

Community Goals Addendum to Environmental Action Plan

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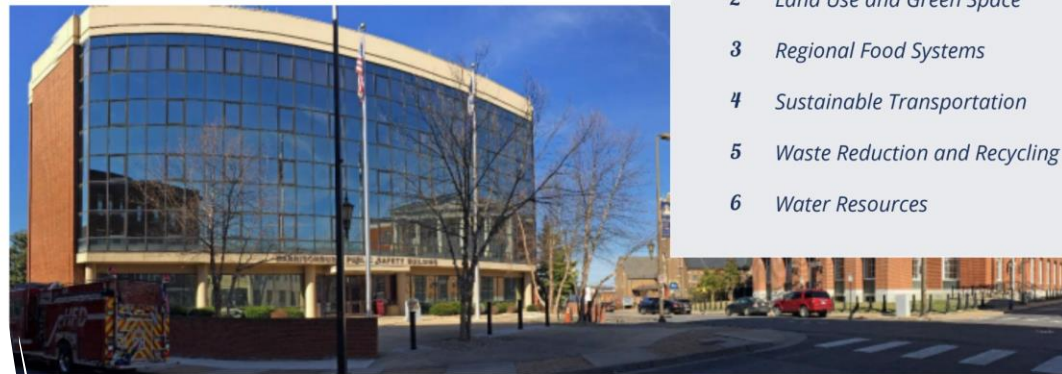
GUIDING GOALS

- 1 Continue to advance sustainability initiatives in the community.
- 2 Reduce overall, community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the intensity of greenhouse gases emitted from different activities.
- 3 Continue to grow and deepen local partnerships in order to further the implementation of the Environmental Action Plan (EAP)



FOCUS AREAS

- 1 Buildings and Energy
- 2 Land Use and Green Space
- 3 Regional Food Systems
- 4 Sustainable Transportation
- 5 Waste Reduction and Recycling
- 6 Water Resources



Environmental Action Plan

Phase I

Created by Harrisonburg City Staff and the Environmental Performance Standards Advisory Committee

Adopted by City Council on January 14, 2020



Community Goals

Why add community goals?

- July 2022 Council Resolution
- Add GHG Reduction Goal
- Expand EAP to include aspirational vision for our community
- Empower our entire community
- Inform future implementation of climate and environmental action



#1. Promote reducing GHG emissions at a speed and scale consistent with current science

- In order to limit warming to 1.5-2°C (2.7-3.6°F) by 2050.
 - Reduction of 45% in GHG emissions from 2016 levels is needed by 2030
 - Carbon Neutrality by 2050



#2. Ensure that the transition to a low carbon future is effective, affordable, equitable and inclusive and prioritize actions that increase financial stability of Harrisonburg households and businesses

- Equitable access and participation
- The burdens and benefits of climate change policy should be fairly distributed



#3. Promote adoption of clean, renewable energy

- Prioritize and incentivize actions that increase the penetration of solar, wind, geothermal and other clean, renewable energy forms on our grid.
- Incentivize and educate the public on ways to lower the emissions of their home, travel, and lifestyles.
- Educate and publicize funding opportunities and technical assistance for energy efficiency renovations and transitioning to clean, renewable energy.



#4. Prioritize actions that have intersectional benefits with other environmental and City priorities

- Some actions have additional benefits that are not directly related to reducing GHGs
- Prioritize action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and meets other City priorities
- Benefits may include cleaner air, green job creation, economic growth, health benefits, connection to community, active travel, increased biodiversity, sustainable behaviors and lifestyles, resilience, improved resource efficiency, and improved general quality of life



#5. Promote public engagement in GHG reduction emission planning including increasing public education, awareness, and involvement

- Engage with the public
- Increase education and awareness
- Utilize processes similar to Deliberative Democracy when possible to empower community members to be active in decision-making



#5. Public Engagement

- Harrisonburg residents
- Harrisonburg businesses
- Civic and community organizations
- Educational institutions
- Faith organizations
- Homeowners and renters
- Property managers and landlords
- Low-income households and public housing residents
- Recent immigrant communities and non-English speakers
- Harrisonburg customers, tourists, and visitors



#6. Promote local climate resiliency and adaptation measures

- Promote use of nature-based infrastructure in development
- Protect and expand natural areas
- Resilient built infrastructure



Recommendation & Next Steps

- Adopt Community Goals Addendum to EAP
 - Includes adopting a community goal of reducing GHG emissions 45% from 2016 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050