

The Dane County SMART Fund Gets Results!

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Between 2012 and 2016 the SMART Fund has:

- 1) Awarded **54 projects**
- 2) Awarded a total of **\$3,149,597** to department projects
- 3) Achieved annual operational **cost savings of \$637,900** for Dane County government (a conservative estimate based on available project estimates from 2012 through 2016)
- 4) **Avoided emitting 2,850 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually** (a conservative estimate based on available project estimates from 2012 through 2016).

This emissions reduction is the equivalent of:

- Taking 602 passenger vehicles off the road annually
- Reducing passenger vehicles miles driven by 6.8 million miles annually
- Not burning 320,693 gallons of gasoline annually
- Not burning 3.0 million pounds of coal annually
- The average annual energy use of 300 homes

5) Engaged county government staff countywide around sustainability

6) Accelerated Dane County government's alignment with our sustainability principles and implementation of our Sustainable Operations Plan.

What is the SMART Fund? The Sustainability Subcommittee of the Public Works and Transportation Committee is responsible for distributing grants to county departments from a \$2 million SMART Fund *(Sustainable Management and Renewable Technologies) in the county's capital budget. This fund helps advance county government's goal of becoming more sustainable. For example, it supports initiatives that fulfill the county's objective of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by implementing systems that result in more efficient energy use and investments in renewable energy production at our various facilities. The fund is a part of the county's continued efforts to ensure that important natural resources and ecosystem services are maintained for current and future generations. The fund can be used by county departments and constitutional offices to help implement strategies identified in the [Dane County Government Sustainable Operations Plan](#), to supplement currently budgeted items that do not have enough funds to incorporate additional sustainable measures, or to fully fund projects that are not in the current budget, but that will improve the sustainability of county operations and reduce long-term costs. The subcommittee prioritizes projects that are strong across all factors—advancing consistency with the county's sustainability principles adopted by the Dane County Board (on October 18, 2012), implementing the [Dane County Government Sustainable Operations Plan](#), and achieving a financial return so that we can turn operational savings into other sustainability enhancing projects.

Benefits of this fund:

- Alignment of departments and staff toward a common understanding of sustainability
- Clarity and consistency in assessing and organizing actions and programs for sustainable government operations
- Enhanced policies and programs incorporating a sustainability perspective
- Enhanced reputation as a proactive contributor to a more sustainable community
- Reduced operating costs for county government

Dane County's Sustainability Principles:

Dane County strives to operate in a sustainable way that will:

- Reduce and eventually eliminate county government's contribution to fossil fuel dependence and to wasteful use of scarce metals and minerals;
- Reduce and eventually eliminate county government's contribution to dependence upon persistent chemicals and wasteful use of synthetic substances;
- Reduce and eventually eliminate county government's contribution to encroachment upon nature and harm to life-sustaining ecosystems (e.g., land, water, wildlife, forest, soil, ecosystems); and
- Reduce and eventually eliminate county government's contribution to conditions that undermine people's ability to meet their basic human needs.

The Sustainability Subcommittee of the Public Works and Transportation Committee has selected from the SMART Fund proposals that were submitted by county departments/constitutional offices for funding of capital projects in Round 1 of 2017.

Most recent projects funded this week:

The following eight proposals were selected to receive the requested funding. All proposals submitted for 2017 Round 1 were funded. Congratulations!

- 1) Facilities Management: Water bottle filling stations (multiple facilities) (up to \$85,921)
- 2) Facilities Management: Increased water softener efficiency (multiple facilities) (up to \$18,080)
- 3) Alliant Energy Center: Cooling tower / water treatment (up to \$5,500)
- 4) Dane Co. Sheriff's Office: Jail dishwasher replacement (up to \$29,648)
- 5) Dane Co. Sheriff's Office: Tactical Response Team truck and trailer (up to \$110,000)
- 6) Parks: LED lighting at Lussier Center (up to \$32,942)
- 7) Parks: Porous paving Lake Farm Park (up to \$31,069)
- 8) Land and Water Resources: Silverwood Park solar PV panels (up to \$12,870)

The total amount awarded for 2017 Round 1 proposals = up to \$326,030