

# City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall  
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

## AGENDA

Monday, April 10, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL: Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair) \_\_\_\_ Jared Mehlhaff \_\_\_\_  
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair) \_\_\_\_ Amy Christiansen \_\_\_\_  
Emma Kostecki \_\_\_\_ Stephanie Skarolid \_\_\_\_  
Pedro De Filippo Vannucci \_\_\_\_  
  
Council Liaison Meyer \_\_\_\_  
Staff Liaison Lynch \_\_\_\_

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 13, 2023
2. March 13, 2023

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Welcome to New Member, Stephanie Skarolid
2. Xcel Energy - Partners in Energy Program
3. BizRecycling & WasteWise Program Discussion

D. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Staff Liaison Report
2. Council Liaison Report

E. ADJOURN

*If you have a disability and need accommodation in order to attend this meeting, please notify City Hall 48 hours in advance between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 651-792-7600. We will be happy to help.*

*Next regular meeting date: May 8, 2023*

# City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall  
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, February 13, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Martin McCleery <input type="checkbox"/>	John Pellegrini <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emma Kostecki <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Christiansen <input type="checkbox"/>
Pedro De Filippo Vannucci <input type="checkbox"/>	VACANT
Council Liaison Meyer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Staff Liaison Lynch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 11, 2022

*Motion by Kostecki to approve, seconded by Pellegrini. A vote was taken and all were in favor.*

E. AGENDA

1. 2023 Officer Nominations

*Staff Liaison Lynch advised the Commission it is their duty to nominate and elect officers at the first meeting of the year. She recommended elected a Chair, and potentially a Vice-Chair and Secretary.*

*Staff Liaison Lynch volunteered to be Secretary and take minutes for the meetings. Commissioner Mercer-Taylor volunteered to be Chair, Commissioner Pellegrini volunteered as Vice-Chair.*

*Kostecki made a motion to accept the nominations as stated, seconded by Mercer-Taylor. A vote was taken and all were in favor.*

2. 2023 Schedule & Priorities

*Staff Liaison Lynch advised the Commission to look at the schedule for 2023 and set some priorities for agenda topics. The Commission discussed and the following list of priorities was proposed:*

- *Climate Action Plan / Public Engagement / Funding*
- *Business Recycling / Sustainable Packaging*
- *Public Engagement during existing Falcon Heights events such as the Ice Cream Social and the Spring Forward event*
- *Including Environment Commission updates in the newsletter*
- *Liaise with other environment groups in the area*
- *Single-Hauler Trash*
- *Electric Vehicles*

### 3. Guest Speaker – Guido Wallraven

*Commissioner Mercer-Taylor introduced Mr. Wallraven as a colleague and friend who is a technical consultant to the energy transition and sustainability planning that is underway in German cities.*

*Mr. Wallraven shared a video of his work at Saerbeck, Germany and a presentation of the methods involved to create a sustainable city. He emphasized community engagement as a major step in the process, and ensuring that citizens are educated in a way that allows them to be involved. He spoke about the many jobs that have been created in Saerbeck as the result of this process and the many projects which have been completed as a result of the effort.*

### F. Information and Announcements

1. *Staff Liaison Report – None*
2. *Council Liaison Report – None*

### G. Adjourn

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.*

*Next regular meeting date: March 13, 2022*

# City of Falcon Heights Environment Commission

City Hall  
2077 Larpenteur Avenue West

Minutes

Monday, March 13, 2023  
6:30 p.m.

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

B. ROLL CALL:

Beth Mercer-Taylor (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jake Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
John Pellegrini (Vice-Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Christiansen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emma Kostecki	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Pedro De Filippo Vannucci	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		VACANT
Council Liaison Meyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Staff Liaison Lynch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*As there was no quorum at this meeting, no formal action items could be voted on. The Commission welcomed Jared Mehlhaff to the Environment Commission, Staff Liaison Lynch gave an overview of the EV Smart Cities program, and the Commission discussed requirements for No Mow May.*

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. February 13, 2023  
*Tabled to April 10, 2023 meeting due to lack of quorum.*

E. AGENDA

1. Welcome to New Member, Jared Mehlhaff
2. EV Smart Cities
3. No Mow May Discussion

F. Information and Announcements

1. Staff Liaison Report  
*Staff Liaison Lynch gave updates on Ramsey County resources for recycling and the food scrap pickup program, opportunities for tours of the Recycling and Energy Center.*
2. Council Liaison Report – None.

G. Adjourn

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.*

*Next regular meeting date: April 10, 2022*

DRAFT



## ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

<b>Meeting Date</b>	April 10, 2023
<b>Agenda Item</b>	C2
<b>Attachment</b>	MN Partners in Energy Application
<b>Submitted By</b>	Hannah Lynch Community Development Coordinator

<b>Item</b>	Xcel Energy - Partners in Energy Program
<b>Description</b>	Partners in Energy is a program from Xcel Energy that supports communities by helping them develop and implement energy plans. Each community has its own unique energy needs and priorities, and Partners in Energy services are tailored to complement each community's vision.
<b>Budget Impact</b>	--
<b>Attachment(s)</b>	MN Partners in Energy Application Information Page - <a href="https://mn.my.xcelenergy.com/s/partner-resources/municipalities/partners-in-energy">https://mn.my.xcelenergy.com/s/partner-resources/municipalities/partners-in-energy</a>
<b>Action(s) Requested</b>	Staff requests the commission review the attached application and vote on submitting Falcon Heights for the Partners in Energy Program.



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

## Partners in Energy

More communities are realizing energy planning plays a critical role in helping them reach their energy goals. The benefits of wise energy choices are diverse. Through collaborative work with citizens, businesses, and governments, a community can shave dollars off utility bills, promote renewable energy, drive resource conservation, and contribute to greenhouse gas reduction goals. Since 2014, Partners in Energy has been helping communities gather these stakeholders to develop and implement energy action plans that address the challenges of local energy priorities with actionable strategies and resources. In addition to offering support for community-based energy action plan development and implementation, Partners in Energy is evolving to include a broader spectrum of community engagement that includes supporting returning Partners in Energy communities as they define new goals and strategies, working with communities that have existing energy goals and strategies but need help implementing them, supporting smaller communities or geographic areas (i.e., districts or neighborhoods) that may benefit from a more tailored approach, or even convening collaborations that don't fit the traditional definition of a community but are focused on increased efficiency and renewable energy opportunities in unusual settings.

Partners in Energy continues to offer tools, data, and expertise to help communities analyze their energy trends, establish energy goals, identify energy strategies, and implement their energy priorities. Through the Partners in Energy process, Xcel Energy supports communities in convening stakeholders to develop custom roadmaps to achieve their energy goals. Xcel Energy also helps communities implement their energy strategies. The planning and implementation process is tailored to the unique needs and priorities of each community. Accepted communities will participate in a scoping meeting to determine the pathway that best aligns with your community's interests and capabilities.

Partners in Energy is offered at no cost to participating communities in Colorado and Minnesota, with the expectation that both Xcel Energy and the community will invest in the process. This investment includes staff and financial resources from Xcel Energy during both the planning and implementation phases. It also includes community staff time during both the planning and implementation phases and your community's plan may require financial support to implement strategies.

Partners in Energy **800-369-4362**

Colorado | Minnesota

[Clear form](#)

Xcel Energy wants to work with motivated, engaged, and action-oriented communities and champions who are willing to commit to the process and the outcomes. This application will help us better determine good community alignment for our limited, but valuable, resources. While completing the application does not guarantee acceptance as a participant, your application will be evaluated against other applicants using criteria that include, but may not be limited to, community size and structure, planning experience, stakeholder capacity, available resources (staff and otherwise), and willingness to share results publicly.

If you have questions about the application or the opportunity, please visit [xcelenergy.com/PartnersInEnergy](https://xcelenergy.com/PartnersInEnergy), email us at [PartnersInEnergy@xcelenergy.com](mailto:PartnersInEnergy@xcelenergy.com) or call **800-369-4362**.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and will be reviewed quarterly on January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15. We will confirm acceptance into the program or ask for more details within the month following the respective deadline. We reserve the right to pause or discontinue any or all application cycles at the sole discretion of Xcel Energy.

### Qualifying customers

Communities in Colorado and Minnesota with retail energy services from Xcel Energy qualify to participate in Partners in Energy.

### Community customer information

Company name \_\_\_\_\_

Community jurisdiction (e.g., city, association, partnerships, county): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Community profile

Approximate business count \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate household count \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate population \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate area in square miles \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be able to provide a GIS a shapefile of your community that would define the geographic boundaries of the area?

Yes  No

Current community energy-related utility providers (e.g. gas service providers)

1) Name of company \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel type \_\_\_\_\_ Area served \_\_\_\_\_

2) Name of company \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel type \_\_\_\_\_ Area served \_\_\_\_\_

3) Name of company \_\_\_\_\_

Fuel type \_\_\_\_\_ Area served \_\_\_\_\_



**Interest in Partners in Energy**

Describe your interest in Partners in Energy and how you think Partners in Energy could provide value.

What is/are the most pressing energy-related issue(s) facing your community today?

If you're accepted as a participant in Partners in Energy, what additional approvals within your community would you need to obtain prior to starting?  
(examples: City Council, City Manager, Sustainability Commission, etc.)

**Planning and energy management experience**

Does your community currently have any sustainability or energy plans, policies, codes, regulations or initiatives? If yes, please identify them and indicate the date(s) they were last revised. (Describe your interest in Partners in Energy and how you think Partners in Energy could provide value.)

Describe any energy programs or energy management activities your community has participated in over the past two years. Please include goals/targets and results if applicable. This can include initiatives to track energy use in any part of your community (e.g., public buildings), a neighborhood energy challenge, etc. If you have participated in Partners in Energy before, what strategies would you like to pursue with additional support from Partners in Energy, and why? Additionally, please explain if your community is already engaged with Xcel Energy in other ways.

**Community resources and commitment**

Please indicate who in your community would be the point person (or people) to manage your Partners in Energy participation and describe his/her/their applicable experience and background relative to planning, energy and /or sustainability. Describe his/her/their availability to support this initiative through both strategy development and implementation (include multiple people as applicable for each stage). Describe whether they are paid staff or volunteers and the extent to which managing and/or implementing energy or sustainability initiatives is a component of their job duties.

While Partners in Energy is offered to communities at no cost, communities are responsible for expenses associated with implementation. Does your community have staff, volunteer, budget or other funding resources to implement the energy initiatives that will be identified in the Partners in Energy process?

Yes  No If yes, please describe.

### Community involvement

One of the keys of Partners in Energy is engaging representatives from your community to participate in developing and implementing strategies to meet your community goals. These representatives should be varied and willing to commit their time to the process. They may include city or town staff members, business association representatives, large local business representatives, local nonprofit staff members, school district staff members, county government officials, etc. Please describe who from the community you would anticipate engaging in developing your energy strategies. (Please list six to eight possible representatives.)

Partners in Energy is designed to promote communities learning from each other and sharing best practices. Are you willing to share your community work through Partners in Energy with community members and other participating communities? Will you allow your final work products to be shared publicly?

Yes  No If no, please explain.

Is there anything else you would like us to consider when evaluating your application?

### Customer declaration

I certify that the information in this application is accurate and complete and I am authorized to make this application on behalf of my community. Your signature confirms your community is interested in participating in Partners in Energy and is willing to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Xcel Energy that will define responsibilities and expectations of both parties.

Community name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

By checking the box and indicating my name below, I am signing this application in declaration of its accuracy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_