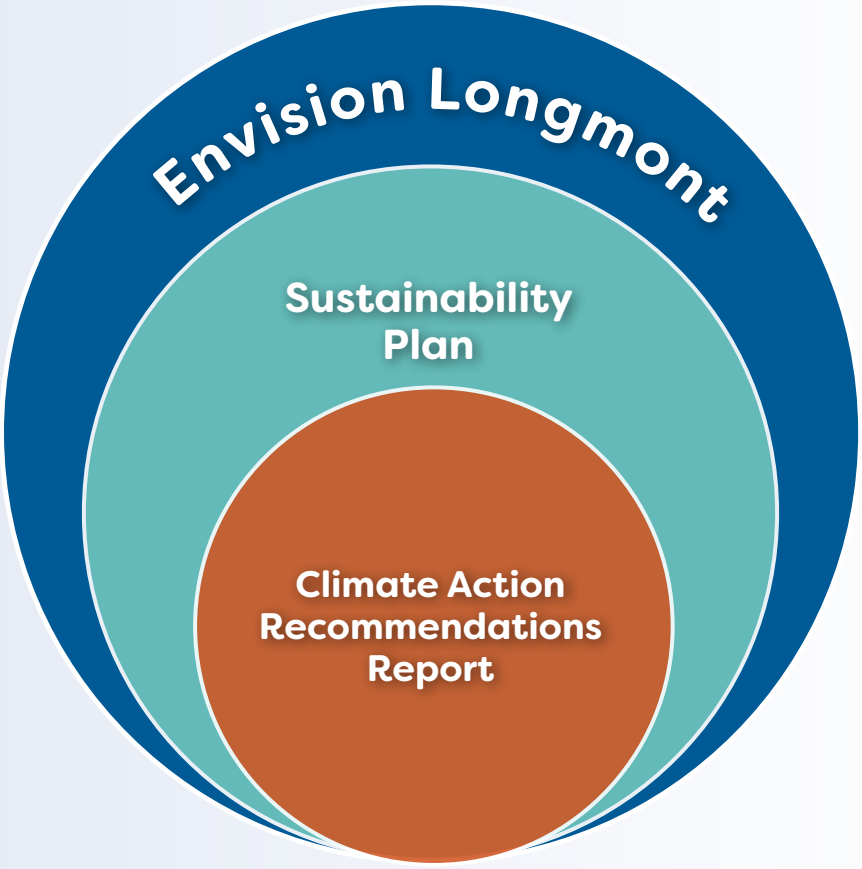
SUSTAINABILITY and CLIMATE ACTION REPORT

This annual 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

CITY OF Longmont Sustainability

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	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 DATA	**2024: 16% reduction in GHG emissions**	**2024: 46% delivered renewable energy**	**2025: 7% of fleet are alternative fuels** **2025: 4% citywide ZEVs**	**2024: 39% citywide waste diversion**	**2024: 6% reduction in water demands**

1: Alternative fuel vehicles use 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

City projects

Individual households

The Sustainable Opportunities, Lifestyles, and Leadership program completed

107

in-home sustainability appointments

Neighborhoods

The Neighborhood Sustainability grant was on hold in 2025

Businesses

The Sustainable Business Program was restructured in 2025

Learn how you can participate at bit.ly/sustgetinvolved

Climate Action Recommendations Report

Key Accomplishments and Activities

Adaptation & Resilience

- Projects to address extreme heat continued through 2025:
  - The Whole Home Health program provided energy retrofits to 38 single family and 48 multifamily households.
  - Phase 1 of construction of community-driven cooling solutions completed in Kensington, Lanyon and Spangler neighborhood parks. All upgrades will be completed by 2027.
- The Resilient St. Vrain Project continues to improve the St. Vrain Creek channel and protect the City from flooding. In 2025, work focused on Izaak Walton Reach 2 from Boston Ave. to S Sunset St., including replacing the Boston Ave. Bridge.

Education & Outreach

- Sustainability staff and volunteers participated in 43 events and presentations to the community and internal staff throughout the year.
- At large community summer events, including Longmont Pride and Juneteenth, the Sustainability Office provided a cooling tent to educate community members on ways to stay cool on extreme heat days.
- The internal Longmont Green Team coordinated a three month-long Skip the Landfill challenge for staff, participated in three community litter clean-ups and supported the Purchasing and Contract Office in launching a new method to encourage staff to reuse office supplies.

Equity in Climate Action

- In 2025, the Equitable Climate Action Team (ECAT):
  - **Learned** about the importance of protecting water resources, being engaged with your city and Longmont efforts with the Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation at the Longmont Dam.
  - **Engaged** staff by providing feedback on eight City climate action projects.
  - **Educated** community members on sustainability, resilience and climate action by volunteering at 12 City events.

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.

- Funds awarded from $295,000 state grant were utilized to actively support regional air quality research. This work will continue into 2026.
- Temporary increases in airborne benzene and methane are now tracked on Longmont Indicators. In 2025, there was zero benzene and 32 methane temporary increases, meeting City targets.

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.

- **Climate Action:** In August 2025, City Council directed staff to pursue 2024 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) updates that align with the Metropolitan Regional Building Policy Cohort amendment package. These code updates will be brought back for Council adoption in the first quarter of 2026.
- The Housing Rehabilitation Program completed repairs on ten homes. Day to day administration of the program was transitioned to nonprofit Brothers Redvelopment, Inc. in March 2025.

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 Opportunities, Lifestyles, and Leadership (SOLL) program continues to grow, having served 226 households since 2020. After their appointments, 95% of survey respondents reported adopting at least one new sustainable habit—demonstrating that the program is successfully encouraging everyday sustainability.
- A new Social Equity Coordinator, hired in March 2025, introduced an Equity Impact Assessment Tool for the project management process and created and delivered a new foundational equity training for staff.
- Community and Neighborhood Resources worked with a consultant and the Neighborhood Group Leaders Association (NGLA) to launch the Longmont Neighborhood Portal to support community building and resilience. This Neighborhood Portal, which is currently available for NGLA members, will empower residents to connect, explore their neighborhood's assets, and take actions that support city goals and sustainability initiatives.

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.

- In 2025, a new Bilingual Business Sustainability Coordinator was hired to lead the Sustainable Business Program. After a thorough review, an updated certification process was launched in early 2026. Certification is valid for three (3) years from the date it is issued. A celebration will be held later this year to recognize the re-launch of the program and participating 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:** Iluminar Community Solar, Longmont's first community solar program, launched in September 2025, providing energy offsets for approximately 30 income-qualified and market rate participants.
- **Climate Action:** The City was awarded a $19,235 American Public Power Association Demonstration of Energy & Efficiency Developments grant to provide home energy monitors to 25 income-qualified households, helping residents better understand and manage their energy use through the Whole Home Health program.
- **Climate Action:** Longmont continues to provide residential and commercial efficiency resources through the Efficiency Works program, and has added electrification resources to support city climate goals. With the addition of electrification goals, which significantly support the City's greenhouse gas reduction target, energy efficiency targets are harder to meet. Electrification increases electric load and program resources are drawn from the same pool as efficiency programming, which has limited funds and staff capacity. For example, the number of incentivized electrification projects in 2025 outpaced those in 2023 by 65% and account for more than 50% of total rebated projects.

FOOD SYSTEM

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

- A Project Manager II for Open Space and Agriculture was hired in May 2025 and is actively collaborating with Boulder County to explore agricultural solutions such as grazing, agroforestry, crop diversity and cover cropping.

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.

- A $40,000 Nature Everywhere Grant was awarded to a partnership of Community & Neighborhood Resources; Children, Youth & Families; and Thorne Nature Experience for their work to increase equitable access to the outdoors and outdoor programming for youth and families.
- In 2025, the Growing Shade Longmont program was launched in a partnership with the Boulder County Office of Sustainability, Climate, and Resiliency; and the non-profit partner, Play Boulder Tree Trust. One hundred trees were planted in the Loomiller, West Point, and Lanyon Neighborhoods.
- A new native plant propagation program began utilizing Ecosystem Management's greenhouse.

CHECKOUT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT givepulse.com/longmont

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.

- A pedestrian priority index was included in the Transportation Mobility Plan, completed in March 2025. This index helps prioritize projects to complete missing sidewalk and curb ramp gaps, and upgrade deficient sidewalks and curb ramps.

- **Climate Action:** RIDE Longmont, a pilot micro-transit service, reached just over 72,700 boardings for its first full year of service.
- **Climate Action:** Fleet Services completed a vehicle audit in June 2025 and, as part of its commitment to fleet sustainability, added eight hybrid Ford Mavericks, eight hybrid Ford Escapes, and one Ford Mach-E electric vehicle. While industry-wide vehicle availability constraints have extended the City's goal of 25% alternative-fuel fleet beyond 2025, Fleet Services is committed to transitioning to alternative-fuel vehicles in 2026 as availability improves.

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

WASTE

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

- **Climate Action:** Phase four of the Universal Recycling Ordinance, requiring select businesses to provide organics collection (composting) is fully in effect. Longmont's success in implementing this ordinance was highlighted in Colorado Public Interest Research Group's (CoPIRG) and Eco-Cycle's 2025 State of Recycling and Composting Report and at a press conference with Governor Polis.
- To expand recycling and composting, zero waste stations were provided at 11 City-sponsored events. Staff also led a "Dispose of it Right" campaign and tagged contaminated with educational materials to help reduce contamination in trash, recycling and compost bins.
- The City continues to collaborate with Eco-Cycle to expand zero waste education to 76% of schools through the Green Star School Program.

WATER

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

- A new watershed quality dashboard was created through the Keep It Clean Partnership to track water quality. The Longmont Water Quality Lab collects and studies water in the Left Hand Creek and St. Vrain Creek and shares this data on the new dashboard.
- The development code has been updated to comply with Colorado state law by limiting high water use landscaping on new and redeveloped non residential properties. These restrictions apply to medians, rights of way, and other areas with minimal foot traffic.
- Staff continues to identify opportunities to reduce water use on City-owned properties through indoor water use assessments, the installation of low water demonstration gardens, and turf replacement projects.

Sustainability Office

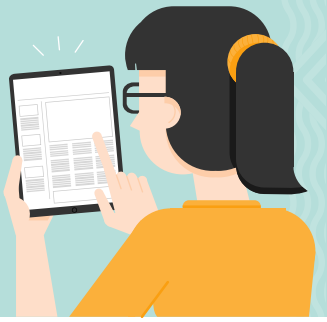
The Sustainability Team leads, coordinates and supports the implementation of the **Sustainability Plan and Climate Action Recommendations Report**, manages reporting, and integrates sustainability and climate action into organizational work. The team also provides **departmental support** through resources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

Engagement & Education

2,860
People Engaged at 43 Events & Presentations

42%
Increase in Sustainability Newsletter Subscribers

Sign up at bit.ly/sustain_news



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

Departmental Support

Sustainability staff help the organization apply sustainability to their work through tools, resources and project support.

Sustainability Evaluation System projects to date:

29

Sustainability Plan and the Climate Action Recommendations Report

82% of immediate, near-term, mid-term or ongoing Sustainability and Climate Action recommendations on-track for implementation.

47% of all Sustainability and Climate Action targets have either been met **(2%)**, or are on-track **(45%)**.

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CITY OF Longmont Sustainability