ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA:

August 5, 2026
Municipal Building 15 South College Ave. Oxford, Ohio 45056 First Floor Conference Room
7:00 PM
Jason Bracken, Chair, Planning Commission Representative and City Council Member; Jim Vinch, Vice-Chair and City Council Representative; Peggy Branstrator; Michael Vanni; Ken Vincent; Becky Mathers; Barbara Smyth
Reena Murphy, Sustainability Coordinator

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the June 3rd Minutes

Old Business

New Business

1. Forest Park Environmental Awareness Programs (Wright Gwyn, Program Manager)
2. 2026 Sustainability Goals Update
3. Member Updates
    - City Council
    - Planning Commission
    - OPTAB
    - OCASC
4. Staff Updates

Adjournment

MINUTES
OXFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MUNICIPAL BUILDING 15 SOUTH COLLEGE AVE. OXFORD, OHIO 45056
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Members present include: Jason Bracken, Chair, Planning Commission Representative and City Council Member; Jim Vinch, Vice-Chair and City Council Representative; Peggy Branstrator; Ken Vincent; Barbara Smyth
Staff present include: Reena Murphy, Sustainability Coordinator

Members of the public include: Shannon Mahoney, Oxford Free Press; Taylor O'Rourke, Green Umbrella Climate Action Fellow

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.
Motion to approve the agenda: Mr. Vincent
2nd: Ms. Smyth
Vote: Unanimous approval

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the May 6th, 2026 Minutes

Motion: Mr. Vincent
2nd: Mrs. Branstrator
Vote: Unanimous approval

Old Business

New Business

1. Council 2027 Areas to Research

Staff provided a presentation regarding the 2027 areas to research. Slides are attached.

Key discussion outcomes include:

- The commission is equally happy with hybrid vs fully electric vehicles for municipal fleet conversion
- Councilor Bracken would like to wait to do a residential solar grant until there is regulatory guidance on balcony solar modules from the statehouse
- Councilor Vinch noted the impact of community-scale vs local government operations. He encouraged the commission to consider community scale actions, noting that while community emissions are harder to reduce, they have a bigger impact.
- Mrs. Branstrator advocated to include more than solar installations in a possible residential grant / rebate (i.e. lawn mowers, geothermal, etc). Not all commissioners agreed, noting the directive from City Council was to explore a solar grant. Staff noted that including multiple actions for rebate in the same grant cycle would be significantly more difficult to administer. Staff recommended that if the commission would like to support multiple actions, to do so year by year (i.e. focusing on solar in year 1, geothermal in year 2, etc.).
- The commission would like to see the landfill solar development to continue to be a priority for 2027

Ms. Smyth moved to recommend the following priorities to City Council for 2027, noting that the commission supports solar grants for future years beyond 2027:
1. Additional Landfill Flare
2. EV/Hybrid Adoption
3. Developing Communications with large energy users

2nd: Mr. Vincent
Vote: 4-1; Yeas: Counselor Bracken, Ms.Smyth, Mr. Vincent, Mrs. Branstator; Nays: Mr. Vinch

2. Member Updates

- City Council
- Planning Commission
- Parking and Transportation Advisory Board
- Climate Action Steering Committee

Counselor Vinch shared that City Council authorized the city to move forward with the Water Softening Project. Counselor Bracken shared that Planning Commission has a working group for the zoning code update. OPTAB and OCASC had not met since the last EC meeting.

3. Staff Updates

- Solar Projects
- Quarterly Report from Environmental Division

Staff shared that the WWTP solar project is delayed and that we are waiting for the System Impact Study from Duke. Staff shared that they anticipate having a vendor selected by the next City Council meeting. The Environmental Division provided a report noting that 6 trees along US 27 were replaced in May and 4 memorial trees were planted in April. Other highlights include that the 2026 food scrap weekly averages are on par with 2025 and that the flare on gas vent 17 should be installed soon.

Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Vincent
2nd: Mrs. Branstrator
Vote: Unanimous approval

The commission adjourned at 8:25pm.

2027 AREAS TO RESEARCH

CONTEXT

Mitigation Targets

BY 2030

50% reduction in GHG emissions over 2019 baseline

BY 2040

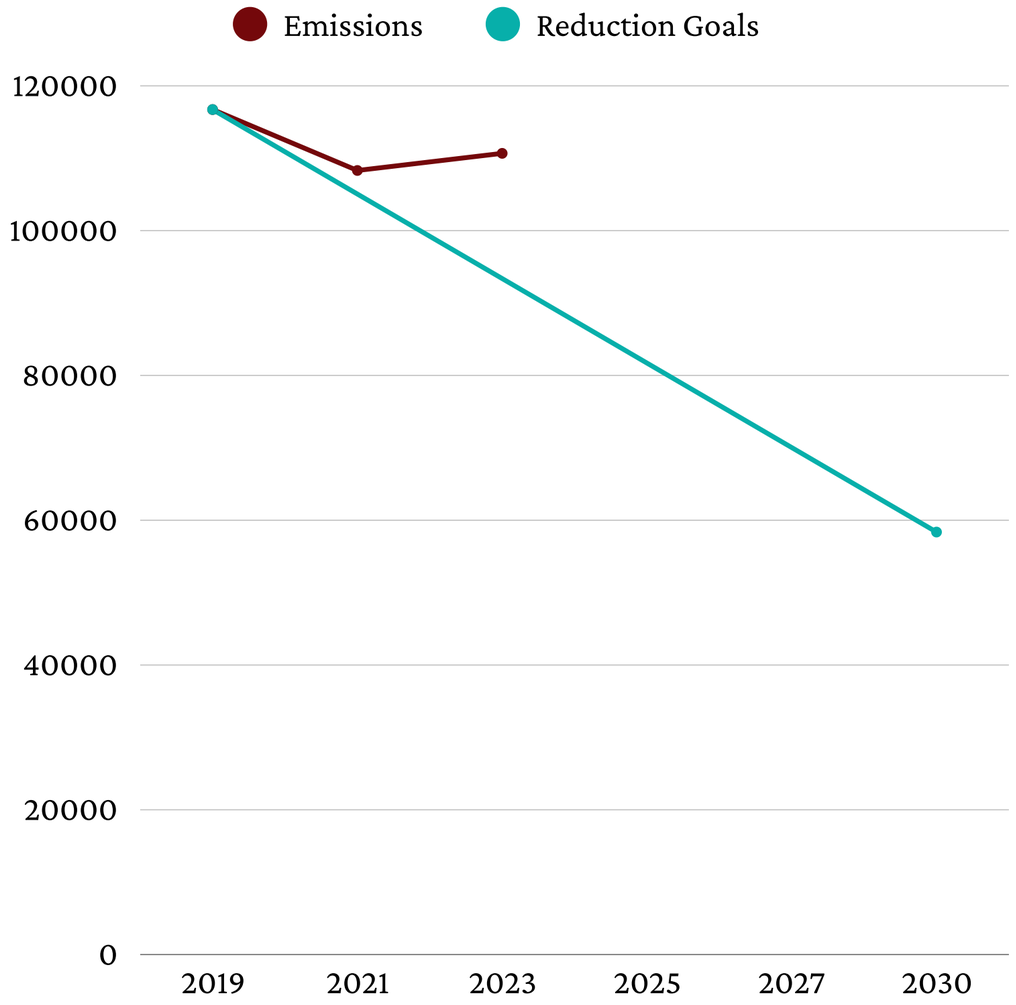
90% reduction in GHG emissions over 2019 baseline

BY 2045

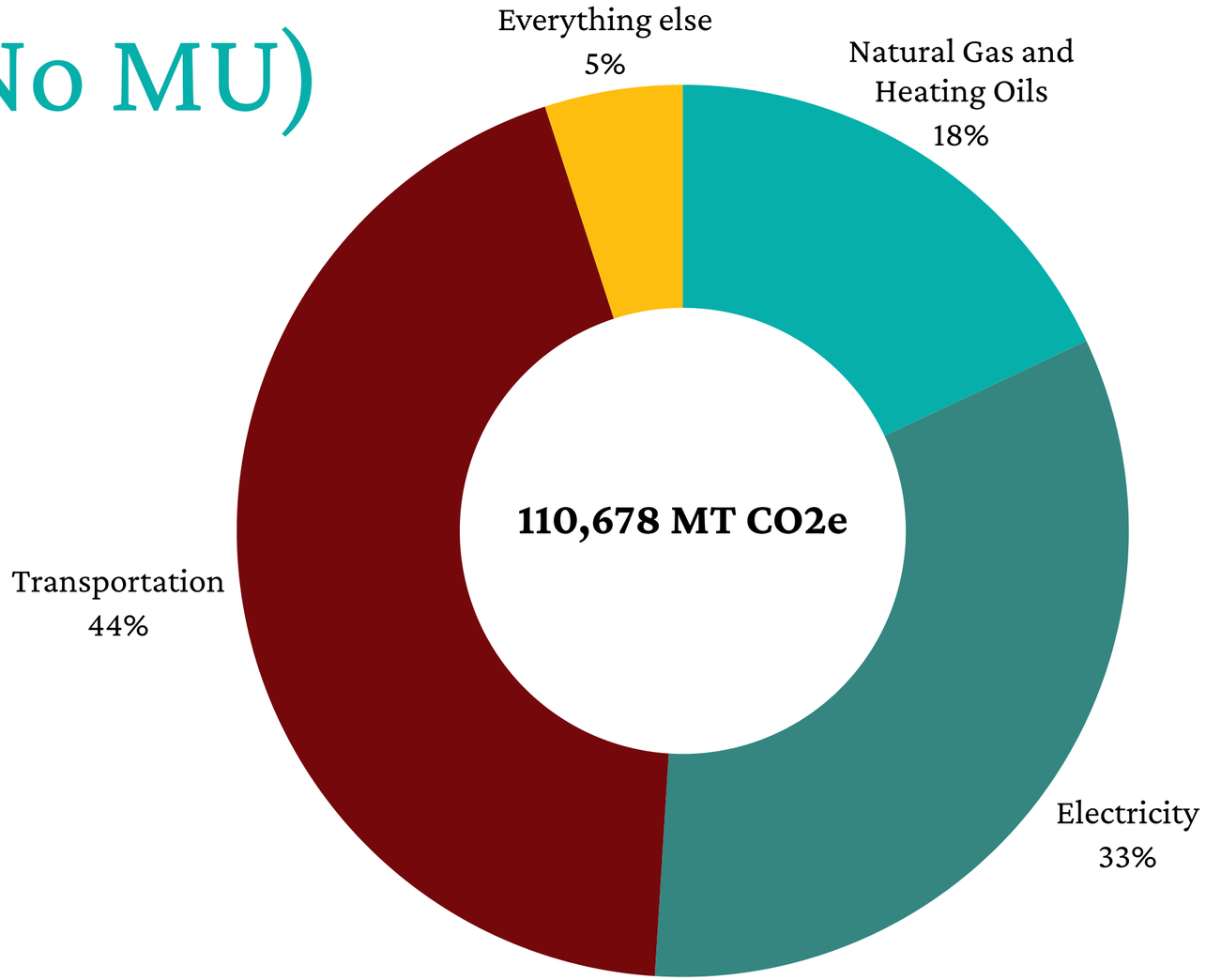
Community-wide net neutrality

Community Wide Emissions (Gross, No MU)

We have some work to do, but we're still making progress!



2023 Community Wide Emissions (Gross, No MU)



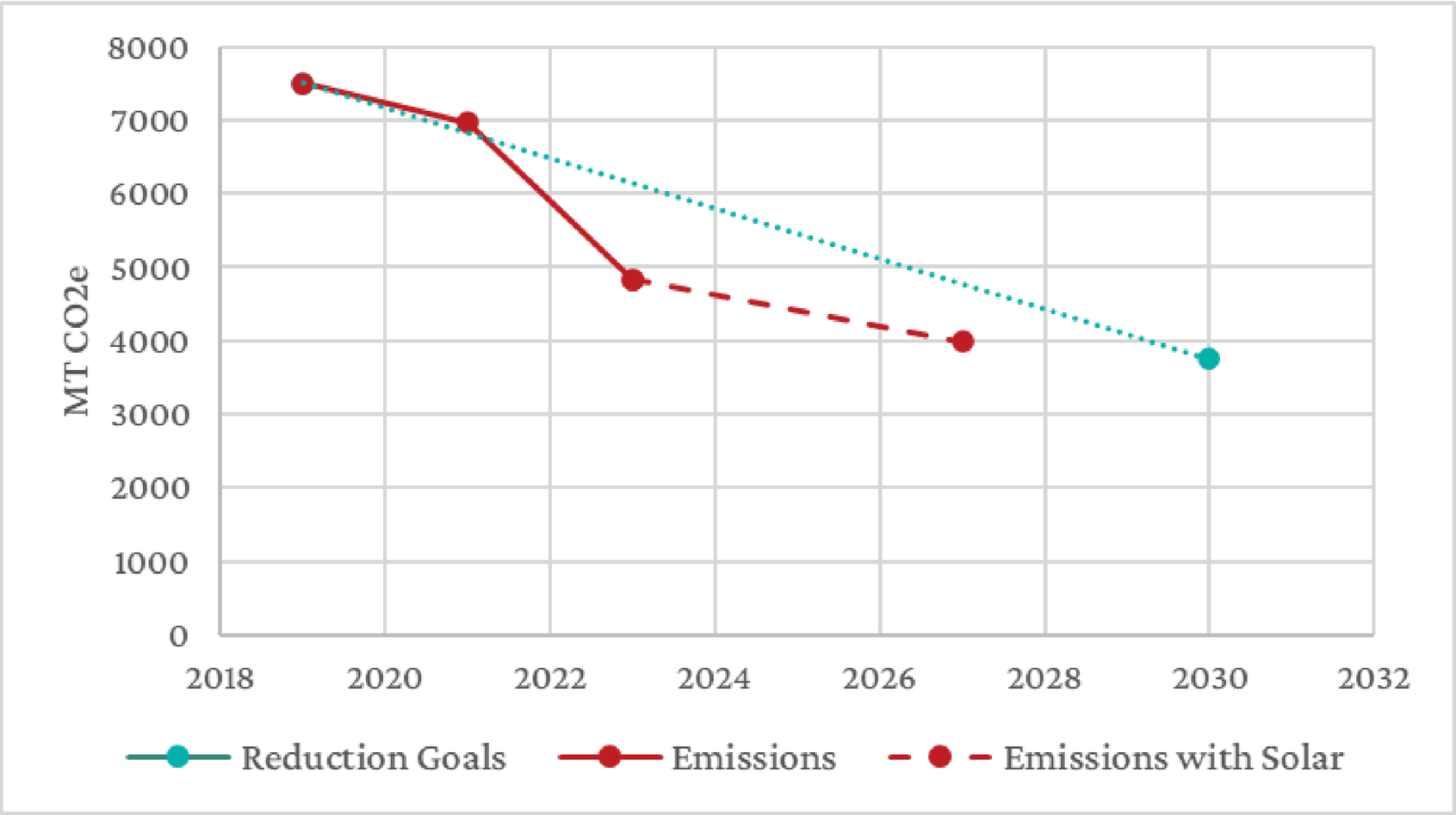
Power A Clean Future Ohio
LOCAL COMMUNITIES LEADING THE WAY

2023 Local Government Emissions

We’re ahead of schedule!

Emissions reduction is largely due to the methane flare at the closed landfill and LED street light conversions.

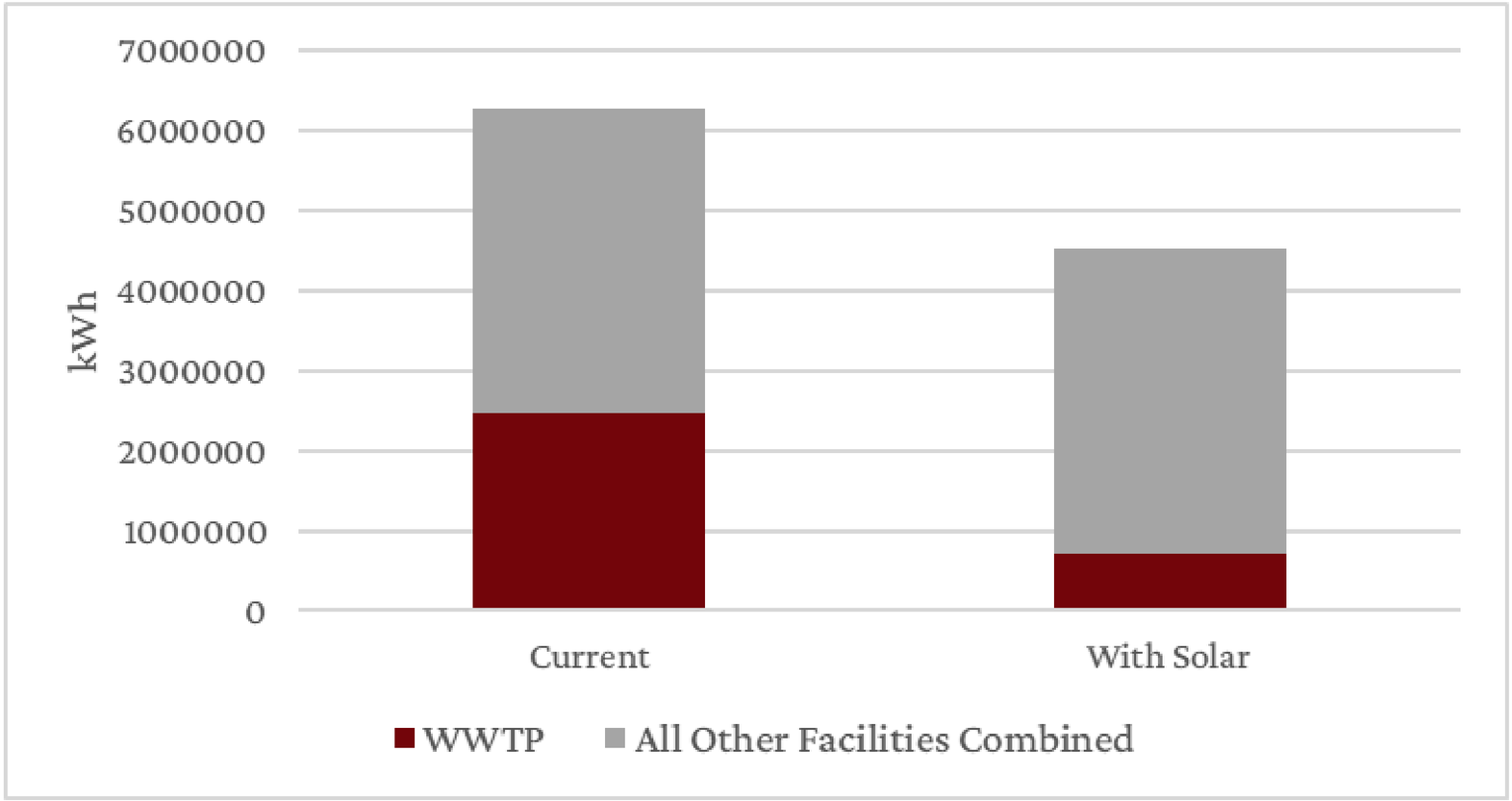
LGO projection with WWTP Solar



~10% reduction in Government Emissions from 2019

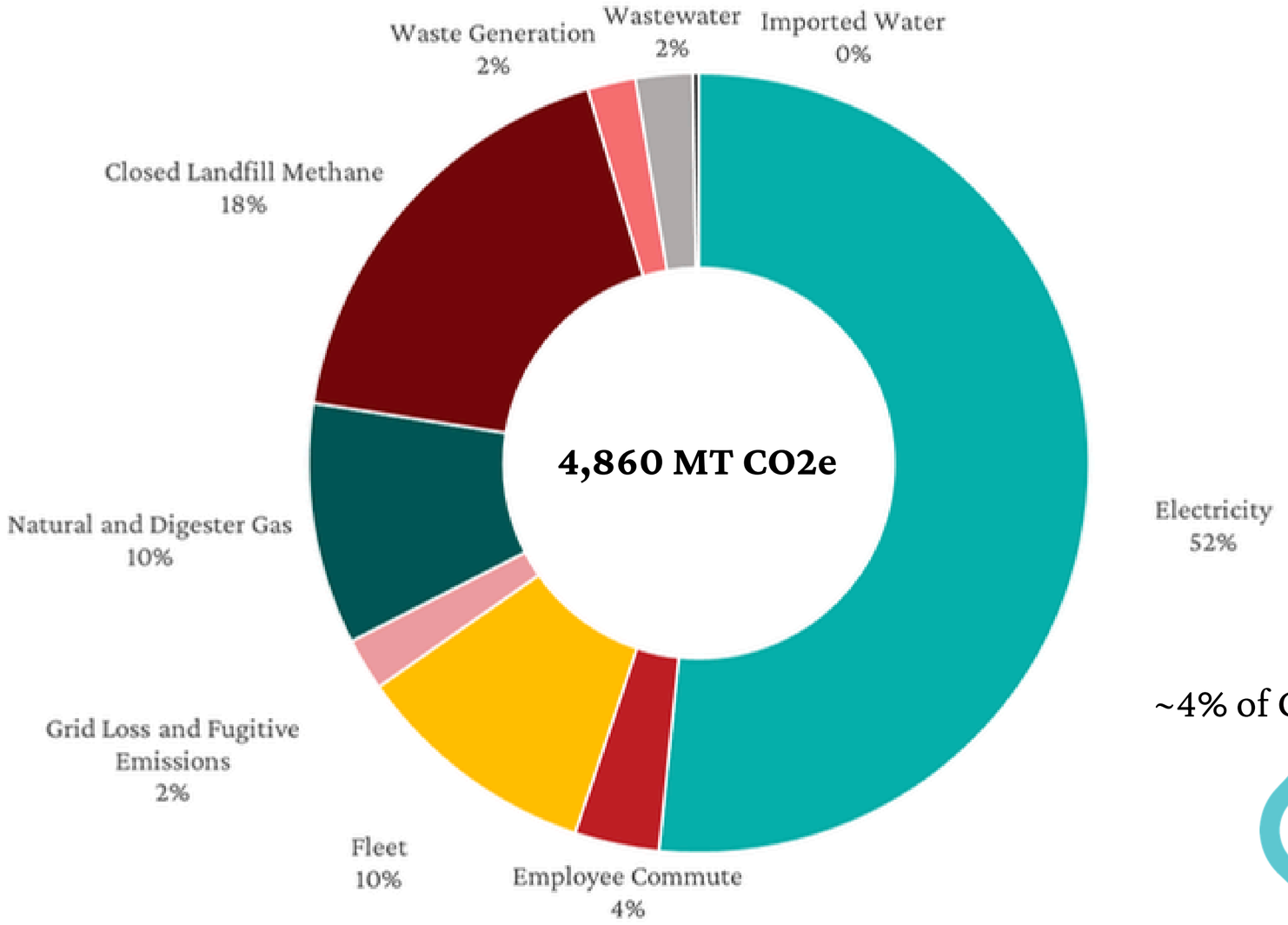
~17% reduction from 2023

LGO projection with WWTP Solar



~28% Decrease in Portfolio-Wide Purchased Electricity when compared to 2023

2023 Local Government Emissions (Gross)

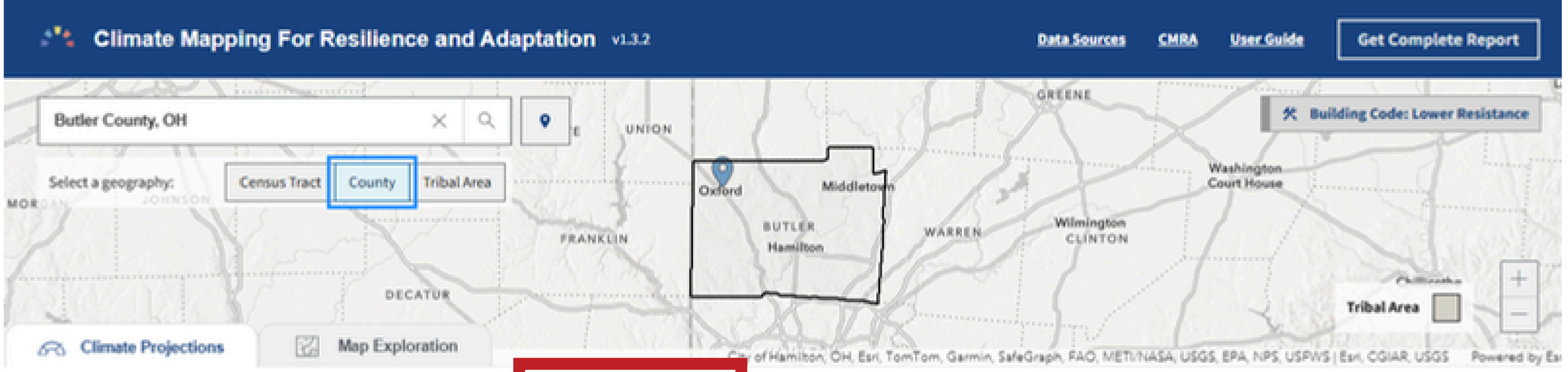


~4% of Community Scale Emissions

Power A Clean Future Ohio
LOCAL COMMUNITIES LEADING THE WAY

Oxford's Key Vulnerabilities

- INCREASING TEMPERATURES
- EXTREME STORM EVENTS
- PRECIPITATION CHANGES
- CHANGING ECOSYSTEMS



Climate Hazards

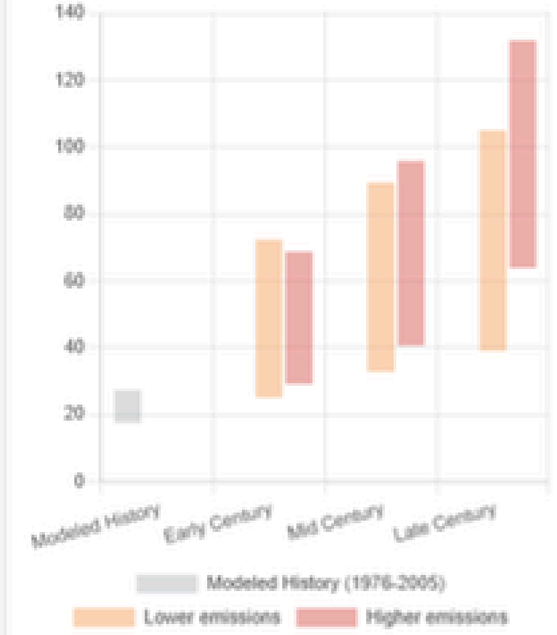
- Extreme Heat
- Drought
- Wildfire
- Flooding
- Coastal Inundation

Climate Projections fo Mid Century (2035–2064) Lower emissions Higher emissions

	Lower emissions	Higher emissions
Annual days with maximum temperature > 90°F	57.6 Days + 36.0 since 1976-2005	67.8 Days + 46.2 since 1976-2005
Annual days with maximum temperature > 95°F	21.7 Days + 18.3 since 1976-2005	30.0 Days + 26.6 since 1976-2005
Annual days with maximum temperature > 100°F	6.0 Days + 5.7 since 1976-2005	9.2 Days + 9.0 since 1976-2005
Annual days with maximum temperature > 105°F	0.9 Days + 0.9 since 1976-2005	2.1 Days + 2.1 since 1976-2005
Annual single highest maximum temperature	101.6 °F + 5.2 since 1976-2005	103.1 °F + 6.6 since 1976-2005
Annual highest maximum temperature averaged over a 5-day period	97.5 °F + 5.0 since 1976-2005	99.1 °F + 6.5 since 1976-2005
Cooling-degree days (CDD)	1,606.5 Degree Days + 584.0 since 1976-2005	1,782.5 Degree Days + 759.9 since 1976-2005

Indicator Details Chart Table

Annual days with maximum temperature > 90°F



Climate Projections | Map Exploration

City of Hamilton, OH, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USFWS | Esri, CGIAR, USGS Powered by Es

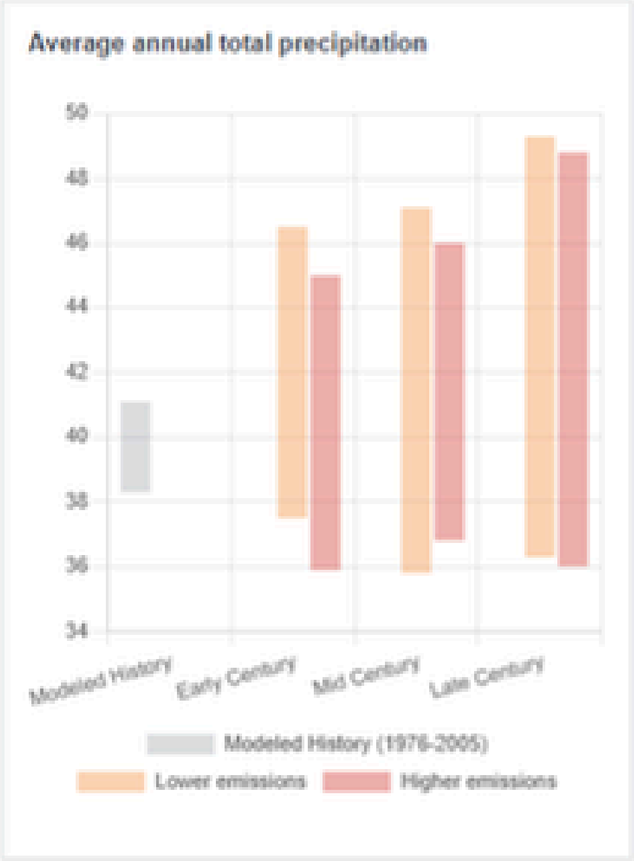
Climate Hazards

- Extreme Heat
- Drought
- Wildfire
- Flooding
- Coastal Inundation

Climate Projections for Mid Century (2035-2064)

	Lower emissions	Higher emissions
Average annual total precipitation	41.7 Inches + 2.0 since 1976-2005	42.2 Inches + 2.5 since 1976-2005
Days per year with precipitation (wet days)	184.3 Days - 3.5 since 1976-2005	183.0 Days - 4.8 since 1976-2005
Days per year with no precipitation (dry days)	180.8 Days + 3.5 since 1976-2005	182.1 Days + 4.8 since 1976-2005
Maximum number of consecutive dry days	13.4 Days + 0.9 since 1976-2005	13.6 Days + 1.0 since 1976-2005
Annual days with maximum temperature > 90°F	57.6 Days + 36.0 since 1976-2005	67.8 Days + 46.2 since 1976-2005
Annual days with maximum temperature > 100°F	6.0 Days + 5.7 since 1976-2005	9.2 Days + 9.0 since 1976-2005

Indicator Details Chart Table



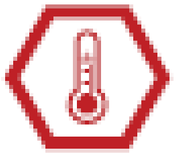
Dry seasons are going to get drier, the wet seasons are going to get wetter

WHERE YOUR SUMMER IS HEADED

Current temperatures: ERA5, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, accessed 6/15/2022
CMIP6 multi-model ensemble dataset based on current emissions trends (SSP3)

CLIMATE CENTRAL

Adaptation Goals



Decrease Risks of Increasing Temperatures

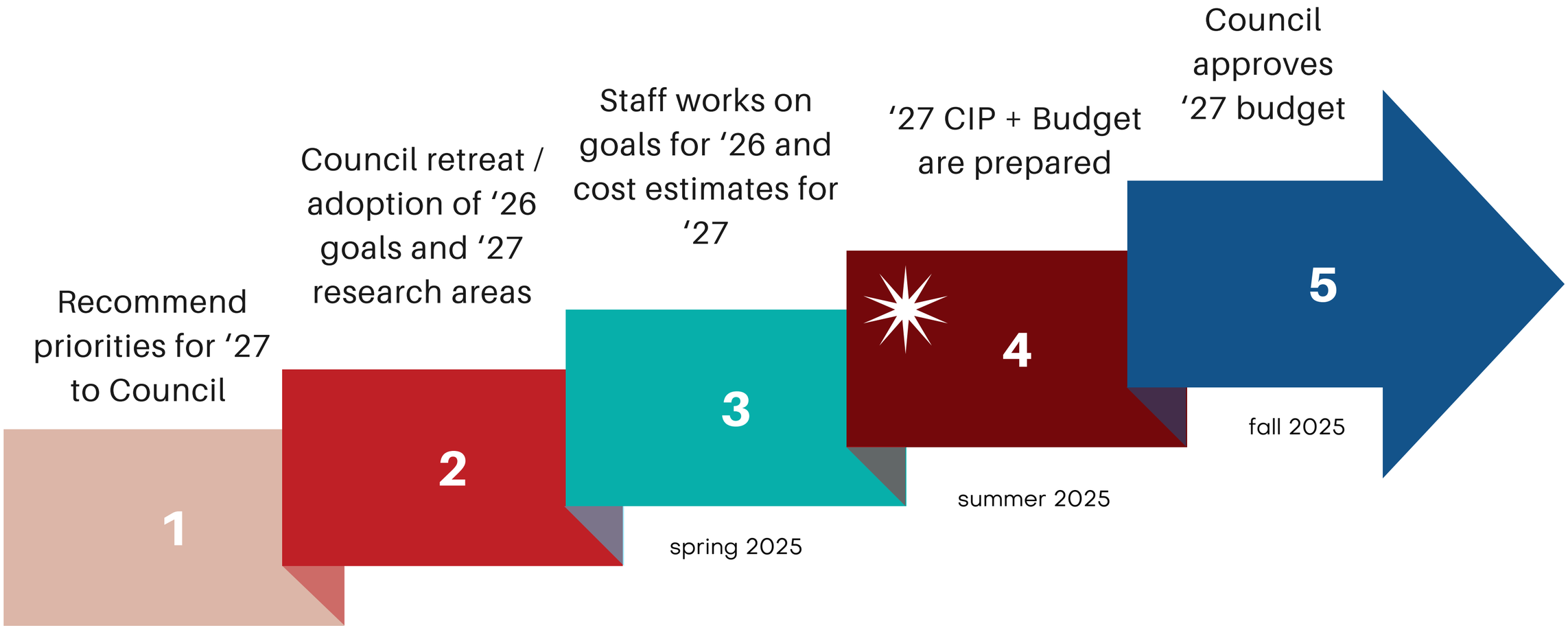
Build Resilience to Precipitation Changes like Flooding and Drought

Prepare for Increased Severe Storm Events

Strengthen Ecosystems and Urban Forests

2027 AREAS TO RESEARCH

BUDGET PROCESS



Projects we are going to do in 2027

Find a way to continue Deer Management in accordance with Deer Management Plan.
(35-50 deer per year)

Other items for 2027

- Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- Begin CAP Update
- Construction: WWTP, Senior Center, Water Softening, Amtrak
- Hazardous Waste Day (grant contingent)
- Landfill solar
- Warming cooling center (active exploration)
- Code rewrite
- Bike and Ped Plan

Projects not feasible in 2027 due to timeline or staffing constraints

Explore a bulk purchase of solar with public/private/gov entities joining.
Do an RFP for the "best deal"

Explore a bulk purchase of solar with public/private/gov entities joining. Do an RFP for the "best deal"

Staff recommendation: Wait until we have additional city-owned solar projects to implement.

2027 will focus on constructing current solar projects: WWTP, Senior Center. We do not anticipate pursuing additional city-owned solar projects in 2027.

Draft recycling mandate legislation for multi-family and commercial properties for Council vote.

Draft recycling mandate legislation for multi-family and commercial properties for Council vote.

Directive from Council at the Retreat: Wait for code rewrite first. Delay 1 year.

Draft legislation requiring dumpsters in high-density buildings. (Instead of toters)

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Directive from Council at the Retreat: Wait for code rewrite first. Delay 1 year.

Develop system to address storm water run off. Share research on storm water revenue funds in other communities and methods/models to revise street guidelines to incorporate green infrastructure.

Develop system to address storm water run off. Share research on storm water revenue funds in other communities and methods/models to revise street guidelines to incorporate green infrastructure.

Staff recommendation: Wait until 2028/29. Implementation would require significant input from the Service Department and our engineers' 2027 capacity is full.

Potential projects for 2027

Looking for EC Recommendation for which projects to prioritize

Install a 3rd flare at closed landfill

Install a 3rd flare at closed landfill

Staff Recommendation: Likely viable, but wait to see how effective the GV 17 flare is

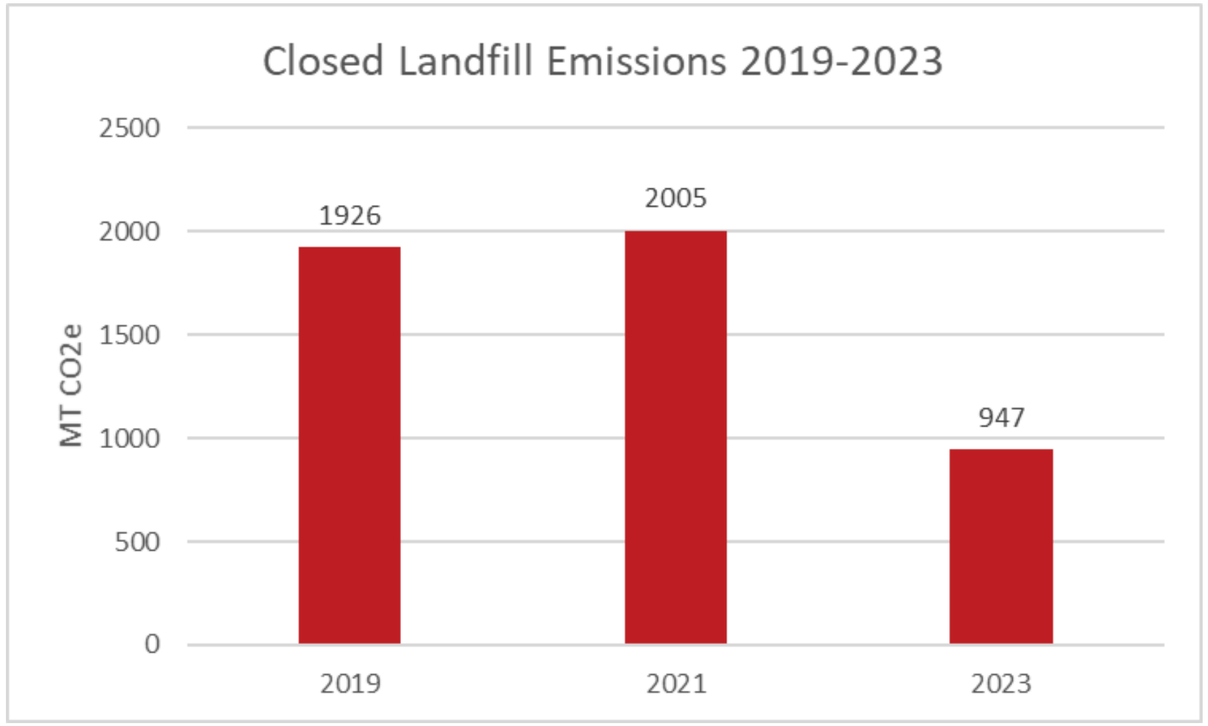
- Next highest GV's are 19 + 20, BUT they are close to the trail
- Potential flow and methane content challenges, will test with GV 17

Estimated cost: **$15-20K + $13k if we need a blower**

Current flare success

Flare on GV-23 installed in May 23

2nd flare going in on GV-17 in 2026



Current flare success

This is equivalent to CO_2 emissions from:

112,524	gallons of gasoline consumed	98,232	gallons of diesel consumed
1,110,815	pounds of coal burned	13.2	tanker trucks' worth of gasoline
134	homes' energy use for one year	208	homes' electricity use for one year
5.5	railcars' worth of coal burned	2,315	barrels of oil consumed
45,939	propane cylinders used for home barbeques	0.0003	coal-fired power plants in one year
0.003	natural gas-fired power plants in one year	80,846,773	number of smartphones charged

Methane is ~28x more powerful GHG than carbon dioxide!

Develop a grant or rebate program for residents who want to install solar.

Develop a grant or rebate program for residents who want to install solar.

Staff recommendation: CO-OP purchasing, with city rebate

Proposed rebate:

- Cover 20% of the system cost, up to 5k
- Cover up to $10k of the system cost for an LMI home

Total Cost: **$30k**, supports 5 households, potentially more

Reena, where did you get these numbers?

PCFO's solar assessment! In 2023, we had 79 residential solar arrays, with a total capacity of 594 kW = ~7.5 kW / array

Assuming ~$2.75/watt (Energysage, May 2026)
7.5 kW * $2.75/watt = $20,625 *20% = $4,125

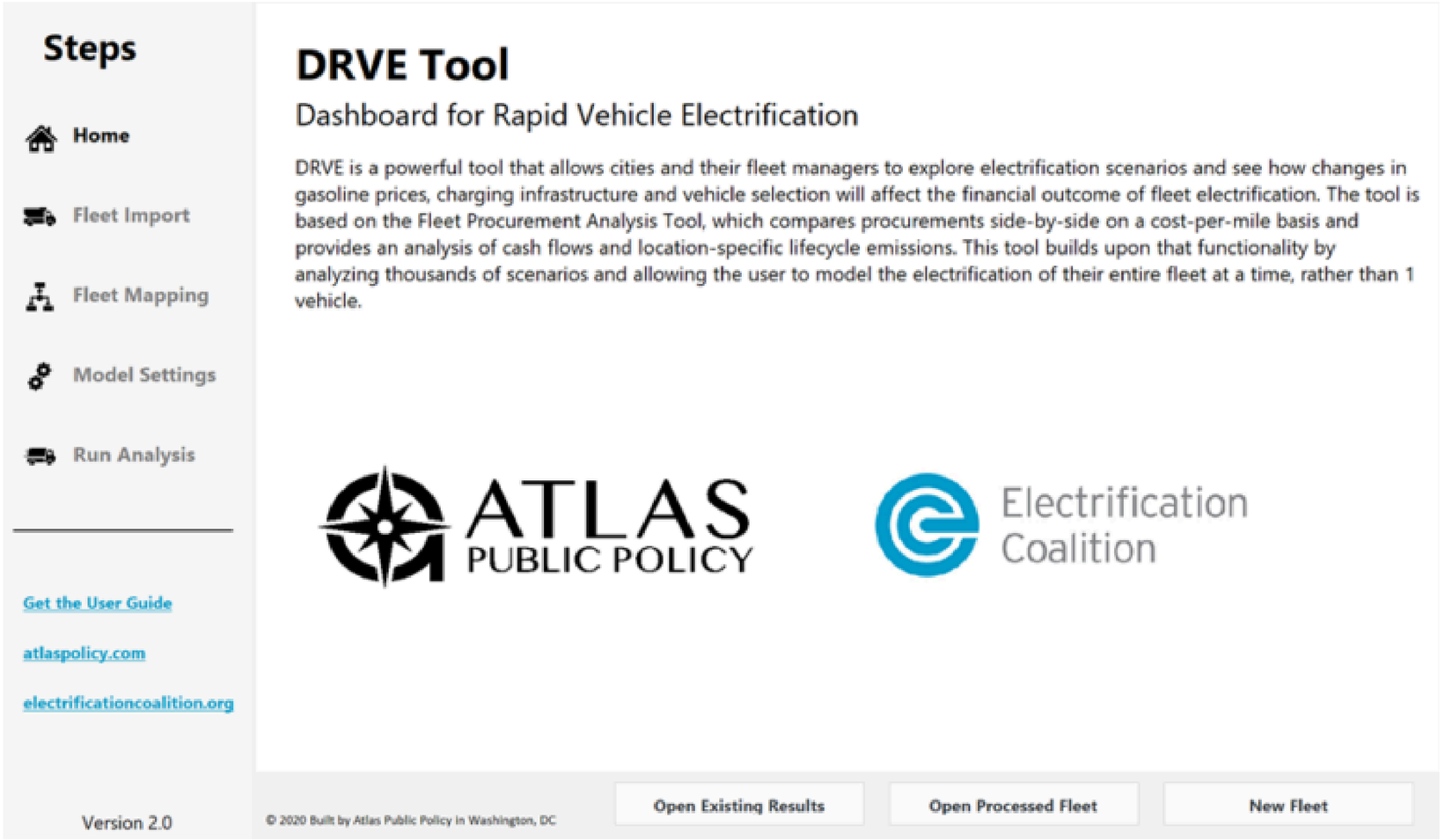
And also copying from Go Solar Columbus (:

Increase number of hybrid/electric vehicles for the city fleet.

Increase number of hybrid/electric vehicles for the city fleet.

Staff is still identifying best viable strategy. Balancing charging needs, cost-effectiveness, and reduction of MT CO2e.

Emissions reductions vary per vehicle based on use. Of the 15 vehicles evaluated, the reduction varies between 0.3-15.5 MT CO2e annually.


Steps
Home
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Run Analysis
Get the User Guide
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electrificationcoalition.org
Version 2.0
DRVE Tool
Dashboard for Rapid Vehicle Electrification
DRVE is a powerful tool that allows cities and their fleet managers to explore electrification scenarios and see how changes in gasoline prices, charging infrastructure and vehicle selection will affect the financial outcome of fleet electrification. The tool is based on the Fleet Procurement Analysis Tool, which compares procurements side-by-side on a cost-per-mile basis and provides an analysis of cash flows and location-specific lifecycle emissions. This tool builds upon that functionality by analyzing thousands of scenarios and allowing the user to model the electrification of their entire fleet at a time, rather than 1 vehicle.
ATLAS PUBLIC POLICY
Electrification Coalition
© 2020 Built by Atlas Public Policy in Washington, DC
Open Existing Results
Open Processed Fleet
New Fleet

Develop communications with biggest energy users and Butler Rural about interest in renewables.

Develop communications with biggest energy users and Butler Rural about interest in renewables.

Staff recommendation: Let's do it! No budget impact, but does require staff time.

Relatedly, SOPEC is developing a mercantile opt-in program.

Emissions Reduction Potential

3rd Flare: 200 MT CO2e annually
Solar grant for 5 homes: 25-35 MT CO2e annually (total)
City EV purchasing: 2-15 MT CO2e annually, depending on the vehicle
Big energy users: Unknown

A recommendation to Coucil regarding priority of projects:

- 3rd Flare
- Solar grant for 5 homes
- City EV purchasing
- Communications for big energy users

EC & OCASC January Joint Session

The top 2 priorities identified were:
1) Develop incentives or frameworks for clean energy and energy efficiency for residential, non-profit, and commercial adoption (i.e. grants/rebates for energy upgrades, purchasing CO-OPs, etc.)
2) Increasing the number of electric and hybrid vehicles in the city's fleet

City of Oxford OHIO
HOME OF MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Memo

Service Department
Environmental Affairs

TO: Reena Murphy, Sustainability Coordinator

FROM: David Treleaven, Environmental Specialist DT

RE: Environmental Affairs Summary for the June 3, 2026 Environmental Commission Meeting

DATE: June 1, 2026

Landfill Passive Gas Vents Emissions:

Attached is a depiction of the closed landfill's 23 passive gas vent locations. The six highlighted gas vents account for approximately 80% of the carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e) total of the landfill's emission (methane is the major component of the CO_2e tally).

Since May 2023, a solar-powered flare has been in operation burning the methane emissions from gas vent GV-23. GV-23 is the vent with the highest CO_2e value, accounting for approximately 33% of the landfill's total. The average methane concentration observed at GV-23 over 50 months of monitoring was 77.8% by volume. Flaring emissions reportedly destructs 98% of the methane component.

Later this month (once the landfill engineered vegetative cap has sufficiently dried to prevent damage to the cap), a second solar-powered flare is to be installed at GV-17. Together, GV-17 and GV-23 account for 47% of the landfill's total CO_2e emissions. GV-17's average methane concentration of the 50 days of monitoring was 56.7%. Methane was not detected at GV-17 on five of the 50 monitoring events (10% of the time). There is a concern that the periodic absence of methane and the emission flow volume at GV-17 may not be sufficient to keep the flare constantly burning. However, the flare's ignitor sparks approximately every 1.5 seconds, so when a sufficient volume of methane is present by the ignitor, it will be combusted.

The other three of the highlighted gas vents likely do not have sufficient flow volume and/or methane concentration to keep a flare consistently burning. GV-19 and GV-20 are approximately 200 feet apart. Combining the emissions from both gas vents to a single solar-powered flare would produce the third highest CO_2e emissions value. However, the flow rate of the combined gas vents would be lower than that at GV-17. An additional concern is that the Oxford Recreational Trails (Phase 5) will be in immediate proximity to these gas vents and flare. An aerial image is attached depicting the locations of GV-19, GV-20, and the Oxford Recreational Trails (Phase 5).

Residential Food Scraps Drop-off Program:

The weekly collection of the food scraps has been moved to Mondays by GoZERO to allow them to better combine the route with their other collections. Since the start of the residential food scraps drop-off program in April 2019, through May 26, 2026 (a day late due to the Memorial Day holiday) approximately 269,550 pounds (approximately 134.8 tons) of food scraps have been collected by GoZERO and converted into compost, averaging 725 pounds per week.

The weekly collection on May 26th was the 21st for the year. The year-to-date total weight of collected food scraps is approximately 14,630 pounds (approximately 7.3 tons), averaging 697 pounds per week.

The weekly averages of the food scraps are summarized below.

Weekly Averages:

2019 – 2020: 624 pounds	2020 alone: 668 pounds
2019 – 2021: 737 pounds	2021 alone: 860 pounds
2019 – 2022: 749 pounds	2022 alone: 794 pounds
2019 – 2023: 730 pounds	2023 alone: 681 pounds
2019 – 2024: 728 pounds	2024 alone: 704 pounds
2019 – 2025: 720 pounds	2025 alone: 688 pounds
2019 – 2026: 725 pounds (through May 26, 2026)	2026 alone: 697 pounds

Trash contamination is small but consistent, with trash being encountered typically three to four days a week. The trash mostly consists of non-compostable plastic grocery and/or trash bags.

Urban Forestry:

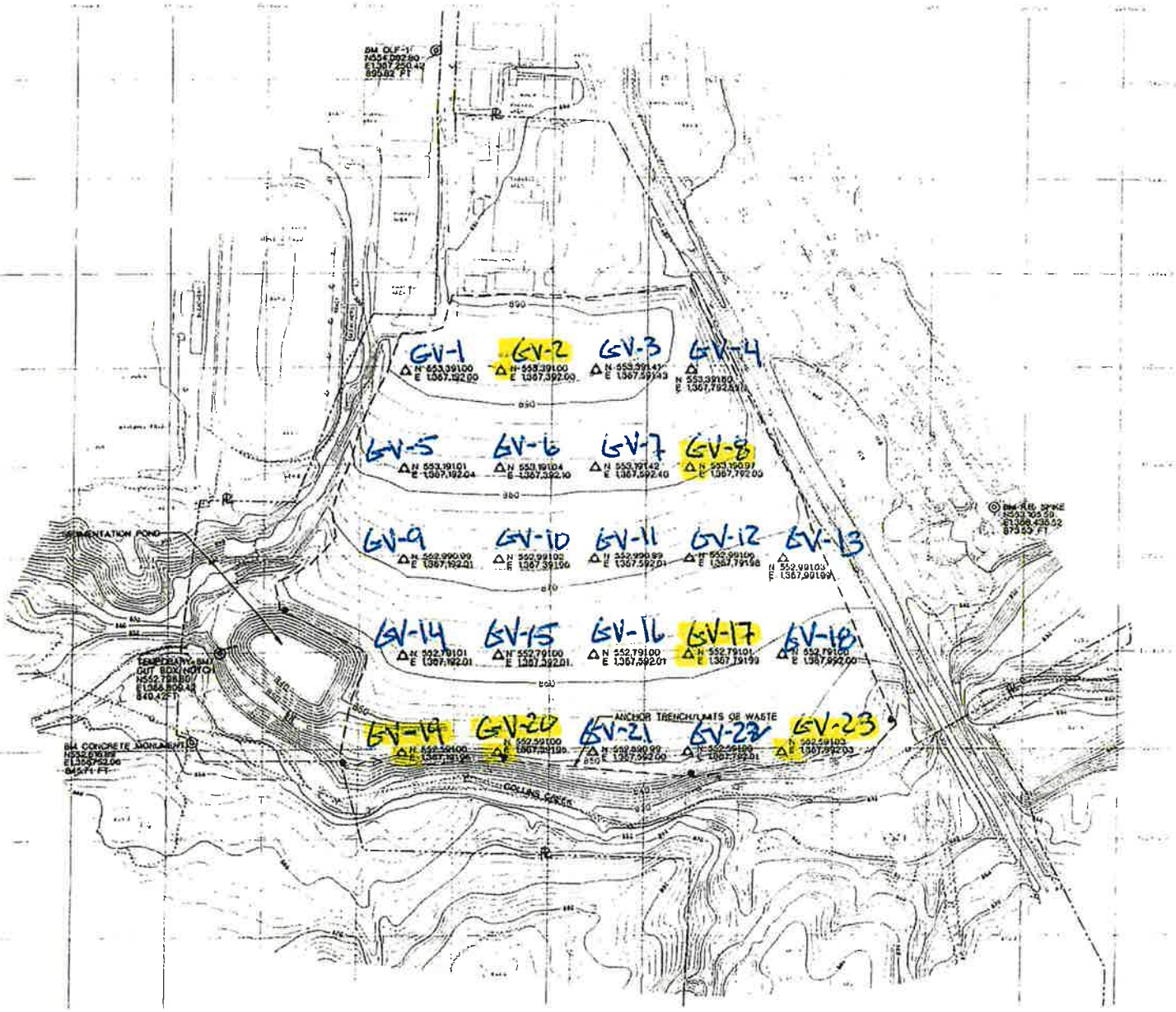
The local awards program for the Arbor Day Foundation 2025 Tree City USA was held on April 23, 2026 in Forest Park, Ohio. Ms. Peggy Branstrator and Mr. David Treleaven represented the City of Oxford at the ceremony. This was Oxford's 30 consecutive year of qualifying as a Tree City USA.

The 2026 Arbor Day recognition ceremony was held on April 24, 2026. A Burr Oak was planted in the Oxford Community Park in celebration of Arbor Day, with Mayor Mike Smith representing Oxford. Corresponding with the Arbor Day celebration, a recognition ceremony was held at the Oxford Community Park for the four (4) Memorial Trees that had been planted at

the Park in 2025 – 2026. The four new Memorial trees were two Swamp White Oaks, a Red Sunset Maple, and an Ivory Silk Lillac Tree. In addition to the new Memorial Trees, three replacement Danald Wyman Crabapples were planted in the spring of 2026. The original Crabapples had been killed or badly damaged by deer.

Twenty (20) Pear street trees in the Uptown Business District were removed and replaced by non-invasive species starting in December 2025, following the end of Miami University's first semester. The replacement trees were Armstrong Maples, Ivory Silk Lillac Trees, Sweetgums, And Zelkova, and five of each species were planted. The hard freeze that happened in mid-March 2026 corresponded with the Sweetgums' budding. Two of the five newly planted Sweetgum trees were killed by the hard freeze, two other sweetgums appeared to have had a stunted initial leaf-out, and one seemed to have weathered the cold snap well. The two dead trees were replaced in May 2026 prior to Miami University's graduation weekend.

Oxford had six street trees in the US 27 South Gateway area (East Chestnut Street and Patterson Avenue south to Southpointe Parkway) replaced in May. Four of the six trees that were replaced were Serviceberry trees. The new trees were two each of Armstrong Maples, Ivory Silk Lilac Trees, and London Plane Trees. Concurrent with the replacement tree plantings, 113 street tree squares were edged, had pre-emergent herbicide applied, and were top-dressed utilizing mulch material from Oxford's Class IV Compost Facility.



GAS VENT PLAN

CITY OF OXFORD SANITARY LANDFILL
CERTIFICATION REPORT

CITY OF OXFORD SANITARY LANDFILL
CITY OF OXFORD
101 EAST HIGH STREET
OXFORD, OHIO 45056

SCS ENGINEERS
ENGINEERS, CONSULTANTS AND SCIENTISTS
CINCINNATI, OHIO
2900 REMER ROAD, SUITE 200, FAIRFIELD, OHIO 45014
PH. (513) 422-3333 FAX NO (513) 422-2947

OX-VENT

FEBRUARY 19

AS SHOWN

EXHIBIT 3-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#1
#2
0 25 50 100 Feet
Legend
Landfill Flare
OATs Path