



**CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission  
**FROM:** Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager  
**DATE:** Tuesday, May 6, 2014  
**RE:** Staff Report

**Climate Action Plan (CAP)**

**Goal 1: Action 1**

There are currently 49 buildings registered for the U-C ENERGY STAR Challenge. There are currently 22 buildings that have submitted a 2013 Benchmark. Staff spoke at the Sierra Club's Green Politics event about the U-C ENERGY STAR Challenge and hosted a luncheon for participating facilities owners and managers.

**Goal 5: Action 5**

Staff is nearly finished with re-setting a 2007 greenhouse gas baseline and updating our 2013 greenhouse gas emissions. We are still waiting for certain pieces of data to be compiled by other public agencies in the community.

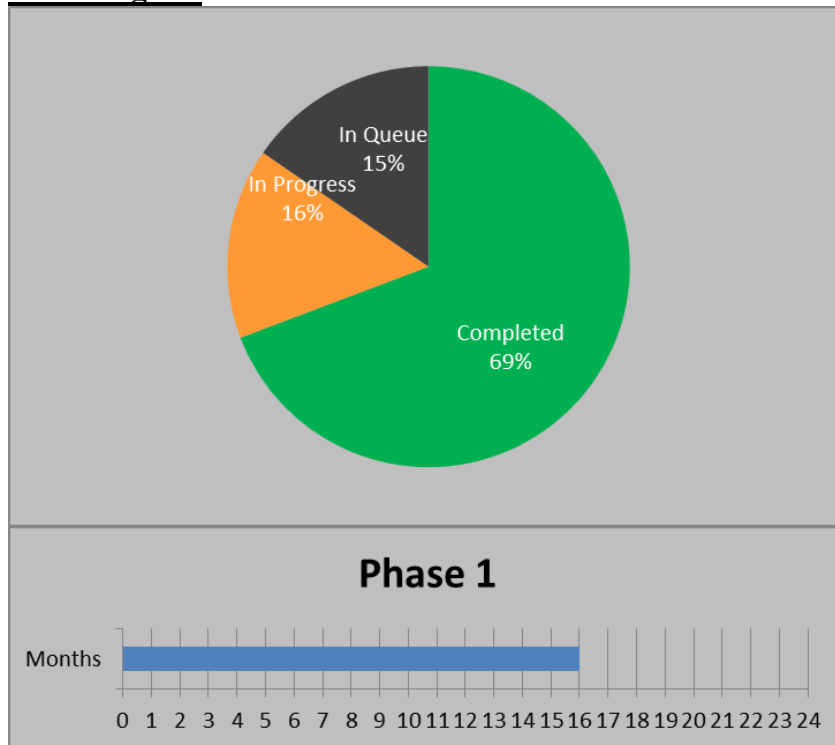
The Illinois Science and Energy Foundation <http://www.iseif.org/> has indicated that Urbana can expect to get new smart grid electricity meters at all homes/buildings next calendar year. As part of the rollout, the foundation will be making grants to local non-profits to conduct education for residents. 30% of the funded activities must target low income households. Staff will stay engaged in the process to drive energy efficient choices.

Staff spoke to the Urban Planning 311 class and the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences class at U of I about Sustainability Planning.

Ameren Illinois has honored the City of Urbana and its businesses with Ameren's 2013 Most Progressive City award. The annual award is given to cities demonstrating extraordinary accomplishments in energy efficiency. Forty-five Urbana Businesses participated in Ameren Illinois' energy efficiency rebate program, ActOnEnergy, in the 2013-2014 program period. These businesses completed 94 energy saving projects totaling 2,253,926 kWh of electricity and 148 therms of natural gas. By participating in ActOnEnergy, Urbana businesses received \$99,872 in incentives and will save \$157,920 in annual energy costs.



## **CAP Progress**



## **Food Scrap**

Staff works with a Learning in Community (LINC) class at U of I which worked to design a school food scrap compost pilot project for Urbana Middle School. The class finished their semester with a meeting to propose the project to Urbana Middle School science teachers. LINC classes will have a poster session May 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 in the Illini Union 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Ballroom.

## **Sustainable Water Management Plan**

### **Aspect 1: Goal 1-Action 2**

Urbana, Champaign, and the U of I Extension Service are hosting a Rain Barrel and Compost Bin sale May 17 from 9am-3pm. See attached flyer.

### **Aspect 1: Goal 2**

City facilities used 32% less water in 2013 compared to 2012. See attached report.

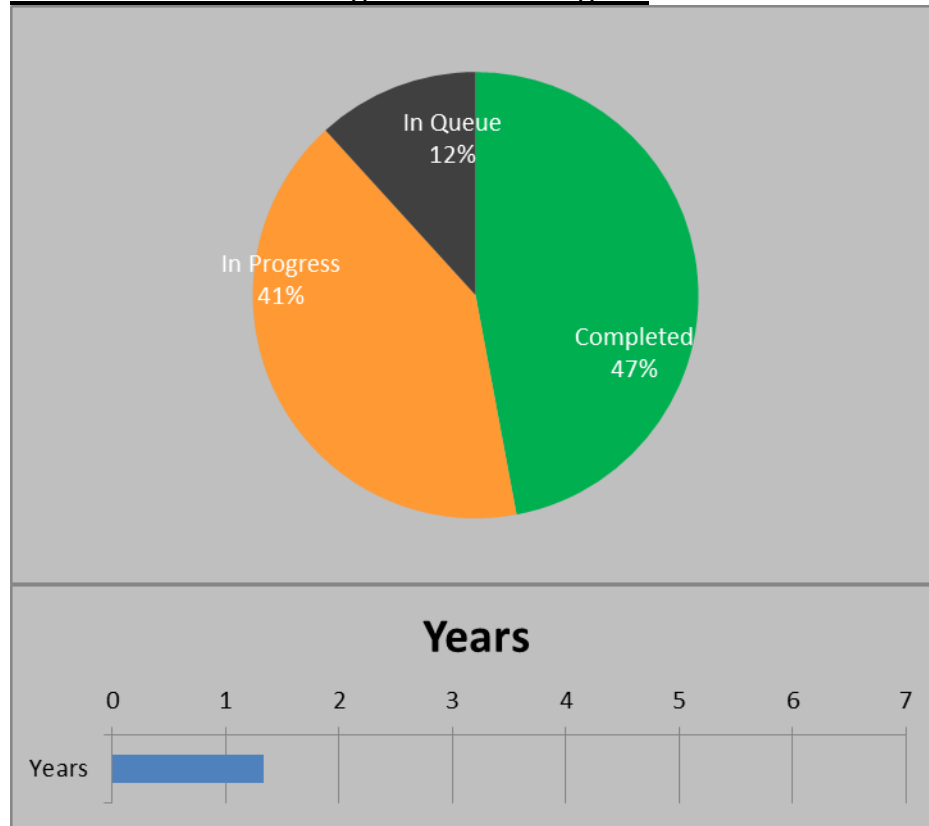
### Aspect 2: Goal 1-Action 1

The City website has example language for anyone interested in submitting a public comment regarding the US EPA's Proposed Sole Source Aquifer Designation. The comment period closes June 12, 2014. Attached is a draft letter for the SAC to consider filing for public comment.

### Aspect 2: Goal 1-Action 1

The Mahomet Aquifer Consortium (MAC) has agreed to work towards regional collaboration of messaging and policies to protect and conserve the aquifer. Staff and MAC representatives are currently discussing how to address EPA Fix a Leak Week, irrigation water conservation, road salt management, and proper well abandonment.

### **Sustainable Water Management Plan Progress**



### **U-Cycle**

Staff participated at the Earth Day Fair at the Illini Union on Tuesday, April 22, and passed out U-Cycle information and giveaways to students and encouraged recycling participation.

Staff partnered to host the countywide electronics recycling event on Saturday, April 12, from 8 am – noon. More than 1,000 vehicles dropped off electronic devices for recycling, and more than 120,000 lbs. of electronics were recycled.

Staff participated in panel discussions after environmental documentaries screened by the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center.

Staff applied for a public space bin recycling grant for U-Cycle from Keep America Beautiful/Coca Cola early this year and was awarded a partial grant on April 22 for 50 wireframe ClearStream recycling

bins for use at special events such as the Urbana Sweetcorn Festival and Urbana's Market at the Square. The value of the bins is worth \$2,850 and no matching funds were necessary. Bins will be delivered to Urbana Public Works early this summer, and a press release will be sent out the week of April 28.

**Next SAC Meeting**

Tuesday, June 3 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers.