Dallas' Comprehensive Environmental & Climate Action Plan

NCTCOG/ GDPC/ RISE

Regional Climate Policy Workshop

Susan Alvarez, PE, CFM February 26, 2020





Overview

- Climate Change in North Texas
- Business Case for Climate Planning
- "CECAP"
- Status on Dallas climate planning efforts



Climate Change in North Texas



Opportunities For Cities to Lead the Way

- Cities consume 2/3 of the energy worldwide
- **Cities generate 70%** of the world CO₂ emissions
- Urban population increasing
- Actions taken at the city level can have major impact
- City leaders are generally more directly accountable to the public.



Climate change should not be a partisan issue. I disagree with any decision that undermines our nation's leadership role in the fight to mitigate the effects of climate change. Dallas is a leader in emissions reduction efforts, and we have had significant success in reducing our carbon footprint. I am asking our staff to continue to develop and maintain programs that improve regional air quality, reduce carbon emissions and otherwise address climate change. This is a common-sense approach that is good for our citizens, our businesses and our planet.

Mayor Mike Rawlings on June 2, 2017

→407 US #ClimateMayors, representing 70 million Americans, have committed to adopt, honor and uphold the climate goals of the Paris Agreement







Texas Climate Planning



North Texas Climate Planning



The Business Case...

- Managing Risk
- Costs for prevention v costs for cleanup
- Trends
- Impacts to GDP over time





Long-Term Macroeconomic Concerns



Data Source: ME Kuhn et al, Long-Term Macroeconomic Effects of Climate Change: A Cross Country Analyses; Prepared for Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. (<u>https://doi.org/10.24149/gwp365</u>



Moody Investors Series Inquiry

Exhibit 4

Cities with largest investment in climate mitigation projects planned or underway Among survey respondents, \$ millions



Source: Moody's Investors Service



National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS)

- Multi-year effort funded by FEMA, HUD, EDA, ICC, AIA, NFPA, Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), and others
- The project team found a national benefit of \$11 for every \$1 invested in Code updates.
- FEMA, HUD and U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) found hazard mitigation funding can save the nation \$6 in future disaster costs, for every \$1 spent.





Summary of Findings

Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2018 Interim Report



https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.ni bs.org/resource/resmgr/docs/NI BS_MitigationSaves2018-Sum.pdf



Please note that the map reflects a summation of billion-dollar events for each state affected (i.e., it does not mean that each state 13 shown suffered at least \$1 billion in losses for each event).



"Dallas is a healthy, safe and economically vibrant city. But to be a truly resilient city, Dallas must prepare for the effects of climate change. I want Dallas to continue to be a leader in efforts to reduce emissions and improve our air quality. Through our collective efforts and a focus on common-sense, data-driven solutions, we can ensure that our great city continues to thrive in the decades to come."

Mayor Eric Johnson

Introduction to the CECAP

Objectives:

- To develop a cohesive path forward to achieve environmental compliance, social equity, environmental justice and resiliency
- Develop climate action and adaptation actions consistent with goals of Paris Climate Agreement and Mayors Climate Agreement.
- Develop infrastructure to create resilient neighborhoods, particularly:
 - Invest in neighborhood infrastructure to revitalize historically underserved neighborhoods
 - Promote environmental sustainability to improve public health and alleviate adverse environmental conditions



Overarching Goals

What will a successful plan do for the City?

- An *actionable* plan that meets the Paris Agreement
- An *innovative* plan that sets the bar high
- An equitable plan that works for all districts
- A plan that is **data driven**, but comprehensible to the public
- A plan that improves **resiliency** to extreme weather
- A plan that sets up **realistic accountability** for city departments that can have an impact
- A plan that addresses air quality non-attainment challenges (eg **improves public health**)



A Standard Protocol Is Required For Consistent Results



RESOURCES

Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories

An Accounting and Reporting Standard for Cities

C4C

CITIES

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) is one commonly accepted protocol



ICLEI offers the "Clear Path" online tool to assist with the inventory



Any city that uses the ICLEI protocol can compare GHG emissions directly to other cities



CLE

Primary Scopes in Emissions Inventory



Dallas Community Emissions U.S Average

20% 34% 8% 5% 33%

Dallas Community

Transportation & Mobile Sources

Industrial Energy







C40 City Comparison



■ Stationary ■ Transportation ■ Waste



Theory of Relativity...



CECAP Contract Scope

Project Scope includes:

- Compile & review City plans/data
- Benchmark best management practices & identify Dallas options
- Develop internal/external City working groups
- Robust public outreach & engagement
- Perform modelling to assess
 effectiveness
- Develop & vet Dallas plan





Action Development Process





APPROACH TO PLANNING

MITIGATION: Reduce emissions that cause climate change



Clean Energy Sustainable Transportation

Energy Efficiency

Urban Forest Management Water Conservation Water Quality Local Food Production Food Access Food Recovery

Disaster Management Flood Protection Infrastructure Upgrades

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ADAPTATION: Manage risks of climate change impacts







ENVIRONMENT: Improve Quality of Life + Public Health



Robust Stakeholder Input

Stakeholder Advisory Group



City Environmental Task Force

- Transportation
- Dallas Water
 Utilities (Water,
 Wastewater,
 Drainage)
- Park & Recreation
- Economic
 Development
- Aviation
- Housing/Fair Housing

- Sustainable
 Development
- Planning + Urban
 Design
- Public Works
- Fleet
- Building Services
- And others!



Community Engagement Effort

- 60 business survey responses
- **2,292** resident survey responses
- 9,492 unique comments
- Over **170** meetings and events
- 8,139+ people engaged in person
- Meeting notes, presentations, recordings, and memos posted
- 3,071 unique site visitors and >7,000 visits to website
- Over 2,000 views on CECAP newsletters and blogs





Draft Plan Focus & Goals

- Dallas uses renewable, reliant and affordable energy
- Dallas' buildings are energy efficient and resilient
- Dallas communities have access to low to no emission, affordable transportation options
- Dallas is a Zero-waste community
- Dallas protects its water resources and its communities from flooding & drought
- All Dallas communities have access to healthy, local food
- All Dallas communities breathe clean air
- Dallas protects its ecosystems that in turn, protect public health



Dallas buildings are energy efficient and climate resilient

- Increase energy efficiency of existing buildings
- Ensure that new buildings are constructed sustainably and are carbon neutral
- Increase resilience for new & existing buildings





Dallas generates and uses renewable, reliable and affordable energy

- Maintain high degree of reliability during extreme weather events
- Encourage investment in, and greater use of renewable energy
- Ensure reliable access to renewable electricity





Dallas communities have access to low- to zero emission affordable transportation options

- Shift transportation systems to move people and goods in fuel-efficient vehicles
- Reduce trips where people drive alone
- Synergize land use and housing with transportation to increase access to walking, biking and public transit
- Ensure that walking, biking, public transit, vehicular transportation infrastructure is reliable and safe



Dallas protects its water resources and its communities from flooding, heat & drought

- Conserve and protect water resources through stewardship, education programs and management
- Protect neighborhoods from flooding and prepare them for extreme heat and droughts
- Lead by leveraging innovative approaches, strategies and technologies





Dallas is a zero-waste community

- Minimize single use products and enable community to refuse, reduce, reuse and repair
- Operate a clean, green and efficient waste system
- Generate energy from organics



All Dallas communities have access to healthy, local food

- Build capacity & partnerships to strengthen urban agriculture initiatives & stakeholders
- Reduce distance from farm-totable
- Improve access in food deserts through effective partnerships
- Prepare the food system to be more resilient to extreme weather events
- Prevent food waste through donations, recovery, diversion and composting



All Dallas communities breathe clean air

- Augment regulatory air quality monitoring
- Reduce trips where people drive alone
- Increase, enhance and maintain healthy forests, parks & green spaces



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Dallas protects and enhances its ecosystems and green spaces that in turn improve public health

- Leverage green spaces to provide climate adaptation benefits
- Increase, enhance and maintain healthy forests, parks and green spaces
- Integrate nature-based solutions into the public realm





Overview of 95 Draft Plan Actions

Action Source	Primary Benefit	Scale of Action	Action Type	Time-Line For
New 71	Mitigation 42	City-Wide	Partnership 22	Initiation Short
Existing 1	Adaptation 20	Municipal 14	Mandate 18	65 Medium 27
Ongoing 23	Environmental Quality 22	Neighborhood 8	Program 16	Long 3
	Environmental Justice	Asset Specific	Educational 15	
	11	,	Incentive 12	
			Personnel 1	



Screening & Prioritization





Modeling & Benchmarking

CURB

Climate Action for Urban Sustainability is an interactive planning tool designed to help cities take action on climate change to improve...



HEALTH AND AIR QUALITY



ECONOMY AND JOBS



ENERGY INDEPENDENCE



CURB Model Results – ERCOT Future power

Figure 1 - Scenario 1 GHG Estimates



Current ERCOT Fuel Breakdown (2019)



Approach to Implementation

- Update the GHG Inventory in 2021 using 2020 data
- Two-year updates will be included in CECAP
- Re-evaluate ERCOT, NCTCOG, and other data to update estimates
- Re-calibrate actions towards zero emission goals



The adaptive management cycle



Next Steps

- February 3, 2020 through March 3, 2020 Draft CECAP Plan available for public review
- February 26, 2020 Regional NCTCOG/GDPC Symposium on Climate Policy
- March 3, 2020 Third Annual North Texas Climate Symposium
- April 22, 2020 Final Plan to Council for Adoption





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DALLAS CLIMATE ACTION

Creating effective, efficient, and equitable solutions to climate change in Dallas



QUESTIONS?





Questions and Comments



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Dallas Environmental Quality & Sustainability

