



AUSTIN COMMUNITY CLIMATE PLAN

CURRENT SIGNS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN AUSTIN:



HIGHER TEMPERATURES



EXTENDED PERIODS OF DROUGHT



INCREASED RISK OF WILDFIRE



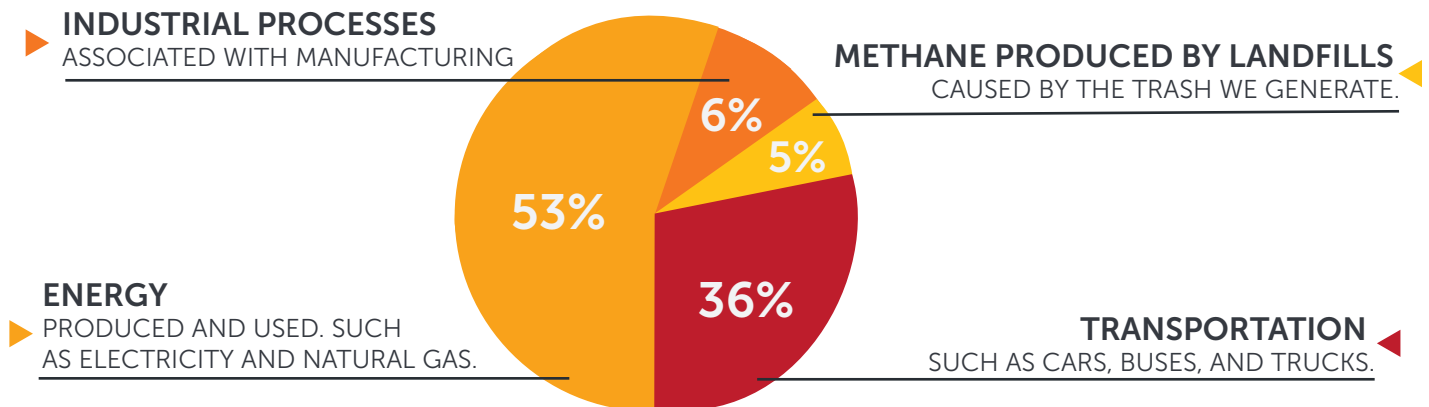
INTENSE RAIN AND FLOODING

Climate projections for Central Texas for the next 25 years indicate that there will be more days with rainfall over 2 inches, summertime droughts, and days with extreme temperatures over 110°F.

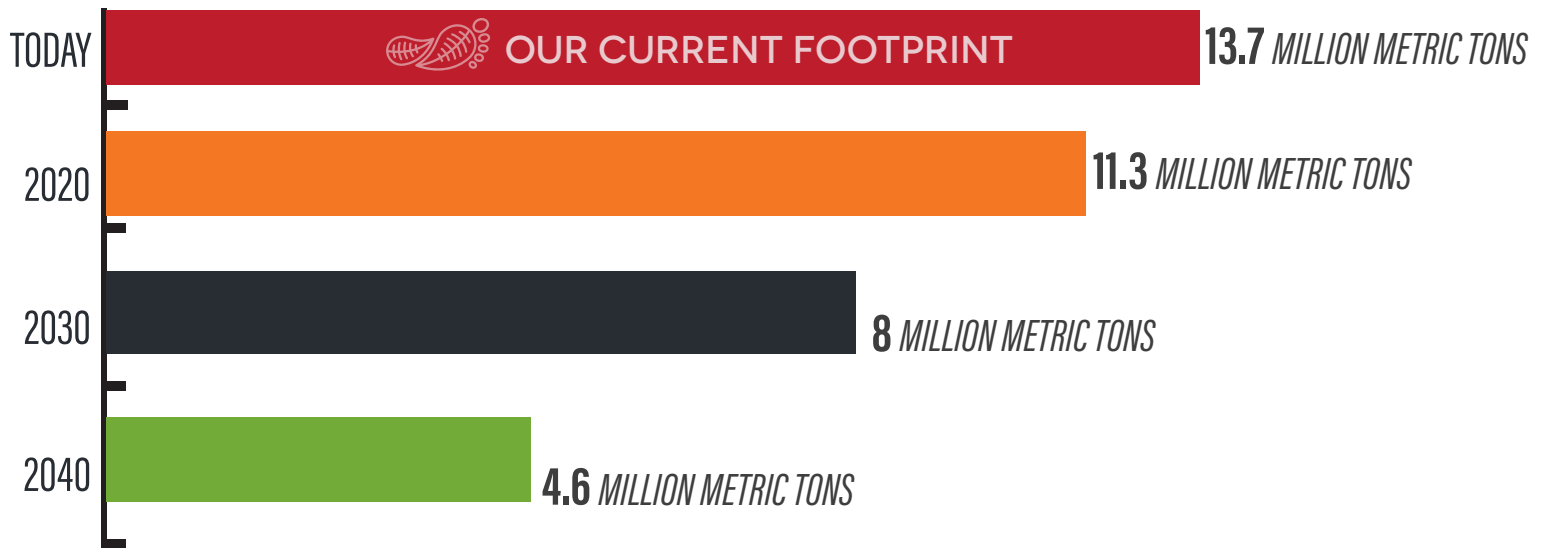


Austin City Council has set the **goal of reaching net-zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2050**. The Austin Community Climate Plan identifies more than 130 actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy, transportation, and materials and waste sources.

CURRENTLY, **13.7 MILLION** METRIC TONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES ARE EMITTED COMMUNITY-WIDE FROM:



TO STAY ON TRACK WITH THE NET-ZERO GOAL, WE NEED TO REDUCE EMISSIONS TO:



If we don't meet these targets, climate change could lead to poorer health, disease, damage to property, reduced agricultural output, and higher costs for energy and water.

NET-ZERO BENEFITS

In addition to addressing these negative impacts, getting to net-zero would also offer many positive benefits to Austin:



GREATER AFFORDABILITY FOR ALL



REDUCED AIR POLLUTION AND IMPROVED AIR QUALITY



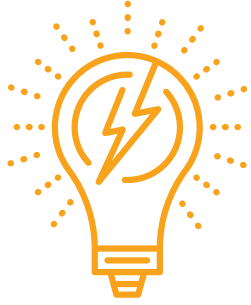
A THRIVING LOCAL ECONOMY



REDUCED TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Climate change is **impacting our quality of life** and many of the things we love about Austin. *Everyone has to help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.*

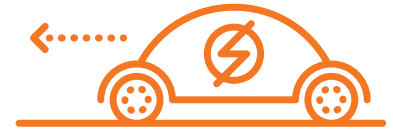
WHAT THE CITY IS DOING ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE:



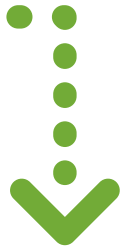
SAVING 900 MEGAWATTS OF PEAK ELECTRICITY DEMAND BY 2025.



USING SOLAR AND WIND TO PROVIDE 55% OF THE TOTAL ENERGY GENERATION MIX BY 2025.



INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT MORE ZERO EMISSIONS VEHICLES.



ACHIEVING A 20% REDUCTION IN SINGLE PASSENGER VEHICLE COMMUTING BY 2020.



MAXIMIZING RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING TO KEEP 90% OF MATERIALS OUT OF LANDFILLS BY 2040.



REACHING CARBON NEUTRALITY FOR CITY OF AUSTIN MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS BY 2020.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP:

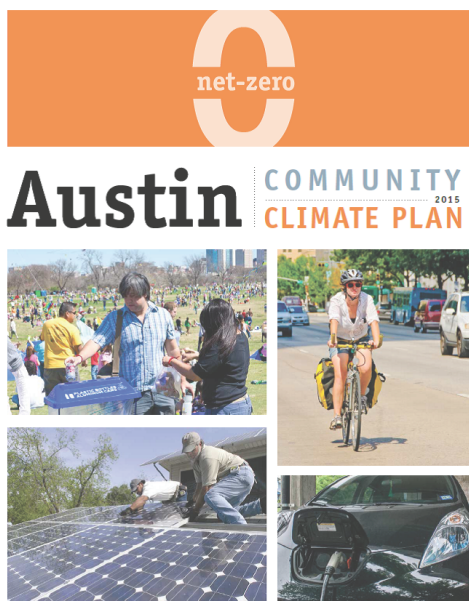
Decide where you have the greatest impact.

- ▶ For people with long commutes, driving less might have the biggest impact.
- ▶ Larger homes require more energy to stay cool in the summer and warm in the winter.
- ▶ If you pitch recyclables with your trash, more stuff ends up in the landfill to create methane.

RETHINK YOUR DAILY CHOICES

- ▶ **USE LESS ENERGY** – reducing electricity usage by 10% could reduce your carbon footprint by one ton per year.
- ▶ **DRIVE YOUR GAS-FUELED CAR LESS** – walking, biking, and riding the bus or train just one day each week could reduce your carbon footprint by one ton per year.
- ▶ **KEEP AS MUCH OUT OF THE LANDFILL AS POSSIBLE** – recycle and compost more than half of what you throw out each month. In the short term, methane creates 86 times more warming than carbon dioxide.
- ▶ **BUY LOCAL AND WASTE LESS STUFF** – reducing the amount of food and products that have to be shipped to Austin not only reduces the amount of emissions required to transport them, but also the emissions needed to produce them.

FOR A LIST OF SIMPLE ACTIONS TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT, VISIT: AUSTINTEXAS.GOV/CLIMATEACTION



VIEW THE FULL CLIMATE PLAN AT:
<http://bit.ly/atxclimate>