

To:	Chair Carleton and Members of the Climate Change Task Force
Committee Date:	April 5, 2022
Subject / Report No:	PDR-CCTF-10-22
Title:	Climate Change Action Plan
Prepared by:	Linda Swanston & Randy Scherzer
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	All municipalities within Grey
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Task Force as amended CCTF03-22; Further amended by Committee of the Whole April 14, 2022 CW56-22; Endorsed by County Council April 28, 2022

Recommendation

1. **Whereas the recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report released in February 2022, indicates that human-induced climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature, and affecting the lives of billions of people around the world, and notes that urgent action is required to deal with increasing risks; and**
2. **Whereas municipalities will bear much of the financial burden associated with climate change due to the increase in costs of maintaining and upgrading infrastructure such as roads, culverts, bridges and stormwater management systems, costs due to damage caused by flooding, etc.; and**
3. **Whereas municipalities are well-positioned to respond to climate change in that over 50% of greenhouse gas emissions are under the direct influence of local governments according to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;**
4. **Be it Resolved That report PDR-CCTF-10-22 regarding the County's Climate Change Action Plan be received; and**
5. **That the Climate Change Task Force recommends that Council declare a climate emergency to deepen the County's commitment to move forward with the strategies and actions identified in the Climate Change Action Plan, and to work with local municipalities and other community partners, with the support of the federal and provincial government; and**
6. **That the Climate Change Action Plan, and a Net-Zero greenhouse gas emissions target by 2050 be endorsed to help guide corporate strategic plans and priorities; and**

7. **That the climate change action plan recommendations be supported, and staff be directed to continue and expand work supporting the various actions that are already underway, including the Four Foundational Pillars, and to develop workplans to advance the Five Key Next Steps identified in this report, in collaboration with local municipalities and other community partners; and**
8. **That staff be directed to share the Climate Change Action Plan with all member municipalities for information, with a presentation to local councils should that be requested.**

Executive Summary

As a result of two years of work, the ideas of hundreds of Grey County residents and stakeholders, and the technical expertise of ICLEI Canada, the attached Climate Change Action Plan, presents a made-in-Grey response to the global climate crisis. By joining over 500 Canadian municipalities and declaring a climate emergency, Grey County will recognize the severity and urgency of climate change and advance our commitment to implement the CCAP. Climate action is only possible in collaboration with member municipalities and community members, and reaching the proposed targets will require the support and resources of other orders of government. This report outlines the urgency of action, the process to develop the CCAP, an approach to implementation, and a series of priority actions. The attached CCAP provides details for each proposed action, including relative GHG reduction impacts, possible funding sources, and necessary scope to achieve the proposed overall net-zero targets.

Background

Grey County has been working with ICLEI Canada since 2019 to develop a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) that will help the County and its partners reduce local greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution and begin adapting to our changing climate. The CCAP was prepared following the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) five-milestone framework. The PCP framework focuses on quantifying and analyzing local GHG pollution and identifying actions to reduce it, resulting in a climate change mitigation plan. The CCAP also identifies the need to develop an adaptation plan to help the County, member municipalities, and our community respond to our changing climate as a key next step. This report presents a proposed Climate Change Action Plan, which includes 21 community actions, 13 corporate actions, and identifies approaches to collaboration for implementation.

Urgent Need for Action

There is international scientific consensus that our global climate is changing, and the most recent report from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 'Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability'¹ released in February 2022 found that the changes are happening more rapidly than previously predicted. Average temperatures have increased globally by 1.1 degrees C from human activity since pre-industrial times leading to increased frequency of extreme weather events including heat waves, flooding, and extreme wind events.

¹ <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/> (retrieved March 18, 2022)

Coastal flood damage represents an “existential threat” to communities with damage projected to increase at least tenfold globally by 2100. In Africa, agricultural productivity growth has been reduced by 34 per cent since 1961 due to climate change, more than any other region. Around 40% of the world's population is "highly vulnerable" to the impacts of climate change.

According to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ontario is already experiencing the effects of climate change and extreme weather events.² The annual average temperature in Ontario has been increasing at an approximate rate of 1.3°C per 100 years from 1900 to present, increasing extreme heat events that impact people’s health by exacerbating breathing problems and cardiovascular issues. March 2012 was so warm, apple trees bloomed early, but then lost 80% of their fruit because of a severe frost two months later. The area of all the Great Lakes covered in winter ice has declined between 1970 and 2013, with a 19% decline on Lake Huron impacting habitat for wildlife and recreational activities. There are financial implications of climate change with an increase in insurance claims from extreme weather events. The severe December 2013 ice storm resulted in \$200 million of property damage in Ontario.

Doing Our Part & Level of Ambition

The Climate Change Action Plan proposes both community-wide and corporate GHG emissions reduction targets:

Community target: 30% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, relative to 2018 levels. Net-Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, relative to 2018 levels.

Corporate target: 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, relative to 2018 levels. Net-Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, relative to 2018 levels.

The proposed greenhouse gas (GHG) targets align with the commitment the Federal government made in 2021 through the [Canadian Net-Zero Accountability Act](#) to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.

The Province of Ontario has set a 30% reduction target by 2030 which the CCAP’s 2030 target aligns with. The proposed CCAP targets are also reflective of targets of other municipalities and counties across Ontario.

Table 1: Community GHG Reduction Targets Across Ontario

Jurisdiction	2030	2040	2050
Dufferin	10% (2016)	40%	Net-zero
Wellington	6% (2017)		80%/ Net-Zero
Halton Hills	Net-Zero		
Durham Region	20% (by 2020, 2007 baseline)		80%

² <https://www.ontario.ca/page/why-we-need-address-climate-change> (retrieved March 18, 2022)

Waterloo Region	30% (50% aspirational)		80%
London (ON) (proposed)	55%	75%	Net-zero
Toronto	65%	Net-Zero	
Proposed - Grey County	30% (2018 baseline)		Net-zero

Collaboration

Collaboration is central to the proposed CCAP. To succeed in reaching our targets will require investment from other orders of government, partnership with local municipalities and conservation authorities, and collaboration with residents, businesses, stakeholders, and indigenous communities including the Saugeen Ojibway Nation.

To support achieving Federal targets, federal funding for all infrastructure projects over \$10 million requires the application of a climate lens. There are also specific climate action funding programs to decarbonize municipal buildings and transportation infrastructure. Section 8 of the CCAP focuses on implementation and identifies when funding is available for each action. Staff will pursue all potential funding sources. Grey County was recently successful in an application to the ICLEI Canada Agents of Change program and will receive \$15,000 and program support to develop a climate volunteer engagement program as proposed in Community Action 19.

In the Fall of 2021 staff established a Municipal Climate Change Community of Practice with a climate lead identified from each member municipality which meets monthly to share best practices and coordinate implementation efforts. Staff are also exploring membership in the Clean Air Council (CAC), Canada's largest peer-to-peer municipal climate action network, comprised of over 30 municipalities and Public Health Units working collaboratively on clean air and climate change actions. The CAC offers staff of member municipalities access to over 35 webinars a year and encourages regional collaboration and learning.

The CCAP identifies that building meaningful collaboration with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, the traditional keepers of this land, and Indigenous communities and organizations located within the County is critically important during the implementation phase of this plan, in order to nurture their contribution and guidance.

Community Action 21 is to establish a Climate Action Implementation Advisory Group with representation of the diversity of Grey County's residents and businesses. This Advisory Group will support implementation efforts and outreach and engagement work across the County.

Cost of Doing Nothing & Benefits of Action

Implementing the actions outlined in the plan provides numerous financial, environmental, and social benefits to our community, our businesses, and the local economy. According to Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federal government remains committed to its carbon pricing plan, and the projected carbon tax price of \$170/ per tonne in 2030, will represent nearly 60% of municipal natural gas costs (assuming the price of the natural gas commodity,

deregulated transportation, and distribution remains relatively unchanged).³ Decisions made today to invest in natural gas-based equipment may lock the County into future increased fuel expenses. The most cost effective and logistically simple time to build low-carbon infrastructure is now. It will cost more and present more complexity if retrofitting is subsequently required.

Grey County residents experience high rates of energy poverty, 43% of residents have a “high home energy cost burden” and spend more than twice the national average on home energy.⁴ Programs focused on improving residential energy efficiency reduce both GHG pollution and utility costs. Broadly, implementing the CCAP can create improved physical and mental health (i.e. reduced rates of illness and mental health impacts) amongst community members and vulnerable populations (i.e. low-income households, children, seniors, those with pre-existing health conditions) due to reduced air pollution, increased access to green spaces, improved housing quality through energy retrofits, active transportation, and more public transit and carpooling.

The current annual spending across the Grey County community on energy is \$347,400,000. If the CCAP is fully implemented, it will result in an estimated cumulative community-wide energy cost savings of \$2.4 billion between now and 2050 and annual energy expenditures will be 41% lower in 2050 than the 2018 baseline year.

CCAP Development Process – Engagement

The CCAP development process involved both significant technical analysis and also received broad guidance from stakeholders and residents across Grey County. Throughout the process engagement occurred with the Climate Change Task Force, the Climate Change Internal Working Group, and the Climate Change External Working Group described below:

- Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) - County Councillors and Senior Management Staff; provides strategic direction and guidance to Plan
- Climate Change Internal Working Group - Staff from various departments at the County; provides strategic input from a corporate perspective, and help inform the process, recommendations, and the plan
- Climate Change External Working Group - Members from local health unit, conservation authorities, organizations, academics, etc.; provides local expertise, suggestions and recommendations, help inform process and Plan

Phase 1 Engagement to develop the initial draft of the CCAP included:

- Two online surveys administered to collect feedback on actions;
 - General Survey (June 15 – July 10, 2020), 232 respondents
 - Agriculture Survey (August 2020), 38 respondents
- Online updates on the Plan process and outcomes at every phase;
- Online “mini-workshops” held with various community organizations to collect feedback on overall goals and actions; and

³ <https://www.las.on.ca/learning/blog/carbon-tax-budgeting-commitment-net-zero-targets>

⁴ <https://energypoverty.ca/mappingtool/>

- Targeted virtual meetings with member municipalities, community groups/organizations and key economic sectors (i.e. agriculture, tourism, small business, seniors, etc.).

These results were presented to the CCTF and informed the Draft Climate Change Action Plan presented to the CCTF on July 5, 2021 and approved for further public consultation: [CCTF Minutes - July 5, 2021](#)

Phase 2 Engagement sought feedback on the draft CCAP, which was posted to the County website in July 2021.

- Comments were received from seven organizations, and eleven residents submitted comments.
- Twenty-five participants joined the County-hosted online engagement sessions,
- Four formal Committees requested presentations and provided feedback through discussion.

The findings of the Phase 2 Engagement were received by the Climate Change Taskforce on December 14, 2021, and staff were directed to update the CCAP in response to the engagement findings: <https://www.grey.ca/council/calendar/detail/11355>

Eleven central recommendations emerged:

1. Set more ambitious targets, align with federal net-zero by 2050 target, and set “science based” goals.
2. Pay more attention to nature-based solutions, (including afforestation and agricultural land sequestration potential); leverage the advantages of Grey County’s landscape.
3. Create a clear prioritization of actions and identify initial specific implementation actions.
4. Treat plan as a “living document,” recognizing the dynamic nature of climate science and update regularly.
5. Continue to improve data collection, analysis, and communication, particularly in the agricultural sector.
6. Show leadership at the county level in climate action, and support collaboration and coordination with member municipalities
7. Centre reconciliation in climate action, given the long history of Indigenous leadership in environmental stewardship, and Grey County’s location on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee, and Wendat Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.
8. Recognize that agriculture is a critical element of Grey County culture and economy, and support and enhance the agri-food sector’s existing efforts to address climate change.
9. Leverage emerging energy innovation sector, particularly related to hydrogen, in Grey and Bruce Counties, and champion local low-carbon energy leadership.
10. Consider lifecycle emissions of building materials, technologies etc. where possible, not just local operational emissions.

11. Ramp up engagement, education and communication, as essential opportunities to build awareness and involvement in climate issues with residents and businesses, as response needs to be both technological and cultural.

CCAP Development Process – Analysis

ICLEI Canada, the consulting team supporting the development of the CCAP, completed 2018 baseline greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories for the Grey County community and corporate operations. The inventory approach complies with the Partners for Climate Protection Framework and uses the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC) methodology to capture locally emitted GHG emissions. Lifecycle or “scope three” emissions generated elsewhere for goods and services consumed in Grey County are not captured under this methodology. The inventories do include emissions associated with goods and services produced in Grey and consumed elsewhere such as agricultural products. The Grey County corporate and community-wide emissions inventories are further categorized into fossil fuel energy use and biogenic (from living organisms). These two types of emissions require different responses and so are considered here separately.

Total GHG emissions in Grey County in 2018 were 909,500 tonnes of CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent), 559,800 tonnes from the combustion of fossil fuels (Figure 1) and 349,700 tonnes CO₂e were from biogenic sources (Figure 2).

Figure 1: Fossil Fuel GHG Emissions by Subsector (2018)

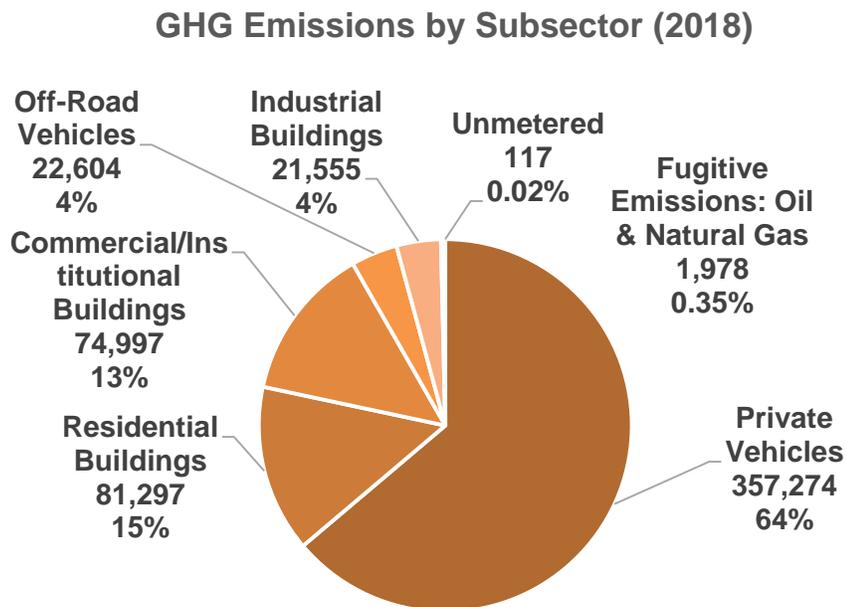
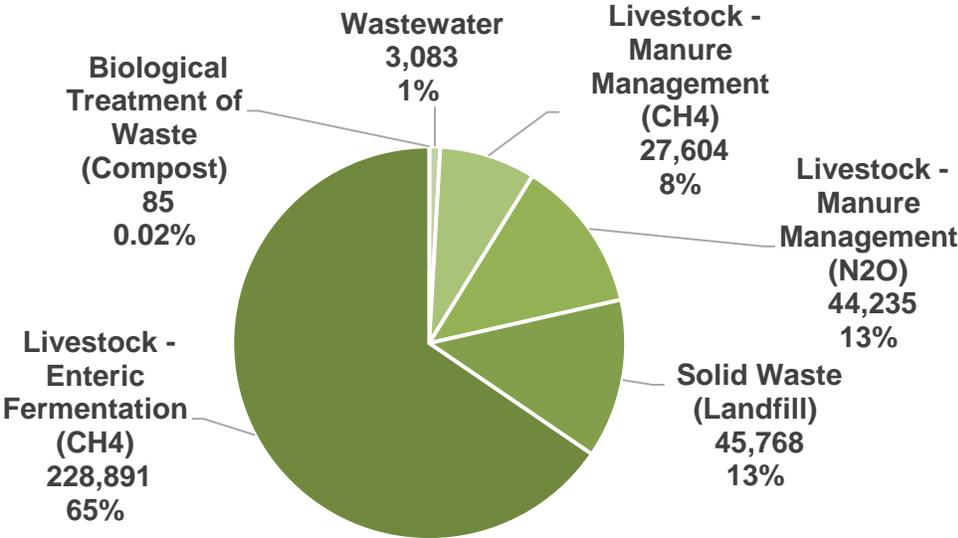


Figure 2: Biogenic Sources of GHG Emissions (2018)

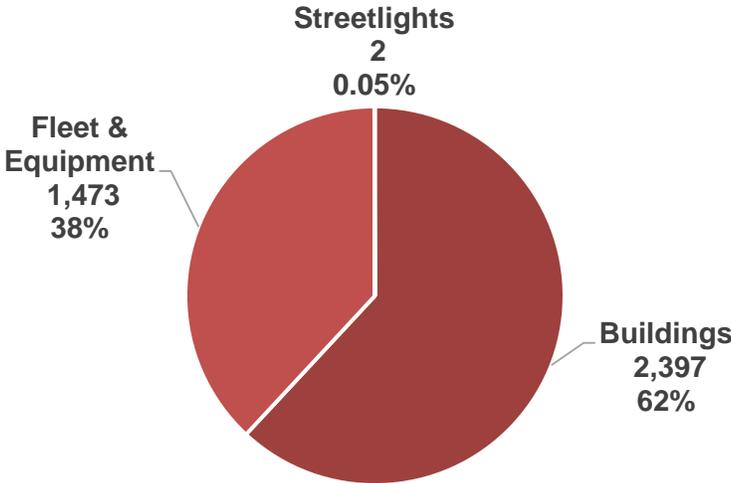
GHG Emissions from Biogenic Sources and Waste (tCO2e)



Based on the sources of GHG pollution across Grey County, the set of actions in the attached plan were identified to reduce GHG pollution and sequester carbon in the sectors of greatest opportunity.

Total corporate emissions in 2018 were 3,900 tonnes of CO2e, with the greatest source of emissions being the operation of buildings, followed by our fleet (Figure 3). The corporate emissions inventory is only for County-owned assets, it does not include member municipality assets.

Figure 3: Grey County Corporate GHG Emissions
Municipal GHG Emissions (tCO2e) by Sector 2018



Climate Change Action Plan

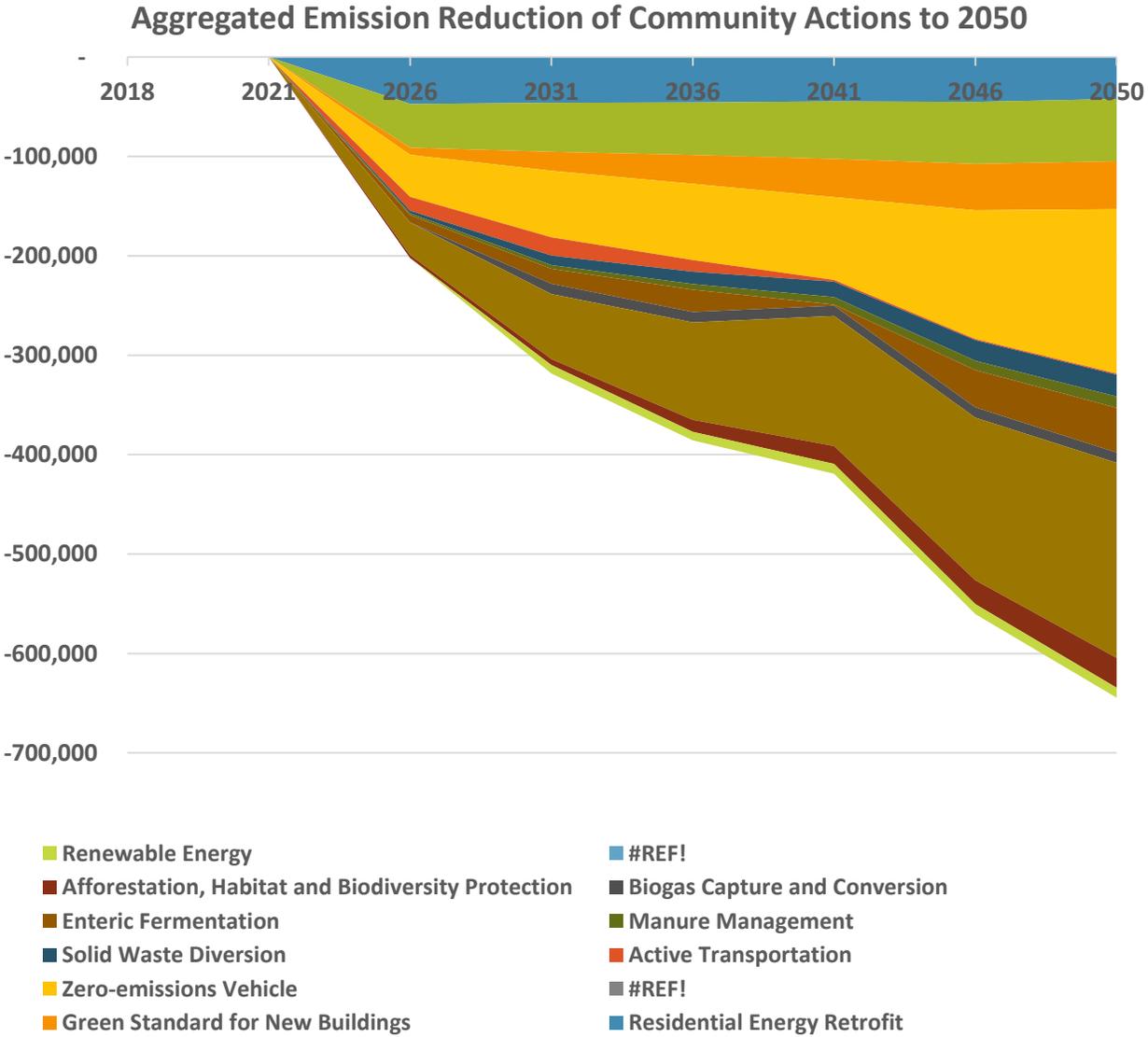
The attached Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) presents both corporate and community actions. While corporate emissions account for less than 1% of emissions community-wide, Grey County sees a critical role for us to lead by example by reducing emissions from our own operations and assets, demonstrating low-carbon technologies, and using our own experiences to share best-practices and lessons learned.

Community Strategies

The CCAP includes 21 community actions across seven themes; Nature-based Solutions & Agriculture, Waste, Transportation, Buildings & Development, Energy, Climate Adaptation and Outreach & Engagement.

The implementation of all proposed actions puts Grey County on the path to reach the proposed emission reduction targets and realize significant community benefits. Figure 4 illustrates that all actions are needed to achieve the overall goals with some actions resulting in more significant GHG reductions than others.

Figure 4: Total Emissions Reduction Potential of CCAP Actions



The following is a list of the 21 Community Actions identified in the CCAP (Figure 5). Some of these actions are currently underway, implemented county-wide by either the County or member municipalities (those highlighted in blue), while other actions are new ‘initiatives’ (those highlighted in green).

Figure 5: Community Actions

Action 1: Afforestation, Habitat and Biodiversity Protection	Action 2: Conservation and Protection of Wetlands	Action 3: Facilitate Ongoing Capacity Building in Sustainable Agricultural Best-Practices
Action 4: Continue to Promote Locally Grown Food	Action 5: Collaborate with Member Municipalities to Support Waste Diversion	Action 6: Support Re-Use/Re-Build It Centres and Programs
Action 7: Zero Emission Vehicle Adoption	Action 8: Active Transportation	Action 9: Rural Bus, Ride Share and On-Demand Transit Program
Action 10: Compact, Mixed-Use Development in Designated Settlement Areas	Action 11: Green Standard for New Buildings	Action 12: Residential Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program
Action 13: Institutional, Commercial, Industrial, Agricultural Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program	Action 14: Support Renewable and Emerging Energy Technologies	Action 15: Promote Biogas Capture and Conversion
Action 16: Develop Climate Adaptation Plan	Action 17: Reducing the Risk of Flooding	Action 18: Prevention of Shoreline Erosion
Action 19: Establish a Climate Action Engagement Program	Action 20: Promote Sustainable Tourism Programs & Incentives to Operators	Action 21: Establish a Climate Action Implementation Advisory Group

The scope of each action presented in the plan has been quantified to show what is needed to achieve a net-zero emission target. Each action will require the development of more detailed design during the implementation phase of the project; therefore, the scope of actions will likely shift and adapt overtime. Not all actions include direct emission reductions, either because the action is focused on sustainability more generally, estimate for the reduction potential is not quantifiable, or the quantification was included with another action and could not be disaggregated. Information regarding action implementation, including lead organization(s), supporting partner(s), relative cost, timeframes, and funding opportunities is provided in Section 8 – ‘Implementation, Monitoring, and Review’.

To ensure strategic deployment of resources, and to offer guidance to our member municipalities, we have identified priority activities based on the following criteria:

1. relative GHG reduction potential
2. cost to implement
3. community benefit
4. level of County influence.

From this analysis we have identified Four Foundational Pillars of action to continue and expand, and Five Key Next Steps that would be considered new initiatives, that together best address the above criteria.

Four Foundational Pillars of Existing Action

There is already significant work underway or planned in each of the four foundational pillars that we will continue and expand going forward (see CCAP for further details):

- Action #1 Afforestation & Habitat/Wetland Protection
 - Protection of Habitat and Wetlands through Recolour Grey policies (Natural Grey) including the Natural Heritage Systems Study findings. The County will continue to work with municipalities to update local official plans and zoning by-laws to incorporate further policies to protect species habitat and wetlands.
 - Grey County Forest Management Plan – a plan that sustainably manages, to Forest Stewardship Council standards, the County Forests (8,500 acres of forests)
 - Updating Grey County’s Forest Management By-law that regulates forest management on all lands throughout Grey County
 - Naturalization of the Grey County Administration Building Property – the County is in conversation with community groups including, NeighbourWoods North and the Grey Sauble Conservation Authority to naturalize the administration property through planting of trees and other natural enhancements to be used as a demonstration project for how to naturalize other institutional properties throughout Grey County. The naturalization of the admin building property will be funded from the existing operational budget and external sources.
- Action #3 Capacity building for Sustainable Agriculture
 - Existing agricultural organizations/programs such as Grey Agricultural Services, Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS), Grey County Federation of Agriculture, as well as others, provide support and capacity building to farmers on how to best to decarbonize agricultural operations. It will be important to continue to work with, and further support, the existing agricultural organizations to enhance this work and share best practices with all farmers across the County. The 2022 Ag 4.0.4 Conference, “Exploring Climate Change Mitigation Through Innovative Agriculture” is focused on these issues.
- Action #5 Expand Waste and Organics Diversion
 - Our member municipalities all have existing recycling programs that divert a waste from landfills, and two municipalities have also adopted a green bin program to also divert organic waste. There are opportunities to explore further collaboration between the local municipalities regarding waste and organic diversion, to share best practices and partner on diversion initiatives including expanding recycling programs, increasing composting, reducing and redirecting food waste, sending surplus organic materials to biogas facilities, installing methane capture technology at landfills, and increasing efforts to re-use materials and goods.
- Action #10 Compact mixed-use development
 - The County is required by section 16(14) of the *Planning Act* to include in its Official Plan policies that identify goals, objectives and actions to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, and to provide for adaptation to a changing climate, including through increasing resiliency.
 - The CCAP land use planning strategies build on Grey County’s existing land use planning documents, including Recolour Grey: County Official Plan, that advances sustainable growth, mitigates climate change and preserves natural assets. More compact, mixed-use developments increase walkability and pedestrian-friendly

- environments, with the potential to provide health benefits by increasing access to green spaces and enabling more active lifestyles. Additional benefits include enabling easier access to amenities, encouraging transportation mode-shifting, increasing property values, revitalizing downtown areas, promoting tourism, attracting private investment, reducing cost associated with infrastructure and municipal services due to shorter distance to travel (i.e. police, fire, ambulance).
- Prioritizing higher density, mixed-use development throughout Grey County will be key, especially for brownfield redevelopment projects. As part of the strategy, continued support and implementation of complete street design will also be considered by municipal planners and engineers to ensure roadways are accessible and safe for all road users.

Five Key Next Steps

In addition to continuing to invest in the needed foundations, we have also identified five key next steps. The Five Key Next Steps are the actions we will initiate first, that collectively represent 39% of our potential community-wide emissions reductions by 2050.

Action 7: Accelerate Zero Emissions Vehicle Adoption

- Encourage the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) by transitioning Grey County into an electric vehicle ready region through enabling the installation of EV charging infrastructure, and education and awareness about EV options.
- The strategy will build on the Regional EV Network Study being conducted in partnership with neighbouring Counties.
 - Scope: By 2030 25% and by 2050 100% of vehicles registered in Grey County are zero-emission vehicles.
 - High GHG pollution reduction impact.

Action 11: Green Standard for New Buildings

- Develop and implement a voluntary green development standard (GDS) that is tier-based, includes incentives, and progresses to net-zero ready buildings by 2030.
- Identify absolute performance metrics that specify targets for total energy use, thermal energy demand intensity, and GHG intensity and allow flexibility in how developers meet targets.
 - Scope: By 2030, all new buildings are constructed to be net-zero ready and are at least 80 percent more efficient than new buildings built in the baseline year.
 - Medium GHG pollution reduction impact.

Action 12: Residential Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program

- Develop and implement a voluntary residential energy retrofit program for existing buildings that addresses energy conservation, energy efficiency, and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Design a financing mechanism to support residential property owners as well as tenants/landlords to participate in the program.
 - Scope: By 2030, 17% homes and by 2050, 84% of homes are retrofitted with a target energy efficiency gain of 40% or more per project.
 - High GHG pollution reduction impact.

Action 16: Develop Climate Adaptation Plan

- Create a Climate Adaptation Plan for Grey County outlining actions and strategies to increase our communities' climate resilience, minimize the exposure of our community and assets (both physical and natural).
- Focus adaptation plan on maximizing the potential of natural infrastructure.

Action 19: Establish a Climate Action Engagement Program

- Develop an education and awareness program to inspire action across all sectors for residents and business, targeting appropriate messages to sub-sectors (e.g. building efficiency retrofits and programs to property owners and tenants.)
- Develop a Climate Action Volunteer program collaborating with local partners to engage residents in direct emissions reduction and sequestration activity (e.g. tree planting, naturalization, community gardens).
 - Enabler of GHG pollution reduction

Corporate Strategies

While Grey County's corporate emissions are less than 1% of community-wide inventory, the County has an opportunity to lead by example by dramatically reducing the emissions associated with operating our own assets and supporting member municipalities in their decarbonization efforts.

The CCAP identifies 13 corporate actions across four themes: buildings and lighting, vehicles fleet and equipment, waste, and municipal culture. The actions address corporate emissions across our operations and enhance work that is already underway. The Rockwood Terrace redevelopment project includes a net-zero feasibility study to understand the investment required, providing analysis that can be applied to other County and municipal projects. The CCAP proposes in Corporate Action 1 that all new County construction projects undertake net-zero feasibility studies. A County Fleet Review and Green Fleet Strategy is under development to analyze opportunities for greater fleet efficiency, and the role of electric and zero emissions vehicles considering the lower total cost of ownership for EVs when fuel and maintenance are considered. This study is the first step for Corporate Action 8: Zero Emission Fleet Vehicles & Equipment.

The corporate actions identified in the CCAP will, provide continuity of leadership to support collaboration and move the recommendations forward, reduce GHG emissions 100% from the baseline, reduce energy consumption by 55% and, with the implementation of an ambitious renewable energy program on County buildings, have the potential to entirely offset our energy costs.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

The County is required by section 3 of the *Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015* when making decisions regarding infrastructure to consider that infrastructure should be designed to be resilient to the effects of climate change. Regulation 588/17 made under that Act also require that the County's strategic asset management policy contain a commitment to consider actions

addressing vulnerabilities that climate change may cause for infrastructure and costs and adaptation plans related to them, as well as mitigation approaches to climate change in general.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no direct financial or resource implications of receiving the Climate Change Action Plan report. Implementation of the CCAP will need to be included in future County budgets as business cases are developed for specific programs. Going forward adjustments to the capital program will be brought forward through the annual budget process and external funding will be sought wherever available. Section 8 of the CCAP includes potential fundings sources for each action. The 2022 budget includes the Climate Change Initiatives Manager salary and has earmarked \$250,000 to support the initial implementation of the CCAP.

Relevant Consultation

Internal: All County Departments

External: The public, member municipalities, conservation authorities, interested stakeholders.

Appendices and Attachments

Attachment A: [Final Climate Change Action Plan \(March 2022\)](#)

Attachment B: Climate Change Action Plan Phase 2 Engagement Findings (December 2021): [“What We Heard” – Climate Change Action Plan Engagement Findings](#)