



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Draft Environmental Quality Commission

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- Present:** 7 - Chair Michael Provancha, Commissioner Bruce Anderson, Commissioner Janet Petri, Commissioner George Kinney, Commissioner Susannah Shmurak, Vice Chair Rob Hanson and Commissioner Kimberly Haroldson
- Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Ava Podracky

Also present: Sara Pabich, Sustainability Coordinator; Risi Karim, Assistant to the City Administrator; Matt Bailey, Meeting Associate; Alex Halverson, Youth Representative (Voting)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Petri, seconded by Commissioner Kinney, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney, Commissioner Shmurak, Vice Chair Hanson, Commissioner Haroldson, and Commissioner Halverson

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hanson, seconded by Commissioner Shmurak, to approve the consent agenda containing the March 18, 2026 EQC Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney, Commissioner Shmurak, Vice Chair Hanson, Commissioner Haroldson, and Commissioner Halverson

1. [26-182](#) March 18, 2026 EQC Meeting Minutes

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Anderson reported on the addition of plug-in solar legislation in the 2026 Minnesota Legislature's State Omnibus Bill.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. [26-183](#) Annual Report of the Carbon Reduction Fund (2025).

Assistant to the City Administrator Risi Karim presented the Annual Report of the Carbon Reduction Fund (2025). Karim responded to questions and comments from the EQC.

3. [26-184](#) Interconnection Process: Xcel Energy, Public Utilities Commission, and System Coordination

Sustainability Coordinator Sara Pabich delivered a presentation on Interconnection Process: Xcel Energy, Public Utilities Commission, and System Coordination. Pabich responded to questions and comments from the EQC.

4. [26-185](#) 2026-2027 Work Plan Updates

The members of the EQC reported on updates on the 2026-2027 EQC Work Plan:

- Energy Efficiency Education for Residents: Commissioner Petri will reach out to Rotary Climate Action.*
- Electric Vehicle Community Showcase: Vice Chair Hanson reported that the City of Northfield has been in discussions with Recharge America about conducting a electric vehicle showcase event in September 2026.*
- Active Transportation Awareness Campaign: Hanson reported that this subcommittee met and discussed ideas for making transportation around Northfield safer.*
- Landscaping & Native Planting Research: Commissioner Shmurak reported that this subcommittee met and discussed educational materials that might be distributed to the public.*
- Waste Reduction Library Research: Commissioner Shmurak reported that this subcommittee met and that Commissioner Haroldson met with staff of the Northfield Public Library to discuss a toy library.*
- Recycling and Compost Education Toolkit: Haroldson continues to work on this initiative.*

STAFF UPDATES

5. [26-186](#) Staff Update

Sustainability Coordinator Sara Pabich presented updates from City staff and responded to questions and comments from the EQC.

Chair Provancha thanked Commissioners Anderson and Kinney for their years of service on the EQC.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Shmurak, seconded by Vice Chair Hanson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Provancha, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Petri, Commissioner Kinney, Commissioner Shmurak, Vice Chair Hanson, Commissioner Haroldson, and Commissioner Halverson