

Instructions: Read the complete *Request for Proposal (RFP)* and other associated documents before submitting this application.

Check the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) EA Grant Program webpage at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/aboutmpca/environmental-assistance-grants> for the most recent updates on questions and answers to this solicitation.

Applications are due no later than 2:00 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Submit application (as Microsoft Word and Excel documents) to: grants-loans.pca@state.mn.us with the subject line, EA application.

1. Applicant information

Applicant: City of Northfield

Address: 801 Washington St.

City: Northfield State: MN Zip code: 55057

Mailing address (if different): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Project contact: Jae Morrison Title: Streets & Parks Supervisor

Email: jae.morrison@ci.northfield.mn.us Applicant's website: www.ci.northfield.mn.us

Phone: 507-645-3032 Fax: _____ MN House District: 20B

Grant requested: \$ 45,500 + Matching funds value/of In-kind: \$ 87,596 = Total project cost: \$ 133,096

	Yes	No
1. Is applicant the sole source of matching funds for this project?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If no , is supporting documentation of secured matching funds attached?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is applicant governed by a Board?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes , does this submittal include necessary board resolution(s)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has applicant ever received MPCA EA grant funding before?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Is applicant in compliance with Minnesota's tax and environmental regulatory requirements?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If no, explain:		

Project title: Growing Resilience: Enhancing Northfield's Tree Canopy

Brief project description (250 words):

The City of Northfield is applying for funding with the goal to build our community's resilience around climate change to address the issues of heat, cold, air quality and flooding. We propose to do this by enhancing our tree canopy.

Currently Northfield's tree canopy program is reactive rather than proactive. We have not been able to maintain and replant trees to the level we would like. In November 2019, the City adopted a Climate Action Plan that includes strategies for both mitigation, adaptation and resiliency including trees. The City has hired a Program Coordinator to help with management of the Climate Action Plan. We are also looking at expanding our staff capacity with an Arborist/Horticulturalist in our Streets & Parks Department to have more time to spend on trees and vegetative management. Community interest has grown with regard to what the public can do as volunteers. We are actively pursuing creation of a "tree fund" to which residents and businesses could make donations with funds used to improve our tree canopy. Given this growing momentum and commitment to addressing climate mitigation and adaptation, the time is right for Northfield to take more proactive action around trees.

Tasks include:

- 1) Staff and community partners will develop tree planting and maintenance plan.

- 2) Begin to implement this plan by planting more trees and enhancing maintenance.
- 3) Provide public education on tree planting and maintenance.
- 4) Solicit contributions to tree fund to help support future tree planting.

2. Project details (Provide clear and complete responses.)

2a. What is the need/purpose for this project:

The City of Northfield's Climate Action Plan (November 2019) includes a variety of strategies for building the resilience of our natural infrastructure including improvements to our tree canopy. The plan states: "Northfield has a tree canopy coverage of 30.3%, indicating moderately healthy coverage and an opportunity to add more trees." Specific strategies include:

- Update and adopt the Urban Forestry Asset Management Plan
- Increase tree canopy through City-sponsored program to plant trees.
- Prioritize tree replacement and plantings in area of low canopy coverage to reduce the impact of Emerald Ash Borer damage
- Proactively pursue increased canopy coverage to improve long-term resilience

This project will allow the City resources to map out our plan for improving tree canopy and begin to implement those efforts.

In addition to having a work plan that City staff can use regarding trees, we seek to enhance the information we currently provide to residents on tree planting and maintenance. The City is currently working with two classes at St. Olaf College to develop some materials and would continue that effort through this project. A tree-sale is provided each spring for residents through the City. Volunteers help with planting the trees on private property. Through this project we would expand that program.

2b. What assets and resources are available to implement this project, including project readiness:

The adoption of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) by the City establishes a commitment on the part of the City to do what we can, within our capabilities, to carry out the CAP. Climate Action Plan Implementation received funding in the 2020 City Budget and will continue to be a budget category in the future. The Streets & Parks Department will be requesting an increase to staff capacity for a full-time Arborist/Horticulturalist in the 2021 budget. The City has support from the community through faculty and student work at St. Olaf College and Carleton College, the City Environmental Quality Commission has a work group focusing in this area, and the City is working on establishing a "tree fund" to which residents and businesses could make donations with funds used to improve our tree canopy. We are also pursuing opportunities for providing actual carbon offsets for tree planting by exploring working with the nonprofit City Forest Credits. We know that Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an emerging threat that may soon impact our community. As Ash trees are approximately 20% of our tree canopy, there is growing urgency to better manage the remaining trees and make up for the ones lost to EAB. Given this growing momentum, the time is right for Northfield to take more proactive action around trees.

2c. How will progress and success of this project be measured:

Progress and success will be measured by comparing outcomes to our goals.

The first goal is development of a plan for tree canopy enhancement. Development and adoption of the plan will be a measure of success.

Implementation of this plan is a second goal. Funding in City budgets will be one measure.

Staff will track the trees planted each year and add trees planted to GIS inventory. Staff will also commit to doing pruning of trees. This maintenance only takes a short time per tree but will greatly enhance the longevity of the trees and save funds later. Maintenance will also be tracked annually.

Enhancing public education is a third goal. Measures will include:

- Increasing the materials and information provided through the City website, utility bill mailing, Library Link Services newsletter, newspaper articles, radio interviews and social media interactions.

- The numbers of people who are aware of tree planting and maintenance will be tracked through attendance at presentations, website hits, and social media interactions. There will be a special focus in the environmental justice area of concern in the City.
- Part of public education will be working with homeowners and apartment building owners who plant trees from the City tree-sale or at other times regarding watering needs during the first three years. Reminders will be sent to all residents who plant trees to help them with this effort. There will be a special focus in the environmental justice area of concern in the City

Funds available through the tree fund will be tracked by the City Finance Office. Success will be that sufficient funds are contributed each year to cover at least 50% of the tree planting and maintenance needs.

2d. What are the potential barriers or challenges to successful implementation of this project, and how will they be addressed:

Potential barriers to the project are staff capacity and funding. In recent years due to staff constraints and limited budget, the City has been more reactive than proactive with regard to trees. Lack of a clear guidance document and work plan have also been factors.

This grant will provide the resources to help complete the planning that is needed and begin implementation. As part of our Climate Action Plan efforts, the City is in the process of establishing a tree fund to help support future tree planting and maintenance. Residents, businesses, foundations, and the like will be able to make contributions to this fund as an unofficial carbon offset or just because they want to improve the tree canopy. We are also exploring revenue generation through the sale of actual carbon offsets working with City Forest Credits. A budget request is being made for the City's 2021 budget to increase staff capacity by 1 FTE with an Arborist/Horticulturalist position. As the City has adopted our Climate Action Plan, there is support from leadership to implement as much as is within our capacity. Our climate reduction goals for the City include using trees to help sequester carbon and increase resiliency.

2e. How will you share the results of your project:

Results of the project will be shared in the following ways:

- Newspaper articles in the Northfield News (at least 1 per year over the course of the project)
- Information shared on the City website, Link Services newsletter, Facebook and other social media channels, the Northfield Public Broadcasting channel, short video updates on our YouTube Channel, radio interviews on KYMN. We will also request community partners such as Cannon River Watershed Partnership, the St. Olaf College Natural Lands and Carleton College Arboretum, Master Naturalists, Carleton College Sustainability Office and the Greater Northfield Sustainability Collaborative share information with their members and networks.
- Presentations to the City Environmental Quality Commission and City Council, at the Northfield Garden Club, Northfield Rotary Club, and Northfield Public Library
- We will work with Growing Up Healthy and the Greenvale Park Community School to share information and educate residents in the environmental justice area of concern in our community.

2f. How will this project utilize new or innovative strategies/technologies/methods/techniques:

The establishment of the tree fund and possible carbon offset sale are new approaches to generating revenue for tree canopy improvements. The City has also not been able to do proactive outreach and education around trees in the past so this will be a new strategy for us. Students at St. Olaf college are currently working on a class project using the iTree application to review carbon sequestration potential. This project will build upon that work.

2g. Is this project located in an MPCA identified environmental justice (EJ) area of concern? Yes No

If yes, identify the area:

There is a section of the City on the northern end that is in the EJ area of concern because at least 40% of people reported income less than 185% of the federal poverty level.

Within the EJ area of concern, will this project directly serve those communities with higher concentrations of low-income residents and/or people of color, including tribal communities? Yes No

If yes, describe the communities and how the project will directly serve them:

A portion of the City of Northfield is within the EJ Story map area for at least 40% of people reported income less than 185% of the federal poverty level. The City will work with community organizations, Growing Up Healthy and the Greenvale Park Community School, and the Community Action Center, that have relationships in this area to help with outreach and education to this population as well as property owners of the apartment complexes and manufactured home parks regarding tree planing and maintenance options. This area will receive priority in terms of tree planting where appropriate.

The MPCA's criteria and interactive mapping tool are on the MPCA website at <http://mpca.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f5bf57c8dac24404b7f8ef1717f57d00>. Applicants of relevant projects are asked to evaluate and describe how the proposed project activities benefit these areas.

3. Experience and qualifications

3a. Describe applicant's experience and qualifications related to implementing and completing proposed project:

Jae Morrison, Streets and Parks Supervisor, is the City Forester. He has worked in municipal forestry for 26 years where he has helped to plant and maintain thousands of trees. Jae has a Masters of Public Administration degree. He has been a Minnesota Certified Tree Inspector since 1994 and an ISA Certified Arborist (MN4362) since 2009. Project management support will be provided by Beth Kallestad, Program Coordinator for the City's Climate Action Plan. She has over 20 years of experience in the environmental field, ten of which include community engagement and nonprofit leadership.

3b. Will anyone outside your organization be responsible for work performed? Yes No

If yes, provide name of organization(s) and contact information, experience, and qualifications related to proposed project. Describe the role of the outside organization(s) in the project:

Cannon River Tree Care is a contractor that the City uses to assist with tree planting, pruning and maintenance. Their services will be requested for work that cannot be completed by City staff and volunteers.

Cannon River Tree Care LLC. 2515 320th Street East, Northfield, MN 55057. 507.645.6901
cannonrivertreecare@yahoo.com

Ten years working with the City of Northfield. Planted hundreds of containerized trees of many species. Follow MDA planting specs, also ISA planting specs.

Cannon River Tree Care joins the City Arbor Day tree planting event volunteering with The Men of Northfield for this project. Cannon River Tree Care meets with all the volunteers prior to the planting event to teach the volunteers how to properly plant a tree.

4. Project workplan and budget (Complete project workplan and budget templates separately)

4a. Is project workplan document attached? Yes No

(Template can be found on the MPCA website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/environmental-assistance-grants>, and should be submitted in Microsoft Word.)

If no, explain:

4b. Is anticipated environmental outcomes table completed in the project workplan? Yes No

(Sample template can be found and completed in project workplan document.)

If no, explain:

4c. Is budget workbook attached? Yes No

(Template spreadsheet can be found on the MPCA website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/about-mpca/environmentalassistance-grants>, and should be submitted in Microsoft Excel.)

If no, explain:

5. Supporting and signature document

	Attached	Mailed	Faxed	Not applicable
5a. Letter(s) of support:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				
5b. Letter(s)/resolution(s) of matching funds:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments:				
5c. Authorizing board resolution(s):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please use the following format and specific language for your Authorizing Resolution:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Fiscal Year 2020 Grant Program
Authorization Resolution

WHEREAS, _____ (name of your organization) has applied for a grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), under its FY2020 Environmental Assistance Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, if MPCA funding is received, _____ (name of your organization) is committed to implementing the proposed project as described in the grant application; and

WHEREAS, MPCA requires that _____ (name of your organization) enter into a grant agreement with the MPCA that identifies the terms and conditions of the funding award;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the _____ (name of governing body) hereby agrees to enter into and sign a grant agreement with the MPCA to carry out the project specified therein and to comply with all of the terms, conditions, and matching provisions of the grant agreement and authorizes and directs _____ (name of a position) to sign the grant agreement on its behalf.

(Print name of signing officer)

(Title)

(Signature of an officer with your governing body)

(Date your governing body agreed to this resolution)

Project title:

Growing Resilience: Enhancing Northfield's Tree Canopy

*Organization type: Non-profit

Local/Regional government

Public college/university

Tribal government

1. Statement of project details

The purpose of the project is to increase the City's resiliency and capacity to adapt to climate change by improving our tree canopy.

Goal statement, project evaluation plan, tasks, and subtasks

Goal statement: Build the City of Northfield's resilience around climate change to address the issues of heat, air quality and flooding by enhancing our tree canopy.

Project evaluation plan: Evaluation will be carried out by tracking:

- Increase in trees planted and maintained on City owned property. A focus will be on areas of the City that fall within the Environmental Justice area of concern. This will be tracked annually and compared to levels in the years prior to the project.
- Increase knowledge and ability of residents to plant and maintain trees. This will be tracked through surveys and qualitative interviews.
- Contributions to tree fund will be tracked by the City Finance office.

Task 1 of 6: Develop tree planting and maintenance plan

Subtask 1a: Review existing information and develop tree planting and maintenance plan

Timeframe: July – September 2020

Title of person(s) responsible: Jae Morrison, Beth Kallestad, Urban Forest Work Group

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$3,274.30 Cash Match: \$ 0 Total: \$ 3,274.30

Task 1 Total: Grant: \$ 0 Match: \$ 3,274.30 Total: \$ 3,274.30

Task 2 of 6: Tree planting and maintenance

Subtask 2a: Tree planting

Timeframe: July 2020 – May 2023

Title of person(s) responsible: Jae Morrison

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 45,500.00 In-kind Match: \$ 1,561.00 Cash Match: \$15,000.00

Total: \$62,061.00

Subtask 2b: Tree Maintenance

Timeframe: July 2020 – May 2023

Title of person(s) responsible: Jae Morrison

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$55,717.00 Cash Match: \$ 0 Total: \$ 55,717.00

Task 2 Total: Grant: \$ 45,500.00 Match: \$ 72,278 Total: \$ 117,778.00

Task 3 of 6: Community Education

Subtask 3a: Create tree planting and maintenance information

Timeframe: July 2020 – December 2020

Title of person(s) responsible: Jae Morrison, Beth Kallestad, Urban Forest work group

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 1,089.84 Cash Match: \$ 0 Total: \$1,089.84

Subtask 3b: Share information via communications channels and presentations

Timeframe: January 2021 – May 2023

Title of person(s) responsible: Beth Kallestad, City Communications Office, Urban Forest work group,

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 3,197.20 Cash Match: \$ 0 Total: \$ 3,197.20

Task 3 Total: Grant: \$ 0 Match: \$ 4,287.04 Total: \$ 4,287.04

Task 4 of 6: Tree fund

Subtask 4a: Solicit contributions to tree fund.

Timeframe: July 2020 – May 2023.

Title of person(s) responsible: Beth Kallestad, Urban Forest work group, City Communications Office

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 3,197.20 Cash Match: \$ 0 Total: \$ 3,197.20

Task 4 Total: Grant: \$ 0 Match: \$ 3,197.20 Total: \$ 3,197.20

Task 5 of 6 -- Evaluation

Subtask 5a: Tree planting and maintenance

Timeframe: December 2020 – May 2023

Person(s) Responsible: Jae Morrison

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 624.40 Total: \$ 624.40

Subtask 5b: Community education, behavior change and tree fund

Timeframe: January 2021 – May 2023

Person(s) Responsible: Beth Kallestad

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 3,106.80 Total: \$ 3,106.80

Task 5 - Total: Grant: \$ 0 Match: \$ 3,731.20 Total: \$ 3,731.20

Task 6 of 6 -- Reporting

Subtask 6a: Will submit an Interim Report within 1 year of the execution of the grant agreement or at 50% completion of the project, whichever occurs first.

Timeframe: July 2021

Person(s) Responsible: Beth Kallestad

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 414.24 Total: \$ 414.24

Subtask 6b: Will submit a Final Report 1 month prior to the end of the grant agreement or at 100% completion of the project, whichever occurs first.

Timeframe: by May 30, 2023

Person(s) Responsible: Beth Kallestad

Estimated Funds: Grant: \$ 0 In-kind Match: \$ 414.24 Total: \$ 414.24

Task 6 - Total: Grant: \$ 0 Match: \$ 828.48 Total: \$ 828.48

2. Anticipated environmental outcomes

Table 1: Anticipated environmental outcomes (based on assumption of planting 100 tree, 1" diameter, estimates made using the iTree application by St. Olaf ES 237 class)

Type of Environmental Outcome from adaptations that reduce impacts of climate change and increase resilience (e.g., water quality protection, infrastructure improvement, heat island mitigation, increase in resilient tree canopy, community resilience to flooding or grid failure, etc.)	Description of how anticipated environmental outcome will result	Estimated annual amount of change, if quantifiable (e.g., kWh of electric storage capacity added; SF/acre of blue-green infrastructure added; net increase in tree coverage; gallons of Stormwater infiltrated; lbs. of pollutants removed, etc.)	GHG emissions reduction co-benefit, if applicable (description, and amount if quantifiable)
Outcome #1: Increase in resilient tree canopy will reduce stormwater impacts and greenhouse gas emissions as well as energy use.	100 trees @ 1" diameter. The final amount of trees may be less depending on the success of contributions to tree fund and other funding we are able to secure.	Over the course of the project with 100 trees planted we anticipate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 860 gallons for stormwater interception 2) 220 kWh saved 3) 15 therms Natural Gas 	414 lbs of CO2 Sequestered; 360 lbs of CO2 avoided
Outcome #2:			
Outcome #3:			
Outcome #4			
Outcome #5			

EA climate adaptation grant budget

Environmental Assistance (EA) Grant Program

Doc Type: Grant Application
 p-f2-27e-fy20-1 (Revised 1/14/20)

Budget - City of Northfield FY 2020 Grant Application

Cost category	Cost (\$/unit)	Quantity (Qty/Unit)	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.
			Grant funds	Budgeted match cash	Budgeted match in-kind	Total budgeted match (II + III)	Total budget (I + IV)

Task 1 of 6: Develop tree planting and maintenance plan

Subtask 1a:									
City Forester	\$62.44	hour	40	hours			\$2,497.60	\$2,497.60	\$2,497.60
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	15	hours			\$776.70	\$776.70	\$776.70
							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 1a					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,274.30	\$3,274.30	\$3,274.30
Task 1 - Total					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,274.30	\$3,274.30	\$3,274.30

Task 2 of 6: Tree planting and maintenance

Subtask 2a: Tree planting									
City Forester	\$62.44	hour	25	hours			\$1,561.00	\$1,561.00	\$1,561.00
Restoration for stump removal	\$150.00	stump	70	stumps	\$10,500.00			\$0.00	\$10,500.00
Replacement trees (tree cost and planting by contractor) (Budgeted cash match for trees is estimated based on tree fund donations)	\$500.00	tree	100	trees	\$35,000.00	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$50,000.00
Total 2a					\$45,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,561.00	\$16,561.00	\$62,061.00
Subtask 2b: Tree Maintenance									
Parks Dept Crew Members	\$45.13	hour	1200	hours			\$54,156.00	\$54,156.00	\$54,156.00
City Forester	\$62.44	hour	25	hours			\$1,561.00	\$1,561.00	\$1,561.00
							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 2b					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,717.00	\$55,717.00	\$55,717.00
Task 2 - Total					\$45,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$57,278.00	\$72,278.00	\$117,778.00

Task 3 of 6: Community Education

Subtask 3a: Create tree planting and maintenance information									

Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	8	hours			\$414.24	\$414.24	\$414.24
Community Volunteers and Students	\$28.15	hour	24	hours			\$675.60	\$675.60	\$675.60
								\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 3a							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,089.84
Subtask 3b: Share information via communications channels and presentations									
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	40	hours			\$2,071.20	\$2,071.20	\$2,071.20
Community Volunteers and Students	\$28.15	hour	40	hours			\$1,126.00	\$1,126.00	\$1,126.00
								\$0.00	\$0.00
								\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 3b							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,197.20
Task 3 - Total							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,287.04

Task 4 of 6: Tree Fund

Subtask 4a: Solicit contributions to tree fund									
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	40	hours			\$2,071.20	\$2,071.20	\$2,071.20
Community volunteers	\$28.15	hour	40	hours			\$1,126.00	\$1,126.00	\$1,126.00
Total 4a							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,197.20
Task 4 - Total							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,197.20

Task 5 of 6: Evaluation

Subtask 5a: Tree Planting and Maintenance									
City Forester	\$62.44	hour	10	hours			\$624.40	\$624.40	\$624.40
Total 5a							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$624.40
Subtask 5b: Community Education, Behavior Change and Tree Fund									
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	60	hours			\$3,106.80	\$3,106.80	\$3,106.80
Total 5b							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,106.80
Task 5 - Total							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,731.20

Task 6 of 6: Reporting

Subtask 6a: Interim Report									
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	8	hours			\$414.24	\$414.24	\$414.24
								\$0.00	\$0.00
								\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 6a							\$0.00	\$0.00	\$414.24
Subtask 6b: Final Report									
Program Coordinator	\$51.78	hour	8	hours			\$414.24	\$414.24	\$414.24
								\$0.00	\$0.00

								\$0.00	\$0.00
								\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 6b					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$414.24	\$414.24	\$414.24
Task 6 - Total					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$828.48	\$828.48	\$828.48

Summarized budget by tasks	I.	II.	III.	IV.
	Grant funds	Match cash	Match in-kind	Total budget
Task 1 - Total	0	0	3274.3	3,274
Task 2 - Total	45,500	15,000	57,278	117,778
Task 3 - Total	0	0	4,287	4,287
Task 4 - Total	0	0	3,197	3,197
Task 5 - Total	0	0	3731.2	3731.2
Task 6 - Total	0	0	828.48	828
Grand total	45,500	15,000	72,596	133,096

Summarized budget by tasks

EA climate adaptation grant affidavit of noncollusion

Environmental Assistance (EA) Grant Program

Doc Type: Grant Application

Instructions: Please return your completed form as part of the application submittal.


I swear (or affirm) under the penalty of perjury:

1. That I am the Applicant (if the Applicant is an individual), a partner in the company (if the Applicant is a partnership), or an officer or employee of the responding corporation having authority to sign on its behalf (if the Applicant is a corporation).
2. That the attached application submitted in response to *EA climate adaptation grant* round Grant Request for Proposal has been arrived at by the Applicant independently and has been submitted without collusion with and without any agreement, understanding or planned common course of action with, any other Applicant of materials, supplies, equipment, or services described in the Grant Request for Proposals, designed to limit fair and open competition.
3. That the contents of the application have not been communicated by the Applicant or its employees or agents to any person not an employee or agent of the Applicant and will not be communicated to any such persons prior to the official opening of the applications.
4. That I am fully informed regarding the accuracy of the statements made in this affidavit.

Authorized signature

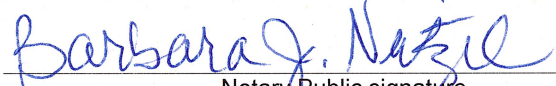
Applicant's firm name: City of Northfield

Print authorized representative name: Ben Martig Title: City Administrator

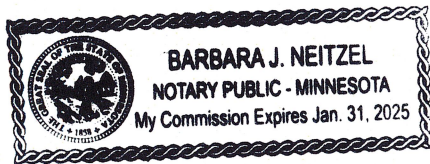
Authorized signature:  Date (mm/dd/yyyy): March 3, 2020

Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn to before me this:
3rd day of March, 2020


 Notary Public signature

1/31/2025
 Commission expires (mm/dd/yyyy)



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

Feb. 28, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

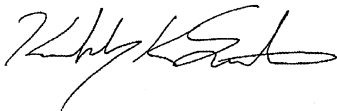
I'm writing to support the City of Northfield's application for an MPCA Environmental Assistance Grant around Climate Adaptation. I have served on the City's Environmental Quality Commission since 2016, and I'm leading a working group focused on climate action goals for the city's forest and land. The plan's 3-year goal in this area is to establish a "robust tree planting, soil restoration, and urban forestry program." This goal is critical to mitigating GHG emissions by increasing the ability of City natural lands to sequester carbon. It is also central to improving the City's resilience by combatting the heat island effect and reducing stormwater run-off. This grant would contribute directly to those goals by providing resources needed to improve our tree canopy.

Northfield is fortunate to have some very high quality natural lands, including the Carleton College Cowling Arboretum, the St. Olaf Natural Lands, and several excellent city parks. However, expanded development, recent severe storms, and the arrival of emerald ash borer has reduced the number of trees on public and private lands in the City. The City's forest and natural lands are also threatened by invasive species, including buckthorn and wild parsnip. Climate change may pose further challenges the health of the urban forest and may require transitioning to a different mix of trees.

The City is committed to protecting and improving its natural lands, as demonstrated by its long-standing Arbor Day tree sale and rain garden programs, its recent work on an emerald ash borer plan, and its updating of its noxious weed policy to address invasive plants. But it has limited financial resources to replace the trees we have lost, combat disease and invasive species, and educate the public on climate-friendly landscaping practices.

The urban forest working group is working on a number of initiatives designed to reduce lawns and increase pollinator-friendly landscapes, manage invasive species, and engage the public in better land management practices. The MPCA grant would make a tremendous contribution to this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Smith", written in a cursive style.

Kim Smith

Chair, Northfield Environmental Quality Commission

