



# 2020 GTLC Annual Report

for Appleton's participation in the Sustainability Component of the Green Tier Legacy Communities Charter

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

*The City of Appleton is dedicated to meeting the needs of our community and enhancing the quality of life.*

## **TRANSPORTATION**

- Implemented seventh year of City's new Sidewalk Poetry Program.
- Implemented tenth year of adopted City-Wide Bike Lane Plan.
- Updated City of Appleton Trail Master Plan with addendum for additional development on the northside of Appleton.
- Completed the trestle conversion connection between North Island Trail and the Eagle Point Development.



Lawe Street Trestle Conversion - 2020

- Installed Opechee Street trail connecting Pacific Street to Leminwah Street.
- Completed trail connection from Appleton Memorial Park to McDonald Street.
- Added 1.01 miles of new bike lanes (Prospect Avenue) as part of the City's On-Street Bike Lane Plan.
- Total of 151 CEA vehicles equipped with GPS units. Original goal was 100.
- Maintained designation of Silver Level for Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists.
- Implemented Wayfinding Signage on the Lawe Street Trail and Bridge project.
- Partnered with Outagamie and Calumet Counties on a signal optimization project for the Calumet Street corridor.
- Total of 3.0 miles of sidewalk was added along various locations, for a total of 455 miles of sidewalk.
- Implemented 3<sup>rd</sup> year of new Crosswalk Marking/Enhancement Policy for Uncontrolled Intersection Crossings.
- Replaced nine busses in 2020 with plans to replace nine more in 2021. In total twenty-three City busses with a new clean diesel model expected to be 90% cleaner regarding emissions have been replaced.
- Obtained lease with WE Energies to develop Ellen Kort Peace Park and Trail
- Promoted our new secure bicycle & motorcycle parking area in the Green Ramp
- Continued use of bike racks on City busses. Promotes multi-modal transportation.
- Created an improved pedestrian connection between Rocky Bleier Run and Appleton Street (Riverfront and Downtown)
- Purchased a new fire truck with the newest emissions requirements for low-sulfur.

## **LAND USE**

- Utilized mulch from damaged trees. Have used on playgrounds and various landscaping.
- Recognized by WDNR with a biosolids composting permit at the Wastewater Plant. This is the only facility in the state that operates a biosolids composting facility.
- Incorporated horticultural vinegar for weed control in park playgrounds.
- Utilize biosolids-compost to top-dress athletic fields reducing needs for fertilizers.
- Planted a reforestation area as part of the Leona Pond Project.
- Renovated the riverfront in Telulah Park. Improved the shoreline and installed a kayak launch and fishing pier. Required significant environmental clean-up. Total project cost of \$765,000.
- Implemented seventh year of our Urban In-fill Tree Planting Program.
- Received Tree City USA Award for 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Remediated invasive plants in various locations. Invested \$4,000 to hire Applied Ecological Services to cut and treat buckthorn. Also, in-house staff led an effort to eliminate buckthorn.

## **ENERGY**

- A third biogas boiler was installed at the Appleton Wastewater Treatment Plant which uses methane gas production from the anaerobic digestion process. The new boiler is a 5.5 million btu methane boiler which will eliminate the need for the Wastewater Plant to use utility gas for

most of the time. Savings of are anticipated to reach \$400,000+ with the addition of the new boiler.



- The Appleton Water Treatment Facility has now completed four full years of ultraviolet light disinfection. This process, in part, replaced the City ultrafiltration process. In doing so, the City has reduced chemicals, membrane associated materials or consumables, and 1,300,000 kWh of energy each year that in total equates to an annual savings of nearly \$1M.
- The Appleton Wastewater Treatment Plant has installed a high efficiency turbine that will ensure a reduction of 180 kW at the facility. This installation is now the second-high efficiency turbine installation.
- Completed City-owned streetlight LED conversation project. All 1,290 city-owned lights are now LED.
- Worked with WE Energies to convert 25% leased lights to LED.
- Monthly energy data monitoring to analyze energy use enables timely adjustments and or deploy energy efficiency upgrades.
- Installed insulated doors on Bay 9 and 10 for the heated bay on the MSB detached garage.
- Performed a solar analysis for our Municipal Services Garage and obtained budget to install in 2021.
- 267 LED fixtures replaced existing fluorescent fixtures throughout City facilities (see table below for details).

- 54 LED fixtures installed throughout Parks and Trails. (see table below for details)

<b>2020 City of Appleton Facility, Parks, and Trails - LED Fixture Installations</b>	
<b>Facility LED fixtures installed</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Water Treatment Plant lobby	15
Facilities & Grounds Operations Center vehicle storage garage	32
Facilities & Grounds Operations Center mechanic shop	9
Reid Golf Course Maintenance Building vehicle garage	10
Fire Station #6 exterior building lighting	2
Fire Station #1 including exterior sign	40
City Hall interior lighting (DPW: 155, HR: 4)	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>231</b>
<b>Park &amp; Trail LED fixtures installed</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Lawe Street Trestle Trail	15
Scheig Center parking lot and driveway	9
Appleton Memorial Park pathway to pavilion	10
Pierce Park site lighting (phase I)	11
Telulah Park large pavilion	6
Vulcan Heritage Hyrdo Electric Replica Building site lighting	2
Veterans Park site lighting	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

## **WATER**

- Continued to maintain City's 45 wet ponds and 12 dry ponds to provide water quality and quantity benefits to the community.
- City mowers continue to be equipped with mulching decks. In addition, leaves are mulched in place on City properties.
- Scheig Center Gardens irrigation is all drip to conserve water.
- The Appleton Wastewater Treatment Plant removed approximately 150,000 pounds of phosphorus and reduced phosphorus discharges to the Fox River by nearly 50% from that in 2018.
- Replaced 6 lead services.
- Relayed 3.8 miles of old leaking, undersized watermain.
- Promoted our new Aquahawk Program for customers to track their own water usage.
- Purchased a water correlator to proactive locate leaks to reduce overall water loss and damage to infrastructure.
- Continued our new private sanitary laterals replacement program from sewer main to the home on selected streets.
- Installed two bio-filters within the Scheig Center parking lot.
- Annual Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance clean-up was conducted.

## **WASTE**

- The City's wastewater treatment plant operates the only WPDES permitted biosolids composting operation in Wisconsin. Over 90,000 cubic yards of the City's leaves, brush, and digested biosolids from the wastewater plant have been composted and then offered up to residents and projects.
- Utilized chips from street tree removals as playground and landscape mulch.
- Performed recycling in all City parks.
- Implemented fee 1-1-2020 for the 30-gallon refuse carts to help promote recycling and reduce waste to the landfill.

## **HEALTHY COMMUNITY PLANNING**

- Staff from the Department of Public Works participated in Fox River Cleanup Day on 8/22/2020.
- Continued to provide and expand recreational opportunities with a focus on health through the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Staff continued implementation of the recommendations within the City's *Comprehensive Plan 2010-2003*.
- The City of Appleton continued with the internal Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE) team to work on various initiatives
- The Library held a community read featuring Hmong author Kao Kalia Yang and companion programming on Hmong identity.
- The City of Appleton is involved in the "Imagine Fox Cities initiative" with multiple city staff serving on the leadership committee. This is an ongoing regional community visioning project to increase well-being throughout the region. Community Conversations on racial equity were held with the Library serving as facilitators and hosting these discussions held virtually due to the pandemic.



- The Library created resource lists of materials that explore racial equity for all ages.



- The Library received a grant from the American Library Association and Google to create Small Business-Big Impact to build capacity and expand programming to small business and entrepreneurs from low-income and underrepresented groups. Our specific program, Small Business-Big Impact, supports business startup, retention, and expansion efforts for people of color and immigrants.
- The Library offered UndocuAlly Training provided by UW Milwaukee, UW-Milwaukee, Inclusive Excellence Center, DREAMer Taskforce
- The City participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

- Police Department continued to implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CEPTED) and Active Threat Planning to make public spaces crime free.
- Police Department encouraged and/or partnered with others, such as the Chamber of Commerce to advance workplace wellness programs.
- The City of Appleton is an active participant in the Legacy Community Alliance for Health.
- The City of Appleton created a Climate Change Task Force.
- The Fire Department is working to secure funding to dispose of, clean and replace all firefighting foam that contains PFAC.

### **LEGACY COMMUNITIES SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES**

A copy of the Legacy Communities Sustainable Strategy Spreadsheet (aka Appendix 3 of the Legacy Communities Charter) is included as an attachment to this report.