

Greater LAFAYETTE CLIMATE ACTION PLAN



Welcome to the first Greater Lafayette Climate Action Plan (GLCAP) Newsletter!

In the Fall of 2020, the Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County joined forces in a historic, cooperative Greater Lafayette Climate Action Plan (GLCAP) initiative. By proactively addressing climate change through mitigation and adaptation initiatives, these communities are committing to collectively lead economic, social, and environmental improvements throughout the region. Collaboration and engagement from residents, local industries, institutions, and businesses will be vital to the success of a community-driven GLCAP. The Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County invite these groups to join them in creating a sustainable “win-win” outcome together.

Public input - from residents, local businesses, and industries alike - is vital to the success of this plan. As such, the leadership team will be sharing updates via a quarterly newsletter in order to keep the public up-to-date on planning activities and progress.

GLCAP PLANNING STATUS

Since joining forces, the Cities of Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County have developed an organizational framework completing two of five phases for this initiative. Phase 3 is underway.

VISION STATEMENT

A climate-resilient community, a reduced carbon footprint, and an equitable quality of life for all within Greater Lafayette.

MISSION STATEMENT

To build a resilient Greater Lafayette by designing policies and implementing initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect equitable quality of life for current and future generations.

THE PLAN



PHASE 1 PROGRAM INITIATION

- Conduct Chartering Session
- Establish Leadership Framework
- Develop Interagency Agreement
- Draft Vision and Mission Statements



PHASE 2 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- Develop Communication Plan
- Identify Key Stakeholders
- Facilitate Action Plan Review Workshops
- Develop Resource Catalogue
- Prepare Schedule



PHASE 3 PROGRAM EXECUTION

- Perform Baseline Assessment
- Identify Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Integrate Approach with Existing Plans
- Identify and Prioritize Potential Program Initiatives



PHASE 4 REPORT DEVELOPMENT

- Synthesize Data and Organize Initiatives
- Focus on Sustainability and Resilience
- Clean and Renewable Energy Alternatives
- Improved Transportation Options
- Reduced Waste Strategies



PHASE 5 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- Measurement and Verification of Metrics
- Development of New Policies
- Engaging with Local Businesses and Industries
- Public Outreach



CURRENT PHASE



Once the organizational framework for the initiative was complete, the communities focused on public outreach. Significantly, a kick-off event was held on World Environment Day (Saturday, June 5, 2021) during which leaders from each community formally signed a proclamation launching this initiative.

GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

The City of Lafayette and Tippecanoe County are spending the summer collecting data for both a community-wide and a local government operations inventory of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as part of **Indiana University’s Resilience Cohort**. The City of West Lafayette completed their community-wide greenhouse gas emissions inventory in 2019. Findings from the community-wide greenhouse gas inventory will be used to help residents and local officials understand Greater Lafayette’s current emissions profile and to help employees from both Cities and the County create their joint climate action plan to reduce emissions, increase energy efficiency, and improve air quality. A report on the Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment can be found [here](#).

A GHG inventory is a fundamental first step for Hoosier cities, towns and counties committed to combating the climatic changes communities in Indiana are already experiencing. Some notable trends include heavier rainfalls in spring and winter, more river and flash flood events and more freeze-thaw events, creating issues in transportation infrastructure and

potholes. The inventory process will use local governments data from 2017 such as the amount of electricity and natural gas consumed, vehicle fuel use, the amount of trashing and recycling generated, water and wastewater treatment and more. Collected data will then be analyzed using an emissions calculator tool provided by an international non-profit, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

To date, a majority of the data has been collected and is being analyzed. Altogether, energy usage emissions for all three communities total above 80-85% of the emissions profile, followed by transportation emissions, and a notably smaller share coming from solid waste and water and wastewater. These results will be updated as additional data is analyzed (see Figures 1-3 below).

Data collection and analysis performed this summer will aid West Lafayette, Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County in preparing the Greater Lafayette Climate Action Plan that tackles some of the communities’ biggest hurdles in climate mitigation.

CO2e BY CATEGORY, EMISSIONS PROFILE PRELIMINARY DATA

FIGURE 1
TIPPECANOE COUNTY

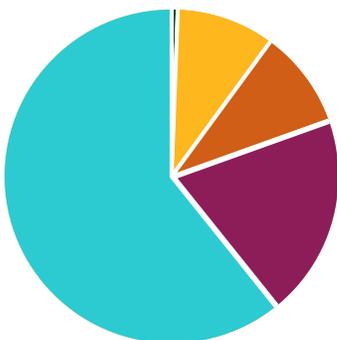


FIGURE 2
LAFAYETTE

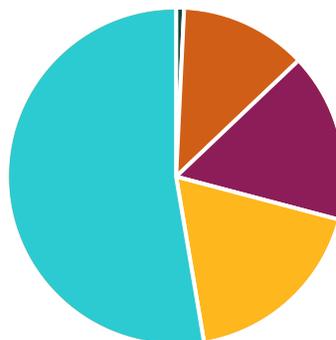
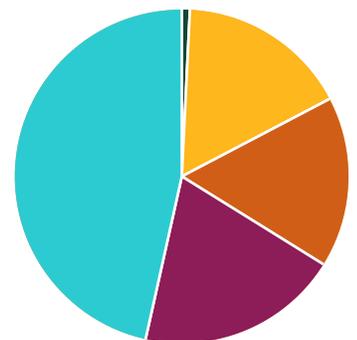


FIGURE 3
WEST LAFAYETTE



AFOLU Water & Wastewater Solid Waste Transportation & Mobile Services Commercial Energy Residential Industrial


TAKE OUR SURVEY

We want to hear what YOU think!

Your responses will assist us develop policies and initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect equitable quality of life for current and future generations in Greater Lafayette. The survey is anonymous, and information will not be shared with anyone outside of the Greater Lafayette Climate Action Planning committees.

Check out our WEBSITE

greaterlafayetteclimate.com

To learn more about the Greater Lafayette Climate Action Plan and to sign up for our mailing list to stay in the loop!



MEET OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We are very excited to announce the formation of the GLCAP Advisory Committee! This group of community leaders will help make sure that the GLCAP represents the diverse perspectives of the Greater Lafayette community.

NAME / AFFILIATION

Melissa Widhalm

Purdue Climate Change Research Center

Casey Dillon

ATLAS Excavating

Greg Knapp

Purdue Research Foundation

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Home Instead Senior Care

Paul Moses

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Tristen Comegys

Bauer Family Resources

Doug Taylor

Habitat for Humanity

Mike Parks

Tippecanoe County Highway

Annabel Prokopy

West Lafayette High School

Michael Budd

United Way of Greater Lafayette

WHAT CAN I DO?

Interested in taking individual action and making an impact? Each newsletter will have tips and tricks to support environmental resilience in our community. Below are some easy ways to make a positive difference when it comes to Recycling!

- ✓ First and foremost: Aim to REDUCE waste! Try to avoid single-use plastics whenever possible.
- ✓ Keep your mixed recyclables loose and un-bagged! Don't put plastic bags or flexible plastic wrap in your mixed recycling
- ✓ Know before you throw: Some electronics are prohibited from going to landfills in IN, but they can be recycled at many office supply stores or at the Tippecanoe Solid Waste District's twice/year e-waste events (in.gov/idem/recycle/electronic-waste/)

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG
2021

Business Leader Summit

Engaging local businesses and industries is vital to the success of this plan. At this summit hosted by the Greater Lafayette Commerce, the GLCAP Leadership Committee will provide an overview and summary of the progress made so far and address any question or concerns that business leaders in the community may have.

Thank you for reading our first GLCAP newsletter. Stay tuned for more updates!

-GLCAP Joint Leadership Committee