

## STAFF REPORT

**SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR UPDATE**

August 27, 2013

**Background:**

City staff has requested that Merry Rankin, the City's Sustainability Coordinator, review the Sustainability Task Force Charge and share an update on the progress of completing Task Force recommendations under the 2012/2013 Sustainability Contract. Additionally, Rankin will be prepared to discuss the activities that will be completed during the 2013/2014 contract.

The 2012/2013 Scope of Services to focused on having the Sustainability Coordinator assisting the Electric Department staff with implementation of the Sustainability Task Force recommendations related to electric consumption reduction.

In 2013/2014 the Sustainability Coordinator's contract was clarified to provide more specific direction to the Coordinator as well as City staff. The focus continues to emphasize the implementation of the Sustainability Task Force's recommendations related to electric consumption reduction by planning, implementing and carrying out the following programs or initiatives:

- 1) Develop a program and related communications materials for businesses, non-profit and civic facilities entitled "Five Ways to Start Saving Energy". As part of this program, an awards/recognition component will be developed and branded around the City's 150th Anniversary and or Sesquicentennial.
- 2) Review of the City's building codes as it pertains to energy efficiency requirements and a report to the City Council regarding how the City compares other municipalities within the State of Iowa and nationally.
- 3) Advise the City on updating the Smart Energy programs on the City's website to provide a better customer experience.
- 4) Work with Iowa State University professors and students to develop a residential energy consumption comparison tool.
- 5) Work with Public Works and Electric to educate the ISU community and all residents on waste diversion and reuse as related to promoting the City's waste to energy program.

Staff has already met with the Sustainability Coordinator and begun the development of a work plan and phasing of these project for the 2013/2014 contract. The City Council will be updated as projects move forward.

The Sustainability Coordinator has been assisting with preparation of materials to provide to ISU students at Welcomefest, which will be held in the Memorial on Wednesday, August 28th.