

**American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers  
Minnesota Chapter - Rochester Section**

**Subject:** Your City, Your Future: Sustainability in Rochester

**Date:** Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 12pm (noon). In conjunction with May 19<sup>th</sup> tour of Mayo Civic Center at 3pm

**Speaker:** Kayla Betzold and Zack Wood, City of Rochester

**Speaker Biography:**

Kayla Betzold is the Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Rochester, Minnesota, where she leads initiatives on clean energy, climate resilience, and community sustainability. Previously, she served the City of Louisville, Colorado, overseeing the development and implementation of environmental programs, projects, and policy initiatives in alignment with the City’s Sustainability Action Plan. With over a decade of experience in municipal sustainability, including work spanning three states, Kayla brings deep expertise in advancing policies and partnerships that reduce emissions, improve air quality, and foster more resilient communities.

Zack Wood is the Manager of Facilities and Property for the City of Rochester, Minnesota. He has over two decades of experience in building automation and public sector facility management, focused on optimizing building systems and supporting reliable, high-performing public facilities. In his role, he oversees a diverse portfolio of municipal properties and leads efforts to enhance operational efficiency, sustainability, and long-term asset stewardship. His work emphasizes delivering safe, efficient environments that effectively serve the community while maximizing the value of public investments.

**Presentation:**

A high-level look at Rochester’s sustainability efforts – why they matter, what’s already underway, and how they benefit residents, businesses, and the broader community. Kayla Betzold, the City’s Sustainability Coordinator, will highlight the City’s environmental goals, recent progress, and priority projects, and discuss a potential natural gas franchise fee as a tool for providing stable, long-term funding for current and future environmental initiatives.

A tour of the Mayo Civic Center is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. More details and registration forthcoming.

**Agenda:**

Social / Lunch: 11:30am - 11:55am  
Presentation: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

**Location:**

Bleu Duck Kitchen  
14 4<sup>th</sup> St SW  
Rochester, MN 55902

**Parking:**

3<sup>rd</sup> St Parking Ramp & Meters

**Cost:**

\$25.00 per person

---

\* **Note:** When a member does not RSVP by the listed RSVP date and time, meal availability cannot be guaranteed due to contract requirements with our meeting facility. **Please RSVP by EOD Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at [mnashrae.org](http://mnashrae.org)** For questions please contact Ryan Benning, [rbenning@whvr.com](mailto:rbenning@whvr.com) or Travis DeWeese, [tdeweese@mulcahyco.com](mailto:tdeweese@mulcahyco.com).