Madison Sustainability Committee - La Follette School of Public Affairs Capstone Project

## **Project Description**

The City of Madison is a member of ICELI-USA – through this organization the city conducts pollution and carbon emission inventories for both city operations and the community has as whole. Through ICELI-USA there is a pollution inventory protocol that is followed. For this project, students would be conducting a pollution and carbon inventory. (For your information – Capstone Students have also created inventories for the city for 2007, 2010 and 2012 for city operations AND for 2010 and 2012 for community wide inventories. Not only can the students create the inventories but through that work and reviewing the sustainability plan with our goals for pollution and carbon reductions, students can also help the city priorities on activities that have the best possible outcomes.

The City of Madison Sustainability Plan currently identifies 55 goals in 10 categories. In 2015, the Committee has identified 4 categories that it intends to focus time, attention, and efforts on, listed below. This focus cuts the number of goals to be focused on to a manageable 23 from 55 and to 272 specific actions from 415.

Category	# of "Goals"	Specific Goals	Actions
Natural Systems	7	37	79
Planning and Design	4	13	56
Transportation	6	11	59
Carbon & Energy	6	8	78
Economic Development	7	7	25
Employment & Workforce	5	5	23
Education	5	3	26
Affordable Housing	6	5	30
Health	7	7	33
Arts & Design	2	2	6
Total	55	98	415

Once the current status has been identified of the carbon inventory with the four categories specifically in mind, the committee would like to focus on recommendations for a single category.

- I. Conduct pollution and carbon inventory, electing to execute either:
  - a. City Operations Inventory
  - b. Community Wide Inventory
- II. Once carbon inventory update has been executed, selection of single category for in depth evaluation.
  - a. Do an in depth analysis of any one of the four categories:
    - i. Identify and create metrics where applicable
    - ii. Identify best practices from leading cities and sustainability resources
    - iii. Provide recommendations for prioritizing activities
    - iv. Provide recommendations for accomplishing prioritized activities

Selection of single focus category will be at the discretion of La Follette group with guidance from committee members, based on category with greatest need, most readily available data for metrics creation, greatest carbon output or other reasons. Recommendations will be based on best practices from sustainability organizations and cities around the world, which will require guided research from

committee members as well as representatives of relevant city agencies including: Engineering, Transportation, Parks and others. The La Follette group will not be acting 'in vacuu', but will be working with committee members to help guide work, provide feedback, and input.

## Data:

Data available starts with the City of Madison sustainability plan:

• http://www.cityofmadison.com/sustainability/sustainPlan.cfm

Additional data available: Any public data available from the City of Madison. This will include energy use data, demographics, transportation data, water use, and other data sources.

Best practices: Best practices information is available through several organizations. This will depend on the identified opportunities. Examples include:

- C40.org
- ACEEE
- ICLIE
- Sustainability plans and status reports on identified sustainable leading cities such as:
  - Copenhagen
  - Helsinki
  - o Fort Collins, CO
  - San Francisco
- Others, TBD

## **Contacts:**

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