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Energy And Climate Action
Approaches for Comprehensive Plan

Approach 1:
Establish long-range energy / greenhouse gas emission reduction goals and commit to conducting an Energy Action Plan or Climate Action Plan.

The key components of an Action Plan are:

- Identification of climate / energy vulnerabilities and projected impacts
- Identification of possible short term and long-term policy strategies and measures to meet City reduction goals
- Appropriate community engagement for strategy feedback and vetting
- Finalization of strategies with calculated energy/emission reduction over time
- Review of existing City policies and programs for identification of reduction strategy 'vehicles'
- Identification of economic potential and funding mechanisms
- Development of implementation plan
- Creation of measure success tracking tool

Interested in seeing a range of national examples of Energy and Climate Action Plans?

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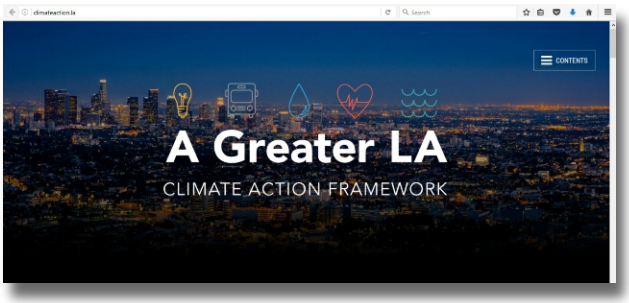

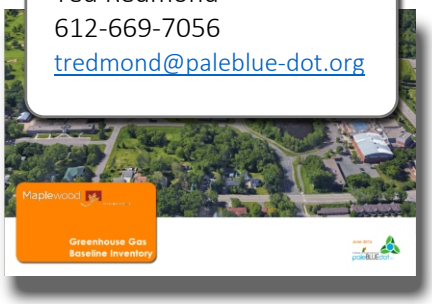

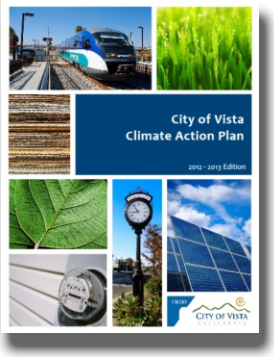

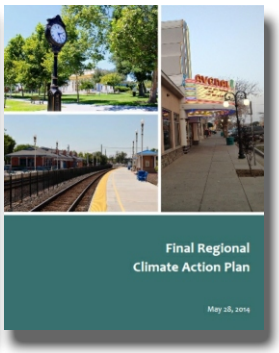

Approach 2:
Establish long-range energy / greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. Establish an initial interim energy / emission reduction goal for 5 to 10 years. Identify and outline initial specific strategies and measures the City will implement to meet the City's initial interim reduction goals.

The following are the State of Minnesota's high-level strategies for State-wide emission reductions and examples of strategies a City could implement to reduce energy and emission in all categories.

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Energy And Climate Action

State of Minnesota High-Level Strategies

Intermediate Term Strategies

Electricity:
Increase the renewable electricity standard
Retire and repower coal plants

Energy efficiency opportunities:
Conservation improvement programs
Combined heat and power (CHP)
SB 2030 building guidelines
Wastewater facility efficiency

Long-term Strategies to Start Now

Urban development:
Transit and multimodal travel
Compact development
Electric vehicles
Urban forests and Tree Canopies

Land management:
Forest health
Conservation and working lands
Agricultural soil development (soil sequestration policies)
Increase Re-Use, Composting, and Recycling
Source Reduction

Pilot Programs to Develop

Transportation:
Advanced biofuels
Pay-as-you-go car insurance
Fuel or carbon based tax

Energy:
Renewable thermal energy

Agriculture:
Fertilizer efficiency
Market development for cover crops and perennials

Minnesota wastes more energy than it actually uses – an estimated 58%

Detailed State Transit Strategies:

- Additional MnPASS managed lanes
- Additional transit-ways and rapid transit lines
- Increased the of transit, bicycling, and walking
- Increasing availability of multimodal travel options

Detailed State Electric Vehicle Strategies:

- Provide programs to incentivize off-peak charging
- Join the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Standard
- Build charging infrastructure
- Provide incentives to support EV adoption
- Research, test, and deploy electric buses
- Research and monitor new technologies

Detailed State Agriculture Pilot Projects:

- Implement fertilizer best management practices
- Improved fertilizer products and techniques

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Example Municipal Strategies

Energy

1) Implement a “stretch energy code”
2) Implement a policy requiring Portfolio Energy Monitoring
3) Establish a PACE program in your city/county (Property Assessed Clean Energy)
4) Encourage/incentivize solar photovoltaics
5) Explore development of City Carbon Offset or Renewable Energy Credit marketplace.
6) Establish a Renewable Energy Taskforce to develop on-going recommendations.

Transportation

1) Implement Complete Streets policy for all City street infrastructure projects.
2) Establish a Smart Growth Policy that prioritizes infill, higher density, transportation oriented and mixed use
3) Incentivize City Car Sharing Companies to open pods in town. Explore Bike Share program.
4) Explore establishing an advanced biofuels / clean fuels program for City and private vehicle fleets
5) Establish "plug in" preferred parking ordinances with charging stations.
6) EV Ready: Create an EV Strategy Plan for the City

Waste

1) Mandate businesses recycling.
2) Implement Organics collection program
3) Require recycling and organics collection at major public events
4) Establish Pay-As-You-Throw rates for garbage that significantly incentivizes recycling and compost

Water

1) Promote existing and/or new rebates for water efficient appliances and fixtures.
2) Explore creation of program replacing high flow fixtures with low and super low flow fixtures.
3) Establish ordinance providing for declaration of Critical Water Deficiency
4) Create program promoting or incentivizing rain water collection and re-use for landscape water needs.

Soil Carbon / Sequestration

1) Implement shade trees ordinances and incentives
2) Establish ordinance requiring bio-char soil amendment for all new construction
3) Encourage use of organic fertilizers and avoidance of synthetic fertilizers
4) Establish urban agriculture and chicken keeping ordinances and encourage use
5) Establish permaculture policies and concepts to replace sod areas in ROW

Interested in more strategy ideas?

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Example EV Ready Strategies

EV Ready

1) Identify EV priority sites within City through EV Charging Master Plan
2) Plug- In Parking: Set up in planning review that new or redeveloped commercial sites establish "plug in" parking preferred spaces with charging stations.
3) Permit Priority: Establish prioritized permitting process or reduced fees for projects meeting City EV requirements.
4) EV-Ready Multifamily and Commercial Buildings – Explore electric vehicle (EV) parking and charging infrastructure requirements in new multi-family and commercial construction projects that include parking.
5) Funding for EV-Ready Affordable Housing – Seek funding to enable affordable housing projects that have parking to be EV-ready with, at a minimum, the necessary electrical capacity and conduit to enable EV chargers.
6) City-Supported Projects – Develop EV-ready provisions for construction projects that trigger PUD reviews or significant variances from city ordinance as well as any project receiving public funding.
7) Technical Assistance for Chargers – Work with utility and community partners to provide technical assistance to building managers and homeowners to install EV chargers, especially in existing buildings.
8) Right-of-Way Charging – Develop public right of way (ROW) priorities and policies to enable installation of publicly accessible EV chargers in strategic locations, and provide clear guidelines for public and private parties. Establish a policy for addressing abandoned EV chargers in the right of way.
9) EV-Ready and Retrofits for Parking Facilities – Explore the development of EV parking and charging infrastructure requirements in new and existing (public and private) parking facilities.
10) E-Bike Parking – Explore opportunities to integrate e-bike charging infrastructure into the City's bike parking requirements.
11) EV Signage and Parking Standards – Develop policies and standards for EV signage and parking, including parking rates, time limits and "parking while charging" restrictions.
12) City-Owned and Maintained Chargers – Explore City ownership and maintenance of publicly accessible EV chargers, particularly in under-served areas.
13) Autonomous Vehicles – Develop a long-term Autonomous Vehicle Plan for City
14) Autonomous Vehicles – Seek opportunities to pilot electric autonomous vehicles (AVs)

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