



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Date: January 19, 2023

In Control: Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee

DEPARTMENT: Office of Sustainability

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Douglas Melnick

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing on the implementation status of the SA Climate Ready, Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

SUMMARY:

The Office of Sustainability is providing a briefing on the results of the 2021 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, as well as current climate mitigation initiatives.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

City Council adopted the SA Climate Ready Plan on October 17, 2019. The plan includes a 2016 community and municipal greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory that serves as the baseline for tracking progress towards achieving the zero net energy goal by 2050. The City of San Antonio has set targets of 41% reductions of 2016 emissions by 2030, 71% by 2040, and 100% by 2050.

The GHG inventory was updated in 2019. From 2016 to 2019, our community's total greenhouse gases went down by 0.2%. Increases within certain sectors were offset by decreases in others, resulting in a basically flatline trend.

Our energy use in both electricity and natural gas had gone up, though GHGs from this sector fell slightly due to an overall cleaner electricity portfolio. The largest overall increase in emissions came from the transportation sector due to the increased emissions from private vehicles.

To complete the 2021 inventory, the City once again partnered with ICLEI USA to conduct the biannual greenhouse gas inventory. This inventory continues to utilize the methodological requirements of the Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories BASIC protocol. The results of the 2021 inventory show that the largest emissions contributor is Transportation, with 35% of emissions. The next largest contributors are Commercial Energy (28%) and Residential Energy (19%). Solid Waste, Water & Wastewater and Process & Fugitive Emissions were responsible for the remaining (less than 16%) emissions. Overall, GHG emissions fell by 3.46% between 2019 and 2021.

SA Climate Ready contains two sections: climate mitigation that focuses on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and climate adaptation that focuses on adapting to current and future climate impacts. This briefing will provide updates withing the six (6) climate mitigation strategy areas:

- Increase Carbon-Free Energy
- Reducing Building Energy Consumption
- Reduce Transportation Energy Consumption
- Advance the Circular Economy
- Promote Biodiversity and Healthy Ecosystems
- Educate and Empower

ISSUE:

Implementation of the SA Climate Ready Climate Action and Adaptation Plan requires ongoing measuring of greenhouse gas emissions and the undertaking of climate mitigation and adaptation measures. This briefing highlights the results of the 2021 greenhouse gas inventory and provides an overview of current mitigation strategies.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.