

Information Item

Land Use Advisory Committee



Meeting date: September 18, 2025

Topic

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool Demonstration

District(s), member(s):	District name, Council member name
Policy/legal reference:	MN Sec. 473.859
Staff prepared/presented:	Peter Wilfahrt, Principal Researcher, 651-602-1066
Division/department:	Research, Community Development

Background

At the July 17, 2025, Land Use Advisory Committee meeting, the members reviewed several technical assistance tools available for the upcoming comprehensive planning process. Members expressed interest in learning more about new climate planning tools.

In 2023, the state legislature added new guidance around climate planning in comprehensive plans. These changes were translated into new minimum requirements including:

1. Include an acknowledgement of statewide targets for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reductions: 50% GHG reduction by 2030 and net zero by 2050 from a 2005 baseline.
2. Include a greenhouse gas emissions inventory that includes transportation, energy use, solid waste, and livestock and agriculture.
3. Include at least one strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for each of the above sectors.
4. Detail the emissions impact of reduction strategies through 2050 for the above sectors using the Met Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool or an equivalent modeling tool.

In order to support cities, counties, and townships in meeting these new requirements, the Council is developing technical assistance tools including the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool.

Purpose and Functionality

The [Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool](#) provides local governments across the seven-county metro with greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories and shows how taking different actions can lower emissions. By working through the tool, communities will be able to address requirements two through four listed above.

Some communities already have completed climate planning efforts, including developing inventories and projections. Those cities and counties will be able to incorporate their past efforts and Met Council staff will work with them to determine if additional components are needed to meet requirements.

The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool will be one part of a suite of climate planning tools which will also include a Climate Action Toolkit and mapping tools for extreme heat, localized flooding, tree canopy, and food systems.