Update

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, explained the intent of this item is to provide the Commission an update regarding the City's Adopt-a-Drain program which currently has eight households participating with ten drains adopted.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

10. Discussion on Planned Natural Landscape Resources

Betty Marovich, Administrative Assistant, stated the intent of this item is to allow for discussion on moving forward with creating planned natural landscape resources for resident use. Ms. Marovich shared a couple different options for presenting information, including offering generalized information or personalized to City sites. Ms. Marovich provided options for how personalized information could be obtained including social media call-outs/requests and windshield surveys. Ms. Marovich stated that if the Commission decided to move forward with offering this information, they would have to decide if it would be presented as a magazine, online resource, walking/driving tour, or video tour with interviews. Ms. Marovich stated that the resource should include locations, photos, species information and benefits, along with plants to avoid.

Commissioner Slavin spoke in favor of offering a video walking tour of locations with interviews. Commissioner Slavin added that residents with these types of spaces would most likely be willing to share what they have done and be included.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

11. City Pollinator Week Proclamation

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, stated that at the June 3, 2025 Common Council Meeting, Mayor Boyd issued the proclamation declaring that June 16-22, 2025 be City Pollinator Week.

Commissioner Lawton asked if it was the same as 2024. Mr. Kuffel stated it was with updated dates and stated it would likely be done annually moving forward.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

12. Discussion on June Farmer's Market

Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer, stated this item is to allow the Commission a chance to share their experience at the June 19 Farmers Market. At this event, the Mulva Cultural Center partnered with the City to spread the word about pollinators. Multiple hands-on activities were offered including seed paper making and seed bombs, along with a pollinator themed raffle. Mr. Kuffel shared that a few pictures were included in the packet that were taken by the social media and video production team.

Aldersperson Quigley and Commissioner Henrigillis spoke in favor of seed bomb making and its popularity with guests. Commissioner Henrigillis offered her struggle with the limited number of city residents that attend the events. Betty Marovich, Administrative Assistant, suggested speaking with the Park Department about setting up a booth at the weekly Beer Garden. Commissioner Slavin spoke in favor of a booth at Beer Garden and stated that individuals at Beer Garden spend more time at the event compared to Farmers Market and would allow for increased discussions. Commissioner Henrigillis shared her belief that the Master Gardener's Open House at Locktenders should appeal to city residents for participation. Commissioner Slavin shared a personal experience with the seed bombs at the June

market. Commissioner Lawton stated that sharing the information is important, no matter where the guest is from.

Ms. Marovich shared the information for the July 17 market, which is stormwater themed and will include a stormwater model and stormwater pinko game offered by NEWSC (Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium) and a recording from a storm inlet to the Fox River to play on loop. Commissioner Lawton asked if stormwater pond benefits are highlighted. Mr. Kuffel stated that the model shows how materials flow across a landscape and where they are deposited including stormwater retention ponds, rivers, lakes, etc.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

13. Consideration and possible action on election of Chairperson

Commissioner Slavin nominated Commissioner Henrigillis for Sustainability Commission Chairperson. Commissioner Henrigillis accepted the nomination. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Nicole Slavin
<b>SECONDER:</b>	None
<b>AYES:</b>	Emily Henrigillis, Randall Lawton, Nicole Slavin, John Quigley
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Jayne Black, Rachel Weber, Carmen Van Schyndel, Anna Metzler

14. Consideration and possible action on election of Vice Chairperson

Aldersperson Quigley nominated Commissioner Slavin for Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Slavin rejected the nomination.

Betty Marovich, Administrative Assistant, explained the process moving forward if a chairperson or vice chairperson were not elected. Ms. Marovich suggested tabling the election of the vice chairperson until the August meeting anticipating higher attendance.

Commissioner Slavin moved to table the vice chairperson election until the August Sustainability Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lawton. Upon roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Nicole Slavin
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Randall Lawton
<b>AYES:</b>	Emily Henrigillis, Randall Lawton, Nicole Slavin, John Quigley
<b>EXCUSED:</b>	Jayne Black, Rachel Weber, Carmen Van Schyndel, Anna Metzler

IV. Adjournment

Mr. Kuffel recapped the agenda items that would be presented at the August Sustainability Commission meeting.

Aldersperson Quigley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 PM, seconded by Commissioner Henrigillis. Upon vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Marovich



**City of De Pere, Wisconsin**

**III.2**

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and possible action on election of Vice Chairperson  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends nominating and electing a vice chairperson

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**ATTACHMENTS:**  
None



**City of De Pere, Wisconsin**

**III.3**

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** C.A. Lawton Company Presentation  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** No action recommended

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**ATTACHMENTS:**  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Lawton\_Green\_Tier\_Presentation

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



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To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Green Tier 2 presentation by C.A. Lawton Company**

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The C.A. Lawton Company executives have accepted the invitation to present on their Green Tier 2 status with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Compared to Green Tier 1, Tier 2 involves more rigorous participation requirements, emphasizing superior environmental performance. The C.A. Lawton Company became the first foundry ever to achieve this level of sustainability in 2021. Prior to achieving the Tier 2 status, Lawton had been a Tier 1 participant in the Green Tier program since 2013.



**City of De Pere, Wisconsin**

**III.4**

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and Possible action on Clean Energy Work Plan  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff does not have a recommendation and will leave it up to the Commission.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Clean\_Energy, Baseline Goals, Draft for Budget Request

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



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To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Consideration and Possible action on Clean Energy Work Plan**

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For discussion, Commissioner Weber provided the attached baseline goals and draft budget request for the clean energy work plan.

## **Attachments**

Clean Energy Baseline Goals  
Clean Energy Draft Budget Request

## **Baseline**

All the plans start with a carbon footprint for municipal buildings and for the community as a whole. They often have this category subdivided between the two sectors and broken down further with commercial/ industrial separated because the recommendations often depend on the level of control. The baselines usually provide consumption and emission profiles for; electricity and natural gas use in buildings, transportation and mobile sources, residential energy, commercial and industrial energy, and emissions associated with methane at the landfill, solid waste and wastewater processing. We anticipate heavy efforts from us on the commission in gathering this data for your analyses.

## **Future Growth Considerations**

Eau Claire relied on Xcel energy in making an assumption of 1% economic and population growth. We believe De Pere may have more complex development opportunities to consider, so we are interested in a build out analysis of the possible needs based on the current zoning allowed by the comprehensive plan or known developments that are either planned or in progress. One example is the South Bridge expansion project and how that could encourage growth. We may be able to access some data on this through and EIS if one was prepared by WISDot. The main question we hope to answer is, would our future needs affect the capacity of services for our region or the targets for clean energy?

## **Municipal Building Audits**

Green Bay utilized Slipstream to perform energy audits of their municipal buildings and make resulting recommendations. We do think this could be important for initiatives such as achieving LEED certification. Our understanding is that WPS already contracts with a company and performs these as part of their services. Depending on the quality of those audits, this may or may not be part of our scope.

## **Carbon Capture**

Identify locations for reforestation and calculate the carbon capture potential of that initiative.

## **District Heating Potential**

Could the power station at the De Pere energy center utilize combined heat and power?

## **Geothermal**

Our region is not a perfect candidate for conventional geothermal power generation and would have to use enhanced geothermal systems to achieve those needs. But we would be interested in understanding the feasibility of our region for residential and commercial geothermal heat-pump use. The recently construction Mulva Center installed a system

that found fairly shallow bedrock which could prove that it is more viable than previously thought. Thermal conductivity studies are costly, but could their results, as well as others, help formulate an assessment?

### **Solar**

We would like to identify potential candidate sites for community solar and industrial/municipal buildings with high potential.

### **What we plan to do with the results**

I have attached our draft financial proposal for the Common Council because it gives an idea of how we are organizing this process. Congruent to gathering an emissions baseline, we will conduct townhall workshops to generate community input. From there we will develop a steering committee to take workshop suggestions and assess against feasibility, equity, and other community identified values. The analyses generated from this study will be key to forming actions and initiatives.

A goal may be to calculate energy cost savings from many of these initiatives. In the plans we saw, often when the energy savings were guaranteed, a city was able to leverage the subsequent cost savings to pay back the initial cost of the upgrades or projects.



# Request for Financial Contribution

Sustainability Commission Clean Energy Work Plan

JUNE 2024

## REPRESENTATIVES

Commissioner Quigly

Commissioner Black

Commissioner Henry-Gillis

Commissioner Lawton

Commissioner Slavin

Commissioner Weber

Advisor Dragseth



## Purpose & Background

The De Pere Common Council approved the City of De Pere Sustainability Commission's Work Plan on December 6, 2021 following the Clean Energy Resolution #21-87 passed on August 17th, 2021. Pursuant to the directives of resolution #21-87 that "the City will advance energy efficiency and conservation projects, programs and outreach as a means of rapidly reducing the need for centralized fossil energy generation" with intent that "the city of De Pere will account for these goals in its future budget cycles and will collaborate with the De Pere Sustainability Commission to develop a work plan which identifies cost-effective measures to transition to clean energy and net-zero carbon emissions".

The actions prioritized in the work plan include a city baseline assessment and inventory to analyze the City's greenhouse gas emissions. Consistent with the allowable actions in the work plan, the Sustainability Commission is requesting funds to implement the initiation of a baseline study. This funding request is contingent upon the availability of grant opportunities that the Commission has identified in the sections below.

Further activities developed in the Work Plan are to be taken by the Sustainability Commission to be executed congruent to the baseline assessment preparation. We are initiating public involvement to identify stakeholders and community values to inform the objectives and community targets of subsequent surveys.



## Project Scope

This funding request is to actuate what the Commission has identified as the first phase. This phase consists of initiating a baseline study and organizing initial public involvement meetings followed by a distribution of community and stakeholder surveys.

The action items directly funded by this request are highlighted below. A timeline of the project's cumulative scope has been included to inform the Council of where in the process the requested funding will be utilized. The actions where funding will be attributed to are labeled as direct, and those actions following the first phase are labeled as indirect. The Commission stresses the importance of securing funding for the first phase because the indirect actions are not simply followed in time but are contingent upon the completion of the first phase actions. The completion of all actions are heavily contingent on the information gathered during the baseline assessment, community involvement, and surveys. At this time, the indirect actions are not anticipated to require additional financial requests.



## Project Timeline

The following actions are driven by the requirements of the work plan. The general outcomes specified in the work plan will be adhered to with the focus matching the sustainability goals put forth in the following authorities.

Clean Energy Resolution #21-87 to “develop a work plan which identifies cost-effective measures to transition to clean energy and net zero carbon emissions”. The provisions for the “Natural Step Process” laid out in the City’s Comprehensive plan that aim to make De Pere an “eco-municipality” through balancing the needs of growth without compromise to future generations.

The Commission will use adaptive management assessments to make adjustments to the methods and timeframes if warranted by the information gained through expert and community collaboration.

Direct	Conduct a baseline assessment of the City of De Pere’s greenhouse gas emissions utilizing resources such as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol	XX/XX/20XX
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	(Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories)	
<b>Direct</b>	<p>In accordance with the work plan’s commitment to “Solicit feedback from the community on specific possible actions towards transitioning to carbon neutrality before passing a final resolution.” The Sustainability Commission will begin planning to host a series of townhall meetings on categories of focus as part of the work plan’s goal to conduct research for the purpose of compiling a white paper report. The specific objectives of the work plan that are the target of these meetings are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scientific evidence for community benefits of reducing greenhouse emissions;</li> <li>2. Possible goals for reaching carbon neutrality;</li> <li>3. Discuss energy conservation;</li> <li>4. Receive stakeholder input for economic and tax rate considerations: the cost of the initial transition vs. the cost of doing nothing, the long-term economic benefits to renewable energy;</li> </ol>	XX/XX/20XX
<b>Direct</b>	Formulate surveys by various modes of delivery to community members, and local industry and business representatives, and other stakeholders identified through the preceding town hall meetings. The responses and comments generated from the town hall meetings will also be used to identify lines of questioning to be addressed by the surveys.	XX/XX/20XX
<b>Indirect</b>	Following the report’s presentation and discussion at the City Council, the Sustainability Commission may submit a resolution with stated recommendations with consideration to feedback from the Council that outlines our target dates and goals for a transition to carbon neutrality.	XX/XX/20XX
<b>Indirect</b>	As suggested in the Work plan, a potential passage of a resolution outlining goals towards the transition to carbon neutrality	XX/XX/20XX

Indirect	The Sustainability Commission may work with city staff and any key stakeholders to develop a Renewable Energy Action Plan. In order to comply with the mandate that the Commission will facilitate community input in the formation of a Renewable Energy Action Plan, the additional intent of the town hall meetings and surveys will be for the formation of a steering committee. This committee will work with the Commission and consist of interested stakeholders including but not limited to subject experts, educators, community members, and representatives of local industry and development.	XX/XX/20XX
Indirect	Utilize the Green Tier Sustainability scoresheet (and the City's 2019 baseline) as a guideline for choosing projects that Commissioners agree would advance the sustainability goals of the City, while also improving the City's score each year.	XX/XX/20XX
Indirect	Work with City staff to determine current levels of renewable energy versus other energy sources and identify any existing efforts to transition, cost estimates, and barriers to transition.	Continuing
Indirect	Prior to and following any resolution that states specific goals, the Sustainability Commission may work to identify and recommend any other policy suggestions or programmatic opportunities to encourage the use of renewable energy in the city.	Continuing
Indirect	The Sustainability Commission may engage and collaborate with other local and tribal governments in the region, the State of Wisconsin (DNR Green Tier Legacy Community Program), and the federal government (Environmental Protection Agency), higher education (e.g., St. Norbert College), business and industry to encourage progress towards these goals.	Continuing
Indirect	The Sustainability Commission may constantly be identifying funding opportunities from grants, public-private partnerships, possible city budget requests, or any other opportunities that become available.	Continuing



## Budget

TBD: The Commission requests \$XX,XXX allocated from City Funding or unassigned reserves to complete the project. This figure is derived from a cost breakdown provided by energy efficiency consultants and engineers and from the City of Green Bay's costs associated with their work plan.



## Grant Funding Sources

The Commission will work with \_\_\_\_\_ at the Office of the Mayor to secure grant funding as the preferred financial resource over city provided funds.

1. Planning grant through the Office of Energy Innovation (OEI) at the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC)
2. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant - Cities, towns and villages with a population less than 35,000 or those that are not one of the ten most populous cities in the state can apply for EECBG funds through their state. The law requires each state to pass through at least 60 percent of the total EECBG funding it receives to cities and counties that do not receive funding directly from DOE.
3. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund related opportunities
4. BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) sponsored opportunities.



**City of De Pere, Wisconsin**

**III.5**

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Update on Composting Reimbursement Program Quarter 2  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** No action necessary. Discussion only.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Composting

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Sustainability Commission  
 From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
 Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Update on Composting Reimbursement Program Quarter 2**

The intent of this item is to provide an update regarding the Composting Reimbursement Program being ran by the City of De Pere for those residents who remain subscribed for composting services.

### Background

At the end of 2024, there were 62 residents registered with the City of De Pere who subscribed through private composting services. Once the City started the compost reimbursement program in 2025, the program has seen the following participation numbers:

Month	Every-4-Week Subscribers	Every-Other-Week Subscribers	Total Subscribers	City Participation
January	16	21	37	\$459
February	15	21	36	\$450
March	15	22	37	\$465
April	11	18	29	\$369
May	10	18	28	\$360
June	9	18	27	\$351
Total 2025 Participation:				\$2,445

In total, over \$13,000 remains in the 2025 budget for the Composting Reimbursement Program. To gauge the impact of requiring the W-9 form, Staff has been tracking the membership levels and the drivers behind residents discontinuing their participation in the program:

Month	Joined	No W-9	Confirmed Cancellation	Stopped Submitting (Unknown)	Net Change
February	+1		-1	-1	-1
March	+1				+1
April		-4	-1	-3	-8
May			-1		-1
June			-1		-1



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.6

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and possible action on 2026 Budget Request  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff recommends moving forward with the proposed budget request with the outlined changes from 2025.

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ATTACHMENTS:  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Budget

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Consideration and possible action on 2026 Budget Request**

City staff is preparing the 2026 budget. The following is the proposed 2026 budget for the Sustainability Commission:

- \$10,000 for operating supplies for community sustainability initiatives
- \$12,000 for consulting services
- \$3,000 for office supplies (Farmers Market, mailers, supplies for other programs)
- \$1,000 to provide funding for the commissioners to attend various seminars or conferences pertaining to sustainability.
- \$500 for postage for mailings pertaining to the Commission's sustainable initiatives.
- \$200 for mileage reimbursement for commissioners that may travel to training or conferences pertaining to sustainability.

The \$26,700 in funding listed above mirrors the approved budget for 2025. In 2025, the \$12,000 for consulting services was used for the composting reimbursement program and \$1,500 of the \$3,000 office supply budget was allocated for air monitors.

## **Recommendation**

Staff recommends moving forward with the proposed budget request with the following changes from 2025:

- \$12,000 consulting services budget switches from the compost reimbursement program to a general consulting services item. Staff envisions holding monthly or quarterly open-door presentations to the public about Sustainability Commission Initiatives (e.g. How to Compost at Home, DIY Bee Hotel, Native Seed Harvesting, Urban Orchard Harvest Day, etc).
- The \$1,500 for air monitors becomes unallocated office supplies which can be used for Farmers Market supplies, mailers, and supplies for monthly/quarterly programs.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.7

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and possible action on Sustainability Commission Initiatives and Draft Work Plan  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff does not have a recommendation and will leave it up to the Commission.

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ATTACHMENTS:  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Initiatives, Sustainability Commission Initiative Evaluations, DRAFT De Pere Sustainability Commission Work Plan

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



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To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Consideration and possible action on Sustainability Commission Initiatives and Draft Work Plan**

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At the April 11, 2025 Sustainability Commission meeting, it was discussed that the present commissioners would complete the draft prioritization forms for each of the current Sustainability Commission Initiatives. Completed forms were to then be forwarded to Commissioner Van Schyndel for review and ranking. The intent of this item is to review the results of the prioritization and discuss how the forms worked. Based off the evaluations provided, Commissioner Van Schyndel created the draft Sustainability Commission Work Plan for the commission's consideration.

### **Attachments**

Sustainability Commission Initiative Evaluations  
Draft Sustainability Commission Work Plan

## Evaluation Criteria for Assessing Current and New Initiatives

### 1. Alignment with Mission

- Does this initiative fit within the current goals of the Commission and its powers and duties?
- Does it promote a sustainable, livable, and healthy De Pere community?
- Does it contribute to sustainability in key areas such as energy, natural resources, food waste, or pollution reduction?

### 2. Community Impact

- How will this initiative improve environmental quality, health, or prosperity for residents?
- Does it address current or future sustainability challenges in the city?
- Are there measurable outcomes tied to the impact of this initiative?

### 3. Opportunities for Engagement

- Does it provide opportunities for residents or stakeholders to actively participate or offer feedback?
- Does it create potential partnerships with private entities, schools, or organizations?
- How do we get the word out to the public?

### 4. Feasibility of Effort and Maintenance

- Are there sufficient resources, funding, or partnerships available to support this initiative?
- Is it realistic to implement and maintain over time?
- Do we have sufficient knowledge to act, or is further research required before moving forward?
- What is the anticipated time of impact?
- What is the current goal? Final goal?
- What is the cost and return on investment?

### 5. Alignment with Broader Goals

- Is the initiative consistent with federal, state, and local sustainability policies and regulations?
- Does it complement existing city programs or fill critical gaps?

### 6. Public Concern

- Does this initiative respond to known issues or feedback from the community?

### 7. Leadership Capacity

- Is there clear leadership and capacity to manage and successfully execute this initiative?

## Sec. 10-10. Sustainability commission.

(a) *Purpose.* The protection, stewardship, improvement, and promotion of the environment is a public necessity and is required in the interest of health, prosperity, safety, and welfare of the De Pere community for present and future generations. The sustainability commission is hereby established to explore sustainability initiatives that can be implemented in the city, with the ultimate goal of providing a more sustainable, livable, and healthy community.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Commission* means the sustainability commission.

*Sustainability* means the avoidance of the depletion of natural resources, in order to maintain an ecological balance.

(c) *Commission composition.*

(1) *Creation.* The commission is hereby created, consisting of seven members. Of the membership and if available in the community, one shall be an alderperson and six shall be individuals who live in or work in the city. All members shall have demonstrated interest in environmental stewardship; sustainable business practices, development or technology; green building and design; renewable energy; energy efficient transportation; and recycling and waste management. To the extent possible, members appointed shall represent a diverse range of interest and expertise in sustainability, economic backgrounds and interests, and ethnic and cultural affiliations, including educators and students in the aforementioned fields.

(2) *Advisory members.* Two advisory seats on the commission are hereby created to which persons of high school age may be appointed by the mayor. The selection process for such appointment shall be approved by the commission. The persons appointed to the teen advisory seats shall be non-voting members of the commission whose seats and presence shall not be counted for purposes of a quorum.

(3) *Appointment.* The mayor shall appoint the commissioners, subject to confirmation by the common council. Of the initial members appointed, one shall serve a term of one year, two shall serve a term of two years, and two shall serve a term of three years; the alderperson shall finish his or her term. Thereafter, the term for each member shall be three years, except for the alderperson who shall serve a term of two years. Each member is subject to the code of ethics as outlined in this Code.

(d) *Officers, meetings and rules of procedure.* The officers of the commission shall be a chair and vice-chair, elected by majority vote of the commission. The chair shall preside at meetings of the commission and shall have the right to vote. The vice-chair shall, in case of absence or disability of the chair, perform the duties of the chair. Officers shall serve for terms of one year or until their successors are regularly elected and take office. The commission shall hold meetings at such time as it deems necessary and shall also meet upon the call of the chair. The commission shall meet not less than four times each calendar year. Four members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

(e) *Powers and duties.* The basic function of the commission shall be the promotion of sustainable initiatives through the following powers and duties:

(1) Make recommendations to the mayor and the common council with regard to federal and state policies, budgets, and regulations related to sustainable policies and practices relative to the environment, including, but not limited to, natural resources, energy, food waste, hazardous materials and pollution;

(2) Advise or recommend municipal efforts to engage citizen participation and promote a broad range of sustainable initiatives and events;

(3) Consult with private entities, higher education institutions, and the community with regard to the city's sustainable initiatives;

(4) Support efforts to unite and focus city or other municipal programs as they relate to sustainable initiatives;

(5) Work on sustainability related projects as directed by any commissioner after approval by the commission or the common council, city manager, or city staff;

(6) Provide a forum for addressing public concerns related to sustainable policies and practices.

(Code 2001, § 10-13; Ord. No. 18-13, § 1, 7-17-2018; Ord. No. 21-16, § 3, 7-20-2021; Ord. No. 23-12, § 1, 9-19-2023; Ord. No. 24-18, § 4, 9-17-2024)

"Adopt-a-Drain" Initiative

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
Alignment with Mission	Emily	Yes - supports resource conservation and reducing water pollution, promoting sustainability.	None	None
	Carmen	Yes	None	None
	Rachel	Yes-High- SLHC ( I use this acronym for Safe, lifable, healthy Community as defined in our mission), by reducing pollution pollution	None	None
Community Impact	Emily	Improves water quality and benefits public health and the environment, but lacks detailed measurable outcomes or quantifiable community impact.	Limited tracking of broad, measurable outcomes tied to environmental improvements.	Define success metrics, such as the number of drains adopted or improvements in water quality data. - the purchase of small P checker to measure outflows would give us scientific data to go with our people data
	Carmen	Potential for community involvement	-No tangible benefits for participants -No clear KPIs or goals	-Define success metrics -Marketing plan -Develop 'value prop' for participants
	Rachel	Yes- Med- Ways to measure, Alleviates Nutrient overload. Community might not see direct benefits	Yes- We need to make the community aware of how this benefits them	Do we have any problematic places that we can target and show the issues?
Opportunities for Engagement	Emily	Provides residents the opportunity to adopt drains but lacks widespread visibility or active community involvement initiatives.	Insufficient public awareness and limited engagement efforts.	Develop an outreach strategy - currently doing Farmers Markets, looking to do a large banner, have created videos - I really think passive engagement ie murals/stencil with paint would help
	Carmen	Yes - opportunity for engagement	No awareness, limited participation	-Survey to gauge interest -Marketing plan -Swag for participants -Pilot with small group?
	Rachel	Yes- High- Opportunities for public participation, collaboration with neighbors	Yes- No incentives for engagement. We are only reaching people that already care about the issue. We	I still am really voting for my bumper sticker idea ("proud parent of a storm sewer drain"). Could we get some competitive incentive (percentage off water bill, I know that's

"Adopt-a-Drain" Initiative

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
		and schools, collaboration with other organizations like Sweetwater	have to recognize that most won't see it's inherent value as a reason to take the time.	a stretch). Dickinson School is really successful in their competition and challenge initiatives, We could start with them since they have a good culture for this. Could we get some neighborhood competition going?  Could we find another community to compete with?
Feasibility and Sustainability of Effort	Emily	Requires minimal resources and is realistic to implement and maintain.	None	None
	Carmen	Feasible, low effort	Unsure	Unsure
	Rachel	Yes- Med- Takes some effort but we already have some things in place like FM, social media as places to start and do the most work for us.	Yes- currently not advertising well	We could use bumper stickers to advertise. A flyer in your water bill. Also instagram, tik tok, etc. The video Emily made is so funny and we should distribute it more heavily.  School demonstrations  Commission could be helping to create posts and share them
Alignment with Broader Goals	Emily	Aligns with local goals around improving water quality and reducing pollution - meets a goal of the MS4 permit for outreach and education	None	More outreach - partner with Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance and NEWSC to get the word out more. NEWSC works for the City of De Pere
	Carmen	Unsure	Unsure	Unsure - not my area of expertise
	Rachel	yes - High-MS4 permit	None	Could the city help inform us of any specific MS4 permit benefits. Does this help any floodplain regs ( I haven't attempted to research this at all yet)?

**"Adopt-a-Drain" Initiative**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Gaps Identified</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
<b>Public Concerns</b>	<b>Emily</b>	Addresses concerns around stormwater pollution, though this may not be a publicly recognized top-tier environmental issue in De Pere.	Is this a publicly recognized environmental issue in De Pere - yes	The Green Bay is an Area of Concern (AOC) and everything that we can do to slow and eliminate pollution hitting our streams can aid in improving the bay
	<b>Carmen</b>	Agree with Emily - do we know if this is an area of top public concern?	Unsure	Survey to understand top public concerns
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- High in my opinion although not of general public. This initiative has ability to address city concerns if there are any.	Yes- We need to make community aware of the issues and engage them for feedback	Use social media for engagement but also feedback. Maybe ask for pictures of the most clogged drain in your neighborhood on social media or something.
<b>Leadership Capacity</b>	<b>Emily</b>	Between the MS4 permitting, Emily (me!), and the use of partners, I believe we have the capacity to continue this program	None	Partner with NEWSOC and Fox Wolf more
	<b>Carmen</b>	Not my area of expertise	Unsure	Evaluate if we have leadership capacity on the commission
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes -High potential- Commission can easily invest in digital outreach.	Yes- No currently doing much outreach	Decide on fun incentives and ways to advertise and make deadlines for outreach (I need deadlines personally)

**COMPOSTING**

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Alignment with Mission</b>	<b>Emily</b>	This program does align with our mission	Low participation	
	<b>Carmen</b>	Yes	None	None
	<b>Rachel</b>	No- it does help promote SLHC but does not advance other mission to provide sustainability guidance to city.	Yes does not have enough people to really be contributing to SLHC.	Prob Greener Bay Compost owner for info on how he citing his composting facility. This is something he said he had a lot of knowledge on and could be a good jumping off point for the commission to make recommendations on locating a site that zoning should allow for the city to compost in the future.
<b>Community Impact</b>	<b>Emily</b>	This program does have a good impact on the community, however the cost is very high for the city with little return on their investment	More outreach and awareness needed.	
	<b>Carmen</b>	-Agree with Emily -Great story here, good impact on the community, but ROI story isn't great for the city. -Good measurable outcomes in terms of data/tracking waste diversion.	-Low participation -Supportive two-way partnership with composting organization -Process improvements needed to remove barriers to participate	None
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- but participation is not high enough for a real impact. Does allow for tracking to share outcomes and apply them to larger scale predictions.	Yes- low participation	Chase shared that the amount of diversion is not cost effective for the amount of cost. We can use the volume measurements to try and get an idea of what could be profitable for the city to implement itself if it were to have a compost site available. In order to do this we should discuss what the tipping fees are and what future predictions for fees could be and at what point implementing this program or our own with the city could be cost effective.

**COMPOSTING**

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Opportunities for Engagement</b>	<b>Emily</b>	We focus a farmers market booth on it. We get cross promotion through Greener Bay's social media. A school in De Pere has partnered with Greener Bay compost	Need more outreach	
	<b>Carmen</b>	-Provides opportunities for community engagement. -Super simple for participants to use the services - makes composting easy!	-Need more outreach -OR Need different partner organization	-Continue researching alternative partners or initiatives to fulfill composting goals as a commission. -Marketing plan for increased participation.
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- This was a good partnership with community stakeholders and residents	Yes- did not advertise well or maybe was a confusing format.	Since we may be shifting away from this, we should consider trying to host a Q&A at the FM booth for home composting. We should also try and identify other farms that may accept compost. On the general topic of landfill alternatives we could tour the recycling facility that our waste goes to to understand what types of material they can accept etc. Then we could do a recycling challenge at the FM.
<b>Feasibility and Sustainability of Effort</b>	<b>Emily</b>	The cost to offer this program is much higher than the return on investment	Lack of participation	Wrap up this year, do a comparison similar to 2024 and then make a decision to continue the program or not
	<b>Carmen</b>	Agree with Emily - ROI doesn't make sense	Large effort from city staff, minimal effort from commission	Agree with Emily's recommendation - review at end of 2024 and decide to continue or not.
	<b>Rachel</b>	No- was a confusing process and problematic interactions with city staff.	Yes- effort not paying off for participation levels	
<b>Alignment with Broader Goals</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I do believe it does align with federal, state, and local policies and it does fill a gap		
	<b>Carmen</b>	Yes	None	None
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- City does want to focus on reducing waste	None	We could reach out to DNR for help with setbacks and regs instead of probing Cory.

## COMPOSTING

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
Public Concerns	Emily	It does have known issues. If you follow the community social media pages - people are unhappy with the service, not due to the service but due to the owner of the program		See above recommendation. This is a partner that a lot of folks have concerns about - they just offer a service that isn't otherwise offered
	Carmen	-Unsure if the community cares about composting - no clear feedback from community members on this topic. -Concerns from public about business owner's professionalism and hesitation to partner with the business.	-Supportive partner	Agree with Emily's evaluation and recommendation. Continue to evaluate participation in the program, set KPIs to monitor success of the initiative. Also need to address reimbursement process - currently not 'user friendly' and if not easy then we will likely see reduced participation.
	Rachel	Have not heard feedback on this program itself. At one FM we had a lot of residents say they do practice composting or are very interested.	Yes- we are currently not getting community feedback on this program or general reasons that are holding them back from composting themselves.	Use FM booths to put our survey cards about recycling participation and composting participation.
Leadership Capacity	Emily	The program is run mostly by Greener Bay Compost but there is a lot of work that city staff have to do to maintain it		
	Carmen	Agree with Emily's above comment.	Cumbersome process for city staff.	See above - evaluate participation based on KPIs developed to determine future of the initiative.
	Rachel	High effort currently. Some of my ideas about trying to provide compost citing guidance to city would also require a deep dive into regs (sounds fun to me and a good GIS project opportunity)	Yes- we could identify new leadership goals if we maybe shift the focus but still keep the landfill alternative initiative	Commission could research regs to help identify any potential good spot for compost facility for future and city could help with predictions of future tipping fees to understand at what point it could be profitable.

**CLEAN AIR**

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Alignment with Mission</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I do believe this program aligns with our mission however I think the current iteration of the program is outside its powers and duties		Change approach - schools are not where we should be focusing our efforts. I think park and rides, long term parking areas, a big sign in West De Pere would help this program
	<b>Carmen</b>	Yes - aligned with mission	Have tried with this initiative for a while with no success, need to shift focus	Shift focus - What is the outcome we are trying to achieve? What is our target?
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- contributes to one mission objective of SLHC through pollution reduction but does not offer guidance to the city for sustainability.	Gaps- efforts to SLHC have faced pitfalls that could require trying new options but I think focus is still good.	Commission members may have been provided a verbal approval for participation in schools but we may need to get official approval through other official channels where we need the designation of "district sponsored".
<b>Community Impact</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I do this it would improve environmental quality and health. However, to see these improvements, large changes would need to happen	No measurable outcomes	Improve walking and bike travel in the city, offer shuttles for east and west De Pere - basically find other ways to get folks to drive less
	<b>Carmen</b>	Not sure we can even measure	-How to measure -No KPIs -Unsure if community cares about this topic	-Survey community -Create program that has achievable and measurable outcomes, or shift focus to focus on awareness
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- Research shows the impact of no idling. It could be reasonable to assume that a state with low temperatures has substantial enough idling to see a benefit from this effort. But there are currently no measurements being taken.	Yes- we need community buy in possibly through showing there is a problem. (even though current research is clear to show conceptually this is a problem everywhere)	This initiative originally sounds like it was focused to stop idling in school parking lots, but has shifted to providing air monitors. In order to be measurable we may need to officially define that there are two objectives and if so that there can be outcomes to share.  School district probably unlikely to let us take baseline measurements, but could any parent technically take their own measurement? I don't want to skirt any rules? What authority does the city have or be willing to subscribe to to take a measurement on city owned land adjacent to parking lots.

**CLEAN AIR**

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
				Could we ask Lamers to allow us to assess their emissions in their parking lot?
<b>Opportunities for Engagement</b>	<b>Emily</b>	This program tried its best to partner with private entities but those partners did not jump on board and now it feels like we're beating a dead horse	Need more engagement	We tried bumper stickers but I've only seen the one on my car in the wild. Need to take a different approach
	<b>Carmen</b>	Unsure	Unsure	Unsure of goal of the initiative - are we targeting engagement? Awareness?
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- has high potential to get schools or bus lines to engage in making a change	Yes- facing roadblocks to school district	There is an official process for getting approval to be a district sponsored initiative or event.  If we just want to get a movement going. I think we should provide bumper stickers with the no idle declaration. When you are waiting in line and you see something that maybe says de pere is promoting this, it could change people's actions.
<b>Feasibility and Sustainability of Effort</b>	<b>Emily</b>	There is not much cost that has gone into the program. Money was earmarked to order air monitors but it still has not happened		I don't believe this program excites the whole commission the way other programs do, so I do believe the program isn't sustainable for the commission
	<b>Carmen</b>	Unsure	Unsure	Agree with Emily
	<b>Rachel</b>	Air monitors does not seem feasible to continue to implement and track		Shift back to awareness of no idling. This is easier for commission to help with or maybe staff to support us.
<b>Alignment with Broader Goals</b>	<b>Emily</b>	It does align with federal and state policies		
	<b>Carmen</b>	Agree	Unsure	Unsure
	<b>Rachel</b>	In alignment with SB 444 but I am unsure of status of this proposed legislation		

**CLEAN AIR**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Evaluator</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Gaps Identified</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
<b>Public Concerns</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I think there has been push back from the schools based on how we first communicated with them. I don't think those concerns exist anymore but the program has taken a back seat to other programs		
	<b>Carmen</b>	Unsure if there is even public concern around this topic - do they see clean air as something that they care about? If so, what would interest them to make an impact?	Gap is not having clear view of public's concern on this topic	Survey
	<b>Rachel</b>	No- public has not reached out with this concern but probably should be.	Yes- we have not solicited any feedback	It is likely that community would push back about no idling in cold weather even though the short amount of time waiting would not be a safety concern, but if we want to continue this push for no idling we should provide data on our website debunking that a car could get to unsafe cold temps if turned off in a school lot. And alternatively have info about hot conditions and if we ever get into the schools to get their ear, ask for designated shaded waiting areas for parents so that they don't sit in their cars.
<b>Leadership Capacity</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I don't think there is the capacity to run this program. I don't believe the city employees have the time to do it and it doesn't feel like the commissioners as a whole have interest in doing the outreach needed		
	<b>Carmen</b>	Unsure	Unsure	Need to evaluate program shift and then evaluate leadership capacity with new goals.
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- there is potential to keep up with the idling initiative. I am unsure what the commission can implement further with the air monitors because we cannot monitor the impact without going in the schools.		

Clean Energy Resolution/ Renewable Energy Work Plan

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Alignment with Mission</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I believe this program aligns with the commission's mission	Lack of knowledge in the community	Partner with groups like Master Gardeners and Wild Ones to further the word about the program
	<b>Carmen</b>	Yes	Agree with Emily	Agree with Emily - need to find a way to partner to educate on the topic to better align with multiple parts of the commission's mission
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- SLHC and offers ways to promote sustainability of pollinators	Yes- I believe we should double down on this effort and grow it.	Promote this by integrating with other efforts such as the community apple orchards and the gardens. We have an opportunity to tap into De Pere's gardener culture that truly already exists and even to farming in the area. This could get taken further to advise on linear landscape corridors that should be protected from growth.
<b>Community Impact</b>	<b>Emily</b>	We are replacing lawn with pollinator habitat - people don't like No Mow May and this is an alternative	Lack of knowledge on the importance of native plants and pollinators	Keep track of folks who have added native plants - you don't have to apply with the city so maybe a survey? Another option could be we track how much outreach we do - we have been invited to the Master Gardener Locktenders Garden event in addition to our farmers market booths
	<b>Carmen</b>	Potential to have great community impact - not clearly defined or received by community yet	Lack of community knowledge on the topic	-Education campaign? -Advisor services to community members that want to learn more on their own? -Marketing
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- can impact the reduction of fertilizers thus promoting sustainable land use. Could also promote SLHC through community collaboration (see recommendations in engagement)	Not defining which targets we want to measure.	Define how we will measure the effectiveness of the community garden. Does Rooted In have data on the apple health or numbers of the orchard that is located adjacent?  Survey residents on locations of rain gardens or planned natural landscapes to get an idea of participation (we can ask in the survey when installed etc)

Clean Energy Resolution/ Renewable Energy Work Plan

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Opportunities for Engagement</b>	<b>Emily</b>	We use the farmers market, we do social media, and as mentioned in the above one, we are being invited to participate in other groups programming	Need to get more people's eyes on these plants and projects	Host a garden walk, host a larger talk series, hold a planting day (could pair with urban orchards), do a plant giveaway
	<b>Carmen</b>	No clear opportunity for engagement with the community, but could use as an opportunity to get the word out about urban orchards.	Educate the community on the topic	Define what engagement means for this initiative, then evaluate and track/measure.
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- High potential- see my recommendations	Yes- currently little outreach	I have an idea to use GIS and the public facing apps (provided the city has these which i think they would) to create maps where people can enter their gardens and plot a list of native or host plants we want to track. Residents could see what connections are missing to linear landscape elements for specific species. (I have more ideas for this like making them heat maps etc)  Continue to build upon these efforts and promote through FMs, local plant and flower shops, flyers at stein's etc.
<b>Feasibility and Sustainability of Effort</b>	<b>Emily</b>	There is no money from the city going into the project, it just allows folks to transform their yards without the repercussions of not following the weed ordinance	Need more knowledge and outreach into the public	Continue it as is.
	<b>Carmen</b>	Not my area of expertise	Not my area of expertise	Not my area of expertise
	<b>Rachel</b>			
<b>Alignment with Broader Goals</b>	<b>Emily</b>	I think it coincides with federal, state and local policies as well as fills a gap		We got rid of No Mow May to push this topic, so we need to continue to push it
	<b>Carmen</b>	Not my area of expertise to evaluate	Not my area of expertise	Not my area of expertise
	<b>Rachel</b>	Yes- Aligned with endangered species act, Aligned with state NR 40	Yes- Need to understand other city goals such as reducing fertilizer etc	Put emphasis on shifting community preference towards manicured lawns only by identifying other city goals to show the usefulness. The "invasive species" hyperlink on the website needs to connect to NR 40.



Clean Energy Resolution/ Renewable Energy Work Plan

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
Public Concerns	Emily	This program no but folks had a lot to say about No Mow May. Folks also have a misconception about what projects like this bring - for example they get nervous about bugs and snakes without realizing we need critters like that	Lack of knowledge	Continue outreach and education
	Carmen	Unsure if this is a public concern	Do we have documentation about what the public thinks about this program?	-Survey & Evaluate
	Rachel	Effort needed to engage the community but the enthusiasm from residents is there as we found out from the FMs but we are not tapping into this.  We did have a resident that was concerned with nuisance landscaping.	Yes- little promotion	We could consider revising (7)noxious weed definition in the ordinance. Right now it says "grasses" over 12 inches being prohibited. Are we only concerned with poaceae species not allowed over 12 inches or even sedges and rushes. The ordinance mentions sedges and rushes so now with the mention of grasses separately this reads as intentional. I bring this up because I could see residents (like the one we got feedback from) reading this interpretation to call and complain about anything they determine is a grass. Additionally, grasses could provide the same sheltering and nesting benefits of sedges and rushes so we need more explicit definition to be clear what may be defined as a nuisance.
Leadership Capacity	Emily	I believe there is capacity to allow this program to continue		
	Carmen	I am not the expert, but I believe we have good cover on the commission and within the city	Unsure	Unsure
	Rachel	There is enthusiasm from commission members to continue effort		

Clean Energy Resolution/ Renewable Energy Work Plan

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Alignment with Mission</b>	Rachel	Yes- very much aligns with goals of providing sustainability guidance and SLHC	Yes- Need to define what the outcome we want to have from this	My suggestion is to make an explicit goal of updating the comprehensive plan to make sure the city meets the definition of sustainability which is to meet current needs without compromising needs of future generations. The Comprehensive plan was recently updated but with the southbridge connector I truly believe a build out analysis is key for de pere moving forward, this does not just include energy consumption but also ability to needs like essential services and schools.
<b>Community Impact</b>	Rachel	High- our energy consumption is not sustainable	The plan itself serves to rectify the gap in knowledge of an energy baseline to implement measurable recommendations	Could a WPS rep help inform the commission and council on future energy concerns?
<b>Opportunities for Engagement</b>	Rachel	High Potential- I see the process for this effort as providing the framework for a community forum that could continue even after baseline is created.	Yes- currently stalled	Involve WPS, Focus on Energy Reps, Universities for some work in compiling data, local businesses for their concerns on energy consumption and feasibility for implementing technologies etc. Public steering committees.
<b>Feasibility and Sustainability of Effort</b>	Rachel	High potential- Should the project be completed it would continue to serve the community in their decision making.  Poor feasibility currently due to uncertainty for costs that may be associated so the Common Council needs to commit to providing a budget for this. They did already approve this initiative.	Yes- efforts stalled out but this could have been a good thing to regroup	Get back to getting a quote after we redefine the goals. We cannot just waste the money on this and produce a replica of Green Bay's.

Clean Energy Resolution/ Renewable Energy Work Plan

Criteria	Evaluator	Evaluation	Gaps Identified	Recommendations
<b>Alignment with Broader Goals</b>	Rachel	It is in alignment with De Pere goals. Since De Pere approved of the resolution, created a commission for sustainability, and also has growth targets, it is reasonable to conclude that creating an energy baseline (and possible build out analysis) is very much in alignment with Cities ability to meet their future growth targets.	Yes- We need an open dialogue with City staff and Common Council on commitment	<p>Goal of De Pere in the comprehensive plan is to grow. We need to provide a build out analysis before we grow to the point that sustainability potential is lost.</p> <p>We can learn from some of GB’s outcomes that some of the most impactful efforts will be for building codes which currently have roadblocks due to Wisconsin legislation. See paper included on a breakdown of case precedent that I believe could be worthwhile in exploring changes that are in ways consistent with this legislation, maybe its development performance standards.</p>
<b>Public Concerns</b>	Rachel	Unknown- but I’m sure there are concerns with future energy costs and consumption.	Yes- It is a must to get community feedback on this initiative	See attachments for the Baseline Goals and budget request that can elaborate on the possible suggestion of steering committees.
<b>Leadership Capacity</b>	Rachel	I have made some progress with one firm but may need more assistance with this so that we can at least get a quote to begin the RFP process.	Yes- Its currently stalled	<p>Need members to review the goals for the quote and approve of them. I would recommend not to have a subcommittee because we may need all hands on deck to provide support.</p> <p>We also have a draft started for a budget request that would need to be submitted once we had quotes.</p>

**DRAFT De Pere Sustainability Commission Work Plan**  
**8/1/25 - 7/31/26**

**Objective of Work Plan:** To address identified gaps, implement recommendations, and advance the De Pere Sustainability Commission’s mission by ensuring success across all current initiatives. When new initiatives are proposed, the commission will evaluate using the established evaluation criteria and add to the Work Plan when applicable. Work plan will be updated as necessary when updates in each initiative is provided at commission meetings.

**Initiative: Adopt-A-Drain**

- **Goals:**
  - Increase community participation.
  - Improve visibility and public awareness.
  - Develop measurable success metrics.
- **Actions:**
  - Develop outreach plan
    - Create marketing materials
    - Leverage farmer’s market, social media, and passive engagement methods (passive methods TBD - example would be storm drain stencils)
  - Engage community
    - Partner with local organizations to promote the program
    - Introduce friendly competition or campaign
    - Provide incentives such as bumper stickers, swag, etc.
    - Evaluate collaboration opportunities to scale program visibility (ex: other communities, other programs with same goal)
  - Implement metrics and tracking
    - Determine what program ‘success’ looks like - metric
    - Determine how to measure program results (ex: water quality improvements, participation, etc.)
    - Gather feedback and track participation satisfaction
    - Analyze data to report outcomes and set next 12 month goals
- **Lead Commissioner:** TBD

**Initiative: Composting**

- **Goals:**
  - Assess current program viability
  - Assess future program options
  - Increase community participation
- **Actions:**
  - Review current program and identify improvements for future program development
    - Analyze participation metrics
    - Identify improvements based on public and city feedback and metrics

- Refocus outreach and engagement
- Host Q&A sessions at Farmers Markets on home compost practices.
- Pilot a smaller-scale composting initiative to test and learn
- Identify alternative partners/models
- Investigate collaborations with farms or other compost facilities
- Tour regional recycling and composting facilities for insights and best practices
- Evaluate and make final decision on future program
- Compile findings from previous actions to make recommendation
- Recommend whether to continue, restructure, or sunset the initiative based on findings
- Once recommendation approved, then:
  - Develop outreach plan to increase community awareness
    - TBD once final program determined
  - Develop engagement plan to increase participation in program
    - TBD once final program determined
  - Implement metrics and tracking
    - TBD once final program determined
- Lead Commissioner: TBD

Initiative: **Clean Air**

- Goals:
  - Improvement community engagement and awareness on air quality issues
- Actions:
  - Review current program and identify improvements for future program development
    - Clearly define community/WI documented air quality concerns that need addressing
    - Analyze current participation metrics
    - Identify opportunities for community education and/or engagement based on public and city feedback and metrics
  - Redefine goals and objective, *if needed*
  - Refocus outreach and engagement
    - Gather public feedback on community concerns around air quality
    - Gather public feedback on barriers to participation in a program that addresses air quality
  - Identify Alternative Partners/Models for Clean Air initiative
  - Evaluate and Make Final Decision on future program
  - Compile findings from previous actions to make recommendation
  - Recommend whether to continue, restructure, or sunset the initiative based on findings
  - Once recommendation approved, then:
    - Develop outreach plan to increase community awareness
      - TBD once final program determined
    - Develop engagement plan to increase participation in program
      - TBD once final program determined

- Implement metrics and tracking
  - TBD once final program determined
- Lead Commissioner: TBD

Initiative: **Pollinators**

- Goals:
- Actions:
- Lead Commissioner: TBD

Initiative: **Planned Natural Landscape**

- Goals:
  - Increase community adoption of native plant landscaping.
  - Provide educational resources to overcome knowledge gaps.
  - Promote sustainable land-use practices.
- Actions:
- Lead Commissioner: TBD

Initiative: **Clean Energy**

- Goals:
  - Create an energy baseline for De Pere.
  - Align with state and federal energy policies.
  - Develop long-term action plans for energy sustainability and resilience.
- Actions:
- Lead Commissioner: TBD



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

III.8

**Request for Sustainability Commission  
Action**

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**MEETING DATE:** August 12, 2025  
**DEPARTMENT:** Sustainability  
**FROM:** Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and Possible action on Enviroscape Watershed Model  
**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Staff does not have a recommendation and will leave it up to the Commission.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**  
2025 0812 CI\_SC\_Clean\_Energy, Watershed Education, Environmental Education, Teaching Water Pollution, Deluxe Carrying Case, Hands-On Models\_ EnviroScape®

# CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



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To: Sustainability Commission  
From: Chase K Kuffel, PE, Assistant City Engineer  
Date: August 12, 2025

RE: **Consideration and Possible action on Enviroscope Watershed Model**

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At the July Farmer's market, staff had coordinated with NEWSOC to have a stormwater watershed model brought to the booth as a presentation tool. NEWSOC was unable to accommodate due to their watershed model needing repairs. The purpose of the model is to show how pollutants wash away from our infrastructure and into our waterways.

For the Commission's consideration, information on the Enviroscope watershed model is attached with this memo should the Sustainability Commission wish to purchase their own model. The purpose of the model would be to further promote stormwater quality and the Adopt-a-Drain program at future events like the Farmer's Market. The money to purchase the model would come from the unspent office supply budget previously allocated for the clean air initiative.

## **Recommendation**

Staff has no recommendation on this item.

## **Attachments**

Enviroscope Storm Water Model  
Enviroscope Carrying Case

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



HOME / HANDS-ON MODELS / WATERSHED/NONPOINT SOURCE MODEL



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## Watershed/Nonpoint Source Model

SKU #4852-P

 (7 reviews) [Read Reviews](#) | [Write a Review](#)

Availability: **In Stock**

~~\$1,588.00~~ **\$989.00**

Model (ships in heavy-duty cardboard box w/handle) ▼

Qty:

ADD TO CART

**Hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of water pollution.** Easily demonstrate how storm water runoff carries pollutants through the watershed to a pond, lake, river, bay, or ocean – and the best management practices to prevent this type of pollution from occurring. The overall watershed/stormwater concept is effectively communicated to all ages (children to adults)!

## Details

## Additional Info

## Q and A



**To do our part to help preserve forest resources, your guide for EnviroScape Watershed Nonpoint Source Model comes as a PDF document.** *When your order is placed, you will receive an emailed copy of your order with a link to download the Guide.* Please consider the environment before printing.

**The popular 3D EnviroScape® Watershed/NPS education model provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of water pollution – and allows you to demonstrate ways to prevent it.** Easily demonstrate how storm water runoff carries pollutants through the watershed to a pond, lake, river, bay, or ocean – and the best management practices to prevent this type of pollution from occurring. The overall watershed/stormwater concept is effectively communicated to all ages (children to adults)!

**Sources and prevention practices demonstrated focus on areas and issues such as –**

- Residential
- Stormwater and storm drains
- Forestry
- Transportation
- Recreation
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Industrial (factory, treatment plant)

**This popular model can be used to represent any community anywhere in the world!**

**Looking for a Densely Populated Housing / Urban setting? click here for a customer's recommendation published in the July 9, 2020 email newsletter.** if you have any more requests, please email our Director of Marketing & Education (Erin Foster) at [learn@envirosapes.com](mailto:learn@envirosapes.com).

**Contents:** Nonpoint source landscape top (topographical map) with storm drain pipe, clear base, 4 bridges, 5 houses, barn, factory, treatment plant, 4 trees, 2 golf flags, 3 cows, 2 cars, tractor, construction vehicle, and best management practices such as buffer strips, clay for making berms, manure container in addition to soil, oils and chemicals (cocoa, drink mixes and oil mix), watercatcher container, rainmaker (spray bottle), water plug, and easy-to-use peer-reviewed User's Guide (now in PDF format). *Everything you*

*will need for the first few demonstrations is included in the kit but some items are consumable. The consumable items are low cost items available at many local stores (drink mix, cocoa, clay, and felt). We also offer basic supply kits and other replacement parts for all models – [click here](#).*

Dimensions Assembled (approx): 25" x 30" x 7"

*Parts may vary slightly due to supplier changes and updates.*

**For any assistance in pairing with other models and kits, or tailoring this model to meet your specific needs, please contact us at [learn@enviroscares.com](mailto:learn@enviroscares.com)**

**Looking for special group training?** Let us know what your needs are at [learn@enviroscares.com](mailto:learn@enviroscares.com)

## Reviews

Write a Review

7 reviews

### Valuable Resources for Innovative Programming!



Aug 22, 2020

We appreciate you providing such valuable resources for us to do innovative programming! - Extension Specialist, 4-H Engineering and Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**4-H Engineering/Technology, Purdue University**

### Your model is a magnet ... the kids 'get it' and become the advocates at home.



Feb 10, 2020

When trying to educate the public (which is part of our MS4 permit responsibility) we are lucky if a few adults stop by and talk about stormwater. Most folks are busy and give you only a few-second look-see. When we use your model it attracts the kids for 10 minutes or more, and you get the parents as a bonus. We are finding that the kids 'get it' and become the advocates at home. Also, other (non-parent) adults pay closer attention to see what is happening. Your model is a magnet. What you and your colleagues do is making a difference in the world. Thank you.

**Rob St. Germain, Chair Stormwater Advisory Committ**

### Underestimated it's awesomeness.



Oct 17, 2019

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## Deluxe Carrying Case

SKU #9-6189

Write a Review

Availability: **In Stock**

### \$599.00

Qty:

ADD TO CART

We recommend the purchase of this light-weight case with wheels for ease in transporting your model.

## Details

## Additional Info

## Q and A

**We recommend the purchase of this light weight case with wheels for ease in transporting your model.**

If you are transporting or loaning out the unit a lot, or multiple people use the model, we would strongly recommend the case. The new Carrying Case introduced in 2013, is made from a lightweight durable material with inside padded protection, wheels, a retractable handle and side handle. It is easy to transport and work with. *Dimensions of the Carrying Case are 34" x 28" x 14".*

If you don't purchase the carrying case at the same time you purchase your model – the model ships in a box that can be used to store your model (custom made corrugated shipping box with padding and a handle for easy transport of the model.)

«**TIP** Check out this customer video on packing your EnviroScape in the case:

### PackingUpEnviroscape



## Reviews

0 reviews

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