



Climate Action Work Plan

Metropolitan Council Meeting



October 12, 2022

Climate Action Work Plan



Purpose of the plan

- Builds on our existing climate work and unifies our efforts across the Council
- Defines commitments, strategies, and actions that will strengthen our ability to deliver services to the region
- Moves us forward on a pledge we made in *Thrive MSP 2040* to become a climate leader

Past and current climate work



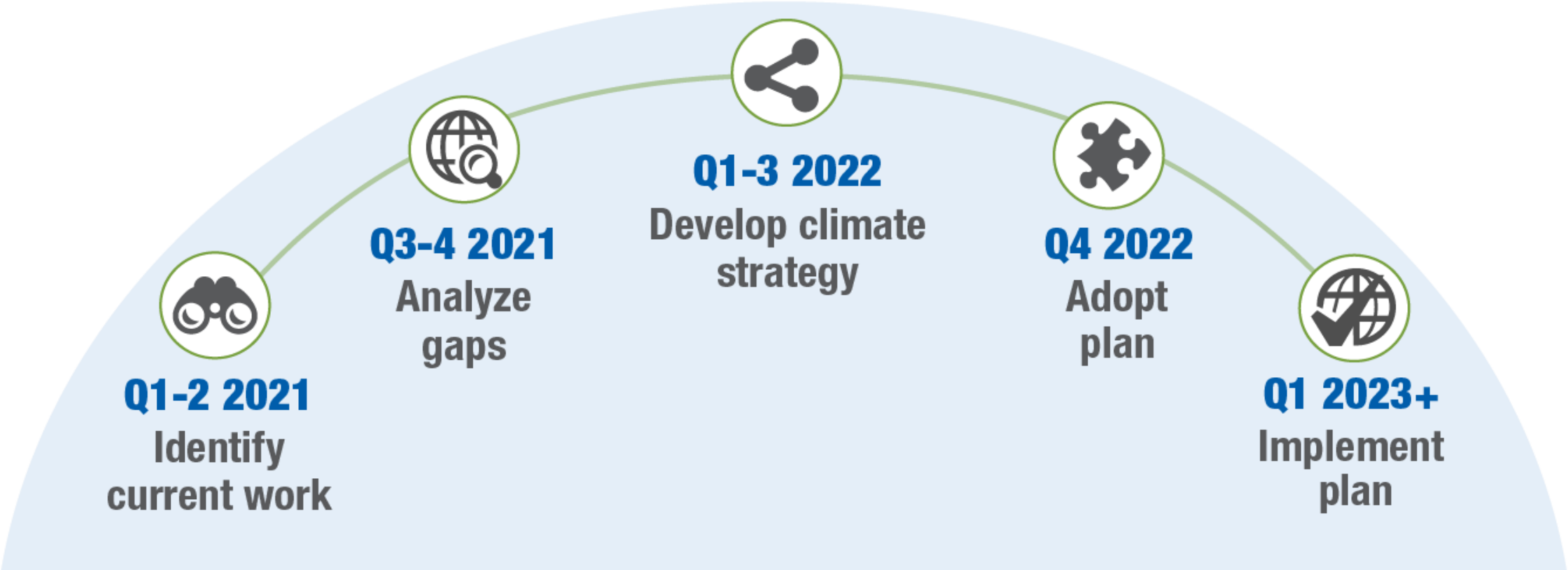
Tools, partnerships, and action

- [Climate Vulnerability Assessment](#)
- [Twin Cities Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#)
- [Solar-for-Vouchers program](#)
- [Growing Shade](#)
- [Improving energy efficiency in our wastewater operations](#)
- [Zero-Emission Bus Transition Plan](#)
- [Laying the groundwork to accelerate electric vehicle adoption](#)

Developing the plan



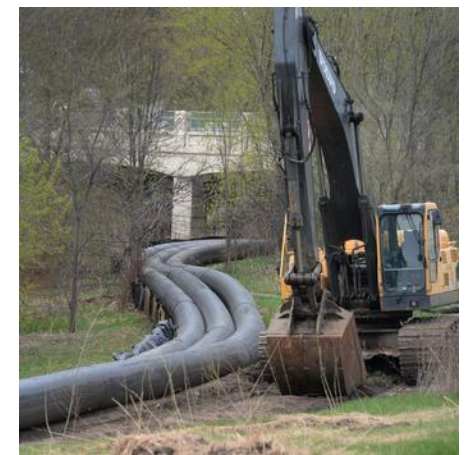
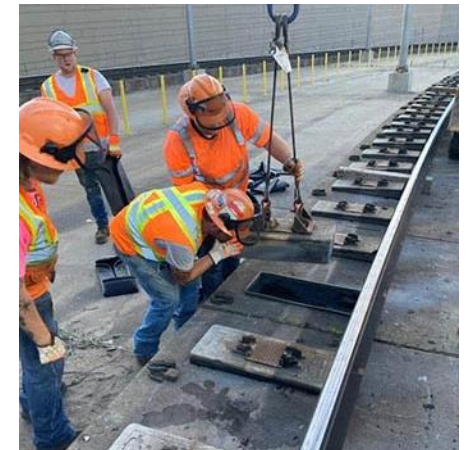
PROJECT TIMELINE



Why a climate plan?

Climate change is already impacting our operations

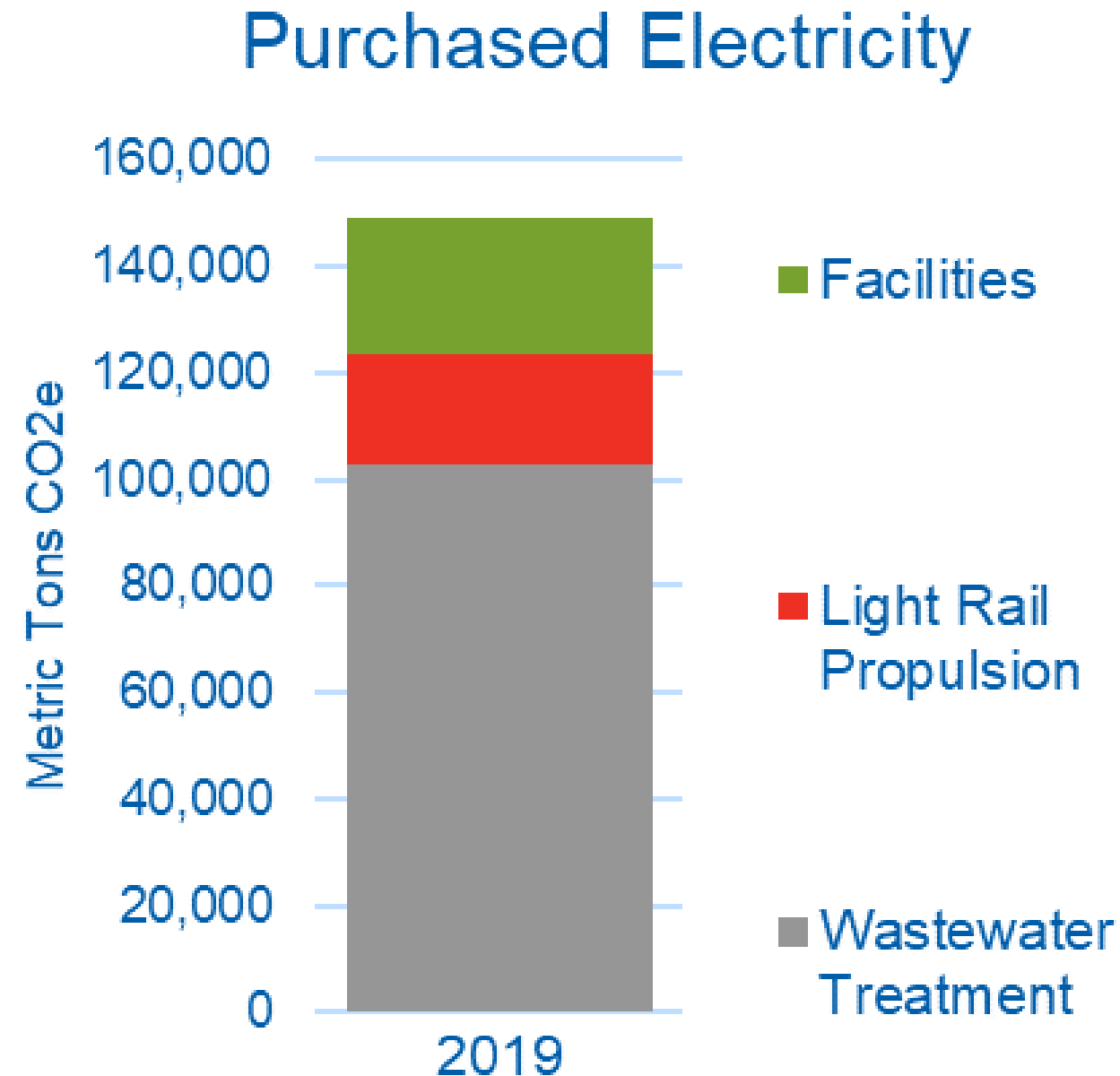
- Extreme heat and increased freeze/thaw cycles damages streets and highways
- Flooding causes facility relocation, like sewer pipes and regional trails
- Transit vehicles and systems lose operational reliability in extreme heat
- Reducing emissions from our operations and assisting local governments to reduce theirs will help meet the state vision for carbon neutrality



Our emissions: Purchased electricity

Leading source of our emissions

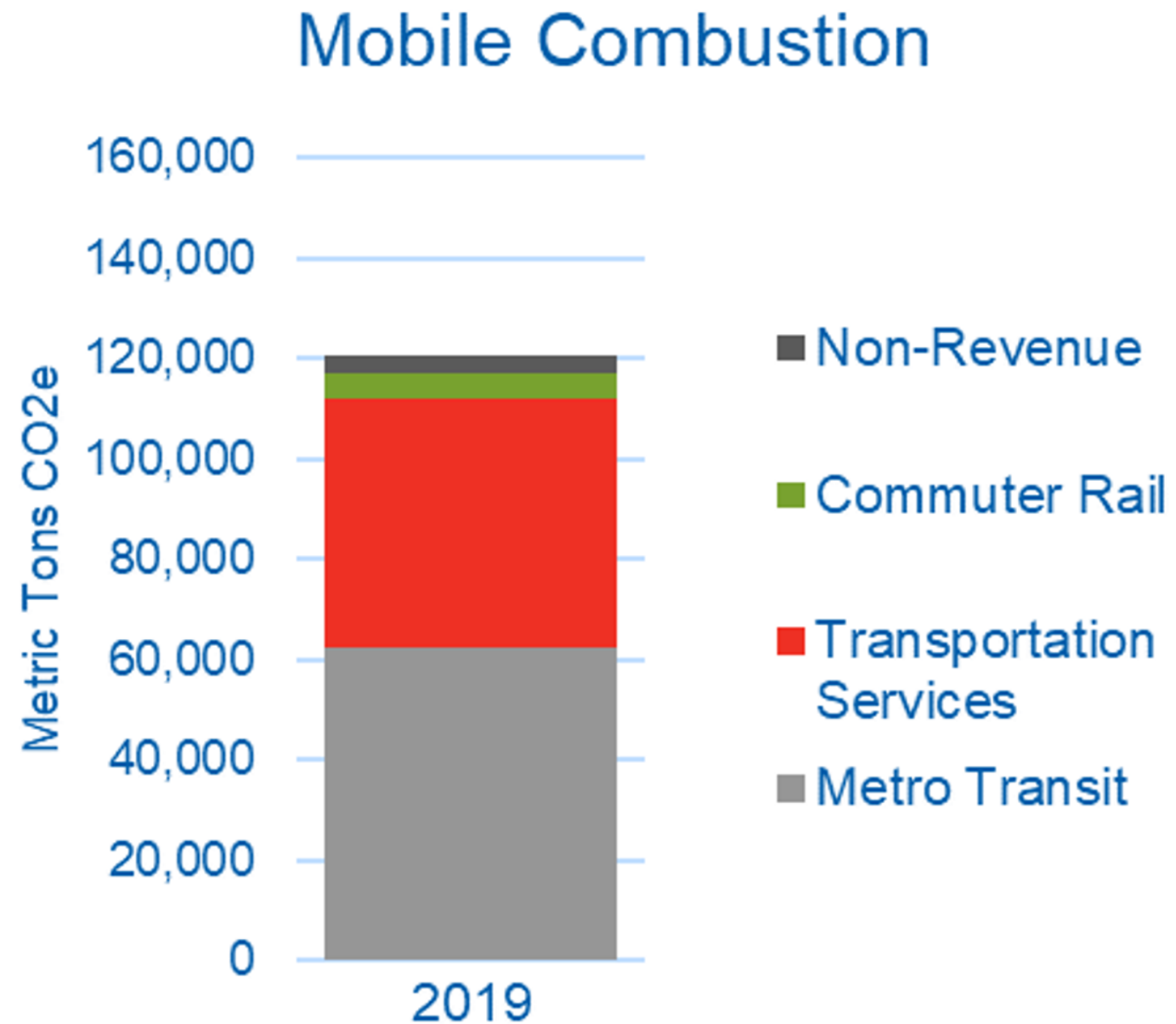
- Electricity powers our wastewater treatment plants, bus garages, light rail operations, and administrative offices.



Our emissions: Mobile combustion

Fossil fuels power our vehicle fleets

- Metro Transit and Metro Mobility buses
- Commuter rail
- Nonrevenue vehicles, such as maintenance trucks



Climate plan basics

Part of effort across state agencies

- Dovetails with Minnesota Climate Action Framework
- Internal to our planning and operations; it is not a regional climate action plan
- Five-year time frame
- Lays the groundwork for more action beyond 2027
- Organized by commitments, strategies, and actions



Commitments and strategies



**Commitment 1:
We will incorporate
environmental justice
principles as we plan,
implement, and evaluate our
climate action work**

Mitigation: Reduce Council emissions

**Commitment 2:
We will accelerate emissions
reductions from our operations
to achieve carbon neutrality**



Mitigation: Reduce regional emissions



**Commitment 3:
We will accelerate regional
emissions reduction through
existing and new
partnerships**

Adaptation: Reduce risks and build resiliency at the Council



**Commitment 4:
We will reduce risks and
impacts of climate change
hazards to our facilities and
services**

Adaptation: Reduce risks and build resiliency in the region

**Commitment 5:
We will support
and collaborate
with partners to
advance regional
climate adaptation
efforts**



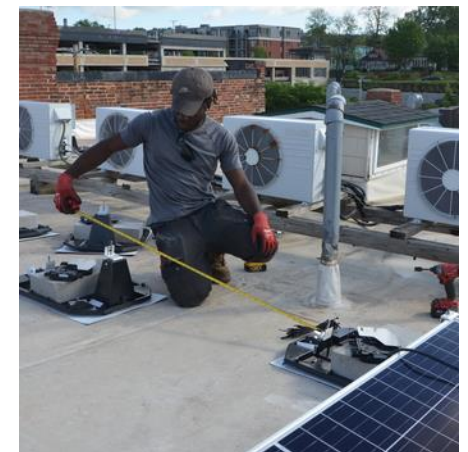
Core of the plan: Matrix of actions

| ID | Council Commitment | Council Strategy | Action | Equity Considerations & Implications | Lead | C | E | M | MTS |
|-------|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------|---|---|---|-----|
| 1.1.1 | Support and collaborate with partners to advance regional climate adaptation efforts | Convene and partner with regional stakeholders to expand climate engagement and collaboration | Convene and participate in conversations with partners organizations and residents to share challenges and best practices, identify gaps and collaboration opportunities, and develop a shared regional vision of climate resiliency. | | CD + ES | X | X | | X |
| 1.1.2 | Support and collaborate with partners to advance regional climate adaptation efforts | Convene and partner with regional stakeholders to expand climate engagement and collaboration | With regional partners, completing a climate vulnerability assessment of regional transportation systems including highways, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian systems. | | MTS | X | | X | X |
| 1.1.3 | Support and collaborate with partners to advance regional climate adaptation efforts | Convene and partner with regional stakeholders to expand climate engagement and collaboration | With cities, counties, MnDOT, MPCA, and others around roles and responsibilities in coordinating climate work, including exploring the development of a regional Transportation Climate Action Plan. | | MTS | X | | X | X |
| 1.2.1 | Support and collaborate with partners to advance regional climate adaptation efforts | Provide and expand technical assistance, tools, and data for regional and Council decision-making | Document and share climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and guidance for counties, cities, and townships to adopt into local policy, planning, or programs. | Yes. | CD | X | X | | X |
| | | | Develop qualitative research to support effective climate-related technical assistance through | | | | | | |

Environmental justice assessment

Recommendations will strengthen our plan

- The EJ Task Force applied the draft framework to our climate action work plan
- Recommendations: Edit three current actions in the plan and add six actions under Commitment 1 (environmental justice)
- We updated the current draft to reflect the assessment
- Key recommendation: Recharter the Environmental Justice Task Force



Engaging our partners

External engagement

- Met with two groups of peer agencies in late September
- Met with environmental thought leaders/nonprofits in early October
- Partners are eager for collaboration
- Environmental justice approach to climate is welcomed
- Shared enthusiasm for climate work beyond mitigation



Next steps for Climate Action Work Plan



Council committee schedule

- Oct. 12 – First presentation to Council
- Oct. 13 – TAB Transportation Policy Working Group
- Oct. 20 – TAB Funding and Programming Committee
- Oct. 24 – Transportation Committee
- Nov. 2 – TAB Technical Advisory Committee
- Nov. 8 – Environment Committee
- Nov. 9 – Management Committee
- Nov. 16 – Transportation Advisory Board
- Nov. 16 – Committee of the Whole
- Dec. 13 – Council considers final plan approval



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