

# AUSTIN CLIMATE EQUITY PLAN



# Austin Climate Equity Plan

March 2022



OFFICE OF  
SUSTAINABILITY

CITY OF AUSTIN



# Plan Commitment to Racial Equity

## Climate Change

**Eliminate the use of fossil fuels for energy & transportation**

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Less dependence on cars
- Electric vehicles
- More trees & natural spaces
- Healthier consumer choices

**Health**

**Affordability**

**Accessibility**

**Cultural Preservation**

**Community Capacity**

**Just Transition**

**Accountability**

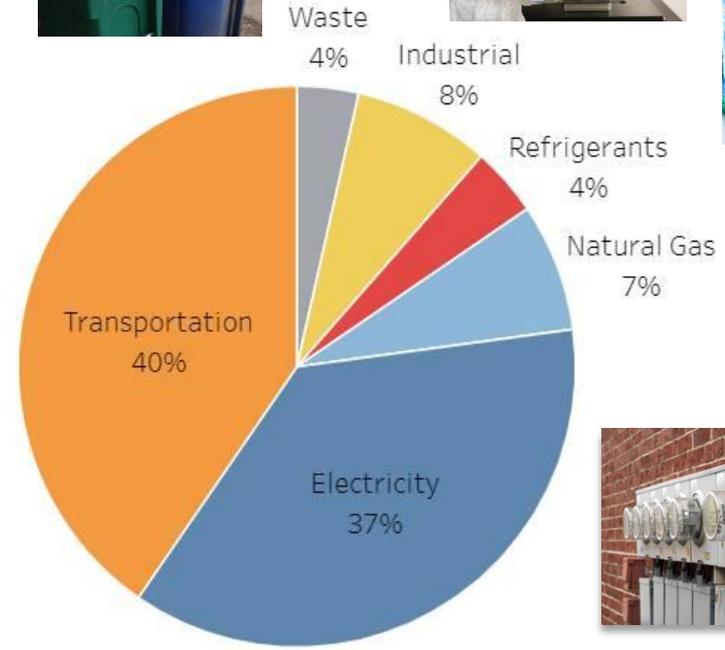
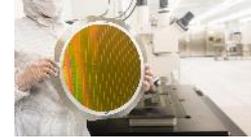
## Racial Equity

**Eliminate disparities that can be predicted by race**

- Safety for all at all times
- No disproportionate economic outcomes
- Fair access to services for all
- Inclusive participation in our city
- Positive health outcomes for all
- Embrace culture & difference

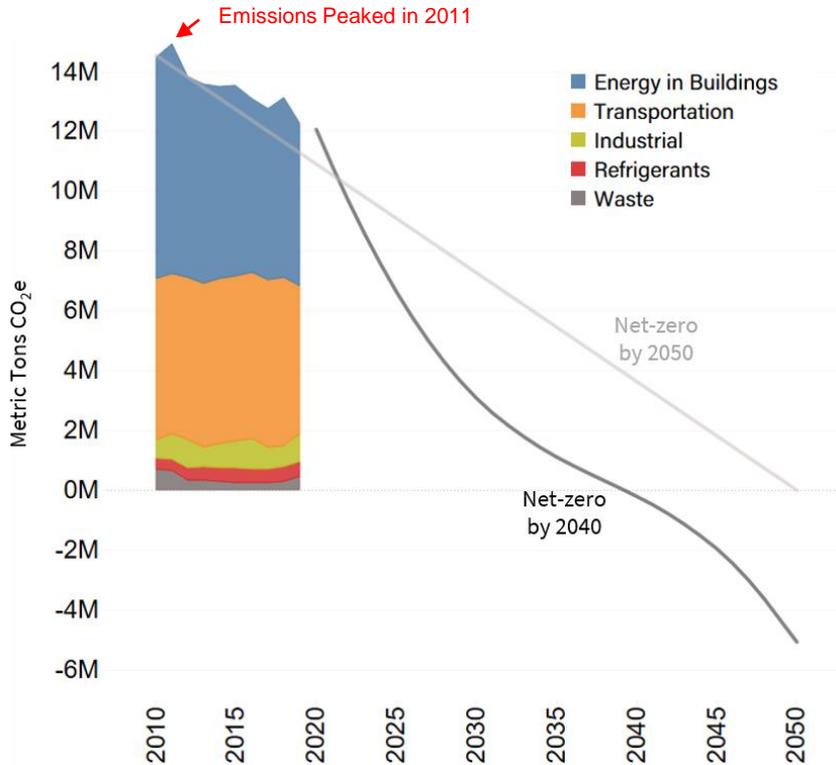
*If we're not proactively addressing equity, we're perpetuating injustice.*

# City of Austin – Community Carbon Footprint



**2019: 12.3 million metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e**

# New Community-Wide Goal



**Previous Goal: Net-zero by 2050**  
*(Adopted by Council in 2014)*

**New Goal: Net-zero by 2040**  
*(Approved by Council on 9/30/21)*



# Plan Overview

**4 Cross-Cutting Strategies** - Big picture **themes**

**17 Goals** – To be accomplished **by 2030** to keep on track

**74 Strategies** - Progress in next **5 years**

## **Equity Throughout, particularly in *Strategies***

- Prioritize **incentives** + target communications towards **low-income & communities of color**
- Just transition **to green jobs** for new industries & technology
- Prioritize health + other benefits for **Eastern Crescent**
- **Center communities of color** in ongoing learning

# Cross-cutting Strategies

**Strategy 1:** Green Jobs and Entrepreneurship

**Strategy 2:** Prioritize Local Community Initiatives

**Strategy 3:** Regional Collaboration

**Strategy 4:** Local Carbon Reduction Projects, Carbon Offsets and Carbon Dioxide Removal





## Transportation and Land Use

**1 of 3 Goals by 2030:**

**50% of trips in Austin are made using public transit, biking, walking, carpooling, or avoided altogether by working from home.**



## Transportation Electrification

**1 of 3 Goals by 2030:**

**40% of total vehicle miles traveled in Austin are electrified and electric vehicle ownership is culturally, geographically, and economically diverse.**



## Sustainable Buildings

1 of 4 goals by 2030:

All new buildings are net-zero carbon, emissions from existing buildings are reduced by 25%, and natural gas-related emissions are reduced by 30%.



## Food and Product Consumption

1 of 3 goals by 2030:

Greenhouse gas emissions from institutional, commercial, and government purchasing are reduced by at least 50%.



## Natural Systems

1 of 4 goals by 2030:

All city-owned lands are included under a management plan that results in neutral or negative carbon emissions and maximizes community benefits.



# September 30 - Resolution 99

## Adopted 10-1:

Approve the adoption of the Austin Climate Equity Plan, which sets a new community-wide goal of equitably reaching **net-zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2040**, using a steep decline path followed by negative emissions.



# Resolution 110

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=368416>

**Clearly define leadership responsibilities** over implementation of plan and over the climate emergency and sustainability efforts and **quarterly updates** during work sessions.

**Recommendations that do not require a budget amendment**, can be launched near term, report progress at the first quarterly update, and create recommendations for a **midyear budget amendment by March 1, 2022**

Fiscal Year 2023 budget process and all future budgets, **identify investments to achieve net-zero goals**



## Resolution 110 (Part 2)

Build on existing green jobs programs, leverage City's workforce development efforts to advance equitable green jobs and entrepreneurship

**Create a public-facing, accessible dashboard** on plan implementation progress

Evaluate **extending the Climate Ambassador program**



# Next Steps

- February Memo Update:  
<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/pio/document.cfm?id=376186>
- Story Map:  
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/a16c5def2fef4a2285be0737e2efdeb0>
- Ongoing Joint Sustainability Committee Oversight
- Ongoing Implementation and Budget Discussions

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# Thank you!

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