



To: President Mellon and Member of the Town Council

From: Town Manager - Dustin Anderson

Date: October 16, 2020

Re: Resolution 2076 - IU Resilience Cohort

The Environmental Resilience Institute's Resilience Cohort program leads Indiana's city, town, and county governments through the process of measuring, managing, and tracking their greenhouse gas emissions. Participants join a cohort of peers and each jurisdiction receives one-on-one guidance, attends cohort training webinars, gains the opportunity to apply for additional staff capacity by hosting a summer intern, and more. Through this program, 16 local governments in Indiana have conducted community-scale greenhouse gas inventories, 12 of which are also working on climate action plans to reduce emissions.

Participating communities receive support from the Environmental Resilience Institute, ICLEI USA, and have the opportunity to host a 10-week summer intern through Sustain IU's Indiana Sustainability Program to boost staff capacity for the project.

In Northwest Indiana, the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is coordinating the effort to collect information on one or both of the following:

- Government operations inventories have collected data on employee commutes (e.g., estimated miles traveled), government solid waste generation (e.g., tons of solid waste sent to the landfill), government building energy use (e.g., amount of electricity and natural gas used), and fuel used by the city, town, or county fleet, among other sources
- Community-wide inventories have collected data on energy use (e.g., amount of electricity and natural gas used in the residential, commercial, and industrial sectors), solid waste sent to the landfill (e.g., tons of waste), water use and treatment (e.g., the volume of digester gas produced per day), and transportation (e.g., vehicle miles traveled estimates) occurring within the defined boundary, among other sources

This will be accomplished through a financial contribution to NIRPC that will defray the direct and indirect costs associated with two interns that will be responsible for the data collection.

The total cost for Munster's participation will be determined once we have made their commitment to the program. If more communities participate, our costs will be less. If fewer participate, we will pay more.

Total expenses in any scenario are not projected to exceed \$3,000.

Funding of this initiative could come in-part or in-full from the “Membership and Dues” accounts from the following funds:

| Clerk Treasurer | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 10110501 | 63908 |
| Town Council | |
| 10110101 | 63908 |
| 28010101 | 63908 |
| 40610101 | 63908 |
| 60110101 | 63908 |
| Town Manager | |
| 10111001 | 63908 |
| 28011001 | 63908 |
| 40611001 | 63908 |
| 60111001 | 63908 |

The first step in beginning this process is for the Town to voice its support of NIRPC’s efforts to develop the regional greenhouse gas inventory.

Next, we will complete and submit our application to NIRPC.

Recommendation: By motion and roll call vote adopt Resolution 2076