

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2010 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 059-B2

Project Title:

Colleges Partner with Cities to Cut Greenhouse Emissions

LCCMR 2010 Funding Priority:

B. Renewable Energy Related to Climate Change

Total Project Budget: \$ \$350,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 2 years, 2010 - 2012

Other Non-State Funds: \$ \$0

Summary:

Higher education institutions statewide will assist 40 cities to implement multiple best practices to cut carbon emissions, achieve sustainability outcomes and to provide evaluation of GreenStep Cities projects.

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Location:

Region: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

_____ Knowledge Base	_____ Broad App.	_____ Innovation
_____ Leverage	_____ Outcomes	
_____ Partnerships	_____ Urgency	_____ TOTAL

MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: Colleges Partner with Cities to Cut Greenhouse Emissions

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

In 2007, the State established statewide goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors. The Legislature also directed state agencies to report on expanding Green Star award eligibility to include cities that take action to help meet the state's goals. The resulting GreenStep Cities program (GreenStep) will have at least 40 cities beginning work on identified best practices such as: energy audits, retrofits, energy efficiency protocols, purchasing policies, etc., by July 1, 2010.

These cities will require a wide variety of additional human, material, and intellectual assets in order to meet their goals. Higher education institutions are ready and eager to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to help “green” Minnesota’s cities. In a statewide effort to support communities in reaching their GreenStep goals, Minnesota Campus Compact (the Compact) will partner with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to create 40 reciprocal, sustained, campus-community partnerships between GreenStep Cities and Minnesota’s 2- and 4-year, public and private, colleges and universities.

Campuses are early adopters of “green economy” technologies. Faculty, staff and students throughout the state are currently implementing many green policies and practices on their own campuses. Sustainable cities are important to higher education, because campuses are responsible for educating the next generation of leaders and for training the emerging “green economy” workforce. As the premier organization connecting campuses and communities over the last 15 years, the Compact sees a tremendous opportunity to deepen its work of strengthening civic engagement across Minnesota by assisting the GreenStep program.

Goals

Partnerships and Accountability - The Compact will work with MPCA to: a) match city and campus partners and b) provide training and technical assistance to partnerships and c) execute contracts between principal campus project leaders and cities. The Compact will partner with the Minnesota Evaluation Association (MNEA) to measure the impact of all partnerships.

Implementation and Evaluation - Best practice projects focus on actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet the state’s aggressive goals. These practices include measurable sustainable development actions in the areas of buildings, land use, transportation, water and solid waste, and economic and community development, and thus result in other environmental results such as cleaner water and improved groundwater recharge. LCCMR funding will result in (1) 120 implemented best practices, (2) carbon reduction and other environmental outcomes, (3) templates for campuses to work with cities to accelerate accomplishment of GreenStep goals and (4) quantifiable evidence of project impact on broader state goals. GreenStep Cities will recognize local governments for their accomplishments, promote innovation and inspire and assist residents, businesses, and community institutions to take action.

LCCMR funding will allow the Compact to identify and train lead faculty or staff members who will coordinate assistance to 40 GreenStep cities. Campuses will receive \$7,500 per city partnership for project expenses related to implementing three [3] best practices per city. These expenses may include transportation, direct research costs, reports and other project deliverables required by cities. Campus assistance may come in the form of 1) expert faculty consultation, 2) course-based service-learning that incorporates projects into experiential learning opportunities or 3) staff supervised co-curricular student activities. All projects will incorporate participant facilitated evaluation developed through a partnership with the MNEA.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1: Recruitment, Pairing and Training of Campus-City Partnerships Budget: \$30,000

The Compact will 1) promote this opportunity broadly throughout all higher education institutions; 2) work with MPCA to connect interested city partners; 3) conduct at least six training workshops across the state outlining participation in these partnerships. Only attendees of these trainings will be eligible to receive project implementation funds; 4) pair GreenStep cities with campuses in close geographic proximity, followed by matching expertise and project criteria; 5) fill any gaps by working with University of Minnesota Extension.

Deliverable Completion Date: February 2011

Deliverable #1: 40 partnerships prepared to work together to implement specific GreenStep practices.

Result 2: Best Practice Implementation Budget: \$300,000

Each campus partnering with one of 40 GreenStep cities to implement three best practices will receive \$7,500 to cover direct project expenses. Faculty will consult individually, incorporate research or tasks into courses, or otherwise leverage campus resources in support of project outcomes. Projects may also be supported by AmeriCorps members through MPCA. A total of at least 120 MPCA-identified best practices will be implemented. Strategies and information will be disseminated broadly and leveraged to achieve additional community-based GreenStep outcomes.

Deliverable Completion Date: end of grant: June 30, 2012

Deliverable #2: Implementation of 120 or more best practices that cut carbon emissions and result in other environmental improvements.

Result 3: Coordinate Efforts, Measure Outcomes and Prepare Lessons Learned Budget: \$20,000

The Compact will 1) monitor the progress of individual projects; and working with the Minnesota Evaluation Association will 2) produce a participant evaluation system measuring process and outcomes. The Compact and MNEA will aggregate results and 3) prepare a report that includes lessons learned and templates for future GreenStep Cities/Campus partnerships.

Deliverable Completion Date: June 30, 2012

Deliverable #3: Capacity of campuses to assist cities measurably improved, quantitative documentation of sustainable development benefits accruing from implementation of 120 or more best practices.

III Project Strategy

- A. Project Team/Partners: **1)Minnesota Campus Compact** – a) train college faculty and staff to assist GreenStep cities in achieving their goals; b) facilitate individual campus-community partnerships; c) monitor progress, share information and provide technical assistance to all projects; d) capture successful implementation strategies and disseminate to campuses statewide; e) evaluate projects– create a rubric common to individual partnerships, a sustainable evaluation system in conjunction with the **Minnesota Evaluation Association**. **2)Minnesota Pollution Control Agency** – a) identify GreenStep cities; b) participate in faculty training; c) manage disbursement of project funds to campuses; d) coordinate AmeriCorps environmental corps support for local projects; e)add to best practices collection and disseminate to new GreenStep participant cities.
- B. Timeline Requirements: Partnership matching and training, July 1, 2010 – Feb. 2011; Project implementation and evaluation Feb. 2011 - June 30, 2012
- C. Long-Term Strategy: The Compact will document and disseminate successful partnership practices and tools. MPCA will document and disseminate GreenStep outcomes and strategies employed to achieve them. Future GreenStep cities will benefit from this programs research and practices. City success will act as a model for future GreenStep focus in other public and private and nonprofit community sectors.

Project Budget

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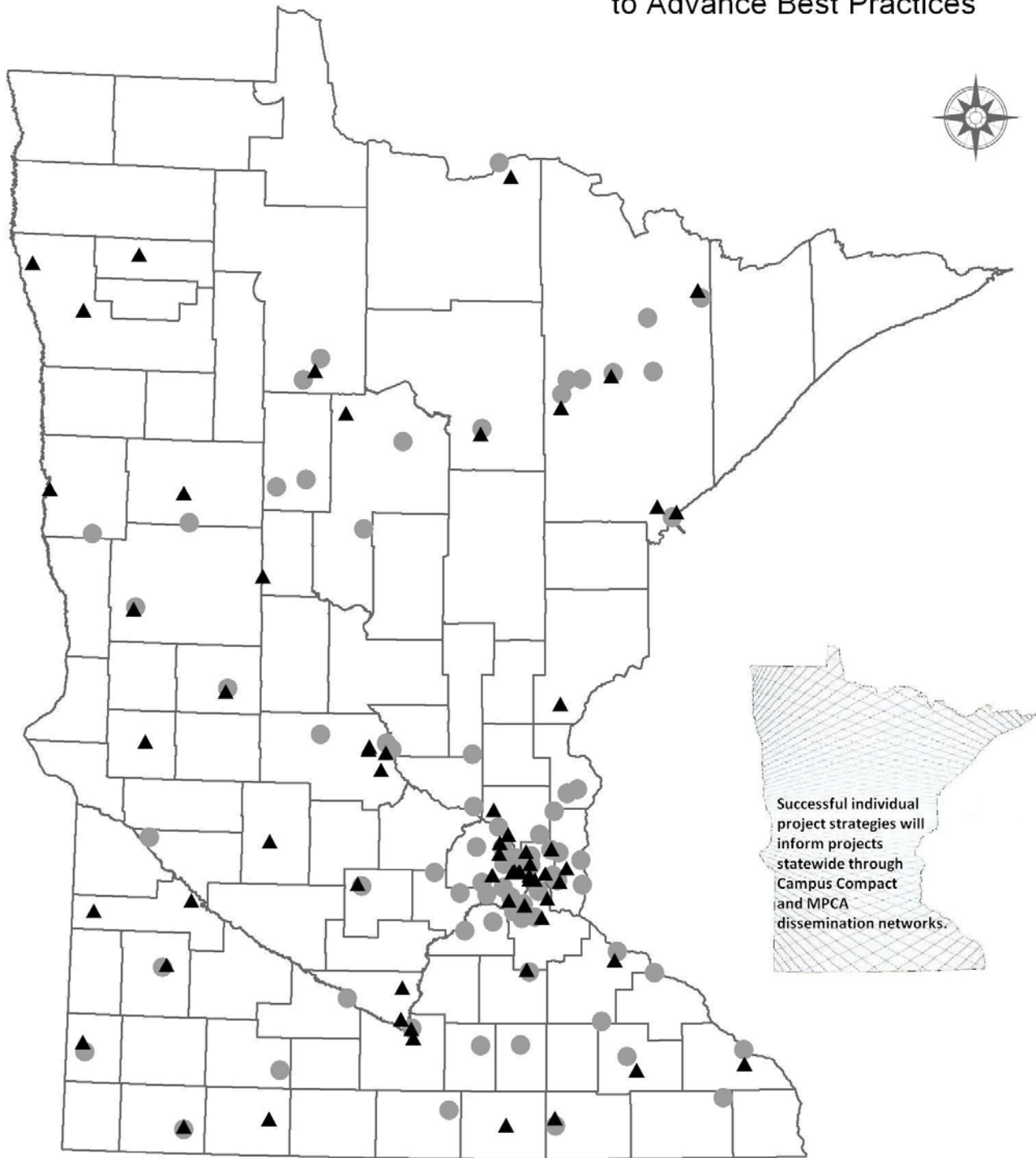
IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET: 2 years

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Personnel: MCC Senior Program Director 19% FTE salary 10,640 + benefits (33% salary) 3,511 X 2 yrs.	\$ 28,302
	\$ -
Contracts: MN Evaluation Association for creating a participant evaluation system measuring process and outcomes 230 hours X \$70	\$ 16,100
Campus project expenses - transportation, research expenses, printed and/or digital reports and specific other deliverables for three projects per city, \$7,500 X 40 cities	\$ 300,000
	\$ -
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Partnership Toolkit folders for trainings, 350 X 1.89	\$ 661
Printing for tool kits 3,500, 2-sided some non-standard sizes X .15	\$ 525
Travel: six trainings (Duluth, Bemidji, St. Cloud, Rochester, Mankato, Metro) 1,314 miles X .55 (2009 IRS rate) 5 meals X \$10, 2 nights lodging X \$100	\$ 973
Statewide technical assistance site visits 4,980 miles X .55 per mile, 20 meals X \$10, 5 nights lodging X 100	3,439
Additional Budget Items:	\$ -
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR	\$ 350,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: MCC staff (0.xx FTE)		
PCA AmeriCorps environmental corps - 20 cities times 2 years x11,400 (10-month stipend per worker)	\$456,000	Pending 6/4/2009 decision
In-kind Services During Project Period: MPCA GreenStep Coordinator (16 hrs/.mo.) times \$35/hr. total times 24 months	\$13,440	Secured
More in-kind: Student and faculty volunteer time conservatively estimated at 50 hours per project (X3) per partnership (X40) X \$20.25 Independent Sector's estimated dollar value of volunteer time for 2008	\$121,500	Pending

Networking Campuses and Cities to Advance Best Practices



- Cities Expressing Interest in GreenStep Cities
- ▲ 2- and 4-year Public and Private Campuses



Project Manager Qualifications

John Hamerlinck joined Minnesota Campus Compact in 2004 as a Senior Program Director. His work at the Compact includes management of the Community Service-Learning & Campus-Community Collaboration grant program. The purpose of the program is to increase the quality, impact and sustainability of community service-learning efforts and campus-community collaboration initiatives. Since its inception, the program has leveraged over \$4 million in investment by campus, community and philanthropic partners to match over \$2 million in State support. This program, the first of its kind in the nation, has been funded by the State of Minnesota and coordinated by Minnesota Campus Compact since 1994, in partnership with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

In addition to this program, Hamerlinck also provides strategic planning and program design, professional development training and other technical assistance to the Compact's 50+ member campuses, in the field of civic engagement and campus-community partnerships.

Hamerlinck has experience in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. Prior to joining the Compact, John was a Program Officer with Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, where he was instrumental in designing the Foundation's asset-based Community Success Program. As a Senior Planner for the Minnesota Office of Technology, John directed the Minnesota Internet Center, a project that assisted communities in leveraging information technology resources to advance community development goals.

His broad experience in the community development field includes community organizing, planning and facilitation in the areas of technology, facilities development and fundraising. John has been an adjunct faculty at St. Cloud State University since 1997 teaching courses in both American Studies and Community Development. John has a B.A. in American Studies and an M.S. in Social Responsibility from St. Cloud State University.

Organization Description

Minnesota Campus Compact leverages the collective assets of our higher education institutions in partnerships with our communities to expand civic engagement across Minnesota. More than 50 member college and university campuses are committed to promoting and supporting community service, civic engagement, and service-learning in higher education, in order to educate college students to become active citizens who are well-equipped to develop creative solutions to society's most pressing issues.

Minnesota Campus Compact is affiliated with Campus Compact, a national network of more than 1,100 campuses, 35 state Compacts, and a national office. Minnesota Campus Compact is the only higher education coalition in Minnesota that includes a critical mass of public and private; two-year and four-year; urban, suburban, and rural campuses dedicated to the civic purposes of higher education. For more information please visit www.mncampuscompact.org.