



Office of Sustainability and Public Health

CY 2019 Office Overview and Work Plan

Unit Overview

The MnDOT Office of Sustainability and Public Health (OSPH) provides strategic direction for sustainability at MnDOT and co-leads sustainable transportation efforts for the state. Sustainability at MnDOT includes diverse efforts that focus on maximizing the health of people, the economy, and the environment. More specifically, OSPH has focused on three primary areas:

1. Make agency operations more sustainable: includes reducing fuel and energy use, promoting renewable energy, reducing chloride pollution, and increasing pollinator habitat.
2. Reduce carbon pollution from the transportation sector: includes leading coordination with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to reduce tailpipe emissions, promote electric vehicles, support increased investment in transit, and identify policy options to support sustainable transportation.
3. Improve transportation system resilience: includes planning, designing, constructing, and maintaining facilities to be more resilient to climate change and other human and natural shocks and stresses.

We will be making renewed efforts around public health at MnDOT in the future and will be determining the specifics of that effort in 2019.

OSPH Team

- Tim Sexton – Chief Sustainability Officer

Provides executive leadership for sustainability programs to support the sustainability of agency operations, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and improve resilience of the transportation system.

- Siri Simons – Sustainability Coordinator

Leads coordination of internal sustainability planning and implementation to meet fleet fuel use, energy, water, waste, and other sustainability targets.

- Jeff Meek – Sustainability Coordinator

Leads agency internal climate resilience and adaptation efforts, including coordination with internal and external technical experts. Supports team on activities to reduce carbon emissions for the sector.

Guiding Regulation

- *Next Generation Energy Act*
- Executive Order 18-01: *Amending Executive Order 17-12: Directing State Agencies to Conserve Energy and Water, and Reduce Waste to Save Money*

MnDOT Deliverables

- MnDOT Sustainability Report – annual: spring
- MnDOT Construction Emissions Inventory – annual: fall
- Action Plans (fleet, facilities, operations, other) – annual, throughout the year

Emerging or Continuing Issues of Concern

- Transportation is the #1 source of GHG emissions in Minnesota. There may be new initiatives, policy, and/or legislation proposed by the advocacy community, Governor’s Office, and/or legislation.
- MnDOT needs to decrease carbon emissions from our operations, but there are challenges to former programs that supported solar energy in the past. For example, community solar garden subscriptions may be less cost effective in 2019 and Peak Controlled Demand program structure disincentives MnDOT buildings from implementing solar power purchase agreements.
- Explore opportunities to expand and grow public health as a sustainability focus.
- Collaborate with partners to explore opportunities for new partnerships around climate resilience and the clean energy economy with DBE contractors, tribal governments, and others.
- Strengthen connections to CAV and new mobility-as-a-service offerings.

Recurring Tasks

- Coordinate and facilitate bi-monthly Sustainable Transportation Steering Committee meetings
- Report fuel, energy, water, waste and recycling, procurement, and GHG data to the Department of Administration Office of Enterprise Sustainability.

Sustainability Implementation Activities

What is the planned action?	Who is the lead?	When is expected completion or milestones?	What resources are needed?	Partners
Develop Fleet Action Plan: reduce fuel use 50% from 2005 levels by 2025	Siri	March 2019		Fleet Management Group

What is the planned action?	Who is the lead?	When is expected completion or milestones?	What resources are needed?	Partners
Develop Energy Action Plan: 25% renewable energy by 2025	Siri	July 2019		
Create 2019 MnDOT Resilience Report: includes gap analysis with past efforts and future needs	Jeff	July 2019		MnDOT technical leads, ICAT, STSC
Construction Emissions Inventory	Siri/Jeff	September 2019		OCIC, Materials
Consultant oversight for Extreme Flood Vulnerability Analysis	Siri/Jeff	Ongoing		WSP, TAP
Pathways for Decarbonizing Transportation	Tim	June 30, 2019		EQB, MPCA, Commerce, McKnight Foundation
Create AASHTO Sustainability Working Group	Tim, Jeff			AASHTO, other state DOTs
Organize 2020 TRB Conference on Emerging Technology and Sustainability	Tim, Siri	May 2020		TRB, Conference Planning Committee from around US/world
DBE/Tribal Coordination Event/Outreach on Clean Energy Economy	Tim, Siri	TBD	TBD	OCR
EV Package	Tim	June 30, 2019		DEs and Facility Mgrs.