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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Dubuque becomes LEED-Certified City

DUBUQUE, Iowa -- As one of the 75 STAR-certified cities and counties in the U.S., Dubuque was recently named a LEED-Certified City.

STAR stands for Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating Communities. STAR Communities is a national framework for measuring and advancing local government's environmental, economic and community efforts to achieve sustainability. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, for Cities is a program from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) that advances healthy, green, and economically strong cities and communities.

“Our commitment to improve our city’s performance qualifies us to join the ranks of LEED Cities and Communities around the world,” said Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol. “Our STAR certification – earned in 2015 – has provided a great foundation for future work with the U.S. Green Building Council and we look forward to tracking and communicating our continued social, economic, and environmental performance so that Dubuque residents and stakeholders can see our progress.”

LEED for Cities and Communities is helping to accelerate the leadership now being shown by city and community leaders. LEED helps cities and communities benchmark current performance, track performance metrics, communicate continuous improvement, educate residents, visitors and business owners to demonstrate commitment to sustainability, human health and economic prosperity. As a result, local governments are becoming laboratories of innovation and leadership, and have an enormous opportunity to initiate a dynamic dialogue with citizens – and earn their trust in the process.

Mahesh Ramanujam, president and CEO of the USGBC, said, “We are helping cities and counties develop responsible, sustainable and specific plans for energy, water, waste, transportation and many other factors that contribute to raising the standard of

living for all people around the world. Dubuque is to be congratulated for its commitment to ensuring a place where people, nature, and businesses can all thrive.”

“Dubuque will reach an even higher level of leadership where they will be able to benchmark their current performance, home in on targeted metrics to achieve continuous improvement, and demonstrate a commitment to sustainability, human health, and economic prosperity,” added Ramanujam.

Cities and communities face many challenges in this day and age and citizens are demanding more transparency and information about the places where they live, work, learn, and play. LEED for Cities and Communities addresses these concerns on a global scale.

For additional information on Dubuque’s STAR/LEED Cities certification, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/2195/STAR-Community](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/2195/STAR-Community) or call 563-690-6038.

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