

## NOTICE

A meeting of the City of Evansville Energy Independence Team, a sub-committee, will be held on the date and at the time and location stated below. Meetings are typically held quarterly. Notice is given that members of the City Council might be in attendance. Requests for persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made by calling City Hall: (608)-882-2266 with as much advance notice as possible. Please silence cell phones and electronic devices during the meeting.

City of Evansville **Energy Independence Team**  
Regular Quarterly Meeting  
Evansville Police Department, 10 W. Church Street  
Evansville, WI 53536  
Wednesday, August 7, 2024, 7:30 a.m.

## AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions and Welcome
3. Approve the Agenda by Consensus
4. Motion to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2024 regular meeting.
5. Tour of Police Department
6. Quarterly Energy Updates
  - A. Business, Community, and School Initiatives
  - B. EHS Green Team
  - C. Tree City and Bird City
  - D. ECSD Nature Center
  - E. Ice Age Trail
    - i. Review Draft Ice Age Trail Community Application
  - F. Community Garden
  - G. WPPI
  - H. Park Improvements
  - I. Other
7. Evansville Municipal Energy Plan Discussion and Next Steps
  - A. Outreach Plan
  - B. Update on Upper 90 grant
8. Next meeting date: November 6, 2024 at 7:30 am
9. Adjourn

*Jim Brooks, Chair of Energy Independence Team*



**City of Evansville Energy Independence Team**

Regular Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, May 1 2024, 7:30 a.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> floor, City Hall, 31 S Madison Street

Evansville, WI 53536

**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order.** Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:30am
2. **Introductions and Welcome.** Jim Brooks, Darren Jacobsen, Butch Beedle, Jason Sergeant, Colette Spranger, Scott Kriebs, John Rasmussen, Paul Liesse, Bronna Lehmann
3. **Approve the Agenda by Consensus.** Committee approved agenda.
4. **Approve the minutes of the February 7, 2024 meeting by consensus.** Committee approved agenda.
5. **Quarterly Energy Updates (20 min)**
  - A. **Business, Community, and School Initiatives.**
    - **Solar Array at High School.** Jacobsen reported that is close to being operational. This project has spurred conversation regarding other facility upgrades (e.g. HVAC) that should be considered.
    - **Blue Scope.** May need new street lights as part of parking expansion.
    - **Fleet Card Pilot Program.** Kriebs reported that the new fleet card can be used to track usage. Electric crew will test out the program; police department is interested if it's a success.
    - **Native Grasses:** Beedle mentioned that Edgerton recently landscaped a street median with native grasses. This spurred a discussion among the group regarding other public places the City could reasonably plant native grasses as a way to sequester carbon, such as stormwater retention ponds. Kriebs noted that the DNR typically has municipalities mow their ponds to prevent trees from growing but that he would look into possibilities. Spranger mentioned zoning code updates to encourage/reward native plantings. Sergeant noted that the success of any landscape plan is the long term maintenance. Native landscaping takes skill that differs from traditional plantings.
  - B. **EHS Green Team.** No report from school representative. There will be a ribbon cutting for the new solar array once it's operational.
  - C. **Tree City and Bird City.** Annual Birding in the Park event is this coming weekend.
  - D. **ECSD Nature Center.** Now in a better room (with windows!) at Theodore Robinson Intermediate School.
  - E. **Ice Age Trail.** Two members noted that blazes were pointed in wrong directions along the demarcated route. Spranger to reach out to the Rock County Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance to see how Evansville can more easily participate or start up trail-related events within its own section of the trail.
  - F. **Community Garden.** Sergeant reports the garden should be able to operational this summer.
  - G. **WPPI.** Jacobsen reported on third party companies attempting to buy land for solar farms that then try to sell the excess energy to local utilities. Typically, the contracts

WPPI communities have in place would not allow them to buy the power. WPPI is doing a feasibility study for community solar projects and whether that kind of system is financially viable.

**H. Other.**

- Paul Liesse of Shifting Gears Bike Shop, 13 W Main Street, introduced himself and promoted upcoming group bicycle rides. He has interest in promoting and expanding bike access both in Evansville and regionally.
- Sergeant gave an update on the Aquatic Center at Larsen Acres Park. A ribbon cutting will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The splash pad at Leonard-Leota Park should be operational within 30 days of the pool opening.

**6. Evansville Municipal Energy Plan Discussion and Next Steps**

Members reviewed the established goals; two (electric municipal vehicles and tracking vehicle mileage) are actively being implemented. Sergeant updated the group about a next step in the energy planning grant with Edgerton is a look at financial feasibility, which will be done by a group called Upper 90. He expects to have a firm update about the project at August's EIT meeting.

**7. Next meeting date:** August 7, 2024

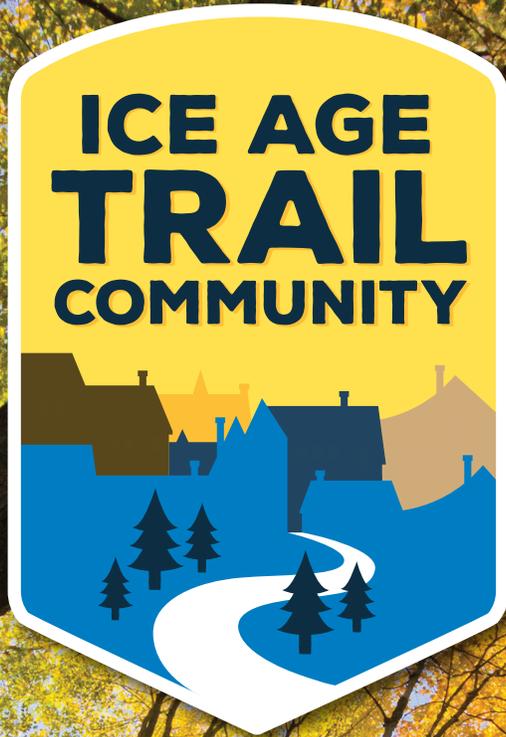
**8. Adjourn.**

## 2024 Energy Independence Team Goals

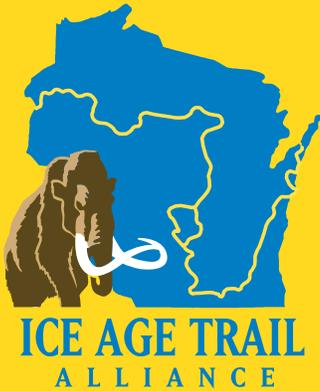
Based off the Evansville Municipal Energy Plan

Priority	Task	Implementation	Achieved?
7	Install 65-150kW of solar by 2032 at city buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional grant in conjunction with Slipstream</li> <li>• Possible solar field installation at Wastewater Treatment Plant</li> <li>• 2025 budget</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Pilot two to three electric municipal-owned vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install Level 2 chargers</li> <li>• Document fuel savings</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Engage in ongoing collaboration with Rock County and other communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet or help establish a version of this group in Edgerton, Milton</li> <li>• Research and interview communities actively promoting energy, resiliency, and sustainability (e.g. Monona, Sun Prairie)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
0	Consider battery installations for resiliency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority at the Police Department, which needs a generator</li> <li>• Possible grant funding to purchase</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	Provide educational materials for residents and businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement with WPPI</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Track fuel and mileage data by vehicle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track with fleet card</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ongoing	Use benchmark municipal building energy use data to implement recommended measures for energy savings of 15 to 20% at each building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt standard operating procedures across buildings</li> <li>• Institute standard purchasing policies for building equipment.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>





**ICE AGE TRAIL**  
**COMMUNITY APPLICATION**



## **What is the Ice Age Trail Community?**

The Ice Age Trail Alliance's Trail Communities program is designed as a symbiotic relationship between the Ice Age Trail Alliance (IATA) and communities near the Trail which enhances awareness of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (IANST) and improves the quality of life in communities throughout Wisconsin.

Initially, a Trail Community may expand to include broader regions. This program will formalize existing partnerships as well as establish a template that can be used to build partnerships in the future.



# *Ice Age Trail Community* **Application**

## *Criteria*

A strong community application will include the following:

- An application committee comprised of elected officials, Chamber of Commerce (or related group), businesses and local Ice Age Trail Alliance chapter representatives.
- The community supports the Ice Age Trail Alliance and Ice Age Trail is evident.
- Language for the protection of the Ice Age Trail is included in local land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, and/or guidelines. Or demonstrate support to amend change or add to such plans.
- Involvement with the Ice Age Trail Alliance or Ice Age Trail with a local school including participation, or willingness to participate in, a Saunters program or service-learning event.
- Willingness to host a volunteer-based event such as a Mobile Skills Crew event, local chapter hike(s) or trailwide events.





# Ice Age Trail Community Application

*Prior to filling out the following application, please contact the Ice Age Trail Alliance with questions or concerns, at 608.798.4453 or amy@iceagetrail.org.*

## 1) Community information

Town \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Community Name \_\_\_\_\_

## 2) Contact information of community representative

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## 3) Contact information of lead volunteer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_







# *Ice Age Trail Community Application*

7) **Attach any documents or links referencing language for the protection of the Ice Age Trail in local land use plans, planning tools, ordinances, and/or guidelines. Or, describe demonstrated support to amend change or add to such plans.**

8) **Describe why your community should be selected as an Ice Age Trail Community. What can the program do for your community?  
What can your community do for the Ice Age Trail?**

9) **What expectations does your community have of the Ice Age Trail Alliance?**



# Ice Age Trail Community Application

10) Please check the hiker services available in your community. (Check all that apply)

Service	Not Available	On The Trail	1-5 Miles From The Trail	6-10 Miles From the Trail	Not Applicable
Lodging					
Camping					
Outfitter					
ATM's					
Hiker Friendly Restaurants					
Laundry					
Grocery					
Showers					
Pharmacy & Medical Services					
Library					
Internet Access					
Post Office					
Public Restrooms					
Discounts for Hikers					
Signage for IAT					
Kiosks about IAT					

11) Please describe any of the hiker services mentioned above. You are also encouraged to send pictures if possible. (Please rate each)





# Ice Age Trail Community Application

## 12) What is your community's state of action for each of the following?

Action	Not interested/sure, NA	Thinking about it	Definitely Getting Ready to Do This	Started Taking Actions	Already Doing This
Our community has strong partnerships with public land agencies.					
Volunteer leadership for the IATA in our community is committed.					
New IATA volunteers have stepped up recently.					
Our community offers community-led hikes on the IAT.					
We have made trail protection a priority.					
Our community regularly donates to the IATA.					
We partner with the IATA on programs.					
The IAT is included in our community brochures.					
Information about the IAT is included on our website.					
Community events have a focus on the IAT.					
Our community offers clear communication about the IAT to audiences through websites, signage, newsletters, etc.					

## 13) The IATA frequently hosts trainings, meetings and conferences. Please list any facilities in your community that can host a group of 40 people or more.





# Ice Age Trail Community Application

14) Please describe the condition of the access points for the IAT. List any planned improvements that may be needed.

15) Please list the schools actively engaged with using the Ice Age Trail as an educational resource. Include grades and number of youth.

16) Please check all of the following your community has:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor or Community Center   | <input type="checkbox"/> Shuttle services from IAT to town and vice versa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance (Please send in with application) | <input type="checkbox"/> Public transportation to airports                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown beautification plan (Please send in with application)            | <input type="checkbox"/> Car rental or taxi service                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic marketing plan (Please send in with application)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Farmers Market                                   |



*Thank you for your support of the Ice Age Trail Alliance!  
Please contact us at 608.798.4453 or [amy@iceagetrail.org](mailto:amy@iceagetrail.org) if  
you have any questions.*

