The energy used in commercial and residential buildings creates 65% of the City of St. Louis’s greenhouse gas emissions.

The average building wastes 30% of the energy it consumes due to inefficiencies (U.S. EPA). Half of all energy savings are possible through low-cost or no-cost operational improvements, but the opportunity for savings is often overlooked by building owners and hidden from investors.

St. Louis’ Building Energy Performance Standard currently proposes requiring:

1. Large commercial, multi-family, institutional, and municipal buildings (50,000 sq. ft. and above) reduce energy in order to meet an energy performance standard by 2025. Performance standards will be no lower than the 65th percentile of site EUI of similar buildings in St. Louis.

2. Performance standards for different property types will be established through rulemaking process by May 2021, which will include stakeholder engagement.

3. Buildings will use the free, online ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool to show compliance with the Building Energy Performance Standard as part of the existing annual benchmarking reporting process.

Benefits of Investing in Our Buildings:

- Investing in energy improvement efforts will spur economic growth, protect public health, and help the City meet its aggressive climate goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 100% by 2050. Currently, local utilities provide incentives to help owners improve building energy efficiency.

- A series of case studies developed by the Institute for Market Transformation outlining efficiency investments from around the country show that owners typically realize $2 - $3 in additional property value for every $1 they invest in efficiency improvements to their buildings.

- Locally, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1 has made significant investments in its building’s efficiency with roof insulation, new windows, updated lighting and HVAC, as well as a solar canopy and electric vehicle charging station. Since the renovations, IBEW’s 2019 summer energy bill was half of what it was the previous year.

ST. LOUIS HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE FIRST CITY IN THE MIDWEST TO PASS A BUILDING ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARD!
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