



MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Urbana Sustainability Advisory Commission
FROM: Scott R. Tess, Environmental Sustainability Manager
DATE: Tuesday, September 4, 2018
RE: Staff Report

Climate Action Plan Phase 2 Progress

Goal 3: Action 4 Propose strategies to improve the local onsite renewable energy market

Solar Urbana-Champaign 3.0 has passed the second bulk discount benchmark of 150kw of contracted capacity triggering a second 1% discount and now stands at 230kw of capacity. Average system size so far this round is 10kw. The full schedule of events is at solarurbanachampaign.com.

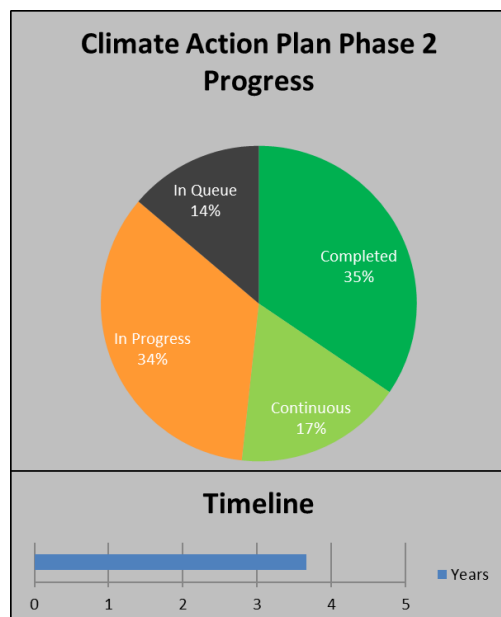
Goal 3: Action 5 Propose strategies to increase renewable energy purchasing in the commercial sector

The City has made an inquiry regarding the development of a County-wide property assessed clean energy (PACE) district with the County Treasurer's office. The City does not presently have Legal Division staff time to contribute to such a project for Urbana. The Treasurer's office is reviewing PACE information.

The City continues to negotiate a lease option and lease with Sunpower to develop a solar array on the closed Urbana Landfill. The State incentive program will begin accepting Approved Vendor applications on November 1, 2018. Incentive applications are scheduled to be accepted on January 15, 2019.

Additional energy and climate activities

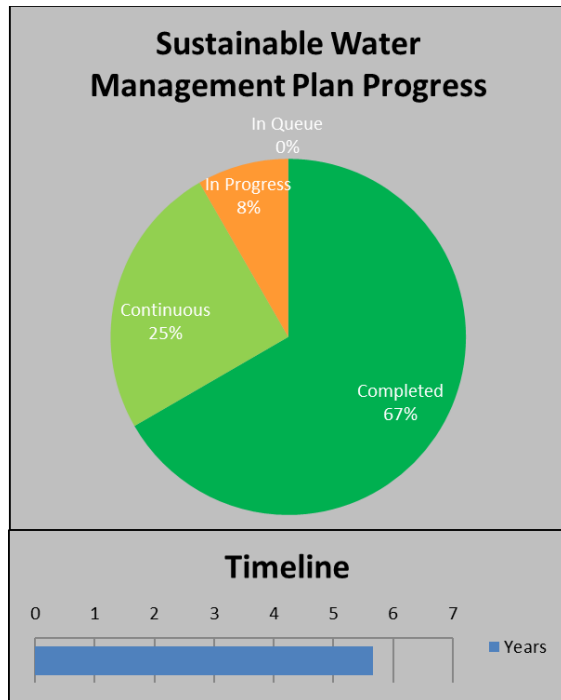
The Downstate Caucus of the Illinois Climate Table is planning a series of "Listen, Lead, Share" listening sessions to develop priority carbon reduction strategies appropriate for downstate Illinois. Staff attended the August 29 session hosted by Faith in Place in Champaign. Staff also participated in a workshop to advance the development of a prospective Center for Urban Resilience and Environmental Sustainability.



Sustainable Water Management Plan

Aspect 3: Goal 1: Action 2 Demonstrate & promote environmentally friendly landscape practices

The Midwest Pesticide Action Center, City of Urbana, and Urbana Park District are planning a series of natural lawn care activities in September as part of the Midwest Grows Green program. The series starts Saturday, September 8th as MPAC's Ryan Anderson tables at Urbana Market at the Square to discuss upcoming events, answer your lawn and garden questions, and introduce the Urbana City Building's pesticide free South Lawn. Following the Market from 1 to 3 pm, the weekend moves to Meadowbrook Park Organic Community Garden for an FREE organic gardening demonstration with the Urbana Park District. The weekend takes Sunday off and returns to Parkland College Monday night, 7 to 9 pm, for a natural lawn care demonstration with the Champaign County Master Gardeners.



Additional Public Engagement

Staff will be participating in a University of Illinois Extension Office webinar titled Municipal Approaches to Solar, September 13 at Noon-1pm

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=18987>, as well as a Champaign County Environmental Town Hall Friday, September 14 from 3:00–4:15 p.m. at the Beckman Institute Auditorium/Room 1025.

U-Cycle

Staff tabled the City's U-Cycle tent at the Urbana Sweetcorn Festival to educate citizens on recycling efforts and passed out information and giveaways. 5 cubic yards of recyclables were collected at the Festival.

Print and online ads were placed in the Daily Illini to educate Urbana residents about what can be placed in the recycling totes located at Urbana apartment complexes. Staff continues to educate apartment tenants on proper materials that can be placed in the recycle totes with online brochures (English/Spanish and Mandarin language versions).

Next Sustainability Advisory Commission Meeting

October 2 at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers