



# Montgomery County Climate Budgeting

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AUGUST 17, 2021



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Building a Healthy, Equitable, Resilient Community

JUNE 2021



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY

# ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2035





# The Climate Action Plan lays out a Path to Meet the County's Zero GHG Emissions Goal by 2035

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1. Reduce Emissions in the Energy, Buildings, and Transportation Sectors
2. Center Racial Equity and Social Justice
3. Address Residual Emissions and Carbon Sequestration
4. Reduce Risks from Climate Hazards (Resilience & Adaptation)
5. Identify Resources to Pay for Climate Action
6. Enhance Climate Governance
7. Engage the Community as Partners in Climate Action
8. Take the Next Steps



# Initial Steps in Climate Budgeting

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- Convening of Budgeting Workgroup with 15 community experts
  - ❖ Short- and mid-term recommendations for incorporating climate into the budgeting processes
- Cross-departmental staff partnership of County budget, environmental protection, and County Executive's office staff to plan and implement climate budgeting
- Inclusion of climate budgeting in the Climate Action Plan (Governance Action, G-9)
- Creation of form in the County's budgeting system to collect information on climate change
- Development of climate budget chapter in the operating budget book

# Questions in the FY22 operating budget form

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## Does your program promote climate change initiatives?

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions (e.g., energy efficiency, use of renewable energy, reduce consumption of resources, increase tree cover, etc.)
- Increase the resiliency of County infrastructure to withstand the future impacts of climate change (e.g., severe storms, flooding, heat, and damaging winds)
- Sequester carbon
- Other

→ Qualitative answers → used in the creation of the climate change budget chapter

# Questions in the FY23 capital budget form

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## 1. Impact on Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Indicate if the project will lead to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions or if it will contribute to the County's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## 2. Increase use of renewable energy

- Identify how the project will increase the use or generation of renewable energy.

## 3. Increase the County's resilience to withstand future impacts of climate change

- Identify aspects of the project that will help the County— including residents, businesses, and infrastructure – withstand future impacts of climate change (e.g., more high heat days, severe storms, flooding, high winds)

## 4. Green Building Certification

- Indicate if the project is pursuing or has earned a green building certification, such as LEED, NGBS, PHIUS+, BREEAM, or Green Globes.

# Next steps

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- Climate budgeting study underway by University of Virginia graduate students and Rotunda Solutions– will inform County’s next climate budgeting steps
- Trainings on climate budgeting for departments’ budgeting staff and for County’s Office of Management and Budget staff

# Resources & References

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- **Montgomery County Climate Action Plan:**

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/climate/index.html>

- **Budgeting Workgroup recommendations:**

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/workgroup-recommendations/Climate%20Budget%20Process%20Workgroup%20Recommendations\\_10-30-20.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/workgroup-recommendations/Climate%20Budget%20Process%20Workgroup%20Recommendations_10-30-20.pdf)

- **Climate change chapter in the FY22 operating budget book:**

<https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/BASISOPERATING/Common/Chapter.aspx?ID=CC>

- **Blog post about Montgomery County's climate budgeting efforts:**

<https://mygreenmontgomery.org/2020/climate-budgeting/>



# Contact us

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