# Climate Forward

Investing in a clean, healthy, and more resilient future

**Climate change threatens our health, our economy, our environment, and our quality of life.** Simply put, it is one of the greatest threats of our time, and we all need to do our part to fix it. Madison is ready to do its part. We know that making a big dent in our emissions will mean doing things a little differently. Luckily, changing our ways comes with a lot of benefits – cleaner air and water, lower asthma rates, lower energy bills, less flooding, and more jobs. Madison is ready to step up and build a better economy and community for our future.

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Residential 1% Transportation 41%

Madison climate emissions by sector

#### Madison has already:

Constructed **13** LEED certified green buildings

Installed **1 MW** of solar on City facilities

Invested in **19 MW** of off-site solar energy

Helped install solar on nearly **200** homes and businesses through MadiSUN

Purchased **60** electric, **108** hybrid electric or anti-idling, **470** low-carbon fuel fleet vehicles and equipment, and built **6** solar-powered EV charging stations

Strengthened our stormwater regulations to better protect against future flooding

Studied **HALF** of our 22 watersheds to improve our flood resilience

Started building a bus rapid transit system and redesigning our transit routes to provide rapid, frequent transit

Required electric vehicle infrastructure and charging in new parking structures

Achieved Platinum status as a bike-friendly city

Each year, this saves as much carbon as planting and growing over **470,000 trees** 

### Now is the time to build on our successes and take the next step.

Madison will lead on climate to protect our health and our environment and expand our economy. In the next two years, we will:

### 1 Continue leading by example

- Replace thousands of streetlights with efficient LED lights
- Expand the Green Power training program to start installing nearly 1 MW per year of solar energy on City facilities while making our buildings more efficient
- Tune up City building systems to improve efficiency
- Meet 100% of our municipal electricity needs with renewable energy
- Launch a public-facing dashboard so everybody can see how our buildings are doing
- Keep purchasing electric, hybrid, biodiesel, and other low-emission vehicles

## <sup>2</sup>Bring Madison's building stock into the 21st century

- Work with community partners on upgrades to naturally-occurring affordable housing and help renters lower their utility bills and live in healthier homes
- Expand the MadiSUN rooftop solar program for affordable housing
- Establish policies to help the largest buildings in Madison to operate efficiently creating jobs and saving money on bills in the process

### Climate Forward MADISON

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# **\*3** Continue to invest in transit and other low-carbon transportation modes

- Charge forward by constructing a bus rapid transit system with clean electric buses
- Continue improving and expanding Metro routing to provide fast, frequent service
- Require new development to incorporate features that help future residents and workers get around without a car
- Construct bike lanes and bike paths to eliminate barriers and reach unserved areas
- Keep improving our street crossing to improve access and connectivity for walking

# Invest in our community and grow our climate-friendly economy

- Launch a community climate grant program to help organizations reduce emissions and increase resilience
- Continue to expand our green job training and apprenticeship programs in City government, training people from underrepresented communities to install solar panels, install LED lighting, plant trees, work on electric vehicles, and more – giving them the tools and career ladders they need to grow a career in the trades, and/or in City government
- Develop a food scraps recycling program that captures methane gas for energy and generates compost, in partnership with Dane County
- Strengthen the linkages between public health, workforce development, and a climate-friendly community to take full advantage of federal investments to "build back better"
- Continue to invest in stormwater and green infrastructure solutions to improve water quality, reduce urban heat island effects, and reduce stormwater runoff to the lakes

### A Climate Forward vision for Madison will protect our communities and grow our economy.



### Did you know?

The world needs to cut emissions by almost 50% by 2030 to prevent catastrophic climate impacts

**Buildings and transportation** are Madison's major source of emissions – each comprising nearly half our city's emissions

Madison has committed to **100% renewable energy by 2030** for municipal operations, and already sources **74%** of its electricity from renewables

Wisconsin's **commercial building code** is less efficient than the current national model energy code, and less efficient than the 2015 model code

The **green economy** is a growing segment of the market and we can benefit from it in Madison with transit, energy efficiency, and renewable energy

Climate impacts like flooding and heat most impact those who are least responsible for the problem