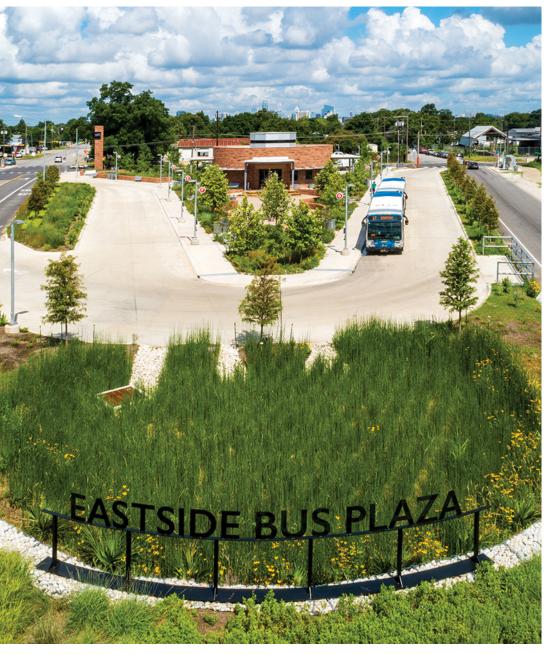
# **\$ SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN**

April 2022











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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sustainability is central to the mission of CapMetro and is reflected as a core value. Sustainability is also built into our commitment to the region and community of Central Texas as a guiding principle of Project Connect. This Sustainability Vision Plan outlines the path to integrating sustainability into operations and capital projects; it formalizes CapMetro's commitment to sustainability by documenting the values, goals, and action areas we will pursue to do our part in protecting the planet in an equitable and resilient way.

To help guide our journey, CapMetro has established a sustainability leadership committee comprised of staff from CapMetro and Austin Transit Partnership (ATP) and a sustainability advisory group, of regional peers to guide the implementation of CapMetro's Sustainability Vision Plan and inform the Agency's sustainability goals and action areas. Integrated throughout the Sustainability Vision Plan are CapMetro's overarching sustainability strategic values of climate resiliency, equity, and sustainability valuation. This framework will help guide us to the right strategies and set actionable targets for our action plans to keep us on the path toward meeting our sustainability goals.

CapMetro's sustainability vision illustrates the connections between our environment, our communities, and the local economy, and is consistent with our overall strategic vision. Our partners and stakeholders helped us to create a vision to guide us toward a sustainable future.

# SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

#### **Vision**

To build and operate sustainable transit infrastructure that keeps communities connected, protects and restores our natural systems and environment, and helps grow a vibrant economy.

### **Sustainability Goals**



#### GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS/ CARBON NEUTRAL

Carbon neutral by 2040, consistent with Austin Climate Equity Plan.



#### **ZERO WASTE**

90% reduction of waste to landfills by 2040, consistent with City of Austin Zero Waste Strategic Plan.



#### WATER AND NATURE

Sustainably manage water resources and enhance nature and natural systems through conservation and green infrastructure.



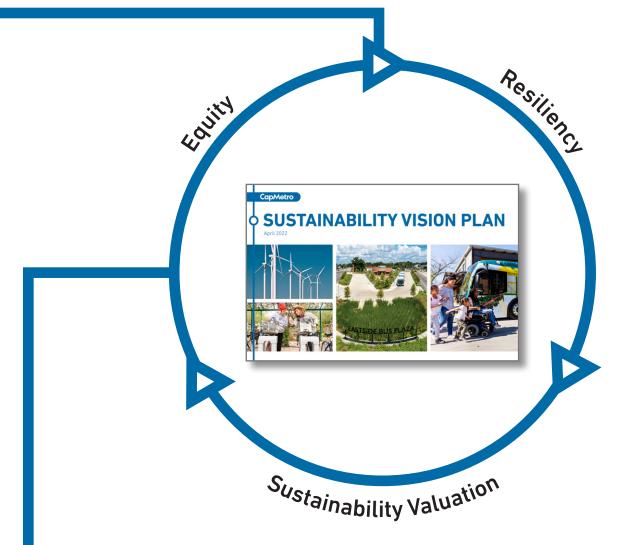
### SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Use sustainable design guidelines and rating systems (Envision, Austin Energy Green Building, LEED) to guide all capital projects.



#### **EQUITY AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES**

Leverage transit resources to enhance sustainability, connectivity, and access to opportunities; and create livable places, especially in historically disinvested communities.



### **Action Areas**

ENERGY: CONSERVATION, EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLES

SUSTAINABLE AND ZERO EMISSION FLEET

WATER AND NATURAL WORLD

ZERO WASTE, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GREEN BUILDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT

**CHAPTER 1** 

# O BOARD-APPROVED POLICY STATEMENT

The Sustainability Vision Policy approved by the CapMetro Board guides the implementation of the Sustainability Vision Plan by formally integrating sustainability strategies into operations and capital projects, contributing to an overall Net Zero Carbon goal by 2040.



3 CapMetro



#### **Sustainability Vision Statement**

**Board of Directors** 

**Effective:** [month year] **Resolution No.** 

#### 1. PURPOSE

To outline Capital Metro's commitment to providing a robust, sustainable transportation network and minimizing the environmental impact of its operations and construction through sound practices.

#### 2. CAPITAL METRO'S COMMITMENT

- A. <u>General</u>. Capital Metro is committed to operating its transit system sustainably by reducing its environmental impact and helping to improve the environment in the communities in which it operates. We will apply sustainability and environmental best practices and comply with all environmental laws and regulations as we expand transit opportunities through Project Connect. We recognize that transportation contributes a significant amount of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, and Capital Metro, as a public transit provider, will take steps to lessen the risk of climate change through design, technology choices, and by providing its customers with lower-impact transportation options.
- B. <u>Sustainability Vision Plan</u>. Capital Metro will implement a Sustainability Vision Plan that guides all operations, and the planning, design, construction, and performance of its transit system with the following overarching vision: To build and operate sustainable transit infrastructure that keeps communities connected, protects, and restores our natural systems and environment, and helps grow a vibrant local economy.

The Sustainability Vision Plan will:

- i. Be guided by the principles of equity, climate resilience, and sustainability valuation.
- ii. Establish goals for zero waste; water and nature; sustainable buildings and infrastructure; greenhouse gas emissions; and equitable and livable communities.
- iii. Consist of the following initial Action Areas: (a) Energy conservation, efficiency, and renewable sources; (b) Sustainable and zero emission fleet; (c) Zero waste and natural resource management; (d) Water and natural world; (e) Active transportation; (f) Green building and infrastructure; and (g) Environmental and sustainability management.
- iv. Be led by the Sustainability Officer and the Sustainability Leadership Committee consisting of senior staff from Capital Metro and Austin Transportation Partnership. The Committee will review and, as necessary, revise the Action Areas on an annual basis, and establish measurable and meaningful targets and strategies for each of the Actions Areas. The Action Areas, targets and strategies will be subject to approval by Capital Metro's Senior Management Team and the President & CEO.
- C. <u>Annual Report</u>. The Sustainability Officer will report annually to the Board of Directors on the Action Areas and Capital Metro's progress on meeting the targets.



### **SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN BACKGROUND**

CapMetro's mission is to empower, enhance and serve the region and its communities through the responsible delivery of high-quality public transportation. It is increasingly important to evaluate equitable and resilient sustainability initiatives while aligning these efforts with regional and national sustainability priorities.

Sustainability has long guided our transit system's planning, project development, and operations as a charter signatory to the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Sustainability Commitment Program and through participation in numerous regional programs. This Plan further solidifies the path to continued innovations and improvements that will advance our sustainability goals and achieve net zero carbon emissions.

CapMetro has an opportunity to reduce the impact of our operations and projects while providing a better customer experience through sustainable infrastructure development and restorative design—increasing ecosystem benefits and customer comfort. The purpose of the Sustainability Vision Plan is to advance CapMetro's commitment to sustainability by integrating the values, goals, and actions we will pursue into our planning processes, and to do our part in protecting the planet in an equitable and resilient way.

The Sustainability Vision Plan draws from the best practices and strategies that focus on transit equity, improving environmental outcomes, and supporting access for communities. CapMetro benchmarked itself with leading transit agencies across North America and reviewed their sustainability and innovative practices. Additionally, the sustainability plans of local and regional government peers and were reviewed. This research ensured CapMetro's goals are aligned with and build upon these plans, best practices, and strategies.

The Sustainability Vision Plan outlines the methods CapMetro will use to reduce impacts, improve the environment, and expand transit in the region while addressing specific needs of the regional environment and the community's need for smarter, efficient, and enjoyable transit opportunities. Moreover, this Plan will be integrated with other CapMetro and Project Connect planning efforts, such as zero emission fleet planning, facility master planning, and new service planning.

### **SCOPE OF THE SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN**

As the regional transit provider for Central Texas, CapMetro is implementing the Sustainability Vision Plan to guide its operations and capital projects. This Sustainability Policy will be incorporated throughout our activities, including the implementation of Project Connect, as the overall plan for transit enhancements, capital improvements, and transit service expansion in the region. ATP, in partnership with CapMetro, will ensure that sustainability is incorporated into all new capital projects and will communicate the quantitative and qualitative value that sustainability brings to the Agency and the region.

### **Current CapMetro Service**

CapMetro's revenue transit service includes bus, commuter rail, paratransit, on-demand service, and shuttle services utilizing diesel and electric buses, diesel-electric trains, paratransit, and pickup vehicles. Facilities include 2,300 bus stops, 26 MetroRapid bus stations, 17 Park & Ride transit centers, 9 commuter rail stations along 32 miles of track, a 162-mile freight rail alignment, 76 MetroBike stations, and 800 shared bikes of which 200 are e-bikes (co-managed with the Austin Transportation Department).

#### **OUR SERVICES**



**MetroBuses** 



MetroAccess



**E-Buses** 



MetroRapid



**Freight Rail** 



MetroRideShare



**Night Owl** 



**MetroExpress** 



**MetroBike** 



**Pickup** 



MetroRail

#### **OUR FLEET**



368 MetroBuses



MetroRapid **Vehicles** 



**Pickup Vehicles** 



**Diesel Electric Trains** 



**Paratransit Vehicles** 



**MetroBikes** 



E-Buses

### **Project Connect**

Project Connect will expand and improve our public transportation network for the entire Central Texas region, including new light rail, a subway under downtown, and an accessible bus system to better connect neighborhoods in and outside our great city. Project Connect is a program of projects designed to improve access to essential jobs, health care and education—making our communities more livable, equitable, and sustainable.

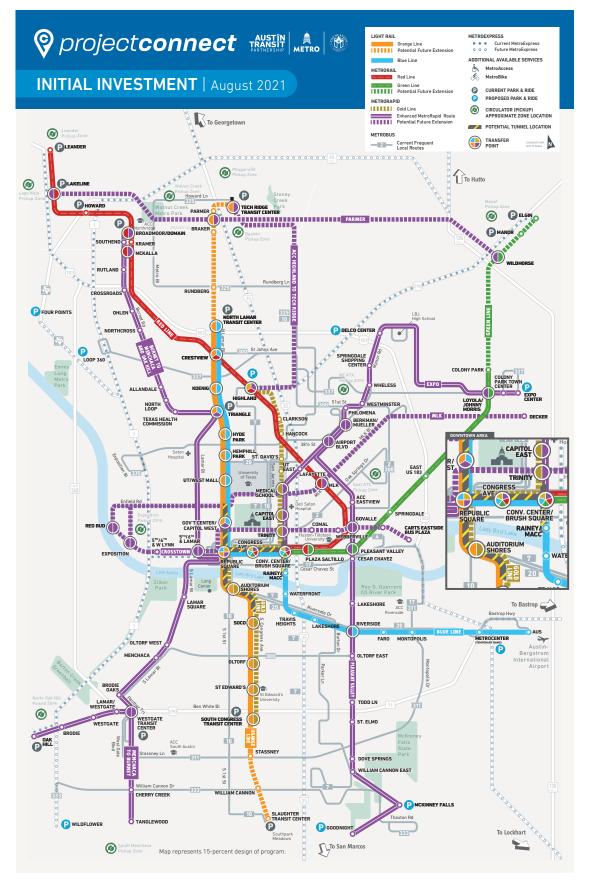
Project Connect partners (CapMetro, ATP, and City of Austin) collaborate on every element of the program, which includes environmental studies and adopting sustainable construction and operation practices.

**CapMetro** 









**Source:** <a href="https://projectconnect.com/docs/librariesprovider2/maps/pcon\_system-map-august-2021.pdf?sfvrsn=768e4c75\_2">https://projectconnect.com/docs/librariesprovider2/maps/pcon\_system-map-august-2021.pdf?sfvrsn=768e4c75\_2</a>





# SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

The Sustainability Vision Plan is guided by the sustainability leadership committee to assure that sustainability is integrated into all relevant areas of operations, planning, and project implementation. This multitiered collaboration encourages feedback and ideas, sets priorities, and identifies resources for implementation.

The CapMetro Senior Executive Team provides leadership and approves the overarching goals, while assuring that sustainability is integrated into the Agency's strategic plan and vison.

An external sustainability advisory group of peers from regional and local agencies and organizations provides regional insight, shares best practices, and cooperatively works toward regional sustainability goals.

Finally, CapMetro's green team consists of staff at all levels and will help implement the Plan across the Agency.

### **Organizational Framework**

A tiered approach to implementation allows us to engage staff from CapMetro and ATP to join forces and share resources on the path toward our sustainability goals. In partnership with our local peers, we can cooperatively support each other's efforts to reach our common regional goals.

#### SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE - CAPMETRO & PROJECT CONNECT

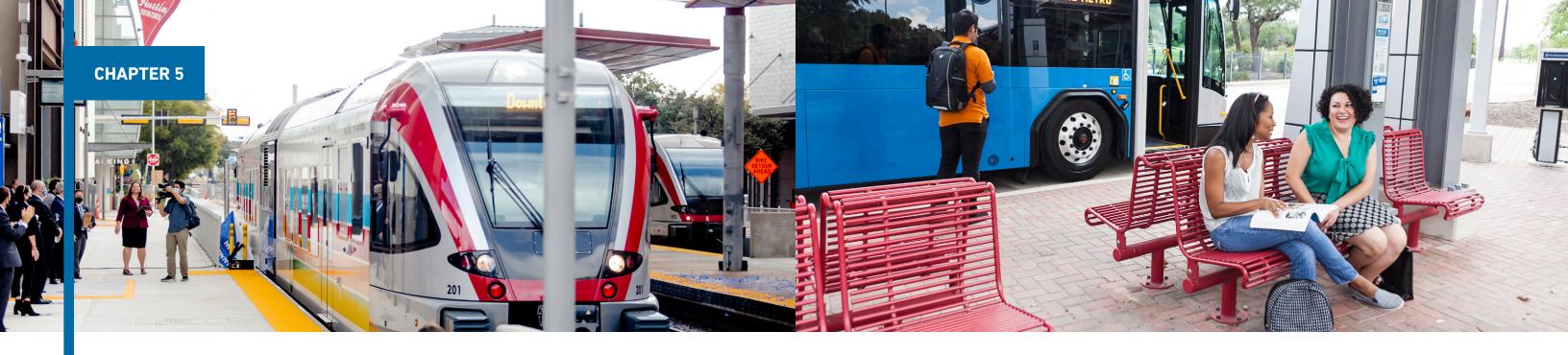
- ATP and CapMetro staff
- Led by CapMetro Sustainability Officer
- Implements Sustainability Vision Plan and action plans
- Approves sustainability fund projects

#### SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY GROUP

- Staff from City of Austin, Travis County, Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG), etc.
- Led by CapMetro Sustainability Officer
- Guides implementation, collaborates, exchanges knowledge and experience

#### **GREEN TEAM**

- Staff from all areas that are interested in implementing sustainability strategies
- Assist in outreach, engagement, and communication
- Provide feedback, day-to-day sustainability management



# **DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY**

Sustainability is about creating vibrant, healthy, and resilient communities by considering how to improve our environment, support social equity, and grow a robust local economy. In fact, the three Es of sustainability (Environment, Economics, and Equity) are built into our overall vision as a public transit provider for Central Texas, which states:

"CapMetro is integral to the region and its communities, providing connectivity, fostering economic activity, and ensuring safe, environmentally sustainable, and equitable access to opportunity."

- CapMetro Strategic Plan April 2022

By integrating sustainability into all aspects of our operations and capital project delivery, we will continue to provide a valuable service to our community.

Sustainability is recognized as the intersection between environment, equity, and economy. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), "Sustainability is based on the simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. To pursue sustainability is to create and maintain conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations."

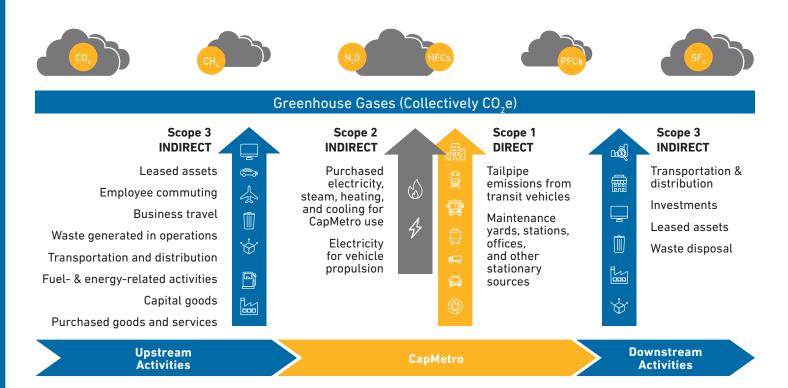


### Net Zero Carbon

Net Zero Carbon by 2040 is a primary goal of the Sustainability Vision Plan. In order to meet this goal, we will reduce emissions, use renewable energy, and implement other methods to prevent or remove emissions in the atmosphere.

**Net Zero Carbon or Carbon Neutrality** is the state where any GHG emissions released are balanced by an equal amount being taken out of the atmosphere. CapMetro will prioritize opportunities to balance our carbon directly in the region, reducing emissions locally and potentially creating local economic opportunities.

The primary sources of carbon emission at CapMetro are from our vehicles that run on fossil fuels and from the energy that is used to power our facilities. By electrifying our fleet and maximizing the amount of renewable wind and solar energy that we use to power our vehicles and buildings, we are going a long way toward meeting our Net Zero Carbon goal. However, we also impact emissions in other ways through our business processes and activities. Energy is used and carbon dioxide  $({\rm CO_2})$  is embedded in our construction activities, building materials choices, procurement processes, and employee travel. Each of these activities uses energy, and we can work toward reducing the  ${\rm CO_2}$  that is associated with each.





## Methods to Achieve a Goal of Net Zero Carbon

There are three primary ways for CapMetro to achieve its goal of carbon neutrality:

- Direct reductions in GHG emissions associated with CapMetro activities, services, and related construction materials
- Mitigation activities to reduce carbon through partnerships and project-related decisions (i.e., planting trees in right-of-way to sequester carbon)
- Renewable energy or carbon credits as a form of investment to achieve carbon emission reductions



### Why a Sustainability Vision Plan is Important to Central Texas

Texas is the largest producer of GHG emissions in the U.S. by a large margin, and transportation accounts for 32.6% of GHG emissions today. By 2036, we expect:

**8M** 

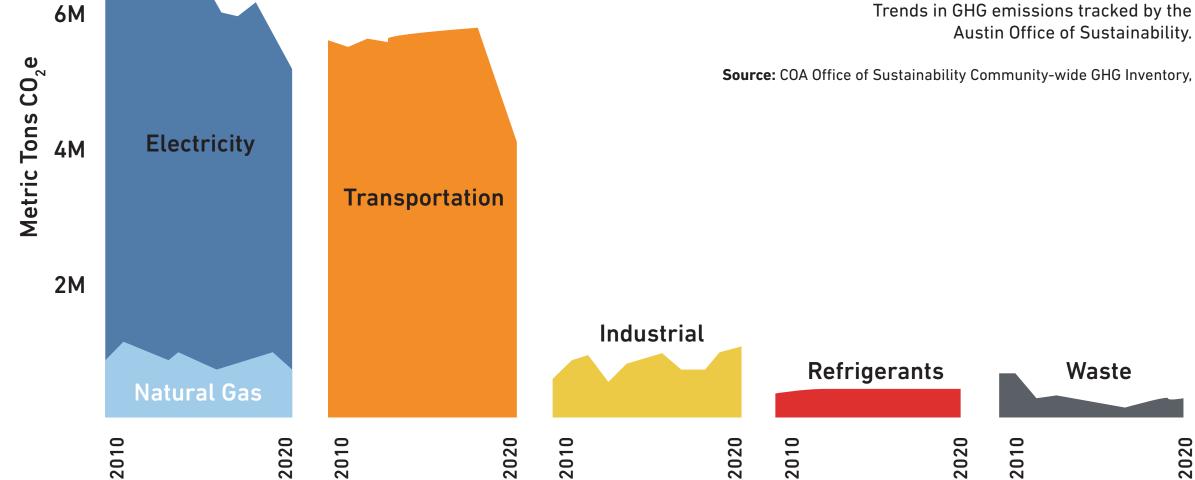
- The number of 100-degree days to be nearly double the 2001-2020 average
- Extreme precipitation events to be 6%-10% larger in intensity
- Extreme precipitation events to be 30%-50% more frequent than the 1950-1999 average.

Source: https://climatexas. tamu.edu/files/Climate Report-1900to2036-2021Update According to the Texas State Climatologist, over the next 15 years, we could experience hotter average temperatures than have ever been recorded in Central Texas, twice as many 100-degree days as we currently experience, and more extreme weather events. The impacts of climate change are intensified in urban areas where more development results in increased heat island impacts and reduced ecosystem functions. These potential changes will impact the comfort and safety of our customers and staff.

**Energy in** 

Implementing sustainability initiatives, such as converting the Agency's transit fleet to electric vehicles, promoting transit as a sustainable alternative, and committing CapMetro to renewable energy, can help reduce GHG emissions and their impact on our climate. Resilient design that considers the changing conditions will help us protect the value of our assets. Sustainable and restorative design can reduce the most severe impacts and help protect the health of our customers and ecosystems.









# Measuring Sustainability at CapMetro

Sustainability indicators measure the effectiveness and capture the benefits and value of our efforts and strategies.

CapMetro has developed key metrics based on the APTA Sustainability Commitment to track water use, criteria air pollutant emissions, GHG emissions and GHG savings, energy use (electricity, fuel), recycling levels, waste generation, and operating expense. Electrification of transit vehicles and increasing ridership goals, as well as reducing the number of single-occupant vehicles, will further reduce emissions and help meet our goal of Net Zero Carbon by 2040 – a goal that is consistent with the Austin Climate Equity Plan and the regional Ozone Advance (clean air) Plan.

### CapMetro's commitment to sustainability is recognized through:



- Our achievement of the APTA Gold Sustainability Commitment
- Our commitment to Federal Transit
  Administration's (FTA) Transit for a Healthy Planet
  Challenge, which is focused on climate action
  strategies with measurable goals to achieve GHG
  emissions reduction.
- Our recognition as a City of Austin Climate Leader
- Our commitment to EPA's Green Power Partnership for selecting renewable energy sources

#### Progress CapMetro has made toward meeting sustainability goals

\* Numbers in comparison to 2016 on an annual basis

#### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

## IN 2021, 97% OF PURCHASED ELECTRICITY

ORIGINATED FROM TEXAS WIND FARMS, TOTALING AROUND 8.7 MILLION KILOWATT HOURS OF ENERGY





\* REDUCED FACILITY WATER CONSUMPTION BY 2.8 MILLION GALLONS ANNUALLY

REDUCED

#### **WASTE REDUCTION**



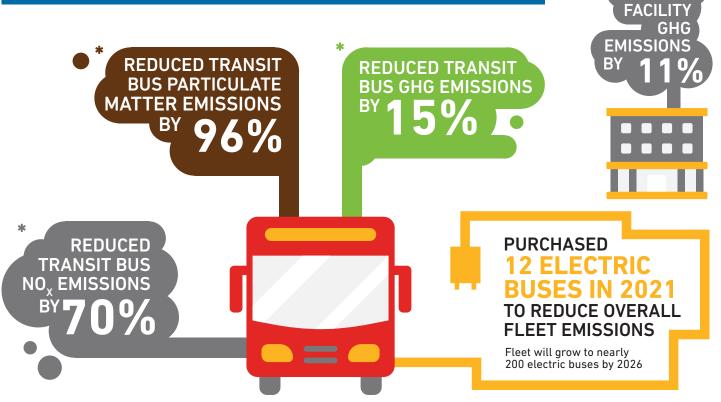
10%

OF THE AGENCY'S ADMINISTRATIVE AND PUBLIC FACILITY WASTE IN 2021



90,000 POUNDS

#### AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS AND EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS





### Co-Benefits of Sustainability Vision Plan

CapMetro's mission is to connect people and communities to jobs and opportunities by providing quality transportation choices to deliver a high-quality customer experience, with the help of our talented, diverse, and high-performance workforce. Optimizing our resources, instilling a culture of safety, and being a leader in sustainability assures that we are positioned to provide a robust, efficient transit network in Central Texas. Implementation of the Sustainability Vision Plan benefits us, our customers, and the region.

ACTION AREA	BENEFIT TO CAPMETRO	BENEFIT TO CUSTOMER	BENEFIT TO REGION			
Energy: Conservation, Efficiency, Renewables	Lower operating costs with conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy. Increased resiliency through distributed energy systems.	Reliable and resilient service. Expanded amenities, such as solar lighting at bus stops.	Clean energy economy and transition. Supports goals of Austin Climate Equity Plan and Ozone Advance Plan.			
Sustainable and Zero Emission Fleet	Reduced emissions, fuel cost, and routine maintenance. Healthier workplace.	Improved customer experience, quieter ride, no emissions, and no air pollutants.	Improved air quality and reduced idling. Reduced neighborhood noise level and carbon footprint.			
Zero Waste, Natural Resource Management	Lower landfill cost. Safer, cleaner, and healthier workplace. Circular economy supported.	Opportunities to reuse materials at public facilities. Reduced litter.	Reduced waste to landfills. Supports Austin Zero Waste Plan. Circular economy supported.			
Green Building and Infrastructure	Lower operating costs and improved asset management. Reduced materials costs, enhanced durability with innovative design. Healthier workplace.	Unique customer experience. Climate-conscious design, reduced heat island effect, improved comfort, and healthier spaces.	Reduced energy and water use, ecosystem impact, and materials use. Regenerative design. Supports goals of Austin Climate Equity Plan, Zero Waste Plan, Austin Water Forward, Ozone Advance Plan.			
Active Transportation	Added mobility options and connectivity to transit routes. Efficient and flexible transit mode.	More customer choices. Low cost, on-demand, flexible option for short trips. Healthy, fun, and safe.	Supports climate, air quality, and community health goals. Space-efficient and flexible transit-connectivity option. Equitable bike ways and pedestrian paths.			
Water and Natural World	Reduced water and wastewater utility cost. Reduced maintenance cost. Healthier workplace.	Improved customer experience. Increased shade and reduced heat island effect.	Increased biodiversity and ecosystem benefits. Increased water availability and resiliency.			
Environmental and Sustainability Management	Lower operating and maintenance costs. Improved asset management. Safer, cleaner, and healthier workplace.	Improved customer experience.	Less risk of environmental impacts and increased pollution prevention.			



# O CONNECTING PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

As part of the Sustainability Vision Plan development process, CapMetro reviewed peer transit agency sustainability strategies and regional sustainability planning efforts and goals. This Sustainability Vision Plan builds upon these efforts' best practices and overarching goals, as well as CapMetro's current sustainability activities, to provide a roadmap for future sustainability improvements. The CapMetro Sustainability Vision Plan aligns with regional planning efforts such as Austin Climate Equity Plan, the FTA's Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge and other federal initiatives, the APTA Sustainability Commitment, industry best practices, and third-party rating systems like Envision, Austin Energy Green Building, LEED, and SITES. Implementation of the Sustainability Vision Plan supports the goals of these programs and regional initiatives. The integrated committees and working groups behind these various regional initiatives bring their shared passion for the environment, expertise and coordination of sustainable practices, and commitment to the Triple Bottom Line (environmental, social, economic) perspective for evaluating innovative strategies for all community members.

### **Sustainability Vision Plan**

CONNECTION TO RELATED PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES



#### REGIONAL INITIATIVE AND GUIDING FRAMEWORKS



CapMetro Strategic Vision/Project Connect Guiding Principles



Federal Transit Administration Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge



Austin Energy Green Building/LEED



**APTA's, Sustainability Commitment** 



Envision: Framework for Sustainable Infrastructure



Austin Climate Equity Plan and Other Regional Plans

# Alignment with Regional Initiatives

The CapMetro Sustainability Vision Plan is aligned with regional planning efforts, including the Austin Climate Equity Plan, Austin Zero Waste Plan, and Austin Water Forward. As a supporting member of Central Texas Clean Air Coalition, CapMetro has joined a coalition of municipalities and regional partners working to meet regional clean air standards through Ozone Advance Plan. In addition, the Sustainability Vision Plan draws from regional initiatives such as the Travis County Climate Plan, University of Texas Sustainability Master Plan, and Austin Community College Sustainability Plan.



#### **AUSTIN CLIMATE EQUITY PLAN**

A plan developed with considerable stakeholder and community input that establishes a community-wide net zero carbon goal by 2040 using equitable strategies. In the Sustainability Vision Plan, CapMetro has adopted this overarching goal and developed strategies to reduce emissions in fleet transit vehicles, buildings, and facilities; and reduce the embodied carbon of building materials. Strengthening our sustainable purchasing practices will further address embodied carbon, the related carbon footprint of operations, and further support the region's net zero carbon goal.

#### **OZONE ADVANCE PLAN**

A voluntary, regional ozone reduction plan adopted by the Central Texas Clean Air Coalition (CAC). It is intended to keep the region in attainment of current ozone standards, reduce ozone levels enough to remain in attainment of anticipated future standards, and improve public health, particularly for vulnerable populations. CapMetro is a supporting member of the CAC, and our Sustainability Vision Plan aligns with the Ozone Advance Plan goals by using locally generated renewable energy, converting our fleet to electric and cleaner emission vehicles, and participating in mobility and active transportation programs, such as Get There ATX and Commute Solutions.

#### **AUSTIN ZERO WASTE PLAN**

A plan to achieve a zero waste goal by 2040, and to reduce waste going to landfill by 90%. Austin also puts programs in place to encourage zero waste procurement and a circular economy, and to create products from materials that were previously waste. CapMetro's Sustainability Vision Plan identifies system wide public recycling at high rider volume locations, organics composting program expansion, reduced operational and construction waste, and other waste reduction and circular economy strategies that support this zero waste goal.

#### **AUSTIN WATER FORWARD**

A plan that acknowledges that climate change and regional growth challenge regional water supplies. It encourages continued water conservation and efficiency strategies to protect local waterways, habitats, and natural environments through strategies that are technically, socially, and economically feasible. CapMetro's efforts to install more efficient water systems and support water conservation in our operations is consistent with this effort. Use of native plants and sustainable landscaping further supports water conservation and protects our region's natural environment.

### **Austin Climate Equity Plan**

The Austin Climate Equity Plan includes elements that are particularly consistent with the Sustainability Vision Plan. Crucial to the Climate Equity Plan's development was a focus on community members who have been systematically excluded from the climate change conversation. The Community Climate Ambassadors Program was created to specifically engage individuals from underrepresented communities who had previously not participated in climate change conversations and planning efforts. These ambassadors were compensated for their time and were recruited to apply an equity lens and contribute their historical or lived experience to the conversation while continuing to engage their networks about climate issues. Numerous stakeholders, including CapMetro, were involved in the plan development process. We support this strong equity focus, and we have included equity as a sustainability strategic value. The Climate Equity Plan also includes goals, strategies, and targets that are consistent with CapMetro's environmental sustainability planning efforts and overarching goal to reach net zero carbon by 2040.

#### **CLIMATE EQUITY GOALS**



STRONG EMPHASIS IN CUTTING EMISSIONS BY 2030



NET ZERO CARBON BY 2040



NEW BUILDINGS ARE NET ZERO
CARBON. EXISTING BUILDINGS' EMISSIONS
REDUCED BY 25% AND NATURAL GASRELATED EMISSIONS REDUCED BY 3%
GROUNDED IN EQUITY

#### **Austin Climate Equity Plan Strategies**

The Austin Climate Equity Plan proposes specific strategies and targets supported by CapMetro and, in many cases, equivalent to the Sustainability Vision Plan's strategies and targets. As a transit agency, CapMetro supports the Climate Equity Plan's focus on public transit and other active transportation options. CapMetro's commitment to electrification of our vehicles, reducing the carbon footprint of our buildings, and reduced construction and operational waste are strategies shared by the Climate Equity Plan.

		SUPPORT THROUGH SERVICE DELIVERY	EQUIVALENT TO INTERNAL STRATEGY/TARGET
Related to	Net zero carbon buildings/reduce emissions from existing buildings		<b>*</b>
Buildings and Structures,	Reduce embodied carbon footprint of building materials		
(Sustainable Buildings)	Reduce water demand		<b>✓</b>
	80% new non-residential in city's activity center	<b>*</b>	
Transit and Equitable Distribution of Electric Vehicles	Preserve housing units, new housing within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of activity center	•	
	50% of trips in Austin – public transit, biking, walking, carpooling, work from home		
(Transportation and Land Use,	40% of vehicle miles are electrified	•	
Transportation Electrification)	Equitable distribution of electric vehicle charging		
	Region is leader in transportation electrification	<b>~</b>	<b>~</b>
	Access to sustainable food system	<b>*</b>	<b>✓</b>
Urban Planning Priorities, Use	Zero waste	•	
of Natural Lands (Food and Product	Protect natural lands as carbon pools and for resilience	•	<b>~</b>
Consumption, Natural Systems)	50% tree cover with a focus on equitable tree cover	<b>~</b>	
	All city-owned lands under a management plan to reduce carbon and maximize benefits		

# FTA Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge

The FTA Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge encourages transit agencies to take bold steps to achieve a 50% reduction from 2005 GHG emissions levels by 2030. By creating action strategies, agencies can develop measurable goals to target emissions reduction and build on their current progress. Agencies document their current emissions inventory and note initiatives spurred by state and local policies and regional studies to then develop emissions reduction goals and targets. Strategies are tracked to evaluate performance and goal achievement.

#### **FTA SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT FOR** A HEALTHY PLANET CHALLENGE **DEVELOP CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGIES WITH** MEASURABLE GOALS TO ACHIEVE GHG EMISSIONS TARGET **50%** UNITED **NET ZERO STATES REDUCTION CARBON BY CLIMATE** IN GHG 2050 **ELECTRICITY EMISSIONS BY** GOAL BY 2035 2030

### **Unified Training Academy**

Developing a skilled, resilient, and prepared workforce at all levels is a key strategic priority for CapMetro. Sustainability training and awareness programs are being launched to prepare staff and partners to integrate sustainability into the design and project management process.

# APTA Sustainability Commitment

The APTA Sustainability Commitment program provides a pathway for transit agencies to achieve continual improvement in sustainability by encouraging agencies to set goals and take actions in key sustainability indicators. CapMetro is currently at the APTA Sustainability Commitment Gold level, with a target to achieve Platinum level.

APTA Sustainability Commitment tracks the progress that transit agencies make in improving performance around indicators, such as water conservation, waste minimization, and emissions reductions. Transit agencies are recognized for implementing programs (action items and stretch goals) and achieving improvement targets. The action plans developed as part of the Sustainability Vision Plan will support our goal to achieve the higher level of APTA recognition.

# **Envision, Austin Energy Green Building and Other Frameworks**

The Austin Energy Green Building (AEGB) program, Envision for Sustainable Infrastructure, the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system, SITES, and other recognized standards will be used to guide the sustainable design of CapMetro and Project Connect capital projects. They will be applied to both facilities (e.g., transit hubs and office spaces) and operational infrastructure (e.g., rail tracks and bus rapid transit lines). These sustainability frameworks provide a structured approach to evaluating options to improve our projects' environmental and climate footprint and inspire designs that are the best for our customers and the planet while considering life-cycle costs and benefits.

These sustainable design frameworks will be integrated into our project management process to assure that sustainability is integrated throughout all stages of implementation. Design guidelines and specifications will be updated to assure that all staff and contractors are aligned around common targets. Minimum targets will be developed based on the unique aspects of transit-related projects and the recommendations outlined in the Austin Green Building Policy.

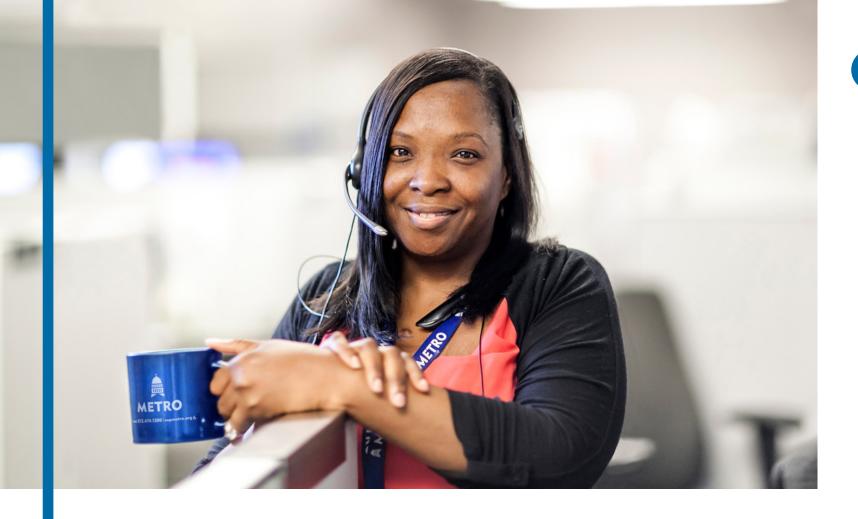
Several CapMetro projects have either received recognition or have initiated projects that will be rated using one of the sustainability frameworks.



### IMPLEMENTING THE SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN

The Sustainability Vision Plan is a way to communicate the importance of sustainability to all of our staff, stakeholders, project partners, and community. It is based on input collected from the sustainability leadership committee and sustainability advisory group.

To build and operate sustainable **transit infrastructure** that keeps communities connected, protects and restores our natural systems and environment, and helps grow a vibrant local economy.



# Purpose and Impact of the Sustainability Vision Plan

CapMetro's commitment to sustainability is not new. However, as CapMetro and our transit ecosystem evolve through Project Connect, our Sustainability Vision Plan reflects a renewed commitment to sustainability with our partners and communicates our sustainability approach as one that:

- Keeps communities connected through CapMetro's sustainable transit infrastructure
- Protects and restores the region's natural systems and environment
- Helps grow a vibrant local economy
- Instills a sense of pride and purpose for CapMetro staff
- Reflects CapMetro's financial strength and resiliency
- Demonstrates a net positive impact to the environment
- Provides a way to communicate sustainability goals and progress with internal and external stakeholders

### Plan Structure

The Sustainability Vision Plan encompasses the Agency's environmental, social, and economic Triple Bottom Line (TBL) objectives and creates a formal process for implementing and tracking sustainability initiatives. It documents the vision, goals, and action areas CapMetro will pursue to do our part to protect our planet in an equitable and resilient way. The Plan also offers an implementation strategy through the action plans developed as a part of this vision planning. An annual sustainability report will highlight the implementation of key strategies, metrics and results, and activities.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY VISION PLAN**

- Establish vision statement, goals, sustainability strategic values, and action areas
- Align CapMetro sustainability strategic values, align Project Connect values, provide a roadmap to achieve APTA Sustainability Commitment program Platinum level, and align with FTA Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge
- Facilitate transparency with our community

#### INTERNAL ACTION PLANS

- Set department-level sustainability goals and commitments that align with the budget cycle and integrate with other plans, including Fleet Management Plan Fleet Transition and MetroBike Strategic Expansion
- · Identify strategies and track action items
- Monitor and report metrics on GHG/carbon emissions, air emissions, energy, water, and waste/reuse
- Establish departmental leads and responsibilities

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

- Report metrics and key activities
- Align with CapMetro Strategic Plan
- Track APTA Sustainability Commitment
- Available to the community and stakeholders

### Consistency with CapMetro Strategic Plan and Values

The CapMetro Sustainability Vision Plan's strategic values of equity, climate resiliency, and sustainability valuation reflect the strategies, priorities, and guiding principles of our overall Strategic Plan.

#### **CapMetro Core Values**



Safety



Innovation





Transparency



**Sustainability** 

**Objective:** Continue to improve the environment by transforming into a fully carbon-neutral transit agency

#### Initiatives:

- Incorporate environmental sustainability into all aspects of Agency operations
- Transition to battery electric bus fleet



#### CapMetro Sustainability Strategic Values



Climate Resiliency Equity





Sustainability Valuation

CapMetro's overarching sustainability strategic values provide context for the overarching goals of the Sustainability Vision Plan, which include:

- GHG carbon neutral
- Zero waste
- Water and nature

- Sustainable buildings and infrastructure
- Equity, customer experience, and sustainable transit

These goals provide a framework for the action areas and action plans that will support implementation of sustainability strategies and targets. These action areas include:

- Energy conservation, efficiency, and renewables
- Sustainable and zero emission fleet
- Zero waste and natural resource management
- Water and natural world
- Active transportation
- Green building and infrastructure
- Equity and livable communities



#### ATP Strategic, **Guiding Principles**



Opportunity and Equity



Environment and Sustainability



Innovation and Technology



# O SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

The sustainability goals support and are consistent with other community goals that have been set with stakeholder input and that are outlined in the Austin Climate Equity Plan, Austin Zero Waste Plan, Austin Water Forward, and others.



#### **GHG/CARBON NEUTRAL**

Carbon neutral by 2040, consistent with Austin Climate Equity Plan.



#### **ZERO WASTE**

90% reduction of waste to landfills by 2040, consistent with Austin Zero Waste Plan.



#### **WATER AND NATURE**

Sustainably manage water resources and enhance nature and natural systems through conservation and green infrastructure.



#### SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Use sustainable design guidelines and rating systems (Envision, Austin Energy Green Building, LEED) to guide all capital projects.



#### **EQUITY AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES**

Leverage transit resources to enhance sustainability, connectivity, access to opportunities, and create livable places; especially in historically disinvested communities.



### O SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC VALUES

The Sustainability Vision Plan was developed within the context of equity, climate resiliency, and the value of sustainability investment. These strategic sustainability values are reflected in the spirit of the Plan and will be integrated throughout the Plan's implementation.

- **Equity:** Transit resources will be leveraged to enhance sustainability, connectivity, access to opportunities, and create livable places, especially in historically disinvested communities.
- Climate resiliency: Consideration will be given to design that can help mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Life-cycle, sustainable return on investment (S-ROI), sustainability valuation: Projects will be evaluated based on the overall costs and benefits (including environmental) over the lifetime of each project.

### **Equity**

#### **Defining Equity at CapMetro**

Communities and neighbors will share in the benefits of the Sustainability Vision Plan, especially in historically disinvested communities.

Public transit is an essential public service, and is especially important to staying connected to employment opportunities and community services. The ability to travel assures that human needs, such as food, water, and shelter are met; while the quality of transportation enhances our wellbeing and the feelings of safety, security, belonging, esteem, autonomy, and the ability to thrive. It is CapMetro's goal to provide safe, equitable, reliable, and cost-effective public transit to improve mobility, and stimulate economic development. The mobility CapMetro provides ensures access to jobs, healthcare, education, worship, entertainment, and much more. Moreover, CapMetro provides resources and essential sustainability benefits, such as zero emission buses and MetroBike shared mobility systems, to help keep our air clean, reduce environmental impact on our surroundings, and reduce the risks of climate change. We will prioritize communities and neighborhoods that have not shared in these benefits historically. Sustainability and equity are inherently linked and will continue to be a high priority in the implementation of Project Connect.

#### **Current Activities**

- Developing an Equitable Transit Oriented Development (ETOD) tool to guide transit investments.
- Supporting local and underserved business development through our disadvantaged business enterprise/small business enterprise program.
- Participation in the Austin Climate Equity Plan, identifying and supporting climate strategies through community input.
- Integrating equity as a decision-making lens in the MetroBike Strategic Plan.
- Implementing significant outreach efforts through our EOTD program with a goal to increase participation from black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) populations, seniors, and low-income populations.
- Partnering with Central Texas Food Bank to convert a bus into a mobile food pantry to bring fresh and healthy food to identified food deserts.

#### Pathway to Equitable and Sustainable Transit

- Identify opportunities for equitable distribution of urban trees and green infrastructure analysis.
- Create a training academy to grow a local workforce to support planning and implementing our transit infrastructure.
- Advance accessibility and connect transit services to bikeways that accommodate all ages and abilities.
- Grow our local green economy and creating sustainability markets.



### **Climate Resiliency**

#### **Defining Climate Resiliency**

Climate resilience is the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate. Improving climate resilience involves assessing climate-related risks and better preparing transit systems for these risks. Projects and facilities will be evaluated and developed based on climate resiliency to help provide comfortable public facilities, protect the value of assets, and plan for providing service during climate events and changing conditions. Impacts of climate change in Central Texas may include more days of high heat, drought, extremely dry soil conditions, and extreme precipitation. Preparing for climate change will require thoughtful and robust design to maintain the resiliency of our transit facilities and the comfort of our customers. Regenerative design and green infrastructure are strategies that can help mitigate the impact of climate change.

#### **Current Activities**

- CapMetro participated in City of Austin climate resilience planning process to identify critical infrastructure for review for climate impact.
- Capital project

   and operation risk
   assessments of key
   projects and assets,
   that include a resilience
   component and a review
   of the most current Atlas
   14 flood maps.
- Bus shelter design includes additional shade cover and weather protection.

### Pathway to Equitable and Sustainable Transit

- Prioritize planning for potential climate impacts in CapMetro emergency response plans.
- Launch a CapMetro climate resilience action planning process to prepare for future conditions.
- Prioritize a resilient energy management planning for rail and bus electrification.
- Explore "resiliency hubs" and vehicle to building energy systems for community emergencies.
- Design future facilities to reduce heat island impact and consider customer comfort.
- Integrate green infrastructure and urban tree canopy to mitigate the impacts of a changing climate.



### **Sustainability Valuation**

Sustainability valuation is a way to measure the benefits and costs associated with implementing policies and projects. Sustainability valuation tools will be used to guide project delivery, and to help identify total life-cycle costs and capture sustainability benefits. The tools of life-cycle cost analysis and S-ROI can be applied to capital projects and operations and integrated into business and procurement policies to capture the full range of TBL benefits. Sustainability valuation considers the value of ecosystem services, nature, pollution, health, place, and community— benefits that are not typically incorporated in a simple financial return on investment approach. Recognized methods and tools can evaluate these sustainability values that are important to the community and provide co-benefits, but are often overlooked.

CapMetro will develop tools and processes for integrating sustainability valuation into our decision-making and project management. As we continue to progress toward carbon neutrality by 2040, CapMetro will develop new projects and make investments in a thoughtful, data-driven manner. While we are already making electric-ready investments in our facilities and purchasing electric fleet vehicles, maintaining our commitment to sustainability will require prioritizing our investments and fully understanding the impacts of our decisions – economically, equitably, and environmentally.

#### Pathway to Sustainability Valuation

- Develop a Sustainability Valuation framework based on anticipated projects and policies for evaluation, as well as data availability.
- Review existing sustainability valuation tools and develop tools for CapMetro projects and policies, which may include S-ROI or a multi-criteria decision-making approach that supports the integration of both qualitative and quantitative data in decision-making.
- Select projects to evaluate as a pilot program:
  - Fleet transition alternatives, new facilities.
  - Projects for potential funding through the Sustainability Action Fund.
- Integrate sustainability valuation methodology into the project selection and management process and, over time, as part of broader capital investment planning.

Several federal initiatives are encouraging a sustainability valuation approach to project development. The U.S. Department of Transportation, (USDOT) and FTA include TBL factors such as equity and emissions reduction, in their discretionary grant evaluation criteria.

#### **Principles of Sustainability Valuation Analysis**



CONSIDER ALL ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES



EXPRESS AS MANY OUTCOMES AS POSSIBLE IN MONETARY TERMS



CONSIDER THE DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS, COSTS, AND EQUITY IMPACTS



**ACCOUNT FOR RISKS AND UNCERTAINTY** 



INVOLVE STAKEHOLDERS AND SUBJECT-MATTER EXPERTS



COMMUNICATE ALL RESULTS CLEARLY AND EFFECTIVELY

### **SUSTAINABILITY ACTION AREAS/ACTION PLANS**

A structured and integrated approach to implementation is essential for reaching the overarching goals in this Sustainability Vision Plan.
Sustainability is embedded into our operations and projects through:

Action areas that provide a focus to our strategies and align with regional and sustainability frameworks; and the associated

**Action plans** that are annually updated by the key staff and the sustainability leadership committee and outline the actionable strategies and milestone targets to reach our goals.

**Annual report** is made available to the public every year, that provides an update of our sustainability progress and summarizes our action areas and strategies.



The action plans are a written roadmap that provides a documented process for assuring that we continue to integrate sustainability into our operations and capital projects. **Each action plan will include:** 

- Summary of action area, support for overarching goal, and connection to CapMetro activities
- Expected regional sustainability outcomes and impacts, connection to regional programs
- Connection to CapMetro core values, Project Connect guiding principles, and sustainability core values
- Current strategies
- Partnerships and stakeholders
- Implementation process
  - Resources, staff and departments involved, business processes, connection to ongoing projects
  - Strategies
  - Short- and long-term targets

- Metrics and data needs
- Resources and staff involved
- Risks to achieving goals





#### Path forward

Reduce the energy used in our current facilities and operations through a comprehensive energy management program, conservation, and energy upgrades. Apply zero energy design guidelines for all new facilities. Renewable energy is the first choice.

#### **Current Strategies**

- 100% powered by Austin Energy Green Choice. Meeting environmental and consumer-protection standards.
- Installed over 200 solar bus stop lighting systems and information displays.
- Completed energy upgrades such as LED lighting at park and rides.
- Partnered with the State Energy Conservation Office to audit and analyze all facilities and identify ways to reduce the Agency's energy load.
- Reduced energy by 34% since 2014 (normalized to revenue miles traveled).
- Reduced carbon emissions/GHG by 32% since 2016.

#### **Targets**

- Use 100% renewable energy for all electric sources.
- Achieve net zero carbon/ energy buildings and facilities.



# Sustainable and Zero Emission Fleet

#### Path forward

Transition all revenue and non-revenue fleets to zero emission, as technology becomes available to meet the needs of our operation and benefits our customers. Guide our fleet conversion with a comprehensive zero emission vehicle transition plan.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Readied North Ops Electric Bus Depot for 179 electric buses.
- Launched an electric vehicle program, purchased electric fleet vehicles, and installed charging stations for employee use of our fleet vehicles.
- Expanding on current fleet of 8 electric Nissan Leaf staff fleet vehicles with 15 plug-in hybrid vehicles.
- Expanding charging infrastructure for non-revenue vehicle fleets and staff members.
- Reduced criteria air pollutants (NOx) by 63% since 2016.
- Reduced GHG emissions with electrification.

- Procure 197 new electric buses over the next 5 years.
- Attain 100% zero emission revenue and non-revenue fleets.
- Attain 100% zero emission light rail.
- Install public charging infrastructure at public facilities for customers and the community.



### **Water and Natural World**

#### Path forward

Assess all assets and properties for opportunities to conserve, restore, and enhance natural areas, improve biodiversity, increase native plants, and protect watersheds and water resources. Implement landscaping and water conservation design, procurement, and maintenance best practices.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Upgraded all bus washes with efficient low-water high-pressure systems.
- Installed water efficient irrigation systems in all new capital projects; conducted irrigation audits of all existing systems.
- Adopting "Grow Green" landscaping best practices, procuring native pollinatorfriendly plants.
- Partnering with Texan by Nature to identify ways to protect and enhance habitats and conserve natural resources.

#### **Targets**

- Protect and enhance habitat and natural areas.
- Increase tree canopy.
- Increase use of native plants and sustainable landscaping.
- Reduce water used in operations and landscaping.
- Increase the amount of captured and recycled water used at our facilities.



### Zero Waste, Natural Resource Management

#### Path forward

Manage operations to reduce the amount of waste generated and prioritize options, such as surplussing, repurposing, asset management, organics management, and recycling. Establish procurement best practices to encourage a circular economy, reduce waste, reduce single-use packaging and materials, and extend useful life of materials and products.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Established a robust surplus materials program.
- Integrated zero waste guidelines into procurement policy.
- Implementing a pilot public facilities' recycling program.
- Recycling bus shelters and amenities at the end of useful life.
- Implementing contracts to maximize construction and demolition recycling.

- Implement system wide public recycling at high rider volume locations.
- Reduce packaging and single use food service items from breakrooms and food service areas.
- Expand our current organics composting program to include food waste.
- Establish process to measure waste reduction from surplus and construction recycling.
- Reduce operational waste by 50% from baseline.
- Reduce construction waste by 90% from baseline.
- Achieve zero waste to landfill.
- Strengthen procurement policies to encourage circular economy and local sustainable economy development.





### **Green Building and Infrastructure**

#### Path forward

Design all new buildings and capital projects to prioritize the highest practical environmental and sustainability performance, and to support net zero carbon goals within the established timeframes. Capital projects will be guided by Envision for Sustainable Infrastructure, U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED and SITES rating systems, and the Austin Energy Green Building (AEGB) guidelines with the goal to achieve the highest feasible ratings.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Launched Envision for Sustainable Infrastructure "university" to raise awareness about sustainability best practices and train design teams and partners involved in project implementation.
- Guided project design using sustainability frameworks (Envision, AEGB, LEED, SITES) for Plaza Saltillo, Richard A. Moya Eastside Bus Depot, Downtown Station, McKalla Station, and the Project Connect bus rapid transit routes.
- Integrated sustainability standards into MetroRail Design Guide and capital project proposals.
- Completed retro-commissioning of key facilities to identify areas for additional conservation and efficiency improvements.

#### **Targets**

- Increase use of sustainable building materials and reduce the embodied carbon in new construction.
- Achieve a minimum AEGB 3 star LEED, SITES, or Envision Silver for capital projects.
- Use universal design standards to prioritize sustainable, resilient and regenerative design.
- Implement smart technology to enhance energy conservation and sustainability, optimize operations and maintenance, and enhance employee well-being and performance.

### **Active Transportation**

#### Path forward

Collaborate to build an active transportation system that is a seamless extension of CapMetro's services and facilities multi-modal access to transit.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Installed three-bike racks/storage on all buses and rail.
- Developed partnership between CapMetro/ATD/Bike Share of Austin MetroBike; improved and expanded system.
- Conducted active planning to connect transit facilities to the bike and trail networks.
- Hiring MetroBike Program Manager to coordinate internal and external bike activities.
- Achieved League of American Cyclists Bicycle Friendly Business at the Gold Level since 2016.

- Implement MetroBike shared bike system strategic expansion plan and increase the number of Ebikes and dock systems.
- Increase the number of bike-transit trips and MetroBike trips.
- Provide safe and secure bike parking at MetroRail and MetroRapid facilities. transit centers and park and rides.



# **Environmental and Sustainability Management**

#### Path forward

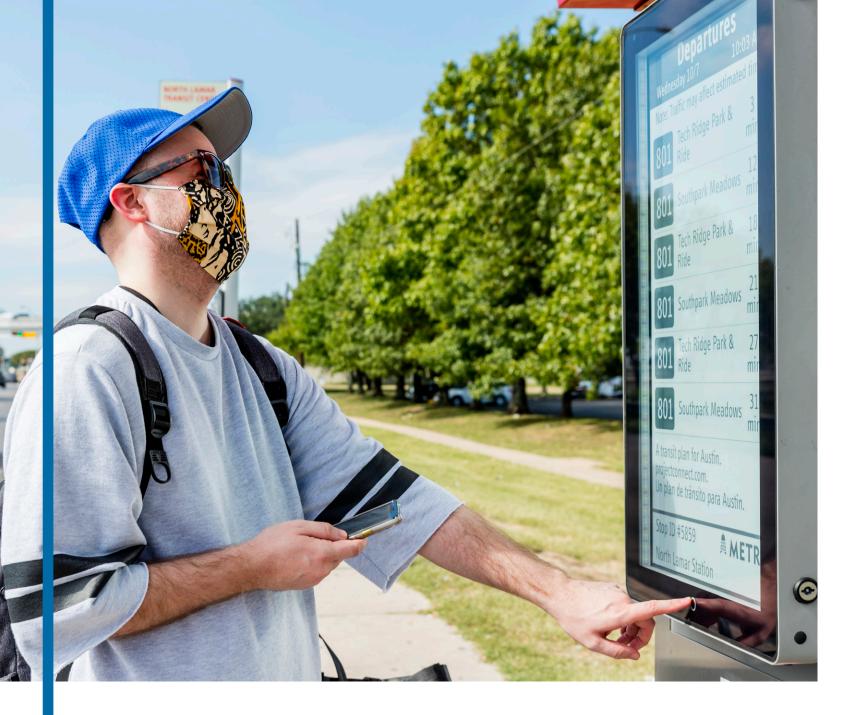
Reestablish and implement an Environmental and Sustainability Management System (ESMS) that supports the goals of the Sustainability Vision Plan to reduce climate footprint, reduce environmental impact, and improve facility resiliency. Implement a comprehensive ESMS strategy, including training, awareness and review processes that are guided by ISO 14001 and FTA's ESMS guidance.

#### **Current Strategies**

- Adopted ESMS Policy and included ESMS requirements in service operations contracts.
- Established a utility and resource management database (Energy, Water, Waste, Fuel, GHG) to track metrics and establish key performance indicators.
- Implemented best practices for pollution prevention and resource conservation, such as recycling at administrative and maintenance facilities.
- Required LEED-compatible best practices and implementation of less toxic cleaning processes in custodial services contract.

- Establish an internal ESMS team and implement ISO 14001-certified ESMS system.
- Design all new facilities
   to support operational
   procedures to integrate
   best practices with
   environmental and
   sustainability management.
   Integrate environmental
   and sustainability best
   practices into all operational
   procedures.





# **Sustainability and Action Plan Tools**

Implementation of the action plans will be supported by an on-line performance and program management tracking tool, and a dedicated sustainability project fund. These tools will be used to verify strategies, connect them to the overarching goals, and identify resources needed.

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#### Performance and Program Management Tracking Tool

The performance and program management tracking tool will be used to facilitate achievement of the targets identified in each action plan, and provide ongoing support for documenting strategies, tracking performance metrics, and integrating with other project management tools. Each action area will have a written summary and supporting on-line data management/ project management tool for tracking strategies, targets, status, and other implementation status. The tracking tool will formalize the data collection process required to measure progress toward meeting sustainability goals, provide a method for tracking sustainability valuation and goals and record sustainability progress on CapMetro's performance dashboard.

#### **Action Planning Tracking Tool**

Number	Focus Area	Target	Base Year	Interim Year	Target Year	Value Base	Value Interim	Value Target	Unit	Source	Calculation Methodology	Accountable Dept.	Updated
1	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Utilize 100% of renewable energy in all operations	2019	2025	2050	N/A	N/A	N/A	BTUs	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
2	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Achieve net zero carbon/ energy in buildings	2019	2024	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
3	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Achieve net zero carbon/ energy in facilities	2019	N/A	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
4	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Install X additional solar bus stop lighting systems and information displays	2019	N/A	2030	N/A	N/A	N/A	tons	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
5	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Reduce energy by Y% from 2014 levels	2019	2025	2050	N/A	N/A	N/A	gallons	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
6	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Reduce carbon emis- sions/GHG by Z% from 2016 levels	2019	2024	2025	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
7	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Building 1 LEED Silver	2019	N/A	2025	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
8	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Building 1 AEGB 3 star	2019	N/A	2025	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y/N	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022
9	Energy: Conservation, Efficiency and Clean and Renewable Energy	Increase transit ridership by X%	2019	N/A	2025	N/A	N/A	N/A	riders	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/12/2022

#### **Sustainability Project Fund**

A sustainability project fund will provide supplemental dollars for capital and operational projects as described below.

#### **Description**

A supplemental fund for capital and operational projects that supports:

- The goals of the Sustainability Vision Plan
- Achieving/maintaining Platinum level recognition for APTA Sustainability Commitment
- The goals of the Austin Climate Equity Plan, Austin Zero Waste Plan, Austin Water Forward

### **Project Categories**

- Energy and Climate
- Sustainable and Zero emission Fleet
- Zero Waste
- Water and Natural World

- Active Transportation
- Green Building and Infrastructure
- Environmental and Sustainability Management

### **Examples** of Projects

- Zero emission vehicles or charging infrastructure
- Green building infrastructure design
- MetroBike equipment
- Urban forestry, sustainable landscaping, or habitat projects
- Public facility recycling
- Renewable energy projects or pilots

- Pollution prevention projects
- Third-party support for sustainability rating (AEGB, LEED, Envision, SITES)
- Energy conservation upgrades/ retrofits
- Computer equipment and software for energy conservation

#### **Process**

The sustainability leadership committee will identify and select projects consistent with procurement guidelines; and based on sustainability impact and sustainability return on investment.





### O PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND SUPPORT

Critical to achieving our sustainability goals is our process for implementing our strategies and actions and assuring that our Plan is guided by strong partnerships, clear information and data, agile processes, and appropriate technology.

#### **Guiding vision**

The Sustainability Vision Plan provides a framework for advancing sustainability through CapMetro's operations and through the implementation of Project Connect, while also supporting broader regional and national goals. This Plan provides a guiding framework and common language for communicating our sustainability goals to our staff, partners, and stakeholders; while also providing an opportunity to connect with others in our community that are on the path to a sustainable future. The Plan supports and is seamlessly connected to CapMetro's Strategic Plan and Project Connect guiding principles.

#### Pathway to improvement

Data will be used to guide our process through our action plans and sustainability valuation tools. Strategies and actions will be prioritized to achieve the best outcomes to meet our strategic and sustainability goals. Metrics, indicators, and targets will be used to help us understand where we are now, and keep us on track

Led by our sustainability leadership committee, the implementation of action plans will guide the development of our targets and strategies to meet our overall goals. Action plans will be a key step toward tracking implementation and providing accountability. They will be updated annually as we learn more through our metrics and technologies are developed to meet our needs.

#### **Exploration of future opportunities**

Sustainability planning is an evolving process, and our plans will be updated as we understand more about our changing climate and the impacts on our health, environment, and ecosystems. We will look for ways not only to reduce our impact, but to create more resilient communities, and restore ecosystem function where possible.

Additionally, it is important that we keep up with cost-effective, sustainability focused innovations that can meet our customers' needs and service requirements. We will implement processes to work with our partners and stakeholders to identify technologies and market solutions that can help us meet our internal and community sustainability goals.

