



## Partners in Energy

### Workshop 1

November 6, 2019

6:00-8:30 p.m.

Minnetonka City Hall

### Agenda

Time	Activity
6:00	Introductions and Orientation
6:40	Knowledge Sharing
7:15	BREAK
7:30	Setting Priorities
7:50	Energy Visioning
8:25	Wrap-Up

### Energy Action Team Members in Attendance

- Ben Jacobs, resident and Park Board member
- Brian Golob, resident and member of Minnetonka Climate Initiative
- Charlie Yunker, resident and Chair, Economic Development Advisory Commission
- Dan Duffy, resident and architect, Daniel K. Duffy Architects
- Dennis Yockers, St. Luke Presbyterian Church,
- Drew Ingvalson, planner, City of Minnetonka
- Gabi T., student and member of Minnetonka Climate Initiative
- Julie Wischnack, community development director, City of Minnetonka
- Kathryn Linafelter Johnson, resident
- Loren Gordon, city planner, City of Minnetonka
- Matt Henry, resident, Planning Commission member ,and 2040 Comprehensive Plan Committee member
- Megan Park, resident and owner, Unmapped Brewery
- Kevin Neuman, facilities director, Hopkins Public Schools
- Ryan Waldriff, operations director, Ridgedale Center
- Skyler S., student and member of Minnetonka Climate Initiative
- Thomas Scott, resident and president, Senior Advisory Board
- Tami Gunderzik, Partners in Energy program manager, Xcel Energy
- Yvonne Pfeifer, community energy efficiency manager, Xcel Energy
- Michelle Swanson, community relations manager, Xcel Energy
- Marisa Bayer, Partners in Energy community facilitator
- Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator



**PARTNERS IN ENERGY**  
An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

- Jamie Johnson, Partners in Energy community facilitator

## Planning Workshop Guests

- Brad Wiersum, mayor, City of Minnetonka

## Energy Action Team Members not in Attendance

- Emma Schoppe, local energy policy manager, CenterPoint Energy

## Introductions and Orientation

### Welcome & Introductions

*Brad Wiersum, mayor*

*Julie Wischnack, community development director*

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*See slides 1 - 4*

Mayor Wiersum thanked all attendees for participating in the Partners in Energy planning process. He acknowledged the Minnetonka Climate Initiative's role in bringing this process to Minnetonka and the ongoing sustainability work completed by the City.

Julie Wischnack also thanked attendees for participating. She noted her department's role during the planning workshops will be coordinating this effort and providing insight into City operations and historical context.



*Workshop 1. Photo credit: Partners in Energy.*

Mike Holsinger introduced the Xcel Energy and Partners in Energy Community Facilitators. He also reviewed the agenda and workshop objectives.

### What is Partners in Energy?

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*Tami Gunderzik, Partners in Energy program manager*

*See slides 5 - 15*

Mike Holsinger and Tami Gunderzik reviewed the Partners in Energy planning process, including timing, resources, and benefits to communities who participate. To date, 22 communities have participated in Partners in Energy in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Xcel Energy's goals for offering Partners in Energy include: understanding the needs of communities they serve; aligning services and programs with customer's needs; and strengthening relationships with communities.

Benefits to communities include access to free tools and resources to execute an energy action plan, gaining an understanding of the community's energy use, an increase in community and stakeholder engagement, and additional support for economic development through energy investments.

At the end of the planning phase, Minnetonka will have an Energy Action Plan that will include goals, focus areas, and strategies to guide implementation.

Resources available to communities during both planning and implementation include expert facilitation, data analysis and measurement, marketing and communications support, program expertise, and project management services. The Exchange, which includes monthly office hours and in person events, and the Partners in Energy portal are online resources available to the team to stay engaged between planning workshops and during implementation.

Mike reviewed the expectations of the Energy Action Team during the planning workshops:

- Attend planning workshops.
- Contribute to the planning process.
- Represent your organization.
- Be a critical eye for credibility, transparency, and accuracy.
- Advise City Council.
- Be a conduit to your network.

### **Minnetonka's Energy and Sustainability Efforts**

*Drew Ingvolson, planner*

*See slides 16 - 21*

Drew Ingvolson reviewed City of Minnetonka's sustainability initiatives.

- The City of Minnetonka is participating in Minnesota GreenStep Cities and is currently a Step 4 (or out 5) city.
- The City subscribes to community solar gardens and by end of the year will subscribe 100% of its electricity use to community solar gardens.
- The City submits community-wide waste, water, energy, and travel data to the [Regional Indicators Initiative](#) to understand how the community compares to others. Regional Indicator Initiative also provides the associated greenhouse gas emissions for all data submitted.
- The City tracks energy use for municipal-owned buildings using the [B3 Benchmarking](#) platform. This data is public and accessible online.
- Starting in 2019, the City dedicated funding to cover half the cost of 140 Home Energy Squad<sup>®</sup> visits. By July, all visits had been accounted for.
- All of the City of Minnetonka's sustainability initiatives are covered on the City's website: [eminnetonka.com/green-initiatives](http://eminnetonka.com/green-initiatives).

## **Knowledge Sharing**

### **Pre-Workshop Survey Results**

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*See slides 22 - 28*

Mike Holsinger reviewed results from the pre-workshop survey the Energy Action Team was asked to complete. These results represent the aggregated responses from those who completed the pre-workshop survey.

- The team is evenly split among tenure in length of time living, working, and or being a student in Minnetonka.
- The majority of Energy Action Team members live in homes older than 30 years.
- Most of the team considers themselves to have "intermediate" knowledge about energy.
- "Reducing consumption and operating more efficiency" was the most popular priority amongst survey respondents.

- Survey respondents believe utilities, the City of Minnetonka, and large corporations have the most influence of driving action.
- The Energy Action Team is well connected with many different organizations in the community, which will be beneficial during implementation.

### **Minnetonka Profile & Baseline Energy Data**

*Jamie Johnson, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*See slides 29 – 39*

Jamie Johnson reviewed high-level metrics from Minnetonka’s energy data. This data will be referenced throughout the planning workshops to inform goal setting and strategy development.

#### Data 101

- Xcel Energy delivers electricity and CenterPoint Energy delivers natural gas to Minnetonka.
- Partners in Energy provides a 3-year baseline for energy data, which is 2016-2018.
- Data is only provided for energy consumption and savings for electricity and natural gas premises in the boundaries of Minnetonka.
- Data does not include “behind-the-meter” power generation.
- All data complies with the 15x15 data privacy rule. No premises were removed from the data set for Minnetonka’s 3-year baseline.

#### Energy Consumption

- 91% of premises are residential, and consume 34% of electricity and 59% of natural gas.
- 8% of premises are commercial and industrial, and consume 54% of electricity and 40% of natural gas.
- Energy use and energy-related greenhouse gas emissions increased slightly in 2018 from 2016.
- Between 2016 and 2018, heating degree days, which are a measurement of how much heat a building may need to stay comfortable, increased by 25%,<sup>1</sup> which most likely largely explains the increase in greenhouse gas emissions.
- The electricity that Xcel Energy is providing to Minnetonka is increasing as “grid decarbonization.” Xcel Energy has a goal of an 80% reduction in electricity emissions by 2030, and 100% carbon free electricity by 2050. The electricity delivered to Minnetonka in 2018 was 56% carbon free.
- Minnetonka spent an average of \$63.3 million dollars on electricity over the 3-year baseline, with commercial and industrial sector spending the most.

#### Energy Savings

- Savings data includes participation in Xcel Energy or CenterPoint Energy’s rebates and programs. At workshop 1, only Xcel Energy participation data was available.
- Heating and cooling rebates are the most popular Xcel Energy rebates in 2018, followed by refrigerator recycling, Multifamily Energy Savings Program, and Home Energy Squad.
- In 2018, lighting rebates and programs are the most popular Xcel Energy rebates and programs for commercial and industrial customers. Cooling efficiency and motor efficiency are the second and third most popular.
- In 2018, Minnetonka business and residents saved 9.2 GWh, which represents 720 cars removed from the road for a year.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: <https://www.weatherdatadepot.com/>

## Renewable Energy

- Minnetonka residents and businesses support renewable energy through participation in Xcel Energy's Windsource® and Renewable\*Connect®, and by subscribing to community solar gardens.
- The table below describes renewable energy and solar garden subscriptions in 2018 in Minnetonka.

*Support for Renewable Energy Subscriptions and Community Solar Gardens in Minnetonka, 2018*

	Residential	Commercial & Industrial
<b>Windsource®</b>		
Subscribers	952	5
Subscription Amount (kWh)	3,374,000	346,000
<b>Renewable*Connect®</b>		
Subscribers	63	7
Subscription Amount (kWh)	540,000	5,530,000
<b>Community Solar Garden</b>		
Subscribers	186	113
Production Allocation (kWh)	1,349,451	5,572,000

## Minnetonka Demographics

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*See slides 40 – 47*

Mike Holsinger highlighted key demographics for Minnetonka's residents, housing stock, and businesses.

- There are 53,713 residents in 23,370 households in Minnetonka.
- Minnetonka is a young community – almost 20% of residents are under the age of 18.
- Minnetonka's population is diverse – 13.2% of families speak a language other than English and almost 10% of households are foreign-born.
- Majority of housing units are owner-occupied (68.8%).
- One third of housing units are in 2+ unit multifamily buildings.
- About 20% of housing units are considered affordable, which includes both subsidized and naturally occurring affordable housing.
- Minnetonka's housing stock is aging – 93.5% of housing units are more than 20 years old.
- New construction since 1990 is primarily in 5+ unit multifamily housing.
- Major employers include UnitedHealth Group, Cargill, and Carlson.

## Setting Priorities

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*

*See Slides 48 - 49*

Mike Holsinger reviewed key data and survey takeaways with the Energy Action Team. Energy Action Team members were asked to share what facts they felt were most newsworthy or surprising.

Energy Action Team reactions and discussions:

- There are private EV charging stations in Minnetonka but no public charging stations.
- The group was surprised there is not more renewable energy support. Team members considered that residents may be deterred because of the lack of information, tree canopy, or fear of long-term contract with third party.
- Future demographics could include newer, younger residents with children, which would impact the school district.
- The school district is an opportunity and could be leading by example for the Minnetonka community.
  - Minnetonka High School has 100% renewable electricity according to student representatives.
  - Students are not aware of what the school district is doing for sustainability.
  - The political connotation of “sustainability” and “environment” could make it harder to share story.
- Lack of awareness or knowledge in programs and rebate opportunities may be preventing participation or support.
- An online web resource guide to house all the information and resources, including programs, rebates, and contractors, would help motivate action.
- Residential remodelers and contractors are hard to find for small energy improvements.
- City of Minnetonka provides loans for home improvements, which requires an energy audit before the project moves forward.
- Even though Minnetonka homes are older, homeowners are probably investing in the home through remodeling and upgrades.

## Energy Visioning

*Marisa Bayer, Partners in Energy community facilitator*  
See slides 50 - 53

Marisa Bayer explained a core step in the Energy Action Plan development process: visioning. Marisa reviewed the activity, which asked Energy Action Team members to break into small groups and brainstorm the Sun Sailor cover story in 20 years.

Energy Action Team members presented their headlines to the group. Themes from these presentations include:

- Emerging technologies, including automated vehicles.
- Electric vehicles and different modes of transportation.
- Alternative energy sources, including renewable and nuclear.
- Policy changes at the local and state level.
- Collaboration among residents, businesses, school district, and City.



*Energy Action Team members during the energy visioning activity. Photo credit: Partners in Energy.*

## Wrap-up

*Mike Holsinger, Partners in Energy community facilitator*  
See slides 54 – 58

Mike Holsinger closed the meeting reviewing topics for workshop 2 and reviewing future meeting dates. The group revisited the plan development steps to understand the Energy Action Plan progress.

Partners in Energy Community Facilitators will distribute a survey before Workshop 2. Community Facilitators will also distribute notes and slides to the team, and all materials will be available online at [eminnetonka.com/green-initiatives](http://eminnetonka.com/green-initiatives).

Next planning workshop will be Monday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m.

#### **Follow Up Items/Q&A Requests**

- Implementation metrics and testimonials for communities who have participated.
- What is the market data show for value of a rebate?
- Attendees to advise Drew or Julie if it's ok for their names and email addresses be included on the website and in Partners in Energy materials.
- Information about Kathryn's passive house.

#### **Bike Rack Items**

- Xcel Energy's clean energy vision and goals, including phasing out coal plants.
- Lifecycle of equipment for residents – water heaters, furnaces, air conditioners, etc.
- City of Minnetonka permit data showing types of projects, including energy-related projects.