

Top 10 List of TNS Projects for 2008

February 12, 2008

1. Solar Energy for Madison – Increase the number of solar installations in the city by reducing conditions that inhibit solar installations and by providing assistance to potential solar owners. Provide an as-easy-as-possible permitting process for both applicants and City-staff. Install more City-owned solar systems and showcase them to the public. (Project managers: Kay Schindel, Jeanne Hoffman)

2. Zero Waste Initiative – Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC) approval. Goal: 65% reduction in waste by 2010. Waste Watchers education program. Pilot more recycling programs for hazardous, yard waste, e-waste, food waste. Pilot waste reduction at existing facilities at Fleet Services garage, Monona Terrace, Library, Senior Center. (George Dreckmann)

3. Olbrich Botanical Gardens Green Team –

- a. Public Education: Classes for public on sustainable horticulture practices, articles on TNS, ongoing staff training
- b. Recycling: plastics, Styrofoam, coffee hulls with leaves
- c. Waste reduction: caterers/vendors, biodegradable alternatives like fiber pots, reusable containers, etc.
- d. Energy conservation & alternatives: audit

4. Paper Reduction Initiative: Planning Department – Reduce paper output to Plan Commission, other City commissions and Council. Explore other information distribution methods. Seek customer input on their needs. Document management and storage systems. Converting waste paper to scratch pad training. (David Trowbridge)

5. Green Purchasing Policies: Green Office Initiative – Printer / multi-functional device assessment for all departments by 2009 budget. Creating standards and process for office equipment, furnishings, supplies, etc. Specifics will address purchase, use and disposal of materials. (Monette McGuire)

6. Green Purchasing Policies: Green Electronics Initiative – Creating standards and processes for all computer and other electronic purchases. Policies will also address e-waste issues of reuse, recycling, and downstream management of City-owned computers and other electronics. (Monette McGuire)

7. Green Fleet initiatives – On-going replacement of vehicles for more fuel efficiency over 5-15 years. APM on principles and standards guiding models selected during replacement. Exploring ways to promote carpooling among City employees and with City-owned vehicles. (Bill Vandenbrook)

8. Data Center Energy Reduction – Full ABCD process and creation of a plan to reduce the amount of electrical power consumed in the City's data centers. Energy consumption readings by MG&E will serve as a baseline. Specific actions will include: Replacing servers with more energy efficient models, air conditioning settings will be adjusted, and monthly energy consumption levels will be monitored. MG&E will audit energy consumption again at the end of the year. (Rich Beadles)

9. Lower Impact Lawn Maintenance – An exploration of alternatives of what the City, residents and businesses can do to mitigate the environmental impact of lawn care and maintenance. This includes a review of policies, practices, technology, and tie-ins with rain gardens, rain barrels, natural lawns, alternatives to leaf pick up, etc. (Dan Bohrod, Matt Tucker)

10. Automated Work Order System for Forestry – Automate work order system to reduce carbon emissions and improve customer service. An electronic work order system would track work requests and update the street tree inventory while eliminating the need for a forestry supervisor to drive to obtain work requests and the use of duplicate paper work. (Marla Eddy)

On-Going TNS projects from 2007

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A. On-going Training – Looking at a variety of training options for City staff and commissions. Ensuring that people involved in projects and process changes have TNS training. Training of purchasing agents in City agencies.

B. Zoning Code Rewrite – Continuing to apply TNS principles. Incorporating TNS principles at public hearings. Developing the Service Center facility, system and customer service specifications.

C. Building Specifications Project – Pilot construction waste reduction program (Fire Station 12)

D. Assess All City Water Heater Efficiency (Specifications Project) – Looking at overall City water usage and ways to reduce it

E. Create Model Sustainable Residence (Information and Tools to CDBG) – CDBG funding focused on sustainable elements in brick/mortar projects. Incentives/subsidy for sustainable building in code/budget. Fire safety in building design. Work with a developer or builder to set up pilot. Look at rehab options vs. a new building.