



Draft Goals & Strategies

Climate Work Group



June 1, 2022

**What goal(s)
should drive the
Climate Action
Plan?**

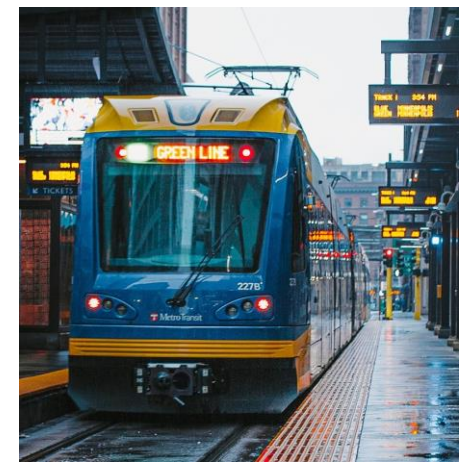
**What are we
trying to achieve
and measure
ourselves
against?**



Thrive MSP 2040 Sustainability Outcome

Sustainability means protecting our regional vitality for generations to come by preserving our capacity to maintain and support our region's well-being and productivity over time.

- Promoting the wise use of water.
- Providing leadership, information, and technical assistance to support local governments' consideration of climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.
- Operating the region's wastewater treatment and transit systems sustainably.
- The Council "recognizes the State of Minnesota's goals for greenhouse gas reduction adopted in 2007's Next Generation Energy Act."
- "Both the Environmental Services Division and Metro Transit have set goals to reduce their facility energy purchases by 50% by 2020 from a 2006 baseline."



Council Strategic Plan



Sustainability Goal:

Build a resilient region that mitigates its adverse contribution to climate change, with a focus on degraded air and water quality, and meets the challenge of the climate crisis.

Regional Planning Objective

- Collaborate with regional leadership and state agencies and convene local governments and the broader community to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Investment Objective

- Accelerate the reduction of the Metropolitan Council's per-capita greenhouse gas emissions.

Operations Objective

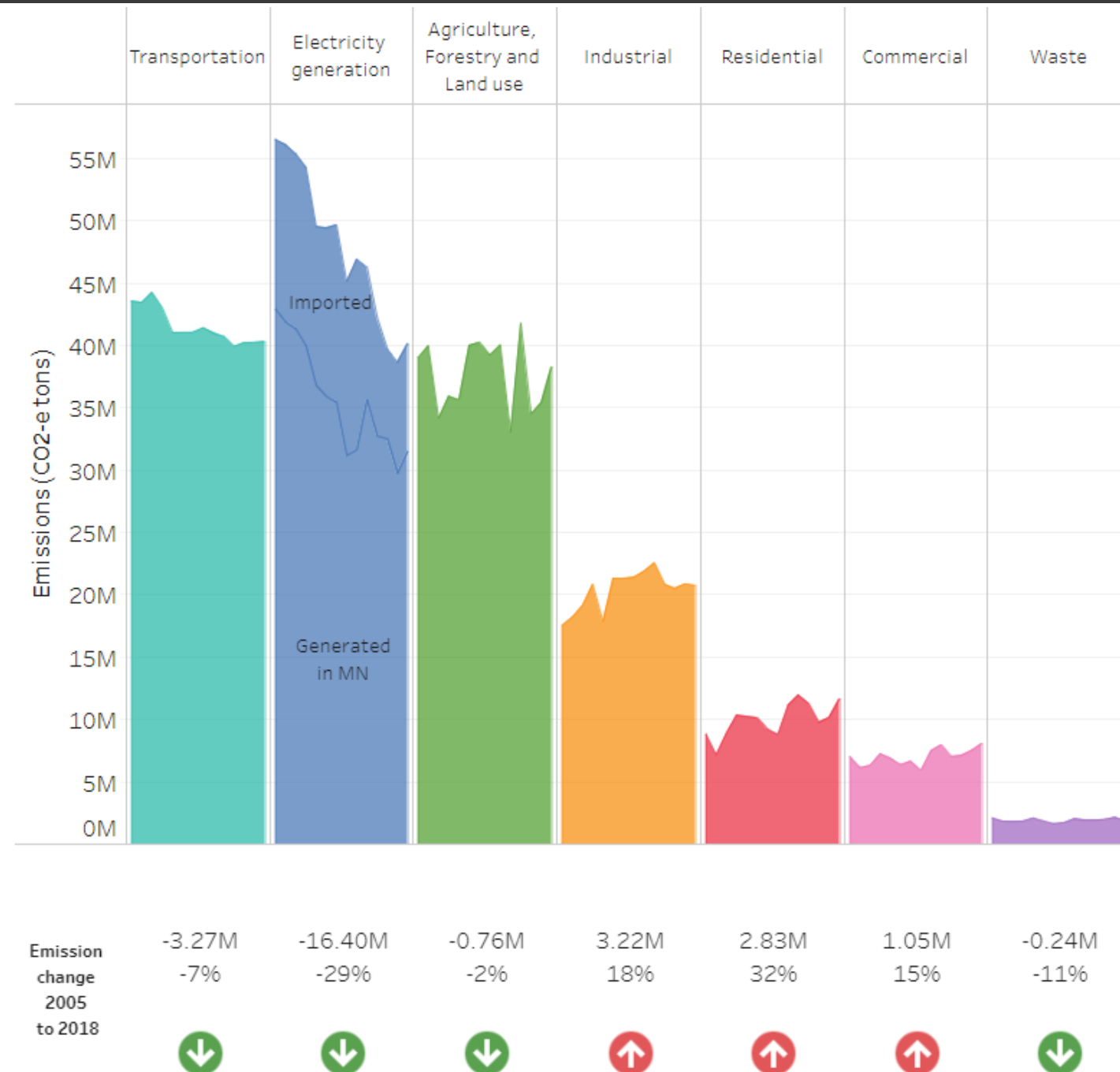
- Create an agency-wide sustainability plan to streamline, accelerate, and coordinate all of the Council's work in this area.

Next Generation Energy Act

Minn. Stat. § Chapter 216H

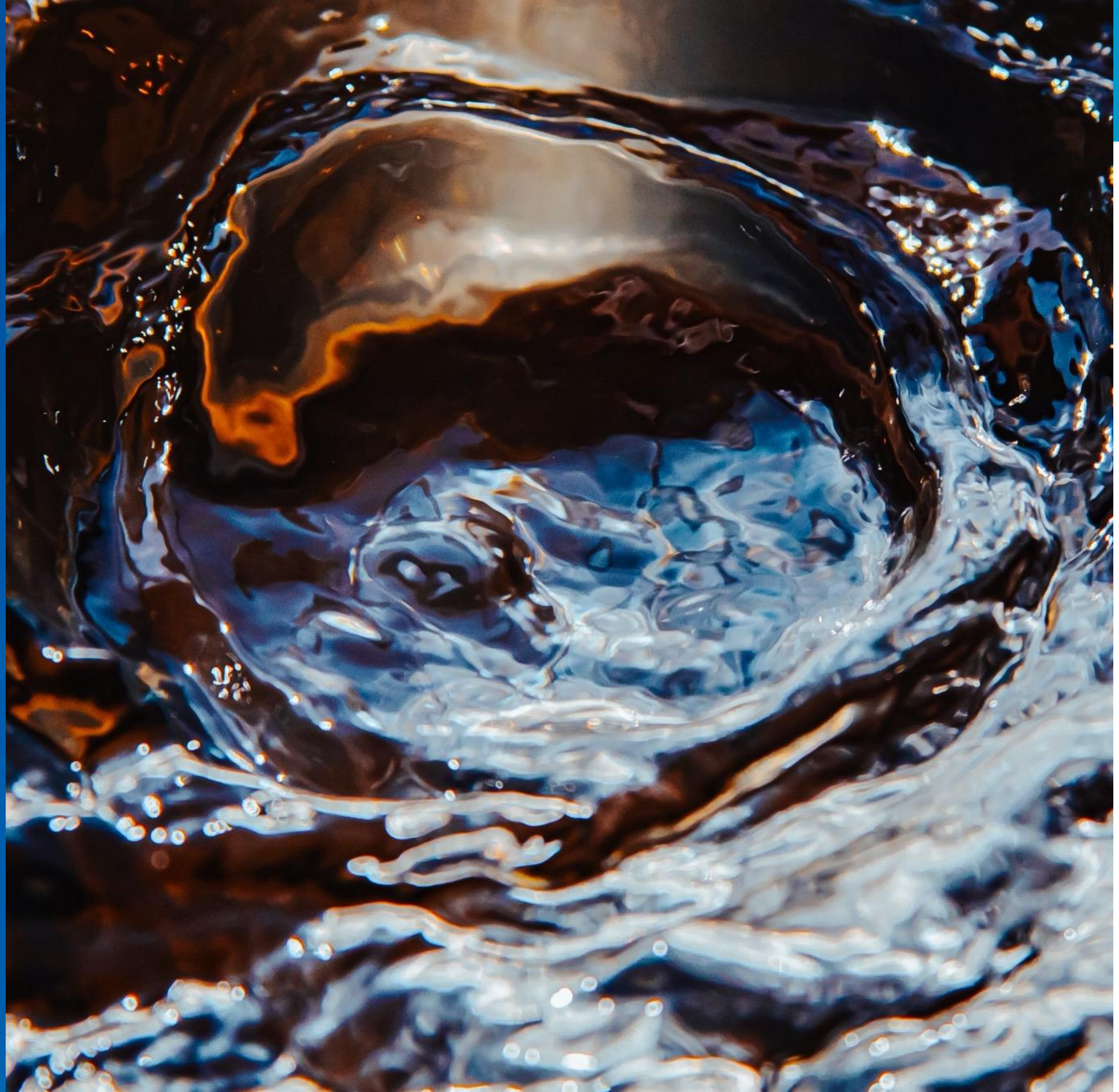
It is the goal of the state to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors producing those emissions:

- to a level at least 15 percent below 2005 levels by 2015,
- to a level at least 30 percent below 2005 levels by 2025,
- and to a level at least 80 percent below 2005 levels by 2050.



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Potential Climate Mitigation Goal



No formal mitigation goal adopted by the Council

Sample language for consideration:

- Commit to a reduction in emissions in facilities and operational fleets to match the targets in the Next Generation Energy Act.
- Commit to a reduction in emissions in facilities and operational fleets by a target that is more ambitious than Next Generation.
- Commit to a certain level of per capita or per passenger carbon efficiency.
- Other?

Potential Climate Adaptation Goal

No formal goals adopted by Council so far

Sample language for consideration:

- Reduce the Council's operational vulnerability to climate change impacts experienced today and likely to experience in the future.
- Reduce the risks of climate change to the Council's facilities through improvements in existing facilities where feasible and incorporation of climate standards for new facilities.
- Other?

Strategies Discussion

Representative of the strategies that staff have drafted so far:

- Quick wins
- Larger efforts

Discussion of DRAFT Strategies



Council overall

- Facilitate conversations with cities, counties, MnDOT, MPCA, and others around roles and responsibilities in undertaking a regional Climate Action Plan
- Create an agency wide climate office in RA with leadership and small staff to lead climate work and support divisions
- Consider incorporating the social costs of carbon emissions into benefit-cost analysis
- Research and report on the opportunities, barriers, and potential pathways of divestment from fossil fuels in retirement investments and other assets within the purview of the Met Council.

Discussion of DRAFT Strategies



Community Development

- Research and communicate climate change impacts and mitigation/adaptation strategies for Regional Parks planning, in collaboration with other Met Council work units, to demonstrate the ecological value of the Regional Park System.
- Require use of Council climate tools in assessment and design and maintenance of Council capital projects and assets.
- In the purchase of new homes for the Metro HRA's Family Affordable Housing Program (FAHP), consider the potential for inland flooding on potential purchases as well as the existing energy efficiency of the potential purchase.
- Create a dataset and technical resources that assesses the value of agricultural land in relation to climate change and natural climate solutions.
- Explore opportunities within the Livable Communities Act programs to further incentivize efficient use of land uses and compact development patterns tied to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Discussion of DRAFT Strategies



Metropolitan Transportation Services

- Facilitate conversations with cities, counties, MnDOT, MPCA, others around roles and responsibilities in coordinating around climate work including exploring the undertaking of a regional Transportation Climate Action Plan (might appear as a part of the region's 2050 planning process)
- Convene a climate discussion and imbed throughout the 2050 TPP in terms of risks it poses and opportunities for mitigation
- Work with TAB and its subcommittees to ensure that climate is appropriately emphasized in future regional solicitation performance measures relative to other policy priority areas
- Consider regional VMT reduction goals, and develop policies and strategies for the 2050 TPP (MnDOT is adopting a statewide goal)
- Use transportation investments to guide land use that are proven to reduce VMT (urban design patterns, more livable design to streets, etc.)

Discussion of DRAFT Strategies



Metro Transit & Environmental Services

- Refer to handout that will be provided at the meeting.

Next Steps

What's next?

- Incorporate the Climate Work Group's feedback:
 - Mitigation goal
 - Adaptation goal
 - Strategies
- Climate Work Group in July
 - Review goals
- Update to the full Council on CAP work so far in mid- to late-summer

- **Your advice on how you'd like us to bring items to the Council**

- Committee of the Whole?
- Individual committees (Environment, Transportation, Community Development, Management?)
- One or all of the above?

