



MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager
DATE: Tuesday, October 1, 2013
RE: Staff Report

City Green Team

The City of Urbana is now offering an Employee Bike Share. There are two bicycles available to staff; one at the City Building and one at Public Works. These bicycles were unclaimed property contributed to the Bike Share by the City of Urbana Police Department. Employees must pass the online bicycle safety quiz at www.bikesafetyquiz.com/ at the Silver level and email their certificate to Rebecca Bird at rbird@urbanaindinois.us. They will also need to sign a waiver which they receive upon completion of the safety quiz. Employees must wear a helmet when using the City bikes. This contributes to Goal 2: Action 3 of the Climate Action Plan.

Climate Action Plan (CAP)

Goal 1: Action 1

A multi-stakeholder group is soliciting feedback on a pilot website and program for an Urbana-Champaign Energy Star Challenge (www.ucenergychallenge.com). This effort will invite commercial building owners and managers to benchmark their 2013 energy use, then track and improve energy use throughout 2014, all with US EPA's free online tool, Energy Star Portfolio Manager. Participants can access free in-person assistance using the Energy Star Portfolio Manager program to manage their building's energy use. Additionally, participants will be connected with financial incentives to move their projects forward and technical support to help pinpoint building energy savings. Organizers are reaching out to business organizations to invite them to participate.

Staff had worked with a University professor to develop a class that would study barriers to adopting energy efficient practices in the commercial sector, but the professor had to cancel this class. Staff will investigate the ability to conduct this study through a postcard prompt and online survey.

Goal 1: Action 2

The City has signed a Municipal Aggregation Agreement for June 2014 to June 2016. This agreement includes Renewable Energy Credits covering 100% of electricity purchased through aggregation.

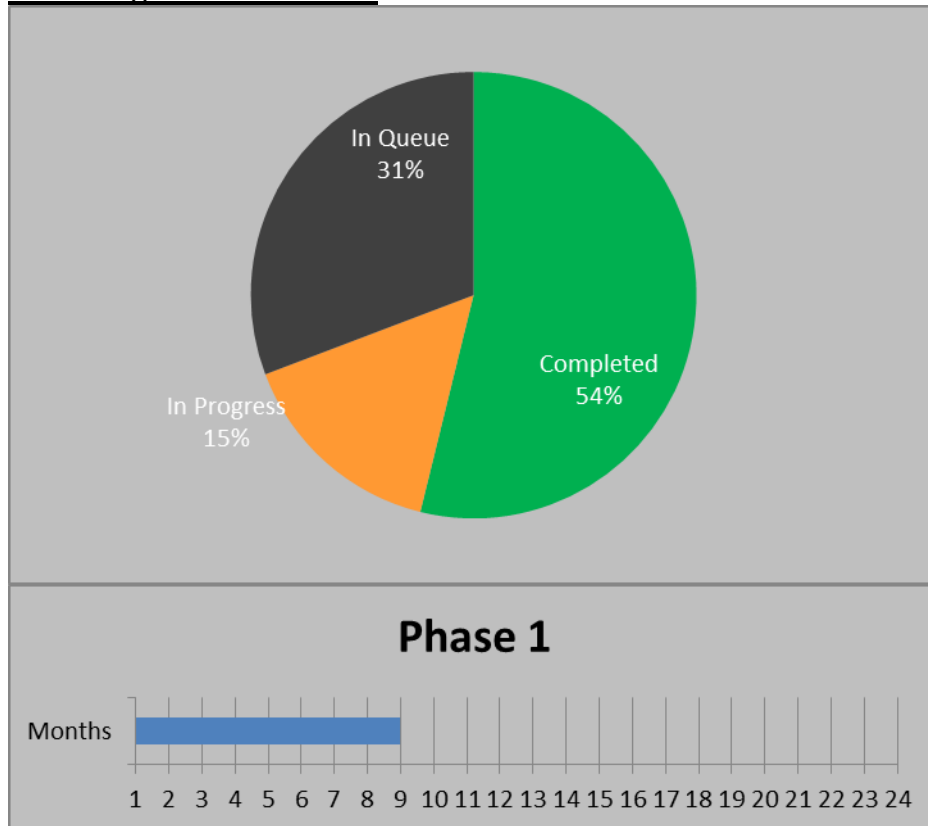
Goal 2: Action 2

The City is supporting a safe and sustainable transportation culture with the creation of a bicycle diversion program for bicyclists that have received tickets for failure to stop and other traffic infractions. The program allows bicyclists who receive a ticket to take a bicycle education class to reduce the fine from \$100 to just \$30. Of the 49 tickets written, 48 reduced the fine by taking the class. Now the City has made the program even more convenient for bicycle offenders by allowing them to take an online bicycle safety course to reduce the fine instead of an actual class at City Hall.

Goal 5: Action 4

Staff supported energy and climate curriculum for the Urbana Middle School by participating in a teacher training sponsored by Illinois State University called “Teaching Next Generation Energy Concepts with Next Generation Science Standards”.

CAP Progress as of 9/23/13



Municipal Electric Aggregation

See attached memo.

Sustainable Water Management Plan

Aspect 1:

Goal 2: Action 6

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Aspect 2:

Goal 1: Action 3

Staff has discussed creating common messaging and model policies for Mahomet Aquifer communities with the Mahomet Aquifer Consortium. Staff is waiting on their consideration of the issue.

U-Cycle

The Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC) is interested in performing a waste audit at a city facility. This involves sorting and characterizing the entire waste and recycling streams just before they are picked up. ISTC will analyze the results and make recommendations to improve waste diversion. Staff will evaluate the logistics of conducting such an audit.

Next SAC Meeting

Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers.