

EVER GREEN ROSEVILLE

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE 2017-18



CITY GOALS

FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- Maintain and operate parks, open space, and recreation facilities in a safe, clean, and sustainable manner that protects natural resources and systems and preserves high-quality recreation opportunities and experiences.
- Maintain or improve the water quality and ecological integrity of the City's lakes, ponds, and wetlands.
- Create a sustainable transportation network by encouraging more efficient use of existing roadways, limiting the need for future roadway expansion, and promoting walking and biking.
- Protect, preserve, and enhance Roseville's water, land, trees, and pollinators for current and future generations.
- Support the development of local renewable energy installations through outreach, partnerships, and policy to create economic opportunities and reduce community contributions to climate change.

IN THIS ISSUE

2017 PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

2018 CITY PLANS AND PROJECTS

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - 2040

GREENSTEP CITIES



2017 PROJECTS

POLLINATOR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

On June 19, 2017, City Council passed a resolution declaring Roseville a Pollinator Friendly Community and encouraging residents and businesses to adopt practices that protect and support pollinator health. The City will be reviewing its practices regarding pesticides and insecticides to reduce, limit, and eliminate their use as much as possible, especially those from the neonicotinoid family which are particularly harmful to pollinators. The City will also be planting more native vegetation and plants favorable to bees in public spaces to create and maintain more habitat for pollinators.

STORMWATER AND WATER QUALITY

In recent years, Roseville has been a leader in clean water projects and stormwater management, completing a variety of water stewardship projects and activities. In January 2018, the City received the Watershed Partner Award from the Capitol Region Watershed District for exemplifying the principles of watershed stewardship and a commitment to improving and protecting water resources in the district. The City has provided significant technical and financial support for many projects, such as the Villa Park Wetland Weir System, Lake McCarrons Alum Treatment, Gottfried's Pit Lift Station, Iron Enhancement Filtration Benches at Williams Street

Pond, and the Upper Villa Park Stormwater Infiltration & Reuse project. Roseville residents highly value natural resources in their community, and it is a major priority for the city to continue implementing projects that preserve and protect our environment. Read on to the 2018 Projects in this issue for more information on upcoming efforts.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CAPSTONE PROJECT

This past fall, the City partnered with a group of environmental science students from the University of Minnesota for their senior capstone project. The students completed research, acted as consultants, and provided recommendations on nine different projects: organics recycling, stormwater pond assessment, parks assessment, urban tree canopy, GreenStep Cities, stormwater outreach methods and strategies, natural resource volunteer program, right of way vegetation, and public art and way-finding. The students had the opportunity to apply their knowledge and expertise, collect and analyze data, and develop policies for Roseville to implement over the coming months and years.





SOUTH LAKE OWASSO DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

In November 2017, the Public Works department finished a project to better manage stormwater runoff along a 700 foot portion of South Owasso Boulevard by installing a material called PavéDrain. Previously the gravel road did not provide any treatment to surface runoff before draining into Lake Owasso and the City's storm sewer. With the project completed, stormwater will be filtered through the PavéDrain to remove pollutants that could degrade water quality in the lake and slow infiltration to help manage concerns of flooding around Lake Owasso. This project also included adding curbs and a sturdy, smooth surface to drive on.

PARKS ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

In 2017, Roseville completed the first phase of a major ecological restoration project in the City's park system. More than 1500 community members volunteered for the City in 2017 alone, and

contributed over 4000 hours to removing invasive and non-native plant species such as buckthorn from 376 acres of parkland. Many ecosystems are included in this project, such as prairie, woodland, wetlands, and shoreline of lakes and rivers. The goal of this restoration project is to increase the resilience of community ecology to protect against the effects of climate change, invasive species, and degradation of soil and water resources, as well as improving the quality of our parks and recreational areas for our residents and community members.



Now that this three-year phase of the project is completed, the City will continue to utilize its robust volunteer force to reintroduce native species of vegetation to the parks to establish strong biodiversity. Read further to learn more about the next phase of the project.





2018 PROJECTS

WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORATION

The next phase of the City's eco-restoration project is a wildlife habitat restoration project, focusing on addressing the presence of invasive species in Roseville, such as buckthorn, Tatarian honeysuckle, and emerald ash borer. To help fund this project, the City of Roseville was awarded a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for a total of \$353,572. Thanks to the work of our volunteers and Parks staff over the last 3 years, significant progress has been made to remove invasive and non-native vegetation. The upcoming phase will focus on reintroduction of native species and building robust biodiversity.

NEW PARKS: CLEVELAND AND MARION

This year, Roseville will be developing two new parks, on Cleveland Avenue and Marion Street. These parks will provide recreation areas community members of all ages, including playgrounds, open green space, wooded walking paths, and plantings of native flowers, shrubs, and grasses. Community members are invited to participate in the planning process and visit the City website for more information.

ORGANICS RECYCLING

Thanks in part to the expertise and recommendations from the University of Minnesota capstone course project, Roseville plans to move forward with plans to designate a drop-off site for organics recycling. While this project is ongoing, residents may bring their organic waste, including food and yard waste, to Ramsey County Yard Waste sites. Residents may also create their own backyard compost, and resources for interested community members are available on the City of Roseville Public Works webpage.

GREEN TEAM

To continue Roseville's progress through the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program, a resolution will be presented to the City Council to designate the Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission as the city's official Green Team. This group will lead, coordinate, and report to community members on implementation of sustainability best practices, as well as oversee progress toward the city's sustainability goals. The Green Team will work closely with city staff members from the Public Works department, such as the City's Environmental Specialist, to improve existing programs and policies as well as identify new opportunities and projects for the future.



SOLSMART PROGRAM, CITY HALL SOLAR INSTALLATION

As a part of its effort to promote renewable energy and lower the City's impact on the environment, Roseville will be evaluating the next steps forward in its plan to install a solar array on the City Hall campus. The city has already met with a variety of representatives from the solar industry, such as installers, financiers, and non-profit organizations to determine the best course of action to help reduce city energy costs over the next 20 years. In addition, in the next few months the city is hoping to complete the requirements for Bronze Level recognition in the SolSmart program, a national organization that provides resources, guidance, and recognition to cities that support local solar energy. Visit www.solsmart.org for more information.



COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

In February, the Public Works department presented a new policy to the Public Works, Environment, and Transportation Commission that provides a framework for incorporating the principles of "Complete Streets" into road and transportation projects. Complete Streets is a nationally recognized philosophy for developing a transportation system that is equitable, safe, and accessible for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists. The policy also seeks to support local economic development and reduce stress on the environment.



This policy will work in tandem with existing plans and policies, such as the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, Transportation Plan and Pathway Master Plan, and the Regional Bicycle Transportation Network from the Metropolitan Council. This policy will soon be submitted for approval and adoption by the City Council.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR PARKS OR NATURAL RESOURCE RESTORATION ?

Contact Rachel Boggs 651-792-7028 rachel.boggs@cityofroseville.com

Or visit www.cityofroseville.com/2622/Volunteer-Opportunities



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

For more than a year, the Planning Commission of Roseville has been working to update Roseville's comprehensive plan, which establishes goals for community development and growth through 2040 and a path to achieving those goals. There are three primary areas of focus in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update:

- To create and sustain the elements that define Roseville's character, heritage, and identity.
- To influence the economic health of the community through the promotion of strong residential neighborhoods and business districts.
- To shape the future of municipal government by identifying needed public improvements that facilitate and sustain development.

Maintaining the Roseville park system and protecting natural resources in Roseville are also major priorities, and many of the projects above are referenced in relevant chapters of the plan.



The Planning Commission and City Council have reviewed the draft comprehensive plan, which is now available on the city website, and both bodies made recommendations for changes to incorporate into the update.



Minnesota
GreenStep Cities

GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRESS

Roseville has been a participating member of the GreenStep Cities Program from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency since 2012, and is on the brink of achieving Step 3 of five. The city plans to complete remaining Best Practices to achieve Step 3 status by the end of the year, including adopting the Complete Streets policy mentioned on the previous page and the Green Team mentioned on page 4. Once Step 3 is achieved, the City will continue monitoring progress on a variety of sustainability metrics over the next several years in order to achieve Step 4 and 5. Since the founding of GreenStep Cities, only 6 cities have achieved Step 5 status, and Roseville hopes to soon join the ranks of ambitious and prestigious cities leading the state on resiliency, efficiency, and sustainability. Further details on Roseville's progress can be found at:

<https://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us>