

City of South Portland One Climate Future Annual Report

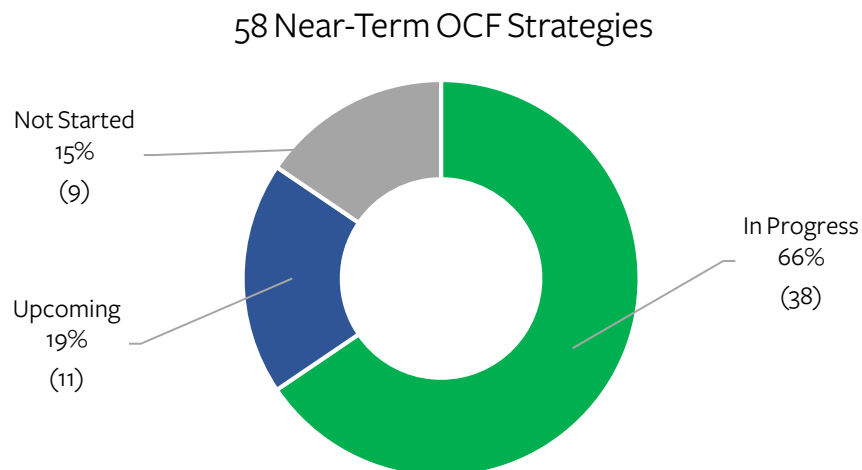
November 2020 – December 2021

The City’s joint climate action and adaptation plan with Portland, One Climate Future, was adopted in November 2020. It contains 68 strategies with 186 action items for reducing greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050 and building the resilience of our neighborhoods, infrastructure, and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.

Fifty-eight (85%) of the strategies and 107 of the action items are near-term, to be completed by 2025.

One year in, we have made significant progress toward implementing our plan.

Of the 58 near-term strategies, the chart below illustrates the # in progress, # upcoming, and # not started.



BE 1. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND ENERGY SUPPLY

In Progress

- 1.1 Renewable Municipal Electricity – three new solar projects at the Community Center, capped landfill, and an off-sight project will offset more than 85% of municipal electricity usage
- 1.2 Net-Zero New City Buildings – facilities committee created, net zero energy goal incorporated in building design scenarios

Upcoming

- 1.2 Net-Zero New City Buildings cont'd – use performance-based procurement targeting net zero energy for next City building construction project
- 1.3 Energy Efficiency Retrofits for City Buildings – work with Facilities Department to conduct energy audits on existing buildings and develop strategic energy management plans for retrofits and electrification

Not started

- 1.4 Internal Carbon Pricing for Municipal Construction and Operations

BE 2. NEW CONSTRUCTION ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DECARBONIZATION

In Progress

- 2.1 Energy Stretch Code – adopted Maine Energy Stretch Code (IECC 2021) with solar-ready and zero energy alternative compliance pathways; learning and leading on building inspections
- 2.2 Solar-Ready and EV-Ready Code Requirements – adopting an EV charging requirement for new parking lots
- 2.4 Leadership and Education – establishing a city-supported, industry-led program to make efficient, electrified, and resilient buildings the standard for South Portland

Upcoming

Not started

- 2.3 Code Enforcement (mid-term strategy)

BE 3. EXISTING BUILDINGS ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DECARBONIZATION

In Progress

- 3.1 Energy Benchmarking – replaced 2017 pilot program with new citywide Benchmarking Ordinance for buildings over 20,000 square feet; multi-unit residential buildings in 2023
- 3.3 Energy Efficiency Spending – advocated for several state-level bills to increase funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy (C-PACE, Energy accelerator, etc.)

- 3.4 Renewable Heating and Cooling – developing an Electrify Everything! comprehensive program to decarbonize the residential sector
- 3.5 Bulk Buy Programs – included in Electrify Everything!
- 3.6 Solar Proliferation – included in Electrify Everything!

Upcoming

Access grant and infrastructure funding to support energy efficiency and decarbonization efforts

Not started

- 3.2 Building Performance Standards (mid-term strategy)
- 3.7 Energy Efficient Rental Housing

BE 4. INDUSTRIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND DECARBONIZATION

In Progress

Upcoming

- 4.1 Industrial Energy Efficiency Spending – meet with key industries, Efficiency Maine

Not started

- 4.2 Industrial Energy Efficiency and Decarbonization Study

BE 5. CLEAN AND RENEWABLE ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND REGULATORY TRANSFORMATION

In Progress

- 5.1 Renewable Portfolio Standard and Community-Scale Purchasing – continues to be on track
- 5.2 Utility Data Access Reform – advocated successfully for legislation mandating the PUC to issue an RFI to inform the development of a statewide aggregated data platform
- 5.3 Utility Regulatory Reform to Support Electrification – participating in statewide discussions about rate design, DER strategy, and innovation; advocating for legislation to support reforms
- 5.5 Electrical Transmission and Distribution – working with CMP and Efficiency Maine to develop a hosting capacity study, and CMP/PUC to increase capacity of the local grid; participating in NWA (non-wires alternative) docket at PUC

Upcoming

- 5.6 Natural Gas Phase-Out – explore the legality of and advocate for natural gas phase-out

Not started

- 5.4 Renewable District Energy Systems
- 5.7 Carbon Pricing (long-term)

WR 1. RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WASTE

In Progress

- 1.1 Pay-As-You-Throw – analyzing the cost and feasibility of different PAYT models
- 1.2 Single-Stream Recycling – continuing tagging program and outreach about proper recycling
- 1.3 Food Waste Reduction and Organics Recycling – expanding food waste collection sites in West End; exploring options for citywide curbside food waste collection
- 1.5 Circular Sharing Economy – developing a proposal for an electric tool library

Upcoming

- 1.2 Single-Stream Recycling cont'd– develop a business and multifamily recycling ordinance
- 1.4 Single-Use Plastics – working with retailers to reduce single use plastics

Not started

WR 2. CONSTRUCTION, INDUSTRIAL, AND MUNICIPAL WASTE

In Progress

Upcoming

- 2.4 Sustainable Purchasing Policy – adopt a sustainable purchasing policy for the City

Not started

- 2.1 Construction and Demolition Waste (mid-term strategy)
- 2.2 Industrial Waste (long-term strategy)
- 2.3 Wastewater Emissions (long-term strategy)

TLU 1. MODE SHIFT AND LAND USE

In Progress

- 1.1 Public Transit Networks – South Portland Bus Service is working on coordinated transit measures through GPCOG/PACTS “Transit Together” plan
- 1.3 Bike Accessibility – adding new bike lanes incrementally (Waterman Dr, Westbrook St)
- 1.4 Complete Streets – traffic calming project in Cash Corner and select measures installed at four other locations; completed a GIS road classification inventory; developing a complete streets design manual; updating code of ordinances (ch. 23 & 24) to add complete streets specifications
- 1.7 Land Use for a Smaller Carbon Footprint – Planning Division is developing recommendations for streamlining ADUs; also supporting other measures (e.g. densification) through the Comp Plan Update

Upcoming

- 1.1 Public Transit Networks cont'd – advocate for increased state funding for multimodal projects
- 1.2 Inclusive Transit-Oriented Development – support and explore TOD through Comp Plan Update
- 1.3 Bike Accessibility cont'd – develop bike/ped masterplan as part of the Comp Plan Update; evaluate Portland Bike Share program for expansion into South Portland

Not started

- 1.5 Employer Transit Partnerships
- 1.6 Parking

TLU 2. VEHICLE ELECTRIFICATION

In Progress

- 2.1 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure – added three new EV chargers for municipal fleet; established a grant for businesses to install EV charging stations; adopting an EV charger requirement for new parking lots; developing an RFP to add public EV charging at 12-36 municipal sites
- 2.2 Electric Vehicle Incentives – hosted 2021 National Drive Electric event at Community Center; conducted month-long outreach campaign re: electric vehicles and incentives (Sentry articles, webinars, social media)
- 2.4 Electric and Alternative-Fuel Municipal Fleets – leased four new EV Konas for CEO at zero cost; developed a capital transition plan for city fleet; established a biodiesel pilot for five PW trucks

Upcoming

Access federal and state infrastructure funding for more EV chargers and vehicles

- 2.3 Electric Public Transit Bus Fleets – South Portland Bus Service is planning for the next transit bus purchase (in 2025) to be all-electric
- 2.4 Electric and Alternative-Fuel Municipal Fleets cont'd – install biodiesel tank at PW; work with school department to procure electric school buses

Not started

- 2.5 Electric Shared Vehicles and Vehicles for Hire
- 2.6 Autonomous Vehicles (mid-term strategy)

TLU 3. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

In Progress

3.1 Idling Reductions – developing an anti-idling campaign for targeted locations in South Portland

Upcoming

3.3 Ferry Service – develop a proposal, building on Cushing Point study, to examine feasibility of a South Portland ferry terminal

Not started

3.2 Freight Transit Partnerships (long-term strategy)

3.4 Shore Power (Portland)

3.5 Jetport (Portland)

CR 1. RESILIENT BUILDINGS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

In Progress

1.1 Resilient New Development – working with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, NOAA, USDA, USGS, and Maine ACFD to complete dynamic coastal flood inundation modeling for South Portland; developing a resilience zoning overlay to minimize impacts of and align new development with climate hazards

1.3 Resilient Open Space Planning – adopted an ordinance to tier City properties for open space protection; adopted park and open space zoning districts that reflect current and future land use intentions; updated Open Space Acquisition Fund to acquire new or augment existing open space

Upcoming

1.2 Resilient Existing Buildings – exploring participation in FEMA community rating system; working to introduce an integrated planning process for resilience measures across City departments

1.3 Resilient Open Space Planning cont'd– work with Parks Department OSAC to incorporate climate resilience goals into open space planning and develop a system to benchmark changes

Not started

CR 2. STRONG AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

In Progress

2.1 Housing Affordability and Resilience – Planning Division commissioned a Housing Needs Assessment to document existing housing conditions, identify market and other forces that affect housing supply and demand, and identify gaps or deficiencies in maintaining equitable access to housing

- 2.2 High Heat Mitigation – in the process of adopting a tree protection ordinance; Parks Department is pursuing funding for a tree inventory and canopy assessment
- 2.3 Resilient Food Systems – Parks Department is establishing a new community garden at Redbank Village and updating the community garden at Hinkley Park to add more garden spaces and a food forest
- 2.4 Transportation Access – South Portland Bus Service is partnering with GPCOG on their “Bus Ambassadors” program, which aims to help people, especially new Mainers, navigate using transit
- 2.5 Neighborhood Resources – developing an Equity Atlas which overlays neighborhood-level social vulnerabilities, climate risks, and community assets to inform development of future neighborhood-based resilience programs

Upcoming

Not started

CR 3. RESILIENT LOCAL ECONOMY

In Progress

- 3.3 Climate-Ready Industries and Innovation – Economic Development supported small businesses through a COVID hardship grant and is promoting a harbor restoration project through public-private partnerships

Upcoming

- 3.1 Resilient Working Waterfronts – Waterfront Master Plan through Comp Plan Update

Not started

- 3.2 Workforce for a Resilient Economy

CR 4. RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS

In Progress

- 4.1 Stormwater Systems – Water Resources Protection is in the process of fully implementing a comprehensive asset management system with complete geospatial data for stormwater and sewer systems
- 4.2 Green Infrastructure – WRP is participating in the development of a regional model Low Impact Development Ordinance that will require new and redevelopment projects to implement LID strategies consistent with OCF resilience measures

Upcoming

- 4.1 Stormwater Systems cont’d – WRP has identified an upgrade to the Pearl Street Pump Station followed by upstream gravity pipe upsizing as the next two major projects

- 4.4 Transportation Systems – South Portland will continue to build out a complete geospatial inventory of transportation assets and add risk assessment to criticality and asset condition/lifespan measures

Not started

- 4.3 Energy Systems

CR 5. ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

In Progress

- 5.1 Ecosystem Adaptive Management – Parks Department conducted education about winter moth and continues its campaign to remove invasive plants at City parks; Parks Department and Planning Division are developing a Willard Beach Master Plan; WPR continues to work closely with the Long Creek Watershed Management District to reduce stormwater pollution; the City will be involved in a pilot project to reduce the amount of salt applied in the winter to save money and reduce chloride toxicity for aquatic organisms; WPR staff have been working closely with the Casco Bay Estuary Partnership to identify opportunities throughout the region for implementing living shoreline projects
- 5.2 Soil Health – adopted a fertilizer ordinance and soil standards for new development; developing a “100 Resilient Yards” program

Upcoming

- 5.1 Ecosystem Adaptive Management cont’d – the City received a DEP grant to install a stormwater treatment system that will remove pollutants from Brown school parking lot and to install a demonstration project for restoring degraded shoreline in Hinckley Park

Not started