

AGENDA



CHESTER COUNTY
CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



Objectives and Actions for Community Engagement
and County Facilities & Operations

- | | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 6:30 | Welcome | Chester County Commissioners |
| | Landscapes3 – Protect Goal | Brian N. O’Leary, Planning Commission |
| | Why do we need a Climate Action Plan? | Jess Cadorette, EEAB Chair
Paul Spiegel, EEAB Vice-Chair |
| 6:50 | Climate Action Plan Overview | Carol Stauffer, Planning Commission |
| | Plan Goal – Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions | |
| | Action Plan Highlights | |
| 7:15 | Public Input – Q&A | |
| 7:50 | Next Steps – Where do we go from here? | Jess Cadorette, EEAB Chair |
| 8:00 | Adjournment | |

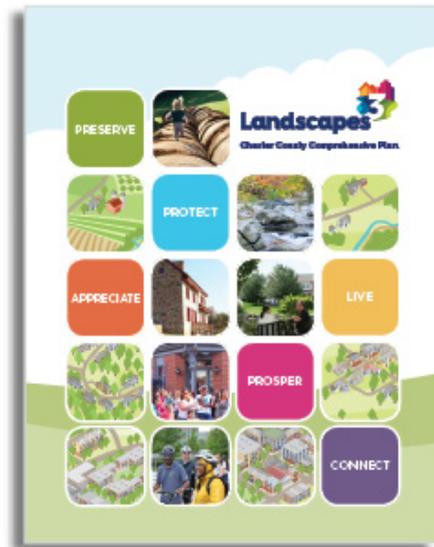
CHESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Marian D. Moskowitz

Josh Maxwell

Michelle Kichline



In 2045...

Chester County abounds with healthy natural areas, robust farms, cherished historic sites, diverse housing, thriving businesses, quality education, accessible transportation, and vibrant communities for all.



Landscapes

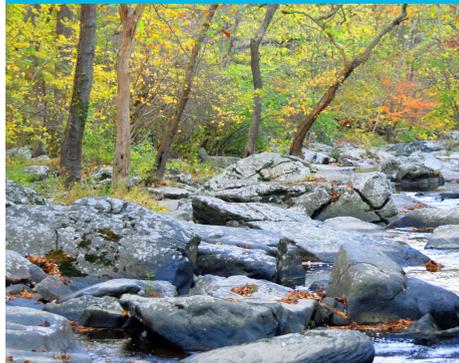
Chester County Comprehensive Plan

Goals to Achieve the Vision

How We
PRESERVE



How We
PROTECT



How We
APPRECIATE



How We
LIVE



How We
PROSPER



How We
CONNECT

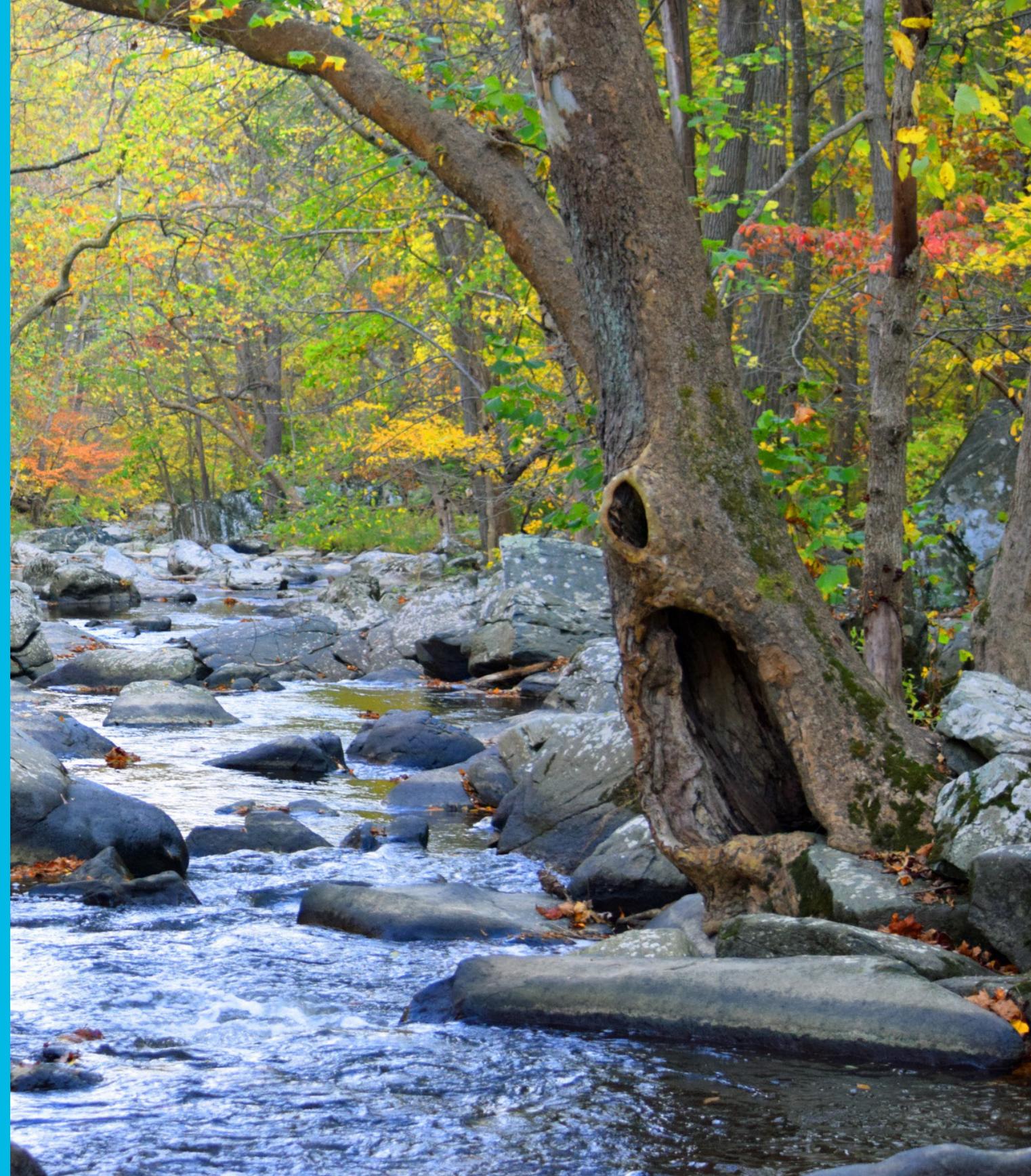




How We PROTECT

Protect and restore
critical natural resources

to ensure a resilient environment
that supports healthy
communities.



SUCCESS STORIES

Measuring Success

How we PROTECT

2019

During 2019, public and private organizations undertook various initiatives that helped to implement the *Landscapes3* Protect Goal: "Protect and restore critical natural resources to ensure a resilient environment that supports healthy communities." The following success stories highlight some of the



Chester County Clean Energy Tour highlights solar facilities throughout the County

In October 2019, Chester County's Clean Energy Tour, featured "open-houses" for residents to explore **local sustainable energy practices** such as solar power, wind generation, energy efficiency, and green design. The tour was organized by Chester County Ready for 100, a group which supports local communities in the transition to 100% clean, renewable energy. This initiative helps to

implement Landscapes3 recommendation, "Promote benefits of natural resource protection."



TreeVitalize Watersheds Program and Keystone 10-million Trees Partnership

In 2019, the County Conservation District facilitated the planting of nearly 1,900 trees and shrubs, through the **TreeVitalize Watersheds Program** and Keystone 10-million Trees Partnership. By working alongside landowners, tree buffers were planted by over 100 volunteers along stream corridors, adjacent upland areas, and "naturalized" stormwater basins. This initiative helps to

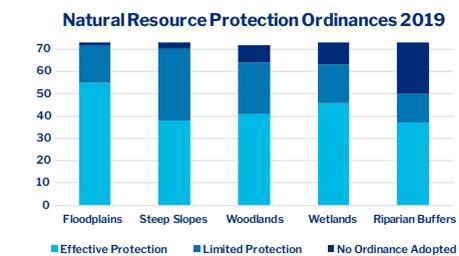
METRICS

How We
PROTECT

METRIC 4 Natural Resource Protection

METRIC RESULT

Ordinances with effective natural resource protection	Base year 2018	Current year 2019	Difference between current year and base year METRIC RESULT
Total	212	217	5
Floodplains	55	55	0
Steep slopes	37	38	1
Woodlands	40	41	1
Wetlands	45	46	1
Riparian buffers	35	37	2



During the current year (2019), the ordinances of all 73 municipalities were reviewed to determine if they effectively addressed five specific resources: floodplains, steep slopes, woodlands, wetlands, and riparian buffers. A total of 365 provisions were examined, and 217 were found to provide effective protection for the specific resource being examined. This represents an increase of 5, relative to the base year.

SUCCESS STORIES

2020

Bryn Coed Preserve

Natural Lands announced the completion of a massive tree-planting at their Bryn Coed Preserve in Chester Springs, including 12,500 native species

Crow's Nest Preserve

Natural Lands added 91 acres to its Crow's Nest Preserve in Warwick Township. The preserve's trail network was then doubled by installing raised boardwalk marsh trails

West Chester University

WCU received "Tree Campus USA" recognition



SUCCESS STORIES

2020

Earth Day 50th Anniversary Celebration

50 Ways Your Community Can Protect Our Planet booklet released

Watersheds Education Program

Received state funding to educate children about the value of local watersheds and watershed protection

Hibernia Dam Rehabilitation Project completed



50 WAYS
**YOUR
COMMUNITY
CAN PROTECT
OUR PLANET**

SUCCESS STORIES

2020

French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust

Opened its 500-acre Great Marsh Upland Preserve in East Nantmeal Township

Conservation District

Received funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to assist farmers in implementing or repairing green infrastructure

eTools

Natural Resource Protection; Water Conservation Practices; Floodplain Protection



WHY DO WE NEED A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN?

Jess Cadorette, EEAB Chair

Paul Spiegel, EEAB Vice-Chair

Environmental & Energy Advisory Board



CLIMATE ACTION PLAN VISION

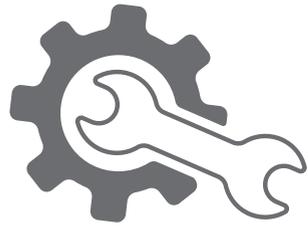
Reduce the county's contribution to global climate change

and equitably improve the health and well-being of the community by: **reducing** greenhouse emissions through government leadership and collaboration, **mitigating** impacts of climate change through resiliency and planning, and **transitioning** to clean and sustainable energy generation.



PHOTO CREDIT: MARK WILLIAMS
Landscapes3 Photo Contest Entrant

WHO IS THE PLAN FOR?



County Government

Facilities & Operations



Community-wide Engagement

Municipalities, Residents, Businesses, Community & Advocacy Groups

UPDATES THE 2010 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION REPORT

The County has undertaken many initiatives:

Annual Energy Savings

\$400,000 per year through GESA energy savings measures

Over **\$2,000,000** saved since 2016

Annual CO2 Emissions Avoided

2,007 tons = energy usage of 212 homes

Annual Water Usage Saved

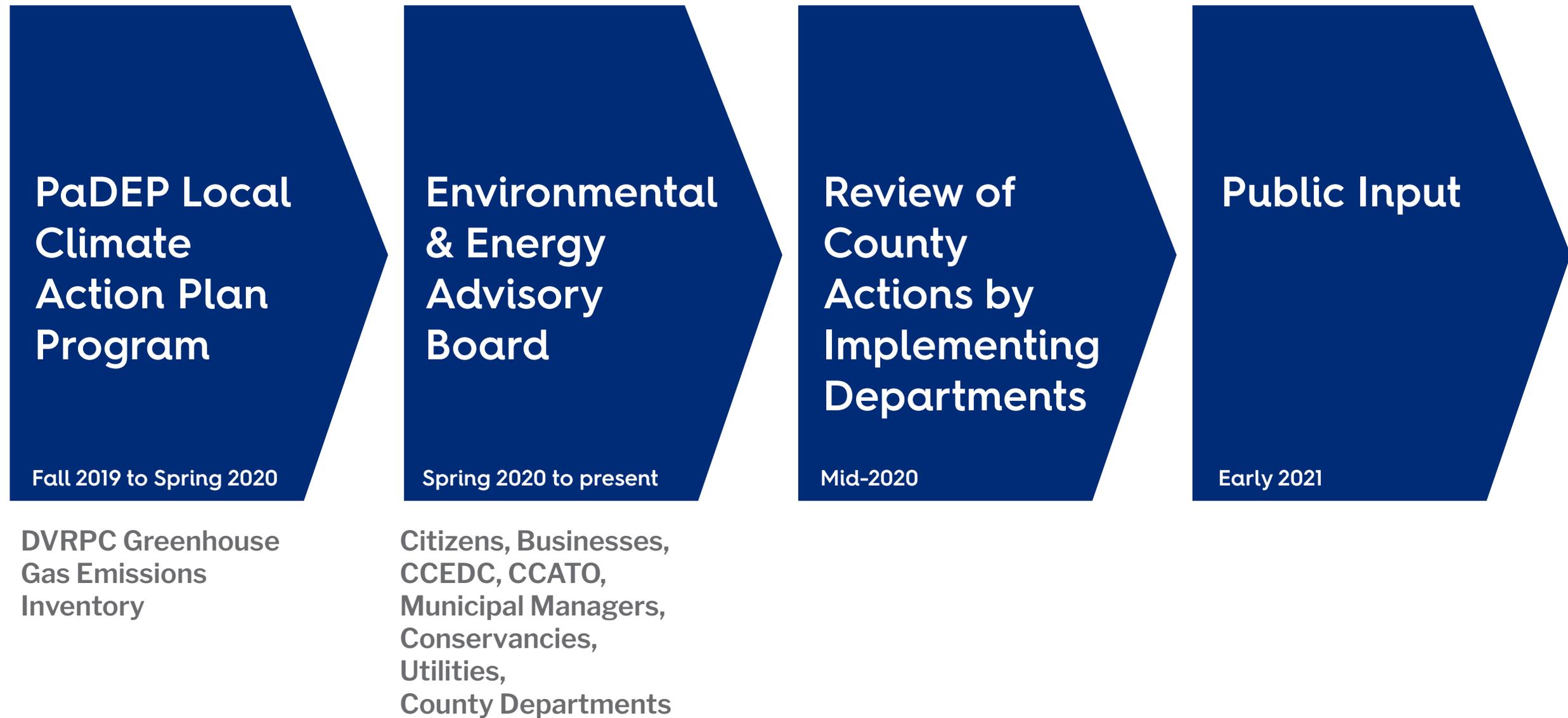
18,000,000 gallons = 30 Olympic size swimming pools

Renewable Energy Use

Renewable Energy Credits for **100%** of County facility electricity

Note: More details about County initiatives are found on pages 15-16 in the report

HOW HAS THE PLAN BEEN DEVELOPED TO DATE?

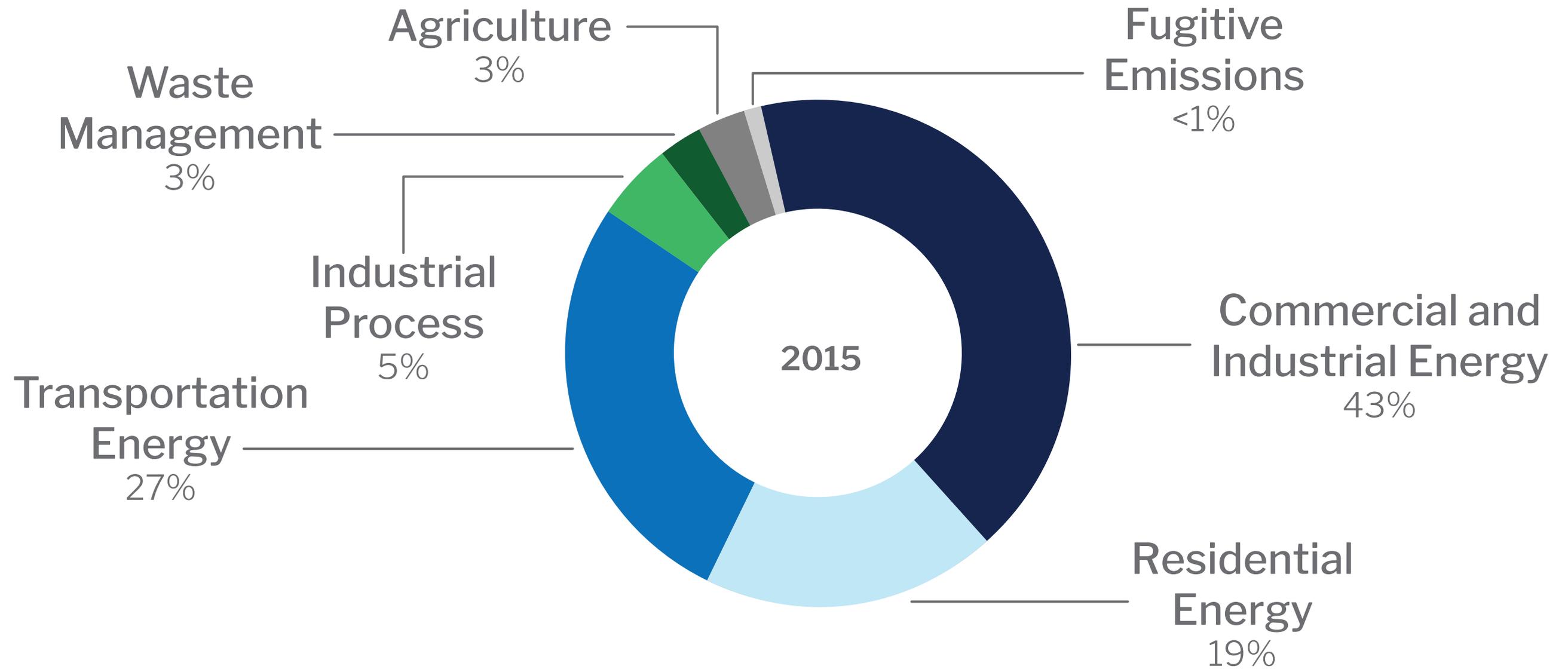


PRIMARY GOAL

**Reduce Greenhouse Gas
Emissions in Chester County by
80% by 2050.**

This County goal aligns with regional and state Climate Action Plan Reduction Goals.

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CURRENT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN CHESTER COUNTY?



HOW DO WE PROPOSE TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS?

Objectives and Actions



BUILDINGS AND ENERGY



TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE



WASTE MANAGEMENT



AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY

 **Chester County Facilities & Operations Actions**

 **Community-Wide Engagements Actions**

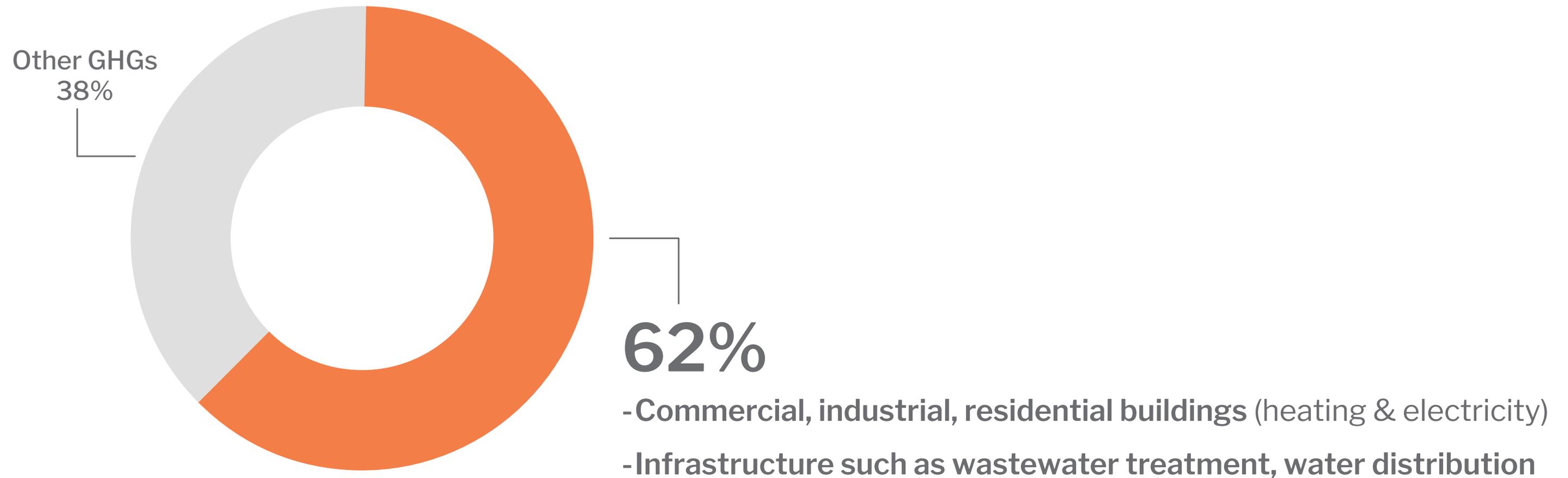
Plan identifies potential impact, priority, timeframe, and primary implementer for each action.



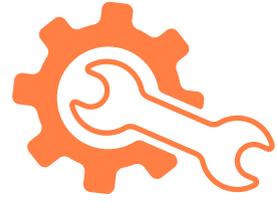
BUILDINGS AND ENERGY

BUILDINGS AND ENERGY

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



BUILDINGS AND ENERGY



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES

- Increase energy-management capabilities
- Increase building energy efficiency
- Incorporate sustainable design into county buildings
- Transition to renewable energy

BUILDINGS AND ENERGY



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

ACTIONS (examples)

Energy Savings Measures

Continue to implement energy savings measures throughout county facilities.

Green Building Standards

Implement green building standards for new construction & major renovations (LEED Silver).

Renewable Electricity Procurement

Continue pursuing opportunities for procuring 100% of electricity from renewable sources.

Solar Potential

Analyze potential for on-site solar.

BUILDINGS AND ENERGY



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES

- **Promote Sustainable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Communications**
- **Establish and support the Environmental and Energy Advisory Board**

BUILDINGS AND ENERGY



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

ACTIONS (examples)

Renewable Energy Targets

Establish community-wide renewable energy targets (100% renewable electricity by 2050).

Alternate Energy Ordinances

Develop model ordinances that facilitate the use of alternate and emerging energy technologies.

Solar Application Approval Process

Streamline local application, permitting, and inspection process for solar facilities.

Vision Partnership Program

Use VPP to support municipal implementation of renewable energy planning and ordinances.

LED Streetlights

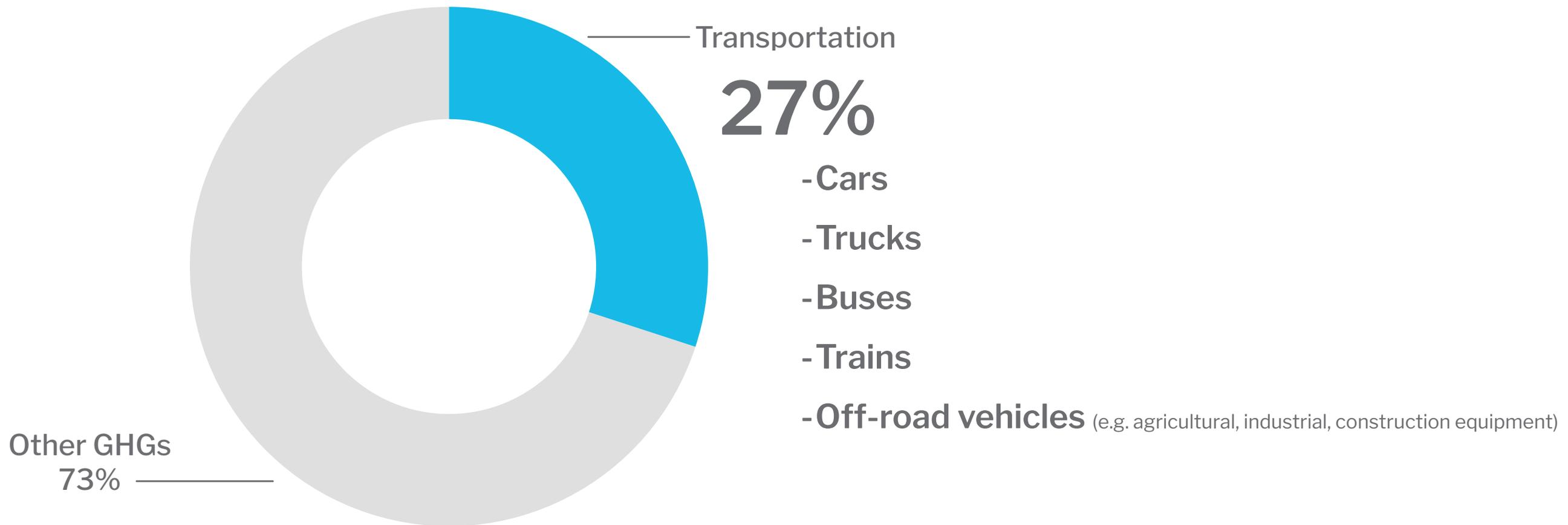
Support participation in the regional LED streetlight procurement program.



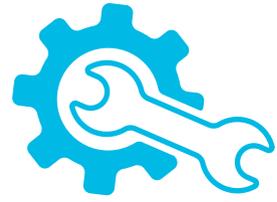
TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE

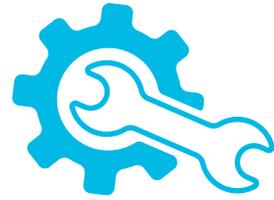


FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce employee commuter vehicle miles traveled
- Optimize the County fleet
- Encourage low/no carbon travel

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

ACTIONS (examples)

Remote Work

Establish policies for remote working and flex-time work schedules.

Facility Location Optimization

Locate future county facilities in proximity to employees and clients.

Electric Vehicle Potential

Examine electrification of county fleet and maintenance equipment.

Electric Charging Stations

Install electric vehicle charging stations at County facilities.



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES

- Encourage smart growth
- Promote efficient commuter and transit options
- Encourage no/low emissions travel and transportation strategies

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

ACTIONS (examples)

Walkability

Promote walkable communities with convenient access to services and amenities.

Transit-Related Projects

Work with DVRPC and transit providers to support transit-related projects.

Smart Growth Ordinances

Provide ordinances that support Smart Growth and Transit-Oriented Development.

Traffic Congestion Management

Participate in multi-municipal traffic congestion management programs.

Sidewalk and Trail Network

Continue advancing the local and regional trail and sidewalk network.

**SINGLE
STREAM
RECYCLING**

**INCLUDES: NEWSPAPER, OFFICE PAPER, JUNK MAIL, CEREAL
BOXES, CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, ALUMINUM AND METAL CANS,
JARS AND BOTTLES, PLASTICS #1 AND 2**

**PLASTIC BAGS, PLASTIC CAPS, SHREDDED
GLASS, DIAPERS,**

**SINGLE
STREAM
RECYCLING**

**SINGLE
STREAM
RECYCLING**

**SINGLE
STREAM
RECYCLING**

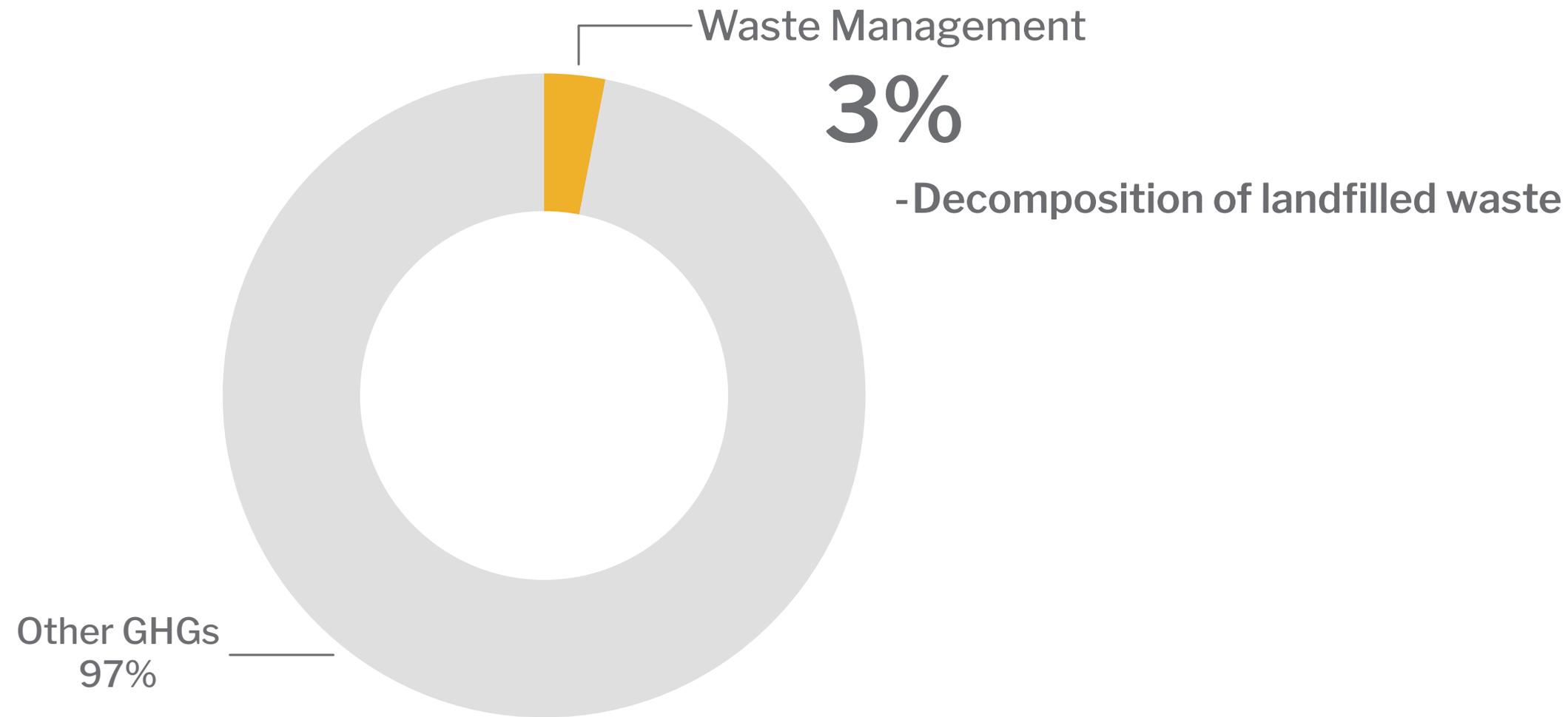
**SINGLE
STREAM
RECYCLING**

SECCRA
Keeping our Community Clean

WASTE MANAGEMENT

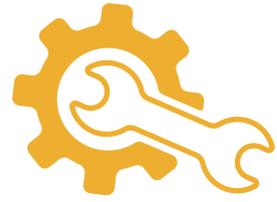
WASTE MANAGEMENT

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Note: Waste hauling emissions falls under Transportation

WASTE MANAGEMENT

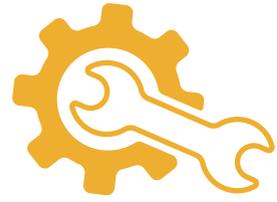


FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES

- **Increase County Operations Waste Diversion**

WASTE MANAGEMENT



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

ACTIONS (examples)

Waste Diversion Plan

Develop a solid waste management and waste diversion plan for County operations.

Recycling

Continue recycling training as part of employee orientation.

WASTE MANAGEMENT



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES

- Increase county waste diversion and other best practices through partnerships and collaborations

WASTE MANAGEMENT



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

ACTIONS (examples)

Sustainable Waste Management Practices

Promote sustainable practices including source reduction, recycling, and home composting.

Construction Waste Management

Investigate a county-wide construction and demolition waste recycling and reuse program.

Building Preservation

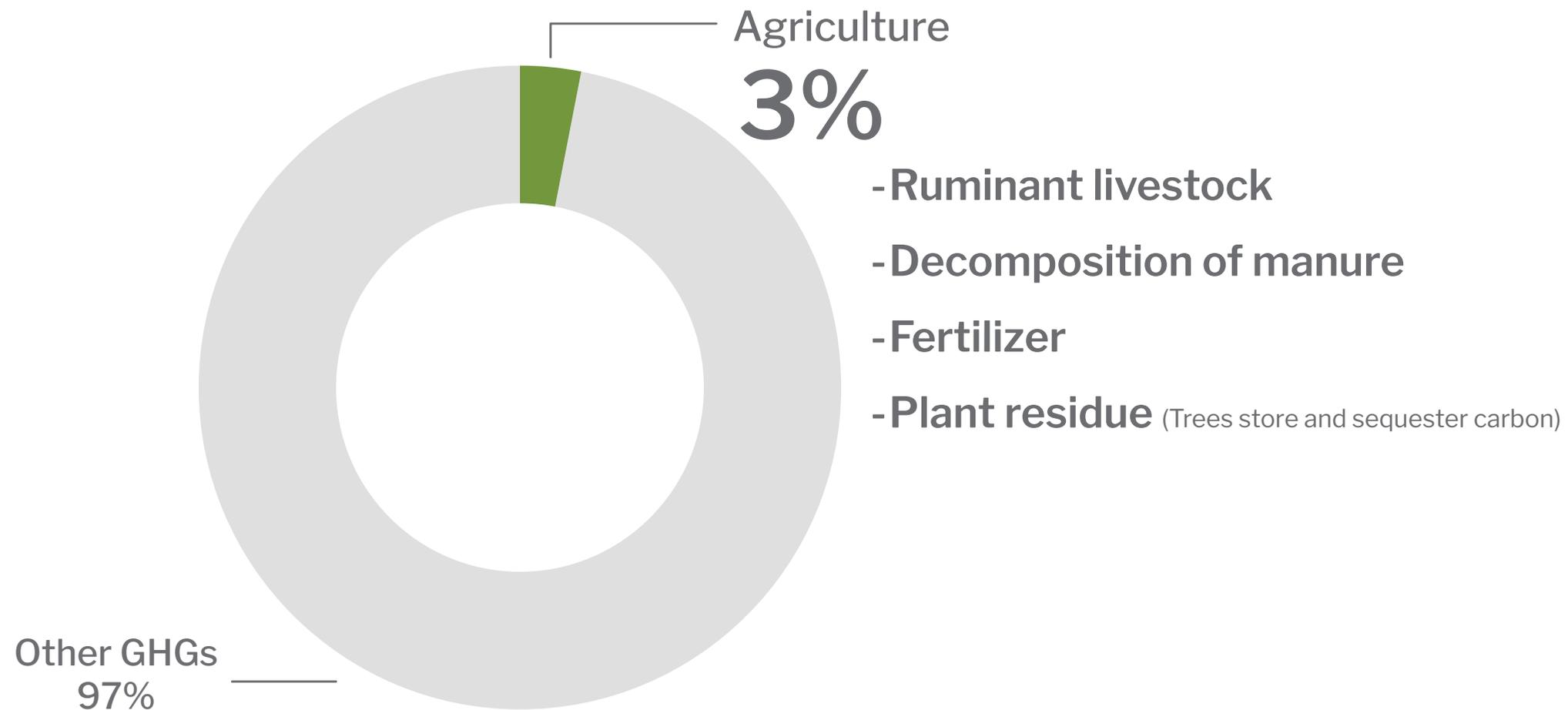
Support historic preservation and adaptive reuse of buildings.



AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY

AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES

- **Manage County open spaces responsibly**
- **Continue to preserve additional County open space**

AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY



FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

ACTIONS (examples)

Sustainable Land Management

Establish a sustainable landscape management plan for County lands.

Reforestation

Investigate reforestation opportunities on County lands.

Equipment Electrification

Electrify landscape maintenance equipment where feasible.

AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES

- **Grow and preserve open spaces and natural areas**
- **Support local food production and the agricultural community**

AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY



COMMUNITY-WIDE ENGAGEMENT

ACTIONS (examples)

Land Preservation

Continue to advance the protection of open space, farmland, woodlands, wetlands, and other natural areas.

Woodland Conservation

Support conservation of woodlands and reforest and improve declining or degraded woodlands.

Local Food System

Support local farmers and promote the local food system to residents and businesses.

CO-BENEFITS OF CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

+ Improving Public Health

Improved air quality, reduce extreme heat events

+ Saving Money and Reducing Risk

Reduced energy bills, transportation fuel savings, reduced flooding risks

+ Enhancing Resource Security

Less strain on energy system, fewer service disruptions

+ Creating Jobs

Clean energy jobs - design, manufacture, installation of energy efficient technologies

+ Fostering Social Equity

Lower impact on disadvantaged communities (e.g., heat, flooding)



MOVING FORWARD AND MEASURING PROGRESS

Key Performance Measures (examples)

Buildings and Energy

- Energy saving improvements and energy use reduction at County facilities

Transportation and Land Use

- Increase in trail, sidewalk, and bike lane mileage in the county
- Number of electric vehicle charging stations county-wide
- Percent of proposed residential units in Growth Areas

Waste Management

- Percent change in municipal solid waste per capita in the county

Agriculture, Food, and Forestry

- Percent increase in protected open space, farmland, and woodlands