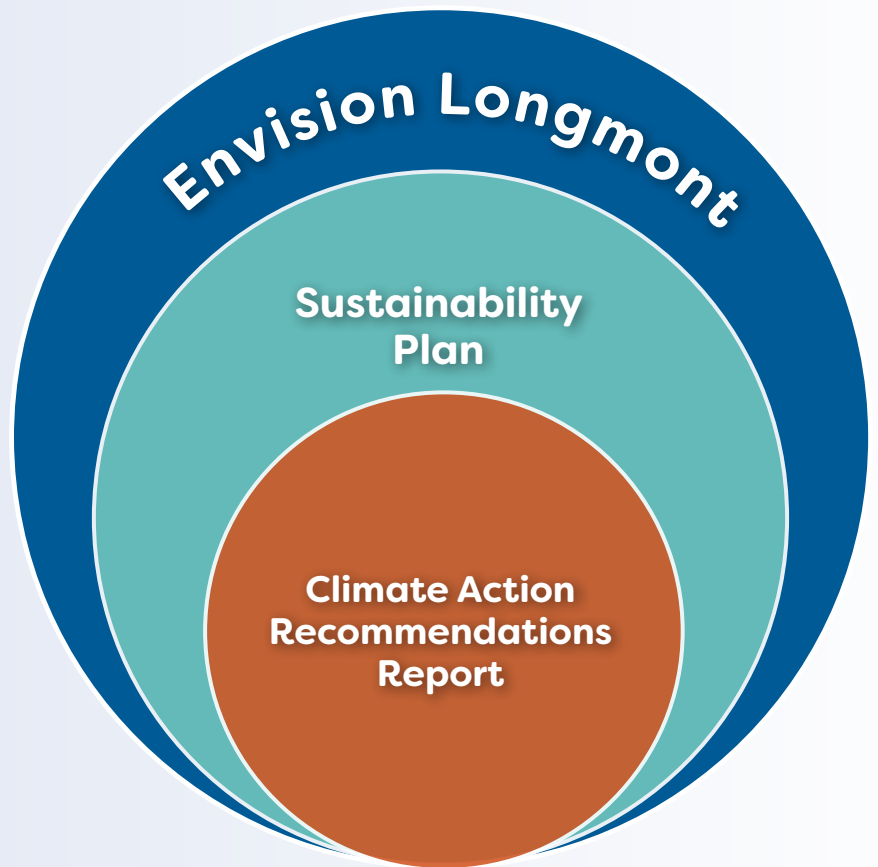


SUSTAINABILITY and CLIMATE ACTION REPORT

This biannual report provides a summary of updates on key sustainability and climate action activities that work toward a more sustainable future in which every Longmont resident can pursue a safe, healthy, and fulfilling life in our city.

History & Connection to Envision Longmont

The guiding plan for the City of Longmont's policies and practices is the Envision Longmont Multimodal & Comprehensive Plan (**Envision Longmont**). It includes a recommendation to develop a **Sustainability Plan** that focuses on actions that can be implemented within a reasonable time frame. In addition, a **Climate Action Recommendations Report** was developed to help accelerate Longmont's steps toward a carbon-free future.








The City continues to enhance and expand the initial goals of the Sustainability Plan. For the most up-to-date information, visit indicators.longmontcolorado.gov



Longmont's Sustainability Vision

An engaged community that promotes environmental stewardship, economic vitality, and social equity to create a sustainable and thriving future for all.

Key Longmont Sustainability Indicators

GOALS	 Greenhouse Gas (GHG)	 Renewable Energy	 Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs)	 Waste Diversion	 Water Reduction
TARGET	2030: 66% reduction in GHG emissions 2050: 69% reduction	2030: 100% delivered renewable electric energy	2025: 25% fleet is alternative fuel ¹ 2030: 30% of all city vehicles are zero emissions ² 2050: 100% of all vehicles are zero emission	2030: 75% citywide waste diversion 2050: 95% citywide waste diversion	Community Buildout (2048): 10% reduction in water treatment plant demand
MOST RECENT UPDATES	2021: 13% reduction in GHG emissions	2022: 48% delivered renewable energy	2022: 5% of fleet are alternative fuels 2023: 2% citywide ZEVs	2022: 34% citywide waste diversion	2022: 7% reduction in water demands

1: Alternative fuel vehicles uses a fuel source that reduces tailpipe emissions, including all-electric, hybrid and renewable natural gas vehicles.
 2: Zero emission vehicles have zero tailpipe emissions instead of zero emissions from the full life cycle of a vehicle.

WE ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY IN DIFFERENT WAYS:



Frontline communities most impacted by climate change

The Equitable Climate Action Team provided feedback on

8
staffed-led projects



Individual households

The Sustainable Opportunities, Lifestyles, and Leadership program had

34
in-home sustainability appointments



Neighborhoods

The Sustainable Neighborhood Solutions Grant awarded

\$17,000
via five neighborhood grants.



Businesses

The Sustainable Business Program certified

57
participants

Climate Action Recommendations Report

Key Accomplishments and Activities



Adaptation & Resilience

- In December 2023, a final report was developed by CAPA Strategies on real-time heat mapping and community-driven cooling solutions. The City has contracted with CAPA Strategies to develop a citywide Heat Action Plan in 2024.
- In addition to expanding outreach on flood mitigation and preparedness, staff is in the process of updating floodplain regulations and development permits. These will strengthen our commitment to protect Longmont from flood damage by clearly defining the uses of the 1% chance (100-year) floodplain.



Education & Outreach

- The Longmont Museum and Sustainability Office hosted three Climate Action Sundays in 2023 focused on water, transportation and energy. The family-friendly events included films, panel discussions with Spanish interpretation and resource booths.
- Staff continued to share information about climate action and sustainability at 25 community and staff events and presentations.



Equity in Climate Action

- Volunteer members of the Equitable Climate Action Team (ECAT) learned about the intersection of equity and sustainability through presentations and field trips focused on community cohesion and regenerative Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) practices that foster community resilience. ECAT's membership grew to have more representation from frontline communities living in Longmont; achieving it's goal to elevate voices most impacted by climate change.
- In Fall 2023, an Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant was submitted. Staff anticipates an award of \$148,500 to help fund the Whole Home Health demonstration project that assists low-income households through health, safety and comfort measures.



Additional **CLIMATE ACTION** recommendations are integrated throughout the report as they overlap with topic areas in the Sustainability Plan.

Look for this graphic throughout the report for more climate action updates.

Sustainability Plan Key Accomplishments and Activities



AIR QUALITY

Improve air quality to protect public and environmental health.

- In 2023, staff worked with Boulder County to stop the drilling of 16 horizontal oil and gas wells south of the city.
- Staff continue to publicly share air quality data and pursue opportunities to support additional analyses. A summary of Longmont's air quality data findings were presented to a Colorado Legislative Ozone Committee in October 2023.



BUILDING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Adopt policies, programs, and design guidelines for resilient and efficient buildings and community infrastructure to enhance quality of life, reduce costs and complement the natural environment.

- The housing rehabilitation program completed 71 repairs on 20 homes in 2023 and is currently working with seven more households to complete needed rehabilitation in early 2024. Repairs include health, safety, efficiency and accessibility improvements.
- **Climate Action:** Solar ready and EV ready homes are now part of the 2021 International Residential Code. Strengthening amendments for commercial solar and EV-readiness were not included and will be considered with the 2024 International Energy Conservation Code cycle, along with the Northwest Metropolitan Regional Energy Code Cohort recommendations.



COMMUNITY COHESION & RESILIENCE

A vibrant community where all residents have equitable access to the opportunities needed to thrive, while preserving and enhancing natural, cultural and financial resources.

- The Sustainable Neighborhood Solutions program awarded five grants to four neighborhoods in 2023. Projects included a water conserving garden tour, installation of small pollinator gardens, turf replacement project and a community charrette and funding to develop a sustainable community master plan.



ECONOMIC VITALITY

Support a diverse economy that is aligned with social and environmental goals of providing local jobs, livable wages, and encouraging innovative and green businesses and business practices.

- The Sustainable Business Program recognizes businesses every two years. In October 2023, the City of Longmont recognized 57 certified businesses.

Sustainability Plan Key Accomplishments and Activities



ENERGY

Increase energy efficiency and expand the use of renewable energy technologies to improve environmental quality, provide a resilient energy supply, and realize related economic benefits.

- **Climate Action:** Based on the results of the completed solar photovoltaic (PV) study, a funded capital improvement project (CIP) was created to pursue solar PV installations at one or more City owned facilities as well as in partnership with Longmont Housing Authority.
- **Climate Action:** City staff are working with consultants on a Smart Grid Roadmap to evaluate the distribution grid relative to increased load, areas for investment/improvement, areas of vulnerability, the best placement for battery energy storage, and smart grid technologies through the development of a CIP plan for the next 5-20 years.
- **Climate Action:** The City continues to work with partners including Boulder County to increase electrification education through the induction cooktop lending program and electrification demonstrations at events. Since lending became available, 11 households and 10 businesses have tried the technology.



Track implementation of the Beneficial Electrification Plan at [indicators.longmontcolorado.gov/bbe](https://www.longmontcolorado.gov/bbe)



FOOD SYSTEM

Support a locally-based, environmentally responsible and healthy food system that is available to all residents.

- No end of year program updates.



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Minimize the negative effects of development and human activities on natural systems by identifying, protecting, enhancing, and restoring critical environmental resources at all scales.

- Design and construction efforts are underway for several new parks in the community to fill gaps identified by the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan, including: Clover Meadows Neighborhood Park, Fox Meadows Neighborhood Park, Nino Gallo Neighborhood Park and Dry Creek Community Park Synthetic Turf Fields Installation.
- The Parks, Open Space and Trails volunteer program continues to grow, with a total of 1,107 volunteers participating in programs in 2023. Staff also continue to apply to grants to support the program. In 2023, the City received a two-year Nature Everywhere grant to increase equitable access to the outdoors and outdoor programming for youth and families.

Sustainability Plan Key Accomplishments and Activities



TRANSPORTATION

Invest in an efficient transportation system that enhances mobility, equitably supports multiple modes of transportation, reduces environmental impacts, and supports a healthier community.

- The City is currently pursuing new transit systems through the Bus Rapid Transit improvements on the Colorado State highway (CO) 119 corridor which will travel on Hover Street, Ken Pratt Boulevard (CO 119) and Main Street (US 287). This new service, set to start in 2026, also includes reconfigured and new local transit routes, a new mobility/transit hub at 1st Avenue and Main Street, and a new multimodal corridor on Coffman Street.

- **Climate Action:** Longmont is working to expand electric vehicle (EV) charging

- In January 2024, Boulder County received a \$4.9M grant to support the installation of charging infrastructure across the County, prioritizing under-resourced areas. Longmont staff, as a supporting partner, will help identify Longmont sites for charging infrastructure over the next three years.

- In 2023, the EV charger rebate program had a total of 85 rebate recipients. Since its inception in 2022, the program has paid out \$51,203 in rebates.

Learn more about implementation of transportation solutions at indicators.longmontcolorado.gov/transportation



WASTE

Increase opportunities for waste diversion, education, and reuse to reduce environmental impacts.

- **Climate Action:** To support the first phase of implementation of the Universal Recycling Ordinance (URO), staff developed zero waste coupons, bin purchasing and a recycling rebate through the Longmont City Assistance and Rebate System (CAREs) to financially support businesses and multifamily tenants in compliance. The first phase went into effect on January 1, 2024, requiring recycling collection services for commercial properties over 10,000 square feet and multifamily properties with more than 75 units that are not already subscribed to recycling collection services.

- City staff, Sustainable Resilient Longmont, and volunteers educated residents on waste sorting during City sponsored events. This resulted in an average of 50% diversion from the landfill, which is expected to grow overtime.



WATER

Preserve the natural environment in our watershed and provide a reliable, high quality water supply that protects public health.

- In 2023, the City took a proactive approach to water leak notification by initiating communication through over 400 mailed letters and conducting nearly 200 phone calls to provide valuable information to customers regarding continuous water usage and guidance on identifying and addressing potential leaks.
- In partnership with the WaterNow Alliance, the City is actively engaged in the development of a Non-Functional Turf Replacement Plan. This comprehensive plan aims to catalog all City-owned and maintained turf grass areas, employing a strategic matrix to prioritize spaces for transformation into low-water-consuming landscapes.

Sustainability Office

The Sustainability Team leads, coordinates and supports the implementation of the **Sustainability Plan and Climate Action Recommendations Report**, manages reporting, and integrates sustainability and climate action into organizational work. The team also provides **departmental support** through resources and expertise on sustainability-related actions. In addition, the team conducts **engagement & education** for the broader community around sustainability and climate action.

Engagement & Education



1,724
People Engaged via 25 Events & Presentations

13%

Increase in Sustainability Newsletter Subscribers



CDP
DISCLOSURE INSIGHT ACTION

SCORE CARD

B	Final CDP Score
B	Adaptation Score
A-	Mitigation Score

The CDP is a global environmental disclosure system that evaluates, benchmarks and identifies opportunities for cities to address climate change.

Departmental Support

From a project evaluation system to tools and resources to consultation, as part of Strategic Integration, staff helps the organization increase sustainability.

Sustainability Evaluation System projects to date:

26

Sustainability Plan and the Climate Action Recommendations Report

81% of immediate, near-term, mid-term or ongoing Sustainability and Climate Action recommendations on-track for implementation.

52% of all Sustainability and Climate Action targets have either been met (**2%**), or are on-track (**50%**).

