

METRO REGION



West Bank Business Association: Cedar Riverside in the Green Zone – From Conversations to Action

Minneapolis, MN – There are more than 200 West Bank Businesses with 90% of them still locally owned. A majority of these businesses are run by and employ people of color. These businesses are the most at risk for gentrification and displacement--yet we're behind the curve on preparing for energy and climate impacts. The West Bank Business Association will create outreach educational materials and translations about the importance of Green Zones and work one-on-one with businesses to create an anti-displacement plan for coming changes, sharing tools and opportunities for energy efficiency and conservation. (\$5,000)

Urban Design Perspectives (UDP): Camp SEE Architecture

Minneapolis, MN – Creating the next generation of renewable energy ambassadors, Camp SEE Architecture educates young women of color on the impact of passive design and building material selection on the built environment. Through a one-week STE(A)M camp, 20 middle schoolers from North Minneapolis will create an exhibit that focuses on strategies to reduce their carbon footprint. Students will also learn and share best practices of local examples in North Minneapolis that currently use solar and wind energy and how these technologies translate into energy savings. (\$5,000)

MN Renewable NOW: Solstar Rooftop Solar Project

Minneapolis, MN – MN Renewable Now is creating a program to offer rooftop solar power systems to properties on the near Northside of Minneapolis, and to flip the ownership to the property owners. We have identified a Project Manager, Engineer, Solar Assessor, Residential Contractor, and solar installers who are all Black/African-American and all reside within North Minneapolis. As a bonus, through this project (which will become a program), we will provide solar installation and OSHA training to those interested in choosing solar as a career path. The property owners will be responsible for solar assessments fee, and transfer of ownership. Community members will be receiving a \$30,000 solar installation for under \$2,000. (\$5,000)

HOURCAR: Electric Vehicle Community Mobility Project

Saint Paul, MN – HOURCAR plans to launch the Twin Cities Electric Vehicle Mobility Project in partnership with Xcel Energy, the City of Saint Paul and the City of Minneapolis. The ultimate aim of this project is to increase affordable access to electric vehicle car-sharing, increase publicly available electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and expand outreach on renewable energy transportation options to historically underserved communities. Under this project plan, about half of the car-sharing hubs will be located in ACP50 communities (area of concentrated poverty, >50% people of color). A strategy for deep engagement in these communities is planned in partnership with embedded community organizations, with a goal of better understanding barriers to access, as well as exploring options to guide and overcome these barriers for more equitable car-share access and usage in these historically underserved communities. (\$5,000)