

Staff Responses to Council Questions
September 23, 2019

3. Manager's Report, A. INF 2019-8271: 2019-2021 Long Range Plan: Priority Action Items and Strategic Goals

What do we do currently for environmental sustainability? What steps are we already taking to reduce climate change impacts and increase efficiency while restoring natural systems?

As a long standing Steward of Environmental Sustainability, the Village has instituted a variety of organizational practices and public projects to promote and improve environmental sustainability.

Click the links below for more information on any specific project or initiative:

- [Prentiss Creek hybrid streetlights](#)
- [Installation of energy efficient lighting in Village facilities](#)
- [Modernized Zoning Ordinance to address green practices](#)
- [Holiday Light Recycling program](#)
- [Solar panels at Public Works and Fleet Garage](#)
- [Beet juice based street pre treatment](#)
- [Green business program](#)
- [Alternative fuel vehicles](#)
- [NPDES enforcement and compliance](#)
- Storm water basins - naturalized
 - [2nd and Cumnor Stormwater Improvements](#)
 - [Valley View Pond Improvements](#)
- [Annual Rain Barrel Sale](#)
- [Annual Native Plant Sale](#)
- [Belmont Pollinator Garden](#)
- [100% Village Funding of Replacement and New Parkway Trees](#)
- [Grove Street reconstruction](#)
- [Electrical Aggregation](#)
- [Streambank stabilization projects](#)
- [Composting program](#)
- [New residential stormwater regulations](#)
- [Full Depth Street Reclamation](#)

What awards or recognition have we received for what we currently do?

- [2019 Top 50 Greenest Fleet Award - 7th straight year](#)
- [2019 IAFSM Excellence in Stormwater Management](#)
- [2017 National Savvy Award for Stormwater YOUtility](#)
- [2016 Sustainability Practices Award](#)

- [2013 Governor's Sustainability Award](#)
- [2012 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award - 2nd and Cumnor](#)
- [2010 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award - Washington Park](#)

Does the village not have baseline data for operations such as energy, water consumption, etc already?

The Village receives monthly reports related to consumption from the utility companies who provide services to the Village. Page 7-33 of the FY18 Budget displays the performance measures used by the Public Works Department for tracking all operations including stormwater, water, forestry, streets and snow removal. Here is the [FY18 Budget Performance Measures by Department](#).

Attachments

rEmarks



rRemarks Data for September 23, 2019 Village Council Meeting

Agenda Section	Agenda Item	Comment	Commenter
3. Manager Report	A. INF 2019-8271 Information: 2019-2021 Long Range Plan	<p>Hello all,</p> <p>My family and I want to urge you to ban marijuana sales in Downers Grove. Marijuana is still a class 1 drug on the Federal level. On 8/29/19, the U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory on marijuana saying its use could have “catastrophic consequences” among youth under 25 and pregnant women. He said that most people are unaware of the drug’s potency, citing that TCH levels have increased threefold from 1995 to 2014.</p> <p>In Colorado, nearly 70% of municipalities have banned recreational sales because they see the damage caused to individuals and society by allowing it. We should ask ourselves: what good do we see coming out of doping our populace? Here is the link to the Colorado study on its effects there: http://www.ccu.edu/centennial/policy-briefs/marijuana-costs/</p> <p>Studies also show that as the drug is legalized for those over 21, usage rates go up for all age groups, but especially noteworthy is that usage goes up for those in the age group from 12-20. https://learnaboutsam.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Dec-2018-Youth-One-Page.pdf</p> <p>Recent claims by the industry that legalizing recreational marijuana will reduce the number and severity of opioid users are now also being debunked by new data and analyses. https://www.addictionpro.com/article/sam-leader-highlights-flaws-studies-marijuana-access-and-opioid-deaths</p> <p>Finally here is this: https://www.rand.org/news/press/2019/06/17.html interesting data about dispensary signage linked to increased usage among youth.</p> <p>Due to federal banking laws and the fact that marijuana is not legal at the federal level, these are all-cash businesses (\$\$\$), and are subject to armed robberies as well.</p> <p>Lastly, think about how you would feel if your child or grandchild was one of those persons killed by a driver high on marijuana and you had voted for it! Will you be partly responsible for the deaths of those we know will be killed by those drivers who will drive high?</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>	Michelle Rebello 5996 Leonaard Ave Downers Grove, IL
3. Manager Report	A. INF 2019-8271 Information: 2019-2021 Long Range Plan	<p>On recreational Marijuana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am a resident of DG for more than 30+ years • my father who was a heavy smoker passed away due to leukemia. • Smoking is bad for health, vaping has caused 10 deaths recently. Smoking is bad, marijuana is a lot worse! • Driving under influence DUI is bad, driving under marijuana is worse. According to the Impact in Colorado, marijuana related traffic death increased 151% in 2017. 	Hsien-Hau Wang 1170 Crystal Avenue Downers Grove, IL