

WELCOME TO THE SUSTAINABLE BELLEVUE OPEN HOUSE

START HERE

The **Sustainable Bellevue Plan** (SBP) is Bellevue’s plan to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions, prepare for the impacts of climate change**, and ensure Bellevue is a **thriving and livable community for generations to come**.

City Council launched the Sustainable Bellevue Plan Update in October 2024. Guided by our overarching goal of **carbon neutrality by 2050**, we’ve been hard at work incorporating the priorities and hopes for the future we heard in Phase I outreach into **draft strategies** for the next iteration of the Sustainable Bellevue Plan.

The Sustainable Bellevue Plan has goals, strategies, and actions in **five focus areas**.

FOCUS AREAS



CLIMATE CHANGE



ENERGY & BUILDINGS



MOBILITY & LAND USE



MATERIALS & WASTE



NATURAL SYSTEMS

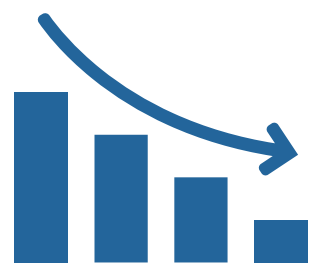
PROJECT TIMELINE



HIGHLIGHTING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS

Since City Council adopted the 2021–2025 Sustainable Bellevue Plan, we’ve made major strides towards our goals. Though we have **significant work ahead to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050**, our progress over the last five years has already **brought benefits** in the form of **cleaner air, energy efficiency, tree canopy expansion, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction** to our community. As we look to the 2026–2030 Sustainable Bellevue Plan, our major accomplishments to date include:



REDUCED PER CAPITA
COMMUNITY-WIDE
GHG EMISSIONS BY
26%



ACHIEVED 40%
CITYWIDE TREE
CANOPY



UPDATED TREE
CODE FOR
STRONGER
PRESERVATION



LAUNCHED ENERGY
SMART EASTSIDE
PROGRAM



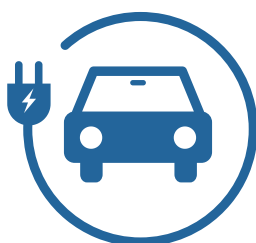
ESTABLISHED
CLEAN BUILDINGS
INCENTIVE
PROGRAM



CO-FOUNDED
THE EASTSIDE
CLIMATE
PARTNERSHIP



GREW THE
SUSTAINABLE
BELLEVUE TEAM



PUBLISHED EV
ROADMAP

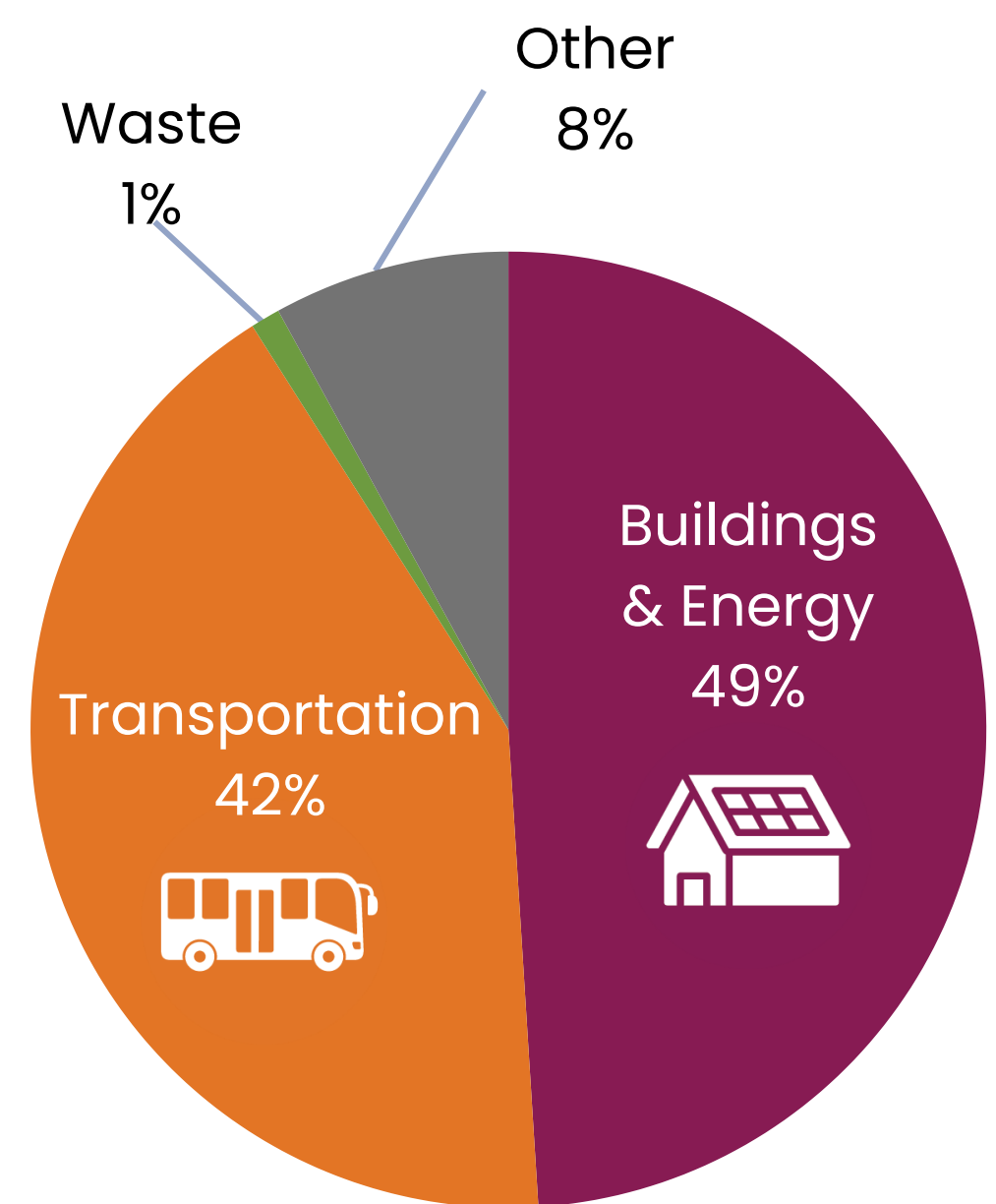


COMPLETED
CLIMATE
VULNERABILITY
ASSESSMENT



WHERE DO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS COME FROM?

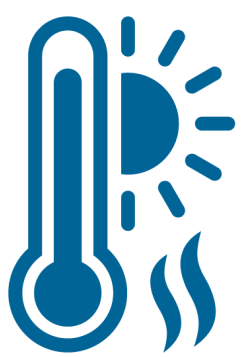
In Bellevue, almost all of our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions come from energy used to power buildings and transportation. Our draft strategies address **Bellevue's largest sources of emissions**, while preserving and enhancing our natural environment and preparing our community for climate change.



Bellevue's GHG Emissions by Sector (2023)

WHAT DOES CLIMATE CHANGE LOOK LIKE IN BELLEVUE?

81% of our Phase I Community Survey respondents reported **already experiencing climate change in Bellevue**. Climate impacts in Bellevue include:



EXTREME HEAT



INTENSE RAIN & FLOODING



WILDFIRE & SMOKE



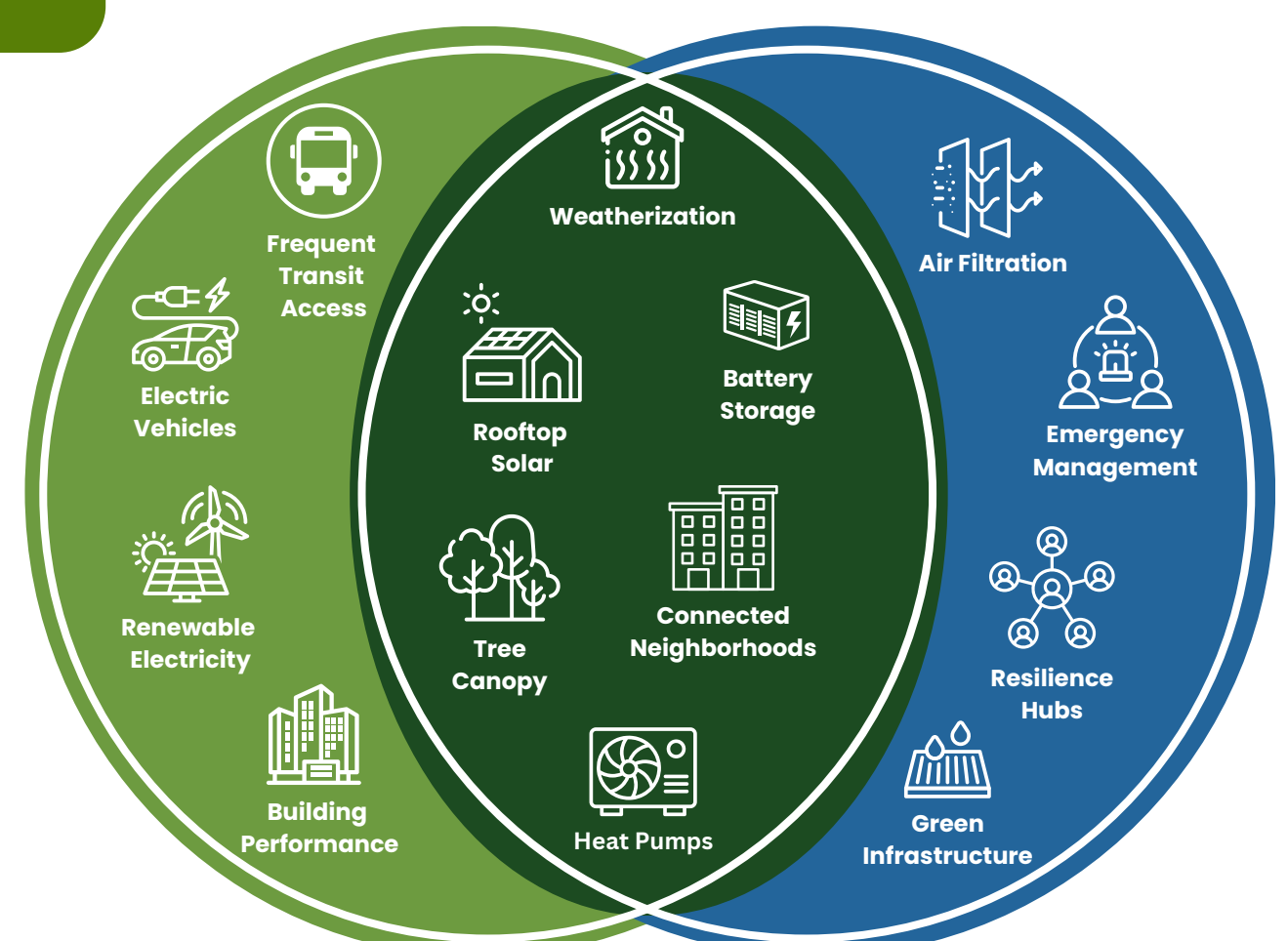
DROUGHT



STREAM & ECOSYSTEM CHANGES

WHAT IS CLIMATE RESILIENCE?

Climate resilience is the ability of communities to withstand climate impacts and recover quickly afterwards. There is significant overlap between solutions that reduce emissions and solutions that increase resilience.



EMISSIONS REDUCTION

RESILIENCE

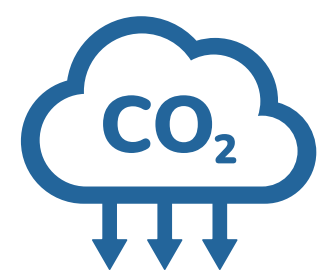
OUR OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

We did extensive engagement during Phase I to understand our community priorities for the next iteration of the Sustainable Bellevue Plan. During Phase I, we connected with:

- **470 survey respondents** (including 2 in Spanish and 46 in Simplified Chinese)
- **1,000+ visitors** to EarthFest
- **8 Community-Based Organization Partners**
- **250+ Bellevue students**
- **110+ participants** at in-person workshops or townhalls
- **50+ community members** at pop-up tabling events

MAJOR OUTREACH THEMES

Community priorities included:



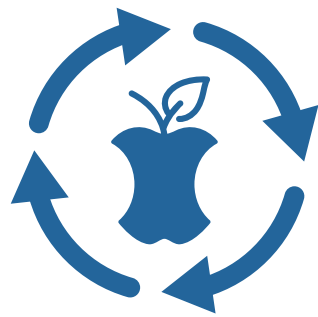
**BOLD
CLIMATE
ACTION**



**COMMUNITY
RESILIENCE**



**SUPPORT FOR
RENTERS AND
MULTIFAMILY
BUILDINGS**



**WASTE
REDUCTION**



**TRANSIT ACCESS
& WALKABILITY**

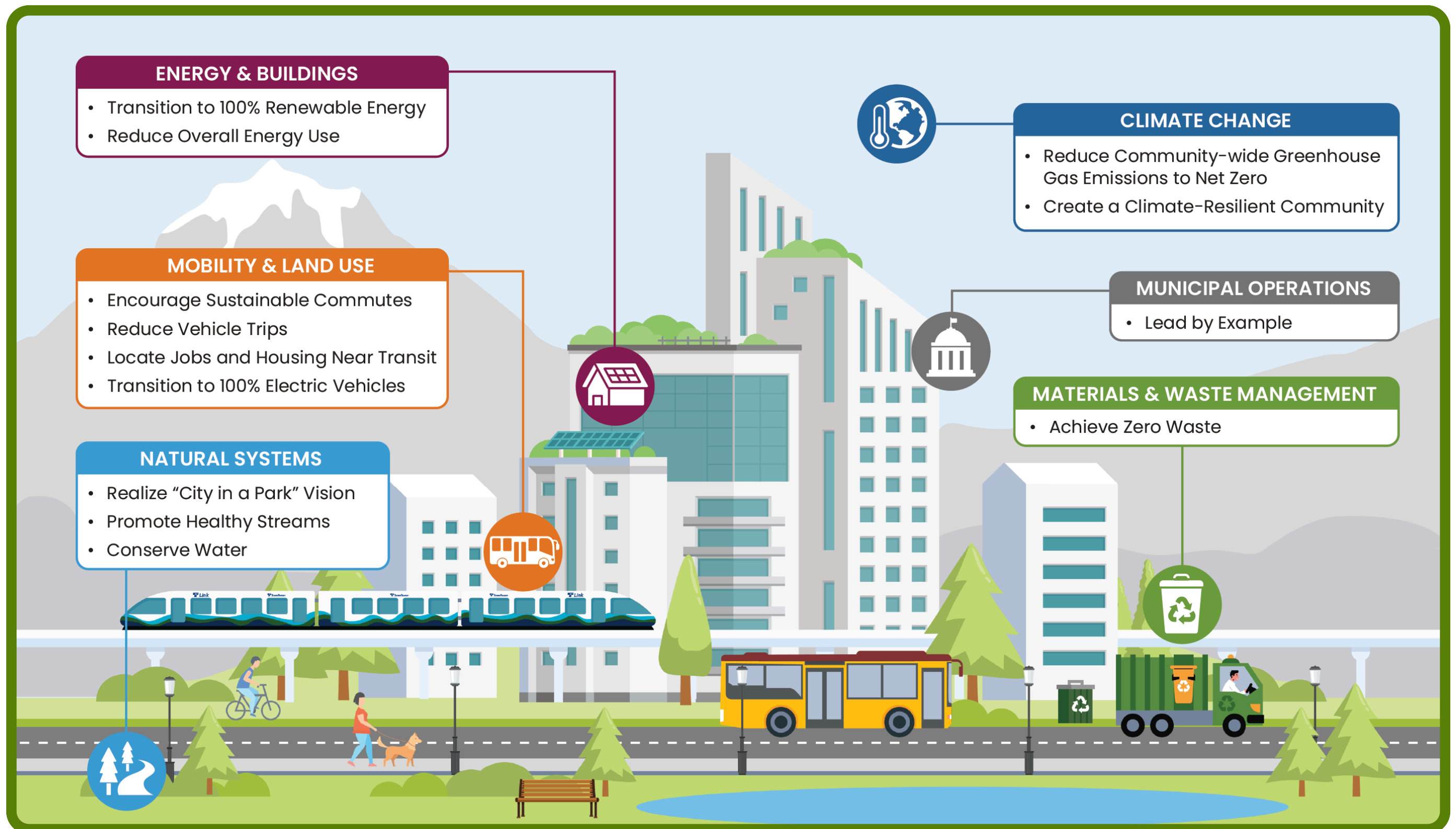


**ENERGY
EFFICIENCY &
GRID RESILIENCE**



HIGH IMPACT STRATEGIES TO MEET OUR GOALS

The overarching goal of the Sustainable Bellevue Plan is carbon neutrality by 2050. We have additional goals and targets in each of our focus areas to support our overall emissions reduction goal. For the next iteration of the SBP, we've focused on **high-impact strategies to meet our goals** and address community sustainability priorities.



A HIGH IMPACT STRATEGY...

☒ **Rapidly reduces emissions** to help us meet our 50% GHG reduction by 2030 goal

☒ Lays the foundation to help us meet our **2050 carbon neutrality** goal

AND/OR

☒ Meaningfully enhances Bellevue's **climate resilience**

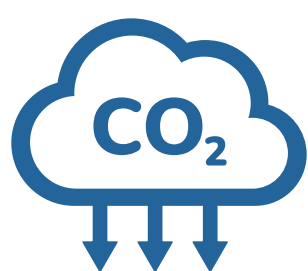
FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE



OUR GOALS

- Reduce Community-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions to Net-zero
- Create a Climate-Resilient Community

To address climate change, Bellevue must **rapidly reduce GHG emissions and prepare the community for the current and future impacts of climate change**. Meeting our goals means:



Reduced GHG
emissions from all
sectors



Expanded
emergency
communications



Prepared
communities



Resilient
infrastructure

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Implement Initiatives to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Strategies in Buildings and Energy, Mobility and Land Use, and Waste support GHG reduction.
- **Community Resilience:** Enhance the Bellevue community's resilience to climate impacts and extreme weather.
- **Resilient Community Facilities:** Support Bellevue's community facilities and gathering spaces in preparing for climate impacts and extreme weather.
- **Air Quality.** Mitigate air pollution, particularly in sensitive use areas adjacent to freeways.

FOCUS ON ENERGY & BUILDINGS



OUR GOALS

- Transition to 100% Renewable Energy
- Reduce Energy Use

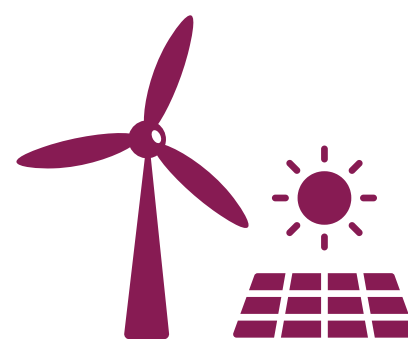
In Bellevue, buildings have a big impact. **20% of Bellevue's community-wide GHG emissions are from residential energy use, and 26% come from commercial building (including multi-family building) energy use.** Meeting our goals means:



Electric existing
buildings



All-electric new
development



100% clean
energy



State, utility, &
regional
partnerships

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Residential Building Decarbonization.** Scale the Energy Smart Eastside program.
- **Renewable Energy.** Support the transition to renewable energy.
- **Large Building Decarbonization Incentives.** Support decarbonization of commercial and multi-family buildings.
- **Green Building.** Facilitate green building construction with incentives and technical assistance.
- **Grid Capacity.** Partner with local utility and public partners to ensure a clean, resilient grid.
- **Building Performance Policy Evaluation.** Evaluate additional policies to electrify and improve efficiency for existing buildings.

YOUR INPUT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE
ENERGY & BUILDINGS

LEAVE A NOTE



FOCUS ON

MOBILITY & LAND USE



OUR GOALS

- Encourage Sustainable Commutes
- Reduce Vehicle Trips
- Locate Jobs and Housing Near Transit
- Transition to 100% Electric Vehicles

Greenhouse gas emissions from transportation sources, including passenger vehicles, **account for over 40% of Bellevue’s emissions**. Meeting our goals means:



Sustainable transportation options



Accessible & frequent transit



Connected neighborhoods



Electric vehicles

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Mobility Options.** Support mobility options, first/last mile solutions, carshare programs, and active transportation modes.
- **Electric Vehicles.** Support a rapid transition to electric vehicles to reduce emissions when vehicle trips are taken.
- **Accessibility and Connectivity Funding.** Identify additional funding to support transit access and reliability, and complete bicycle and pedestrian networks.
- **Sustainable Land Use.** Support sustainable land use and development to increase transit-oriented development livability.

FOCUS ON MATERIALS & WASTE



OUR GOAL

- Achieve Zero Waste

Although the waste sector comprises only 1% of Bellevue's citywide emissions **landfilled waste has a significant environmental impact, and upstream emissions** associated with the manufacturing of discarded materials make up a significant portion of global emissions. Meeting our goals means:



Continued
convenient
collection services



Waste diverted
from landfill to
compost &
recycling



Community-
wide
composting



State & regional
partnerships

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Waste Reduction.** Continue efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost.
- **Zero Waste Policy Evaluation.** Evaluate and implement policies that prioritize zero waste opportunities.

YOUR INPUT ON
MOBILITY & LAND USE
WASTE & MATERIALS

LEAVE A NOTE



FOCUS ON

NATURAL SYSTEMS



OUR GOAL

- Realize “City in a Park”
- Promote Healthy Streams
- Conserve Water

Bellevue has long enjoyed its reputation as a “City in a Park.” Though Bellevue’s natural systems don’t significantly contribute to emissions, **sustainable natural systems management and healthy ecosystems are critical to Bellevue’s climate resilience.** Meeting our goals means:



Healthy, robust tree canopy



Low-impact development



Stormwater management



Healthy streams & urban ecosystems

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Sustainable Tree Canopy and Open Spaces.** Prioritize sustainability and climate resilience in managing tree canopy and natural areas.
- **Electric Yardcare Equipment.** Assess options for transitioning to electric yardcare equipment.
- **Stormwater Management.** Enhance new and existing stormwater infrastructure with low-impact design.
- **Reduce Water Use.** Reduce communitywide per capita water use to enhance resilience to drought.

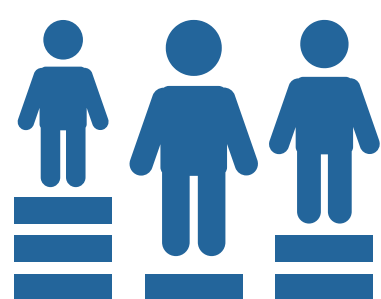
INTRODUCING

INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIES



We recognize that meeting our overarching goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 requires engaging every sector of our city. **Achieving our goals will require collaboration** with community members, businesses, Puget Sound Energy, and other state, regional, and local partners, as well as interdepartmental coordination within the City.

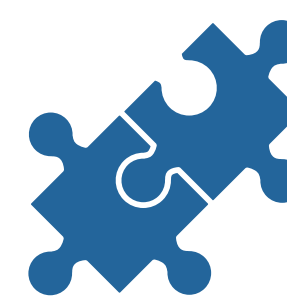
In recognition of the **cross-cutting nature of sustainability**, the updated Sustainable Bellevue Plan will introduce **Institutional Strategies: Critical strategies that span the boundaries of our five focus areas**. These strategies support the goals of all five of our focus areas, and are centered around:



Equity



Funding



Collaboration &
Governance

OUR DRAFT STRATEGIES

- **Sustainability Funding.** Assess options and develop a recommendation for long-term funding for the implementation of the Sustainable Bellevue Plan.
- **Institutionalize Climate and Sustainability.** Continue to incorporate climate and environmental sustainability into City processes, plans, and decision-making, and organizational structure.
- **Equity.** Prioritize engagement and partnerships with underrepresented community members to embed equity in sustainability program design and implementation.

YOUR INPUT ON

NATURAL SYSTEMS

INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGIES

LEAVE A NOTE



LEADING BY EXAMPLE

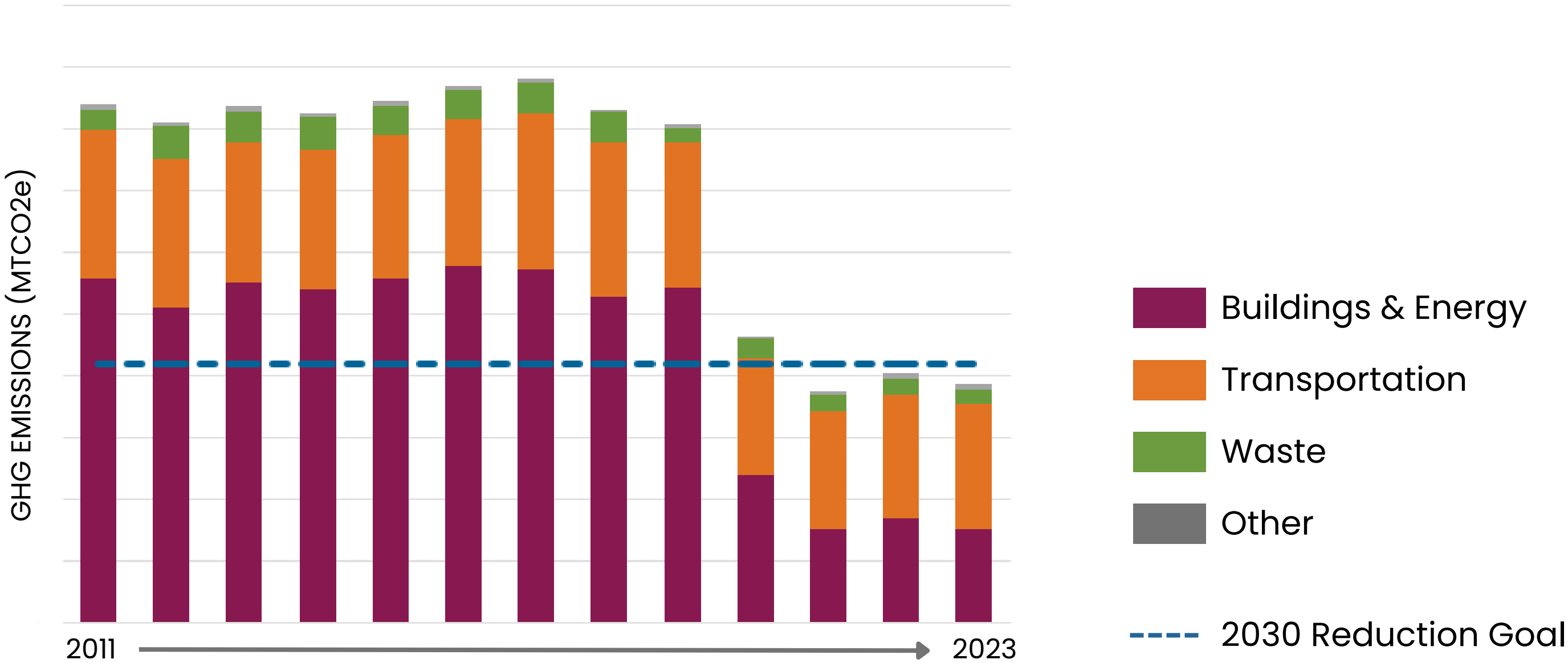
SUSTAINABLE MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS



PROGRESS TO DATE

Bellevue has led by example in our municipal operations, **reducing greenhouse gas emissions from city operations and buildings by 54%** compared to 2011 levels. This is major progress, and we are on track to achieve our goal of carbon neutral municipal operations by 2040.

GHG Emissions from Bellevue’s Municipal Operations 2011–2023



Alongside our updates to the Sustainable Bellevue Plan’s communitywide strategies, we’ve also been working on updating our strategies for sustainable municipal operations. **We will continue to lead by example** by electrifying city-owned buildings and fleet vehicles to have the highest impact on emissions reduction as we implement the 2026–2030 Sustainable Bellevue Plan.