

**Bloomberg American Cities Climate Challenge**



Office of Sustainability

July 25, 2018

# What is the American Cities Climate Challenge?

A new initiative that aims to **accelerate** and **deepen** U.S. cities' efforts to create the greatest climate impact through 2020 and showcase the benefits – **good jobs**, **cleaner air**, and **cost savings** – that climate solutions bring.

## Strategic partners



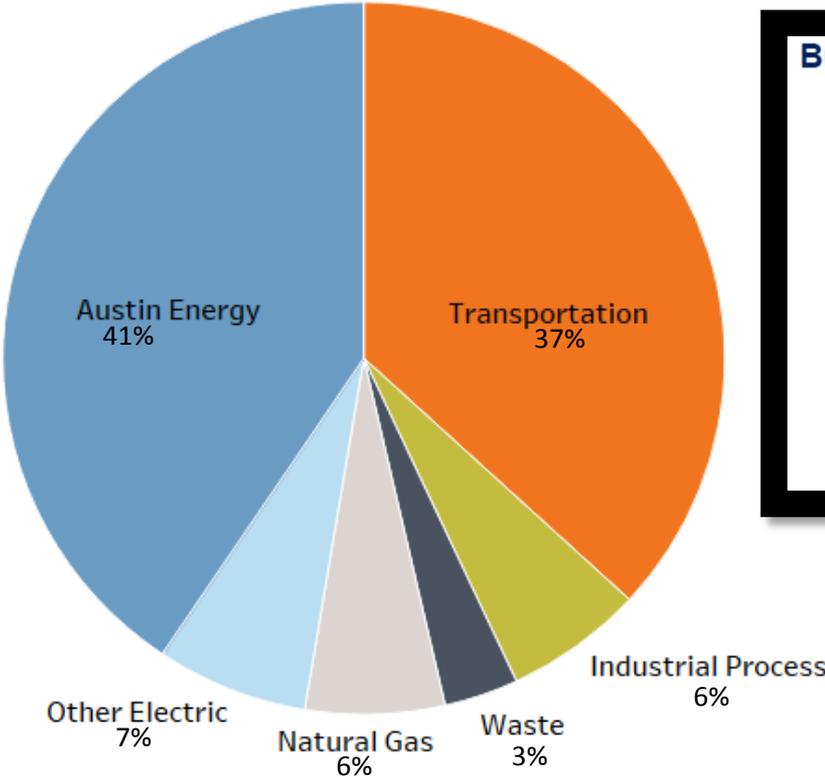
**USDN**

urban sustainability  
directors network

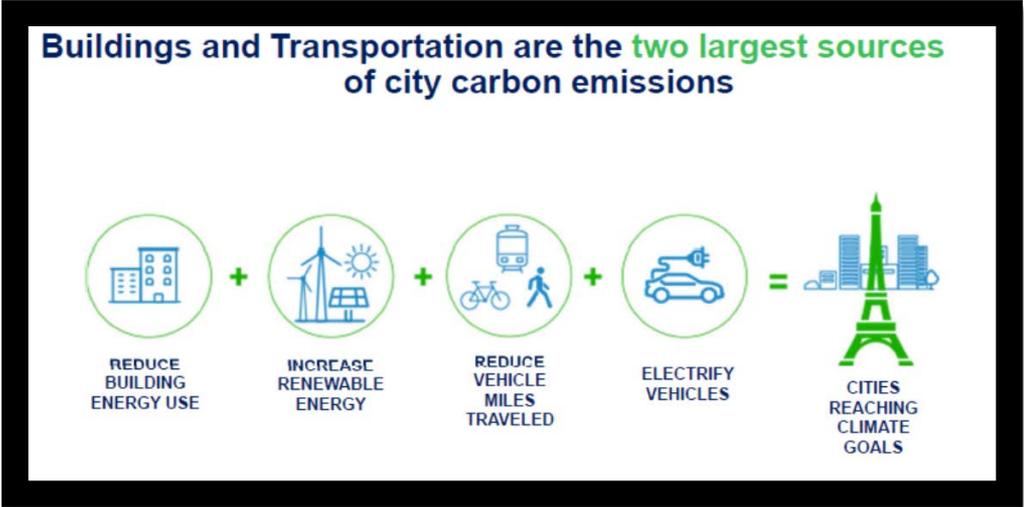


# Austin Community GHG Inventory

2016



13.5 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e



# What challenges are cities facing?

- Constrained resources and staff time
- Too many best practice reports, not enough implementation support
- Competing local priorities
- Political will

# What might selected cities receive?



A city advisor to facilitate the development and passage of high-impact actions



Polling and communications support to build momentum and amplify the city's progress against goals



Implementation coaching to drive results



Stakeholder engagement strategy



Citizen education and outreach support to maximize community engagement



Data, design, and innovation resources to help city officials deliver bold programming



Robust peer-to-peer learning and networking to ensure the learnings are scaled and cities support each other's ambitions



Rapid response grants to accelerate impact



Leadership development support to help city officials get the best from key members of their team

# Policy Priorities for 2020

## FOUNDATIONAL

Experts believe should be standard practice in cities seriously committed to reducing carbon pollution.

- Expected that all cities have completed or will work on these actions through the Challenge, unless otherwise noted in the application
- Heavy emphasis on municipal activities

## AMBITIOUS

More challenging, yet critical for Leadership Cities to undertake in order to deliver significant carbon reductions.

- Expected to select at least 2 Ambitious actions
- Heavy emphasis on communitywide policies and programs

## MOONSHOT

Other policies that must be implemented now in order to achieve your climate goals or areas of innovation

- If you're a leading city on climate, this is the new area to emphasize new ideas and opportunities

Current State of progress?

What success would look like by 2020?

Additional comments.

# Foundational - Buildings

Sector	Policy / Action	Description
Buildings	Deep energy efficiency retrofits and retrocommissioning of municipal facilities	In all practicable municipal facilities, conduct a whole-facility analysis and pursue integrated operational improvements and energy efficiency retrofits that address multiple energy systems at one time. Would include city operations such as wastewater treatment plants, landfills, streetlights, water pumping, etc.
Buildings	Meet municipal electricity demand with renewable energy (on-site, utility-supplied, or contracted)	Install solar panels and other renewable energy options where feasible onsite at municipal facilities. Procure utility-supplied or contracted renewable energy for city operations.
Buildings	Electric vehicle charging in municipally owned parking lots	Install easily accessible EV charging infrastructure in municipally owned parking lots.
Buildings	Energy code enforcement	Ensure architects, engineers, electricians and other relevant practitioners meet the standards of updated energy codes. This also entails city staff is properly trained on new code requirements, from a technical and logistical prospective.
Buildings	Private sector challenge programs for energy efficiency in buildings	Facilitate programs for building owners that are willing to be early adopters and commit to significant energy reductions voluntarily within a set period of time. Successful challenge programs can provide technical support, a peer network to exchange ideas, and opportunities for the buildings to receive recognition.
Buildings	Workforce development programs	Offer training programs to build the workforce of local, skilled labor that can carry out energy efficiency activities, such as energy audits. This also includes skill enhancement for relevant jobs, such as "green" training for building operators, electricians, and lighting designers.



# Ambitious - Buildings

Sector	Policy / Action	Description
Buildings	New financing programs for energy efficiency, renewables, and infrastructure	Eliminate financial barriers to moving forward with energy retrofits, installing renewables and providing the necessary infrastructure by providing long-term sustainable financing sources. Models to be explored include, but are not limited to, municipal bonds, green banks, and PACE.
Buildings	Benchmarking, audit, and retrocommissioning policies for existing buildings	Foundational policies to increase information about a building's energy consumption. Benchmarking measures and tracks annual energy consumption, audits provide building specific recommendations for equipment upgrades that would save energy, and retrocommissioning makes improvements to operations and maintenance that increase energy efficiency. Would minimally include large commercial and multifamily buildings.
Buildings	Performance standard for existing buildings	Require that existing buildings meet certain energy consumption thresholds.
Buildings	EV and Solar readiness or installation requirement	Through the building code, require that new buildings are wired and constructed with the capacity for future EV charging equipment or solar installations ("EV/solar ready") OR require that new buildings include EV chargers and solar panels when built.
Buildings	Community solar projects or other local renewable energy initiatives at scale	Community solar projects are local solar facilities shared by more than one household or business, making renewable energy accessible to those who rent, have roofs that can't host solar panels, or other limiting factors. Other local and scalable renewable energy initiatives may be identified as well.
Buildings	Local energy resource centers	Create holistic resource centers that support the building community on energy efficiency, solar, decarbonizing buildings, and electric vehicles to encourage an integrated approach and accelerate overall action.



# Foundational - Transportation

Sector	Policy / Action	Description
Transportation	Improve public transit speed, reliability and user experience (e.g. bus-only lanes, all-door boarding, real-time arrival information, mobility apps)	Increase frequency of transit service in high-demand corridors to achieve 15-minute headways or better. Pilot bus-only lanes, all-door boarding, and strategies that speed up transit trips. Provide a seamless customer experience with real-time arrival information, navigation apps and universal payment systems.
Transportation	Implement high priority segments in the walking and bicycling network to be safe and inviting to all, including for those using transit	Implement high quality protected bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that is safe and accessible for all ages. On the highest priority corridors, prioritize people traveling by transit, walking, biking, and shared mobility over solo driving.
Transportation	EV Education and incentives	Overcome the lack of awareness of EV technology by educating residents on the incentives, costs and operational advantages of EVs . Offer incentives to increase appeal of EVs.
Transportation	Encourage new mobility options (e.g. bikeshare, electric bikeshare)	Engage private sector partners to launch high-quality, effective bikeshare and electric bikeshare systems to create convenient, affordable, zero-emissions travel options.
Transportation	Commuter incentives	Incentivize teleworking and flextime schedules. Require employers to offer vanpool, carpool and transit options. Require employers to offer the cash value of parking spaces in lieu of parking.
Transportation	Electrify city fleets and buses	Commit to large-scale procurement of electric vehicles for municipal operations fleets and transit service.



# Ambitious - Transportation

Sector	Policy / Action	Description
Transportation	Define and expand the high-frequency public transit network to achieve significant ridership increases	Close gaps in the transit system by creating new service routes, expand hours of operation to provide high frequency transit services for all users.
Transportation	Market transformation programs to significantly accelerate community-scale transition to electric vehicles (e.g., with commercial fleets, private owners, car-sharing programs)	Encourage private fleets to convert to plug-in electric vehicles through city regulations and providing access to city assets like loading and parking zones. Offer ride and drive events and expand charging infrastructure to accelerate private adoption of electric vehicles.
Transportation	Congestion pricing / Go Zones	Implement Go Zones - designated areas with abundant transportation choices and a decongestion fee during peak periods - to reduce traffic, generate revenue for low-carbon choices, and shift travel to greater use of transit, walking and biking.
Transportation	Provide incentives/behavioral nudging for use of low-carbon mobility modes	Offer real-time financial incentives for residents to avoid driving during peak traffic periods. Reward travelers for using a low-carbon travel mode in the peak period, via behavioral nudging enabled by smartphones.
Transportation	Fully implement planned bicycle and pedestrian networks	Complete the build out of bicycle and pedestrian networks so that people of all ages and abilities have access to safe walking and biking infrastructure throughout the entire city.
Transportation	Parking management and pricing	Price curb parking spaces to balance supply and demand, reduce circling traffic, and encourage low-carbon travel.
Transportation	Low emissions zones	Accelerate uptake of clean, electric vehicles by charging a fee for polluting vehicles to enter a specific geographic area.



# Moonshot

- Build more housing near transit stations and eliminate parking requirements
- 2020 Project Connect and Public Transit Investment
- Urban Freight System
- Electric Autonomous Blended Passenger Service
- Ubiquitous EV charging infrastructure

# Application Timeline

