



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Climate Action Plan Steering Committee

Monday, January 13, 2025

4:30 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 4:31 PM

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Dorothy Lenard, Casey Meehan, Mackenzie Mindel, Natalie Heneghan, Andrew Ericson, Stephanie Hanna, Adam Jacobson

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ericson, seconded by Heneghan that these minutes be APPROVED. The motion carried by voice vote.

Notices and Discussion

Heneghan announced Habitat for Humanity's Housing Week the last week in April.

Agenda Items:

- 1 [25-0045](#) Annual Code of Ethics Policy Review.

Attachments: [City of La Crosse Code of Ethics Policy](#)

Mindel recited the certification and the committee affirmed that they had reviewed the Code of Ethics.

- 2 [24-1467](#) Request to Fund Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Cities Certification Fees - Mindel

Mindel recused herself from this item. Heneghan chaired the committee for this item. Mindel gave an overview. Certification is good for 5 years. Ericson asked about the

benefits. Heneghan asked for regular updates on available resources. Hanna asked about the size of the communities in the cohort.

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

3 [25-0053](#)

Discussion and Action on Drift Cycle Sponsorship - Jacob Sciammas

Attachments: [Drift Cycle Annual Report 2024](#)

Ericson recused himself from this item. Jacob Sciammas gave an update on Drift Cycle's year. They will be enhancing programming to increase ridership, adding new stations, updating the app, and adding new incentives. Meehan asked which activity would be best to fund. It is more difficult to find sponsors for app and low-income subsidies. Staff talked about grant funding for new stations. App will connect to MTU, offering a more comprehensive transportation solution. Heneghan asked how the City logo has been included on stations and bikes. The City was on back rack; Parks Dept. was on fenders and ad signs on stations. Drift Cycle is updating all of its ads. Mindel asked how Drift Cycle will pivot when funds aren't available from CAPSC in the future. Meehan asked how can other departments take this on. Staff talked about new Economic and Community Development Commission process for grants. Lenard supported funding bike rack expansion to north side. Heneghan suggested unrestricted funding; Hanna agreed and asked if CAPSC could get some recognition. Mindel mentioned how bike share contributes to vehicle miles traveled reduction.

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

4 [25-0051](#)

Implementation Plan Status, Part 2 - Adaptation Goals

Attachments: [Tree Planting for Heat Island Mitigation](#)
[Plan for an Increase in Severe Weather Events](#)
[Reduce Building Vulnerability to Flooding](#)
[Community Networks for Vulnerable Populations](#)
[Incentivize Building Resilience](#)

Staff talked about tree planting for heat island mitigation. The Parks Dept. published an Urban Forest Management Plan in Feb 2024. CAPSC members researched equity-based tree planting programs. Next steps are to share the City's street tree planting requirements, follow Board of Park Commissioners agenda for updates, and share the research. Staff requested assistance with identifying incentives are available for tree planting, and what other communities have for street tree requirements.

Staff shared the action on planning for an increase in severe weather events. There hasn't been any progress here. There has not been any surface flooding damage in La Crosse, but there has been basement flooding on the lower north side. Engineering is contracting to update floodplain map. Staff requested assistance with reviewing County Emergency Management Plan and City Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Staff went over action on reducing building vulnerability to flooding. Public Works Dept. develops Green Complete Streets project list annually. Parks Dept. is working on La Crosse River marsh restoration. New fire stations are not in floodplain and meet stormwater requirements. Staff could use help with identifying critical facilities at risk

of flooding.

Staff discussed community networks for vulnerable populations. There hasn't been any progress here. Staff requested assistance with identifying any active support networks in cases of extreme weather in La Crosse, and what other communities are doing.

Staff brought up action to incentivize building resilience. There hasn't been any progress here. Staff requested help with finding State and Federal Government incentives to increase the building resilience in the face of extreme weather.

Next Meeting and Agenda Items

The next meeting is 2/10 and meetings this year will be bumped up to 4 PM.

Adjournment

Mindel adjourned the meeting.

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.