



MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager
DATE: Tuesday, October 11, 2016
RE: Staff Report

Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress

Goal 1: Action 6 Evaluate Opportunities to retrofit existing outdoor lighting with more energy efficient lighting.

Staff will be presenting a Memorandum of Understanding to City Council on October 10 whereby the City will partner with the University to retrofit streetlights along Springfield Ave. between Wright St. and Lincoln Ave. with LED lights. The University will pay for the equipment and the City will provide the labor.

Goal 3: Action 4: Propose strategies to improve the local onsite renewable energy market.

As part of the SolSmart menu of best practices, staff has created a new page on the city website where we will locate all information and links to resources needed for installing a solar array in the City of Urbana. This act moves us closer to getting a bronze level SolSmart designation.

Goal 4: Action 3 Incorporate pollinator-supportive plant species in City landscapes

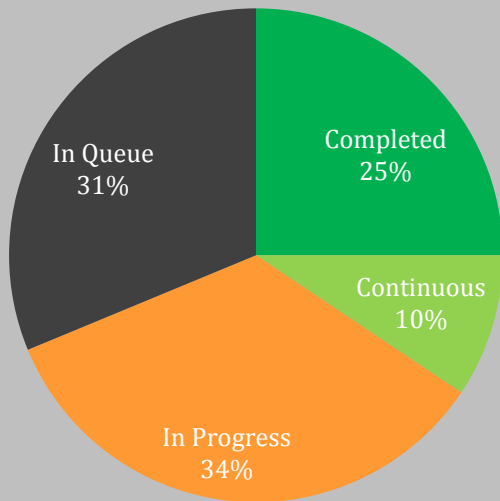
On September 6, Mayor Prussing read a proclamation declaring September 2016 as Monarch Butterfly month. Urbana has now completed 8 of 24 activities in National Wildlife Federations Mayors for Monarchs menu of activities. The City anticipates completing several more activities in the spring.

Goal 5 Action 1: Partner with existing energy efficiency programs and community groups

Five new households have reported greenhouse gas emissions reductions from our recent Low Carbon Diet teams. These households reduced emissions from 1,200 to 14,000 lbs of carbon per year. Another five or six households are expected.

Staff spoke about the U-C ENERGY STAR Challenge at the recent Ameren Restaurant Roundtable on Energy Efficiency. There are currently 38 buildings registered for the Challenge.

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Timeline



Public Engagement

Staff worked with the Urbana High School Sustainability Club to explore energy, water, and recycling projects the students could pursue at the school. Staff will be available for follow up meetings with the Club to further develop the projects.

Staff spoke at the Illinois Municipal League Conference regarding our recent bulk solar purchase program with our program manager, Peter Murphy, from the Midwest Renewable Energy Association. Our presentation encouraged other cities to undertake the solar market development activities that Urbana has been participating in.

U-Cycle

Staff provided materials to the Urbana Free Library's shredding event on Saturday, September 24, including U-Cycle brochures, electronics recycling guides and battery buckets and an ink jet cartridge box to collect these recyclables. During the event four buckets of batteries were collected.

Next SAC Meeting

November 1 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers