

Saint Paul receives \$50,000 grant to train developers on sustainable and energy efficient development

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Grant will give workers around the state skills in "green" development

Recently, the Saint Paul City Council approved a resolution accepting a \$50,000 Green Training Grant awarded by the Minnesota State Energy Sector Partnership. The City of Saint Paul, in partnership with the University of Minnesota Center for Sustainable Building Research (CSBR) will use the grant to develop a curriculum and provide training on the Saint Paul Sustainable Building Policy.

The Saint Paul Sustainable Building Policy is the first policy in Minnesota that requires compliance with energy efficiency and sustainable development standards for new municipal buildings and private construction receiving \$200,000 or more in City or Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) funding. The Minnesota State Grant will fund training for developers, architects, contractors, city staff and others in the private and public sectors on how to comply with The Sustainable Building Policy, in addition to providing green development skills in general.

The Saint Paul Sustainable Building Policy was developed with the goal to serve as a model for other local governments in Minnesota and beyond. Following the successful implementation of the training program in Saint Paul, the City and CSBR will offer the training and materials to other municipalities and organizations.

"Saint Paul's Sustainable Building Policy is a national model for green development," said Mayor Chris Coleman. "With this grant from the State of Minnesota, we will take this work to the next level, partnering with the University of Minnesota to train a new generation of sustainable developers."

Councilmember Russ Stark said, "I'm thrilled that the City of Saint Paul and its talented staff will be leading the way in green development by training industry leaders. The State of Minnesota couldn't have chosen a more qualified, committed group of people to spearhead this effort."

City of Saint Paul Planning and Economic Development Director Cecile Bedor agreed, "This grant and the resulting curriculum and training, are the missing pieces to making this policy an effective and manageable tool to green up development in Saint Paul and surrounding region."