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June 6, 2023

TO: Chair Brennan, and Members of the Public Affairs and Safety Committee

RE: 2022 Data Report Related to the City of Elmhurst's Sustainability Action Plan

The City of Elmhurst adopted a Sustainability Action Plan in March 2018. The Plan describes the importance of data collection and emphasizes metrics and tracking results. The annual report for 2022 includes the same metrics that have been tracked in previous years. The seven indices outlined below relate to Focus Areas and Goals identified in the Sustainability Action Plan and reflect the data available to the City of Elmhurst.

In 2023 the Sustainability Plan will have reached its 5<sup>th</sup> year and though the City continues to improve on its metrics in obtaining its sustainability goals staff is recommending the City begin the process of updating and reevaluating the entire plan and its goals into the future. Planning dollars are available the 2023 budget to engage a consultant to assist with updating the plan.

In October 2022, the City of Elmhurst held its first Sustainability Day and invited partners from the community to present on a variety of topics. Partners included The Conservation Foundation, Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition, Elmhurst Public Library, Elmhurst District 205, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst Park District, DuPage Water Commission, Republic Services, SCARCE, ComEd, in addition to City of Elmhurst. Presentations were recorded and posted on ElmhurstTV on Youtube as long-term reference. In addition, the City posts sustainability related items on social media throughout the year and aims to cover one topic per month. This public outreach campaign is related to multiple goals in the plan related to public education.

**Index 1) BioDiesel Fuel and Propane – Relates to Focus Area 2, Goal 4**

The City of Elmhurst uses Biodiesel year-round at various concentrations, up to B20 biodiesel (20% biodiesel, 80% petroleum diesel). In 2022, the Elmhurst fleet consumed 55,200 gallons of diesel. Of this total, 6,537 gallons were 100% bio diesel. The use of bio diesel resulted in an off set of 61.45 tons of Co2 in 2022. When compared to 2021 values, the City's fleet consumed 11.2% less fuel. In addition to the use of bio-diesel, the City's Public Works Department used 1,393 gallons of propane, significantly increasing their use of propane by 42% when compared to 2021.

## 2022 Greenhouse gas emissions avoided by alternative fuel usage



**5,026**  
Incandescent lamps  
Switched to LED's



**2,193**  
tree seedlings  
grown for 10 years



**16,130,203**  
smartphones  
charged

### Index 2) Power Consumed for EV Chargers – Relates to Focus Area 2, Goal 2

The total electricity used to charge electric cars at the City's charging station in 2022 was 60,467 kWh, compared to 41,580 kWh in 2021 (for a 45% increase since last year's report). If compared to fossil fuel consumption this is the equivalent of 28.8 tons of greenhouse gases not emitted.

The total electrical power used at three of the City's electric vehicle charging stations from 2019 to 2022 are listed below. Over a 4-year period, the City saved 8,325 gallons of gasoline through the use of electric vehicles.

YEAR	ELECTRICAL ENERGY USED	GASOLINE EQUIVALENT
<b>2022</b>	60,467 kWh	2,943 gallons
<b>2021</b>	41,580 kWh	2,024 gallons
<b>2020</b>	30,115 kWh	1,466 gallons
<b>2019</b>	38,876 kWh	1,892 gallons

\*Source: EPA.gov

$1,562.4 \text{ lbs. CO}_2/\text{MWh} \times (4.536 \times 10^{-4} \text{ metric tons/lb}) \times 0.001 \text{ MWh/kWh} = 7.09 \times 10^{-4} \text{ metric tons CO}_2/\text{kWh}$

### Index 3) Prescription Drug Recycling – Relates to Focus Area 1, Goal 2 & Focus Area 4, Goal 3

The Police Department held two Prescription Drug Take-Back Days in 2022 that resulted in 194 of unwanted prescription drugs being collected. The dropbox in the Police Department lobby also collected 597 lbs. of unwanted prescription drugs.

### Index 4) E Waste – Relates to Focus Area 1, Goal 2 & Goal 4

City Hall recycled approximately 4,000 lbs. of e-waste and 72 toner and ink cartridges in 2022.

In 2022, the City held four recycling events. These events are co-sponsored with DuPage County and provide a regional resource for those looking to properly dispose of electronics such as computers, televisions, printers, and more. A total of 72,498 lbs. were recycled last year.

### Index 5) Energy and ComEd- Relates to Focus Area 3, Goal 1 & 2

The 2022 values regarding the number of home energy assessment completed by Elmhurst residents and commercial properties will be released in the Spring. ComEd has provided a graphic that outlines a summary from 2021 as well as a cumulative summary for 2018-2021.

In 2022 Public Works converted 1800 streetlights to high efficiency LEDs which will reduce annual energy consumption by another 815,000 kWh. Commonwealth Edison incentives totaled over \$100,000 to defray material costs. Over half of the city's streetlights are now LEDs. Lighting upgrade projects were also undertaken at the Police Department and the Public Works Building. Public Works replaced 33-year-old florescent lights in the police station fitness and lunchrooms with energy efficient LED lighting.

LED streetlight conversions and building lighting upgrades will continue in 2023. The year will also see an upgrade to the Building Automation System at the Public Works Building that is expected to reduce energy consumption for heating and cooling by 30%.

The Community Development Department reported 46 solar panel permits issued in 2022 compared to 51 permits in 2021. In addition, the City has taken in permits for EV charging stations that are being installed for both residential and commercial use. In 2021, the Community Development Department issued 18 such permits, up from 2 in 2021.

#### **Index 6) Water Smart – Relates to Focus Area 4, Goal 1**

As of December 31, 2022, the overall WaterSmart portal registration rate for Elmhurst is 36.9%, which is up from 32% in 2021. This is one of the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the system and is above average compared to other utilities around the country. WaterSmart reports that the average registration rate among all 180+ of their utility clients is 25%.

WaterSmart detected 21,759 total leaks for customers in Elmhurst in 2022. Of those 21,508 leaks were resolved and 9,373 leaks were alerted to customers. The number of alerts sent is a function of the customer's self-defined leak detection threshold configuration, and the availability of customer contact information. As the City collects more customer email addresses the number of alerts sent will increase. The City also maintains 99% positive leak alert feedback since June 2018. Some feedback we received includes...

*“Thank you for notifying me of the leak. I found the source; it was an outside water hose that busted from the cold.”*

*“Thank you for the alert! It might have been several days before we would have noticed. Great service.”*

*“Humidifier was running constantly-thank you so much for the alert!”*

**Index 7) Refuse and Recycling – Relates to Focus Area 1, Goal 1 & 4**

The data below outlines the tons of refuse and recycling collected by Republic Services at residential locations in Elmhurst by month in 2022. The City’s composting program is included in the Yard Waste category.

## CITY OF Elmhurst

MONTHLY DATA REPORT				Recycling Detail	
	Tons Collected by Month			Paper	Commingled
	Refuse	Recyclables	Yard Waste	Fiber	Containers
<b>January-22</b>	927.16	382.74	75.28	266.43	116.31
<b>February-22</b>	855.67	351.03	--	244.35	106.68
<b>March-22</b>	1,042.71	396.75	--	276.18	120.57
<b>April-22</b>	1,075.63	397.77	79.92	276.89	120.88
<b>May-22</b>	1,100.17	362.19	199.10	252.12	110.07
<b>June-22</b>	1,248.03	420.51	216.56	292.72	127.79
<b>July-22</b>	1,106.14	388.69	130.42	270.57	118.12
<b>August-22</b>	1,057.16	384.71	106.25	267.80	116.91
<b>September-22</b>	1,172.86	402.07	111.65	279.88	122.19
<b>October-22</b>	973.77	339.70	98.46	236.47	103.23
<b>November-22</b>	1,171.38	408.82	406.88	284.58	124.24
<b>December-22</b>	1,024.66	445.96	97.59	310.43	135.53
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12,755.34</b>	<b>4,680.94</b>	<b>1,522.11</b>	<b>3,258.40</b>	<b>1,422.54</b>
Monthly Average	<b>1,062.95</b>	<b>390.08</b>	<b>152.21</b>	<b>271.53</b>	<b>118.54</b>
Weekly Average	<b>245.30</b>	<b>90.02</b>	<b>35.13</b>	<b>62.66</b>	<b>27.36</b>
Participation Rate	<b>89.7%</b>				