

City of Arvada City Council Agenda

JULY 22, 2024

STUDY SESSION

Councilmembers:

Lauren Simpson, Mayor
Randy Moorman, Mayor Pro-Tem
Shawna Ambrose, District 2
Sharon Davis, At large
Lisa Feret, At large
Bob Fifer, District 4
John Marriott, District 3

Staff Members Usually Present:

Lorie Gillis, City Manager
Linda Haley, Deputy City Manager
Don Wick, Deputy City Manager
Rachel Morris, City Attorney
Jacqueline Rhoades, Director of Public Works
Sharon Israel, Director of Utilities
Jessica Garner, Director of Community & Econ. Dev.
Bryan Archer, Director of Finance
Gabriella Bommer, Director of Human Resources
Rachael Kuroiwa, Director of Communications & Engagement
Kristen Rush, City Clerk

Info: 720-898-7550

THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

The study session can only be watched via Zoom

<https://arvadaco-gov.zoom.us/j/89465569705?pwd=ZSegtbJHX643ZaMei75mapWYZq7hbY.1>

4:00 PM

1. Call to Order/Roll Call of Councilmembers
2. Study Session Topics
 - A. Arvada Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Engagement Updates
3. Adjournment



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

AGENDA ITEM
2.A.

TO: THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL

DATE: July 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Arvada Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Engagement Updates

Report in Brief

The purpose of this study session is to provide updates to the Council on the results of Arvada's recently-completed greenhouse gas inventory and ongoing community engagement efforts associated with the development of the city's Climate Action and Sustainability Plan.

The City team will explain the methodology and results of the inventory and will review completed and planned community engagement efforts. During the study session, the City team will answer questions about various options available for the Council's consideration regarding next steps and target-setting for the plan.

Background

The Arvada Sustainability Division was started in January 2023. At Council's direction, the Division is tasked with creating a community wide Climate Action and Sustainability Plan. The climate action and sustainability planning effort includes a diversity of stakeholders - members of the city team, residential and business community members, community partners and advisory committee members. The Division is partnering with Lotus Engineering and Sustainability for technical assistance and planning support.

Strategic Alignment

To support a vibrant community and neighborhoods, the City of Arvada supports equitable City policies, programs, and efforts to secure an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable city. The Arvada Sustainability Division fosters strategic partnerships to advance quality of life and achieve a resilient and sustainable community.

VCN Strategic Result 3 : By 12/25 a sustainability plan will be complete and ready for City Council approval and implementation.

VCN Milestone 3C : By 12/25 complete Arvada's Sustainability Plan including an inventory of existing sustainability actions to determine level of service needs.

Next Steps

The Sustainability Division will receive feedback from the City Council and will continue to develop and refine the Climate Action and Sustainability Plan. The Division will present the plan to Council for approval, later in 2024.

Prepared by:
Chris Koch, CCO Admin

Reviewed by:
Toni Riebschlager, Law Office Administrator 7/5/2024
Laura Hemler, Assistant City Attorney 7/8/2024

Approved by:

Linda Haley, Deputy City Manager 7/8/2024

Don Wick, Deputy City Manager 7/8/2024

Rachel Morris, City Attorney 7/9/2024

Lorie Gillis, City Manager 7/11/2024

Enclosure, exhibits & attachments required to support the report



Arvada GHG and Engagement Updates

City of Arvada, Colorado
City Council

**Rachel Meier | Senior Associate, Team Lead on
Public Sector GHG Inventories**

**Tom Herrod | Director, GHG Accounting,
Modeling, and Visualization Team**

Presentation Overview

- **Introduction to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories**
- **2023 Community Emissions**
- **2023 Municipal Emissions**
- **Engagement To Date**
- **Future Engagement**
- **Q&A**

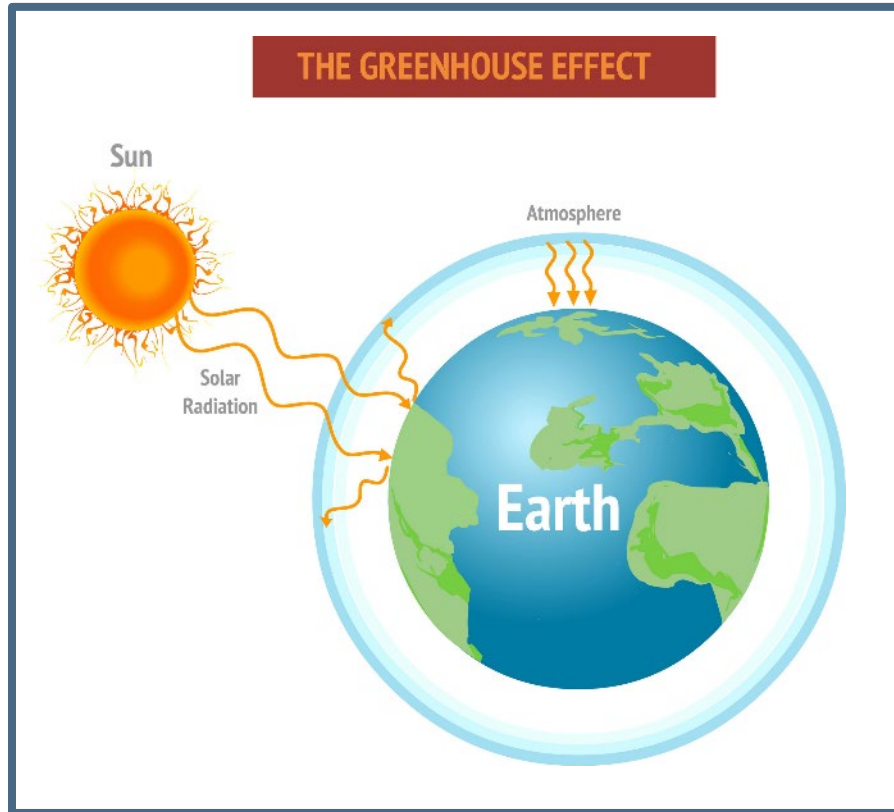




Introduction to GHG Inventories



GHGs and Climate Change

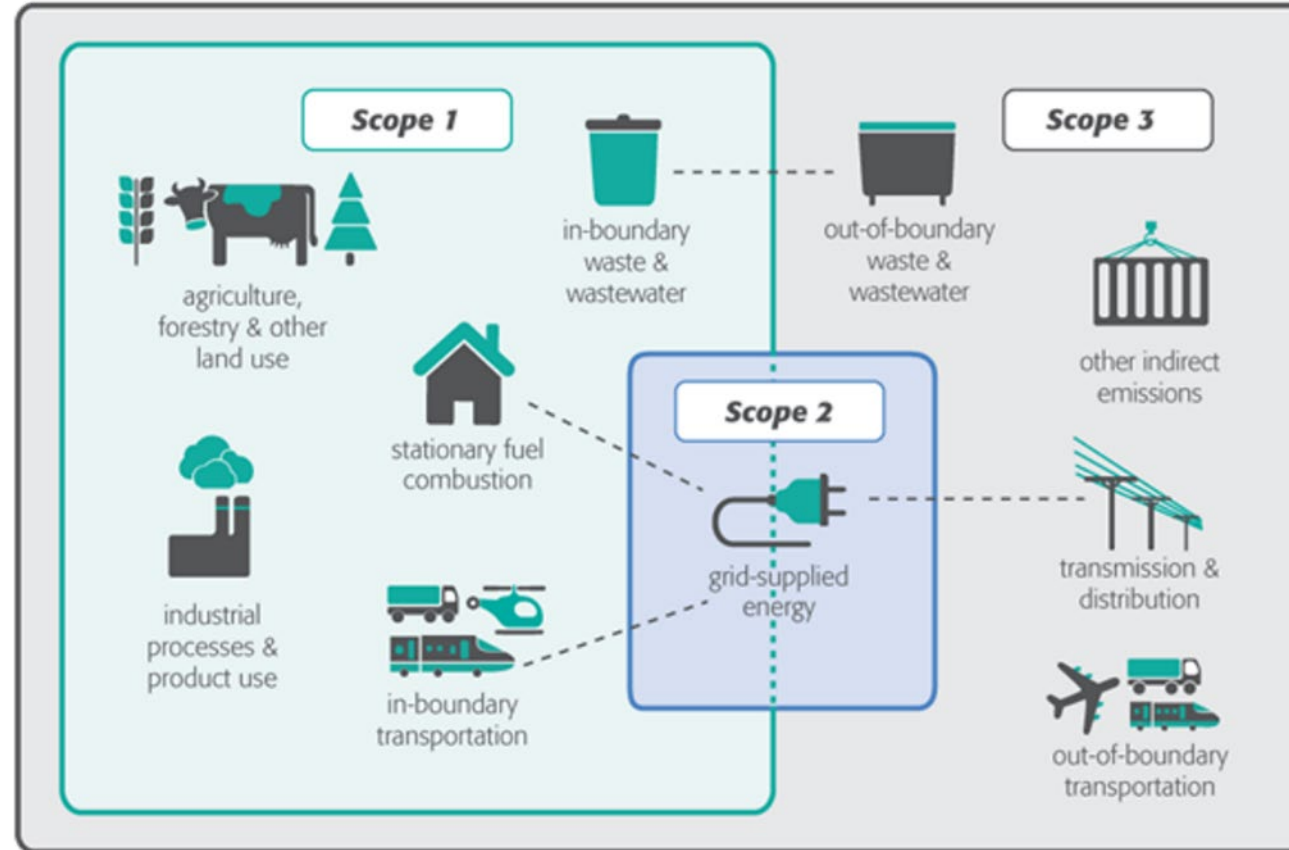


- GHGs create a blanket in Earth's atmosphere.
- More GHGs in the atmosphere = more heat trapped in the atmosphere.
- This can lead to increased temperatures and drought year-round, flash floods in the rainy season, and more intense weather.
- Decreasing emissions contributes to the global need to mitigate these environmental changes.

The combination of models and observations, informed by the unique view that space provides, imply that almost all the current multi-decadal trends we're seeing in climate are the result of human activities. In addition, there's increasing confidence that human-induced climate change is making extreme events statistically much more likely.
~ NASA



What are GHG Inventories?



Total 2023 Community GHG Emissions

815,096
mt CO₂e

Sector	Emissions (mt CO ₂ e)	Percentage of Total
Commercial and Industrial Building Energy Use	188,057	23%
Residential Building Energy Use	325,410	40%
Transportation	235,901	29%
Waste & Wastewater	50,994	6%
Industrial Processes and Product Use	14,735	2%
Total Emissions	815,096	100%

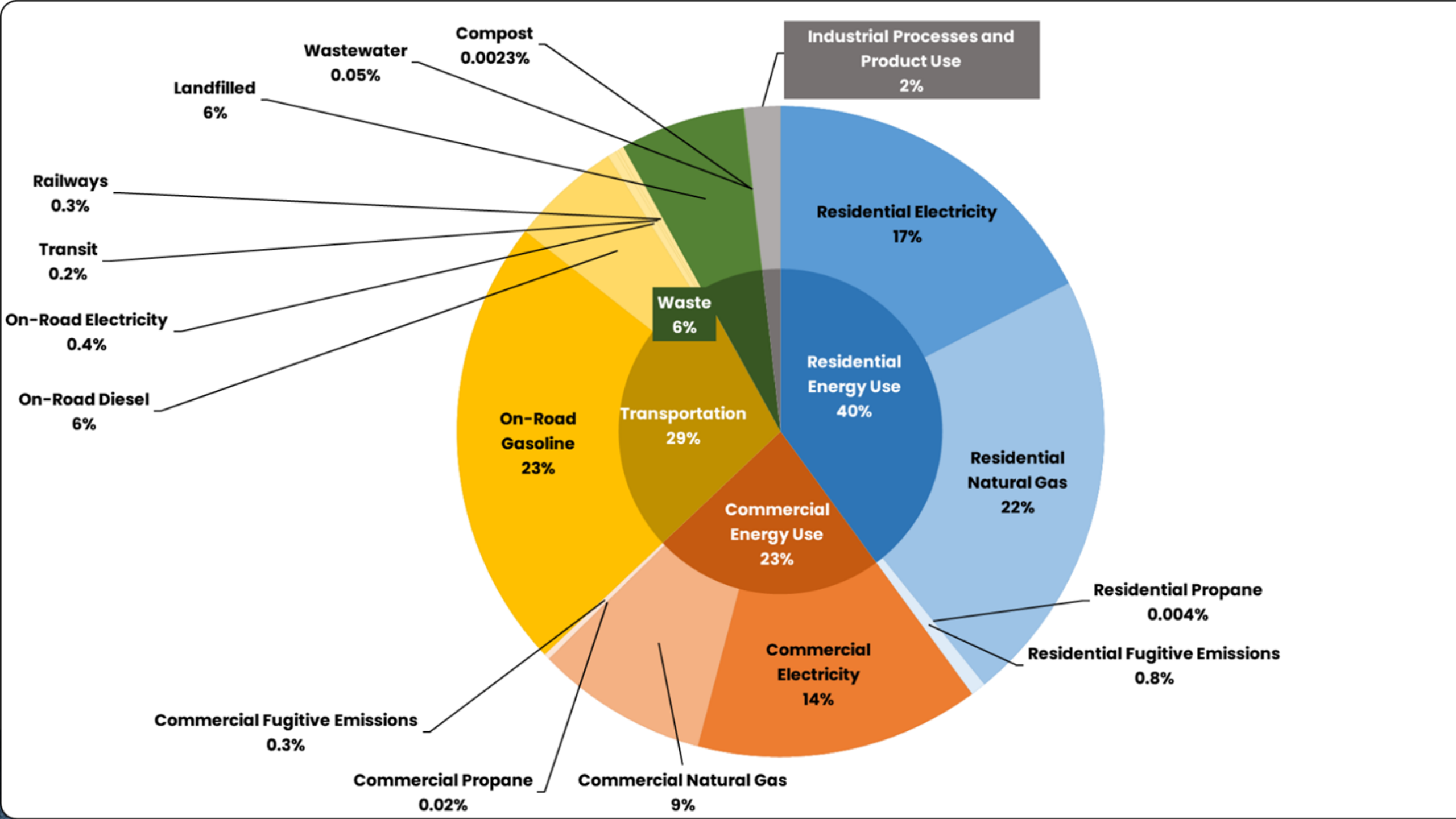


2023 Community GHG Emissions per Capita Comparison

815,096
mt CO₂e

Location	Population	Per Capita Emissions	Per Household Emissions
Denver, CO (2022)	711,975	10.5	6.40
Fort Collins (2021)	170,199	10.0	6.13
Boulder, CO (2022)	108,250	13.9	4.63
Jefferson County, CO (2021)	575,938	10.8	7.29
Westminster, CO (2017)	114,578	10.7	7.07
Lakewood, CO (2018)	151,411	9.8	7.18
Longmont, CO (2021)	100,758	9.4	8.15
US (2022)	333,287,557	19.0	7.42
Arvada (2023)	121,581	6.7	6.44







Community Science Based Targets

*Science Based Targets represent the collective effort required to keep emissions at a level that prevents going beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming. **They are measurable, actionable, and time bound – based on the best available science.***

- SBTs are one option for target setting
- Should Arvada choose to set a Science Based Target:
 - Arvada's SBT would represent an approximately 62% reduction in GHGs by 2030, limiting emissions to below 300,000 mt CO₂e.
 - Arvada would reach net zero emissions before 2050.
- Who else has a science-based target?
 - Denver, Boulder, Longmont, Jefferson County, Town of Eagle and Town of Snowmass Village



2023 Municipal Emissions Overview



Total 2023 Municipal GHG Emissions

8,503
mt CO₂e

All Emissions by Sector without Consumption-Based		
Emission Sector	Emissions (mt CO ₂ e)	% of Total
Stationary Energy	5,901	69%
Transportation	2,347	28%
Waste	120	1%
Refrigerants	135	2%
Total	8,503	100%



Total 2023 Municipal GHG Emissions

8,503
mt CO₂e

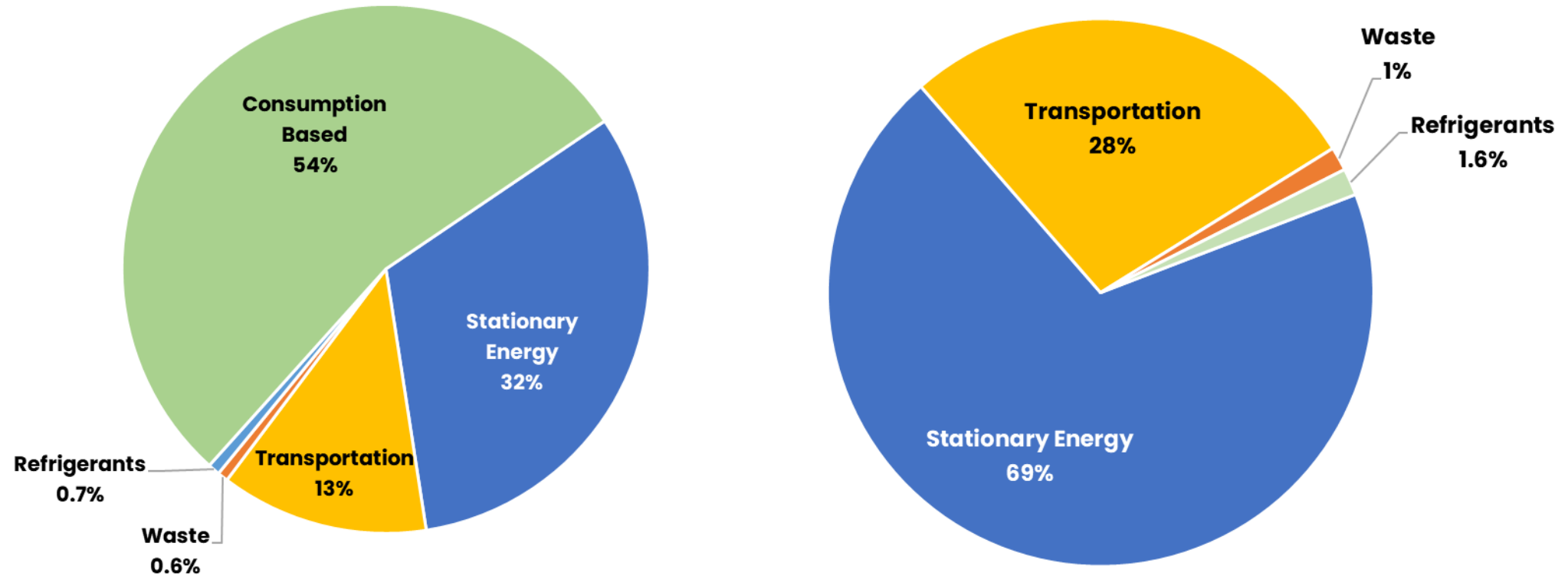
Municipal Emissions

815,096
mt CO₂e

Community Emissions



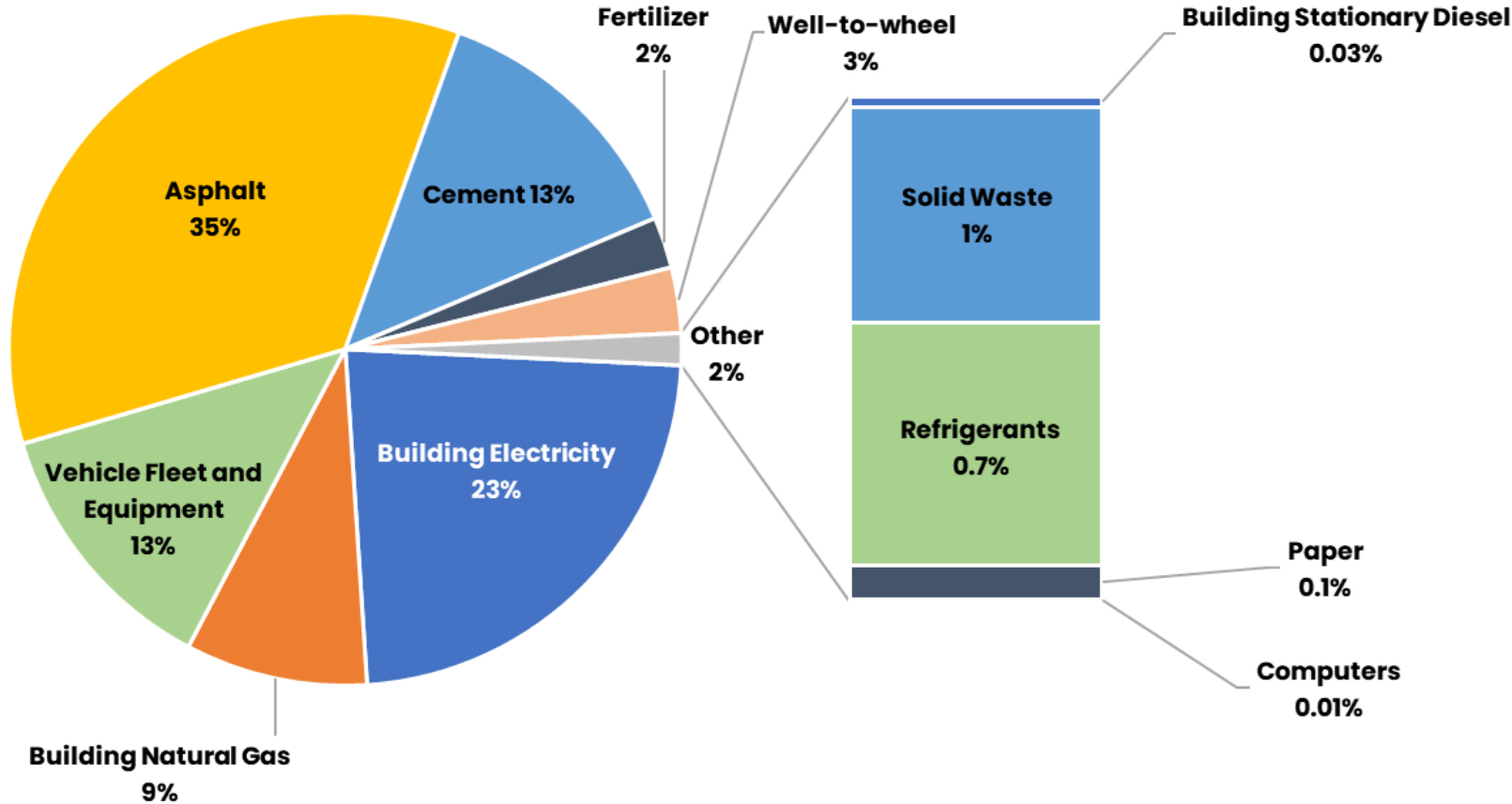
Emissions by Sector



- Consumption-based sources are Scope 3, meaning the end product was used by City of Arvada, but the emissions were generated elsewhere in 2023.
- With consumption-based sources excluded, stationary energy was the largest source of emissions in 2023.



Emissions by Source: All Sources

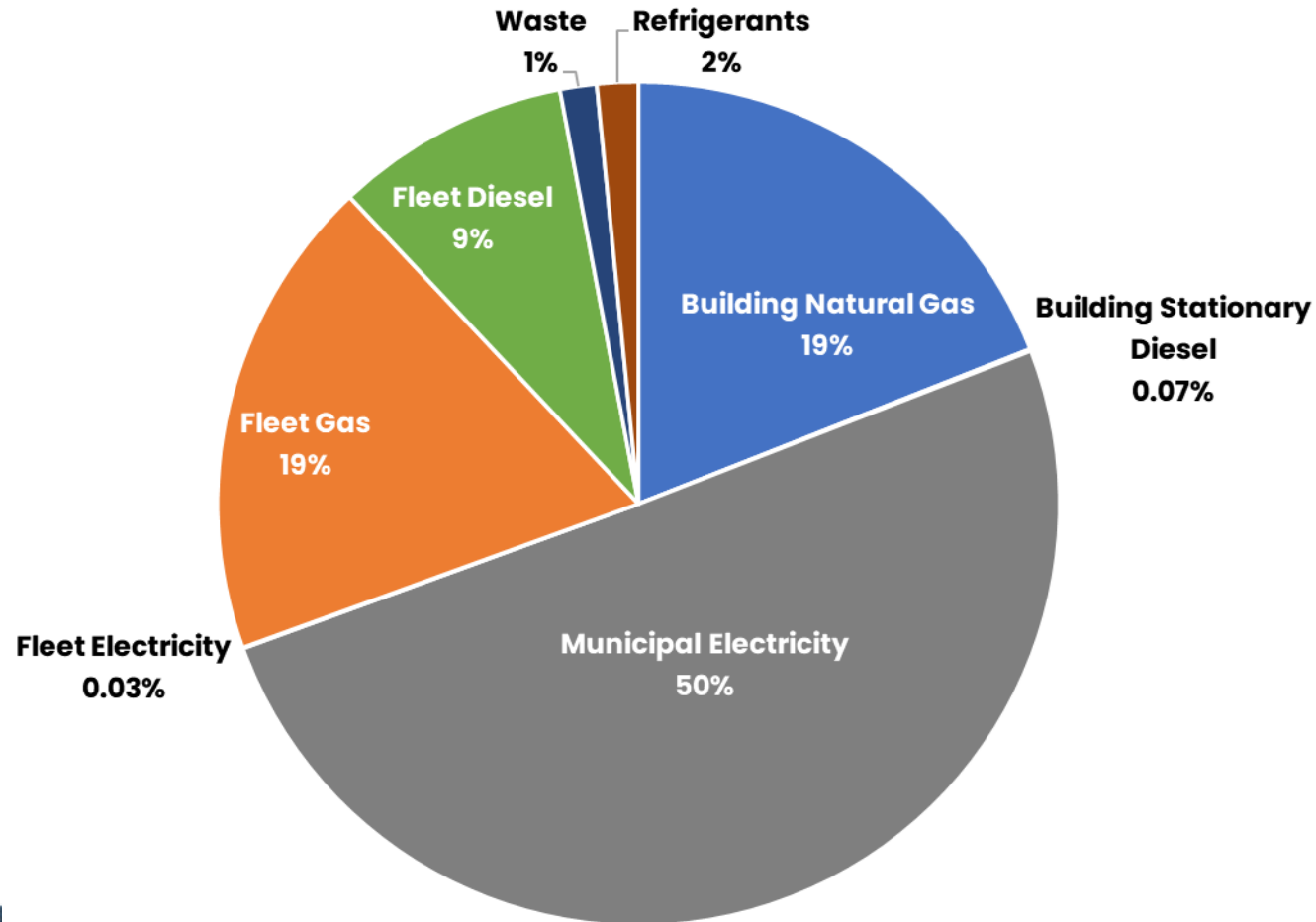


Notable Trends

- The largest source of municipal emissions in Arvada is the use of Asphalt.
- The following sources are the next largest:
 - Building electricity use
 - Fuel use by fleet vehicles and equipment
 - Cement use



Emissions by Source: without Consumption-Based



Notable Trends

- Electricity use accounts for 50% of municipal emissions when taking out consumption-based sources.
- Other notable emission sources include:
 - Building natural gas use
 - Fleet and equipment gasoline use

A photograph of a town water tower with a blue roof and white body, featuring the text 'Old Town Olde Town' and 'CANADA ARVA'. The tower is set against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, there are trees with vibrant yellow and orange autumn leaves. A paved path leads into the distance, flanked by more trees and buildings. A person is visible walking on the path in the distance.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement Updates

Project Timeline



Stakeholder Engagement

- Central Focus Group
 - Purpose: Provide lived experience and help to develop and prioritize strategies to include in the City's climate action and sustainability plan.
- Members represent the Arvada Sustainability Advisory Committee, Chamber of Commerce, Private industry, the Housing Authority, and others.
- Five total meetings between June – September.



Stakeholder Engagement cont.

- Other Stakeholder Engagement includes:
 - Informational Interviews with Arvada City staff.
 - Purpose: gain insight into current community and City priorities, as well as any ongoing strategies, policies, initiatives, and challenges related to climate action and sustainability efforts in Arvada.
 - Weekly Briefs
 - Monthly updates to staff on project progress, opportunities to get involved in stakeholder and community engagement.
 - Presentations to City Council
 - Provide updates on project progress, interim and final deliverables.
 - First presentation in April
 - Presentation of Final Plan: November 18



Guiding Principles

- Simplicity
- Partnership
- Alignment
- Equity
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions
- Acknowledgment & Preservation

Vision Statement

The City of Arvada is committed to advancing climate action and sustainability. We will work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, connect people and places, harmonize efforts to enhance quality of life, and protect public health and the environment. We will act with urgency to ensure a resilient, just, and equitable city for current and future generations while preserving Arvada's unique character.



Public Engagement

- Kickoff at Arvada Kite Festival on April 16
- Stats:
 - 300 prizes given out for spinning the Earth Month trivia wheel
 - 100 LED kits distributed
 - 64 post-it responses to the question: "What does a sustainable Arvada look like to you?"
 - 60 responses on Speak Up Arvada webpage



Public Engagement

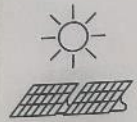
- What we heard at Kite Festival:
 - Expanded waste service (compost, more park bins)
 - More trees and parks
 - Access to parks and trails
 - Transportation improvements
 - Solar energy programs
 - Affordable electricity
 - Less development
 - Water conservation



Public Engagement cont.

- Tabled at Taste of Arvada (July 11)
- Stats:
 - 1,500 total event attendees
 - 40-50 interactions at the booth
 - Received a total of 78 dot votes
 - Handed out 20 flyers with CASP webpage QR code

Energy & Built Environment



Solar



Energy Codes



Energy Efficiency



Water Quality & Conservation



City Water Conservation



Rebates and Incentives



Green Infrastructure



Public Engagement Cont.

- Tabled at Arvada on Tap (7/13)
- Stats
 - ~500 total event attendees
 - 20-30 interactions at the booth
 - Received a total of 41 dot votes
 - Reusable QR Code at the stand for residents to stay informed.



Emerging themes from July in-person public engagements

- Land Use and Urban Design
 - Affordable Housing
 - Walkability
- Water Quality + Conservation
 - City-wide water conservation
- Transportation
 - More public transportation
- Energy and the Built Environment
 - Energy efficiency programs



Additional Public Engagement

- Webpage for Climate Action and Sustainability Plan (arvadaco.gov/climateaction)
- Speak Up Arvada Project
- Sustainable Arvada listserv monthly newsletter
- Engaged with Neighbors Connected
- Community Open House – October 16th



Climate Action and Sustainability Plan Update

The City of Arvada continues to work with Lotus Engineering and Sustainability to develop the City's first [Climate Action and Sustainability Plan](#). We are currently in the engagement phase of the project. These engagements will help inform strategies and goals for the project.

You can expect to receive project updates like this one at the end of each month to keep you in the loop of what has been happening behind the scenes, as well as what is coming up next.

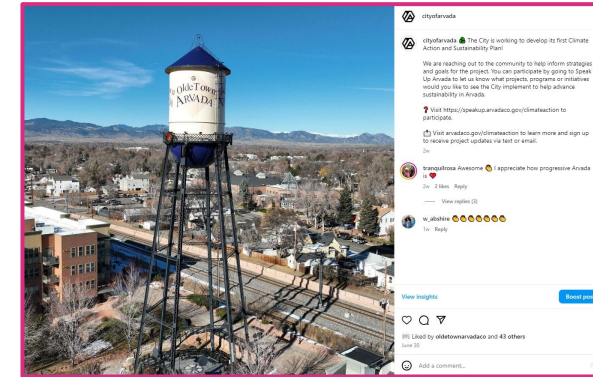
Project Updates for June

- **The first focus group meeting took place June 12.** The focus group includes members of the [Arvada Sustainability Advisory Committee \(ASAC\)](#) and Arvada residents who work in sustainability. The June 12 meeting helped identify community values that will inform plan and strategy development.
- **Question #2 of our community engagement is now live!** For this round of community engagement, we want to know what projects, programs or initiatives would you like to see the City implement to help advance sustainability in Arvada.
- **Participate in the second round of community engagement by going to [Speak Up Arvada](#).** Don't wait to participate! This portion of our community engagement closes on July 28.



Other Engagement Tactics

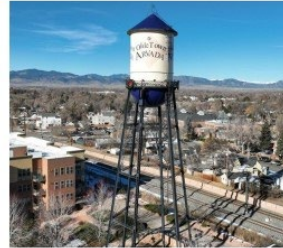
- City's social media pages:
 - Facebook
 - X (formally Twitter)
 - Instagram
 - Next Door – most engagement
 - One post received 14,000 impressions
 - (avg post = 3-4K)
- City's enewsletter, ArvadaNews



Climate Action Plan and Sustainability Update

The City of Arvada Sustainability team is asking for community input for the development of its [Climate Action and Sustainability Plan](#). You can participate in the plan's second engagement opportunity by letting us know what types of projects, programs or initiatives you would like to see the City implement to help advance sustainability in Arvada.

Visit the [Speak Up Arvada](#) page to weigh in!



City of Arvada
Communications Manager - City of Arvada's Vibrant Community... 16 May

What does a sustainable Arvada look like to you? [See more](#)



Posted to Subscribers of City of Arvada

9 · 14,022 Impressions · Like · 22 Comments · Share

Lisa L. · Westwood Mesa · 8w
Fewer sidewalks that lead to nowhere
Like Reply Share 3

Lisa L. · Westwood Mesa · 8w
Same for bike paths! It's so dangerous to be on a bike path that suddenly ends, and there's no place to be, other than in the street or the gravel.
Like Reply Share 1

Rick H. · Lake Arbor · 8w
Just take care of our citizen's needs; Utilities, streets, police.
Like Reply Share 1 7

Gregory M. · Paradise Acres · 8w
How much money has/is allocated to this?
Like Reply Share 4

Nancy W. · Wyndhams · 8w
Seriously denying a trucking warehouse on McIntyre to be built next to housing developments. It's concerning the negative impact it will make environmentally and in increased... [See more](#)
Like Reply Share 5

Lisa L. · Westwood Mesa · 8w
City wide composting service
Like Reply Share 1 6

Les S. · Lamar Heights · 8w
Oh damn. The city missed the boat on this one. It's too damn late!
Like Reply Share 4

Vicki B. · Campbell Elementary · 8w
A little late now
Like Reply Share 2

Adam S. · Rainbow Ridge · 8w
Would love to see more Public EV Charging Stations that are regularly maintained. All the ones in Old Town have had the cables cut for scrap.
Like Reply Share 1





Questions?

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