



JEFFERSON **N**
COUNTY COLORADO
Sustainability Commission

Jefferson County Sustainability Commission Update

Agenda:

- Sustainability Awards
- Climate Change Action
 - Proposed Jefferson County Climate Resolution
 - Proposal to Develop a Jeffco Climate Action Plan

Jefferson County Sustainability Commission

Background

- Founded in June 2014 to create an informational clearinghouse and provide sustainability resources to residents, business owners, and government with a focus on unincorporated Jefferson County
- Commission members include a mix of sustainability industry professionals, community leaders and stakeholders
- 2014-2019 achievements include development of Energy Action Plan (including funding to support Sustainability Coordinator position), several awards recognition for County sustainability efforts, and various community focused events
- 2020: COVID response - Energy Conservation Kits, Sustainability tips, Business energy efficiency

Sustainability Awards

- 2020 Inaugural Year
- Purpose: recognize local businesses for their achievements related to environmental stewardship, efficient use of resources, economic vitality, and innovation in alignment with Jefferson County's mission, vision, values, and goals.
- Categories
 - Eco-employee Award (1)
 - Community Award (3)
- (Virtual) Recognition scheduled for September 1 Public Hearing
 - Award
 - Winners will be notified of Hearing
 - Following Hearing, arrangements will be made to deliver award

2020 Initiative

Develop Jefferson County's Climate Response

Request

The Jeffco Board of County Commissioner's (BCC) Sustainability Commission and the Jefferson County Public Health Department (JCPH), along with other Jeffco departments, respectfully request the BBC's support for the development of Jeffco's response for Climate Action.

Implementation

- Phase I – Pass a Resolution declaring climate change a crisis in Jefferson County
- Phase II – Develop Jefferson County's Climate Action Plan

BCC Workshop Climate Action

Workshop Summary (Dec 2019)

- Presented regional and county specific climate related implications with JCPH
- BCC main requests:
 - Draft a resolution related to climate change for BCC review
 - Provide a summary of other local Climate Action Plans and their effectiveness

Follow-up Briefing Packet documents were submitted to BCC:

- Draft resolution of Jefferson County's commitment to addressing climate change.
- Document with 15 links to local Climate Change plans and 5 examples of quantitative improvements since implementation of their CAP.
- Draft estimated schedule and resources for development of the CAP.
- Communication to Health Directors regarding climate change from JCPH.

Why Does Jefferson County Need a Resolution on Climate Change?

- **Acknowledges the global climate crisis** *and the role local governments across the globe have towards mitigation and adaptation.*
- **Provides context for Jeffco divisions and departments** *to initiate a response to climate issues within the department's purview.*
- **Publicly joins governmental climate leaders** *in the region and state.*
- **Recognizes the climate crisis** *is a concern to Jeffco residents and businesses.*
- **Allows for greater cooperation and collaboration** *towards climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives along the Front Range and at the state level.*
- **Provides a climate compass** *within the county towards mitigation and adaptation goals.*

Proposed Climate Change Resolution

- 1) **Declares climate emergency** as a risk to county residents, economy, and environment
- 2) **Commits to actions** in alignment with climate change science
- 3) **Develops climate goals** consistent with or exceeding State goals in a Climate Action Plan
- 4) **Commits to including concerns of vulnerable communities** in the climate planning process
- 5) **Establishes a baseline and targets** related to climate in conjunction with ICLEI resources

Why does Jefferson County need a Climate Action Plan?

- **Addresses county specific climate vulnerabilities** related to public health, environment, economy, recreation
- **Establishes a pathway** to implement climate change resolution statements
- **Creates accountability and specific goals and targets** to quantify impact and progress
- Consistent with Colorado and other local counties and cities

Colorado House Bill 1261; “Colorado’s Climate Action Plan”

Commits the state to a series of greenhouse gas emissions reductions:

- 50 percent cut by 2030
- 90 percent cut by 2050

The bill was signed in May 2019 at the Jefferson County Community Solar Garden in Arvada.

Proposed Climate Action Planning Process

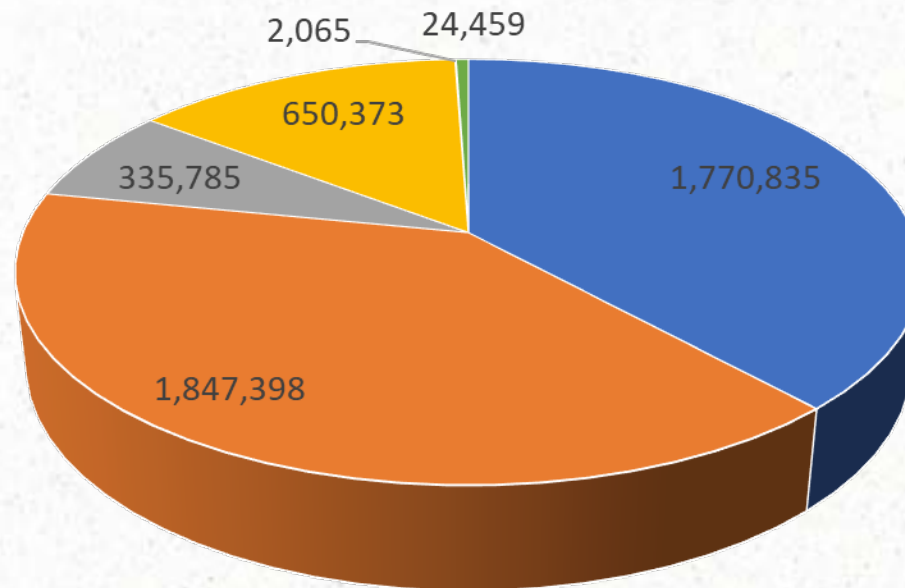


Proposed Climate Action Plan Timeline



- *Regular stakeholder workshops*
- *Continued community engagement*
- *Ongoing technical assistance*
- *Funding may dictate the full scope of work*

Jefferson County Preliminary 2018 GHG Inventory



- Residential Energy Total
- Commercial Energy Total
- Industrial Energy Total
- Transportation & Mobile Sources Total
- Water & Wastewater Total
- Process & Fugitive Emissions Total

Values show in units of MMBtu CO2e emissions

Source: ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability USA

Climate Action Plan Resources

- Jefferson County Sustainability Commission – Facilitator and Leader
- Jeffco Climate Action Team Members / Key Stakeholders (cities, towns, companies, NGOs) – Community Engagement
 - *County municipalities*
 - *Jeffco Public Schools*
 - *Largest employers*
 - *Energy services providers*
 - *Community members*
- ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability USA) – Greenhouse Gas inventory, Technical Resource
- County staff in relevant departments, at discretion of directors/supervisors (*e.g. Sustainability Coordinator*)
- Non-profit technical assistance

Climate Action Plan Funding

- \$60,000-\$75,000 estimate for full scale CAP
- Scope may be modified due to funding availability
- Potential Funding resources to be used for technical consultants, community engagement, and materials
 - *Key stakeholders*
 - *Local non-profits and foundations*
 - *DOE and Non-profit Technical Assistance Program*
 - *Climate centric philanthropic organizations*
 - *Private donations*
- Opportunity to extend Partners in Energy MOU with Xcel Energy for additional assistance related to energy efficiency

CAP Team Example: Summit County

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: The development of the Summit Community Climate Action Plan would not have been possible without the support and input of the **Summit Climate Action Collaborative** as well as **expert group participants**. Many of the organizations represented in the Collaborative also helped fund the project.

SUMMIT CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE MEMBERS

Arapahoe Basin
Breckenridge Grand Vacations
Climate and Land Use Alliance
Colorado Mountain College
Copper Mountain Resort
High Country Conservation Center
Mountain Parks Electric
Summit County Government
Summit School District
Town of Breckenridge
Town of Blue River
Town of Dillon
Town of Frisco
Town of Silverthorne
Vail Resorts
Xcel Energy

EXPERT GROUP PARTICIPANTS

BUILDING ENERGY
FORESTS
MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
WASTE & RECYCLING
WATER & SANITATION

Climate Action Proposal Summary

The BCC's Sustainability Commission and Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH), along with other Jeffco departments, respectfully request the BCC's support towards the development of Jeffco's Climate Action.

- The Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) declares Climate Change a critical priority for Jefferson County through formal resolution
- BCC approval for the research, analysis and development of a Jefferson County Climate Action Plan