City of Smithville

Energy Conservation

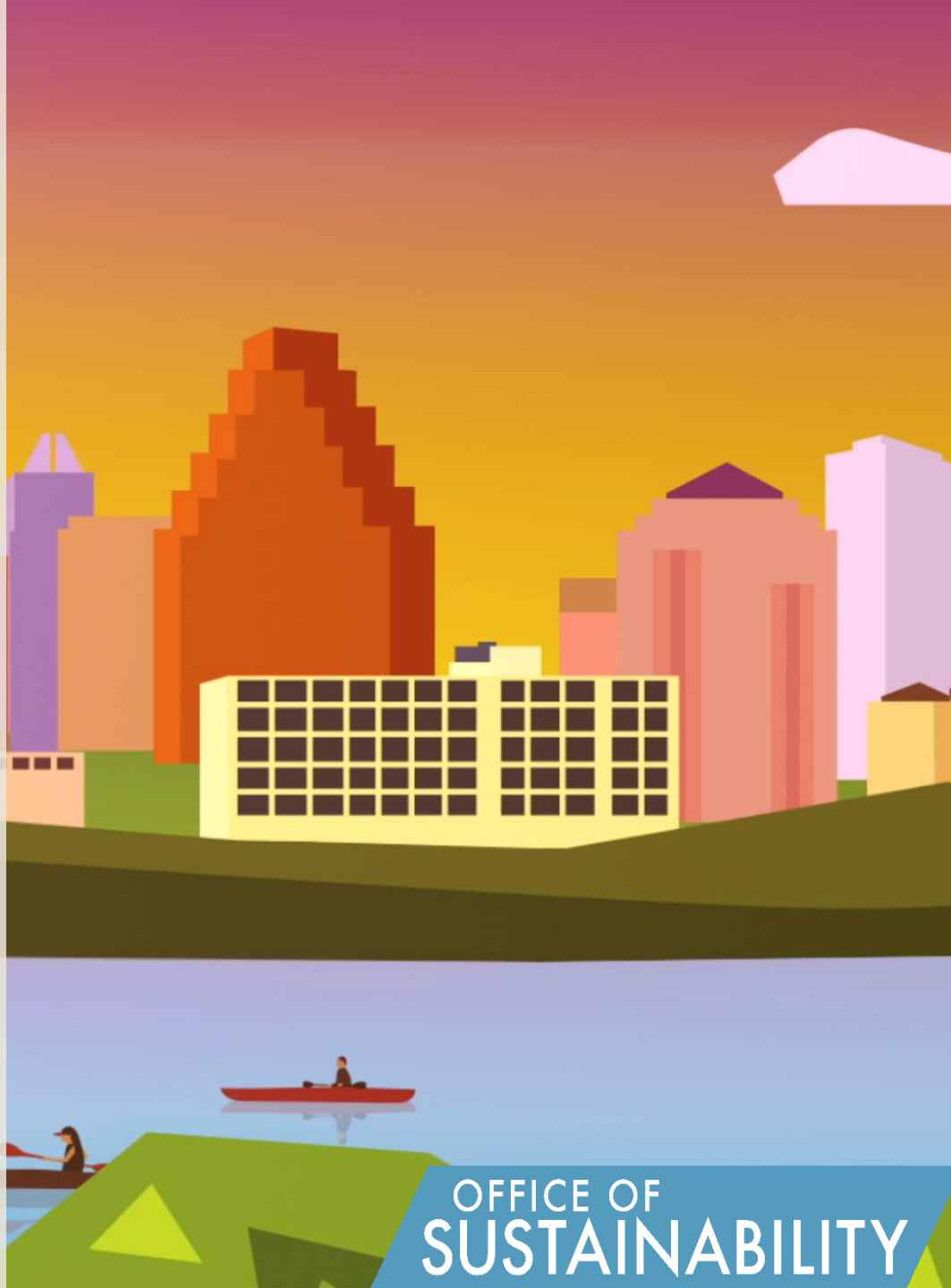
Mary K. Priddy – Conservation Program Manager

August 23, 2021

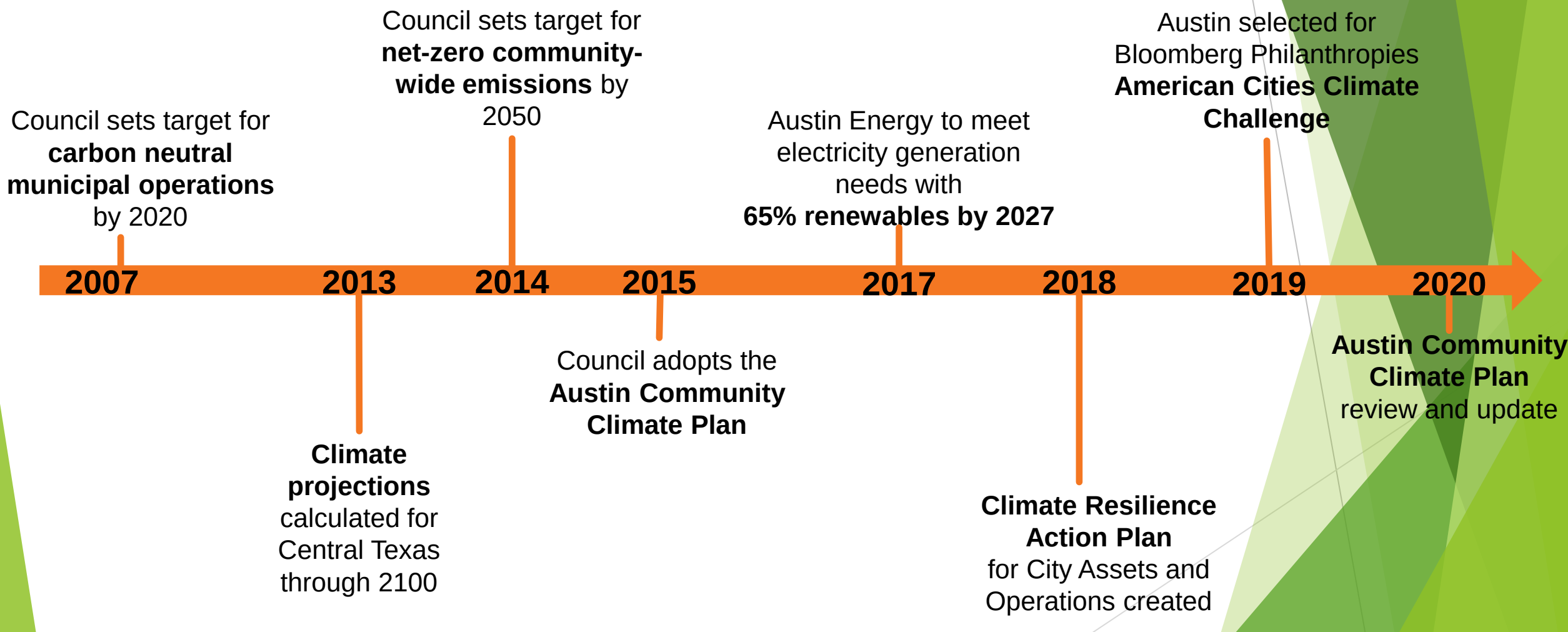
OUR MISSION

To protect and improve Austin's quality of life now and for future generations by leading efforts to achieve:

- Net-zero community-wide greenhouse gas emissions
- A healthy & just local food system
- A climate resilient and adaptive city

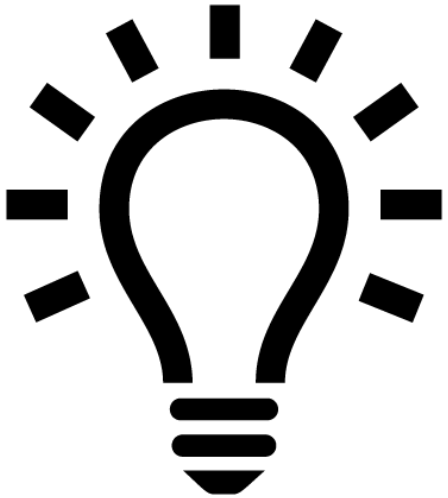


Local Action on Climate Change

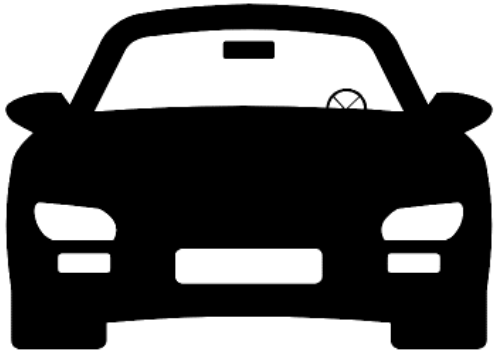



NET ZERO BY 2050
AUSTIN CITY HALL

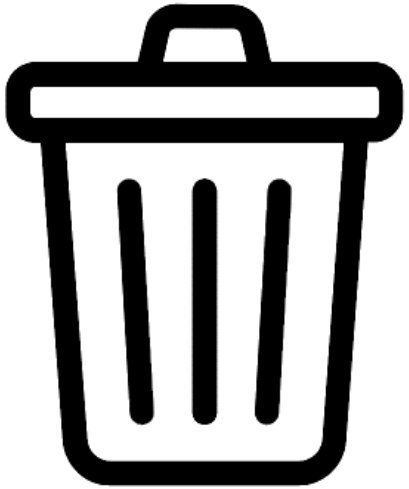
What produces emissions in Austin?



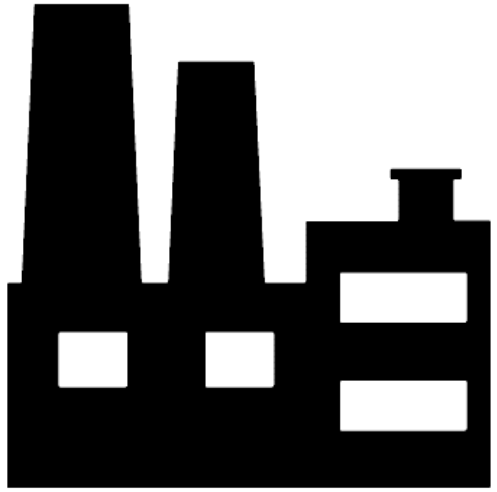
ENERGY USE



TRANSPORTATION

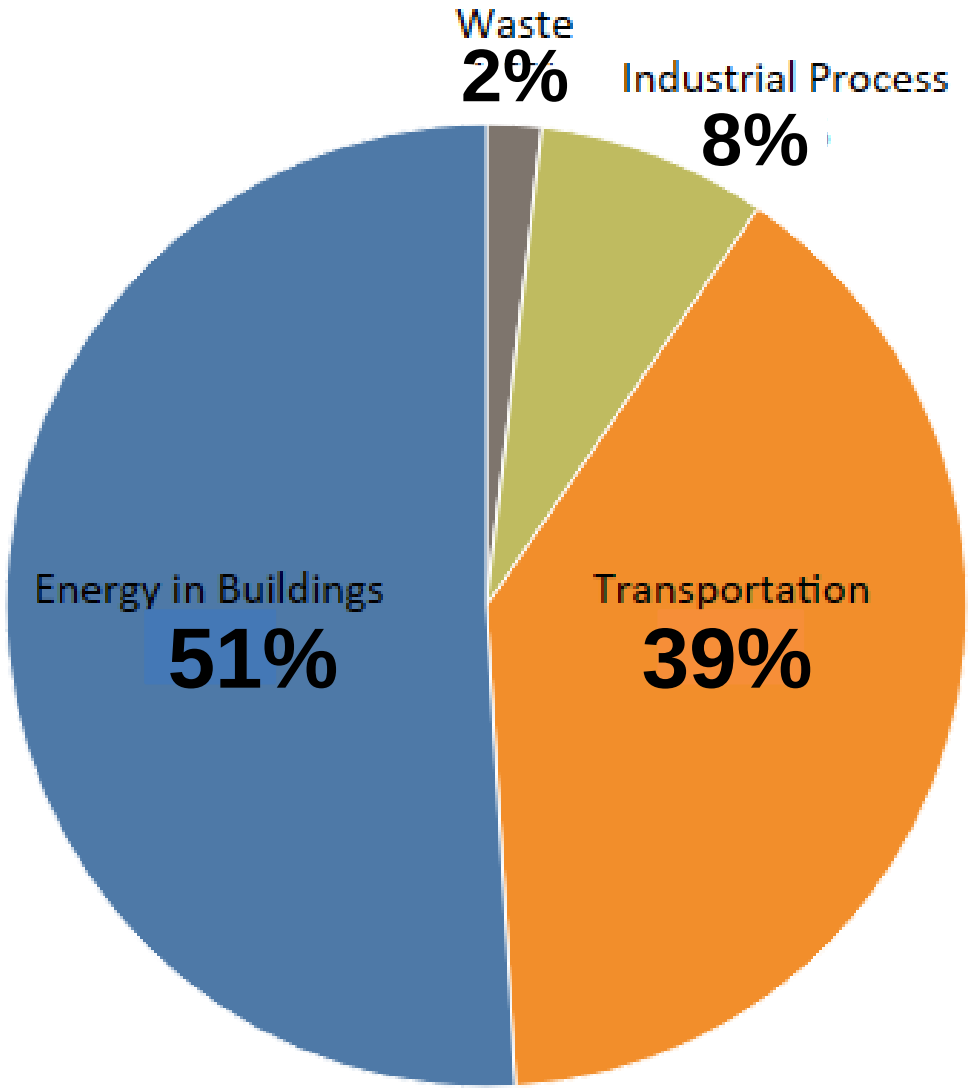


WASTE DISPOSAL



INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES

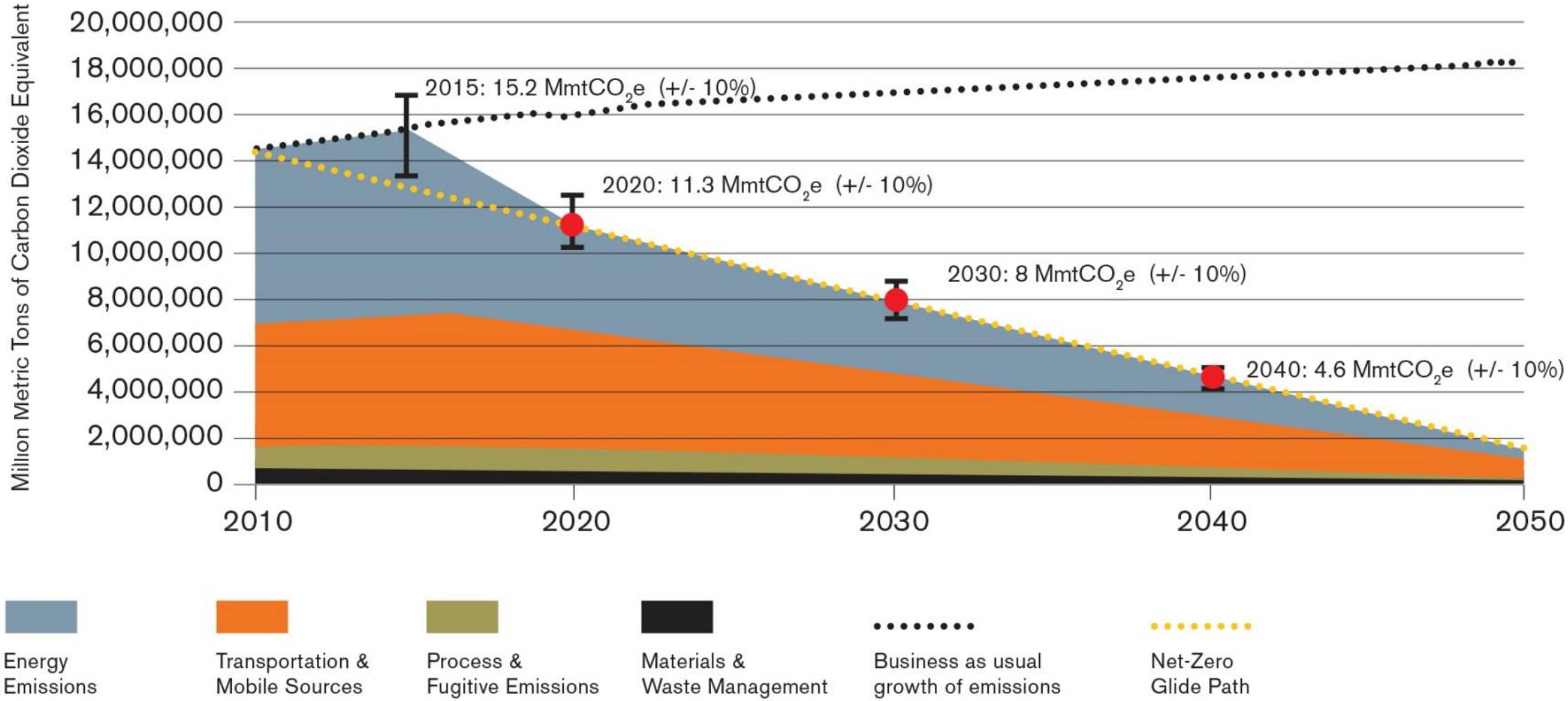
Austin's Carbon Footprint



2017 TOTAL:

12.5 million metric tons carbon-dioxide equivalent

What does net-zero in 2050 mean?




Retire share of Fayette Power Plant
2023


65%
renewables by 2027

200 megawatts of local solar by 2027

900 megawatts reduced demand through energy efficiency

>600

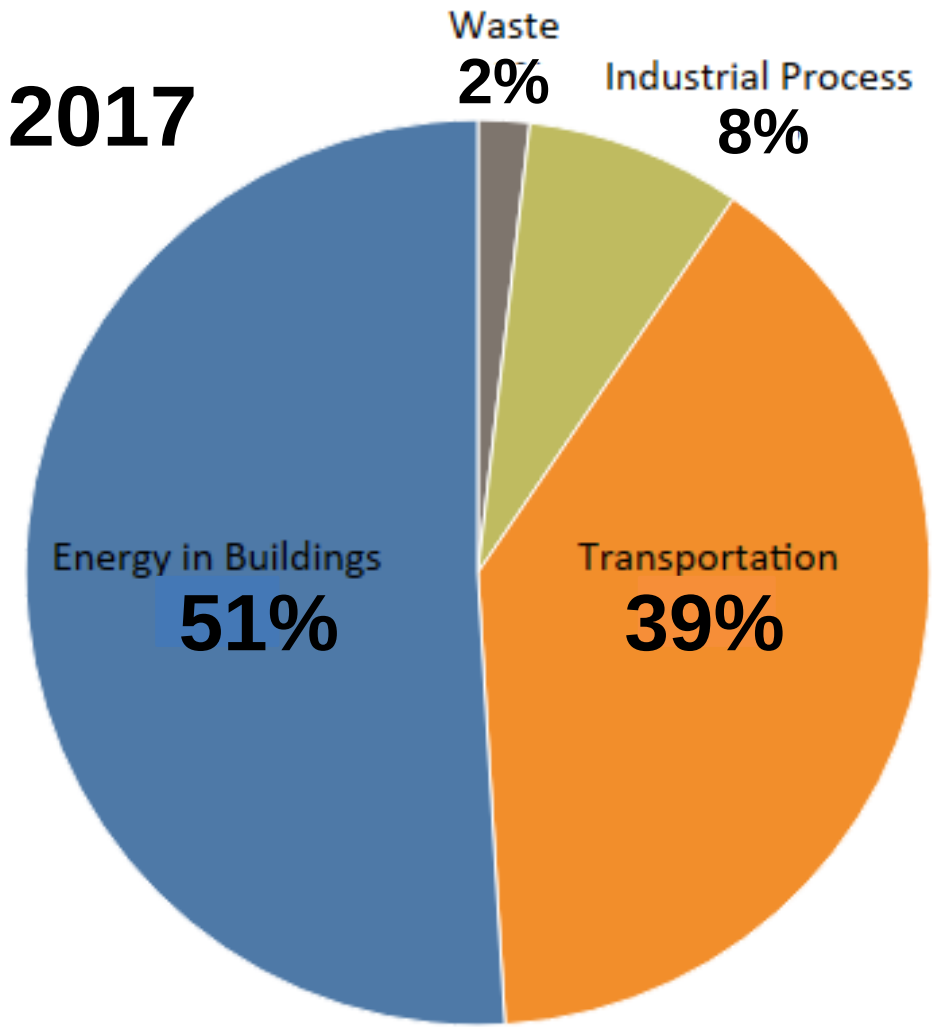
Level 2 charging ports for Electric Vehicles


100 METRO AIRPORT
823
STATE

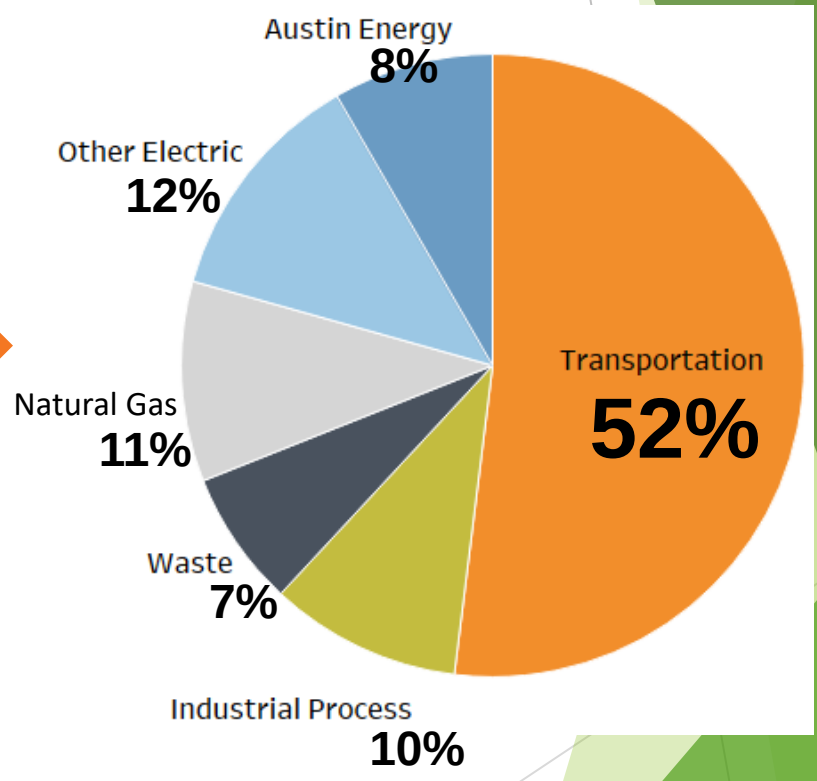
>700,000 bike trips


For more Information
PROPERTY OF
CITY OF
10343022
Zero Waste by
2040

How far will these actions take us?



12.5 million metric tons CO2e



8.0 million metric tons CO2e


What can I do to help?

A Few Simple Actions

1. Shutdown your computer
Computers are some of the biggest energy users in office buildings. Turn your monitor off at night and ditch the screensaver. Today's computers can be turned on and off over 40,000 times. Opting to shut down over using a screensaver does not affect your computer's lifespan. (EnergyStar). So power down!

2. Choose the right light
LED bulbs are the most energy efficient lighting option. LED bulbs use 75% less electricity than incandescent bulbs (Energy Star). The also have no mercury, and last about 25 times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs (DoE).

3. Eliminate vampire power: unplug idle electronics.
Devices like televisions, microwaves, scanners, and printers use standby power, even when off. Some chargers continue to pull small amounts of energy, even when plugged in (a good judge of this is if a charger feels warm to the touch). In the US, the total electricity consumed by idle electronics equals the annual output of 12 power plants (EPA).

4. Use a power strip to reduce your plug load.
To avoid paying for this "vampire power," use a power strip to turn all devices off at once. Flipping the switch on your power strip has the same effect as unplugging each socket from the wall, preventing phantom energy loss.

5. Turn off the lights
Just one switch and you're done!

A Few Simple Actions

1. **Drive less**

Think of alternatives such as riding a bike or walking, if possible. Using ride-sharing services and carpooling with a friend or neighbor at least one or two days a week will also help. Your vehicle emits 20 pounds of carbon dioxide for each gallon of oil burned

2. **Drive sensibly**

You can **reduce driving emissions** by 20% just by going easy on the gas pedal and brakes. If you are a city mouse, being aware of your daily commute routes and the traffic will help to avoid the frequent slamming of brakes and pounding the accelerator. The benefits – fewer carbon emissions and less wear and tear on the engine components.

3. **Idle less**

Cutting just five minutes of idle time each day will lower 220 (for a 4-cylinder engine) and 440 (an 8-cylinder engine) pounds of carbon dioxide a year! Many people do it thinking that restarting the vehicle will burn more gas than idling.

4. **Use the AC smartly**

A trick is to turn the AC off just five to ten minutes before reaching the destination. The cold air will keep circulating for a few minutes even after the system is off.

5. **Consider a hybrid or electric car**

For every 12,000 miles of driving, an average vehicle discharges over 8,000 pounds of carbon dioxide each year. A hybrid or electric automobile is able to **reduce driving emissions** by 4,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Thank you!

Mary.Priddy@austintexas.gov

Learn more at austintexas.gov/sustainability