EVER GREEN ROSEVILLE

SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE 2018-19



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

2018 PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

2019 CITY PLANS AND PROJECTS

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - 2040

GREENSTEP CITIES

2018 PROJECTS

COMPLETION OF MARION STREET AND CLEVELAND AVENUE PARKS

This year, Roseville completed two new parks on Cleveland Avenue and Marion Street. These parks provide recreation areas for community members of all ages and expand the playgrounds, open green space, and wooded walking paths that the City offers to residents. Planting native flowers and shrubs in these new parks also furthers the goals of ecological restoration detailed on page 3. The parks are shown below with Marion Street on top and Cleveland Avenue below it.





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 priority for the City to continue implementing projects that preserve and protect our environment. Read on to the 2019 Projects in this issue for more information on upcoming efforts.

CEDARHOLM STORMWATER

This past summer, Roseville completed a project at the Cedarholm Community Building to improve their clubhouse, pond, and parking lot stormwater management system. This project was dual purposed. It updated a beautiful feature of the community for residents, and also enabled the City to increase flood protection by the use of porous pavement. Porous pavement increases the amount of water that can be reabsorbed into the ground instead of runoff into local water sources, which has a large hand in preserving the native ecosystem and preventing potential flood hazards.





WILLOW POND LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

In the past year, Roseville partnered with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District to install a Spent Lime Sand Filter and the reintroduction of various native plants at Willow Pond. The new system will filter overflow water from the pond before it goes to Lake Bennett. This project also removed invasive species of nettle, garlic mustard, and more. These invasive plants were replaced with seeding for native trees, shrubs, and flowers. The City continues to encourage the growth of native plants in this pond, which extends the volunteer efforts for restoration throughout the City. Looking forward, Roseville will continue its restoration efforts at Willow Pond and encourage the success of planted native species.

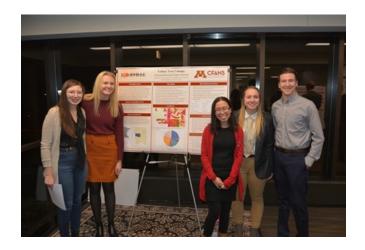


PARKS ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Roseville continued its major ecological restoration project in the City's park system this year. From January of 2018 to now, 142 community members volunteered for the City's Natural Resource Events, and contributed 662 hours to removing invasive and non-native plant species and reintroducing native species in 376 acres of land. One example of this project is the Willow Pond native planting. The growth of native species in habitat will continue to support Resolution No. 11422, committing to practices that protect and increase pollinators, and promote robust diversity of the ecosystem.



The City of Roseville was awarded a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for a total of \$353,572 this past year to contribute to this goal, and the remaining amounts of this grant will continue to be dedicated to this restoration in the future. The City strives for this restoration project 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 improve the quality of our parks and recreational areas for our residents and community members.



2019 PROJECTS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CAPSTONE PROJECT

In 2017, the City partnered with a group of environmental science students from the University of Minnesota for their senior capstone project. The students 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. In the upcoming year, Roseville will further develop the policies recommended in order to implement these student's ideas for improving environmental practices.

ORGANICS RECYCLING

Thanks in part to the expertise and recommendations from the University of Minnesota capstone course project, Roseville has designated a proposed drop-off site for organics recycling at the leaf recycling center on Dale Street. This proposed site would be available for residents to drop off organic waste, including food scraps and land waste, within the City limits. This proposal has been submitted for approval and adoption by the City Council. For now, interested residents may bring their organic waste to Ramsey County Yard Waste sites. 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, detailed on page 6, a resolution was 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 has started to 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.

WILDLIFE HABITAT RESTORATION

The next phase of the City's eco-restoration project will focus primarily on ensuring that the newly planted native species establish in the ecosystem. In this phase of the wildlife restoration, the City will continue to monitor the sites of newly planted woodland grasses, sedges and flowers to support their growth, to maintain the areas around these plants in order to encourage continued growth, and to control the possible inhibitions that would prevent native species from growing robustly in the ecosystem. Thanks to the work of our volunteers and Parks staff over the last 4 years, significant progress has been made to remove invasive and non-native vegetation and reintroduce native species into the Roseville ecosystem.



CITY HALL CAMPUS SOLAR INSTALLATION

Roseville has begun implementing its efforts to encourage the use of renewable energy and lower the City's impact on the environment. In recent months, a larger solar array has been installed on three buildings of Roseville's City Hall Campus. These panels at City Hall, the Fire Station, and Maintenance Facility have an estimated savings in energy of \$1,366 in the first year alone, and promote the continued implementation of renewable sources of energy throughout the City.

SOLSMART PROGRAM

Roseville is hoping to complete the requirements for Bronze Level recognition in the SolSmart program in the upcoming year. SolSmart is a national organization that provides resources, guidance, and recognition to cities that support local solar energy. Bronze Level recognition requires actions in categories such as permitting, inspection, and community engagement, which Roseville is working to further address in order to promote more sustainable energy. The installation of City Hall's solar array is one step towards promoting this increase throughout the City. Visit www.solsmart.org for more information.

COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

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.



In the upcoming future, the Public Works department will explore possible locations for the implementation of Complete Streets. The internal application of this plan 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.



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.



GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRESS

Roseville has been a participating member of the GreenStep Cities Program from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency since 2012, a voluntary 5-step challenge to help cities achieve sustainability and quality-of-life goals. In early 2019, the city completed the remaining practices necessary to achieve Step 3 status. In order to achieve the next step, Step 4, City will work to improve thirteen practices, including increasing the number of renewable energy sites, increasing the net number of new trees planted, and evaluating the transportation modes and miles of residents. The goals of these final steps 4 and 5, are to gather data from the community to make sustainable decisions in the future. Since the founding of GreenStep Cities, only 12 cities have achieved Step 5 status, and Roseville hopes to soon join these 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