

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

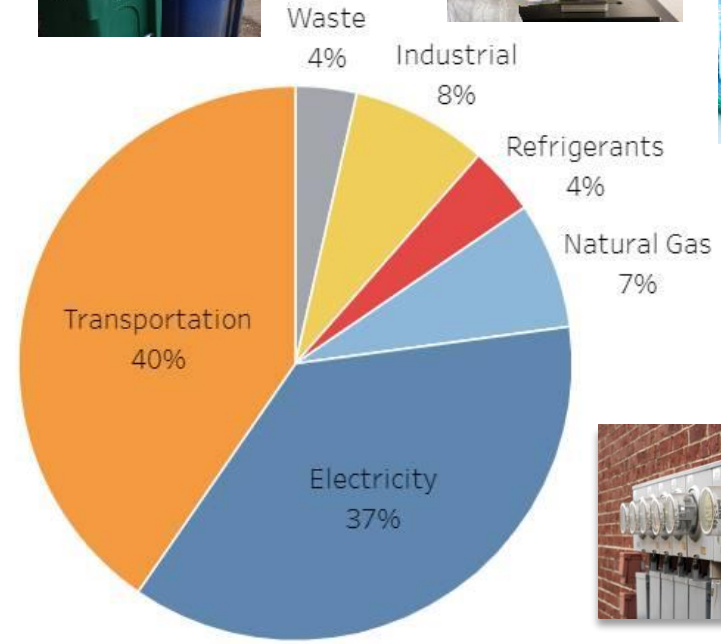
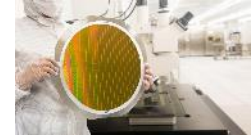
Racial Equity

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

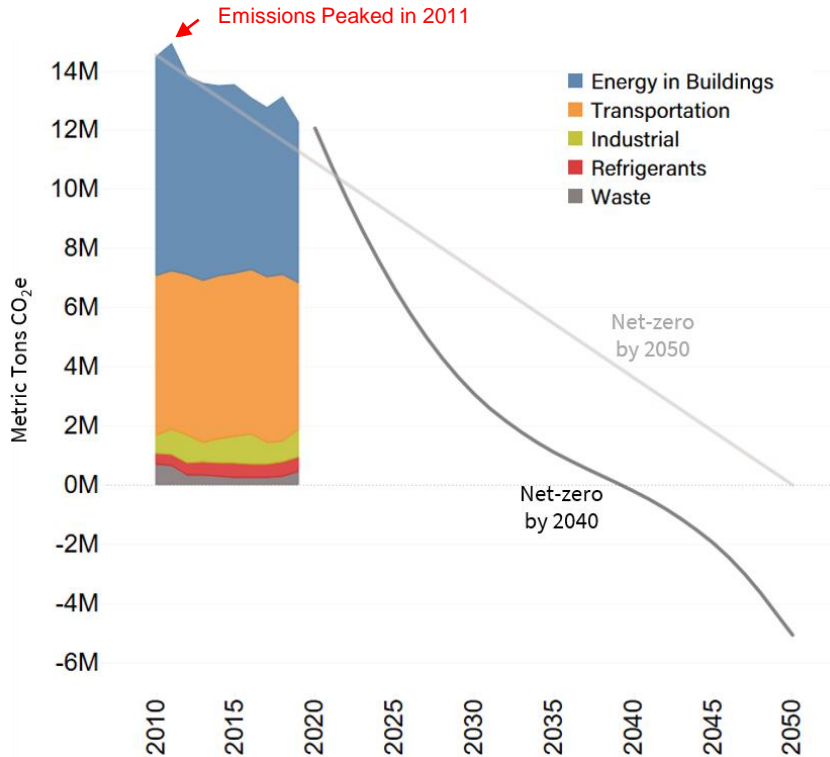
If we're not proactively addressing equity, we're perpetuating injustice.

City of Austin – Community Carbon Footprint



2019: 12.3 million metric tons CO₂e

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

Thank you!

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