



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Monday, September 8, 2025

4:00 PM

Eagle Room

This meeting will also be conducted through video conferencing.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://cityoflacrosse-org.zoom.us/j/89556262687?pwd=TmzYMQRWEj7sOuWitzv04sLbpMOYp5.1>

Meeting ID: 895 5626 2687 Passcode: 102161

Join by Phone: +1-507-473-4847

Call to Order

Mindel called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Andrew Ericson, Casey Meehan, Dorothy Lenard, Mackenzie Mindel

Excused: 2 - Stephanie Hanna, Natalie Heneghan

Absent: 1 - Adam Jacobson

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ericson, seconded by Meehan, the minutes be APPROVED . The motion carried on voice vote.

Notices and Discussion

Sami Meyer was unable to attend but will provide an update on Parks' seasonal sustainability programs and will follow up with a formal request for funding.

There will be a press conference on 9/11 on expanding the City's grant-funded home energy assessment program to moderate-income households. The grant must be spent by the end of the year. However, Green Homeowners United has run this program for Milwaukee and have gotten an extension with them. La Crosse should be able to do the same.

Staff attended the Urban Sustainability Directors Network's Central Regional Meeting and will share the slides from that.

Staff shared that NEVI program funding is going to move ahead and the Kwik Trip on George St. now has EV chargers.

La Crosse is hosting the Wisconsin Planning Conference on September 11-12. There will be a session on Transit-Oriented Development that staff will be attending.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [25-1090](#) Bright Action Engagement Recognition: Tri-College Green Exchange & FSPA Go Green Program

Attachments: [La Crosse Carbon Free Challenge Presentation](#)

Staff wanted to recognize Cameron Kiersch for his work spearheading student participation in the Carbon Free La Crosse, first with Viterbo University in 2024 and adding the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Western Technical College in 2025 with their Tri-College Green Exchange. On the attached slides, one shows that Viterbo had 115 students participating, saving \$29,770 and 53 tons of CO2.

Staff also wanted to recognize Cassie Creason, the AmeriCorps member serving Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. This summer, she led the sisters through a 4-month education program, 'FSPA Go Green' using the Bright Action platform. Many of the sisters do not use smart phones, so she worked with Bright Action to create lesson plans, covering one action category each month. These lessons led to lively discussions about how to act on climate change. AmeriCorps had their funding cut and Cassi's future was uncertain, but WisCorps and FSPA pulled together to help her complete her term.

Mindel mentioned the shock that the funding cuts had to the Nature Place as well. A lot of climate work leverages AmeriCorps members.

- 2 [25-0843](#) Recognizing the Information Technology Department for earning the City a 2025 EPEAT Purchaser Award Winner

Attachments: [Infographic](#)
 [Announcement webpage](#)

The City of La Crosse is a repeat award winner, and they are on display outside the IT office. The Global Electronics Council, who runs the awards, is a resource for identifying and purchasing sustainable IT products. Many of the award winners are corporations and larger municipalities, so it's nice to see La Crosse on the same stage.

- 3 [25-0841](#) Request to Cosponsor La Crosse's Week Without Driving, 9/29-10/5

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

The CAPSC has been a sponsor in years past, and the responsibility of the sponsor is more about spreading the word and showing up to events rather than monetary contribution. Staff recognized the leadership of former CAPSC member, Cathy Van Maren, and her leadership on this event.

A motion was made by Lenard, seconded by Ericson, that this Request be APPROVED . The motion carried by voice vote.

- 4 [25-1088](#) Participation in Great Plains Institute's Charging Smart Program.

Attachments: [Website](#)
[Draft Letter of Commitment](#)

This is similar to the SolSmart program, and in this case, a community is required to reach a series of benchmarks to show their EV-friendliness at a bronze, silver, or gold level. Staff drafted a letter of commitment for the mayor to sign. Staff would likely connect with Great Plains Institute on a monthly basis but is unsure of the time commitment. Participation is free.

A motion was made by Meehan, seconded by Ericson, that this Request be APPROVED . The motion carried by voice vote.

Next Meeting / Agenda Items

Adjournment

Mindel adjourned the meeting at 4:28 PM.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.