# TECHNICAL WORKGROUPS KICK-OFF MEETING for Montgomery County's Climate Action Plan

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2019, 4-6 PM
JOIN THE CONVERSATION! #MCCLIMATEACTION



### **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and introductions
- 2. GHG reduction goals and emissions inventory
- 3. County climate actions to-date
- 4. Plan development process and timeline
- 5. Workgroup logistics
- 6. Remarks by County Executive Elrich and Councilmember Hucker
- 7. Workgroup breakouts

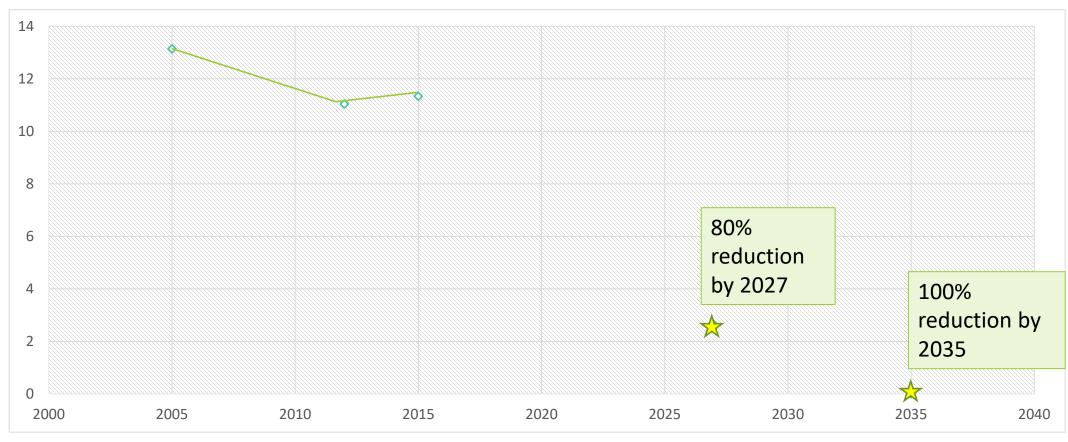
# Who's in the room (a sample)

- •350MoCo
- American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
- AstraZeneca
- Barnesville Green, Bethesda Green, One Montgomery Green, and Poolesville Green
- City of Rockville
- City of Takoma Park
- Montgomery County Departments of: Environmental Protection, General Services, Permitting Services, Transportation
- Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington DC
- George Mason University
- GRID Alternatives

- Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
- Montgomery County Green Bank
- Montgomery County Public Schools
- National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
- Neighborhood Sun
- Standard Solar
- Tesla
- Montgomery College
- Sierra Club
- US Agency for International Development
- US Department of Commerce
- US Environmental Protection Agency

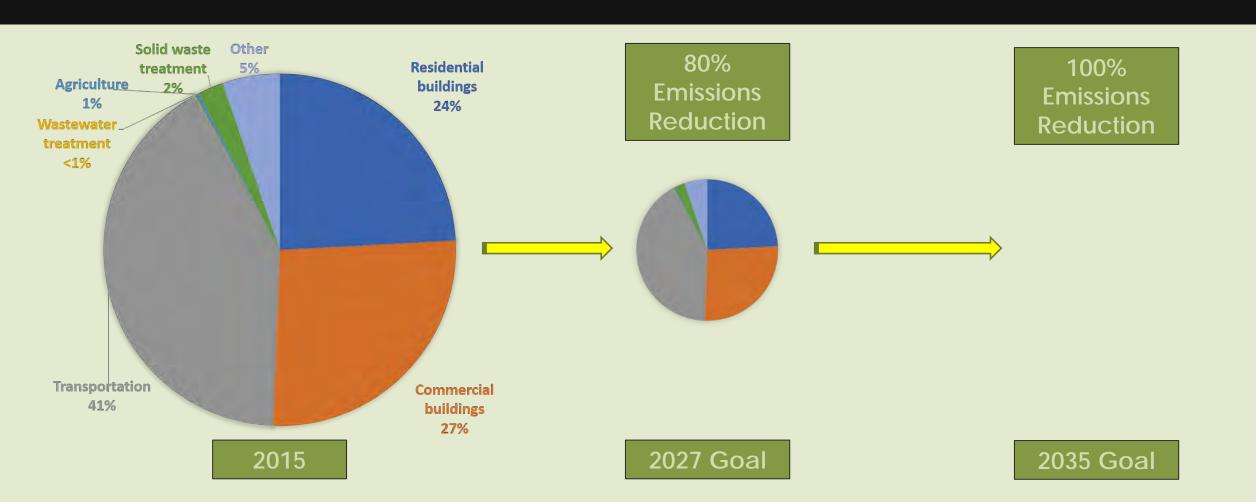
# Countywide GHG Inventory

(annual million metric tons of CO2e)



Source: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Montgomery County GHG Inventory

## Montgomery County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Profile



# **Previous Climate Plans & Reports**

Montgomery County, Maryland

Climate Protection Plan

Prepared by the Montgomery County Sustainability Working Group

January 2009



#### Report of the Montgomery County Climate Mobilization Workgroup

June 5th, 2018

#### **Accelerating County Greenhouse Gas Goals**

The Montgomery County Council adopted Resolution 18-974, Emergency Climate Mobilization, on December 5, 2017. This resolution accelerates the County's greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goal to 80 percent by 2027 and 100 percent by 2035 and calls upon the County Executive, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-HCPPC) to advise the County Council on "specific methods for accelerating the County's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal."

#### **Envisioning a Decarbonized Future**

Achieving 100% GHG emissions reduction by 2035 will require a massive cultural shift, essentially reversing the adverse climate impacts associated with the industrial revolution while maintaining a high standard of living and economic opportunity for the County's residents. This would require aligning all levels of government, including utility regulators, residents and businesses, at a scale not comparable to anything previously undertaken by the County or any other large community.

Such a future would require dramatic changes in our buildings, vehicles, infrastructure, behavioral patterns, lifestyles and purchasing decisions. It would entail an extraordinarily ambitious reduction in energy use and conversion to renewable energy.

Since it is urrealistic to assume that all County residents and businesses will achieve carbon neutrality, it will be necessary to compensate by implementing an extremely aggressive set of restorative actions, such as tree planting and other efforts to sequester carbon.

To appreciate the magnitude of a decarbonized future, it is helpful to envision what it would entail. At the least, it would be characterized by the following:

- Nearly 100% of all vehicles cars, buses and trucks would be zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs)
- Nearly all residents, businesses and government entities would utilize 100% clean energy as a result of state-mandated renewable portfolio standard, voluntary purchases or on-site generation, with nearly all buildings being net-zero;
- · Significant percentages of buildings in the County would have solar and/or geothermal systems;

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# **Buildings: Actions to-date**

- County facility strategies for energy management and existing facility upgrades
- Energy efficiency/weatherization services to income-eligible households
- Energy efficiency incentives for limited-income multifamily communities
- Green building codes
- Sustainable commercial building tax credit incentive
- Building energy benchmarking program
- Commercial PACE financing
- Montgomery County Green Bank financial products
- Outreach and engagement on utility and state offered incentives and grants
- "Energy Coach Network" in development

# Clean Energy: Actions to-date

- Expedited rooftop solar permitting and reduced permit fees for residential rooftop solar
- Permitting solar fields as accessory uses and zoning text amendments that reduce setbacks for solar
- Advocating for state legislation that supports long-term expansion of community solar.

#### At County Government facilities:

- Microgrids at Public Safety Headquarters and County Correctional Facility
- 17 solar projects totaling 7.6 MW
- Purchased 100% wind energy & clean energy RECs to offset fuel and energy consumption
- Installed solar powered on-street parking meters in all county parking lots
- Installed solar powered lights at 42 Ride-On bus shelters
- Surveyed all County-owned sites and identified possible solar sites, including surface parking lots, building roofs and solar pole lights

# Transportation: Actions to-date

#### Promoting Transportation Demand Management/Alternatives to Autos

- Ride On, Ride On ExtRa, Kids Ride Free, Seniors Ride Free
- FLASH bus service on Route 29 starting in 2020.
- Ride On Flex microtransit pilot
- Capital Bikeshare
- Dockless Vehicle Pilot Program
- Bus Rapid Transit Planning for: MD 355, New Hampshire Avenue, North Bethesda Transitway, Corridor Cities Transitway
- Implementing the Bicycle Master Plan
- Building new sidewalks and ADA ramps
- Bike/Pedestrian Safety Initiative, Vision Zero, LookOut Campaign, and Safe Routes to Schools, Green Street and low-impact design principles implemented in transportation projects

# Transportation: Actions to-date

#### Supporting use of Electric Vehicles

- Installed 32 electric vehicle charging stations in County garages
- Expedited permitting process for electric vehicle charging stations
- Reduced fees for residential EV permits
- Purchased 39 battery electric and 193 hybrid fleet vehicles
- Purchasing the County's first 14 zero-emissions electric buses and charging stations

# Climate Action Plan Development

#### A roadmap to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035

Plan components will include:

- Prioritized actions— for mitigation and adaptation
- Implementation plan for actions
- Cost estimates and co-benefits
- Identification of equity challenges and opportunities

# Step 1: Technical Workgroups

#### July to December 2019:

- Buildings
  - Co-facilitator: Lindsey Shaw, Manager, Energy and Sustainability Programs, Department of Environmental Protection
- Clean Energy
  - Co-facilitator: Adam Ortiz, Director, Department of Environmental Protection
- Transportation
  - Co-facilitator: Sandra Brecher, Chief, Commuter Services Section, Department of Transportation

#### October 2019 to early 2020:

- Climate adaptation/sequestration
- Community engagement/education
  - > Call for volunteers for these 2 Workgroups will go out later this summer.

# Role of the Technical Workgroups

- Review past County climate reports and plans and best practices from other jurisdictions to achieve deep carbon reductions;
- Recommend actions and innovative strategies that have high potential to meet the County's GHG reduction goals in an equitable manner;
- > Begin identifying implementation steps for actions; and
- Identify metrics that can be tracked as well as data and knowledge gaps that could benefit from additional technical analysis.

# Step 2: Consultant Technical Analysis

#### **Consultant technical analysis**

- •County staff will draft scope of work based on data and knowledge gaps identified by workgroups.
- •Potential scope could include:
  - measurement and modeling of the GHG reduction impacts of recommended actions
  - implementation plan for specific actions
  - climate change predictions for the County
  - vulnerability assessment
  - climate adaptation and resiliency strategies

# Plan Development Timeline

**Summer 2019 – Early 2020:** Workgroups convene and develop recommendations

Early 2020: Public review of Workgroup recommendations

Early 2020 - Summer 2020: Consultant technical analysis

Fall 2020: Issue Draft Climate Action Plan and provide opportunities for

public comment

**December 2020:** Finalize Climate Action Plan

# Schedule for Upcoming Workgroup Meetings

- •Future workgroup meeting dates will be decided by each Workgroup with Doodle poll.
- We are exploring communications tools for Workgroup members to stay in touch between meetings.
- Upcoming workgroup meeting dates will be posted on the County's new Climate Change website:

### montgomerycountymd.gov/climate

•For general questions, contact:

### climate@montgomerycountymd.gov

# Workgroup Discussion Ground Rules

- Share the airtime
- Constructively critique ideas, not people
- Listen to understand
- Stay present
- Safe space Don't worry about what your boss may think
- Disclose any potential conflicts of interest
  - Each Workgroup can decide on additional ground rules/norms.
- •Members of the public are welcome to listen and provide feedback at the end of the meeting

# **After Event Tonight**

# NETWORKING AT McGINTY's PUBLIC HOUSE 911 Ellsworth Drive

# Remarks by County Executive Marc Elrich



# Remarks by Councilmember Tom Hucker



# Next Step: Breakout into Workgroups

### **Buildings:**

Next door in the Great Hall

### **Clean Energy:**

Table in the back of this room

### **Transportation:**

Next door in the Great Hall