RESOLUTION
CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

Presented by

Establishing a Sustainable Development Policy for New and Renovated Municipal Buildings in the City of Saint Paul

Whereas, incontrovertible evidence continues to mount detailing the human role in global warming and environmental degradation and its devastating impact on plant and animal species and cultures worldwide; and

Whereas, the City of Saint Paul has long been a leader in the area of environmental stewardship including becoming one of the first 14 cities worldwide to join the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) focused on environmental/economic transition under the Urban Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Reduction Project, the first global effort to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, Saint Paul serves as a national model by having 80% of the buildings in Downtown and the State Capitol complex served by District Energy, thereby dramatically reducing CO2 emissions; and

Whereas, Saint Paul is striving for further improvements by having all publicly-owned buildings in the City undergo comprehensive energy analysis and having select buildings undergo energy-saving retrofits and modifications; and

Whereas, in July 2005 the Saint Paul City Council created the Sustainable Saint Paul work group to undertake environmental efforts, which resulted in the creation of a new Sustainable Saint Paul web page and Saint Paul being named one of the top ten green cities in the nation; and

Whereas, in 2006 Mayor Chris Coleman signed the U.S. Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement and the Sierra Club subsequently named the City of Saint Paul a “Cool City;” and

Whereas, a variety of high performance, sustainable or “green” building standards have been used in Minnesota and across the nation for the last 15 years and have proven to reduce the consumption of energy, natural resources, improve building performance, and cost efficiency and increase building longevity; and

Whereas, the City of Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) currently requires developers seeking HRA funds to take advantage of Excel Energy’s Energy Design Assistance Program or the Energy Star Home program as part of the preapproval process; and

Whereas, over the past several months, individuals from multiple City departments have partnered with outside experts to review recommendations from the Saint Paul Environmental Roundtable and develop sustainable development policy recommendations for city-owned buildings.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The Saint Paul City Council that the City will seek and receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification or utilize the State of Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines (State Guidelines) in the planning, design, construction, commissioning and major renovation of municipal facilities financed by the City of Saint Paul and utilized by the City’s Executive Departments, the Saint Paul Public Library and the City of Saint Paul Division of Parks and Recreation.

Be It Further Resolved that when a building is constructed or renovated to LEED standards, the State Guidelines related to “Energy and Atmosphere,” including exceeding the energy code by at least 30%, must also be met and the State Guidelines related to Performance Management requirements must be adhered to.
Be It Further Resolved that when State Guidelines are utilized, Outcome Documentation Evaluation forms must be completed and submitted to the University of Minnesota’s Center for Sustainable Building Research (CSBR).

Be It Further Resolved that an ad hoc work group of City staff and others will be assembled to develop implementation strategies for this policy, and that the work group is requested to consider a policy requiring the use of high efficiency hand dryers where appropriate.

Be It Further Resolved that a full evaluation of this policy will be conducted two years after adoption which will identify: which standards were applied to which projects; outcomes for each project; realized benefits and/or disadvantages of each standard; added cost and estimated annual savings associated with building to the standard and added cost related to documentation and/or certification.

Be It Further Resolved, in 2007 the Sustainable Saint Paul work group will convene a team of stakeholders and experts who will recommend changes to City policies, procedures and regulations that govern new green development with public investments.

Be It Further Resolved that at least five City staff members, including but not limited to Planning and Economic Development, Public Works, Licensing and Inspections Environmental Protection, and Parks and Recreation will be LEED accredited within two years.

Be it Finally Further Resolved that this policy will apply to projects for which preliminary design is initiated after the date of enactment.

Be it Finally Resolved that the City Council encourages all developers working on projects within the City of Saint Paul and other units of government to actively consider seeking LEED certification or utilizing the State of Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines (State Guidelines) in the planning, design, construction, commissioning and major renovation projects.

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By: ____________________________________________

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By: ____________________________________________

Approved by the Office of Financial Services
By: ____________________________________________

Adopted by Council: Date ____________________________
Adoption Certified by Council Secretary
By: ____________________________________________

Form Approved by Mayor for Submission to Council
By: ____________________________________________

Approved by Mayor: Date ____________________________
By: ____________________________________________