

TNS – Top 10 Projects for 2010

March 9, 2010

1. **New City Sustainability Plan** – Adding to the success of the *Building a Green Capital City Plan* that was adopted in 2005, the City of Madison recently started a new planning process to update its energy/climate/sustainability plan. Representatives from about 40 organizations are contributing to the effort. The Natural Step framework helps guide the group's discussions. (Project Leads are Jeanne Hoffman. Project Mentors are Brian Joiner, Karl van Lith and Sherrie Gruder.)
2. **"Leave the Leaf" Composting Program** – Exploring ways to encourage homeowners to compost leaves on site. Doing this would save fuel and green house gas emissions, and the natural, organic soil created could displace other fertilizers and reduce phosphorus run off from leaves placed at the curb for collection. The objective is to have a program in place for the autumn of 2010. (Project Lead is Genesis Bichanich and George Dreckmann. Project Mentor is Andrew Statz.)
3. **TDM for City Employees** – Developing a transportation demand management (TDM) plan for City of Madison employees. Work will include review of existing commuter incentives, RideShare participation, flexible work hours, bicycle infrastructure, and commuting practices including parking, carpooling, and mode use. (Project Lead is Karl van Lith. Project Mentor is Lisa MacKinnon.)
4. **Zero Waste** – Continuing a multi-year project that deals with waste reduction and increases recycling. In 2010, projects will include developing plans for waste reduction enhanced recycling within City facilities, implementation of the new construction and demolition waste recycling ordinance, develop a public outreach plan for plastic bag recycling, and other activities. (Project Lead is George Dreckmann. Project Mentor is Jeanne Hoffman)
5. **Water Conservation/Water Sustainability Plan** – Proposing ways that the Water Utility and Madison residents can reduce per capita water consumption by 20% by 2020. Elements of the plan that will be implemented in 2010 include expanded toilet rebates to include multi-family units, pursuing advanced metering infrastructure, and developing water conservation plans for City agencies. (Project Lead is Tom Heikkinen. Project Mentors are Karl van Lith and Jeanne Hoffman.)
6. **Green Purchasing** – Identifying and pursuing sustainable options for materials and supplies needed for City operations. Examples include:
 - Green Office policies for furniture/fixtures, daylighting, task lighting, peripheral shut-downs, live plants to promote clean air in offices, paint recycling, and limiting use of disposable products like plastic utensils, paper towels, plastic bottles, and other "single-use" products;
 - Green MRO policies to guide the acquisition of maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) supplies and materials and supplies needed for City operations; andThese policies will be promulgated in Administrative Procedural Memos (APM's) with separate detailed specifications. (Project Leads are Monette McGuire and Jeff Griffith. Project Mentor is Andrew Statz.)
7. **ABCD Process at Madison Parks** – Beginning the first year of a full Natural Step review of park operations including a thorough backcasting and visioning process. The first goal of this two-year process is to take an inventory of current sustainability efforts. The second is to identify the vision of a sustainable park system. The goals identified by this vision will be incorporated into an agency sustainability plan to be drafted in 2011. As an agency pilot, this process will serve as a template to be replicated in other City of Madison agencies. (Project Leads are Kevin Briski and Kay Rutledge. Project Mentor is Nan Fey and Karl van Lith.)
8. **"Sustainapedia"** – Publishing a resource guide for residents and local businesses to promote sustainability in the community. This effort will include an inventory of City of Madison services and other resources that can help residents and businesses save energy, reduce carbon output, and enhance their sustainability. As a companion to the "Recyclopedia", a website and booklet publication will be produced. An external communications plan will be a prominent feature of project. (Project Lead is Andrew Statz and Jeanne Hoffman. Project Mentor is Nan Fey.)

- 9. TNS Training for New Hires** – Developing materials to provide to newly hired City of Madison staff in order to promote sustainable practices in the workplace and engage employees in sustainability from the start. Materials will be added to first-day orientation with Human Resources staff, and a special session will be added to new employee training at Warner Park Community and Recreation Center. (Project Lead is Karl van Lith. Project Mentor is Andrew Statz.)
- 10. Madison PACE Program** – Developing a program for property owners to borrow funds needed for energy sustainability/efficiency upgrades and renewable energy systems with scheduled repayments made through the municipal services bill or annual property tax bill. Such arrangements are commonly called “property-assessed clean energy” or PACE programs. A workgroup will produce a report that outlines such a program. This report will be submitted to the Common Council in the form of a resolution. (Project Leads are Bill Clingan and Pam Rood. Project Mentor is Jeanne Hoffman.)