

**From:** City of Minneapolis Community Environmental Advisory Commission  
**To:** Heather Worthington, Director of Long Range Planning  
**Date:** July 17, 2018

We are writing with recommendations to further the City's commitment to sustainability and environmental justice in the Minneapolis 2040 comprehensive plan update. The following recommendations are listed by policy number for ease of reference in the draft comprehensive plan.

### **Policy 25 Innovations in Transportation and Infrastructure**

Replace Action Recommendation d:

"Encourage and support electric vehicles by prioritizing associated public and private charging infrastructure."

with:

"Encourage and support electric vehicles by prioritizing the development of public and private charging infrastructure and replacing all internal combustion vehicles in the City fleet with zero emissions vehicles by 2040."

### **Policy 69 Renewable and Carbon Free Energy**

This policy should focus on the recently-adopted long-term goal of getting 100% of community-wide electricity from renewable sources by 2030, and also on being well on the way by 2040 toward the Climate Action Plan's 2050 target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% from the 2006 baseline. It should also mention the aspirational goal of surpassing the Energy Pathways Study target of reaching 10% local renewably generated electricity by 2025.

### **Policy 75 Waste Reduction: Maintain and expand opportunities to reduce waste and properly dispose of waste to meet the City's zero-waste goals.**

Comments on action steps for Policy 75, which supports Goal 11 of the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan 2040.

Replace:

B. Educate residents and businesses on the benefits of reducing waste, recycling and composting.

with:

**B. Educate residents, businesses, and institutions on the benefits of reducing waste, and how to properly recycle and compost at home.**

*Rationale: The educational component needs to focus on teaching residents how to properly identify where waste belongs so that they can make the right choices. People may already know that recycling and composting is important, but they don't necessarily know how to do it.*

Replace:

I. Increase recycling opportunities at commercial and industrial properties.

with:

**I. Increase recycling opportunities at commercial and industrial properties, and implement mandatory recycling planning requirements, including documentation of hauler and proper disposal methods for specialty materials generated.**

*Rationale: Commercial and industrial waste are significant contributors to our waste streams, and the city should encourage businesses to look at their disposal methods and potentially hold them accountable for finding responsible ways to dispose of generated materials. These moves could possibly repurpose materials otherwise going to landfills, moving large waste streams up on the solid waste management hierarchy, which would contribute to the city's zero waste goal. Please note: the additional language proposal was pulled right out of the city's zero waste plan.*

Replace:

J. Develop an incentive program for businesses to divert organic materials from the trash.  
with:

**J. Require businesses producing XX pounds/tons of food waste to opt-in to the city's organics recycling program.**

Replace:

K. Enforce existing ordinances and provide assistance to schools and commercial buildings by using partnerships with Hennepin County and other organizations and/or new methods.  
with:

**K. Enhance enforcement of existing ordinances and provide assistance to schools and commercial buildings by using partnerships with Hennepin County and other organizations and/or new methods.**

Add Additional Bullet Point:

**Develop a partnership between the city and reuse partner(s) to allow multi-unit residents the opportunity to place reusable items on the curb for pick-up and donation to reuse centers.**

*Rationale: According to the Minneapolis Trends Reports, published by the City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development department, the vacancy rate for multifamily rental housing in Minneapolis was at 2.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2017. That is a significant portion of the city's population in multi-family units, most of which is temporary housing. The turnover in those dwellings generates a significant amount of large-scale waste (ie.-furniture), which is often reusable, but thrown out due to timing and circumstance. Repurposing these large reusable items would curb waste to landfills or waste-to-energy streams. There are currently non-profit companies providing curbside pickup to residential areas, and these companies, with the city's support, may be able to expand their operations to include multi-family units.*

Please let us know how you plan on addressing our concerns.

Sincerely,  
Erin Niehoff, Chair  
Community Environmental Advisory Commission