



# CITY OF MIDDLETON

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## 2013 GTLC Annual Report

for Middleton's participation in the Green Tier Legacy Communities Charter

### TRANSPORTATION

- **Completed a missing link in the South Fork Trail** connecting the Pleasant View Golf Course with the rest of the City trail network. This project was funded in part by a DNR RTP grant and included over a mile of porous pavement trail with a 12' wide bridge of South Creek.
- **Completed bicycle / pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of HWY 14 and Deming Way.** In coordination with WisDOT, the City added turn lanes, upgraded traffic signals, and completed a key link in our path network. For the first time, it is possible for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel five miles along one continuous path from Orchid Heights Park in northeast Middleton to Pleasant View Golf Course in the southwest corner of the City, with only a few street crossings.
- **Rectangular Rapidly Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)** – installed at the South Fork trail crossing with Pleasant View Road. The RRFBs will improve safety for bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists at this intersection by improving awareness and visibility of path-users at the crossing.
- **Made accessibility improvements at 6 Metro Bus stops and installed one additional shelter.**
- **Planned and budgeted for a wayfinding signage system for the City's trail network.** The signage will be installed in 2014.

### LAND USE

- **Completed a Future Urban Development Area (FUDA) Study** working with the Town of Westport and the Town of Dane. The study helps to protect vital natural resources, promote efficient development, and preserve farmland through cooperative planning for long-term growth and conservation.
- **Installed 2 additional community gardens on public land.** One garden is at the Middleton Cross-Plains School District Administration Center and one is at Middleton City Hall. In addition, the City worked with The Creative Vegetable Gardener to install an edible demonstration garden in a downtown planting bed.

### PUBLIC LANDS

- **Hosted a Forestry Field Day event** to educate residents on ongoing public lands restoration efforts and methods of sustainable harvesting and pruning of trees. Staff salvaged wood from storm-damaged trees at the event.
- **Emerald Ash Borer Preparedness** – The City preemptively removed and replanted 232 ash trees with a diversity of over 20 species of trees.
- **Developed a wood utilization program** whereby the City is using harvested Ash wood to create park benches emblazoned with the slogan "EAB + City Tree = Bench for thee." Over the past two years, the City has used or donated over 7,000 board feet of Ash lumber for planter boxes, bird and bat houses, park shelter projects, etc.
- **Hosted an Arbor Day event** at Hinrich's Family Park in Hidden Oaks.
- **Hosted a National Trails Day & Take-a-Kid Mounting Biking Event** at Pleasant View Golf Course.
- **Hosted five Bike the Bird City events** on different trail segments where the City partnered with local businesses to provide lunches to participants.
- **Completed a trail and boardwalk project around Graber Pond.** Received a \$45,000 grant to connect the Graber Pond Trail to the Pheasant Branch Conservancy Trail in 2014.
- **Installed ENERGI fitness stations along a segment of the South Fork Trail.**
- **Completed over 15 acres of prairie and oak savanna habitat restoration** at the John C. Bock Community Forest. Used Friends of Pheasant Branch funds to match City funds to clear invasive cottonwoods and reuse their rootwads for a streambank stabilization project.
- **Completed the Tiedeman Pond forebay construction and ecological restoration area** which includes an innovative stormwater detention system, improved hiking trails, and improved wildlife habitat.
- **Removed drain tile in Pheasant Branch Creek and restored over 7 acres of wetlands.**

- **Resurfaced the Elm Lawn Elementary School path with porous pavement.**

## **ENERGY**

- **Implemented a Municipal Building Temperature Control Policy** and installed signage reminding employees and visitors to conserve energy.
- **The first phase of the Community of Bishops Bay was completed with LED street lighting.** In future development reviews, the City will require LED street lighting.

## **WATER**

- **Received a Dane County Urban Water Quality grant** to construct a detention / sedimentation pond and infiltration basin southeast of the City's Police Station on conservancy land. The grant will cover \$266,000 of the \$355,000 project.
- **Stabilized the South Fork bank of the Pheasant Branch Creek** while also removing invasive species in the area and opening up a scenic vista.
- **Hosted a Water Conservation Challenge** where 148 households in Middleton competed to reduce their water usage (as compared to their 2012 baseline). The households collectively saved 2,202,300 gallons of water, or reduced their 2012 usage by 26%.
- **Completed a hydrology study of Lakeview Park Pond** which found 3 new fresh water springs that provide between 30,000 and 50,000 gallons of fresh water to Lake Mendota daily.
- **Lakeview Pond Fisheries Enhancement Project**, which included improving fish habitat, installing two accessible fishing piers, and stocking the pond with fish for kids fishing days.

## **WASTE**

- **Hosted a holiday lights recycling program** in conjunction with Ace Hardware Middleton Springs and Wolff Kubly Ace Hardware whereby residents can drop off their holiday lights for recycling at no cost. In 2013-2014, residents recycled 836 pounds of holiday lights.
- **Held two Clean & Green Middleton Re-Use and Recycling events** where the City collected over 36,000 pounds of electronics for proper recycling by File 13, donated over 2,500 pounds of building materials to Habitat ReStore, recycled 607 pounds of alkaline batteries by PKK Lighting, donated 509 printer cartridges to the Kromrey PTA for recycling and fundraising, and collected 83 durable medical good items for a local doctor to take on mission trips to Africa and Cuba. Thousands of pounds of other items were donated, recycled, and freecycled at these events.
- **Planned and designed a permanent recycling drop center** in the City's new Municipal Operations Center, which will be built in 2014.
- **Expanded curbside recycling collection to include additional recyclable materials, including plastic bags.**
- **The Middleton Public Library recycles unwanted reading materials** by hosting a magazine exchange, an ongoing free bookshelf, two book give-aways, 20 used book sales, book swaps, and more. In addition, the Library hosts maker events where patrons can use discarded products to create something new and functional. The Library also hosts programs to teach patrons how to sell unwanted items (e.g. Craigslist, etc.).

## **EDUCATION**

- **Hosted 9 Green Thursday Sustainability Seminars** at Willy Street West.
- **Sent 29 sustainability-related notices on the City's Sustainability/Environmental Education listserv**, each reaching almost 500 residents.
- **The Middleton Public Library checked out over 33,000 books on sustainability-related topics** (ecology, nature, conservation, etc.), many of which are part of the Library's *Go Green!* Collection. The Library also hosted numerous programs related to gardening, wellness, local foods, etc.

## **LEGACY COMMUNITIES SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES**

A copy of the Legacy Communities Sustainable Strategy Spreadsheet (aka Appendix 3 of the Legacy Communities Charter) is included as an attachment to this report for 2013.



Field Value

## Wisconsin Legacy Communities Strategy Options

(Last Revised 02-07-2014 by Abby Attoun)

The purpose of the strategy options matrix is to provide a broad list of best management practices that encompass several elements of sustainability including transportation, energy, land use, water, and waste. This list is not inclusive.

Prospective signatories should use the strategy options to gauge environmental performance and then use this baseline to strive for superior results.

Superior environmental performance may be achieved when municipalities use the strategy options to develop a sustainability plan that reduces their overall negative impact on the environment.

### TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MANAGEMENT:

Transportation demand management strategies aim to reduce GHG emissions and VMT by influencing change in individual behavior. These strategies encourage walking, bicycling, and transit as modes of transportation within a community and seek to curb the number and length of trips by vehicle.

#### Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs/Projects

2	Require bike parking for all new non-residential and multifamily uses.	1
1	Set standards for placement and number (as function of intensity of use) for bike parking spaces.	1
3	Commuter bike routes identified and cleared.	3
5 to 10	League of American Bicyclists certification. (Bronze 5, Silver 7, Platinum 10)	0
3	Funded and operating SRTS program (or functional equivalent) covering at least 10 percent of students.	2
1	Conduct annual survey of students' mode of transport to school.	0
	<u>Employer-Based Programs</u>	
5	Require large employers seeking rezoning to set a price signal (cash-out or charge).	0
5	Require large employers seeking rezoning to provide subsidized transit.	0
5	Require large employers seeking rezoning to provide a TDM plan that would reduce trips by 20 percent over business as usual.	0
	<u>Traffic Volume</u>	
3	Track VMT or traffic counts and report on efforts at reduction (including those on this list).	1
3	Eliminate parking minimums from non-residential districts.	0
5	Set parking maximums at X per square feet for office and retail uses.	0
5	Scheduled transit service at basic level (hour peak service within half-mile of 50 percent of addresses).	5
10	Scheduled transit service at enhanced level (half-hour peak service within 75 percent of addresses).	10

### TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Transportation system management strategies aim to reduce GHG emissions and VMT by improving the overall performance of a transportation system. These strategies improve existing infrastructure, introduce new technology, and plan for the future of the system.

#### Preservation and Improvement

3	Develop and fully fund comprehensive maintenance program for existing roads.	2
1 to 5	Charge impact fees for new roads.	0
5	Calculate lane-miles per capita for arterials and collectors, and show reductions	2
5	Prepare a plan identifying disconnections in bike and pedestrian networks, prioritizing fixes and identifying potential funding sources for the most important projects.	5

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5	Any proposal to add lanes to a two-lane roadway shall be evaluated for a center turn lane, the preferred option over an expansion to four lanes.	5
3	Identify four-lane roadways with fewer than 20,000 vehicles per day (AADT) and evaluate them for "road diets" with bike lanes or on-street parking	2
	<b><u>Electric Vehicles</u></b>	
1	Allow NEVs on appropriate roadways.	1
2	Provide public charging stations	2
	<b><u>Vehicle Idling</u></b>	
2	Ban idling (more than 5 minutes) with local government vehicles.	0
5	Ban idling (more than 5 minutes) community-wide.	2

LA	<b>ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	
	Zoning and development strategies work toward improving the overall environmental, economic, and social health of a community by promoting mixed-use and infill development, walkable neighborhoods, and an overall sustainable lifestyle.	
	<b><u>Infill Development</u></b>	
	5	Identify priority areas for infill development, including those eligible for brownfields funding.
	1	Create land bank to acquire and assemble priority infill sites
	1	Develop an inventory of known contaminated properties for reuse planning, with possible GIS application
	<b><u>Walkscore</u></b>	
	10	Measure Walkscore at 10 random residential addresses per Census tract, compute average, and improve upon overall score
	<b><u>Zoning</u></b>	
	5	Adopt traditional neighborhood design ordinance (If population is less than 12,500)
5	Zoning for office and retail districts permits floor-area ratio > 1, on average.	
8	Zoning for office and retail districts requires floor-area ratio > 1, on average.	
5	Zoning code includes mixed use districts	
8	Mixed-use language from Smart Code TBA.	
	<b>NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT</b>	
	Natural resource management strategies seek to conserve, preserve, protect and promote a community's greenspace, wildlife, wetlands and waterways for this and future generations by promoting pervious surfaces and adequate setbacks.	
	<b><u>Canopy</u></b>	
	3	Adopt tree preservation ordinance per GTLC standards.
	4	Set a tree canopy goal and develop a management plan to achieve it
	2	Require trees to be planted in all new developments
	2	Certification as Tree City USA
	<b><u>Mowing</u></b>	
	2	Local government rights of way mown or cleared only for safe sightlines and/or to remove invasive species.
	<b><u>Water Protection</u></b>	
10	Establish 75-foot natural vegetation zone by surface water.	
5	Inventory wetlands and ensure no net annual loss.	
E N E R	<b>COMMUNITY ENERGY USE</b>	
	Community energy use strategies encourage energy efficiency and the use of renewable fuels to reduce total energy consumption throughout the community	
	<b><u>Community Energy Use Policies</u></b>	
	6	Use PACE financing
	1	Watt meters available to the public
	10	Adopt Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance (time-of-sale certification and upgrades).
<b><u>Measuring Community Energy Use</u></b>		
4	Work with local utilities to calculate total electricity and natural gas consumption annually, beginning with the fifth year before entering the program.	
1	State of Wisconsin Energy Independent (EI) Community designation.	
E N E R	<b>MUNICIPAL ENERGY USE</b>	
	Municipal energy use strategies encourage municipal employees to conserve energy, preserve the environment, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions from municipal facilities, services, and vehicle fleets.	
<b><u>Government Energy Use Policies</u></b>		
5	Include transportation energy/emissions as criterion in RFPs for purchases of goods over \$10,000.	

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3	Develop list of lighting, HVAC and shell improvements to raise Energy Star Portfolio Manager or LEED EBO&M score	0
3	Reduce motor fuels use for non-transit activities --	1
6	Provide transit passes at 50 percent or more off the regular price and/or provide parking cash-out options for local government employees.	0
5	Streetlights operate at 75 lumens/Watt or higher	5
3	Stoplights are LED or functional equivalent	3
5	Municipal electricity purchases are at least 5 percentage points higher in renewable content than the statewide renewable portfolio standard requires. Calculation may include self-generated power and purchased offsets.	0
<b><u>Measuring Government Energy Use</u></b>		
5	Complete EPA Energy Star Portfolio Manager spreadsheet for government energy use. Or score existing buildings with LEED EBO&M.	0
2	Calculate annual government fleet use of motor fuels, in gallons of petroleum and biofuels, beginning with the fifth year before entering the program.	1
10	All new and renovated municipal buildings must meet LEED Silver or greater.	0

W A T E R	<b>WATER USE CONSERVATION</b>	
	<b>Water Conservation strategy options set baselines and goals for water and energy performance in municipalities. They measure progress and promote water conservation by the government, business, and the community at-large.</b>	
	<u>Water Conservation</u>	
	5	Track water and sewer use annually, beginning with fifth year before entering program, and develop plan for reductions.
	4	Develop a water loss control plan with targets below the 15% required by the state and include a system-wide water audit implementation and time table
	2	Join EPA's WaterSense Program for water utilities or the Groundwater Guardian Green Sites program and promote them to local business.
	6	Use block rates and flat rates to encourage water conservation among residential, commercial, and industrial users.
	1	Financial assistance for sewer lateral replacements.
	2 to 6	Upgrade water utility equipment (e.g., variable frequency drive motors) to achieve energy efficiency.
	3	Infiltration and inflow reduction by 10%
	5	Wastewater biogas captured and used in operations.
	5	Plan for replacing all toilets using > 1.6 gpf and annual progress sufficient to reach 90 percent replacement in 10 years.
	<u>Local Government Use</u>	
	2	Install waterless urinals in men's restrooms at municipal facilities (city hall, parks, etc.)
	3	All outdoor watering by local government, excluding parks and golf courses, from rain collection.
4	Develop a water efficiency and conservation plan for municipal buildings	
<b>STORMWATER MANAGEMENT</b>		
<b>Stormwater Management strategy options encourage the use of best management practices to achieve a reduction in the amount of harmful pollutants introduced to our streams, rivers, and lakes.</b>		
3	Develop a regular street sweeping program to reduce total suspended solids	
3	Stormwater utility fees offer credits for best management practices such as rain barrels, rain gardens, and pervious paving	
2	Inventory all paved surfaces (e.g., by GIS mapping), and develop a plan for reduction	
2	Work with commercial or light industrial businesses to develop stormwater pollution plans	
<b>WATER AND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
<b>Water and Development strategy options link water conservation and the preservation of land, wetlands, and wildlife habitat while promoting compact development, restoration and rehabilitation efforts, and long-term planning.</b>		
<u>Land Development</u>		
5	Identify key green infrastructure areas during plan development and/or implement a plan to acquire and protect key green infrastructure areas	
<u>Waters, Wetlands, and Wildlife</u>		
1 to 6	Replace concrete channels with re-meandered and naturalized creeks, wetlands, or swales	
3	Develop a system for identifying culverts that obstruct fish migration and install fish friendly culverts where needed	
4	Provide incentives for protection of green infrastructure, sensitive areas, important wildlife habitat, or for the restoration or rehabilitation of wetlands or other degraded habitats such as credit towards open space or set-aside requirements	
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION</b>		
<b>Waste Management and Reduction strategy options encourage municipalities and their citizens to divert organics and recyclables from landfills and properly dispose of hazardous materials in an effort to reduce waste in a community.</b>		
3	Community waste stream monitored at least annually . Waste reduction plan prepared and updated annually	
4	Waste and materials management plan based on "zero-waste" principles, with specific goals, prepared and updated annually	
3	Construction/deconstruction waste recycling ordinance	
3	Mandatory residential curbside recycling pickup that covers paper, metal cans, glass and plastic bottles	
5	Develop a municipal collection program that encourages the diversion of food discards, yard materials, and other organics from landfills to composting or anaerobic digestion with energy recovery	
3	Develop and promote programs that dispose of household hazardous, medical, and electronic waste	

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4	Use anaerobic digesters to process organic waste and produce energy
3	Implement municipal ordinances requiring manufacturer takeback for fluorescent bulbs, thermostats and other mercury-containing devices
2	Ordinances in place to reduce the usage of phone books as well as single-use shopping bags, styrofoam food containers and other disposable packaging
2	Pay-as-you-throw system implemented by municipality or required of private waste haulers
1	Use public education and outreach to promote recycling, backyard composting, product re-use and waste reduction

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