

Climate Action 2050 Plan

Project Kickoff

Sustainability Task Force

September 1, 2022

Presented by:

Gordie Bennett, Sustainability Director
Energetics & Partners, Consultants



1. Welcome & Roll Call

Project Kickoff – Climate Action 2050 Plan



2. Project Overview

Project Kickoff – Climate Action 2050 Plan



Project Background

- Paris Climate Commitment ([File 17-506](#))
- Carbon neutrality policy ([File 21-389](#))
- Climate action planning framework ([File 21-770](#))
- ARPA funding awarded March 2022

Project Purpose

Deliver roadmap ('CA50 Plan') for Milwaukee County to:

1. Achieve carbon neutral operations no later than 2050
2. Enhance operational & community resiliency
3. Align climate action w/ Vision & Strategic Plan

Guiding Principles

- Prioritize actions that provide co-benefits for vulnerable populations and align w/ County's MVVs & core functions
- Leverage existing plans, initiatives & resources to build shared commitment to climate action
- Involve underrepresented groups w/ plan development & implementation

Project Stakeholders (full list TBD)

Elected Officials

County Exec.

County Board

Other Officials

Departments

Administrators

Staff

Sustainability
Task Force

Community

Residents

Tenants

CCTFCEE

Others

Project Consultant



- Clean energy & management consulting firm est. 1979
- Parent company: VSE Corporation
- Headquartered in Columbia, MD with presence in Washington, DC, San Diego, Upstate New York, Philadelphia, Minneapolis, Colorado, North Carolina, and Washington state
- Recognized for work in:
 - Climate & resilience
 - Sustainable transportation solutions
 - Advanced manufacturing
 - Building energy efficiency & sustainably

Consultant Expertise

- Climate vulnerability & resilience planning
- Climate Practice Group specializes in:
 - Identifying infrastructure climate vulnerabilities
 - Analyzing risks
 - Developing appropriate plans and resilience solutions
 - Design & implementation of frameworks for:
 - Creating emissions inventories
 - Assessing the vulnerability of critical infrastructure assets & operations to climate change
 - Determining where & under what conditions systems may be vulnerable to climate and weather hazards

Consultant Team

- Chris Gillespie – Climate Practice Lead
- Kirstin Janocha – Stakeholder Engagement Lead
- Shannon Lawn – EEJ Lead
- Rob Graff, CC-P – Inventory Lead
- Phoebe Brown – Technical Editing
- Amanda Bassett – Analyst Support
- Walt Zalis, PMP, CC-P – Climate & Resilience Lead

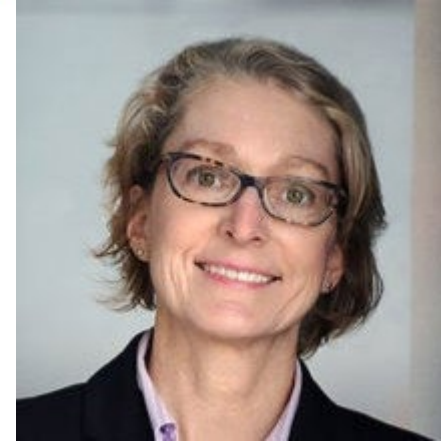


Project Sub-Consultants



- Linda Reid, JD, ENV SP

Stakeholder Engagement, Climate Resilience & Freshwater Sustainability Planning



- Audrey L. Van Dyke

Stakeholder Engagement, Sustainability & Climate Change Experience



Project Tasks

1. Kickoff Meeting & Project Setup
2. Engagement Plan & Initial Meetings
3. Vulnerability Assessment
4. Emissions Assessment
5. Climate Action Objectives & Goals
6. Climate Action Strategies
7. Implementation & Monitoring Program
8. Climate Action 2050 Plan

Project Deliverables

- Engagement Plan & Report
 - Draft/Final: Oct/Nov 2022
 - Draft/Final: Apr/May 2023
- Vulnerability Assessment Report
 - Draft/Final: Apr/May 2023
- Emissions Assessment Report
 - Draft/Final: Apr/May 2023
- Climate Action Strategies
 - Draft/Final: Sep/Oct 2023
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 - Presentation: May 2024



3. Stakeholder Engagement

Project Kickoff – Climate Action 2050 Plan



Engagement Philosophy

- Engagement to Ownership framework:
 - Inform
 - Consult
 - Collaborate
 - Empower
- Commitment to equity, justice, and accessibility
 - [First National People of Color Leadership Conference 17 Principles of Environmental Justice](#)
 - [Indigenous Environmental Network Mission Statement & Values](#)
 - [WHEJAC & Executive Order 14008, Sec. 219-228: Securing Environmental Justice and Supporting Economic Opportunity](#)



Identifying Engagement Regions

- Collaborate with and seek feedback from partners, STF, local leaders and organizations to inform our processes
- Quantitative methods of analysis:
 - Identify vulnerable and underserved communities using GIS and statistical analyses
 - CDC social vulnerabilities index
 - American Community Survey (ACS)
- Qualitative methods of analysis:
 - Utilize ethnographic tools to gather Milwaukeeans' endogenous knowledge
 - Key informants
 - Social networking theories
 - Snowball method
 - Semi-structured and structured interviews



Engagement Actions: Virtual

- Identify community concerns and provide accessible platforms for communication through:
 - Collaboration with partners, STF, local community leaders, local organizations
 - Standing feedback forum, live 24/7
 - Communication loop: 4-6 weeks
 - Provide project updates
 - Provide educational resources to increase accessibility
 - Seek feedback
 - Consistency in communication patterns
 - Publicly accessible virtual town halls
 - Targeted virtual workshops and tabletop discussions



Engagement Actions: In-Person

- Engage community members with face-to-face connections through:
 - Collaboration with partners, STF, local community leaders, local organizations
 - Informative seminars
 - Facilitated workshops and tabletop discussions
 - Printed communications in community spaces
 - Project updates
 - Surveys and open-ended feedback forms
 - Resources for climate and environmental education



Engagement Actions: Local Connections

- Connect at community events
 - [Milwaukee Public Library's Climate Action Book Club](#)
 - [Milwaukee Riverkeeper workshops and events](#)
- Build relationships with community organizations
 - [350 Milwaukee](#)
- Spread our message in meaningful spaces
 - [Urban Ecology Center](#)



4. Relevant Documents, Data, Policies & Initiatives

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Vulnerability Assessment

Vulnerability = Hazard + Exposure

- Identify and evaluate **hazards**:
 - Climate parameters, including temperature, precipitation, and storms – quantitative projections
 - Climate-driven extreme weather, including wildfires, floods, and air quality – qualitative/trend analysis, some hazard models

Vulnerability Assessment

Vulnerability = Hazard + Exposure

- Identify and evaluate **exposures** among assets, operations, environment, and communities:
 - Infrastructure: Roads, bridges, parks, water treatment plants, substations, telecommunications hubs, etc.
 - Government & essential services: Critical buildings, transit routes, hospitals, etc.
 - Environment: Ecosystems, hydrology & water availability, etc.
 - Populations: Public health, migration
 - Economy: Tourism



Vulnerabilities: Disparate Impacts

- Special focus on disparate impacts, including:
 - Differences in geographic distribution of **climate hazard**
 - Differences in population **adaptive capacity** due to:
 - Limited **access to services**
 - Greater **population vulnerability**
- Quantitative approaches using demographic & geospatial data
- Qualitative approaches using community outreach



Vulnerabilities: Qualitative Prioritization

- Identified vulnerabilities will be ranked “high” “medium” or “low” priority
- Prioritization based on expert elicitation, informed by quantitative and qualitative analysis
 - Subjective ranking of probability that a climate hazard will result in damage or disruption to county services, community health or safety, infrastructure, or commerce

Stakeholder Inputs & Data Needs

Threat Matrix – outlines methodological approaches & data needs

Endogenous knowledge – talk to the people who do the work

- Vulnerability
 - Known threats & vulnerabilities – What hazards have caused damage/disrupted operations in the past?
 - Biggest concerns – What hazards are you currently watching?
- Adaptation
 - Low/no-cost options – What are the obvious/inevitable adaptive measures (e.g., established methods/tech in the industry)?
- Mitigation
 - Efficiency – What opportunities are obvious/evident?
 - Transformation – What technologies are most interesting, based on your known needs?



Stakeholder Inputs & Data Needs

Data needs include geospatial data and supporting contextual information

- **Geospatial Data:**

- Baseline infrastructure and planning data
- Population & survey data
- Environmental, hydrological, and parks data

- **Contextual Information:**

- Key systems, owners/operators, and high-priority user groups
- Relevant infrastructure capacity & performance data



5. Cadence & STF Meetings

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6. Recap & Next Steps

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COUNTY**