



Local Climate Action Planning

October 23, 2026

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PRESENTERS

Climate Action Plans for Government Operations

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WHAT IS A LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN?

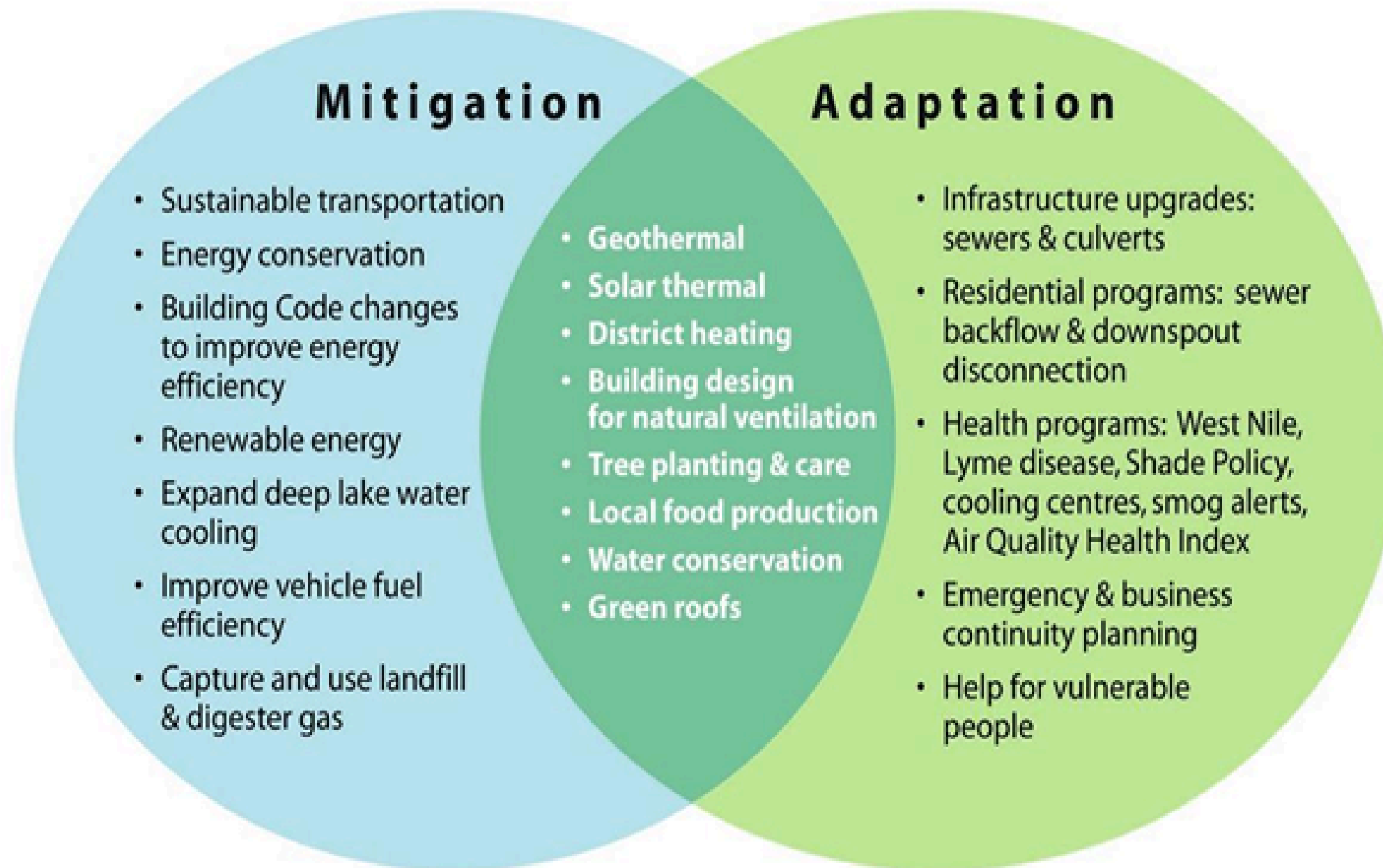
- A climate action plan (CAP) is a strategy document that sets goals and outlines a set of initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Using a GHG inventory as the foundation, a CAP defines GHG reduction targets and identifies priority actions.

**Municipal Operations
Climate Action Plan**

**Community
Climate Action Plan**

WHAT IS A LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLAN?

Figure 2: Climate Mitigation vs. Climate Adaptation



A CAP focuses on mitigation initiatives that reduce or prevent GHG emissions.

When developing a CAP, a community is encouraged to include initiatives that provide both climate mitigation **and** adaptation benefits

WHY IS A CAP IMPORTANT?

- Provides local governments with a framework to facilitate coordination across departments and community stakeholders
- Identifies and prioritizes initiatives to successfully reduce emissions
- Serves as a roadmap for local governments as they implement both municipal and community-wide programs, projects and policies



MUNICIPAL CAPS



56 total points available; 28 points for each level

● 2. Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.

PE2 Action: Government Operations GHG Inventory

16 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

• COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE2 Action: Community GHG Inventory

12 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

• THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 12, 16 • COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE2 Action: Government Operations Climate Action Plan

12 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

• THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 12, 16 • COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE2 Action: Community Climate Action Plan

16 Points

🏅 Bronze Priority 🏅 Silver Priority

• COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

6 COMPONENTS OF A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

1 Analysis of Baseline Emissions	2 GHG Reduction Targets	3 Progress to Date
4 Mitigation Measures	5 Implementation	6 Monitoring, Tracking, & Adjusting Progress

ANALYSIS OF BASELINE GHG EMISSIONS

GHG Inventory: prerequisite to the CAP that establishes baseline of emissions

- Administration Facilities
- Vehicle Fleet
- Streetlights and traffic signals
- Solid waste facilities
- Wastewater facilities
- Water delivery facilities
- Refrigerants

Local Government Operations Protocol
*For the quantification and reporting of greenhouse
gas emissions inventories*

Version 1.1

May 2010

Developed in partnership and adopted by:

California Air Resources Board

California Climate Action Registry

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

The Climate Registry

GHG REDUCTION TARGETS

For example, if the government operations GHG inventory was based on 2020 data, the target could be set as a 40 percent reduction by 2030, based on 2020 levels.

The Capital Region CCAP sets the following aspirational GHG reduction targets from 2010 levels:

Short-Term Reduction Target
20% by 2035

Long-Term Reduction Target
65% by 2050

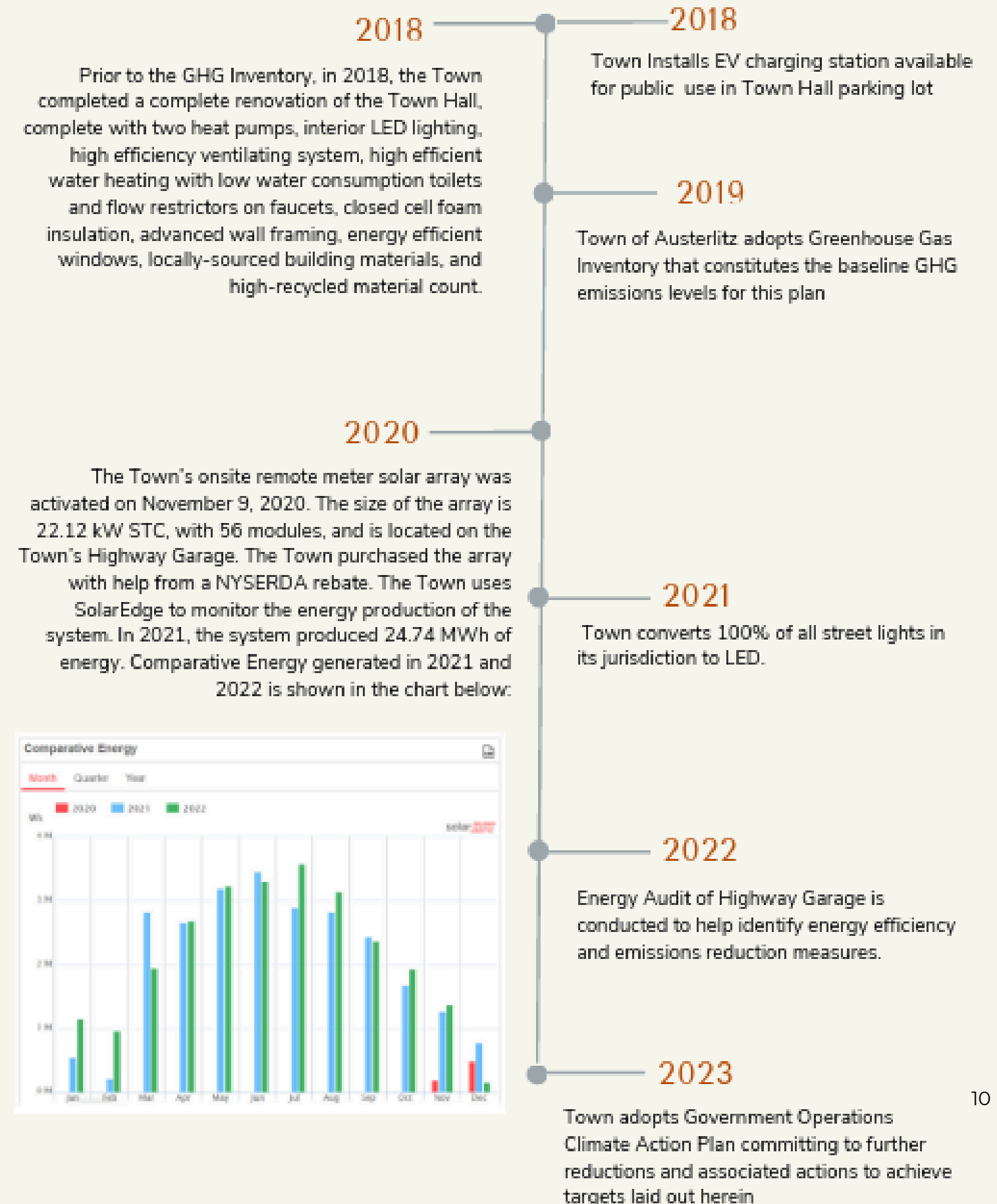
PROGRESS TO DATE

A comprehensive CAP will:

- account for GHG emissions data
- build off existing policies, plans, and programs that have been accomplished to date
- include a list of past accomplishments and existing efforts related to climate change and the environment

Identifying progress to date reduces the possibility of duplicating efforts, leverages limited resources (capacity and funding), and promotes past successes and highlights the community's commitment to mitigating emissions.

TIMELINE OF PROGRESS TO DATE



MITIGATION MEASURES FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

TRANSPORTATION									
Goal Prior	long-term or short-term?	Strategy	Initiative/Actions	Key Performance Indicator	Emissions Reduction Potential	Emissions Reduction Potential Notes	Cost	Cost Notes	Other Notes
Goal #1: Reduce Emissions from Government Fleet: 40% by 2030; 85% by 2050				# of gallons gas and diesel saved -					
		1. Reduce mileage driven							
		1.1	Rightsize vehicle fleet	# vehicles eliminated % of vehicles replaced/multi-purpose	Medium	Depending on #/% of vehicles eliminated and their usage	Low	Staff time to decide which vehicles to eliminate. Potential cost savings if vehicles are sold.	
		1.2	Adopt an anti-idling policy for government vehicles	Adoption of policy # of idling hours avoided per year	Low	Low on its own, but important first step	Low	Staff time to decide which vehicles to eliminate. Potential cost savings if vehicles are sold.	
		2. Increase fleet efficiency							
1	short-term	2.1	Conduct Fleet Inventory	Inventory completed # of vehicles in fleet (by type and size)	Low	Low on its own, but important first step	Low	Free if done with volunteer time. Low cost with staff.	Template available
2	short-term	2.2	Fleet efficiency policy - Prioritize EV Purchases	Adoption of policy % of fleet using alternative fuels % of fleet proposed for conversion # of vehicles converted to electric # of gallons saved - overall goal of 40% reduction by 2030	High	Depending on policy. High if it requires Evs/most efficient vehicle possible	Low	Staff time to create policy and implement it. EV Purchases may have incremental cost. Evs have been found to have a return on investment and be cheaper to own and maintain.	Template available
4	short-term: 25% long-term: 100%	2.3	Replace traditional vehicles with advanced vehicles	# of vehicles by type and size % of fleet replaced # of gallons of fuel consumed	High		Low	Staff time to create policy and implement it. EV Purchases may have incremental cost. Evs have been found to have a return on investment and be cheaper to own and maintain.	Notes on cost are for single pieces of equipment (one EV, one charging station, etc.)
3	short-term: inst	2.4	Install EV infrastructure	# of charging stations installed by municipality	Low	Low on its own, but important first step	Low	ZEV infrastructure grant available to cover most or all of cost to install. CEC Funding available.	Notes on cost are for single pieces of equipment (one EV, one charging station, etc.)

MITIGATION MEASURES FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Engage local government officials and staff

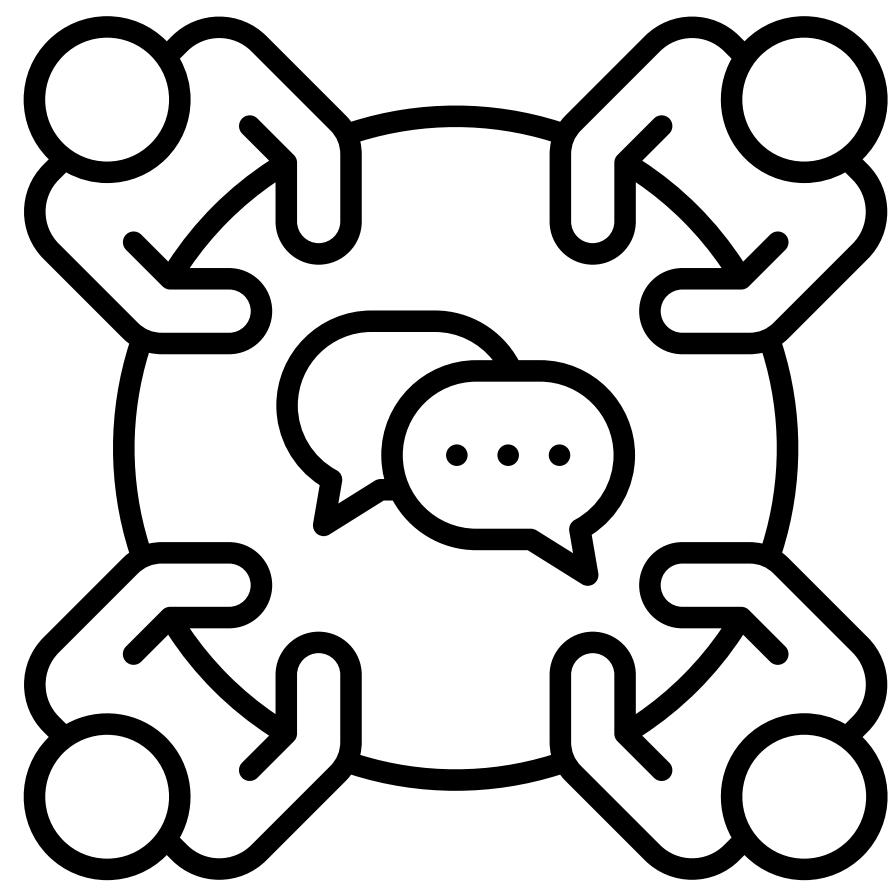
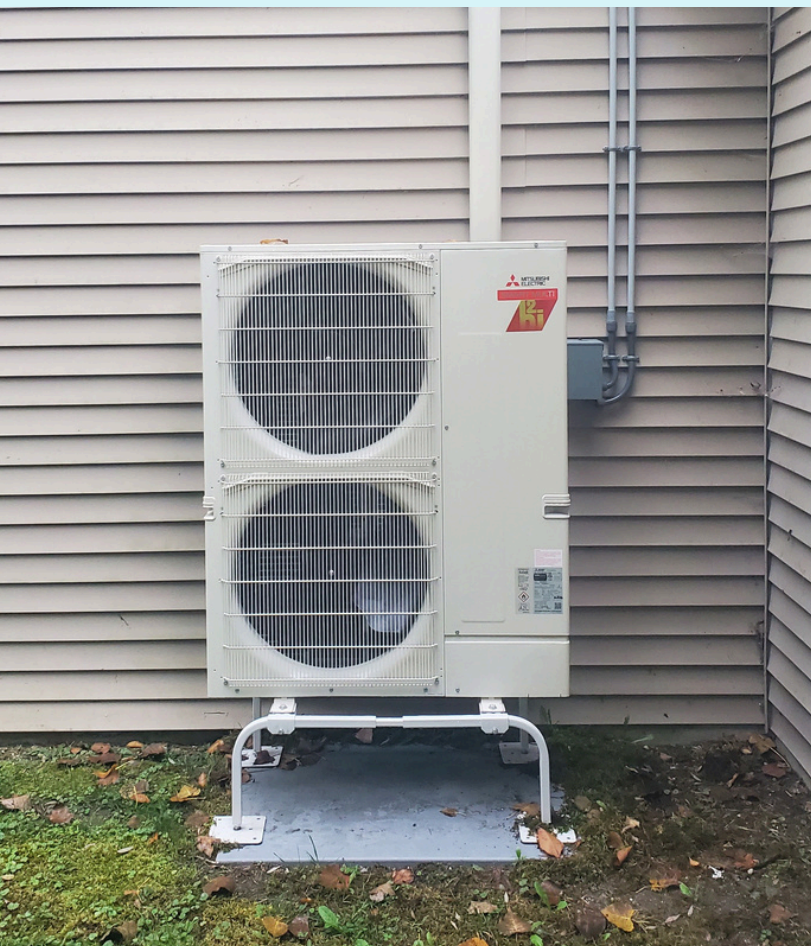


Figure 5: Examples of Local Government Key Staff

	Invite Key Staff Members
✓	Planners
✓	Public Works Staff
✓	Fleet Managers
✓	Finance & Budget Staff
✓	Emergency Management & Public Safety Staff
✓	Human Resources
✓	Water & Wastewater Staff
✓	Other Municipal Facilities

LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION



Town of Stephentown



City of Albany



Town of Ballston



Village of Kinderhook

Sources, from Left: Bill Jennings, Chris Reohr (NYSERDA), Haley Balcanoff (CDRPC), Village of Kinderhook

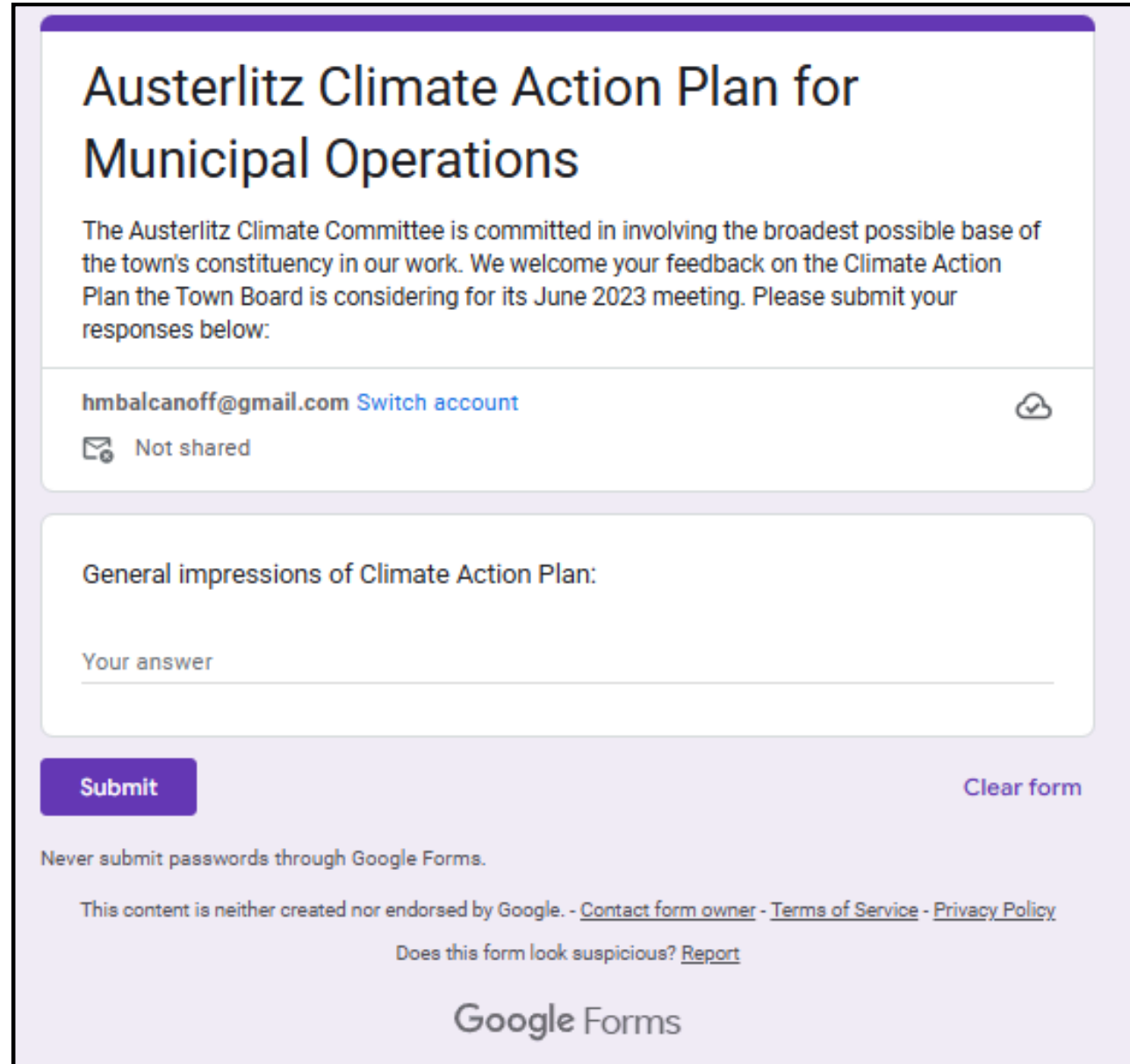
Grants and incentives to support implementation

CSC Grant Program	<i>NYS DEC</i>	Climate Change assessment, planning, mitigation, and adaptation projects
NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities	<i>NYSERDA</i>	Match-free grants for clean energy projects
EV & Fleet Incentives	<i>NYS DEC NYSERDA Joint Utilities</i>	Charging infrastructure, rebates for ZEV
Regional Coordinators	<i>NYSERDA NYS DEC</i>	Free, hands-on technical support for planning, education and capacity building

OUTREACH

Public engagement is encouraged for community climate action plans

- make draft available to the public for review and comment
- public meetings or events to facilitate discussion and receive feedback



Austerlitz Climate Action Plan for Municipal Operations

The Austerlitz Climate Committee is committed in involving the broadest possible base of the town's constituency in our work. We welcome your feedback on the Climate Action Plan the Town Board is considering for its June 2023 meeting. Please submit your responses below:

hmbalcanoff@gmail.com [Switch account](#)

Not shared

General impressions of Climate Action Plan:

Your answer

Submit [Clear form](#)

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Google Forms



TOWN OF
Claverack
NEW YORK

Menu

Public Hearing for Climate Action Plan

February 23, 2024

What can the Town of Claverack do to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emission in our town operations?

Review the proposed Climate Action Plan for Government Operations and join us for a Public Hearing at the Claverack Free Library on Wednesday March 6 at 6:00 PM

View/download the plan: [Claverack Climate Action Plan Document](#)

Since its inception in 2020, the ClaverackClimate Smart Committee has been working on actions to qualify Claverack for the NY State designation of Bronze Certification. These actions are part of a NYSERDA's list of over 130 activities to reduce greenhouse gas emission, transition to renewable energy, foster adaptation to the changing climate, and build resilience to the current climate realities. Claverack's proposed Climate Action Plan for Government Operations (CAP) is a guide for the town to achieve carbon neutrality, and an important step in this quest for Bronze Certification.

FINALIZE & ADOPT REPORT

RESOLUTION #XXX
UNDERTAKE A [MUNICIPALITY] [YEAR/S] COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE GAS
INVENTORY AND COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, the [MUNICIPALITY] pledged to take part in the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Certification Program that includes the preparation of a Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report and Community Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, these publications are developed using [YEARS] data with no cost assistance from the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) through a NYS DEC Climate Leadership Coordinator Services grant toward completion of the following action items toward Climate Smart Communities certification:

- 1) Pledge Element 2.2 - Develop a Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory; and
- 2) Pledge Element 2.4 - Develop a Community Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Smart Task Force, comprised of town officials and environmental volunteer community leaders, will collaborate with CDRPC in the development of these publications, reviewed drafts, and provide valuable feedback on iterations that result in final draft; and

WHEREAS, the task force will present a summary of the inventory results, target reduction plan and components of the draft government operations climate action plan to the [Council/Board] regular meeting...

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the [Town Board] hereby undertake the [Years] Community Greenhouse Emission Inventory Report and the Community Climate Action Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board authorizes submission of these documents to the NYS DEC Office for Climate Change for consideration of points toward Climate Smart Communities certification for the [Municipality].

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

NAME
NAME
NAME
NAME

The Resolution was thereupon adopted on [DATE].

County of Schenectady PE2 Action: Community Climate Action Plan

NYS Climate Smart Communities Program



Source: Schenectady, NY | Official Website. <https://www.cityofschenectady.com>



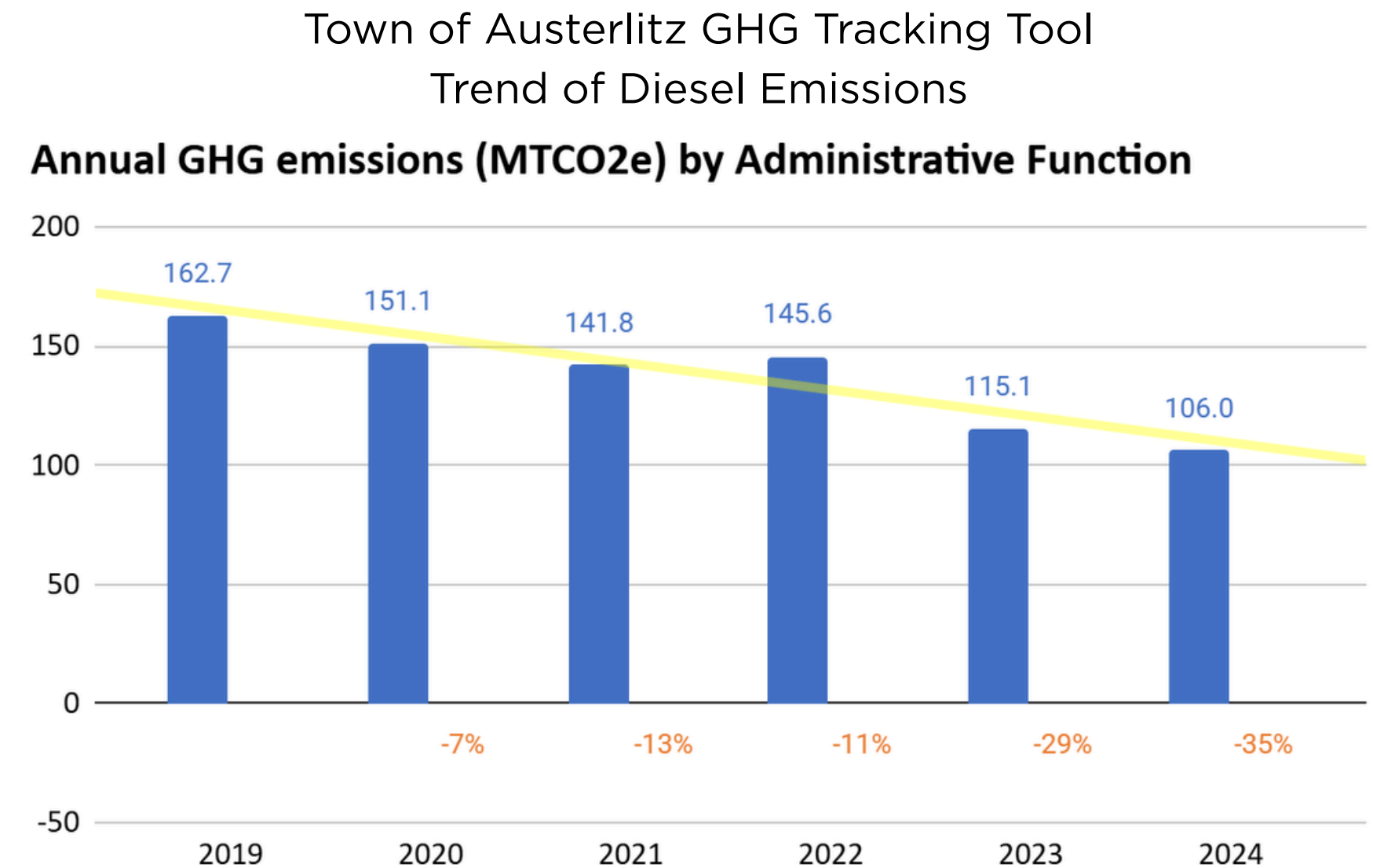
May 2023



MONITORING AND TRACKING PROGRESS

Climate Action Plans can be updated and revised periodically for several reasons, including:

- Updating the GHG inventory to analyze progress to date
- Technological updates
- New funding opportunities and incentives

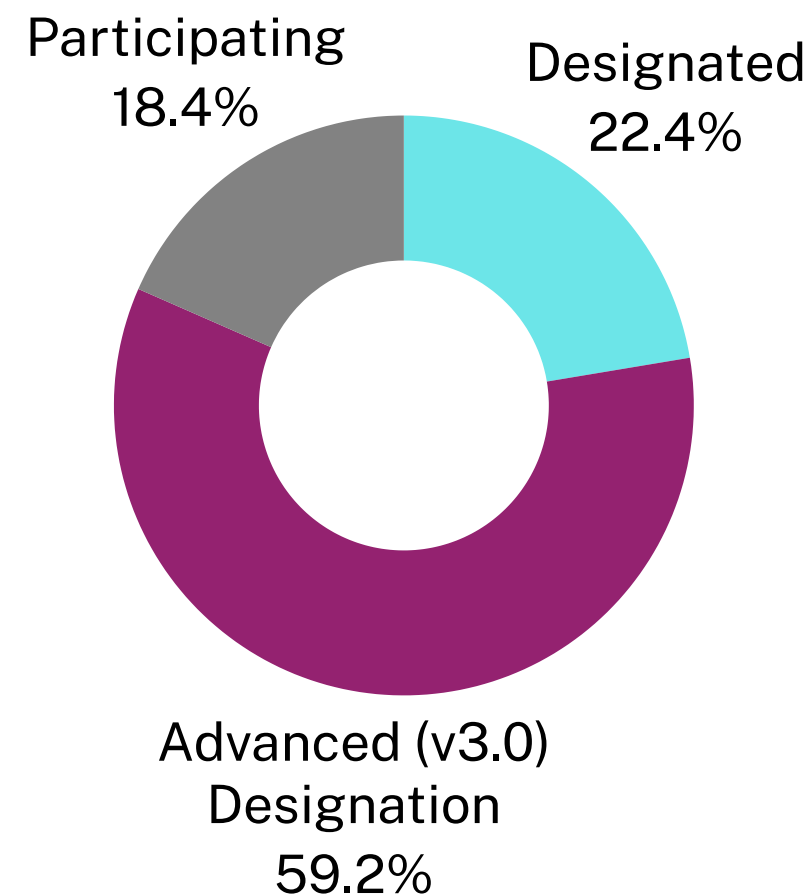


Local Government Implementation Support

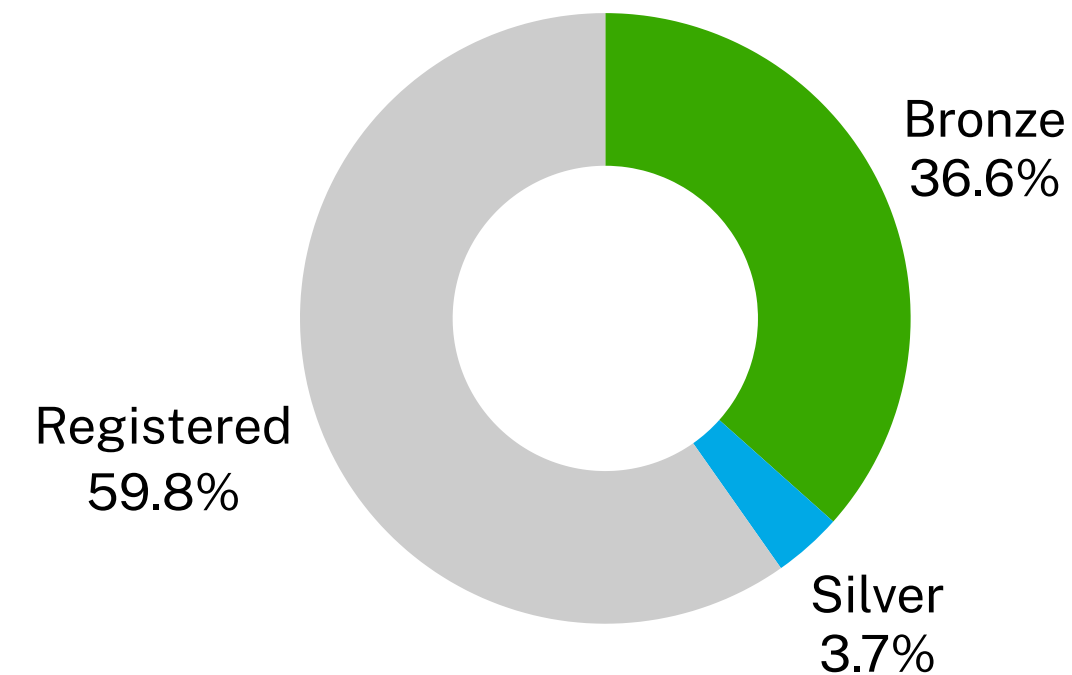
- Regional municipalities can participate in grant and recognition programs to support their climate goals:



76 Communities
Participating in CEC

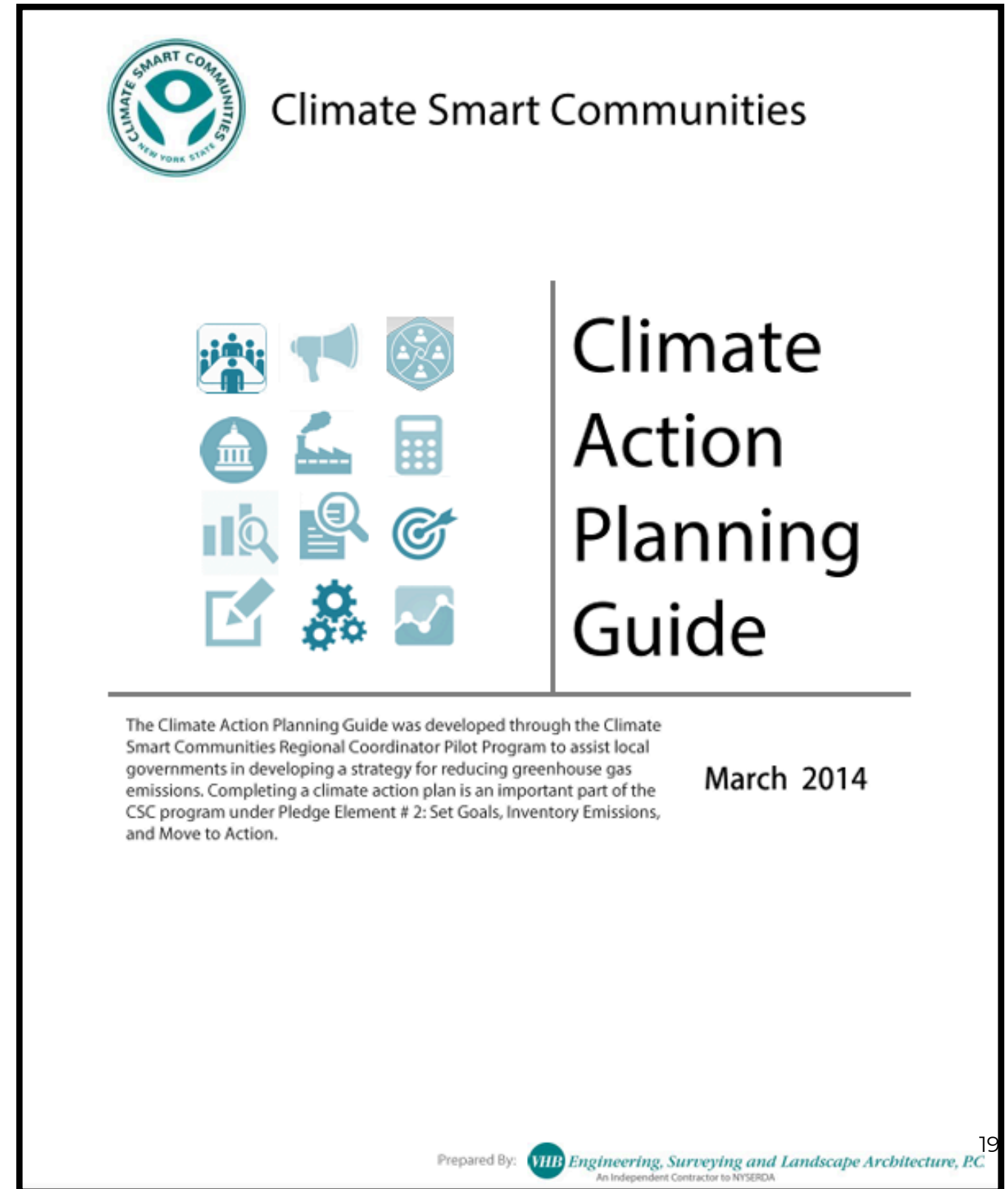


82 Communities
Participating in CSC



RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO UNDERTAKE A CAP

- Regional CSC Coordinator
 - GHG Inventory & CAP templates
- CSC Climate Action Plan Guide
- CSC Grants



Community-Wide Implementation Support

A range of programs, state agencies, community-based partners, and regional organizations help provide tools, funding, and support for implementation.

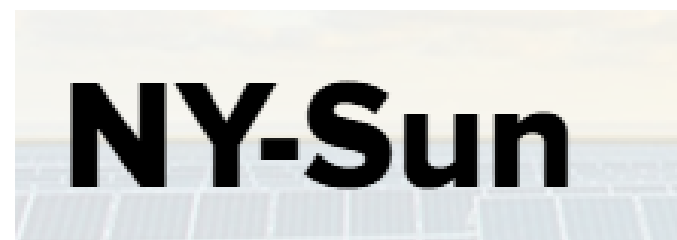


**Drive Clean
Rebate for
Electric Cars**



**CDRPC & Transportation Council's
Technical Assistance Program**

**NYSERDA's Small Business
Financing Program**



**Northern Border
Regional Commission**

MONITORING AND TRACKING PROGRESS



Capital Region Climate Action Portal

Climate Action in the Capital Region

Capital District Regional Planning Commission



To access the Capital Region Climate Action Portal, visit:
<https://cdrpc.org/capitalregionclimateactionportal>



Save The Date!

CAPITAL REGION CLIMATE ACTION WEBINAR SERIES



OCTOBER

Sustainable Land Use

A discussion of land-use strategies that support walkable neighborhoods, efficient infrastructure, and sustainable community development.



Wednesday, October 7, 2026

CAPITAL REGION COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



cdrpc.org/capital-region-climate-action-plan