



Why a Community Climate Action Plan?

Today Bend and the surrounding area are experiencing the impacts of climate change – drought, warmer days and nights, loss of snowpack, increase in wildfires, threatened wildlife habitats, and diminished air quality. In the short term these impacts are expected to become more severe and at the same time our region is projected to continue growing in population. **Now is the time for our community to adopt climate-smart policies to address the twin pressures of climate change and population growth.** The proposed Community Climate Action Plan, under development for three years, will put us on the path to a healthier environment while preserving the qualities that make Bend so special to all who live and visit here.

What are the goals set out in the Climate Resolution?

In response to the community's concern for climate action, the **Bend City Council adopted [Resolution 3044](#) in September 2016** that included goals to reduce fossil fuel use community-wide by 40% by 2030 and by 70% by 2050. In addition, the Resolution called for the reduction of carbon emissions from City facilities and operations to achieve carbon neutrality by the year 2030.

What planning process led to the Community Climate Action Plan?

A Climate Action Steering Committee (CASC) was established by City Council to develop a Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for submission to the Council for review and adoption in the fall of 2019. The CASC conducted working group sessions focusing on selected sectors of the local economy with subject matter experts, community members, and stakeholders to solicit their ideas for potential initiatives to address fossil fuel use. Feedback was also received from over 1500 community members on an array of proposed strategies and actions through an online survey. The CASC and City worked with partners and technical experts to quantify the impact of 15 strategies and sub-actions. Lastly, the City hosted an online open house to collect a final round of feedback and ideas, and the CASC incorporated five more strategies into the final CCAP for a total of 20 strategies and 42 actions.

What are the economic sectors and key strategies identified by the CASC?

A Bend Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory identified four sectors of the economy that make up the largest local sources of carbon emissions. The inventory used a baseline year of 2016 against which reductions in fossil fuel use will be measured. Goals and strategies to reduce emissions in the four sectors are at the heart of the Community Climate Action Plan.

1. **Energy Supply sector:** the source of energy used for transportation, buildings, waste and materials
Key Strategy: Provide 100% renewable electricity supply to the community
2. **Energy in Buildings sector:** energy used in residential, commercial and industrial buildings
Key Strategy: Improve uptake of voluntary energy efficiency projects in buildings
3. **Transportation sector:** emissions from vehicles
Key Strategy: Support the transition to electric vehicles (EVs) with an EV Readiness Plan
4. **Waste and Materials sector:** emissions from the production, consumption and disposal of materials
Key Strategy: Increase waste recovery rate (45% waste recovery by 2025)

How will the plan affect my family?

The recommended strategies focus on encouraging and supporting Bend families to reduce their energy use by developing tools to help them connect to available resources and incentives. For example, local families and property managers will be able to increase their access to energy efficiency and solar projects through revolving loan funds, and they will have more opportunity to purchase energy efficient homes that reduce lifetime operating costs. In addition to direct energy savings, the plan will also lead to job training for underemployed individuals and encourage multifamily property owners to include space for recycling and composting. It will prioritize “complete” streets projects that support all modes of transportation, along with increased access for low-income residents.

How will the plan impact my business?

The recommended strategies and actions encourage businesses to participate with the City, community, and other stakeholders to voluntarily reduce their carbon emissions. The outcomes will include:

- bottom-line savings on energy-related expenses
- investments in energy-efficiency projects that will be spent in Bend
- local job creation and workforce development and training in industries such as solar, green building, and home performance
- improved access to public transportation and more ridesharing and biking
- increase in clientele and employee base attracted to Bend as a City dedicated to sustainability

How does CCAP address equity issues?

The CCAP identifies additional benefits that accompany each strategy. Investing in the reduction of carbon emissions is not just beneficial for the environment but also for our health, the economy, and social equity. These additional benefits are economic vitality, affordability, support of the natural environment, social equity, community health and safety, and security and resilience. There is much work to be done in our community to ensure that this and other planning efforts include meaningful input from all of Bend's community members. How we implement and evaluate these strategies will determine whether the benefits of the Plan will extend to the most vulnerable in our community.

Are regulatory strategies part of the plan?

The Plan relies on voluntary efforts to reduce emissions. The only proposed regulatory strategy is the Home Energy Score. The CASC believes this strategy is essential to provide transparency about the costs of home energy use to the consumer and that the Home Energy Score will encourage voluntary investment in home efficiency upgrades. As stated in [Resolution 3099](#), the CASC is authorized to assist City Council in developing ordinances to implement the CCAP.

Will we meet our goals?

- **40% reduction in fossil fuel use by 2030: If this Plan is implemented in full**, we will reduce fossil fuel emissions by 49% in 2030 (from a 2016 baseline), taking into account our expected population growth.
- **70% reduction in fossil fuel use by 2050:** The implementation of the strategies of the 2019 CCAP will not by themselves lead to achieving this goal. More will be needed post-2030, but these strategies will constrain the growth of fossil fuel emissions that would otherwise occur due to the increase in population in our region. The Plan and its strategies will be updated as we learn from the initial implementation period and as new opportunities arise. In addition, as the national energy supply shifts away from fossil fuels to renewable sources, Bend will benefit from the associated reduction in carbon emissions.

Where are we in the process of adopting the CCAP?

The [CCAP](#) and an [executive summary](#) can be found digitally at on the City of Bend [website](#). On **Wednesday, November 6**, the City Council will have a public working session on the CCAP. City Council is tentatively scheduled to vote on the CCAP on **Wednesday, December 4**. For further information, contact Cassie Lacy, Senior Management Analyst, clacy@bendoregon.gov.

What happens once we have a plan? Who is in charge of making sure it moves forward?

A permanent climate action steering committee will be appointed to serve as an advisory body to the City Council on topics related to this Plan. The City of Bend will provide staff and be accountable for overseeing the implementation of the Plan. Implementation will involve coordination of the departments of the City that are executing elements of the Plan and coordination with key partners from other government agencies, private businesses and nonprofits. Implementation partners have been identified for many of the strategies and will play a key role in moving them forward.

The plan will be successful if the City *and* the community take ownership and voluntarily dedicate resources to the initiatives described in the climate action strategies. As the Plan is being implemented and updated every three to five years, it will be crucial for the community to demonstrate to City Council that CCAP is a top priority and that it should inform all major decisions the City makes that impact the economic sectors the Plan addresses (energy, buildings, transportation and waste).