



St. Cloud wins clean energy award

TIMES STAFF REPORT

2 p.m. CDT October 5, 2016

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(Photo: Times graphic)

St. Cloud was recognized Wednesday for its renewable energy and efficiency initiatives.

The Minnesota Department of Commerce awarded the city the 2016 Clean Energy Community Award, which is given to communities that increase energy efficiency or renewable energy opportunities, or drive innovation to advance the state's clean energy goals.



ST. CLOUD TIMES
St. Cloud's new LED street lights to save energy

The city's renewable energy and efficiency initiative includes the city's solar initiative, wastewater energy efficiency and biofuel project, street light improvement project and action plan with Xcel Energy's Partners in Energy.

Since the city's solar initiative was adopted last year, the city has subscribed to 15 million kilowatt hours of solar energy to be generated from community solar gardens, and the city's first rooftop solar array was installed this year.

The city's wastewater energy efficiency and biofuel project includes energy improvements to reduce energy use by 1.3 million kilowatt hours annually and the generation of approximately 5 million kilowatt hours of electricity each year.



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The city's street light improvement project includes more than 2,000 light-emitting diode, or LED, light installations, a new smart light system and the replacement of more than 3,700 traffic and pedestrian indicators. The street light project will save more than 2 million kilowatt hours of energy annually upon completion.

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