

Draft Actions for the Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan
 Prince William County, Virginia
 March 22, 2023

The proposed draft actions below are being developed as part of the *Prince William County's Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan*. These draft actions are actions the county would take to achieve the [goals set forth by the Board of County Supervisors](#). The Board has outlined goals for the entire county, as well as goals specifically targeted at county government operations. The actions have been categorized into the following sectors: electricity, buildings, infrastructure, transportation, natural resources, community, agriculture, waste, and refrigerants. The actions' Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction potential and/or climate hazard addressed are listed in the Climate Benefits column to the right. GHG reduction potential ranges are as follows:

Very High: greater than 500,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent reduced (MTCO₂e),

High: 50,000-500,000 MTCO₂e reduced

Medium: 10,000-50,000 MTCO₂e reduced

Low: less than 10,000 MTCO₂e reduced

Action #	Sector	Action Title	Action Description	Climate Benefits (GHG Reduction Potential, and/or Climate Hazard Addressed)
GREENHOUSE GAS MITIGATION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY ACTIONS				
18	TRANSPORTATION – MODE SHIFT	Improve Pedestrian Infrastructure around Public Transportation	Improve transportation infrastructure around transit stops and stations to support active mobility like walking, biking, and rolling, with improvements such as providing bike lockers, installing curb ramps, or installing traffic-calming designs like crosswalk islands or speed humps.	High
19		Enhance Sidewalk and Trail Connectivity	Continue to improve connectivity of sidewalks and trails (paved and unpaved) for pedestrians and cyclists.	
20		Foster Transit-Oriented Development	Support transit-oriented development and ensure that land uses within 1/2-mile of transit stations are oriented toward people instead of auto uses (e.g., auto repair, car washes, drive throughs)	

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21		Revise Parking Standards	Eliminate minimum parking standard or introduce maximum parking standards to disincentivize car use.	
22		Discount Transit Passes for Residents	Offer discounted transit passes to residents.	Medium
23		Expand Existing Programs that Reduce Single-Occupancy Vehicle Trips	Work with major employers to expand the Transportation Demand Management and Transit Fare Buy Down Program (expanding Strategic Plan program).	Medium
24		Upgrade Public Transit Infrastructure	Partner with County transit operators to improve and provide new public transit infrastructure (e.g., priority bus lanes, bus stops, priority signaling)	Medium
25		Encourage E-Bike and E-Scooter Adoption	Promote the use of e-bikes and e-scooters through enhanced infrastructure and incentives.	Low
26	TRANSPORTATION - ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES (ZEV)	Educate on Existing Zero-Emission Vehicle Incentives and Rebates	Provide outreach and education on existing ZEV incentives or rebates.	Medium
27		Incentivize Zero-Emission Vehicles and Charging	Develop incentives for residents and businesses to purchase ZEVs or install charging equipment (e.g., through rebates, "group-buy" programs, or streamlined permitting).	
28		Expand Public EV Charging Network	Expand public EV charging infrastructure, especially along main routes and in popular destinations.	
29		Promote Zero-Emission Bus and Rail Transition	Partner with public transit operators to promote the transition to zero emission buses, including school buses and rail systems (e.g., providing charging station infrastructure).	Medium
30		Adopt Zero- or Low-Emissions County Fleet	Transition County fleet to zero-/low-emissions vehicles and ensure supporting infrastructure is open to other fleets.	Low
31	TRANSPORTATION - OFF-ROAD VEHICLES	Support Zero- or Low-Emissions County	Adopt a policy that encourages the County to contract with businesses operating low- or zero-emission off-road equipment.	Low

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		Government Contracting of Off-Road Equipment		
32		Adopt County Government Zero-Emission Off-Road Policy	Adopt a municipal zero-emissions off-road vehicles and equipment policy that requires low- or zero-emissions replacements.	Low
33		Launch Electric Equipment Lending Program	Start a lending library where residents can check out electric landscaping equipment and expand to other low-emissions tools and equipment.	Low
37	NATURAL RESOURCES	Support Sustainable Farming Practices	Provide outreach and education to the agricultural community on sustainable farming practices that reduce fertilizer use and increase soil carbon sequestration.	Low
38		Launch Suburban and Rural Tree Planting Initiative	Implement a tree planting and maintenance program to expand suburban and rural tree cover.	Unknown GHG Reduction, Extreme Heat
39		Create Voluntary Countywide Reforestation Program	Implement a voluntary program to increase reforestation of lands throughout the county.	Unknown GHG Reduction, Extreme Heat

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These draft climate adaptation and resiliency actions below are actions the county would take to achieve the climate resiliency and adaptation goals set forth by the Board of County Supervisors. These are proposed actions to be taken to address the vulnerabilities of the county’s people and assets to climate hazards. The County’s Vulnerability Assessment completed in January 2023 identified the following categories most vulnerable to climate hazards: socially vulnerable populations, natural resources, energy resources, transportation, and food/water/shelter resources. The following climate hazards propose the greatest risk to the county’s assets and people: precipitation, extreme temperature, drought, sea level rise, earthquakes, and strong winds/tornados. The actions below are proposed to help the county become more resilient and adaptable to climate change.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION & RESILIENCY ACTIONS				
Action #	Sector	Action Title	Action Description	Climate Benefits (GHG Reduction Potential, and/or Climate Hazard Addressed)
46	INFRASTRUCUTRE	Protect County Infrastructure from Flooding	Identify County-owned infrastructure vulnerable to future flooding and evaluate if infrastructure should be elevated, relocated, or floodproofed.	Precipitation
48		Understand Stormwater Flooding in Areas Outside of the Floodplain	Develop plans for stormwater system upgrades based on future conditions stormwater modeling data and historic flooding information.	Precipitation
53		Urban Heat Island Relief Program	Incentivize urban designs that facilitate air movement to alleviate heat islands (e.g., increasing urban tree cover).	Low, Extreme Heat
56	NATURAL RESOURCES	Expand Tax Credits for Conservation of Natural Resources	Expand tax credits for conservation of floodplains and natural buffers, such as wetlands and riverbank tree planting, in vulnerable areas.	Flooding
57		Assess Shoreline Protection and Nature-Based Solutions	Conduct feasibility studies to evaluate shoreline protection measures against erosion and flood, incentivizing nature-based solutions. Develop long-term plans to address sea level rise for at-risk public and private property.	Precipitation & Sea Level Rise

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58		Develop Plan to Preserve Estuaries and Wetlands To Reduce Flooding	Map projected future sea levels and identify existing wetlands that may be impacted. Develop a plan to preserve these spaces and use them to mitigate runoff and flood impacts where possible.	Sea Level Rise
59		Restore Streams to Reduce Flooding	Develop stream corridor restoration projects to improve conveyance and mitigate flooding.	Precipitation

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