

Meeting Date: 09/13/2016

Information

Title:

Discuss Opportunity for Assistance from University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to Complete Pending Land Use Studies and Strategic Plan Initiatives

Purpose/Background:

Purpose

The purpose of this case is to inform City Council of an innovative program opportunity through the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP). This case should not be interpreted as formal consideration of the program at this time; the intent is to simply bring this opportunity to the attention of the City Council. Staff is bringing this forward for discussion with the idea that this program may bring innovative ideas to several policy topics currently under consideration that may not be considered with existing resources and expertise.

Each academic year (July 1 - June 30), one community is selected as the Partner Community and gains access to a broad base of knowledge and expertise from U of MN faculty, graduate students, and upper level undergraduate students. The program attempts to match community identified projects with graduate and upper level undergraduate courses to complete the identified project(s). The application process for this program has been divided into two (2) components with the first step being a Letter of Intent (due by September 15, 2016). Based on the LOI submittals, selected communities will then be invited to apply to the RCP program (application due by February 15, 2017). The selected community's partnership would begin July 1, 2017 and would end June 30, 2018.

Background

This program is based on projects identified by the Partner Community. As Staff discussed this opportunity, our goal was to consider what projects were 'in the hopper' but just haven't progressed yet for one reason or another. Attached is a list of possible projects that were identified by Community Development, Public Works, Engineering and Administration Staff that may be a good fit for this program. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, rather it simply demonstrates that there are a wide range of projects that could get jump started if Ramsey were selected as the Partner Community.

There are multiple benefits to participating in the RCP. Most notably is the access to faculty and graduate/upper level undergraduate students from multiple disciplines, including architecture, planning, engineering, environmental sciences, public health and others. It provides an opportunity to advance projects that may otherwise never get off the ground. Furthermore, assistance is available for all stages of sustainability, which can include analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation. The Partner Community would gain access to hundreds of hours of concentrated student work on projects the City has specifically identified.

Staff has reached out to two (2) former Partner Communities to gauge their level of satisfaction with the program and whether they would do it again if the opportunity arose. Both communities were generally supportive of the program outcomes noting that some of the project results were equal to or exceeded work they had received from consultants. However, both communities identified staff time commitment as a challenge. The RCP program recommends that each project lead should plan for an average of 2-4 hours per week on their project(s) over the course of the twelve (12) month program and the overall program coordinator should plan for an average of 5-7 hours per week over the course of the program. The overall Program Manager would be the Community Development Director, with individual Project Managers including the City Planner and other key Staff based on the individual project.

There is a financial commitment required of the Partner Community, which is based on the number of projects

proposed (for base payment) and actual number of projects successfully matched with a course or courses. Communities must proposed between ten (10) and thirty (30) projects; the base fee for ten to twenty (10-20) projects is \$40,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the base fee is \$80,000.00. In addition to the base fee, for each successfully matched project with a course or courses, there is an additional \$2,000.00 fee. So, for ten to twenty (10-20) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$80,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$120,000.00 (Staff would not recommend participation at this commitment level). Payment can be made in two (2) lump sum payments, the first due in fiscal year 2017 and the second due in fiscal year 2018. Staff would plan for a total commitment of \$60,000 to \$80,000 based on the City's potential project list, divided over two (2) fiscal years (\$30,000 to \$40,000 per year). Staff would recommend existing budget requests/forecasts for professional services (no impact to proposed 2017 General Fund Budget Request).

The RCP is an interesting program that may provide an innovative approach to address various initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan. However, preparation of this case is not meant to indicate that the City is pursuing this opportunity but rather a means to inform City Council of the RCP program. Staff does acknowledge the level of Staff commitment to manage this program. Should the City Council provide direction to submit a LOI, a resolution of support has been placed on the regular agenda for consideration this evening.

Timeframe:

30 minutes

Funding Source:

If selected as the Partner Community, the required financial contribution would be paid through the Community Development Department's professional services budget or, depending on the project focus, potentially from a more appropriate Department's professional services budget.

Responsible Party(ies):

Community Development Director
City Planner

Outcome:

Provide direction to Staff to submit/not submit a Letter of Intent to the Resilient Communities Project for consideration.

Attachments

Resilient Communities Project Program Background

Summaries of Past Community Partner Projects

Potential City Projects

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Tim Gladhill	Tim Gladhill	09/07/2016 02:49 PM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	09/08/2016 04:01 PM
Form Started By: Chris Anderson		Started On: 09/06/2016 02:32 PM
Final Approval Date: 09/08/2016		

Resilient Communities Project Request for Letters of Intent to Apply for 2017–2018 Partnership

The University of Minnesota (U of MN) is accepting **letters of intent** from cities and counties that wish to apply to be the community partner for the Resilient Communities Project (RCP) for the **2017–2018 academic year** (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

Based on feedback from previous community partners and applicants to the program, this year RCP has instituted the following two-phase application process to make the process easier and less time-consuming for applicants:

Phase I: Letter of Intent to Apply. The purpose of the letter of intent (LOI) is to demonstrate your community's interest in, organizational support for, and financial and staff capacity to support a one-year partnership with RCP. Timeline: Call issued July 18, 2016; LOI due September 15, 2016; notification by September 30, 2016 if invited to submit a formal application.

Phase II: Program Application. Based on the LOI, selected communities will be invited to apply to the RCP program. The purpose of the application is to identify and describe specific projects, staff project leads, and community partners for the one-year partnership with RCP. Timeline: Invitation to submit an application transmitted by September 30, 2016; program application due February 15, 2017; selected community partner announced by March 15, 2017; partnership begins July 1, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018.

Detailed instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent and Program Application are provided below.

I. RCP Program Overview

RCP facilitates year-long partnerships between the U of MN and one selected community in Minnesota. Through the partnership, students and faculty from across the University collaborate with the community partner to address its self-defined sustainability-related needs through course-based projects. The collaboration results in on-the-ground impact and momentum for a community working toward a more sustainable and livable future. Cities, counties, and clusters of communities (for example, along a transportation corridor, around a regional center, or within a watershed) are eligible. To minimize travel time and costs, applicant communities should ideally be located within a two-hour drive of the Twin Cities, where RCP is based. Communities located further away from the Twin Cities will be considered if additional funds are contributed for overnight travel costs. Former and current community partners

include the City of Minnetonka (2012–2013), City of North St. Paul (2013–2014), City of Rosemount (2014–2015), Carver County (2015–2016), and City of Brooklyn Park (2016–2017).

The RCP model provides our partner community with efficient access to the broad base of sustainability expertise at the U of MN. RCP staff work closely with the partner community to match their projects with students and faculty from a wide range of disciplines—from architecture, planning, and engineering to environmental sciences, public health, and the humanities. Most projects involve multiple disciplines in order to address problems from diverse perspectives. Assistance is available related to all aspects of sustainability (e.g., environmental health, economic opportunity, social equity, and community livability) and all stages of sustainability efforts (analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation). Through work with RCP, the community is able to enhance its own capacity to advance local sustainability and resilience in a cost-effective manner. U of MN students benefit from real-world opportunities to apply their knowledge and training, as well as bringing energy, enthusiasm, and innovative approaches to local problems and opportunities.

The partner community must support the effort through dedicated staff time and a local financial contribution. The selection process is competitive.

Benefits of Partnership with RCP

RCP provides numerous benefits for the community partner, including:

- a high rate of return on investment, with thousands of hours of concentrated student work on community-identified projects
- access to an interdisciplinary group of faculty with first-hand knowledge of cutting-edge sustainability research and practice
- data collection, analysis, research, concept plans, designs, and policy recommendations that can energize staff, increase the range of options available, and get “stuck” projects moving
- greater support from residents for proposed solutions through student outreach in the community
- publicity in local, state, regional, and national publications and venues, highlighting your community as a forward-thinking and sustainable community
- faculty, students, and staff who serve as ambassadors for your community by sharing their experiences through conference presentations, community meetings, and informal conversations
- engaged students with on-the-ground knowledge of the community who may be candidates for future internships or staff positions

II. How the RCP Partnership Works

RCP will select one community partner for the 2017–2018 academic year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018). Staff from RCP and the community will begin work on the year-long collaboration with a series of orientation and planning workshops in summer 2017 to introduce community partner staff to the program, refine the scope of locally identified projects, begin matching

projects with relevant graduate and upper-level undergraduate courses at the U of MN, and involve local project stakeholders/partners in the collaboration.

RCP Program Timeline

- **March 2017:** Community partner for 2017–2018 announced.
- **May 2017:** RCP End-of-Year Celebration for City of Brooklyn Park partnership (our next community partner will be introduced at this event)
- **Summer 2017:** (1) Orientation workshops for all participating staff from the partner community; (2) RCP and the community refine the scope of individual projects, match projects with appropriate U of MN courses, and meet with faculty to develop formal scopes-of-work for each project and participating course; (3) community staff provide background information, reports, and data for projects; (4) RCP and community partner develop and sign formal contract.
- **Fall 2017:** (1) RCP kick-off event in the partner community (early to mid-September); (2) fall-semester classes work on RCP projects (September–December); (3) final scoping of spring semester courses (October–December).
- **Spring 2018:** (1) Spring-semester classes work on RCP projects (January–May); (2) fall-semester student reports delivered to community.
- **May 2018:** RCP End-of-Year Celebration on the U of MN campus
- **Summer 2018:** (1) Spring-semester student reports delivered to community; (2) optional follow-up work with RCP staff to outline next steps and priorities for the community's efforts to advance sustainability and resilience.

University Commitment

During summer 2017, RCP staff and faculty will meet with community staff and project partners/stakeholders to develop a comprehensive scope-of-work document for each project and participating U of MN course to guide work throughout the semester. The scope of work will include a problem statement, potential issues or directions for student exploration, specific project activities, final deliverables, and a project timeline. Depending on the community's matching funds available, RCP has the capacity to address 10–30 local projects during the partnership year, matching each project with one or more courses to complete the necessary work. Projects will be carried out as part of U of MN courses offered during the fall (September through December 2017) and spring (January through May 2018) semesters. Work will be completed by graduate students or upper-division undergraduate students, with direct oversight by faculty instructors.

Coordination and support provided by RCP staff offers significant benefits and efficiencies over stand-alone projects in which the community might participate with an individual faculty member. RCP staff with expertise in sustainability, project management, and communications will provide ongoing support throughout the semester to ensure high-quality outcomes that meet the partner community's needs. Support will include coordinating University resources, scheduling and facilitating project scoping meetings, identifying and coordinating delivery of data and background information for projects as needed, maintaining a partnership website,

coordinating communications and media outreach about the partnership, soliciting periodic feedback from participants, and troubleshooting projects as needed.

Outcomes from each University course will be documented in a final report and/or presentation at the conclusion of the fall or spring semester. Project results will be shared with the community, and disseminated through the RCP website, social media, and traditional media outlets. All student work will be licensed through a Creative Commons agreement that allows the community partners to reproduce, distribute, or adapt the work for other purposes.

Community Staff Commitment

A key element of a successful RCP partnership is commitment and involvement from community staff. The community partner must have one or more organizational champions for RCP, preferably a city/county manager or another senior staff person within the organization who has the authority and ability to direct and motivate staff to participate in the partnership. As part of its application, the community will be expected to identify a senior staff person who will be the primary **program coordinator** for the partnership, serving as a liaison between the community and RCP, and working directly with RCP's director and program staff to oversee all projects. The program coordinator should be engaged enough in each project to know the staff involved and to understand the project's scope and current status. The program coordinator's time commitment will vary based upon the number of projects and their level of involvement with each project. *In general, however, they should expect to spend an average of 5–7 hours per week for 12 months to coordinate 15 projects involving 20–30 courses (or more if additional projects are undertaken).* The number of hours will vary, with more time required during project scoping and initial foundational work in support of the partnership, and less time required once the partnership and classes are underway. If you are applying to RCP as a multi-community partnership, each government entity may be asked to designate a program coordinator responsible for all projects involving that entity.

For each project that is successfully matched with one or more U of MN courses, the community partner will be expected to identify a **project lead** who will be the primary point of contact for students and faculty working on that project. The work of project leads may include preparing background materials for students; presenting projects during class meeting times on the U of MN Minneapolis or St. Paul campuses; accompanying students on site visits in the community; attending project meetings with RCP students, faculty, and staff; coordinating the participation of residents, community organizations, or other stakeholders in the project; participating in reviews of student work throughout the semester; coordinating and attending final presentations of student work on the U of MN campuses and/or in the community; and participating in kickoff and end-of-year events. Depending on the number of courses matched with the project, *project leads should anticipate spending an average of 2–4 hours per week on each project they are responsible for during each semester the project is in process.* In our experience, to ensure sufficient time is available to devote to participation in RCP, no staff member should be the lead on more than 2–3 projects.

During summer 2017, project leads will be expected to participate in a half-day orientation workshop and provide background documents for each project for which they are responsible,

including but not limited to background reports and memos, GIS maps and data layers, community datasets, aerial photographs, prior concept plans, and computer-aided drawings.

Financial Cost of the Program

RCP offers our partner community a high level of access to the wide-ranging expertise at the University of Minnesota related to fostering sustainable and resilient communities, as well as significant assistance matching, scoping, coordinating, and managing projects. RCP staff identify and facilitate one-to-one connections between city staff and faculty members from a variety of disciplines to develop meaningful projects that respond directly to local needs. RCP provides program management and project coordination support; reimbursement of project-related travel and material costs to support student participation in the program; student and faculty site visits to and field work in the community; compilation and distribution of final reports and other deliverables; publicity for and hosting of kickoff and end-of-year celebration events; student-created materials for display in the partner community; regular publicity through social, print, and broadcast media; and digital archiving of student work products. RCP works closely with the University Relations Office and University News Service to coordinate publicity, and with University Libraries to coordinate the network of sustainability resources available to students and the partner community. The value of these items is conservatively estimated at \$250,000 to \$300,000 for the partnership year.

RCP receives some funding and in-kind support from the University of Minnesota’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), but we also require a **local financial contribution** from our partner community. Partner communities may choose to fund their local contribution through a collaboration with other groups, such as county and state agencies, school and watershed districts, private developers, business partners, and chambers of commerce. Regardless of where these funds are obtained from, **the selected partner community is responsible for acting as the fiscal agent for the partnership, and for making two lump-sum payments to RCP, one no later than August 31, 2017, and a second no later than February 15, 2018.**

The cost of the program is dependent on the number of projects included in the partnership, which impacts both our staffing needs and the direct costs of delivering the program. For the 2017–2018 academic year, our fee structure is as follows:

- **For 10 to 20 projects:** \$40,000 + \$2000 for each project successfully matched with one or more courses (not to exceed a total of \$80,000 for 20 projects matched)
- **For 21 to 30 projects:** \$60,000 + \$2,000 for each project successfully matched with one or more courses (not to exceed a total of \$120,000 for 30 projects matched)

III. Application Process

RCP is available to assist you with your application at any stage—including introducing the RCP program and model to staff, elected officials, or potential project partners; assisting with preparing a letter of intent; helping to brainstorm ideas for or frame potential projects; and finalizing your application for submission to RCP.

Application Process Timeline

- **July 18, 2016:** RCP issues call for letters of intent for 2017–2018 partnership.
- **July to September 2016:** RCP staff are available for informational presentations about the program to city staff, elected officials, or potential partner organizations and agencies.
- **September 15, 2016:** letters of intent due to RCP **by 12:00 midnight CST.**
- **September 30, 2016:** Notification to communities that are invited to submit a formal proposal to RCP.
- **October 2016 to February 2017:** RCP staff are available for phone conferences and in-person meetings to discuss potential projects with communities, as well as for informational presentations to staff, elected officials, or potential partner organizations and agencies. *We strongly suggest communities that intend to apply to the program schedule one or more in-person visits with RCP staff to discuss individual projects that may be included in the application.*
- **February 15, 2017:** Applications are due to RCP **by 12:00 midnight CST.**
- **March 15, 2017:** RCP notifies the community selected for the 2017–2018 partnership. RCP and the community coordinate media to publicly announce the partnership.

Letter of Intent Components

The letter of intent (LOI) should demonstrate your community’s interest in, organizational support for, and financial and staff capacity to support a one-year partnership with RCP. The LOI should be a **maximum of eight (8) double-spaced pages** (not including letters of support). For full consideration, your LOI must include all of the following:

1. **Community Information:** Provide the name of your community, the name of your community manager/administrator, and the name and contact information (email, phone, mailing address, department, and staff role) of the person who will serve as your RCP program coordinator (see p. 4) and who will be the primary contact for your application going forward.
2. **Sustainability Statement:** Provide a statement that demonstrates your community’s interest in and commitment to sustainability and resilience, as well as how a partnership with the Resilient Communities Project will both build upon and advance these efforts. If your community has a sustainability action plan, strategic plan, or other adopted document that demonstrates this commitment, you should explicitly reference this document in your application and provide a URL where it can be viewed online.
3. **Administrative Capacity:** A successful partnership will require an ongoing commitment of staff time to coordinate and manage individual projects and the overall partnership. This section should demonstrate the community’s general capacity to manage individual projects; effectively engage community partners or stakeholders; provide updates to elected officials, senior staff, residents, and others not directly involved in projects; and administer the overall partnership with the University.

4. **Proposed Projects:** Provide a list and short (1–2 sentence) descriptions of **at least 10 and no more than 30 potential projects** to be included in the partnership. Projects should address high-priority issues for the community, and involve research or technical assistance appropriate for graduate-level work. We understand the actual list of projects may change if your community is invited to submit a formal application, but the list should serve to provide a general idea of the types of projects and topics your community is interested in pursuing. For a list of projects proposed by our past partner communities, visit rcp.umn.edu and select the Communities tab.
5. **Public Involvement:** Meaningfully engaging residents and other stakeholders can be critical to the success of local sustainability efforts. How will the public and stakeholders be informed about and involved in the RCP partnership if you were selected as our community partner?
6. **Long-Term Benefits:** Describe what you anticipate as the long-term benefits and/or outcomes of a partnership with RCP.
7. **Demonstration of Support:** Include letters of support or resolutions from one or more of the following: city/county manager or administrator, mayor, elected governing body, senior staff or department heads.
8. **Acknowledgement of Local Financial Contribution:** Include an acknowledgement of the financial contribution required to participate in the program if your community is selected (for 10 to 20 projects—not to exceed \$80,000; for 21 to 30 projects—not to exceed \$120,000).

Submitting Your Letter of Intent

Letters of intent are due September 15, 2016, by 12:00 midnight CST. E-mail your completed LOI in PDF format to: Mike Greco, RCP Director, mgreco@umn.edu.

Formal Application Components

If your community is invited to submit a formal application to RCP based on your LOI, the individual identified as the primary contact for your application (see item #1 above) will be notified no later than September 30, 2016. If invited to submit an application, your application must include all of the following:

1. **Proposal development process:** Briefly describe the process by which your proposal was developed, including how and by whom this process was led, how project leads participated in the selection of projects and development of project descriptions, how elected officials and senior staff were involved in the process, and how potential community partners or stakeholders were engaged.
2. **Proposed Projects:** Provide detailed individual descriptions of at least 10 and no more than 30 well-formulated projects. Projects should address high-priority issues for the community, and involve research or technical assistance appropriate for graduate-level work. Note that this list of projects may differ from the list originally submitted with

your letter of intent. For each project, you should provide the following information:

- A. **Project name/title.**
- B. **Project lead.** Identify one community staff person who will serve as the primary contact for the project, as well as their title and department, e-mail address, and phone number.
- C. **A one- to two-paragraph description of the project.** What is the purpose of the project? Why is this project important to the community at this time? What are the community's ultimate goals or objectives related to the project?
- D. **2–3 specific questions, issues, or problems you want students to address.**
- E. **An explanation of how student work would be used.** How will work that addresses these questions/issues/ideas/problems advance the community's efforts related to this project?
- F. **One or more specific impacts of the project relative to community sustainability and resilience.** This section should explicitly reference the relationship of the project to local actions, plans, or priorities, and to the sustainability statement included with your original letter of intent.
- G. **Existing plans, reports, data, or other information** relevant to the project. If these are available online, include a web link.
- H. **Community partners or stakeholders** (beyond city/county staff) that will be invited to participate in the project. Describe specifically how these individuals or organizations will be involved, what they will do, and how their participation will benefit the project.

We strongly encourage applicants to contact RCP Director Mike Greco (mgreco@umn.edu, 612-625-7501) for assistance developing their project list and project descriptions.

3. **Next Steps:** Describe the community's general strategy for identifying "next steps" for individual projects at the conclusion of the year-long RCP partnership in June 2018. What will the community do with all of the information produced from the partnership?
4. **Demonstration of Support:** Include any additional letters of support for the partnership not included with your letter of intent, including support from partner organizations/agencies or funding entities.
5. **Local Financial Contribution:** Include a description of the source of funds to support the financial contribution required to participate in the program (for 10 to 20 projects—not to exceed \$80,000; for 21 to 30 projects—not to exceed \$120,000). Note that regardless of where funds are obtained from, **the selected partner community is responsible for acting as the fiscal agent for the partnership, and for making two lump-sum payments to RCP, one no later than August 31, 2017, and a second no later than February 15, 2018.**

Submitting Your Application

Applications are due February 15, 2017, by 12:00 midnight CST. E-mail your completed application in PDF format to: Mike Greco, RCP Director, mgreco@umn.edu.

Evaluation Criteria

RCP will evaluate letters of intent and formal applications based on the following criteria:

- 1. Top-Level Support and Administrative Capacity:** City/county manager or administrator, mayor, elected officials, and/or department heads indicate a willingness to direct organization staff to participate in RCP program, and provide resources and devote time to identified projects. Community has sufficient staff capacity to engage successfully in a year-long partnership across multiple projects, and to carry work forward at the conclusion of the partnership.
- 2. Clear Sustainability and Resilience Focus:** Projects clearly build upon and advance the community's overall sustainability and resilience efforts, and include specific sustainability- or resilience-related goals such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fostering active living, supporting alternative modes of transportation or energy generation, enhancing social equity, enhancing public participation opportunities, engaging underserved or marginalized groups, creating a stronger sense of community or place, enhancing livability, conserving or restoring environmental resources, preserving or enhancing ecosystem services, increasing housing density or mix, improving urban form, reducing energy use, finding adaptive reuses for existing structures, redeveloping underutilized land parcels, promoting equitable economic development, or ensuring fiscally prudent infrastructure investments. *[Note: This list is for illustration only and is by no means exhaustive.]*
- 3. Project Relevance and Impact:** Projects are well formulated and directly relate to the community's stated short-term and long-term strategic goals (ideally as embodied in a strategic plan or work plan). Projects should demonstrate the potential to have a measurable positive impact on community sustainability and resilience. Demonstrated relationship to community comprehensive or sustainability plans, policies, programs, or indicators is also helpful.
- 4. Community Engagement:** Community demonstrates a commitment to meaningfully and appropriately engage residents and other stakeholders throughout the partnership as a means of integrating local knowledge, and strengthening and broadening support for local sustainability and resilience efforts.
- 5. Likelihood of Match with University Courses:** Projects must be within the capability of University of Minnesota faculty and graduate students, and should involve appropriate research and/or technical assistance needs, not menial tasks or low-level administrative work. RCP will identify faculty who are able and willing to supervise course-based projects based on their curricular and research needs and interests. Coordinating with RCP as your organization develops its project list will help facilitate a strong match.

Note, however, that RCP cannot guarantee that all locally identified projects will be matched with a course.

- 6. External Partnerships:** Projects that involve other organizations—such as transportation districts, school districts, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, business or professional organizations, businesses, or research or educational institutions—are especially desirable. Your formal application should specifically indicate how these partnerships would function and how participation of these entities would enhance the project.

Resilient Communities Project–City of Minnetonka 2012–2013 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



During the 2012–2013 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of Minnetonka, a fully developed suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 14 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 25 courses spanning 12 departments across 8 academic colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, engaging more than 200 students.

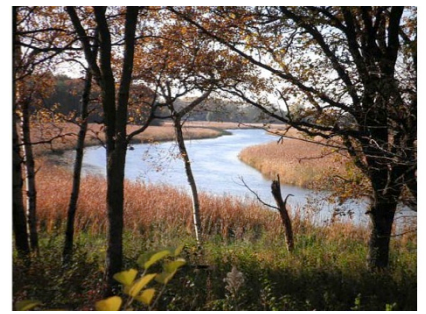
Housing

Density and Housing Options Study	Identified existing policies that inhibit affordable and mid-priced housing, as well as strategies to encourage a more diverse range of housing options
Housing and Aging in Place	Investigated opportunities to help residents age in place through a broader range of housing options, more compact urban design, better transportation options, and improved access to social services and other assistance
Mid-Priced Housing Market Analysis	Conducted a GIS analysis to determine where residential “market leakage” to other communities is occurring for mid-priced housing that appeals to empty-nesters looking to downsize or young families who desire move-up housing
Housing Program Evaluation	Evaluated an existing housing rehabilitation program for low- to medium-income residents to determine why the program is underused, and provided recommendations to improve program promotion, administration, and logistics

Environment

Storm Water and Illicit Discharge Regulation	Conducted an audit of storm water discharge ordinances, and provided recommendations for strengthening regulations and streamlining permitting process
Water Management at Ridgedale Mall	Analyzed Ridgedale Mall redevelopment site and identified specific interventions for reducing storm water runoff and surface water pollution
Water and Energy Conservation	Developed education and outreach strategies to assist businesses in the community to address water and energy conservation through operations and site management
Water Resources Prioritization Plan	Modeled leaf litter nutrient inputs and nutrient and chloride surface transport within four priority watersheds, and developed a prioritization plan to guide future investments to preserve and restore water quality
Green Roofs and Rooftop Gardens	Conducted an ethnographic analysis to understand perceptions among residents, developers, and community about green roofs, and recommended innovative best practices for implementing green roofs in a northern climate and suburban context





Civic Engagement	
Neighborhood Identities and Resident Engagement	Recommended strategies for strengthening social ties and community by augmenting existing social networks among residents rather than pursuing creation of geographically-defined neighborhood associations
Land Use and Development	
Post-Development Critique	Revisited three controversial past developments to evaluate project outcomes, and recommended strategies to improve the public input process to ensure the needs and concerns of both developers and residents are being considered
Conservation Development Standards	Created a conservation development scorecard to encourage sustainable developments that protect natural environmental features, preserve open space, protect natural habitats for wildlife, and maintain rural character
Parking and Land Use	Reviewed existing parking regulations, computed average parking demand, and recommended innovative parking management strategies to reduce excess parking
Transportation	
* Transportation Demand Management Policy	Reviewed TDM ordinances and best practices in comparable suburban communities nationwide and recommended an innovative two-phase TDM policy to reduce peak-hour demand
Transit-Oriented Development on the Southwest Light-Rail Transit Line	Developed detailed policy-oriented case studies of TOD districts in similar cities, recommended model districts for proposed future station areas and transit hubs in Minnetonka, and recommended guidelines for the city's financial and policy role in future redevelopment projects in these locations

* Received the annual "Best Student Project" award from the Minnesota chapter of the American Planning Association

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director
Mike Greco, Program Manager

cschively@umn.edu, 612.625.0640
mgreco@umn.edu, 612.625.7501

Web: www.rcp.umn.edu
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Facebook: RCPumn
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Resilient Communities Project

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Resilient Communities Project—City of North St. Paul 2013–2014 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



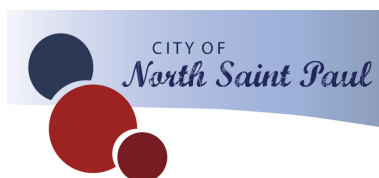
During the 2013–2014 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of North St. Paul, a first-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 16 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 34 courses spanning 17 departments across 11 academic colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, engaging more than 300 students.

Housing, Land Use, and Community Development

Live/Work Housing	Evaluated potential of live/work housing to enhance livability, promote economic development, and increase housing density
Downtown Revitalization Strategies	Analyzed parking needs, conducted a market analysis for the downtown area, and offered recommendations for strategies to revitalize North St. Paul's downtown business district
Redevelopment-Ready Community	Designed an evaluation program to assess the city's current development review process and regulations based on input from developers, investors, business owners, commercial real estate brokers, and lending institutions
Housing Conservation and Aging in Place	Evaluated existing housing and community design characteristics, and made recommendations for regulations, public investments, and local policies to upgrade existing housing stock and support aging in place

Environment

Green Energy Initiative	Investigated regulatory changes and incentives to support green energy initiatives, community-based energy development, distributed generation systems, district energy approaches, and net-zero-carbon development
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan	Provided an inventory of trees in North St. Paul, conducted a cost-benefit analysis to develop recommendations for managing EAB in the city, and developed a protocol for how to gain community support for the management plan and communicate the risks of EAB to homeowners
Conservation Improvement Projects	Designed an evaluation plan to assess existing conservation and energy efficiency programs, including whether the programs are being effectively marketed, and whether incentives being offered are consistent with homeowners' or business owners' needs and interests related to conservation and energy efficiency
Environmental Education Initiative	Developed recommendations for a long-range operations and management plan for the Southwood Park nature reserve, as well as educational programming for residents and users of the park
Storm Water Management	Investigated cost-effective solutions to remediate local flooding issues and reduce total suspended solids and phosphorus load to local and downstream lakes





Civic Engagement

Engaging Underrepresented Groups	Developed an engagement strategy for unengaged or underrepresented populations in the city, including a process for getting residents engaged in neighborhood and community issues
Civic Engagement and Communication	Conducted an assessment of the city's current communications efforts and future needs, and provided recommendations for how to better engage residents in their local government and community
Public Art Plan	Designed a participation process for developing a public art plan, including a strategy for facilitating long-term community engagement around public art and ideas for how to reengage the city's existing but inactive arts council

Administration and Marketing

Staff Satisfaction and Staff Development	Designed an evaluation program to assess staff satisfaction, including what staff want or need in their day-to-day work environment, as well as what incentives or educational opportunities would encourage them to continue working at the city; developed recommendations for improving staff morale and fostering staff development.
Community Branding	Created design alternatives for a new graphic identity that the City can use for signs, business forms and marketing materials, communications media (website, Facebook account, newsletter), and other materials

Land Use and Transportation

Community Gardening Planning	Designed a community engagement process for developing a community gardening policy and identifying key garden site opportunities in the community; documented best practices related to fostering and supporting community gardening
Living Streets and Capital Improvements	Documented the benefits of a living streets approach to strengthen the case to residents for street improvements; developed a visual preference survey and living streets model to better engage residents around street reconstruction projects

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director
Mike Greco, Program Manager

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Resilient Communities Project

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

Resilient Communities Project–City of Rosemount 2014–2015 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



During the 2014–2015 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of Rosemount, a developing outer-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 30 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 45 courses spanning 16 departments across 10 colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and Duluth campuses, engaging more than 400 students in applied, real-world projects.

Housing and Community

Private Student Housing for DCTC	Investigated options for private housing for Dakota County Technical College students to reduce commuting
Neighborhood Cohesion	Identified strategies to support healthy neighborhood cohesion among residents, as well as integration of neighborhoods into the larger Rosemount community
Homeowner Association Collaboration	Identified opportunities for collaboration and partnership with homeowners associations to provide public benefit and improved services
Community Gathering Spaces	Investigated the characteristics of place-making in a suburban setting and opportunities for community place-making through redesign or redevelopment

Civic Engagement and Community Relations

Communications Methods	Identified methods of information dissemination most effective for communicating with underserved or hard-to-reach populations such as youth, seniors, and non-native residents
Resident Participation in Parks and Recreation Capital Planning	Identified strategies for better-publicizing existing parks and recreation amenities and engaging residents in future capital planning for these services
Cultural Integration	Inventoried, evaluated, and identified gaps in services and programs geared toward new immigrant groups in Rosemount

Human Wellness

Safe Youth Driving Behavior	Investigated successful programs and partnerships to reduce teen traffic accident risks
Healthy and Safe Youth Behavior	Conducted a program inventory, evaluation, and gap analysis of mental health services and substance education and prevention programs that serve youth
Employee Wellness Programming	Assessed work- and home-related stressors for Rosemount city employees, and provided recommendations for improved employee wellness

Administration and Public Works

Daytime Staffing at Fire Department	Developed recommendations to increase the amount of on-call volunteer firefighters available during daytime hours
Athletic Stadium Turf Options	Analyzed the lifecycle costs of using synthetic turf versus natural turf grass on public athletic fields
Turf Management and Landscaping	Identified strategies to reduce long-term turf and landscaping inputs and maintenance costs
Alternative Sources of Energy	Assessed and made recommendations for use of alternative energy sources to power municipal facilities, such as solar, wind, and geothermal



Parks and Recreation	
Recreational Programming for Children's Interaction with Nature	Assessed park and recreation systems to identify opportunities to introduce nature-based recreation and play for children
Recreational Opportunities for Underserved Populations	Evaluated how well current recreational offerings meet the needs of people with disabilities, seniors, and new immigrants and recommended improvements to better serve these groups
Community Gardens	Assessed existing community gardening program and recommended programmatic changes to improve gardeners' success, reduce administrative burden on staff, and balance use of public spaces for gardening against other recreational uses and needs
Environment	
Climate Adaptation	Identified potential local impacts of climate change, as well as strategies to reduce the community's vulnerability to these impacts
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study	Identified strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the municipal and individual business and household levels
Storm Water Management	Identified opportunities and design strategies for storm water infiltration that balance aesthetics and functionality, reduce long-term maintenance costs, manage winter snow melt, and provide opportunities for other passive uses
Water Reuse and Conservation	Investigated the feasibility of reusing storm water and treated effluent for irrigation on public and private property
Oak Savannah and Riverfront Restoration	Evaluated existing restoration activities in the Mississippi River Critical Area Corridor and recommended an overall restoration strategy to coordinate these efforts and incorporate public access opportunities
Park Restoration and Environmental Education	Created a plan to manage buckthorn and emerald ash borer in City parks and use this opportunity to educate residents about the ecosystem service value of management and restoration
Land Use and Transportation	
Urban Agriculture	Explored opportunities to capitalize on the existing local agricultural economy in Rosemount by supporting locally grown food, agritourism, and value-added agricultural products
Non-Motorized Transportation Assessment	Designed an evaluation plan to assess the impact of non-motorized transportation plans and investments in Rosemount
Travel Shed Analysis	Conducted a travel shed analysis of where Rosemount residents and employees work and live to inform future transit and transportation planning
Economic Development	
Analysis of Dakota County Business Clusters	Analyzed business clusters in dakota county to identify opportunities for rosemount to capitalize on existing and emerging clusters
Eco-Green Business Park	Explored opportunities for attracting green businesses and encouraging adoption of green building/manufacturing standards for a future green business park
Economic Development Website	Evaluated rosemount's existing economic development website and recommended improvements to better meet the needs of developers and the business community

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director
Mike Greco, Program Manager

cschively@umn.edu, 612.625.0640
mgreco@umn.edu, 612.625.7501

Web: www.rcp.umn.edu
 Twitter: @RCPumn
 Facebook: RCPumn
 E-mail: rcp@umn.edu

Resilient Communities Project

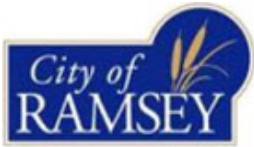
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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RCP is an initiative of the Sustainability Faculty Network at the University of Minnesota, with funding and administrative support provided by the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) and the Institute on the Environment (IonE)

Resilient Communities Project

Potential Projects for Consideration

1. Parking Strategies for The COR
2. Stormwater Design for The COR
3. Citizen Engagement for the Comprehensive Plan Update
4. Update of the Natural Resources Element of the Comprehensive Plan
5. Development and Execution of an EPB Communications Plan/Library
6. Mixed Use Market Analysis
7. Housing Analysis and Housing Plan
8. Development of a Gateway District Plan
9. Development of a Corridor Improvement Program
10. Public Tree Inventory
11. Exploration of Organics Collection Program (curbside or drop-off)
12. Floodplain Modelling
13. Volunteer Opportunities and Program Development
14. Develop a Business Incubator Program
15. Market Analysis of Community Center and Movie Theater



Our Mission: To work together to responsibly grow our community, and to provide quality, cost-effective, and efficient government services.

CC Work Session

3.1.

Meeting Date: 09/13/2016

By: Jo Thieling, Administrative Services

Information

Title:

Review Future Topics/Calendar

Purpose/Background:

Attached is the current list of future topics for work session discussion. Items are drawn from Council requests at meetings, or are related to topics that have been identified in the City's strategic plan. Dates will be assigned in the future.

Recommendation:

N/A

Action:

For Council review - no formal action necessary.

Attachments

Future Topics

Form Review

Inbox

Kurt Ulrich

Form Started By: Jo Thieling

Final Approval Date: 09/08/2016

Reviewed By

Kurt Ulrich

Date

09/08/2016 02:23 PM

Started On: 09/07/2016 01:14 PM

City Council Future Topics – Work Session
(Draft)

Date	Topics for Discussion – Council Action
Future	Continued Discussion regarding Scope of Communications Plan (<i>Wenberg</i>)
Future	Website Redesign (<i>Wenberg</i>)
Future	Review Bidding Process for Towing Contract (<i>Katers</i>)
Future	Discuss a Resolution of Support for the City of Anoka having Sole Responsibility for Maintaining Dam (<i>Bruce</i>)
Future	Discuss Ordinance Governing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Use (<i>Katers</i>)
Future	Review and Potentially Adopt Ramsey’s Portion of Previous Highway 47 Study (<i>Gladhill</i>)
Future	Cost Share a Corridor Study for Nowthen (<i>Gladhill</i>)
Future	ICE Reports for Spot Improvements on Armstrong (<i>Gladhill</i>)
Future	Website and Website Services Update (<i>Fredrickson</i>)
September 27	Status of City’s Curbside Recycling Contract (<i>Anderson</i>)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Regulatory
Future	Commercial Signage Standards and Community Sign Plan(<i>Gladhill</i>)
Future	Property Maintenance Code (Maintenance of Buildings and Structures) (<i>Gladhill</i>)
Future	St. Katharine Drexel/Central Park Concept Development Plan (<i>Ulrich/Brama/Gladhill</i>)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Policy
October 11	Personnel Policy Update
October 11	Conduit Debt Policy/Purchasing Policy (<i>Lund</i>)
Future	Future Business Park Policy (<i>Brama</i>)
Future	Social Media Facebook Policy (<i>Wenberg</i>)
Future	Public Facilities Naming Policy (<i>Riverblood</i>)
Future	Trail Maintenance Policy (<i>Westby</i>)
Future	Stormwater Pond Maintenance Policy (<i>Westby</i>)
Future	Citizen Volunteer and Recognition Program (<i>Ulrich</i>)
Future	Newsletter Policy (<i>Brama</i>)
Future	Family Healthcare Dwelling Policy (<i>Ulrich</i>)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Planning and Budget
Future	Summary of Compensation Plan for Employees (<i>Lasher</i>)
Future	Evaluate Staffing Deployment and Process Effectiveness (<i>Ulrich/Lasher/Gladhill</i>)
Future	Review Comprehensive Plan for Long-Term Water Supply (<i>Westby</i>)
Future	Review Corridor Improvement Initiatives (<i>Ulrich</i>)
Date	Topics for Discussion – Information
Future	Follow-Up 2016 LMC Conference/Programs/Tasks (<i>Ulrich</i>)
September	Follow Up Discussions with ARAA (<i>Riverblood</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Use Permits • What improvements can we make • Communication – in General

September	Review 2015 Area Recreation Opportunity Assessment (<i>Riverblood</i>)
Future	Rental Licensing Update (<i>Gladhill</i>)

City of Ramsey
Agenda
City Council Work Session
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
5:30 pm
Lake Itasca Room, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Topics for Discussion**
 1. Receive Presentation on Resilient Communities Partnership
 2. Legal Update re Koenig v. City of Ramsey, Assessment Appeal Anoka County District Court (**This discussion is closed to the public**)
 3. Update on EDA Discussion RE Strategy for Marketing and Selling City Owned Land
 4. Discuss Council Organization
3. **Topics for Future Discussion**
 1. Review Future Topics/Calendar
4. **Mayor/Council/Staff Input**
5. **Adjournment**

Meeting Date: 01/10/2017

Information

Title:

Receive Presentation on Resilient Communities Partnership

Purpose/Background:

In September of 2016, Staff introduced to City Council an innovative program opportunity through the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP). That case report and minutes are attached for background information. With the majority consensus of the City Council, Staff did prepare and submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) to the RCP. Based on the LOI, the City of Ramsey was invited to submit a full application to the RCP for the 2017-2018 partnership (one of only two [2] communities that were invited to this next step).

The purpose of this case is to update and inform the City Council that Ramsey has been invited to submit a full application to the RCP. However, based on the discussion with the City Council last September, in which several City Councilmembers were interested in more information on this program, Staff invited the Director of the Resilient Communities Project to provide an overview of the program and address any questions the Council may have.

Should the City ultimately proceed with submitting a formal application, the deadline is February 15, 2017. Staff wanted to provide the City Council an opportunity to get a better understanding of the program and the potential benefits the City could realize if Ramsey were selected as the Partner Community.

Timeframe:

45 minutes

Funding Source:

If selected as the Partner Community, the required financial contribution would be paid through the Community Development Department's professional services budget or, depending on the project focus, potentially from a more appropriate Department's professional services budget.

Responsible Party(ies):

Community Development Director
City Planner

Outcome:

Provide direction to Staff to submit/not submit a full application to the Resilient Communities Project for consideration as the 2017-2018 Partner Community.

Attachments

Resilient Communities Project Program Background

Summaries of Past Community Partner Projects

LOI Submittal

September 13, 2016 City Council Case Report

City Council Meeting Minutes Dated September 13, 2016

Form Review

Inbox

Tim Gladhill

Kurt Ulrich

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 01/05/2017

Reviewed By

Tim Gladhill

Kurt Ulrich

Date

01/05/2017 11:22 AM

01/05/2017 04:17 PM

Started On: 01/03/2017 04:31 PM

Resilient Communities Project Request for Letters of Intent to Apply for 2017–2018 Partnership

The University of Minnesota (U of MN) is accepting **letters of intent** from cities and counties that wish to apply to be the community partner for the Resilient Communities Project (RCP) for the **2017–2018 academic year** (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

Based on feedback from previous community partners and applicants to the program, this year RCP has instituted the following two-phase application process to make the process easier and less time-consuming for applicants:

Phase I: Letter of Intent to Apply. The purpose of the letter of intent (LOI) is to demonstrate your community's interest in, organizational support for, and financial and staff capacity to support a one-year partnership with RCP. Timeline: Call issued July 18, 2016; LOI due September 15, 2016; notification by September 30, 2016 if invited to submit a formal application.

Phase II: Program Application. Based on the LOI, selected communities will be invited to apply to the RCP program. The purpose of the application is to identify and describe specific projects, staff project leads, and community partners for the one-year partnership with RCP. Timeline: Invitation to submit an application transmitted by September 30, 2016; program application due February 15, 2017; selected community partner announced by March 15, 2017; partnership begins July 1, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018.

Detailed instructions for submitting a Letter of Intent and Program Application are provided below.

I. RCP Program Overview

RCP facilitates year-long partnerships between the U of MN and one selected community in Minnesota. Through the partnership, students and faculty from across the University collaborate with the community partner to address its self-defined sustainability-related needs through course-based projects. The collaboration results in on-the-ground impact and momentum for a community working toward a more sustainable and livable future. Cities, counties, and clusters of communities (for example, along a transportation corridor, around a regional center, or within a watershed) are eligible. To minimize travel time and costs, applicant communities should ideally be located within a two-hour drive of the Twin Cities, where RCP is based. Communities located further away from the Twin Cities will be considered if additional funds are contributed for overnight travel costs. Former and current community partners

include the City of Minnetonka (2012–2013), City of North St. Paul (2013–2014), City of Rosemount (2014–2015), Carver County (2015–2016), and City of Brooklyn Park (2016–2017).

The RCP model provides our partner community with efficient access to the broad base of sustainability expertise at the U of MN. RCP staff work closely with the partner community to match their projects with students and faculty from a wide range of disciplines—from architecture, planning, and engineering to environmental sciences, public health, and the humanities. Most projects involve multiple disciplines in order to address problems from diverse perspectives. Assistance is available related to all aspects of sustainability (e.g., environmental health, economic opportunity, social equity, and community livability) and all stages of sustainability efforts (analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation). Through work with RCP, the community is able to enhance its own capacity to advance local sustainability and resilience in a cost-effective manner. U of MN students benefit from real-world opportunities to apply their knowledge and training, as well as bringing energy, enthusiasm, and innovative approaches to local problems and opportunities.

The partner community must support the effort through dedicated staff time and a local financial contribution. The selection process is competitive.

Benefits of Partnership with RCP

RCP provides numerous benefits for the community partner, including:

- a high rate of return on investment, with thousands of hours of concentrated student work on community-identified projects
- access to an interdisciplinary group of faculty with first-hand knowledge of cutting-edge sustainability research and practice
- data collection, analysis, research, concept plans, designs, and policy recommendations that can energize staff, increase the range of options available, and get “stuck” projects moving
- greater support from residents for proposed solutions through student outreach in the community
- publicity in local, state, regional, and national publications and venues, highlighting your community as a forward-thinking and sustainable community
- faculty, students, and staff who serve as ambassadors for your community by sharing their experiences through conference presentations, community meetings, and informal conversations
- engaged students with on-the-ground knowledge of the community who may be candidates for future internships or staff positions

II. How the RCP Partnership Works

RCP will select one community partner for the 2017–2018 academic year (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018). Staff from RCP and the community will begin work on the year-long collaboration with a series of orientation and planning workshops in summer 2017 to introduce community partner staff to the program, refine the scope of locally identified projects, begin matching

projects with relevant graduate and upper-level undergraduate courses at the U of MN, and involve local project stakeholders/partners in the collaboration.

RCP Program Timeline

- **March 2017:** Community partner for 2017–2018 announced.
- **May 2017:** RCP End-of-Year Celebration for City of Brooklyn Park partnership (our next community partner will be introduced at this event)
- **Summer 2017:** (1) Orientation workshops for all participating staff from the partner community; (2) RCP and the community refine the scope of individual projects, match projects with appropriate U of MN courses, and meet with faculty to develop formal scopes-of-work for each project and participating course; (3) community staff provide background information, reports, and data for projects; (4) RCP and community partner develop and sign formal contract.
- **Fall 2017:** (1) RCP kick-off event in the partner community (early to mid-September); (2) fall-semester classes work on RCP projects (September–December); (3) final scoping of spring semester courses (October–December).
- **Spring 2018:** (1) Spring-semester classes work on RCP projects (January–May); (2) fall-semester student reports delivered to community.
- **May 2018:** RCP End-of-Year Celebration on the U of MN campus
- **Summer 2018:** (1) Spring-semester student reports delivered to community; (2) optional follow-up work with RCP staff to outline next steps and priorities for the community's efforts to advance sustainability and resilience.

University Commitment

During summer 2017, RCP staff and faculty will meet with community staff and project partners/stakeholders to develop a comprehensive scope-of-work document for each project and participating U of MN course to guide work throughout the semester. The scope of work will include a problem statement, potential issues or directions for student exploration, specific project activities, final deliverables, and a project timeline. Depending on the community's matching funds available, RCP has the capacity to address 10–30 local projects during the partnership year, matching each project with one or more courses to complete the necessary work. Projects will be carried out as part of U of MN courses offered during the fall (September through December 2017) and spring (January through May 2018) semesters. Work will be completed by graduate students or upper-division undergraduate students, with direct oversight by faculty instructors.

Coordination and support provided by RCP staff offers significant benefits and efficiencies over stand-alone projects in which the community might participate with an individual faculty member. RCP staff with expertise in sustainability, project management, and communications will provide ongoing support throughout the semester to ensure high-quality outcomes that meet the partner community's needs. Support will include coordinating University resources, scheduling and facilitating project scoping meetings, identifying and coordinating delivery of data and background information for projects as needed, maintaining a partnership website,

coordinating communications and media outreach about the partnership, soliciting periodic feedback from participants, and troubleshooting projects as needed.

Outcomes from each University course will be documented in a final report and/or presentation at the conclusion of the fall or spring semester. Project results will be shared with the community, and disseminated through the RCP website, social media, and traditional media outlets. All student work will be licensed through a Creative Commons agreement that allows the community partners to reproduce, distribute, or adapt the work for other purposes.

Community Staff Commitment

A key element of a successful RCP partnership is commitment and involvement from community staff. The community partner must have one or more organizational champions for RCP, preferably a city/county manager or another senior staff person within the organization who has the authority and ability to direct and motivate staff to participate in the partnership. As part of its application, the community will be expected to identify a senior staff person who will be the primary **program coordinator** for the partnership, serving as a liaison between the community and RCP, and working directly with RCP's director and program staff to oversee all projects. The program coordinator should be engaged enough in each project to know the staff involved and to understand the project's scope and current status. The program coordinator's time commitment will vary based upon the number of projects and their level of involvement with each project. *In general, however, they should expect to spend an average of 5–7 hours per week for 12 months to coordinate 15 projects involving 20–30 courses (or more if additional projects are undertaken).* The number of hours will vary, with more time required during project scoping and initial foundational work in support of the partnership, and less time required once the partnership and classes are underway. If you are applying to RCP as a multi-community partnership, each government entity may be asked to designate a program coordinator responsible for all projects involving that entity.

For each project that is successfully matched with one or more U of MN courses, the community partner will be expected to identify a **project lead** who will be the primary point of contact for students and faculty working on that project. The work of project leads may include preparing background materials for students; presenting projects during class meeting times on the U of MN Minneapolis or St. Paul campuses; accompanying students on site visits in the community; attending project meetings with RCP students, faculty, and staff; coordinating the participation of residents, community organizations, or other stakeholders in the project; participating in reviews of student work throughout the semester; coordinating and attending final presentations of student work on the U of MN campuses and/or in the community; and participating in kickoff and end-of-year events. Depending on the number of courses matched with the project, *project leads should anticipate spending an average of 2–4 hours per week on each project they are responsible for during each semester the project is in process.* In our experience, to ensure sufficient time is available to devote to participation in RCP, no staff member should be the lead on more than 2–3 projects.

During summer 2017, project leads will be expected to participate in a half-day orientation workshop and provide background documents for each project for which they are responsible,

including but not limited to background reports and memos, GIS maps and data layers, community datasets, aerial photographs, prior concept plans, and computer-aided drawings.

Financial Cost of the Program

RCP offers our partner community a high level of access to the wide-ranging expertise at the University of Minnesota related to fostering sustainable and resilient communities, as well as significant assistance matching, scoping, coordinating, and managing projects. RCP staff identify and facilitate one-to-one connections between city staff and faculty members from a variety of disciplines to develop meaningful projects that respond directly to local needs. RCP provides program management and project coordination support; reimbursement of project-related travel and material costs to support student participation in the program; student and faculty site visits to and field work in the community; compilation and distribution of final reports and other deliverables; publicity for and hosting of kickoff and end-of-year celebration events; student-created materials for display in the partner community; regular publicity through social, print, and broadcast media; and digital archiving of student work products. RCP works closely with the University Relations Office and University News Service to coordinate publicity, and with University Libraries to coordinate the network of sustainability resources available to students and the partner community. The value of these items is conservatively estimated at \$250,000 to \$300,000 for the partnership year.

RCP receives some funding and in-kind support from the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), but we also require a **local financial contribution** from our partner community. Partner communities may choose to fund their local contribution through a collaboration with other groups, such as county and state agencies, school and watershed districts, private developers, business partners, and chambers of commerce. Regardless of where these funds are obtained from, **the selected partner community is responsible for acting as the fiscal agent for the partnership, and for making two lump-sum payments to RCP, one no later than August 31, 2017, and a second no later than February 15, 2018.**

The cost of the program is dependent on the number of projects included in the partnership, which impacts both our staffing needs and the direct costs of delivering the program. For the 2017–2018 academic year, our fee structure is as follows:

- **For 10 to 20 projects:** \$40,000 + \$2000 for each project successfully matched with one or more courses (not to exceed a total of \$80,000 for 20 projects matched)
- **For 21 to 30 projects:** \$60,000 + \$2,000 for each project successfully matched with one or more courses (not to exceed a total of \$120,000 for 30 projects matched)

III. Application Process

RCP is available to assist you with your application at any stage—including introducing the RCP program and model to staff, elected officials, or potential project partners; assisting with preparing a letter of intent; helping to brainstorm ideas for or frame potential projects; and finalizing your application for submission to RCP.

Application Process Timeline

- **July 18, 2016:** RCP issues call for letters of intent for 2017–2018 partnership.
- **July to September 2016:** RCP staff are available for informational presentations about the program to city staff, elected officials, or potential partner organizations and agencies.
- **September 15, 2016:** letters of intent due to RCP **by 12:00 midnight CST.**
- **September 30, 2016:** Notification to communities that are invited to submit a formal proposal to RCP.
- **October 2016 to February 2017:** RCP staff are available for phone conferences and in-person meetings to discuss potential projects with communities, as well as for informational presentations to staff, elected officials, or potential partner organizations and agencies. *We strongly suggest communities that intend to apply to the program schedule one or more in-person visits with RCP staff to discuss individual projects that may be included in the application.*
- **February 15, 2017:** Applications are due to RCP **by 12:00 midnight CST.**
- **March 15, 2017:** RCP notifies the community selected for the 2017–2018 partnership. RCP and the community coordinate media to publicly announce the partnership.

Letter of Intent Components

The letter of intent (LOI) should demonstrate your community’s interest in, organizational support for, and financial and staff capacity to support a one-year partnership with RCP. The LOI should be a **maximum of eight (8) double-spaced pages** (not including letters of support). For full consideration, your LOI must include all of the following:

1. **Community Information:** Provide the name of your community, the name of your community manager/administrator, and the name and contact information (email, phone, mailing address, department, and staff role) of the person who will serve as your RCP program coordinator (see p. 4) and who will be the primary contact for your application going forward.
2. **Sustainability Statement:** Provide a statement that demonstrates your community’s interest in and commitment to sustainability and resilience, as well as how a partnership with the Resilient Communities Project will both build upon and advance these efforts. If your community has a sustainability action plan, strategic plan, or other adopted document that demonstrates this commitment, you should explicitly reference this document in your application and provide a URL where it can be viewed online.
3. **Administrative Capacity:** A successful partnership will require an ongoing commitment of staff time to coordinate and manage individual projects and the overall partnership. This section should demonstrate the community’s general capacity to manage individual projects; effectively engage community partners or stakeholders; provide updates to elected officials, senior staff, residents, and others not directly involved in projects; and administer the overall partnership with the University.

4. **Proposed Projects:** Provide a list and short (1–2 sentence) descriptions of **at least 10 and no more than 30 potential projects** to be included in the partnership. Projects should address high-priority issues for the community, and involve research or technical assistance appropriate for graduate-level work. We understand the actual list of projects may change if your community is invited to submit a formal application, but the list should serve to provide a general idea of the types of projects and topics your community is interested in pursuing. For a list of projects proposed by our past partner communities, visit rcp.umn.edu and select the Communities tab.
5. **Public Involvement:** Meaningfully engaging residents and other stakeholders can be critical to the success of local sustainability efforts. How will the public and stakeholders be informed about and involved in the RCP partnership if you were selected as our community partner?
6. **Long-Term Benefits:** Describe what you anticipate as the long-term benefits and/or outcomes of a partnership with RCP.
7. **Demonstration of Support:** Include letters of support or resolutions from one or more of the following: city/county manager or administrator, mayor, elected governing body, senior staff or department heads.
8. **Acknowledgement of Local Financial Contribution:** Include an acknowledgement of the financial contribution required to participate in the program if your community is selected (for 10 to 20 projects—not to exceed \$80,000; for 21 to 30 projects—not to exceed \$120,000).

Submitting Your Letter of Intent

Letters of intent are due September 15, 2016, by 12:00 midnight CST. E-mail your completed LOI in PDF format to: Mike Greco, RCP Director, mgreco@umn.edu.

Formal Application Components

If your community is invited to submit a formal application to RCP based on your LOI, the individual identified as the primary contact for your application (see item #1 above) will be notified no later than September 30, 2016. If invited to submit an application, your application must include all of the following:

1. **Proposal development process:** Briefly describe the process by which your proposal was developed, including how and by whom this process was led, how project leads participated in the selection of projects and development of project descriptions, how elected officials and senior staff were involved in the process, and how potential community partners or stakeholders were engaged.
2. **Proposed Projects:** Provide detailed individual descriptions of at least 10 and no more than 30 well-formulated projects. Projects should address high-priority issues for the community, and involve research or technical assistance appropriate for graduate-level work. Note that this list of projects may differ from the list originally submitted with

your letter of intent. For each project, you should provide the following information:

- A. **Project name/title.**
- B. **Project lead.** Identify one community staff person who will serve as the primary contact for the project, as well as their title and department, e-mail address, and phone number.
- C. **A one- to two-paragraph description of the project.** What is the purpose of the project? Why is this project important to the community at this time? What are the community's ultimate goals or objectives related to the project?
- D. **2–3 specific questions, issues, or problems you want students to address.**
- E. **An explanation of how student work would be used.** How will work that addresses these questions/issues/ideas/problems advance the community's efforts related to this project?
- F. **One or more specific impacts of the project relative to community sustainability and resilience.** This section should explicitly reference the relationship of the project to local actions, plans, or priorities, and to the sustainability statement included with your original letter of intent.
- G. **Existing plans, reports, data, or other information** relevant to the project. If these are available online, include a web link.
- H. **Community partners or stakeholders** (beyond city/county staff) that will be invited to participate in the project. Describe specifically how these individuals or organizations will be involved, what they will do, and how their participation will benefit the project.

We strongly encourage applicants to contact RCP Director Mike Greco (mgreco@umn.edu, 612-625-7501) for assistance developing their project list and project descriptions.

3. **Next Steps:** Describe the community's general strategy for identifying "next steps" for individual projects at the conclusion of the year-long RCP partnership in June 2018. What will the community do with all of the information produced from the partnership?
4. **Demonstration of Support:** Include any additional letters of support for the partnership not included with your letter of intent, including support from partner organizations/agencies or funding entities.
5. **Local Financial Contribution:** Include a description of the source of funds to support the financial contribution required to participate in the program (for 10 to 20 projects—not to exceed \$80,000; for 21 to 30 projects—not to exceed \$120,000). Note that regardless of where funds are obtained from, **the selected partner community is responsible for acting as the fiscal agent for the partnership, and for making two lump-sum payments to RCP, one no later than August 31, 2017, and a second no later than February 15, 2018.**

Submitting Your Application

Applications are due February 15, 2017, by 12:00 midnight CST. E-mail your completed application in PDF format to: Mike Greco, RCP Director, mgreco@umn.edu.

Evaluation Criteria

RCP will evaluate letters of intent and formal applications based on the following criteria:

- 1. Top-Level Support and Administrative Capacity:** City/county manager or administrator, mayor, elected officials, and/or department heads indicate a willingness to direct organization staff to participate in RCP program, and provide resources and devote time to identified projects. Community has sufficient staff capacity to engage successfully in a year-long partnership across multiple projects, and to carry work forward at the conclusion of the partnership.
- 2. Clear Sustainability and Resilience Focus:** Projects clearly build upon and advance the community's overall sustainability and resilience efforts, and include specific sustainability- or resilience-related goals such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, fostering active living, supporting alternative modes of transportation or energy generation, enhancing social equity, enhancing public participation opportunities, engaging underserved or marginalized groups, creating a stronger sense of community or place, enhancing livability, conserving or restoring environmental resources, preserving or enhancing ecosystem services, increasing housing density or mix, improving urban form, reducing energy use, finding adaptive reuses for existing structures, redeveloping underutilized land parcels, promoting equitable economic development, or ensuring fiscally prudent infrastructure investments. *[Note: This list is for illustration only and is by no means exhaustive.]*
- 3. Project Relevance and Impact:** Projects are well formulated and directly relate to the community's stated short-term and long-term strategic goals (ideally as embodied in a strategic plan or work plan). Projects should demonstrate the potential to have a measurable positive impact on community sustainability and resilience. Demonstrated relationship to community comprehensive or sustainability plans, policies, programs, or indicators is also helpful.
- 4. Community Engagement:** Community demonstrates a commitment to meaningfully and appropriately engage residents and other stakeholders throughout the partnership as a means of integrating local knowledge, and strengthening and broadening support for local sustainability and resilience efforts.
- 5. Likelihood of Match with University Courses:** Projects must be within the capability of University of Minnesota faculty and graduate students, and should involve appropriate research and/or technical assistance needs, not menial tasks or low-level administrative work. RCP will identify faculty who are able and willing to supervise course-based projects based on their curricular and research needs and interests. Coordinating with RCP as your organization develops its project list will help facilitate a strong match.

Note, however, that RCP cannot guarantee that all locally identified projects will be matched with a course.

- 6. External Partnerships:** Projects that involve other organizations—such as transportation districts, school districts, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, business or professional organizations, businesses, or research or educational institutions—are especially desirable. Your formal application should specifically indicate how these partnerships would function and how participation of these entities would enhance the project.

Resilient Communities Project–City of Minnetonka 2012–2013 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



During the 2012–2013 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of Minnetonka, a fully developed suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 14 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 25 courses spanning 12 departments across 8 academic colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, engaging more than 200 students.

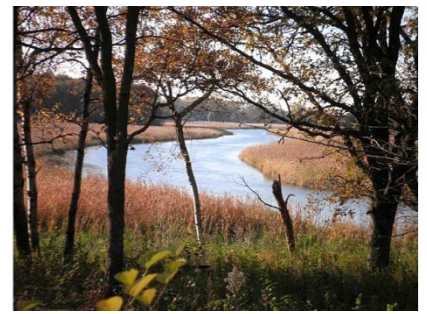
Housing

Density and Housing Options Study	Identified existing policies that inhibit affordable and mid-priced housing, as well as strategies to encourage a more diverse range of housing options
Housing and Aging in Place	Investigated opportunities to help residents age in place through a broader range of housing options, more compact urban design, better transportation options, and improved access to social services and other assistance
Mid-Priced Housing Market Analysis	Conducted a GIS analysis to determine where residential “market leakage” to other communities is occurring for mid-priced housing that appeals to empty-nesters looking to downsize or young families who desire move-up housing
Housing Program Evaluation	Evaluated an existing housing rehabilitation program for low- to medium-income residents to determine why the program is underused, and provided recommendations to improve program promotion, administration, and logistics

Environment

Storm Water and Illicit Discharge Regulation	Conducted an audit of storm water discharge ordinances, and provided recommendations for strengthening regulations and streamlining permitting process
Water Management at Ridgedale Mall	Analyzed Ridgedale Mall redevelopment site and identified specific interventions for reducing storm water runoff and surface water pollution
Water and Energy Conservation	Developed education and outreach strategies to assist businesses in the community to address water and energy conservation through operations and site management
Water Resources Prioritization Plan	Modeled leaf litter nutrient inputs and nutrient and chloride surface transport within four priority watersheds, and developed a prioritization plan to guide future investments to preserve and restore water quality
Green Roofs and Rooftop Gardens	Conducted an ethnographic analysis to understand perceptions among residents, developers, and community about green roofs, and recommended innovative best practices for implementing green roofs in a northern climate and suburban context





Civic Engagement	
Neighborhood Identities and Resident Engagement	Recommended strategies for strengthening social ties and community by augmenting existing social networks among residents rather than pursuing creation of geographically-defined neighborhood associations
Land Use and Development	
Post-Development Critique	Revisited three controversial past developments to evaluate project outcomes, and recommended strategies to improve the public input process to ensure the needs and concerns of both developers and residents are being considered
Conservation Development Standards	Created a conservation development scorecard to encourage sustainable developments that protect natural environmental features, preserve open space, protect natural habitats for wildlife, and maintain rural character
Parking and Land Use	Reviewed existing parking regulations, computed average parking demand, and recommended innovative parking management strategies to reduce excess parking
Transportation	
* Transportation Demand Management Policy	Reviewed TDM ordinances and best practices in comparable suburban communities nationwide and recommended an innovative two-phase TDM policy to reduce peak-hour demand
Transit-Oriented Development on the Southwest Light-Rail Transit Line	Developed detailed policy-oriented case studies of TOD districts in similar cities, recommended model districts for proposed future station areas and transit hubs in Minnetonka, and recommended guidelines for the city's financial and policy role in future redevelopment projects in these locations

* Received the annual "Best Student Project" award from the Minnesota chapter of the American Planning Association

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director cschively@umn.edu, 612.625.0640
 Mike Greco, Program Manager mgreco@umn.edu, 612.625.7501

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Resilient Communities Project

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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Resilient Communities Project—City of North St. Paul 2013–2014 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



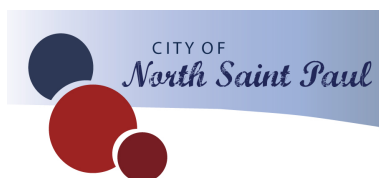
During the 2013–2014 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of North St. Paul, a first-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 16 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 34 courses spanning 17 departments across 11 academic colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, engaging more than 300 students.

Housing, Land Use, and Community Development

Live/Work Housing	Evaluated potential of live/work housing to enhance livability, promote economic development, and increase housing density
Downtown Revitalization Strategies	Analyzed parking needs, conducted a market analysis for the downtown area, and offered recommendations for strategies to revitalize North St. Paul's downtown business district
Redevelopment-Ready Community	Designed an evaluation program to assess the city's current development review process and regulations based on input from developers, investors, business owners, commercial real estate brokers, and lending institutions
Housing Conservation and Aging in Place	Evaluated existing housing and community design characteristics, and made recommendations for regulations, public investments, and local policies to upgrade existing housing stock and support aging in place

Environment

Green Energy Initiative	Investigated regulatory changes and incentives to support green energy initiatives, community-based energy development, distributed generation systems, district energy approaches, and net-zero-carbon development
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan	Provided an inventory of trees in North St. Paul, conducted a cost-benefit analysis to develop recommendations for managing EAB in the city, and developed a protocol for how to gain community support for the management plan and communicate the risks of EAB to homeowners
Conservation Improvement Projects	Designed an evaluation plan to assess existing conservation and energy efficiency programs, including whether the programs are being effectively marketed, and whether incentives being offered are consistent with homeowners' or business owners' needs and interests related to conservation and energy efficiency
Environmental Education Initiative	Developed recommendations for a long-range operations and management plan for the Southwood Park nature reserve, as well as educational programming for residents and users of the park
Storm Water Management	Investigated cost-effective solutions to remediate local flooding issues and reduce total suspended solids and phosphorus load to local and downstream lakes





Civic Engagement

Engaging Underrepresented Groups	Developed an engagement strategy for unengaged or underrepresented populations in the city, including a process for getting residents engaged in neighborhood and community issues
Civic Engagement and Communication	Conducted an assessment of the city's current communications efforts and future needs, and provided recommendations for how to better engage residents in their local government and community
Public Art Plan	Designed a participation process for developing a public art plan, including a strategy for facilitating long-term community engagement around public art and ideas for how to reengage the city's existing but inactive arts council

Administration and Marketing

Staff Satisfaction and Staff Development	Designed an evaluation program to assess staff satisfaction, including what staff want or need in their day-to-day work environment, as well as what incentives or educational opportunities would encourage them to continue working at the city; developed recommendations for improving staff morale and fostering staff development.
Community Branding	Created design alternatives for a new graphic identity that the City can use for signs, business forms and marketing materials, communications media (website, Facebook account, newsletter), and other materials

Land Use and Transportation

Community Gardening Planning	Designed a community engagement process for developing a community gardening policy and identifying key garden site opportunities in the community; documented best practices related to fostering and supporting community gardening
Living Streets and Capital Improvements	Documented the benefits of a living streets approach to strengthen the case to residents for street improvements; developed a visual preference survey and living streets model to better engage residents around street reconstruction projects

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director
Mike Greco, Program Manager

cschively@umn.edu, 612.625.0640
mgreco@umn.edu, 612.625.7501

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E-mail: rcp@umn.edu

Resilient Communities Project

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Resilient Communities Project–City of Rosemount 2014–2015 Partnership

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with the wide-ranging expertise of University of Minnesota faculty and students to address pressing local issues in ways that advance sustainability and resilience.



During the 2014–2015 academic year, RCP partnered with the City of Rosemount, a developing outer-ring suburb in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, on 30 community-identified projects. These projects were matched with 45 courses spanning 16 departments across 10 colleges at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and Duluth campuses, engaging more than 400 students in applied, real-world projects.

Housing and Community

Private Student Housing for DCTC	Investigated options for private housing for Dakota County Technical College students to reduce commuting
Neighborhood Cohesion	Identified strategies to support healthy neighborhood cohesion among residents, as well as integration of neighborhoods into the larger Rosemount community
Homeowner Association Collaboration	Identified opportunities for collaboration and partnership with homeowners associations to provide public benefit and improved services
Community Gathering Spaces	Investigated the characteristics of place-making in a suburban setting and opportunities for community place-making through redesign or redevelopment

Civic Engagement and Community Relations

Communications Methods	Identified methods of information dissemination most effective for communicating with underserved or hard-to-reach populations such as youth, seniors, and non-native residents
Resident Participation in Parks and Recreation Capital Planning	Identified strategies for better-publicizing existing parks and recreation amenities and engaging residents in future capital planning for these services
Cultural Integration	Inventoried, evaluated, and identified gaps in services and programs geared toward new immigrant groups in Rosemount

Human Wellness

Safe Youth Driving Behavior	Investigated successful programs and partnerships to reduce teen traffic accident risks
Healthy and Safe Youth Behavior	Conducted a program inventory, evaluation, and gap analysis of mental health services and substance education and prevention programs that serve youth
Employee Wellness Programming	Assessed work- and home-related stressors for Rosemount city employees, and provided recommendations for improved employee wellness

Administration and Public Works

Daytime Staffing at Fire Department	Developed recommendations to increase the amount of on-call volunteer firefighters available during daytime hours
Athletic Stadium Turf Options	Analyzed the lifecycle costs of using synthetic turf versus natural turf grass on public athletic fields
Turf Management and Landscaping	Identified strategies to reduce long-term turf and landscaping inputs and maintenance costs
Alternative Sources of Energy	Assessed and made recommendations for use of alternative energy sources to power municipal facilities, such as solar, wind, and geothermal



Parks and Recreation	
Recreational Programming for Children's Interaction with Nature	Assessed park and recreation systems to identify opportunities to introduce nature-based recreation and play for children
Recreational Opportunities for Underserved Populations	Evaluated how well current recreational offerings meet the needs of people with disabilities, seniors, and new immigrants and recommended improvements to better serve these groups
Community Gardens	Assessed existing community gardening program and recommended programmatic changes to improve gardeners' success, reduce administrative burden on staff, and balance use of public spaces for gardening against other recreational uses and needs
Environment	
Climate Adaptation	Identified potential local impacts of climate change, as well as strategies to reduce the community's vulnerability to these impacts
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study	Identified strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the municipal and individual business and household levels
Storm Water Management	Identified opportunities and design strategies for storm water infiltration that balance aesthetics and functionality, reduce long-term maintenance costs, manage winter snow melt, and provide opportunities for other passive uses
Water Reuse and Conservation	Investigated the feasibility of reusing storm water and treated effluent for irrigation on public and private property
Oak Savannah and Riverfront Restoration	Evaluated existing restoration activities in the Mississippi River Critical Area Corridor and recommended an overall restoration strategy to coordinate these efforts and incorporate public access opportunities
Park Restoration and Environmental Education	Created a plan to manage buckthorn and emerald ash borer in City parks and use this opportunity to educate residents about the ecosystem service value of management and restoration
Land Use and Transportation	
Urban Agriculture	Explored opportunities to capitalize on the existing local agricultural economy in Rosemount by supporting locally grown food, agritourism, and value-added agricultural products
Non-Motorized Transportation Assessment	Designed an evaluation plan to assess the impact of non-motorized transportation plans and investments in Rosemount
Travel Shed Analysis	Conducted a travel shed analysis of where Rosemount residents and employees work and live to inform future transit and transportation planning
Economic Development	
Analysis of Dakota County Business Clusters	Analyzed business clusters in dakota county to identify opportunities for rosemount to capitalize on existing and emerging clusters
Eco-Green Business Park	Explored opportunities for attracting green businesses and encouraging adoption of green building/manufacturing standards for a future green business park
Economic Development Website	Evaluated rosemount's existing economic development website and recommended improvements to better meet the needs of developers and the business community

For more information, contact:

Carissa Schively Slotterback, Director
Mike Greco, Program Manager

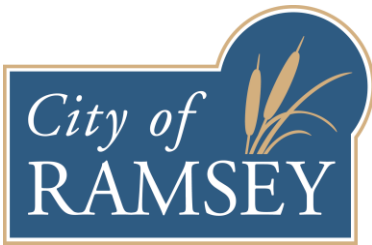
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Resilient Communities Project

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RCP is an initiative of the Sustainability Faculty Network at the University of Minnesota, with funding and administrative support provided by the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) and the Institute on the Environment (IonE)



7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, MN 55303

City Hall: 763.427.1410 • Fax: 763.427.5543

www.cityoframsey.com

September 15, 2016

Resilient Communities Program
Attn: RCP Director Mike Greco

Re: Letter of Intent for the Resilient Communities Program

We are both thankful for and excited about the opportunity to submit our Letter of Intent for the Resilient Communities Project (RCP). The City of Ramsey is a growing community located in the northwest metro area. We believe that Ramsey is an ideal candidate for RCP as we are classified as an Emerging Suburban Edge community and have a healthy mix of existing residential and commercial sexisting housing and developable land. Both present opportunities for improvement through sound, sustainable policy development and implementation.

Below are the required components for consideration to be invited to formally apply to be the Community Partner.

1. Community Information. City of Ramsey. City Administrator: Kurt Ulrich. The designated RCP Program Coordinator for the City of Ramsey will be our Community Development Director Tim Gladhill. In his role as Community Development Director, Mr. Gladhill is part of the City's Management Team and is responsible for both our Planning and Building Divisions. He also serves as the Staff Liaison to our Planning Commission. His contact information is: tgladhill@cityoframsey.com, 763-433-9826, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, MN 55303.
2. Sustainability. The City's [Strategic Plan](#) includes four (4) Goals and Imperatives, including a "Smart, Citizen-Focused Government" and "A Connected Community". The City strives to have

*It is our mission to work together to responsibly grow our community,
and to provide quality, cost-effective, and efficient government services.*

safe and thriving neighborhoods and business districts, and a clean environment. Additionally, the City wants to ensure connectivity both within the City as well as the region for ease of navigation and to attract business development. These two imperatives really aim at enhancing community livability and environmental health. The Strategic Initiatives (and the tactics to accomplish them) guide the City on the path to achieve these goals. Many of our proposed projects involve The COR, a Transit Oriented Development focused around the Northstar Commuter Rail Station. The COR was envisioned to absorb much of the planned growth of the community preserving some of the rural elements across the city. As there is still a significant amount of undeveloped land within The COR, it presents immense opportunity to provide lifecycle housing with a mix of affordable and market rate options, walkability, significant retail growth, and innovative stormwater management (including reuse). The partnership with RCP would provide an opportunity to research and analyze a range of aspects from parking concepts to stormwater management, and whether market realities align with the City's vision.

3. Administrative Capacity. The City of Ramsey has seventy-five (75) full time employees across seven (7) departments (Administration, Community Development, Engineering, Finance, Fire, Police and Public Works). Team members have a broad range of disciplines, specialties and interests. The City has experience with service learning projects through past work with Anoka Ramsey Community College and has found that it can produce desirable outcomes while providing students 'real world' experience. Many of the anticipated project leads serve as either a staff liaison to one of our advisory boards or have regular interaction with our City Council, providing an efficient means of keeping the policy makers and the public informed and up to date with RCP projects. Furthermore, we also utilized our local cable access programming as a means to keep the public informed.

4. Proposed Projects

- **Parking Strategies for The COR.** The City's land use plan for The COR is that of transit-oriented development. However, the community's market and public support for financial incentives to making necessary parking districts has proven to be challenging. The City desires to update its Master Parking Plan for The COR to maintain the vision for shared parking, while balancing market factors.
- **Stormwater Design for The COR.** The COR Development Plan aims to require innovated stormwater strategies. Overall stormwater needs are captured regionally, versus site by site. This stormwater system is also the key recreation component of the area, serving as an active park and home to our weekly summer concert series and farmer's market. Recent rule changes have required the City to re-evaluate the regional system and find ways to reduce the amount of the stormwater system that enter to begin with. This approach has competing factors with public well protection area.
- **Citizen Engagement for the Comprehensive Plan Update.** In 2006, the City embarked on a major overhaul of how it approached policy analysis and public engagement through a grass roots effort known as Ramsey3. Since then, the City has refined its approach, focusing on natural and organic conversations through existing events, gatherings, and neighborhood focus. The City looks for assistance finalizing this citizen engagement strategy and assistance with its execution.
- **Update of the Natural Resources Element of the Comprehensive Plan.** The City is beginning the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan, including the Natural Resources component, and desires to develop innovative strategies to better define how to accomplish our goals.

- **Development and Execution of an EPB Communications Plan/Library.** The City's Environmental Policy Board desires to develop a comprehensive outreach program across multiple mediums that focuses on environmentally related issues to educate and inform the community. Communications would address a range of topics such as water (conservation, groundwater, stormwater, and how all three interact), invasive species (aquatic and terrestrial), waste reduction, and community forestry.
- **Mixed Use Market Analysis.** The COR Development Plan vision includes mixed use buildings immediately surrounding the Northstar Commuter Rail – Ramsey Station. While the land use plan allows for, and the City proactively seeks out, the return has not been as successful as anticipated. The City is looking for market feasibility of this approach and methods to better encourage a mixed-use style of development.
- **Housing Analysis and Housing Plan.** The City's housing plan was last updated in 2008. Since then, the City's housing goals have had great successes, especially in terms of workforce housing and senior housing. Unfortunately, public support for many of our housing goals continues to drop. The City desires to update its housing plan, as well as a communication strategy about the needs for various housing types and the value they add to our community, especially in terms of economic development.
- **Development of a Gateway District Plan.** This is a sub-set of the Council's Strategic Plan Goal to improve the image of key corridors in the community. Many of the buildings at our gateways are either vacant, blighted, or both. The City desires to create a redevelopment plan for these areas, focused on an incentive-based approach.
- **Development of a Corridor Improvement Program.** The City's Strategic Plan has a goal to improve the image of our key transportation corridors through an incentive based approach. In October, 2016, the City will be engaging key stakeholders to kick this project

off. The City is looking for incentives the community can provide to invest in building and site improvements.

- **Public Tree Inventory.** Over the last decade or so, the City has begun encouraging planting boulevard/street trees as part of new development. As our street tree population grows, both physiologically and in actual number of trees, we are in need of an inventory to manage this often overlooked community asset. A completed inventory would allow the City to utilize tools such as i-tree to inform and educate both the public and policy makers on both the environmental and financial benefits street trees provide.
- **Exploration of Organics Collection Program (curbside or drop-off).** The City has a successful curbside recycling program for standard recyclables; however, food and paper waste (organics) constitute the largest component of our waste stream. We would like to research, analyze and implement an optional organics program (whether curbside and/or small scale drop-off) for residents.
- **Floodplain Modelling.** The City's Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which were just updated by FEMA in December of 2015, still include a number of areas identified as floodplain but without detailed analyses to provide a Base Flood Elevation (BFE). This has created some difficulty for various property owners and the City desires to complete modelling of these areas to be able to provide at least an estimated BFE that could be used as part of a Letter of Map Change application to FEMA.
- **Volunteer Opportunities and Program Development.** The City participates in a bi-annual statistically-significant citizen survey benchmarked against peer communities. One of the primary findings of this survey continues to be strategies to create additional opportunities for residents to participate in the community.

- **Develop a Business Incubator Program.** The City continues to have a successful business retention and expansion program. Our economic development success has been focused on small-business growth and expansion. The City looks to capitalize on this success and create new and exciting opportunities for small businesses to get their initial start through policies, financial incentives, and physical space.
 - **Market Analysis of Community Center and Movie Theater.** The community continues to desire a community space to gather year round. Within The COR, the City has set aside a large area for a large community-based user such as a community recreation center or theater. The City needs assistance marketing this asset and building successful and innovative strategies to make this a reality.
5. **Public Involvement.** Smart, Citizen-Focused Government is identified as one of the Goals and Imperatives in the City's [Strategic Plan](#). The City emphasizes stakeholder involvement and public engagement as we explore and analyze potential improvements and/or programs. Rather than staff identifying alternatives for public consideration on a particular topic, the City has developed a unique public engagement strategy that aims to ensure public involvement. This is accomplished by identifying a topic, providing a brief overview of it, and asking attendees to identify issues or subtopics that they feel need to be addressed or considered. It's a combination of small and large group discussions that ultimately outline alternatives and/or solutions for consideration. This approach has proven to be very effective and would be utilized throughout the RCP year. Informing the public and other stakeholders would be accomplished through mediums such as our website, newsletter, and possibly direct mailings. Additionally, we will utilize a 'mobile kiosk' concept at public events, such as our Summer Concert Series and our community festival Happy Days, where City Staff brings the information to the public.

6. Long-Term Benefits. This unique program provides the City an opportunity to complete a number of initiatives needed as we delve into our Comprehensive Plan Update and assess our current vision for The COR. As the Community Partner, we also see this as a fantastic opportunity to promote Ramsey and its many offerings, both for commercial and residential sectors. The results of many of our proposed projects will help inform and guide our policy makers, advisory boards, staff and stakeholders through our long-term planning and visioning exercises. We anticipate that the deliverables will either be incorporated into our planning documents and/or implemented as new or augmented programming. Finally, Ramsey has had tremendous success over the years with grooming interns for full-time employment with the City and some of those are now part of our Management Team. While we have a sincere interest in the deliverables from the proposed projects, we are certainly cognizant of the potential that some students may demonstrate for possible future employment with the City.
7. Demonstration of Support. On September 13, 2016, the Ramsey City Council authorized staff to prepare and submit this Letter of Intent. While not in the form of a formal resolution, the DRAFT minutes from that discussion are attached. Also attached is a letter of support from our Community Development Director, who would also serve as the program coordinator if Ramsey is selected as the Community Partner.
8. Acknowledgment of Local Financial Contribution. The Ramsey City Council discussed the RCP program at their September 13, 2016 meeting. The required local financial contribution was a component of that discussion. While much of their discussion focused on the innovation this program opportunity presents, the cost was also discussed. Ultimately, the City Council authorized staff to prepare and submit this Letter of Intent acknowledging that, if selected as the Community Partner, the City would be responsible for a local financial contribution of an amount

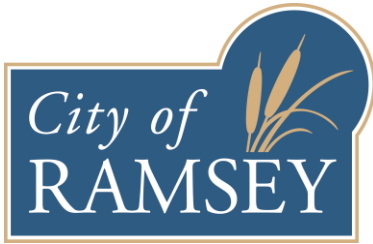
not to exceed \$80,000 (understanding that we are limiting our proposed projects to no more than twenty [20]).

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit this Letter of Intent. If you have any questions on this Letter of Intent, or if you would like additional information on anything, please feel free to contact me at 763-433-9817 or via email at canderson@cityoframsey.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Chris Anderson
City Planner



7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, MN 55303

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www.cityoframsey.com

September 15, 2016

Resilient Communities Project
Attn: RCP Director Mike Greco

Re: Letter of Support Accompanying the City of Ramsey's Letter of Intent

Mr. Grecco,

On behalf of the City of Ramsey, I am excited to offer this Letter of Support in regards to our Letter of Intent to apply for the Resilient Communities Program with the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs. On September 13, our City Council directed us to submit our Letter of Intent.

We have a range of policy topics and programs that we feel will match the program goals with meaningful and exciting opportunities for these students. While we are excited to provide students an opportunity to work on real world projects that are already part of our planning documents, we are even more excited about the innovation that this program can provide that may not exist without our participation in this program.

Our Comprehensive Plan Update underway, along with our Council's Strategic Plan, is serving as a foundation for many policy topics like never before in our community, and the amount of public engagement is exciting. These plans are serving as a spring board for a number of broad professional experiences that the students would access. These opportunities include, but are not limited to, land use planning, transit-oriented development planning, economic development policies, long-range parks and recreation planning, and natural resource policy to name a few. Our community's vision and commitment to meaningful public engagement and innovation will set us apart from our peer communities.

Aside from the benefits to our organization, this program also hits one of my primary goals as a planning and community development professional; to provide excellent professional development opportunities to those just entering the profession. As a student, I either didn't take advantage of, or have access to a program of this high quality. Whether it through professional organizations such as the American Planning Association or my primary employer/organization, I continue to look for opportunities such as this to give back to the profession.

We look forward to future conversations and hope to be your next partner community.

Sincerely,

CITY OF RAMSEY

Tim Gladhill
Community Development Director

7.14: Discuss Opportunity for Assistance from University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to Complete Pending Land Use Studies and Strategic Plan Initiatives

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and asked for input from the Council as to whether or not to submit a letter of intent to the Resilient Communities Project for consideration.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he appreciates the time staff has put into this but was not thrilled with the cost to hire interns and therefore would not support the action.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that he likes the innovation and different perspectives that would be provided as well as the fact that the skills the students have align with the projects in Ramsey but was concerned with the cost. He asked if the value gained would exceed the cost. He asked where the commitment would become non-returnable, whether that would be with the letter of intent or later in the process.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that he does not have the complete picture of the value compared to the cost. He noted that there would not be a commitment from the City with the letter of intent, which would simply provide the City with additional information and an ability to determine if the City would qualify.

Councilmember Riley noted the large amount of staff time that would be needed that would potentially outweigh the value that would be gained. He noted that he would not support this request.

Councilmember Shryock stated that if you look at the number of projects on the list, the cost for the City to complete those projects on their own and the amount of staff time would be huge. She stated that this would provide a different perspective and she would be interested in applying to determine if the City could qualify.

Mayor Strommen asked the amount of time that would take to develop the letter of intent.

Community Development Director Gladhill estimated eight to ten hours to develop the letter of intent.

Mayor Strommen stated that it appears the City has little to lose by submitting the letter of intent to see where Ramsey stands in comparison to other communities and finding out more information.

Councilmember Williams stated that with the staff time that will be needed for the Comprehensive Plan, along with other items, she would support submission of the letter of intent.

Mayor Strommen confirmed a majority consensus of the Council to submit the letter of intent.

CC Regular Session**7. 14.****Meeting Date:** 09/13/2016

Information**Title:**

Discuss Opportunity for Assistance from University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to Complete Pending Land Use Studies and Strategic Plan Initiatives - **This case was originally slated for the Council Work Session agenda, but due to lack of time it was added to the Regular CC agenda at the meeting.**

Purpose/Background:**Purpose**

The purpose of this case is to inform City Council of an innovative program opportunity through the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP). This case should not be interpreted as formal consideration of the program at this time; the intent is to simply bring this opportunity to the attention of the City Council. Staff is bringing this forward for discussion with the idea that this program may bring innovative ideas to several policy topics currently under consideration that may not be considered with existing resources and expertise.

Each academic year (July 1 - June 30), one community is selected as the Partner Community and gains access to a broad base of knowledge and expertise from U of MN faculty, graduate students, and upper level undergraduate students. The program attempts to match community identified projects with graduate and upper level undergraduate courses to complete the identified project(s). The application process for this program has been divided into two (2) components with the first step being a Letter of Intent (due by September 15, 2016). Based on the LOI submittals, selected communities will then be invited to apply to the RCP program (application due by February 15, 2017). The selected community's partnership would begin July 1, 2017 and would end June 30, 2018.

Background

This program is based on projects identified by the Partner Community. As Staff discussed this opportunity, our goal was to consider what projects were 'in the hopper' but just haven't progressed yet for one reason or another. Attached is a list of possible projects that were identified by Community Development, Public Works, Engineering and Administration Staff that may be a good fit for this program. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, rather it simply demonstrates that there are a wide range of projects that could get jump started if Ramsey were selected as the Partner Community.

There are multiple benefits to participating in the RCP. Most notably is the access to faculty and graduate/upper level undergraduate students from multiple disciplines, including architecture, planning, engineering, environmental sciences, public health and others. It provides an opportunity to advance projects that may otherwise never get off the ground. Furthermore, assistance is available for all stages of sustainability, which can include analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation. The Partner Community would gain access to hundreds of hours of concentrated student work on projects the City has specifically identified.

Staff has reached out to two (2) former Partner Communities to gauge their level of satisfaction with the program and whether they would do it again if the opportunity arose. Both communities were generally supportive of the program outcomes noting that some of the project results were equal to or exceeded work they had received from consultants. However, both communities identified staff time commitment as a challenge. The RCP program recommends that each project lead should plan for an average of 2-4 hours per week on their project(s) over the course of the twelve (12) month program and the overall program coordinator should plan for an average of 5-7 hours per week over the course of the program. The overall Program Manager would be the Community Development Director, with individual Project Managers including the City Planner and other key Staff based on the individual project.

There is a financial commitment required of the Partner Community, which is based on the number of projects proposed (for base payment) and actual number of projects successfully matched with a course or courses. Communities must proposed between ten (10) and thirty (30) projects; the base fee for ten to twenty (10-20) projects is \$40,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the base fee is \$80,000.00. In addition to the base fee, for each successfully matched project with a course or courses, there is an additional \$2,000.00 fee. So, for ten to twenty (10-20) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$80,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$120,000.00 (Staff would not recommend participation at this commitment level). Payment can be made in two (2) lump sum payments, the first due in fiscal year 2017 and the second due in fiscal year 2018. Staff would plan for a total commitment of \$60,000 to \$80,000 based on the City's potential project list, divided over two (2) fiscal years (\$30,000 to \$40,000 per year). Staff would recommend existing budget requests/forecasts for professional services (no impact to proposed 2017 General Fund Budget Request).

The RCP is an interesting program that may provide an innovative approach to address various initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan. However, preparation of this case is not meant to indicate that the City is pursuing this opportunity but rather a means to inform City Council of the RCP program. Staff does acknowledge the level of Staff commitment to manage this program. Should the City Council provide direction to submit a LOI, a resolution of support has been placed on the regular agenda for consideration this evening.

Timeframe:

30 minutes

Funding Source:

If selected as the Partner Community, the required financial contribution would be paid through the Community Development Department's professional services budget or, depending on the project focus, potentially from a more appropriate Department's professional services budget.

Responsible Party(ies):

Community Development Director
City Planner

Outcome:

Provide direction to Staff to submit/not submit a Letter of Intent to the Resilient Communities Project for consideration.

Attachments

Resilient Communities Project Program Background

Summaries of Past Community Partner Projects

Potential City Projects

Form Review

Inbox

Tim Gladhill

Kurt Ulrich

Form Started By: Chris Anderson

Final Approval Date: 09/20/2016

Reviewed By

Tim Gladhill

Kurt Ulrich

Date

09/07/2016 02:49 PM

09/08/2016 04:01 PM

Started On: 09/06/2016 02:32 PM

7.14: Discuss Opportunity for Assistance from University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) to Complete Pending Land Use Studies and Strategic Plan Initiatives

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and asked for input from the Council as to whether or not to submit a letter of intent to the Resilient Communities Project for consideration.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he appreciates the time staff has put into this but was not thrilled with the cost to hire interns and therefore would not support the action.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that he likes the innovation and different perspectives that would be provided as well as the fact that the skills the students have align with the projects in Ramsey but was concerned with the cost. He asked if the value gained would exceed the cost. He asked where the commitment would become non-returnable, whether that would be with the letter of intent or later in the process.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that he does not have the complete picture of the value compared to the cost. He noted that there would not be a commitment from the City with the letter of intent, which would simply provide the City with additional information and an ability to determine if the City would qualify.

Councilmember Riley noted the large amount of staff time that would be needed that would potentially outweigh the value that would be gained. He noted that he would not support this request.

Councilmember Shryock stated that if you look at the number of projects on the list, the cost for the City to complete those projects on their own and the amount of staff time would be huge. She stated that this would provide a different perspective and she would be interested in applying to determine if the City could qualify.

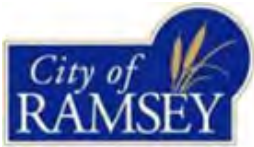
Mayor Strommen asked the amount of time that would take to develop the letter of intent.

Community Development Director Gladhill estimated eight to ten hours to develop the letter of intent.

Mayor Strommen stated that it appears the City has little to lose by submitting the letter of intent to see where Ramsey stands in comparison to other communities and finding out more information.

Councilmember Williams stated that with the staff time that will be needed for the Comprehensive Plan, along with other items, she would support submission of the letter of intent.

Mayor Strommen confirmed a majority consensus of the Council to submit the letter of intent.



Our Mission: To work together to responsibly grow our community, and to provide quality, cost-effective, and efficient government services.

CC Regular Session

7.9.

Meeting Date: 02/14/2017

By: Tim Gladhill, Community Development

Information

Title:

Adopt Resolution #17-02-048 Approving Final Application to Resilient Communities Project

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to consider a formal application to the Resilient Communities Program. After a presentation by the program at the January 10, 2017 Work Session, City Council consensus was to proceed forward with said application. The attached documents are only a partial draft, the status at the time of publishing of this agenda. The Application is due Wednesday, February 15. Staff will forward the final draft on February 14 for review. Staff is simply seeking authorization to formally submit an application, with final details on the application populated prior to the application deadline.

Each academic year (July 1 - June 30), one community is selected as the Partner Community and gains access to a broad base of knowledge and expertise from U of MN faculty, graduate students, and upper level undergraduate students and provide research and data supplementation to the City for project already in the queue. The intent is to supplement City Staff and assist in aspects of key projects to help bring to completion. The program attempts to match community identified projects with graduate and upper level undergraduate courses to complete the identified project(s). The application process for this program has been divided into two (2) components with the first step being a Letter of Intent (due by September 15, 2016). Based on the LOI submittals, selected communities will then be invited to apply to the RCP program (application due by February 15, 2017). The selected community's partnership would begin July 1, 2017 and would end June 30, 2018. The City was selected to proceed to the next stage.

Observations/Alternatives:

This program is based on projects identified by the Partner Community. As potential projects were identified, Staff focused on projects that are already in the Strategic Plan or an associated Advisory Board or Department Work Plan. Attached is a list of possible projects that were identified by Staff from all departments that may be a good fit for this program.

There are multiple benefits to participating in the RCP. Most notably is the access to faculty and graduate/upper level undergraduate students from multiple disciplines, including architecture, planning, engineering, environmental sciences, public health and others to provide real value in work product that can be used in existing policy analysis. It provides an opportunity to advance projects that may otherwise never get off the ground. Furthermore, assistance is available for all stages of sustainability, which can include analysis, planning, design, implementation, and evaluation. The Partner Community would gain access to hundreds of hours of concentrated student work on projects the City has specifically identified. This would not replace the need for Staff, professional services, and other project management, but a supplement to our supply of resources that will make true progress towards completion.

Staff has reached out to two (2) former Partner Communities to gauge their level of satisfaction with the program

and whether they would do it again if the opportunity arose. Both communities were generally supportive of the program outcomes noting that some of the project results were equal to or exceeded work they had received from consultants. However, both communities identified staff time commitment as a challenge. The RCP program recommends that each project lead should plan for an average of 2-4 hours per week on their project(s) over the course of the twelve (12) month program and the overall program coordinator should plan for an average of 5-7 hours per week over the course of the program. The overall Program Manager would be the Community Development Director, with individual Project Managers including the City Planner and other key Staff based on the individual project.

There is a financial commitment required of the Partner Community, which is based on the number of projects proposed (for base payment) and actual number of projects successfully matched with a course or courses. Communities must propose between ten (10) and thirty (30) projects; the base fee for ten to twenty (10-20) projects is \$40,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the base fee is \$80,000.00. In addition to the base fee, for each successfully matched project with a course or courses, there is an additional \$2,000.00 fee. So, for ten to twenty (10-20) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$80,000.00 and for twenty-one to thirty (21-30) projects, the total program cost could be up to \$120,000.00 (Staff would not recommend participation at this commitment level). Payment can be made in two (2) lump sum payments, the first due in fiscal year 2017 and the second due in fiscal year 2018. Staff would plan for a total commitment of \$60,000 to \$80,000 based on the City's potential project list, divided over two (2) fiscal years (\$30,000 to \$40,000 per year). Staff would recommend existing budget requests/forecasts for professional services (no impact to proposed 2017 General Fund Budget Request).

Funding Source:

Funding for this program would be through the existing 2017 General Fund Budget (\$40,000) as well as the 2018 General Fund Budget (\$40,000). Budget dollars are available in various Professional Service Line Items per Department and an appropriate use of these funds.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends authorization of the final application for the Resilient Communities Program.

Action:

Motion to adopt Resolution #17-02-048 authorizing a final application to the Resilient Communities Program.

Attachments

[Project Descriptions](#)

[Resolution #17-02-048](#)

[Program Background](#)

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	02/09/2017 03:24 PM
Form Started By: Tim Gladhill		Started On: 02/03/2017 02:43 PM
Final Approval Date: 02/09/2017		

Councilmember introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #17-02-048

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

WHEREAS, the City of is seeking assistance to complete initiatives of the Strategic Plan, Comprehensive Plan, and associated work plans for the community; and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Program provides an opportunity for students to assist and provide resources to community projects, including those included in many of the City's goals and initiatives.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1) That the Ramsey City Council hereby authorizes Staff to submit an application to the Resilient Communities Program.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 14th day of February 2017.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Resilient Communities Project

*Building Community-University
Partnerships for Sustainability and Resilience*



City of Ramsey Information Session

Mike Greco, AICP

Director, Resilient Communities Project
Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) – U of MN

January 10, 2017

What Is RCP?

The mission of the Resilient Communities Project is to connect communities in Minnesota with University of Minnesota faculty and students to advance local sustainability and resilience through collaborative, course-based projects.

**Building Community-University
Partnerships for Sustainability and Resilience**

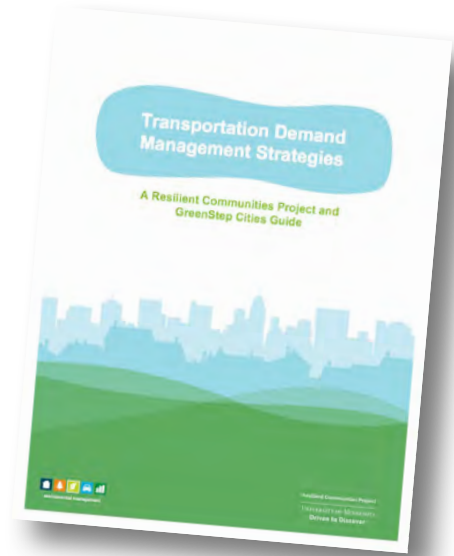


Program Objectives

Building local capacity around sustainability and resilience

Training students to be **future sustainability practitioners**

Producing case studies, best practices, and tools that can **inform sustainability practice**



What if...?

We connected existing university courses

...taught in their existing ways

...by existing faculty

...to a single community

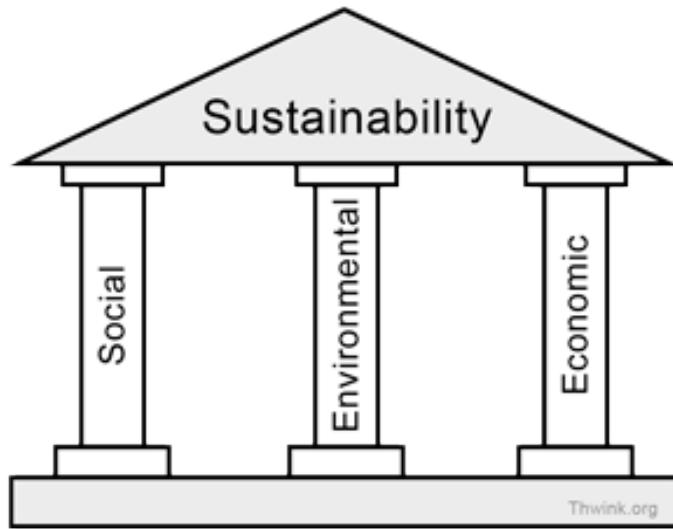
...over an academic year

...to work on projects that advance sustainability and resilience

...identified by city staff?



RESILIENCE
SUSTAINABILITY
SELF-ORGANIZING
SYSTEMS
FLEXIBILITY
ADAPTIVE
CONSERVATION
DIVERSITY
COMPLEXITY
RESTORATION
REDUNDANCY
SURVIVE
COPING
DISASTER
FRAGILE-CRITICAL
DEGRADATION
UNBALANCED
CHANGE
CRISIS
RISK
DISRUPTION
HARM
HAZARD
ABUSE
NEGLECT
EXTINCTION
TRAUMA
INEQUITY
SHOCK STRESS



Resilience is the capacity of individuals, institutions, communities, and natural systems to survive, adapt, and thrive in the face of changes, stresses, and shocks

How Does the Model Work?

Partner **competitively selected (RFP) + contributes financially**

City defines **10–30 projects + identifies project leads**

RCP matches each project with **one or more U of MN courses**

Project leads, faculty, and RCP staff **collaboratively:**

- **clarify and scope** projects that students will undertake
- identify and engage **community partners and stakeholders**

Students **complete projects** as part of regular coursework

Students deliver **final presentations + work products** to city/county



Why the Model Works

Projects are part of city work-plan

Grassroots matchmaking (city staff + faculty)

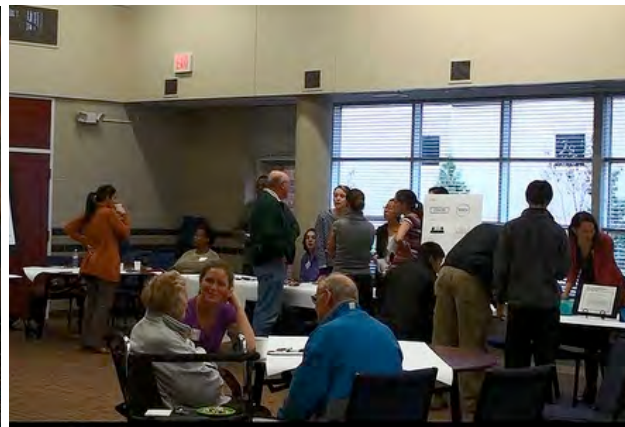
Participation is opt-in

Multiple students/teams in each class (redundancy)

Frequent communication

Engagement with local residents, businesses, organizations
(creates buy-in)

Everyone has 'skin in the game' (financial, political, a grade)



RCP: The First Four Years

Community partners:

- Minnetonka
- North St. Paul
- Rosemount
- Carver County

Community Projects: 88

U of MN Courses: 141

U of MN Departments: 39

Students: 1,300+



Chaska Community Solar Development

Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering



Watertown Whitewater Recreation Park

Urban Planning, Public Affairs, Natural Resource Management



Victoria Ecotourism Marketing Plan

Natural Resource Management, Journalism and Mass Communication



Suburban Placemaking and Community Gathering Spaces

Urban Studies, Liberal Studies



Rosemount Urban Agriculture

Sustainability Studies, Urban Planning



Rosemount Eco-Green Business Park

Business Administration, Public Policy, Public Affairs



North St. Paul Live/Work Housing and Downtown Revitalization

Housing Studies, Public Affairs



Implementing Living Streets Policy in North St. Paul

Architecture, Public Health, Public Policy, Urban Planning



Aging in Place in North St. Paul

Gerontology, Housing Studies, Social Work, Public Policy



Participating Departments

Agronomy
Anthropology
Architecture
Bioproducts & Biosystems Engineering
Business Administration
Civil, Environmental, & Geo-Engineering
Communication Studies
Community Health Promotion
Design
Environmental Health
Environmental Science, Policy, & Management
Fisheries, Wildlife, & Conservation Biology
Forest & Natural Resource Management
Geographic Information Systems
Geography
Gerontology
Graphic Design
Health, Physical Education & Recreation (UMD)
Horticulture
Human Resources & Industrial Relations

Housing Studies
Journalism & Mass Communication
Landscape Architecture
Law
Liberal Studies
Maternal & Child Health
Organization Leadership, Policy & Development
Psychology
Public Affairs
Public Policy
Public Health Administration & Policy
Recreation & Resource Management
Scandinavian Studies
Science, Technology, & Environmental Policy
Social Work
Spanish & Portuguese Studies
Sustainability Studies
Urban & Regional Planning
Urban Studies
Youth Studies



Partner Community

Access to faculty + 1000s of hours of student time
Student knowledge, creativity, and energy
Multidisciplinary perspective on issues
Groundwork for engaging consultants

Faculty

Efficient access to high-quality
community-based projects
Recognition/visibility for community-
engaged teaching
Feedback loop between research and
practice



Shared benefits

Students

Well-organized + meaningful community-based
projects
“Real world” experience related to sustainability
and resilience
Professional networking opportunities

Questions?

www.rcp.umn.edu



@RCPumn

rcp@umn.edu

612-625-7501

Resilient



Communities Project



7.09: Consider Adopting Resolution #17-02-048 Approving Final Application to Resilient Communities Project

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and recommendation for the Council to authorize the final application for the Resilient Communities Program.

Councilmember Shryock stated that this is a great opportunity for the City and the material for the application is all items the Council has seen in the past. She appreciated the work that was put into this.

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember LeTourneau, to adopt Resolution #17-02-048 Authorizing Application to the Resilient Communities Program of the University of Minnesota.

Further discussion: Councilmember Kuzma stated that he is still concerned with the cost over the two years and is not sure that this is the best use of funds. He felt that perhaps the City is creating projects but noted that staff identified a true need for this. He stated that he is not going to support this item as he is leery of the cost.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Shryock, LeTourneau, Johns, Riley, and Williams. Voting No: Councilmember Kuzma.

7.10: Consider Adopting Ordinance #17-03 to Amend Board of Appeals and Adjustment/Official Map – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 – Section 2-159 (Duties, Responsibilities, and Objectives) of the Ramsey City Code

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and recommendation from the Planning Commission to adopt Ordinance #17-03 amending section 2-159 of the City Code to combine the two Boards as outlined.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to waive the City Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and adopt Ordinance #17-03 Amending Section 2-159 (Duties, Responsibilities, and Objectives) of the Ramsey City Code.

A roll call vote was performed by the Recording Secretary:

Councilmember Riley	aye
Councilmember Shryock	aye
Councilmember Williams	aye
Councilmember LeTourneau	aye
Councilmember Johns	aye
Councilmember Kuzma	aye
Mayor Strommen	aye

Motion carried.