



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
www.deperewi.gov

Agenda

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

5:30 PM

Virtual

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 **April 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM** virtually.

This meeting will be held electronically and the public may attend this meeting electronically or telephonically:

Electronic Meeting Access:

<https://www.gotomeet.me/DePere>

Telephonic Meeting Access:

1 (866) 899 4679 -or- 1 (312) 757-3117
Access Code: 154-883-285

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Comments made during the public comment period shall pertain only to matters under the jurisdiction of the Sustainability Commission. §6-3(f) DPMC
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Approval of the March 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
 - B. Discussion on ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA)
 - C. Discussion on 1st Quarter Budget
 - D. Discussion on Sustainability Commission Work Plan
 - E. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Adopt-a-Drain
 - F. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Composting
 - G. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Pollinator Gardens / Planned Natural Landscapes
 - H. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Green Energy
5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6. ADJOURNMENT

Any person wishing to attend this meeting who, because of disability, requires special accommodations should contact the Public Works Department at 920-339-4060 by noon on the previous day so that arrangements can be made.

The Public or Members of the Sustainability Commission, which may count toward an official quorum, may attend the meeting either telephonically or electronically via video conferencing or other appropriate technological means.

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



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.A

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Natalie Markelz, Administrative Assistant
Subject: Approval of the March 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes
Recommendation: Approve the March 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

Attachments:
2026 0310 Sustainability Commission Minutes



Sustainability Commission

Regular Meeting

Minutes

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
www.deperewi.gov

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

5:30 PM

Council Chambers/Virtual

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM by Commissioner Castellanos.

1. Roll Call

Present: Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin, Anna Metzler

Excused: Randall Lawton

Also present: Angelica Greco and Matthew Katz from ICLEI (remote)

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 February 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission Meeting Minutes

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Casey Nelson
SECONDER:	Nicole Slavin
AYES:	Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin

2. Introduction Presentation by ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA)

Angelica Greco and Matthew Katz from ICLEI presented on the organization's offerings and outlined the benefits to local governments who become members. They create a custom support plan for municipalities and assign an advisor, providing ten hours of one-on-one assistance. Membership includes access to the ClearPath 2.0 platform emissions tool. ICLEI provides technical programs for sustainability such as greenhouse gas emissions, and develop climate action plans, as well as finance and policy solutions. Greco and Katz then explained that traditional climate action plans often fall short due to lack of clarity; their ClearPath platform provides direction with actionable steps by laying the foundation, setting targets, taking action, and checking progress. The platform models a shift from less sustainable, high-emitting activity to more sustainable, lower/no emitting alternatives. Examples include changing the ways that needs are fulfilled (traveling, heating your home, lighting your business); switching to electric vehicles, going from furnace to heat pumps and upgrading efficiencies. ICLEI membership is \$1,800 per year, with discounts when signing up for more than one year. Greco and Katz then answered questions about the outputs that ClearPath can provide.

Presentation only. No action necessary.

3. Consideration and possible action on election of Vice Chairperson

Alderson Nelson nominated Commissioner Leonard for the position of Vice Chair.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nicole Slavin
SECONDER:	Casey Nelson
AYES:	Emily Castellanos, Rachel Leonard, Casey Nelson, Jonie Panick, Nicole Slavin

4. Discussion on Sustainability Commission Work Plan

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that someone is needed to lead the composting project. Commissioner Panick agreed to take the lead. Staff has been working on updating the information for the Green Tier legacy communities and getting that up to speed.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

5. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Adopt-a-Drain

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that the program currently has 24 adopters who clean 33 inlets throughout the City. Four cleaning logs have been submitted already this year, and staff used the clean up data for the MS4 permit report submittal to the Department of Natural Resources. He noted that 80 gallons of debris were pulled during cleanup efforts. Staff is looking to develop more billboard advertisements and will bring concepts to the Commission. Teen Advisor Metzler reported that her environmental sciences teacher would be interested in doing fields trips with students to clean drains. She will provide her teacher with staff's contact information. Discussion followed regarding social media posts to promote the project.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

6. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Pollinator Gardens / Planned Natural Landscapes

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that staff has posted the invasive species document on the City's website. He noted that the Mulva Cultural Center has replied to staff, but they have not been able to provide information yet. Commissioner Castellanos reported that she talked to the Green Bay Botanical Gardens and they are waiting to do something during Pollinator Week in June.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

7. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Green Energy

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that staff received the signed contract for the Green Tier Legacy Scoresheet Consultant, and they will hold a kickoff meeting next week to get it going. Commissioner Leonard requested a report on the energy data.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

8. Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Composting

Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel reported that the program is up to 24 households; 11 are on the weekly schedule and 13 are every other week. Discussion followed on continuing promotional efforts.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

9. Discussion on Data Centers

Commissioner Leonard reported that she has researched other communities and states that have authored non-disclosure agreement ordinances or statutes. Ohio has passed something broad for non-disclosure

agreements. Wisconsin has a Senate bill, SB969, working its way through committee; it has similar language to Ohio's, but specifically calls out data centers. Commissioner Leonard feels it is better to come from the state rather than the local level; we don't have any protection without legislation. The City of Superior conducted a survey to evaluate data centers in their area; she asked if it would be worth doing a similar audit here. Commission members then discussed appropriate next steps, and things to think about when drafting language for a potential City resolution. Assistant City Engineer Chase Kuffel cautioned that any draft must be sustainability related. Staff would route through the legal team and administration and then bring back comments to the Sustainability Commission.

Discussion only. No action necessary.

IV. Future Agenda Items

Advertisement concepts for billboards and discussion on ICLEI USA will be brought back at a future meeting.

V. Adjournment

Commissioner Panick moved, seconded by Alderperson Nelson, to adjourn the meeting at 6:10PM. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
City Clerk Carey Danen



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.B

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA)
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_ICLEI Discussion, ICLEI USA Member Benefits

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA)**

The purpose of this item is to discuss the presentation by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability USA (ICLEI USA) from March 10, 2026. ICLEI USA outlined a membership fee of \$1,800 per year for the City of De Pere (municipality with population under 50,000 residents).

Staff reached out to the City of Green Bay and was provided the following feedback regarding ICLEI USA:

“Green Bay is participating in a learning cohort with ICLEI to create a greenhouse gas emission inventory using ICLEI's ClearPath 2.0 tool. It's a software tool they've created to help cities inventory and track GHG emissions and reductions. They have been very helpful and easy to work with.”

The Commission would need to evaluate the benefits of joining ICLEI USA with respect to staff and the Commission's goals and initiatives.

Attachments

ICLEI USA Member Benefits PDF

ICLEI USA Membership Your Benefits

Our Approach

ICLEI USA membership takes a whole-of-government approach that supports climate and sustainability staff, elected leaders, and staff from across departments. The [ICLEI Pathways](#) (Zero Emission, Equitable Development, Resilient, Circular, and Nature-Based) are a framework for designing integrated solutions that balance the patterns of human life and the built and natural environments.

As an ICLEI member, your community has access to the member resources and technical assistance offerings across our five pathways that are outlined in this brochure. These benefits may be leveraged by climate and sustainability staff, elected officials, task force committee members, and staff from all departments. Contact your membership advisor today to learn more about these benefits and how best to put your membership to work.



Cross-Cutting Member Benefits

- Peer exchange and international networking
- 10 hours of direct technical support for your local government covering:
 - Any of the five pathways
 - Climate communications
 - Advocacy and policy development
 - Implementation



Cross-Cutting Member Resources

- Climate and Sustainability Communications Toolkit
- Sustainability Planning Toolkit
- Member-only Capacity Building Cohorts





Zero Emission

Overview of the Zero Emission Pathway

ICLEI supports local governments in the urgent work to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the next five to 10 years, and to reach zero or negative emissions by mid-century. ICLEI has been a leader in local climate action since the 1990s, developing the frameworks, protocols, and tools that have become the industry standard. We help our members establish a baseline, set goals, and prioritize and implement high-impact actions to most effectively reduce emissions from their communities and their own operations.



Zero Emission Member Benefits

- We offer **Weekly Zero Emission Technical Office Hours** - these are a great place to bring your questions about using the ClearPath Climate Planner, finding data for GHG inventories, forecasting emissions, and modeling emissions reduction actions.
- Consider using 1-2 of your 10 hours of technical assistance for zero emission support. Not sure how to use your zero emission technical assistance? Here are some ideas:
 - **Action Planning and Implementation Conversation:** Our Zero Emission experts can help you identify and prioritize emissions-reduction actions for your community. We can discuss how to get started on implementation of electric vehicle adoption, rooftop solar, energy efficiency, and many more. We can also help you think through how to track progress and monitor results.
 - **Quality Review:** QA/QC of a completed GHG inventory, emissions forecast, emissions reduction scenario in ClearPath, or Climate Action Plan.



Zero Emission Member Resources

- **ClearPath Climate Planner Tool:** The leading online software platform for completing greenhouse gas inventories, forecasts, climate action plans, and monitoring for community-wide or government-operations.
- **ICLEI USA's GHG Inventory Toolkits:** A toolkit that provides what you need to get started establishing a baseline, including data request templates, spreadsheet tools for conditioning data, and step-by-step instructions.
 - Community-Wide toolkit
 - Local Government Operations toolkit
- **ClearPath Forecasting and Planning Webinar Recordings:** Educational videos for communities using ClearPath.
- **Land Emissions And Removals Navigator (LEARN) Tool:** Online tool to calculate carbon emissions and sequestration from forests and trees outside of forests.

Need more support? Consider hiring ICLEI USA to help your community get on a zero- to no-emission pathway—learn more about our services in our Zero Emission fee for service brochure.



Zero Emission



Zero Emission Member Benefits

Other areas to use your technical assistance hours:

- **Basic Community-Wide Emissions-Reduction Forecasting:** For members with a completed 2018 or newer GHG inventory, we will develop a basic business-as-usual forecast, science-based target, and basic high-impact actions.
- **Facilitated Access to Google Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) Data:** We can download and help you use EIE data for your community on vehicle miles, transit/bicycle/walking trips, residential and non-residential rooftop solar potential, and tree canopy (availability of data types varies by community).



Zero Emission Member Resources

- **The Climate Action Plan Scoping Tool:** A tool that helps set up the process for developing a climate action plan.
- **The Contribution Analysis Toolkit:** A toolkit that helps communities understand changes in GHG emissions over time.
- **High-Impact Action (HIA) Working Paper:** ICLEI USA's analysis of the most effective local actions for deep emissions reductions by 2030.
- **The Race to Zero Policy Matrix:** Matrix that lists and provides examples of high impact emissions reduction policies..



Need more support? Consider hiring ICLEI USA to help your community get on a zero-emission pathway—[learn more about our services in our Zero Emission fee for service brochure.](#)



Resilience

Overview of the Resilient Pathway

Climate change is here. Communities across the US are being confronted with a changed landscape of hazards caused or worsened by climate change, including rising seas, flooding, extreme storms, heat waves, wildfires, and drought. The pressing need to adapt to climate change—to adjust, prepare, cope, and even transform our systems and ways of life—is clear. At ICLEI USA, we help our members adapt to climate change and build community resilience through the Resilient Development Pathway. Resilient Development technical advisors can help your community understand local climate change projections, kickstart climate risk and vulnerability assessments, engage staff and the community through workshops and surveys, and strategize for implementation.



Resilient Member Benefits

Consider using 1-2 hours of your 10 hrs of technical assistance for resilience support. Not sure how to use your resilience technical assistance? Here are some ideas:

- **Resilience Kickstart Call** (30 min): Connect with the resilient development pathway lead to jumpstart any resilience planning process (Hazard Mitigation Plan, vulnerability assessment, adaptation plan, climate action and resilience plan etc) by talking through project planning and management, brainstorming around stakeholder engagement, and learning about the latest tools and resources in the resilience space (schedule a call with [our Senior Resilience Officer](#)).

Resilient Member Resources



- **Vulnerability Assessment Toolkit**: ICLEI USA's one-stop-shop for climate risk and vulnerability assessments, the Vulnerability Assessment Toolkit includes template staff and community engagement materials (facilitator guides, activity descriptions, slide deck, survey) and a guided assessment report template.
- **Adaptation First Steps Guide**: (Sustainable Communities Suite): A step-by-step guide for communities getting started with their climate adaptation journey.
- **ResiliencePlus Strategies Matrix**: An array of resilience strategies covering a variety of climate change hazards and community systems (for example, strategies for adaptive governance, planning, ecosystem-based adaptation, and more).
- **Cost of Doing Nothing toolkit**: A guide and toolkit for building a local business case for climate change adaptation.

Need more support? Consider hiring ICLEI USA to support your community's climate risk and vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning efforts—learn more about our services in our [Climate Change Adaptation and Community Resilience fee for service brochure](#).



Circular

Overview of the Circular Pathway

The global economy consumes 100 billion tons of material annually to provide shelter, food, clothing, transportation, energy, and water to the 8 billion people living on our planet. This rate has more than doubled since 1990 and is projected to reach 190 billion tons by 2060. With fast-paced growth in consumption comes the degradation of natural resources and increasing greenhouse gas emissions, with an estimated 70% of global emissions tied to material handling and use. Through the development of the circular economy, and with help from ICLEI USA's Circular Pathway, communities can redistribute resources to drive smart and equitable consumption, resilience, climate action, and biodiversity conservation while offering the tools to support social equity, local job creation, public health, and community wealth.



Circular Member Benefits

Consider using 1-2 of your 10 hours of technical assistance for circular support. Not sure how to use your circular technical assistance? Here are some ideas:

- **Circular Kickstart Call (30 min):** Connect with the circular development pathway leads to jumpstart any circular economy development process by talking through project planning and management, brainstorming around stakeholder engagement, and learning about the latest tools and resources in the circular economy space.
- **Sustainable Procurement Policy Review:** Do you need support completing your sustainable procurement policy? ICLEI USA's Circular Pathway team can review your draft policy and provide feedback and recommendations based on the following: an evaluation of your policy against ICLEI USA's sustainable public procurement best practices; a review of your policy against ICLEI USA's circular economy criteria to strengthen your policy and support your local economy; an assessment of the implementation and monitoring plan within the policy with recommendations to ensure successful outcomes.

Circular Member Resources



- **Circular City Actions Framework:** A framework that unpacks what the circular economy concept means at the local level, to help cities on their circular journeys.
- **City Practitioners Handbook: Circular Food Systems:** This handbook provides local governments with concrete tools their peers are using to facilitate the transition to circular food systems, from stakeholder engagement to designing effective policies.
- **ICLEI's City Toolkit: Just Transition in the Built Environment:** This resource outlines six key tools that local governments can leverage to achieve these goals. For each tool, it provides policy recommendations and practical examples from around the world.
- **Urban Transitions Handbook:** The methodology and tools presented in this guidebook can be applied by local governments to a variety of sustainability programs, including those that advance the transition to the circular economy.
- **Quick Glance at Sustainable Public Procurement:** This resource provides high-level guidance on the steps a local government can take to adopt a comprehensive sustainable public procurement policy.



Circular



Circular Member Benefits

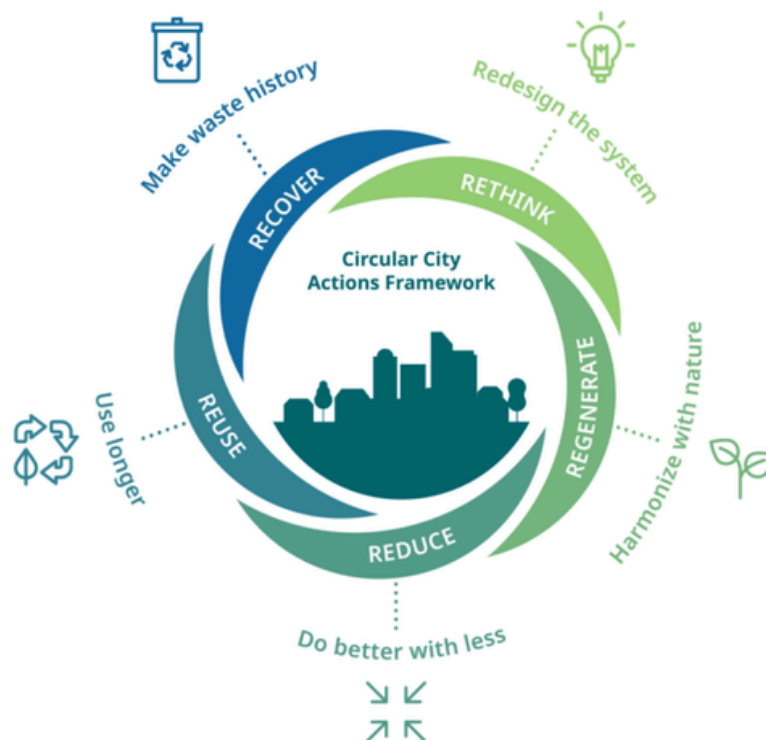
Other areas where we've helped our members:

- Reviewing materials for stakeholder/community engagement (your slide decks, facilitator guides, and activities) and draft plans
- Sharing exemplary plans/materials/toolkits/policies created by other local governments & making introductions to others doing similar work
- Troubleshooting issues related to lack of data availability, siloed processes/interdepartmental collaboration
- Strategizing for effective monitoring and evaluation of circularity; and more!

Circular Member Resources



- **The Circular Pathway Starter Pack:** This starter pack includes ICLEI USA's Circular Resource Guide for Local Governments, Circular Strategies Matrix, and Circularity 101 Presentation Template



Need more support? Consider hiring ICLEI USA to support your community apply the best practices for circular economy and sustainable and innovative procurement.—learn more about our services in our [Circular fee for service brochure](#).



Nature

Overview of the Nature Pathway

Alongside the climate change crisis, communities are also struggling with the loss of natural habitat and challenges around providing access for all to nature's beauty and benefits — including the many ecosystem services to humans, such as clean water, clean air, healthy food and medicines, carbon sequestration, environmental hazard protection and much more. Recognizing the urgency of this biodiversity loss — and building on ICLEI's unique role as the United Nations focal point organization on cities and nature — ICLEI USA can help your community develop a plan that conserves natural areas, improves biodiversity, and provides equitable access to nature.



Nature Member Benefits

Consider using 1-2 hours of your 10 hours of technical assistance for nature support. Not sure how to use your nature technical assistance?

Here are some ideas:

- **Nature Kickstart Call (30 min):** Connect with the Nature Pathway Leads to discuss the following topics - Integrating Nature into a Sustainability plan or CAP, LEARN tool, CitiesWithNature, or a FFS Scoping call
- Other areas where we've helped our members:
 - Reviewing nature/biodiversity elements in Sustainability/Climate Plans
 - Reviewing LEARN Tool reports or Demoing the LEARN tool
 - Providing a resource overview.
 - Hosting a Nature Cohort to support nature integration into a Sustainability Plan or Climate Action Plan

Nature Member Resources



- **CitiesWithNature (CWN) and RegionsWithNature (RWN) Platforms:** Global platforms with resources to strengthen collective action to mainstream nature into cities and regions. The CWN and RWN platforms provide communities with direct ties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- **Berlin Urban Nature Pact:** An initiative that supplies communities with nature and biodiversity targets they can adopt and incorporate into a climate and/or sustainability plan.
- **Cities Biodiversity Index Tool:** The Cities Biodiversity Tool located in the CitiesWithNature Platform supports local governments in developing their own Cities Biodiversity Index to assess the state of nature and biodiversity in their boundary.
- **Land Emissions And Removals Navigator (LEARN) Tool:** Online tool to calculate carbon emissions and sequestration from forests and trees outside of forests.
- **Nature Based Solutions Matrix:** Matrix of nature based solutions local governments can incorporate into their climate and/or sustainability plans.

Need more support? Consider hiring ICLEI USA to support your community's nature-based solutions—learn more about our services in our Nature fee for service brochure.



Nature Member Resources



- **Nature Planning Guidebook**: Guidance document to support local governments with developing a Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for their community.
- **Guide to Biodiversity Financing for Cities and Regions**: Guidance document that discusses the financial instruments needed to implement biodiversity strategies and actions.

Need more support? [Consider hiring ICLEI USA to support your community's nature-based solutions—learn more about our services in our Nature fee for service brochure.](#)



Equitable Development

Overview of the Equitable Development Pathway

ICLEI USA offers members crucial support in navigating the challenges of climate change and fostering sustainable urban planning. With a central focus on equity, we assist local governments in prioritizing inclusivity and addressing climate-related disparities. Our organization goes beyond emission reduction by advocating for the creation of just, livable, and inclusive communities to tackle the root causes of injustice. Together, we strive to build resilient communities where every voice is heard and cultural diversity is integral to the social fabric, ensuring a sustainable future that safeguards human health and the natural environment.



Equity Member Benefits



Equity Member Resources

- ICLEI USA's **Equity: First Step Guide**: Introduces local governments to equity by helping them identify and track inequities that occur within their community. The guide provides local governments with a starting point for tracking inequities in five distinct categories. These categories include: Energy Access, Public Health, Infrastructure, Economic Prosperity, and Education.
 - At a minimum, these are the areas in which communities must analyze inequities.
- ICLEI USA's **Equity in Climate Planning Trends and Best Practices for Local Governments**: This report builds on the Equity: First Steps Guide and provides communities with examples of equity in climate action plans, community engagement strategies, data and metrics for tracking equity and core actions for incorporating equity.
- Learn from The Urban Transitions Alliance, ICLEI's network of industrial-legacy cities, including Buffalo, Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati, in an **equity-centered webinar series**.



Communications Support

Overview of Communications Support

Dedicated to crafting compelling narratives, the Communications Department at ICLEI USA provides essential assistance to our members, guiding them in effectively presenting their sustainability and climate change initiatives to engage their community members. Our goal goes beyond mere visibility; it's a collective effort to emphasize the importance of taking climate actions holistically. Through dynamic storytelling and place-based strategies, we aim to ignite enthusiasm and foster collaboration to build stronger communities.



Communications Member Benefits

Consider using 2-3 hours of your 10 hours of technical assistance for nature support. Not sure how to use your communication technical assistance? Here are some ideas:

- **Communications Strategy Call (1 hour):** Meet with ICLEI USA Communications Officer to discuss your community's communications strategy, brainstorm goals, and create an action plan. All calls are followed up with detailed notes, next steps, and resources.
- **Climate and Sustainability Communications Workshop (1 - 2 hours):** Schedule an interactive workshop for your communications team or interested staff. The 60-minute workshop will cover key climate and sustainability communications items and brainstorm ideas for your community.
- **External Communication Channel Audit Request (2-3 hours):** Meet with ICLEI USA Communications Officer to request an external communication channel audit. The communications officer will then review and provide feedback to increase public engagement.

Communications Member Resources



- **ICLEI USA's Climate & Sustainability Communications Toolkit:** This toolkit provides all the necessary tools and guidance to promote effective messaging and delivery techniques within climate and sustainability communications for local governments.





Advocacy, Policy and Leadership Opportunities

Overview of Advocacy, Policy and Leadership Opportunities

Dedicated to crafting compelling narratives, the Communications Department at ICLEI USA provides essential assistance to our members, guiding them in effectively presenting their sustainability and climate change initiatives to engage their community members. Our goal goes beyond mere visibility; it's a collective effort to emphasize the importance of taking climate actions holistically. Through dynamic storytelling and place-based strategies, we aim to ignite enthusiasm and foster collaboration to build stronger communities.



Leadership Opportunities

- **Join the Cities Race to Zero or Cities Race to Resilience.** Become an internationally recognized climate champion and gain access to our technical support packages that put you on track by 2030 for 2050 carbon-neutrality and resilience.
- **Join CitiesWithNature.** Champion nature, biodiversity, and ecosystem services while unlocking technical support for nature-based solutions in your community.
- **Join CityFood.** ICLEI's global flagship program aims to accelerate local and regional government action toward sustainable food systems transformation.
- **Serve with (or Inform) ICLEI Governance.** Every three years, parallel regional elections take place in all 9 ICLEI regions to elect the ICLEI Global and Regional Executive Committees. Representatives from eligible ICLEI Members can apply in their region by submitting an application, and all eligible ICLEI Members then vote, which is then followed by the ICLEI Global Executive Committee elections.
- **Be part of ICLEI's Delegation to the UN Climate Conference and other events.** ICLEI leaders share their community's story by attending United Nations' international conferences on climate (annually around November/December) and nature (every 2 years), offering a unique chance for elected leaders to take the global stage.

Advocacy Member Resources



- **High-Impact Advocacy (HIA) Policy Matrix (Coming 2024):** From declaring a climate emergency to building just, equitable communities, we outline the highest-impact policies that local leaders can adopt for transformative change.
- **Cities Race to Zero and Race to Resilience Resources:** Set a science-based target and reach carbon-neutrality by 2050 and ensure the resilience is embedded into city or town processes with our technical support packages for both rapid decarbonization and climate adaptation.
- **Cities Forward Academy (2025):** This 6-month, sequential leadership-and-learning virtual series will share lessons from two years of Cities Forward, the U.S. State Department's flagship resilience-building initiative.
- **Budgeting for Climate Action and Sustainable Public Procurement Support:** Tap ICLEI expertise for municipal finance that meets climate and sustainability aims.

ABOUT ICLEI USA

ICLEI is the first and largest global network of local and regional governments devoted to solving the world's most intractable sustainability challenges. ICLEI USA's standards, tools, and programs credibly, transparently, and robustly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve lives and livelihoods and protect natural resources in the U.S. communities we serve. Through a data-driven approach and focus on just and equitable communities, ICLEI USA and our network partners are working to keep 1.5 °C alive.

MEMBER DUES

Population Size	Annual Dues
< 50k	\$1,800
50k - 100k	\$2,200
100k - 200k	\$3,200
200k - 300k	\$3,500
300k - 500k	\$4,000
500k - 750k	\$5,000
750k - 1M	\$6,500
1M - 2M	\$7,500
2M - 3M	\$9,500
> 4M	\$10,000





City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.C

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on 1st Quarter Budget
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Budget Update

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on 1st Quarter Budget**

Through the first three months of 2026, the Sustainability Commission has spent \$2,292.93 of the \$41,700 budgeted for 2026.

These expenditures include the following:

- \$591.93 to Screen Vision Media for the Adopt a Drain Campaign promotional ad playing at the De Pere Cinema.
- \$1,125.00 to Allyson Brunette Consulting as a deposit for services.
- \$576.00 in compost reimbursements.

With $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year remaining, the Commission has \$39,407.07 available from the following funds:

- \$500 in postage
- \$1,000 for conferences and seminars
- \$20,299 for consulting
 - \$5,175 is due to Allyson Brunette Consulting upon completion of the Green Tier Submittal to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
 - \$3,132 is anticipated for Compost Reimbursements
- \$3,000 for office supplies (e.g. farmer's market promotional items)
- \$200 for mileage reimbursement
- \$14,408.07 for operating supplies
 - \$500 is anticipated for the Botanical Garden pollinator handout
 - \$1,183.83 will be paid to the De Pere Cinema as we continue to promote the Adopt a Drain program for another six months.

Of the remaining \$39,407.07, \$9,990.83 is allocated with \$29,416.24 remaining to be allocated towards initiatives, promotions or training.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.D

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on Sustainability Commission Work Plan
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Commission Work Plan

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on Sustainability Commission Work Plan**

De Pere Sustainability Commission Work Plan

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
 - Establish 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
 - Idea: Partner with local organizations to promote the program
 - There is an opportunity to present the City stormwater pollutant model to a local Girl Scout troop that is currently adopting a drain.
 - Idea: Introduce friendly competition or campaign
 - Idea: Provide incentives such as bumper stickers, swag, etc.
 - Idea: Evaluate collaboration opportunities to scale program visibility (ex: other communities, other programs with same goal)
 - Define success metrics and tracking methods
 - 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
 - Communicate program results to the initiative participants and the broader community
- Lead Commissioners: Emily Castellanos and Nicole Slavin

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
 - Idea: Host Q&A sessions at Farmers Markets on home compost practices.
 - Idea: Pilot a smaller-scale composting initiative to test and learn
 - Identify alternative partners/models
 - Investigate collaborations with farms or other compost facilities
 - Research other city composting programs
 - 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: Jonie Panick

Initiative: Planned Natural Landscapes

- Goals:
 - Support pollinators
 - Increase community adoption of native plant landscaping.
 - Commission is partnering with the City of Green Bay, the Conservation Corps, and the Botanical Garden for pollinator plant handout in Summer of 2026.

- Provide educational resources to overcome knowledge gaps.
- Promote sustainable land-use practices.
- Actions:
 - Refocus outreach and engagement
 - Increase social media marketing
 - Create marketing content
 - Create handouts
 - Idea: Replacement plants
 - Interview those that have changed their landscape and create marketing campaign around their case study/success story
 - Highlight process, reasons for changing, maintenance, and more
 - Engage community
 - Create success metrics and tracking
- Lead Commissioner: Emily Castellanos

Initiative: **Urban Orchards**

- Goals:
 - Support pollinators
 - Have fruit available for anyone and everyone to pick - make De Pere a greener/healthier place
- Actions:
 - Urban Orchards are already established
 - Increase pollinator habitats around urban orchards to support healthy growth
- Note - The orchards do need regular maintenance and this falls to Public Works or Parks Department
- Lead Commissioner: Maintenance = Public Works/Parks; Pollinator habitats = Emily Castellanos

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.
 - City to complete Green Tier Legacy Community submittal to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in 2026.
- Actions
 - Complete the Wisconsin DNR Green Tier scoresheet in 2026. The City is looking at awarding a proposal to have a consultant assist in the scoresheet preparation.
- Lead Commissioner: Rachel Leonard



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.E

Request for Sustainability Commission
Action

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Adopt-a-Drain
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Initiative Prioritization_Adopt a Drain

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on Initiative Prioritization – Adopt-a-Drain**

The purpose of this item is to evaluate the Adopt-a-Drain program against the initiative prioritization evaluation criteria.

Adopt-a-Drain

Origin

Starting in 2024, the Adopt-a-Drain program was created to formalize the cleaning of storm sewer inlets within the public right-of-way. Residents who sign up to adopt a drain are provided with a drain cleaning kit to help their cleaning efforts. Participants are encouraged to take photos and document the amount of debris cleaned up at the inlets as part of their adoption.

History

August 20, 2024, the Adopt-a-Drain program is adopted by Common Council as an educational and outreach tool.

On October 2, 2025, the Adopt-a-Drain program was included in the City Newsletter and is routinely promoted on City social media channels.

On October 6, 2025 an advertisement campaign started with the De Pere Cinema showcasing the promotional Adopt-a-Drain video the commission created.

In the third quarter of 2025, the Sustainability Commission awarded a rain barrel to all participating and newly joined residents for the Adopt-a-Drain program.

Currently, the Adopt-a-Drain program has 24 adopters who clean 33 inlets throughout the City.

Status

The program is slowly growing in participation. Additional education and outreach is recommended.

Discussion

The Sustainability Commission is evaluating how to further promote this initiative to promote growth. Staff is working towards possible billboard mockups regarding this initiative. Additional social media presence has also been recommended by the Commission.

Staff will presenting the storm water model to the Girl Scout Troop on April 27.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.F

Request for Sustainability Commission
Action

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Composting
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Initiative Prioritization_Compost

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Composting**

The purpose of this item is to evaluate composting and the composting reimbursement program against the initiative prioritization evaluation criteria.

Composting Reimbursement Program History

Origin

The City of De Pere wanted to provide a program to incentivize residents for using local composting services. This program started out as a partnership with a local composting company and has since turned into a partnership directly with City residents to reimburse invoices from local composting services.

History

- December 13, 2022 – Greener Bay Compost presents to the De Pere Sustainability Commission regarding the benefits and ease of private composting and wishes to enter a public-private partnership with the City.
- In 2023, the City budgets \$10,000 to hire a composting consultant in 2024 with the intent to enter into a partnership with Greener Bay Compost.
- April 2024 – A formal partnership between the City of Green Bay and Greener Bay Compost is established where the City will reimburse 50% of the registration fees for those residents utilizing their composting services.
- August 2024 – Greener Bay Compost raises their subscription fees 20%.
- September 2024 – Greener Bay Compost indicates they will terminate their contract with the City of De Pere if we do not budget what they deem to be sufficient funding for composting services in 2025. The City indicates that enough budget is present to meet current demand with room for moderate growth.
- December 31, 2024 – The partnership with Greener Bay Compost is terminated due to their budgetary concerns.
- January 1, 2025 – The City launches the compost reimbursement program where residents are directly reimbursed by the City in lieu of reimbursing Greener Bay Compost for subscription

fees. The annual budget is increased to \$12,000 and the City carries over left over funds from 2024 to further bolster reimbursement funds.

- January 1, 2026 – The annual budget is a portion of \$16,976.50. This money is also to be used for consulting for other sustainable initiatives.

Discussion

Currently, there are 25 households that are actively participating in the Composting Reimbursement program. Of these households, 11 utilize the “Every-4-Week” service level, where the other 14 utilize the “Every-Other-Week” service level. Of the 24 participants, 16 have requested reimbursement so far in 2026 totaling to be \$576 in reimbursements.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.G

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Pollinator Gardens /
Planned Natural Landscapes
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Initiative Prioritization_Pollinator Gardens

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on Initiative Prioritization – Pollinator Gardens / Planned Natural Landscapes**

The purpose of this item is to evaluate pollinator gardens and the planned natural landscapes initiatives against the initiative prioritization evaluation criteria.

Pollinator Gardens / Planned Natural Landscapes History

Origin

The pollinator garden initiative started in March 2024, when the Sustainability Commission voted to discontinue “No Mow May.” The Common Council urged the commission to continue to champion our pollinators and further promote the new Natural Landscaping Ordinance in lieu of “No Mow May.” This coupled with complaints regarding the City’s urban orchards led to the genesis of the Sustainability Commission looking to have pollinator gardens installed at our City parks.

History

Annually, the Sustainability Commission promotes pollinator week which results in a proclamation made by the Mayor at Common Council. Pollinator week typically falls on the third week in June (June 16-22, 2025).

- March 12, 2024
 - No Mow May is Discontinued
 - Selena Darrow of Rooted In, Inc. outlines her complaints to the Sustainability Commission regarding the City’s urban orchards.
- April 6, 2024 – Selena Darrow of Rooted In, Inc. requested that the Commission allocate money to establish pollinator gardens at our urban orchards.
- August 26, 2024 – Staff met with the The Plant Gal to discuss the feasibility of pollinator garden installation at Braisher Park, Samantha Park, VFW Park, and Voyageur Park. Estimate for materials only came to be approximately \$4,000.
- October 9, 2024 – Staff met with the City Urban Orchard Committee to determine the feasibility of constructing pollinator gardens. Approval was received to pursue approval with the Board of Park Commissioners.

- November 21, 2024 – Staff met with the Board of Park Commissioners and received unanimous approval for the construction and maintenance of Pollinator Gardens at City Parks.
- March 11, 2025 – Staff provided a draft request for proposals for the creation of Pollinator Gardens to the Sustainability Commission for comment. No Proposals ended up getting submitted.
- Summer of 2026 – De Pere Sustainability Commission is partnering with the Green Bay Botanical Gardens and Conservation Corps for a plant hand-out to better promote pollinators.

Discussion

The Sustainability Commission is currently working towards two separate events regarding pollinators, the Five for Fliers and the Summer Day Plant handout. Commissioner Castellanos has updated the Common Invasive Species handout for the Commission's review.

Commissioner Castellanos is getting information on the Conservation Corps group that takes on planting projects in the Green Bay area.



City of De Pere, Wisconsin

4.H

**Request for Sustainability Commission
Action**

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026
Department: Public Works
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Subject: Discussion on Initiative Prioritization - Green Energy
Recommendation: Discussion only. No action necessary.

Attachments:
2026 0414 CE_SC_Initiative Prioritization_Green Energy

CITY OF DE PERE MEMO



To: Members of the Sustainability Commission
From: Chase Kuffel, Assistant City Engineer
Date: April 14, 2026

RE: **Discussion on Initiative Prioritization – Green Energy**

The purpose of this item is to evaluate the Green Energy work plan against the initiative prioritization evaluation criteria.

Green Energy

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.

Updates

At the February 10, 2026 Sustainability Commission meeting, staff presented a proposal to retain a consultant to assist in completing the WisDNR Green Tier scoresheet by the end of 2026. Staff has our kickoff meeting with the consultant on April 17th.