City of Falcon Heights
Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

AGENDA

Monday, July 13, 2026
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Adam Keester (Chair) ____	David Smith ____
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) ____	Monika Chandler ____
Nuz Sanidad (Secretary) ____	Erica Bjelland ____
Beth Mercer-Taylor ____	

Staff Liaison Myhren ____
Council Liaison May ____

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
1. June 8, 2026

E. NEW BUSINESS
1. Lawn & Garden Tours
2. Ice Cream Social Tabling
3. Partners in Energy – Implementation Debrief
4. Les Bolstad Redevelopment Project – CAC Update

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. Staff Liaison Report
2. Council Liaison Report

G. ADJOURN

Next regular meeting date: August 10, 2026

City of Falcon Heights
Environment Commission

City Hall
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

MINUTES

Monday, June 8, 2026
6:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL:

Adam Keester (Chair) _X_	David Smith _X_
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) _X_	Monika Chandler _X_
Nuz Sanidad (Secretary) _X_	Erica Bjelland _A_
Beth Mercer-Taylor _A_	
Staff Liaison Myhren _X_	
Council Liaison May _X_	

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Chair Keester made a motion to prove the agenda. Motion passed by consent.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
1. May 11, 2026
Chair Keester made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2026 meeting. Motion passed by consent.

E. NEW BUSINESS
1. Indoor Air Quality
The commission discussed an upcoming informational event focused on indoor air quality concerns, including mold, third hand smoke, and other home environmental hazards. Falcon Heights resident Nina Sherburne shared her personal experience with undisclosed property issues and proposed a community listening session featuring expert speakers. Sherburne is still looking for more volunteers, leads, or experts in indoor air quality. The commission expressed support for partnering on the event, including helping promote it through the city newsletter and exploring the use of City Hall as a venue. Commissioners also discussed adding indoor air quality resources to the city website.

2. Boulevard Tree Update
Staff Liaison Myhren reported that sign-ups for the free boulevard tree program were lower than expected, with only 17 residential trees requested so far. Staff are considering

DRAFT

additional trees for public spaces. Discussed promotion for fall tree sign-ups which could begin at the Ice Cream Social on July 16, 2026.

3. Lawn & Garden Tours
   As of June 8, 2026, eight hosts have confirmed participation in the Lawn and Garden Tour, with two additional likely prospects. The commission hopes to secure more hosts before the July 10 deadline.

4. Climate Action Plan Implementation Update
   Staff Liaison Myhren highlighted a few climate action goals that the Commission could focus on starting and finishing this fall for commissioners to pick up. Chair Keester mentions as a member of the CAC, he will explore with plan options that could be targeted with the development on the old golf course. The commission agrees that waste management and water, wastewater, is a good area to prioritize.

F. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
   1. CAC Update Report - *Chair Keester reported on recent discussions within the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). At this time, no formal development proposal for the former golf course has been submitted to the city. Until a proposal is available, the CAC and the Environment Commission will continue sharing relevant information as issues arise. Chair Keester will relay updates between the two groups to ensure alignment on environmental and planning considerations.*

   2. Staff Liaison Report – *None.*

   3. Council Liaison Report – *Council Liaison May provided updates on city, county, and state initiatives, with a focus on multimodal transportation goals and related grant opportunities currently in progress. She also noted that the Metropolitan Council has launched a study of Larpenteur Avenue across Ramsey County, which may inform future transportation and safety improvements within Falcon Heights.*

G. ADJOURN
   Commissioner Keester made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by consent at 8:09 PM.

Next regular meeting date: July 13, 2026

DRAFT

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	July 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-1
Attachment	N/A
Submitted By	Hannah Myhren, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	Lawn & Garden Tours
Description	The Environment Commission has agreed to hold the Lawn & Garden Tours on Saturday, July 18, 2026 from 9 am – 12 pm. Sign-ups for hosting a Tour are now closed. This is an update of all hosts signed up and status of yard signs.
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	No action requested.

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	July 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-2
Attachment	N/A
Submitted By	Hannah Myhren, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	Ice Cream Social Tabling
Description	The City's annual Ice Cream Social is being held on Thursday, July 16 from 5 PM to 7 PM at City Hall. The Environment Commission has been assigned one table, per their request, for providing information to residents. At the Commission's last meeting, it was decided a focus could be on recycling, waste management, and reuse. Staff will prepare materials for handouts during the information fair.
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	Staff request Commissioners discuss and decide who will be tabling at Ice Cream Social and provide feedback on handout materials.

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	July 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-3
Attachment	Presentation
Submitted By	Hannah Myhren, Community Development Coordinator / Planner

Item	Partners In Energy – Implementation Debrief
Description	Staff recently met with Partners in Energy to discuss the end of the implementation period of the Partners in Energy program for the City's Energy Action Plan. The presentation being shared is from the PIE team and outlines the progress the City has made. This will be an opportunity to establish where to focus future goals.
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	- Presentation
Action(s) Requested	Staff request Commissioners discuss future goals and strategies for Energy Action Plan implementation.

IMPLEMENTATION DEBRIEF

June 25, 2026

Xcel Energy®

PARTNERS IN ENERGY
An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration

FALCON HEIGHTS
THE CITY THAT SOARS

AGENDA

Meeting Agenda
Falcon Heights Energy Action Plan in Review
Implementation Successes and Challenges
Partners in Energy Experience
Next Steps for Falcon Heights

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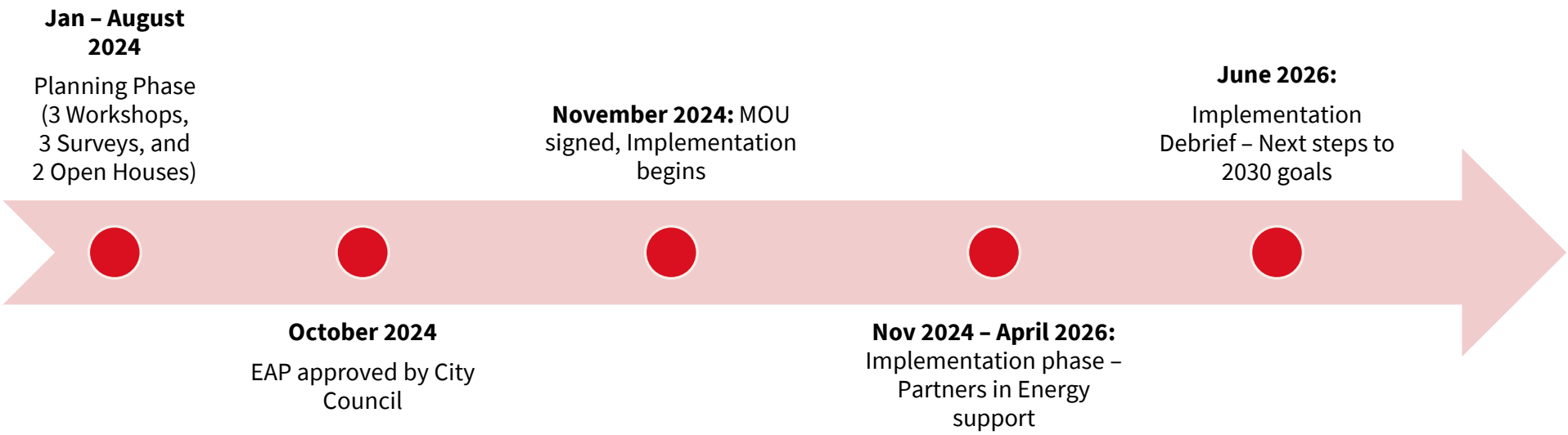
FALCON HEIGHTS PARTNERS IN ENERGY PROCESS



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FALCON HEIGHTS' ENERGY ACTION TEAM (17 COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS)

- Xcel Energy representatives
- City staff and City Council liaison
- Partners in Energy facilitation team
- University of Minnesota student and energy staff rep
- Environmental Commission members
- Falcon Heights' residents and homeowners

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ENERGY ACTION PLAN

Vision

“Falcon Heights prioritizes energy strategies that lead to a sustainable and equitable future.”

Focus Areas

Alleviating Energy Burden	Enhancing Energy Efficiencies in Buildings	Embracing Clean, Renewable Energy

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FALCON HEIGHTS' ENERGY ACTION PLAN GOALS

Energy Efficiency

- Increase energy savings by 53% through participation in energy efficiency programs
- Targets: 594,100 kWh electricity savings and 79,900 therm gas savings
- Target: 400 program participants during implementation period

Renewable Energy & Emissions

- Avoid an additional 34% of community-wide GHG emissions (Baseline year: 2023)

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MATERIALS LIBRARY

- Residential
  - Home Energy Squad postcard
  - IQ HES bilingual flyer (Spanish / English)
  - Tabling script for residential engagement
  - Demystifying Renewables flyer
- Multi-family
  - MF flyer for rental licensing inspections
  - MFBE and (1-4 unit) HES flyer
  - ROI Energy improvements flyer
- Business
  - Business Decision Tree

BOOST YOUR ROI WITH ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS

Follow these easy steps to boost your property's value, reduce operating costs, and improve tenant satisfaction.

1 GET A BUILDING ENERGY AUDIT

Take advantage of energy savings for you and your tenants through our Multi-Family Buildings Efficiency Program. Not only will participating help keep your tenants satisfied, but you'll also add value to your property!

If your building is 4 or fewer units you can schedule a Home Energy Squad® visit instead. To schedule visit **xcelenergy.com/squad**

Visit **multifamilyenergysolutions.com** to learn more.

Home Energy Squad is offered by Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy and delivered by CEE. Home Energy Squad is a registered trademark of Xcel Energy.

2 CUT UPFRONT COSTS

Need to upgrade aging equipment or appliances? From furnaces to refrigerators, Xcel Energy offers rebates to keep upfront costs low. Multi-Family Building Efficiency participants will qualify for rebate bonuses on approved equipment replacements.

And with new energy efficiency equipment, operating costs will stay low, even during the coldest months.

For buildings with 4 or fewer units, visit **xcelenergy.com/HomeRebate**. If you believe you or most of your tenants are income qualified visit **xcelenergy.com/energyassistance**.

3 COMPLETE SMALL DIY UPGRADES

From thermostats to ceiling fans, small upgrades can improve your property's appeal and help make your tenants feel more comfortable.

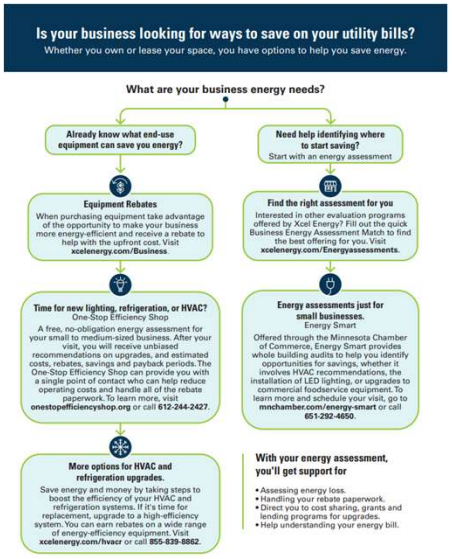
- Install programmable or smart thermostats
- Upgrade showerheads and install faucet aerators
- Add ceiling fans to help control cooling
- Install energy efficient window treatments
- Regularly assist or remind tenants to change air filters

Visit **xcelenergy.com/tips**.

For more info about Falcon Heights' Energy Action Plan contact Hannah Lynch at **hannah.b.lynch@falconheights.org** or **651-792-7600**

Falcon Heights and Xcel Energy are pleased to work together to achieve our community energy goals.

Xcel Energy® PARTNERS IN ENERGY



Is your business looking for ways to save on your utility bills?

Whether you own or lease your space, you have options to help you save energy.

What are your business energy needs?

Already know what end-use equipment can save you energy?

Equipment Rebates

When purchasing equipment take advantage of the opportunity to make your business more energy-efficient and receive a rebate to help with the upfront cost. Visit **xcelenergy.com/Business**.

Time for new lighting, refrigeration, or HVAC?

One-Stop Efficiency Shop

A free, no-obligation energy assessment for your small to medium-sized business. After your visit, you will receive unbiased recommendations on upgrades, and estimated costs, rebates, savings and payback periods. The One-Stop Efficiency Shop can provide you with a single point of contact who can help reduce operating costs and handle all of the rebate paperwork. To learn more, visit **onestopefficiencyshop.org** or call **612-244-2427**.

More options for HVAC and refrigeration upgrades.

Save energy and money by taking steps to boost the efficiency of your HVAC and refrigeration systems. If it's time for replacement, upgrade to a high-efficiency system. You can earn rebates on a wide range of energy-efficiency equipment. Visit **xcelenergy.com/hvacr** or call **855-839-8862**.

Need help identifying where to start saving?

Start with an energy assessment

Find the right assessment for you

Interested in other evaluation programs offered by Xcel Energy? Fill out the quick Business Energy Assessment Match to find the best offering for you. Visit **xcelenergy.com/Energyassessments**.

Energy assessments just for small businesses.

Energy Smart

Offered through the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Energy Smart provides whole building audits to help you identify opportunities for savings, whether it involves HVAC recommendations, the installation of LED lighting, or upgrades to commercial foodservice equipment. To learn more and schedule your visit, go to **mnchamber.com/energy-smart** or call **651-292-4650**.

With your energy assessment, you'll get support for

- Assessing energy loss.
- Handling your rebate paperwork.
- Direct you to cost sharing, grants and lending programs for upgrades.
- Help understanding your energy bill.

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MORE VISUALS OF RESOURCES

Xcel Energy Renewable Energy Options

	Standard Energy Mix	Renewable*Connect Flex	Solar*Rewards Community	Solar*Rewards	Battery Storage Incentive Program
Energy Source	47% Fossil Fuels, Wind 25%, 21% Nuclear, Solar 3%, 4% Other	Supports Solar and Wind, Standard Energy Mix	Community Solar	On-site Solar + Standard Energy Mix (backup power from utility grid)	Up to 100% Solar when energy is stored onsite and paired with On-site Solar + Standard Energy Mix (backup power from utility grid)
Cost to Participate	28% renewable energy at current Xcel Energy rates	Average $6–$8 per month extra	Subscription fee paid to Solar Garden	Install costs, plus application fee and interconnection costs	Install costs, plus application fee and interconnection costs
Financial Benefit to Tenant /Homeowner	Lowest cost, renewable energy, keeps Xcel Energy rates low for everyone	None	Bill credit payment for Solar Energy produced	Monthly energy use is offset by Solar, plus incentive per kWh	Monthly energy use is offset by Solar + Battery. One time upfront payment to homeowner for kWh size of the battery
Requires On-site Installation	**No**	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes**
Minimum Contract Length	None	None	Up to 20 years	Up to 10 years	Up to 10 years
Eligibility Requirements	Homeowner or Renter with Xcel Energy electricity customer			Homeowner with Xcel Energy electric service, income-qualified program available when eligibility requirements met	
Contract With	No contract	Xcel Energy	Solar Garden Company	Solar installer and Xcel Energy Interconnection Agreement	Solar installer and Xcel Energy Interconnection Agreement
Earn Renewable Energy Credits	**No**	**RECs retired on customers' behalf**	**No**	Only if net-metering without Solar*Rewards	Only if net-metering without Solar*Rewards

For more information about Xcel Energy's Renewable Energy Options visit **www.xcelenergy.com/renewables**. Eligibility, requirements, fees, and income-qualified programs. Terms and conditions apply for all programs listed.

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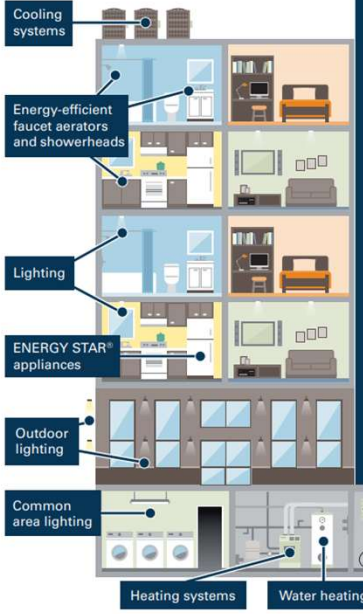
Energy Savings for Multi-Family Buildings

Save energy, raise your property value, and increase residents' comfort and satisfaction with a visit from the Multi-Family Building Efficiency Program.



How it works:

1. Start with a **FREE**, whole-building energy analysis. A top-to-bottom inspection of your building reveals opportunities to save energy and money.
2. Get **FREE** on-the-spot energy-saving installations in common areas and resident units, such as LEDs and efficient showerheads and faucets.
3. Receive a **FREE** energy analysis report covering your building's energy use and potential savings.
4. Work with an experienced energy advisor to pick your next steps and connect to rebates and low-interest financing.

PLUS, earn a bonus 30% incentive on top of existing rebates for energy efficiency upgrades like HVAC and water heating systems.

Bonuses increase to **200%** for properties where 66% of tenants or more are income-qualified.

Visit **multifamilyenergysolutions.com** or call **844-545-7455** to learn more and sign up today.

FALCON HEIGHTS THE CITY THAT SOARS

XCEL ENERGY OR CENTERPOINT ENERGY CUSTOMERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE MFBE PROGRAM.

FALCON HEIGHTS AND XCEL ENERGY ARE PLEASED TO WORK TOGETHER TO ACHIEVE OUR ENERGY GOALS.

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TABLING TIPS FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS

Step 1: The Hook

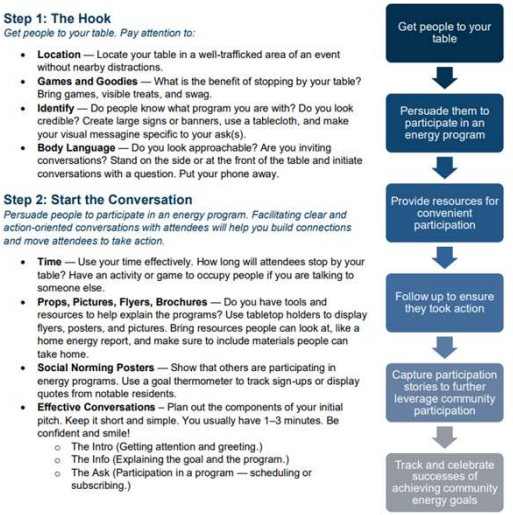
Get people to your table. Pay attention to:

- **Location** — Locate your table in a well-trafficked area of an event without nearby distractions.
- **Games and Goodies** — What is the benefit of stopping by your table? Bring games, visible treats, and swag.
- **Identify** — Do people know what program you are with? Do you look credible? Create large signs or banners, use a tablecloth, and make your visual messagine specific to your ask(s).
- **Body Language** — Do you look approachable? Are you inviting conversations? Stand on the side or at the front of the table and initiate conversations with a question. Put your phone away.

Step 2: Start the Conversation

Persuade people to participate in an energy program. Facilitating clear and action-oriented conversations with attendees will help you build connections and move attendees to take action.

- **Time** — Use your time effectively. How long will attendees stop by your table? Have an activity or game to occupy people if you are talking to someone else.
- **Props, Pictures, Flyers, Brochures** — Do you have tools and resources to help explain the programs? Use tabletop holders to display flyers, posters, and pictures. Bring resources people can look at, like a home energy report, and make sure to include materials people can take home.
- **Social Norming Posters** — Show that others are participating in energy programs. Use a goal thermometer to track sign-ups or display quotes from notable residents.
- **Effective Conversations** – Plan out the components of your initial pitch. Keep it short and simple. You usually have 1–3 minutes. Be confident and smile!
  - The Intro (Getting attention and greeting.)
  - The Info (Explaining the goal and the program.)
  - The Ask (Participation in a program — scheduling or subscribing.)



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REFLECTIONS

What is one strategy or action you are proud of accomplishing in Falcon Heights during implementation?

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IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

Residents

- Promoted Home Energy Squad® through a postcard to 1,100 residents in older homes
- Residential Heating and Cooling became top program in Falcon Heights with 103 participants
- Hosted Sustainability Fair in 2026 with HES and Citizens Utility Board tabling alongside
- Developed and utilized tabling scripts and tips at community events
- Summer Ice Cream social – had a great turnout, distributed nightlights and flyers
- Community received income-qualified, bilingual HES and Energy Assistance flyers at events
- LI-HES had 3 participants and LI-MFBE went from 0 to 4 participants

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IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

Businesses and Multi-family Buildings

- Multi-family flyers created for sending out to rental licensing applications
- Falcon Heights installed solar panels on City Hall through grant.
- HVAC+R participation grew from 10-18 (strong year over year growth)
- ROI Energy Improvement flyers for building owners
- Business Decision Tree flyer created (interactive and print versions)

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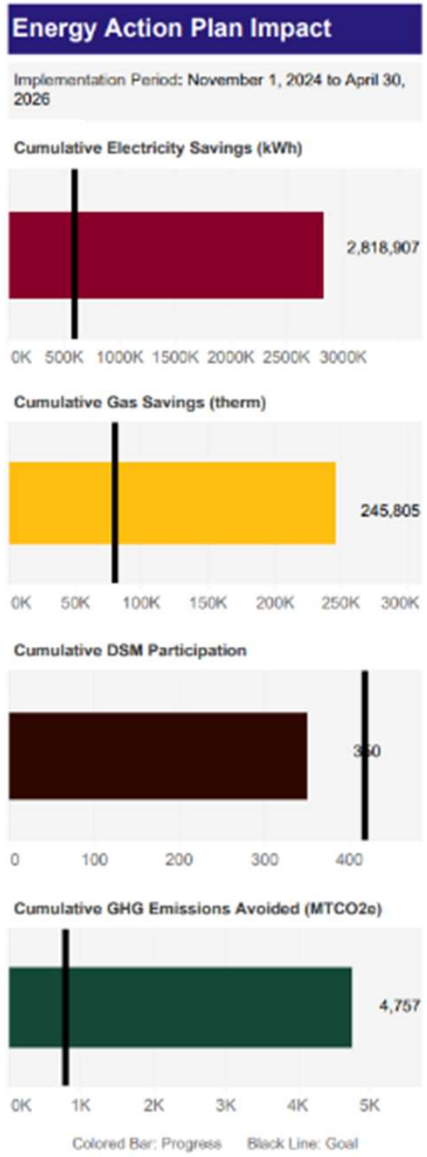
PROGRESS TOWARD GOALS

Metric	Target	Actual	% of Target	Context
Electricity Savings (kWh)	594,100	2,818,907	474%	C&I entity influenced
Gas Savings (therms)	79,900	245,805	308%	C&I entity influenced
EE Program Participation	400	350	84%	Best indicator of PiE impact
Avoided Emissions ($MTCO_2e$)	800	4,757	604%	C&I entity influenced

Important context: One large C&I entity (removed from consumption data per the 4/50 privacy rule) completed significant energy efficiency projects at the start of implementation. Their EE program savings and RE subscriptions remain in the dashboard data per Partners in Energy policy, significantly inflating the cumulative energy savings and emissions numbers above. Program participation is the most meaningful metric for evaluating Partners in Energy's direct community impact.

Data is from November 1, 2024-December 31, 2025.



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PROGRESS: IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD TARGETS BY FOCUS AREA

Alleviating Energy Burden

- LI-HES: 3 participants in 2025 (up from 1 in 2024)
- MFBE grew from 0 to 4 participants

Enhancing Energy Efficiency – Residential

- Residential Heating & Cooling; 103 participants in 2025 (up from 80 in 2023 baseline)
- Home Energy Squad: 34 more participants in 2025
- Insulation & Air Sealing: 6 participants in 2025 (up from 3 in 2023)

Embracing Clean, Renewable Energy

- Renewable*Connect is the highest participating program - 182 participants
- City installed solar panels through grant
- RE kWh subscribed increased 31% (12.4M → 16.4M kWh)

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PROGRESS: IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD TARGETS BY FOCUS AREA

Program Participation – Overall

Program	2023	2024	2025
Residential Heating & Cooling	80	93	103
Home Energy Squad	47	36	34
HVAC+R	10	13	18
Multi-Family Building Efficiency	0	1	4
Low-Income HES	2	1	3
Insulation & Air Sealing	3	4	6
Grand Total	**277**	**254**	**240**

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YOUR PARTNERS IN ENERGY EXPERIENCE

- What worked well?
- What could be improved?
- What didn’t we get to that you wanted to work on?

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ROAD TO 2030: WHERE WE STAND

EAP 2030 Targets (4.5 years remaining)

- Energy Efficiency Participation: 350 of 1,736 cumulative target (~20%)
- 2025 Annual EE participation was 240 – growth needed on annual pace (290 per year needed)
- Energy savings and emissions targets appear on track – driven largely by one C&I entity (violator)

Key takeaway: The Partners in Energy implementation period built the foundation. Now, sustaining momentum through graduate support and city-led action is critical to reaching 2030 targets.

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RECOMMENDED PRIORITIES

Rank	Program	Focus Area	Why Prioritize	Growth Needed
1	Residential Heating & Cooling	EE in Buildings	Top performer with steady growth; 90% of housing built pre-2000 = massive ASHP market	Maintain & grow
2	Home Energy Squad	EE in Buildings / Energy Burden	Gateway to all other residential programs; declining from 47 → 34 (let's reverse trend!)	Reverse decline
3	Multi-Family Building Efficiency	EE in Buildings / Energy Burden	39% renter population = untapped market; rental licensing touchpoint is working (0 → 4)	Scale aggressively
4	Low-Income Home Energy Squad	Energy Burden	Only 3 participants vs. 315+ eligible households	10x growth needed
5	Renewable*Connect	Clean, Renewable Energy	Easiest RE entry (no equipment, renter-friendly); supports 50% renewable sourcing goal	Expand to renters

Graduate support application: xcelenergycommunities.com/graduate-support

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NEXT STEPS FOR FALCON HEIGHTS

- What is your priority to continue in 2026?
- What support are you interested in from Partners in Energy?

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REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION

Meeting Date	July 13, 2026
Agenda Item	E-4
Attachment	N/A
Submitted By	Adam Keester, Environment Commission Chair

Item	Les Bolstad Redevelopment Project – CAC Update
Description	The Community Advisory Committee for the Les Bolstad Redevelopment Project last held a meeting on June 17, 2026 at the Highland Bridge development in St. Paul. A walking tour was provided of the development before a meeting occurred in the Lunds & Byerlys community taproom to discuss MetCouncil's Comprehensive Plan requirements for 2050, the developer selection, and other topics.
Budget Impact	N/A
Attachment(s)	N/A
Action(s) Requested	Staff request Chair Keester provide an update on the CAC's last meeting and future steps.