



Sustainable Saint Paul Briefings June 2014

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Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy's visit to Saint Paul



The City of Saint Paul has been a model of collaboration on climate change mitigation and resilience projects. At the end of May, Mayor Chris Coleman joined U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and local climate and energy experts at a roundtable discussion to explore how Saint Paul has accelerated climate action through collaboration. The private and public sectors, working with citizens, businesses and nongovernmental organizations, have been leaders on numerous successful

innovations that can be adapted and scaled up nationwide to responsibly address climate change.

During her visit, EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and Mayor Chris Coleman also toured a groundbreaking new energy efficiency system at the Science Museum of Minnesota in Saint Paul that will reduce the Science Museum's demand for heat energy by more than 80 percent and overall energy consumption by 40 percent- a major decrease, considering the museum's stringent climate control requirements.

Be "All In"

Changes in Saint Paul's residential recycling program this year make it easier for community members to be "All In". Residents no longer need to sort recyclable items and more plastics are accepted, such as yogurt and margarine containers and transparent deli and "to go" containers. These changes mean you can put #1, #2, #4, #5 and #7 plastic containers all into one bin or collection cart, mixed in with any paper recycling items you may have. See acceptable plastic containers [here](#).

Reduce your trash and recycle more.



Use windows effectively to help keep your home cool in the summer

As hot summer days come around, take advantage of the windows in your home to help keep

cool. If you're not home during the day, consider closing your windows and window curtains to keep your house cool. Remember that east-facing windows get sun in the morning, west-facing windows get the sun in the afternoon and evening, and south-facing windows get a lot of sun. If the air cools down enough in the evenings, open windows to promote cool air circulation. Keeping these factoids in mind as well as making minor changes to how you use your windows may reduce the amount of energy needed to cool your home.

The Doable City Forum



On June 16-18, eight City of Saint Paul staff and seven community leaders from Saint Paul joined community leaders and civic innovators from across America for three days of hands-on learning designed to give leaders knowledge and skills to initiate and implement doable solutions to help cities thrive. The learning sessions included topics on walkability, bikeability and mobility, enhancements of parks and public spaces; creating happy, healthy cities for all and more. The forum was organized by [8-80 Cities](#) with generous funding from the [Knight Foundation](#).

Visit the Sustainable Saint Paul [website](#) for more updates. Questions? Email [Pa Vang](#) or call 651-266-8533.