

NEWS RELEASE

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MAYOR RECEIVES HONORABLE MENTION FOR EDEN PRAIRIE CLIMATE PROTECTION EFFORTS

Eden Prairie, Minn. — Today Mayor **Nancy Tyra-Lukens** was awarded an honorable mention for the **2011 Mayors' Climate Protection Awards**, an initiative sponsored by The U.S. Conference of Mayors and Walmart. The annual awards program recognizes mayors for innovative practices in their cities that increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An independent panel of judges selected the winners from a pool of 130 applicants.

Eden Prairie's honorable mention in the "small city" category is due to the **20-40-15** initiative Tyra-Lukens launched in December 2006. The program aims to increase energy efficiency in City facilities by **20 percent** and fuel efficiency in the City vehicle fleet by **40 percent** by the year **2015**.

In 2005, Tyra-Lukens signed the "Mayor's Commitment to Action" at the Sundance Summit's Mayors' Gathering on Climate Protection. After signing this "commitment to action," she formed the City's Conservation Commission. Tyra-Lukens was also inspired to make a significant contribution to conserving the City's resources, and 20-40-15 was the result.

"I am proud that Eden Prairie is being honored for the 20-40-15 initiative, but it's the City staff who really made this happen" she said. "It's amazing to me that we've achieved such outstanding results in the four short years since the program's launch."

To date, energy consumption in City facilities has been reduced by approximately 8-billion Btu, an 8½-percent improvement. Fuel efficiency in City vehicles has improved by 10 percent and reduced CO2 emissions by approximately 1,800 metric tons, the equivalent of removing 380 vehicles from the roads. Given the success of the projects already implemented and plans over the next few years, the City is confident the 20-40-15 goals will be met by 2015.

Houston won top honors in the "large city" category and Evanston, Ill. was awarded first place in the "small city" category for the 2011 Mayors' Climate Protection Awards, and four other small cities were awarded honorable mentions. Learn more at usmayors.org.

The City of Eden Prairie is a vibrant community of more than 60,000 residents located just southwest of Minneapolis. Eden Prairie has been nationally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2006, Eden Prairie has been listed among *MONEY* magazine's 100 "Best Places to Live" in America, and in 2010 topped *MONEY*'s list as the Best Place to Live in America.

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