



Austin Climate Equity Plan | *JSC Update*

September 28, 2022



Plan Implementation Updates

- Net Zero Section in the FY23 Budget proposal (pages 138-143)
[https://assets.austintexas.gov/budget/22-23/downloads/FY23 Proposed Budget.pdf](https://assets.austintexas.gov/budget/22-23/downloads/FY23_Proposed_Budget.pdf)
- 2nd quarterly briefing of the year just occurred yesterday
 - June - Overview of OOS approach and general implementation
 - September - Transportation Electrification
 - January - Sustainable Buildings
- [Implementation Dashboard is live](#)
- The **2nd Community Climate Ambassadors Cohort** launched in August
- Starting this Fall, a new **Climate Equity Plan Community Task Force**, focused on measuring equity in implementation



Austin Climate Equity Plan

Implementation Dashboard

Jump to:

[Net-Zero Progress](#) | [Equity and Overarching Strategies](#) | [Work Status Overview](#) | [Dashboard Sections](#)

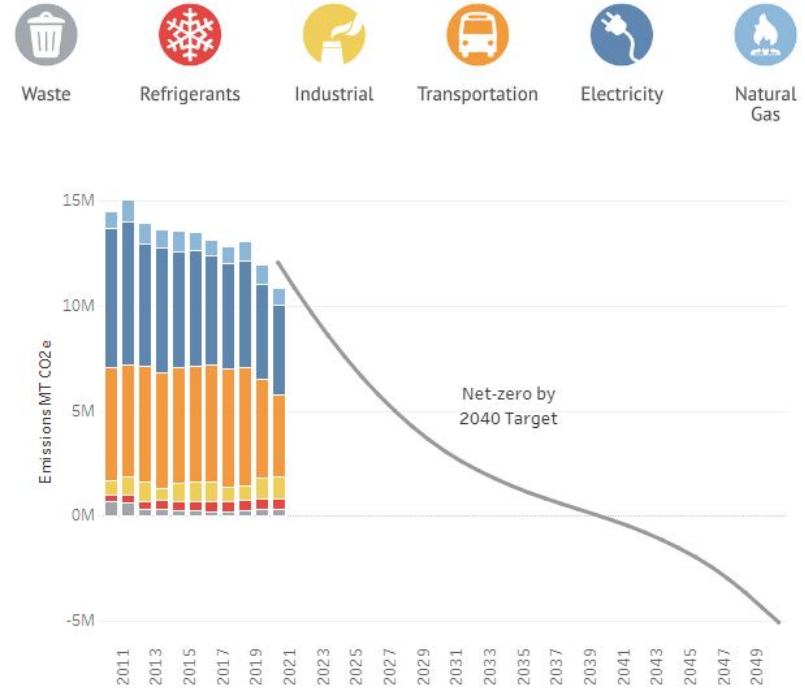
About this Dashboard

Following an Austin City Council [resolution](#), this public-facing webpage was created by the City of Austin's Office of Sustainability to provide up-to-date and transparent information on the City's progress in implementing the Climate Equity Plan. This work complements other essential community plans like the [Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan](#), [Project Connect](#), [Austin Resource Recovery Zero Waste Plan](#), [Austin Strategic Mobility Plan](#), [Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint](#), and [Water Forward](#).

Implementation Dashboard

What's in the dashboard now?

- Progress toward the **Net-Zero by 2040 target**
- Summary of efforts around the **Overarching Strategies**
- Work status snapshots for the **74 Strategies**
- Coming next: metrics on the **17 quantitative goals**



Implementation Dashboard

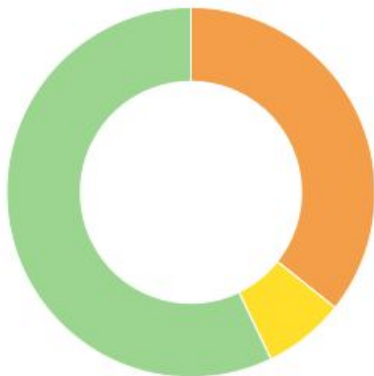
- **Over 100 updates** from internal and external partners on their work to implement the Plan
- About **70% of strategies** are already **Underway or Starting Soon**
- This work will serve as a launchpad to focus next steps with partners
- The public can read all of this info and more **live on the Dashboard now**

Transportation Electrification

Status available for

14 of **14**
strategies.

<< Scroll on mobile >>



Number of Strategies

Status Coming Soon

Not Yet Started

Starting Soon

Underway / Ongoing

Complete

5

1

8

Climate Ambassadors!



Ambassador Highlights

- We have **9 ambassadors** signed on
- They've gone through an **Equity training** and a **Civic engagement workshop**
- They've identified strategies from the Climate Equity Plan and have started working on **Community Action Projects** that relate to those strategies
- October's ambassador meeting will include City staff and community partners to find areas to collaborate or provide guidance

Community Action Projects (by Section)

Sustainable Buildings

Working with community orgs to conduct more accessible outreach around preparing for changing climate

Transportation & Land Use

Conducting outreach in order to create recommendations for how to improve existing and planned transit stops

Enhancing community engagement around affordable housing by surveying renters, first-time homebuyers, and folks living in co-ops

Natural Systems

Holding an event to offer youth a guided experience in nature that delves into their perceptions of green spaces and gentrification

Community Task Force

- Project Concept**

Where we've been

Steering Committee for the plan, 2 years of work, Community Ownership Model

Adoption of the plan supported by Staff, Community, Council in alignment

Added 5 new members to the JSC for content / equity coverage

Interest in creating a “working group” of the JSC, lack of focus, no dedicated support from OOS, no traction

Held 2 Workshops with Stakeholders on Implementation

What we heard in the Workshops

Desired Purpose of a Community

Input Working Group

- Accountability in City govt (leadership, policies, budget)
- Assist with collaboration and partnership development between City and NGOs
- Support for projects
- Raising outside funding

If we formed a community group, who is in the group?

- Community leaders/community members/those most impacted
- Folks with expertise (e.g. legal, policy, natural systems, etc.)
- City leadership
- Business partners, stakeholders in the business community

Potential action items?

- Guide community-led implementation
- Assisting with identifying and building up more community leaders
- Work on “Shovel ready” projects

Our Discussions

- There is not a mechanism for volunteer groups to keep government “accountable”
- It doesn’t seem like there is momentum for a Community Owned Group
- If staff are going to run the group, it needs to align with our structure, goals, processes, objectives, and place in the bureaucracy
- A group to review / comment on city work doesn’t create much value, doesn’t build trust
- Community ownership model does create a lot of value, when setup correctly
- Create a clearly defined group with scope, tasks, final product all agreed upon so we can work together, build trust, solve problems / issues and move this work forward

Proposed Way Forward

Climate Equity Implementation Task Force

- 1 year term, 1 (2 hour) meeting a month, plus additional work between meetings
- Offer to pay participants \$500-1000
- Focused Project / Task to complete
- Equity as the focus
- Community Ownership Model of Decision Making

Benefits of this Direction

- Clear project to collaborate on with a defined commitment
- Build trust / relationships
- Distinct Product at the end

Participants:

OOS Staff

4-5 Equity Office and EDI PMs from other departments

2-3 JSC Members

2-3 former Steering Committee Members

5-10 New Interested Community Members

Timeline:

Sept-Oct - Buy in / definition

Nov-Dec - Recruiting / Planning / Setup

Jan - Kickoff

Task Force to run from Jan - Dec 2023

Project Focus - Measuring Equity

The City needs this, beyond only the ACEP, to increase prioritization of this work in planning and push accountability. “If it’s not measured, there’s no way it can get managed”

We’ll get support on this beyond just our team, also EDI PMs in other departments
Initial concepts developed this summer by our EDF Fellow

Need community input and insight to finalize

- An overarching approach
- Prioritization across the plan
- Data collection
- Qualitative Stories
- Communication Plan / Audiences

Thank you!



More information:

- austintexas.gov/climateplan
 - txetra.org
 - ev.austinenergy.com
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