

# CITY COUNCIL REPORT



Meeting Date: May 21, 2024  
 General Plan Element: *Environmental Planning*  
 General Plan Goal: *Expand the city's leadership in environmental stewardship & sustainability*

## ACTION

### Community Sustainability Plan

Adopt Resolution No. 13107 approving the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan and declaring it to be a public record.

## BACKGROUND

The Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan (Attachment 1) is an important part of the city's commitment to a more sustainable future as it implements creative solutions to solving environmental challenges. The City Council included adoption of a sustainability plan as part of the city's 2022 and 2024 Organization Strategic Plans, and it was identified as a part of the General Plan 2035 implementation.

Work on the plan began in June 2021, with support of the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solution Service (ASU) and with input from the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC) and other community members. The ASU team interviewed city personnel, researched best practices and frameworks and collected ideas about possible actions at community meetings. City Council feedback at five Work Study Sessions resulted in a sharp focus on five priorities, a push to develop baseline metrics and set numeric targets, and the need to include the costs and benefits of action. The discussion at these sessions also requested the use of compelling narratives and to avoid overlap with existing plans.

Edits made to the plan since the November 2023 and March 2024 Work Study Sessions are tracked, including new or updated data, public comments and legal review. Five new or updated sections are also noted. The plan incorporates direction received from City Council at these two Work Study Sessions, but such edits are not tracked.

## ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

As Scottsdale nears build-out, expanding our sustainability efforts will be even more important. The city understands that without thoughtful planning and stewardship, our environment and quality of life may be negatively impacted. To turn this plan into action, Scottsdale has established five priority areas for becoming a sustainable, resilient, and thriving community: Energy, Water, Waste, Air Quality and Extreme Heat. The proposed solutions in the plan will

improve our natural environment and also bring other positive outcomes – including cost savings, health and safety improvements, equity and economic vitality.

This plan is an aspirational document and not a mandate, so there are no penalties if targets are not met. The indicators and baseline data for each priority show “where we are” and are tied to targets that are “where we want to be.” The work builds on existing plans, looking beyond what the city is doing and providing policy direction where efforts are newer.

The City of Scottsdale will take the lead implementing the Community Sustainability Plan and be a catalyst for further action by the private sector, non-profits and community members. Achieving sustainability for Scottsdale requires a common vision and engagement from the whole community to prioritize effective solutions. The plan is designed to be a living, working document that focuses our resources and collective action where it will be most impactful.

Implementing some of the plan’s 15 strategies and 93 actions will begin immediately, while others will start later or evolve and be revised over time. An implementation table for each priority shares initial plans for each action: time horizon for completion, lead agencies & partners, costs, and benefits. The city will administer the plan to ensure continuous improvement by producing an annual report and formally updating the plan every three years.

### **Community Involvement**

The city has been committed to a broad public input process with outreach to residents, boards and commissions and other stakeholders for their feedback. Staff and subject matter experts have provided their guidance and ideas along the way. Two sets of community meetings were held in May and October 2022 in conjunction with a public questionnaire to elicit feedback on an early draft and on overall priorities. As interim drafts were posted online and discussed at public meetings, additional input was gathered and incorporated into the plan. A final draft was posted for public review in preparation for adoption. Public comments received in April 2024 (Attachment 2) were generally supportive of the plan, and specific feedback was reviewed by staff for possible incorporation in the plan.

## **BOARD & COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC) was involved in the plan development throughout the process and drafted a support letter in February 2021 to initiate the work. SEAC shared their valuable expertise and reviewed plan drafts during 27 public meetings. Input from this seven-member public body has shaped the plan framework and message, ensured the plan reflects the character of Scottsdale and set our sights high to achieve aspirational targets. Input was also received from other Boards and Commissions: Building Advisory Board of Appeals, Transportation Commission, Mayor’s Youth Council, Neighborhood Advisory Commission, Human Relations Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Adopt Resolution No. 13107 approving the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan and declaring it to be a public record.

## RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

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Office of Environmental Initiatives

## STAFF CONTACTS (S)

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Date

## ATTACHMENTS

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1. Resolution No. 13107 adopting the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan  
Exhibit 1: "Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan"
2. Public comments (April 2024)

RESOLUTION NO. 13107

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE SCOTTSDALE COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN.

WHEREAS, the City Charter recognizes that providing for the preservation and enhancement of the environment of the City of Scottsdale is among the City's powers;

WHEREAS, the Scottsdale General Plan 2035, adopted by the Council and approved by Scottsdale voters, recognizes five core elements of sustainability and the environment – open space, environmental planning, conservation, water resources, and energy;

WHEREAS, through the City's 2022 and 2024 Organization Strategic Plans and as part of the Conserve and Preserve the Environment Strategic Goal, the Council supported developing and adopting the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan;

WHEREAS, the City Council provided input during five Work Study Sessions; and

WHEREAS, *in furtherance of the aforementioned, the Community Sustainability Plan was developed and underwent extensive community outreach efforts through community meetings and surveys and was shaped by community input including the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission and other City boards and commissions as well as subject matter experts;*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby approves and adopts the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan as set forth in Exhibit "1" attached hereto and on file with the City Clerk.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona  
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Lane, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
David D. Ortega, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



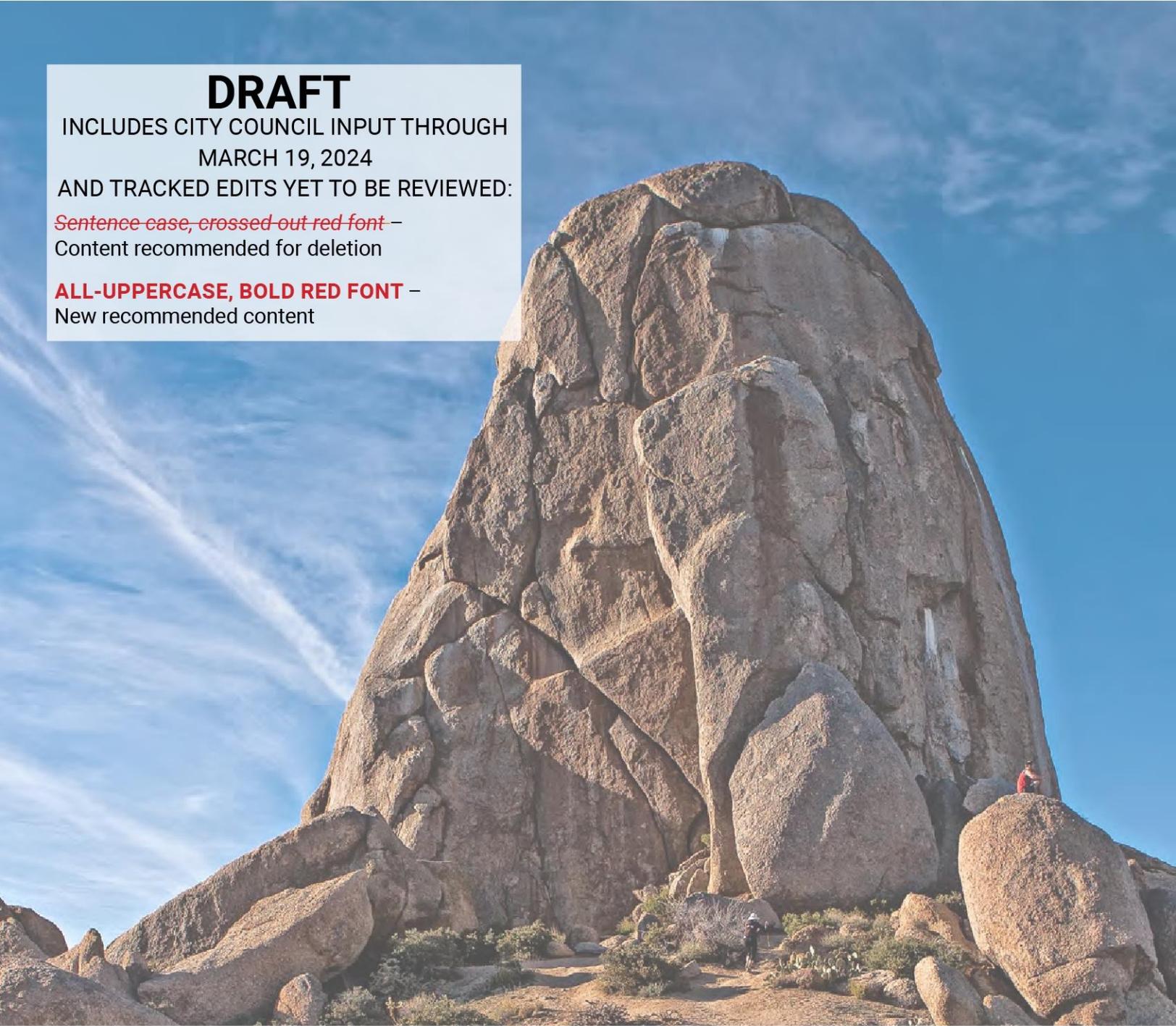
Sherry R. Scott, City Attorney  
By Karen Tyler, Senior Assistant City Attorney

# DRAFT

INCLUDES CITY COUNCIL INPUT THROUGH  
MARCH 19, 2024  
AND TRACKED EDITS YET TO BE REVIEWED:

~~Sentence case, crossed-out red font~~ –  
Content recommended for deletion

**ALL-UPPERCASE, BOLD RED FONT** –  
New recommended content



CITY OF  
**SCOTTSDALE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**  
**PLAN**



# SCOTTSDALE COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

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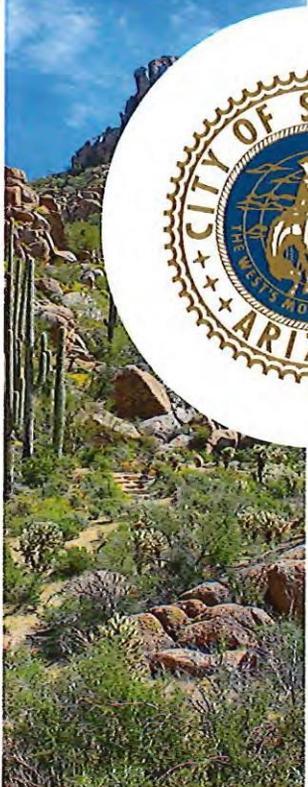
### GLOSSARY + APPENDICES + ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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FT

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE – OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Dear Scottsdale,

On behalf of the City Council, I am proud to share our Community Sustainability Plan. This plan builds on decades of sound resource management and leadership in the sustainability sector, in harmony with the Sonoran Desert environment.

Immediate and long-term priorities reflect key issues raised by residents and are described by measurable indicators to assess baseline factors and monitor the impact of our actions. Priorities of the plan focus on energy, water, waste, air quality and heat mitigation, and set meaningful targets to help gauge progress toward conservation, financial savings, and protection of the environment.

Scottsdale enjoys a thriving economy compatible with our beautiful natural environment, which are interconnected in many ways. These connections underscore the benefits of the aspirational goals we are adopting. This plan outlines how to achieve a sustainable future and stable ecosystem. Scottsdale is renowned for many attributes – quality of life, natural beauty, and world-class amenities. By embracing this Community Sustainability Plan, we can preserve these attributes for future generations.

I especially want to thank the members of the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission for their thoughtfulness and expertise. Moreover, I call on all of us to monitor our progress and experience positive results in our everyday lives.

Yours truly,

David D. Ortega  
Mayor of Scottsdale



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan (the plan) helps us envision and realize our future as a sustainable, resilient and thriving community that embraces a comprehensive approach for achieving ambitious targets. As imagined by City Council and Scottsdale voters through the approval of the 2035 General Plan, this plan will enhance and expand the work already being done by city staff, residents and businesses. The plan provides a roadmap and specific action steps for achieving long-term targets and will require cohesive implementation by the City of Scottsdale, businesses, civic organizations and individual members of the community.

## WHY A SUSTAINABILITY PLAN?

Scottsdale is well-known for livability, unparalleled leisure and world-class amenities. The diversity and natural beauty of Scottsdale's landscapes are among its defining features, and the city has long championed environmental stewardship while maintaining a high quality of life for residents, visitors and businesses.

As Scottsdale nears build-out, expanding our sustainability efforts will be even more important. The city understands that without thoughtful planning and stewardship, our environment and quality of life may be negatively impacted by long-standing practices and systemic trends. The plan's key elements – energy, water, waste, air quality and extreme heat – all improve our natural environment. But the proposed solutions also bring other positive outcomes – including cost savings, health and safety improvements, equity and economic vitality.





## SUSTAINABILITY A SCOTTSDALE GUIDING PRINCIPLE

Over the years, Scottsdale has proactively found creative solutions to environmental challenges and committed to make life better for residents and visitors. The city responded to flooding problems by building the Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt, a series of parks and amenities covering 11 miles in the center of the city, which was also the first non-structural flood control solution in the country.

Over 30,000 acres of desert habitat has been permanently preserved through the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Meaningful desert open space – whether actively or passively managed – is a fundamental part of Scottsdale’s character and is created and maintained with the support of residents, for their benefit and for benefit of the environment. The city uses zoning and other requirements to guide development in desert and mountain areas, through policies like the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Overlay District (ESL). The ESL ordinance requires a percentage of each property be permanently preserved as Natural Area Open Space and that specific environmental features be protected through land use dedications and easements.

Scottsdale pioneered total wastewater reuse and water banking through advanced purification systems, recycling and storing water and reducing reliance on surface water. The Scottsdale Water Campus is home to the Advanced Water Treatment Facility, one of the most sophisticated recycled water facilities in the world and the third permanent facility in the nation permitted as a pilot program for advanced water purification. The AWT is one of the largest potable water purification facilities in the world and can treat up to 20 million gallons of recycled water a day.

Launched in 1998, Scottsdale’s first-in-the-state Green Building Program encourages a whole-systems approach through building design and construction to minimize environmental impacts, reduce energy use and improve occupant health. In 2005, City Council adopted a LEED Gold requirement or higher for all public buildings, leading to the construction of the first LEED Platinum certified fire station in the country – Scottsdale Fire Station 602. In 2022, Scottsdale became the first in the state and one of only a few cities nationwide to adopt mandatory ‘green’ building code requirements by mandating compliance with the International Green Construction Code (IgCC).

# SCIENCE & ECONOMICS OF SUSTAINABILITY

The science behind sustainability efforts is compelling. NASA's records and analysis confirm that the climate is warming faster than any time in the past 10,000 years. The use of fossil fuels emits heat-trapping pollution into the atmosphere forming a thick blanket around the Earth, causing our planet to overheat and creating irreversible damage. Models estimate that temperatures may increase another 4.5 to 8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100,<sup>1</sup> but other changes in our climate are occurring much faster and can already be seen. NASA has compiled datasets that show warming oceans, rising sea levels and more extreme weather events, among a long list of impacts. Extreme heat acts a threat multiplier, worsening air quality and making our climate more arid.

Temperatures Valleywide in July 2023 made it the hottest month ever recorded in a U.S. city – a result of natural variability, the urban heat island effect and climate change.<sup>2</sup> This new record continues a trend of increasing average temperatures going back over a century of data. But averages only tell some of the story, since the number and length of heat waves has also been increasing.<sup>3</sup> The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs also means that nighttime temperatures were uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

## DAILY AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) VALUES: OZONE PHOENIX-MESA-SCOTTSDALE

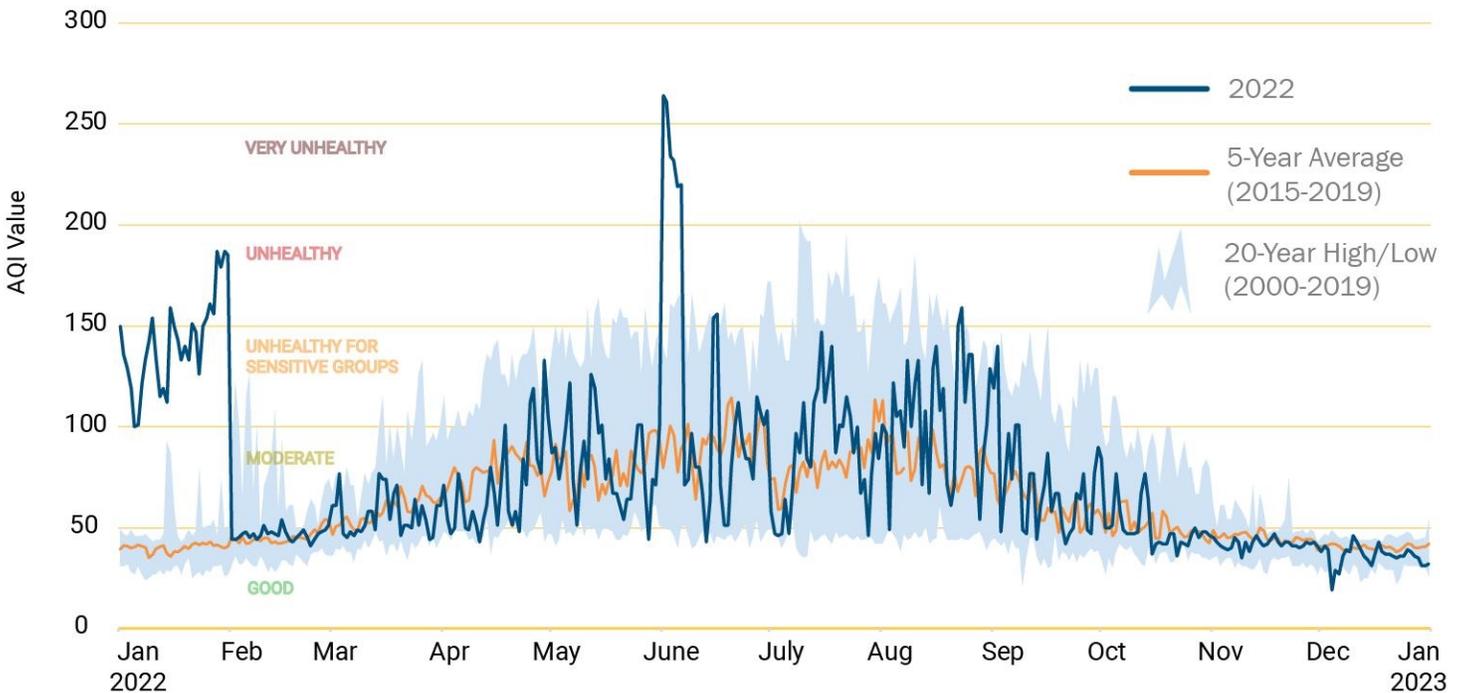


Figure 1. Source: Air Data - Daily Air Quality Tracker

The desert southwest is also experiencing one of its worst droughts in 1,200 years. Insufficient rainfall and snowpacks have lowered lake levels, endangered water supplies and impacted soil moisture and vegetation. The over-allocation of Colorado River water supplies, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential – and more difficult.



Scientific data helps us understand how our air quality is changing and the resulting health impacts. The region’s two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter, as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The causes of these pollutants are complex, especially given how far ozone, dust and smoke can travel in the air. Regional air quality has fluctuated in recent years, in part reflecting the influence of extremely hot summers on the number of unhealthy days. In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards – 30% or 106 days. In 2020 and 2021, the air quality was in the ‘very unhealthy’ range for more than two months.



Just as the science of sustainability motivates us to take action, the economics of sustainability help us understand how to get started, guiding the efficient use of resources and the long-term response to climate change. The concept of the ‘triple bottom line’ means that financial, social and environmental performance should influence decision-making, highlighting how our ecosystem fuels the economy.

Safeguarding a sustainable future for Scottsdale will require investments, both by the city government and by residents and businesses. Innovation and other factors have been driving down the costs of technology like photovoltaic systems (down 80% since 2010), and rebates and grants can also lower upfront costs. Similarly, the prices of renewable energy, electric vehicles and batteries have also dropped.

Failing to act also has costs, highlighting the relationship between a healthy economy and the environment. Extreme heat, poor air quality and drought can affect the economy in a range of ways: health impacts, loss of business when people stay indoors or cut visits short and utility bills squeezing disposable income.

A case-by-case comparison of costs to benefits – including the cost of doing nothing – will identify projects that make financial sense. For example, reducing energy and water use often yields favorable cost-benefit ratios, meaning that the cumulative savings from lowered use can exceed the costs in a short period of time.

Support for sustainability in Scottsdale is driven by many factors, including the economic benefits of action. As a city that thrives on innovation, collaboration and sustainable growth, Scottsdale already fosters a business-friendly climate that generates some of the world’s most successful companies and entrepreneurs. The beauty and sustainability of the region’s natural environment is integral to its economic vitality, with tourism alone having an estimated annual economic impact of \$2.5 billion.<sup>4</sup>

A greener future can also be one where residents, tourists and businesses continue to prosper. To sustain our economy, it is essential that we take actions to ensure that our ecosystem is healthy.

## FRAMEWORK

To turn this plan into action, Scottsdale has established five priority areas: **Energy**, **Water**, **Waste**, **Air Quality** and **Extreme Heat**. This framework – which grew from the goals and policies for sustainability set in the 2035 General plan – supports the protection of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem and will help attract residents and visitors, providing economic benefits and ensuring a high quality of life.

The plan is an aspirational document and not a mandate, so there are no penalties if targets are not met. The indicators and baseline data for each priority show “where we are” and are tied to targets that are “where we want to be.” The work builds on existing plans, looking beyond what the city is doing and providing policy direction where efforts are newer or are now more urgent.

These five priority areas sometimes overlap in important ways, so the plan structure facilitates collaboration and reinforces the connections between topics. Tackling the challenges of energy and water consumption and waste generation provide benefits like cost savings, improved health and reduced pollution. These steps also improve air quality and address extreme heat. For example, fewer greenhouse gas emissions mean less polluted air and lower temperatures, which in turn results in less energy needed to cool buildings. Adding desert-adapted trees filters pollutants from the air and provides shade.

Rising temperatures compound a myriad of other interrelated problems, including the drought as hotter temperatures further shrink water supplies. Hotter temperatures increase the frequency and destructiveness of wildfires and draw more moisture from the ground generating intense and frequent haboobs (dust storms). Air quality is degraded as wildfires and haboobs significantly increase concentrations of particulate matter and other pollutants, and heat directly increases the production rate of ground-level ozone. Exposure to extreme heat and air pollution also compounds health impacts.

## ENERGY

Maximize the use of renewable energy resources, energy efficiency, and responses to climate challenges.

## WATER

Conserve, protect and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future.

## WASTE

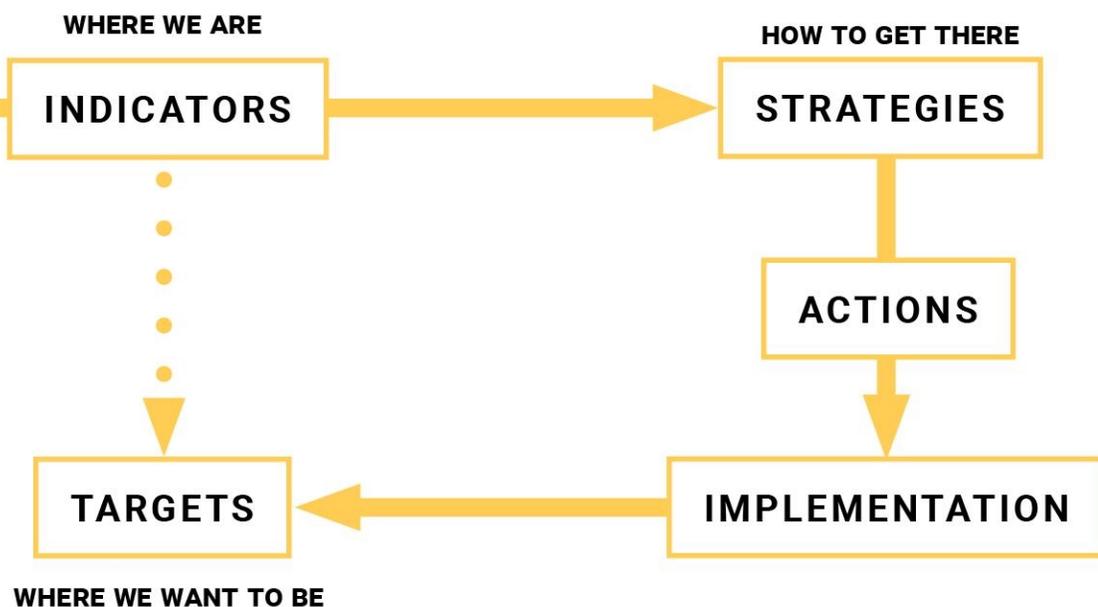
Develop a circular economy approach for materials management and effective citywide diversion of all waste streams.

## AIR QUALITY

Reduce contaminants and pollutants to improve air quality and protect community health.

## EXTREME HEAT

Ensure that the community prevents, is prepared for, responds to and recovers from extreme heat.



# ENERGY

Maximize the use of renewable energy resources, energy efficiency and responses to climate challenges.

Residents and businesses rely on electricity and other energy sources every day to operate computers, cooling appliances and lighting. Much of this energy is provided by regulated utilities and comes from burning fossil fuels like coal or natural gas for electricity, heat and transportation. Using less energy yields cleaner air and health benefits, supports green jobs and generates cost savings. Taking additional steps to use more clean or renewable energy further protects the environment by reducing pollutants and greenhouse gases associated with burning fossil fuels.

## ENERGY TARGETS

- Reduce citywide electricity use per square foot by 15% by 2035 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce municipal electricity use by 15% by 2035 (from 2022 levels) through efficiency measures
- Increase distributed solar capacity citywide to 180 MW by 2030 and to 500 MW by 2040
- Increase municipal solar capacity to 5 MW by 2030
- Reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce the average energy burden to 6% or less for all households by 2035
- Increase the percentage of green buildings to 10% of the total by 2035

## ENERGY STRATEGIES

- NRG 1** Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.
- NRG 2** Improve municipal energy performance.
- NRG 3** Reduce energy impacts of the built environment through sustainable building practices and policies.

# WATER

Conserve, protect and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future.

Providing quality drinking water and ensuring adequate water supplies has been a long-standing priority in Scottsdale. As reflected in the recently adopted "Sustainable Water Management Principles," Scottsdale Water thinks and acts strategically with its water resources – from supply, quality, and conservation to recycling and recharge. Staff administers several residential and commercial incentive rebate programs, offers residential outdoor efficiency checks, a commercial audit program, manages ordinance compliance like water waste complaints, and offers water efficiency educational opportunities. Demand for these services has been growing since the activation of Stage 1 of the city's Drought Management Plan.

## WATER TARGETS

- Reduce residential water use (gallons per capita per day) to 170 by 2033
- Reduce municipal potable water use by 5% by 2027 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce irrigation water use for HOA properties by 10% by 2033 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce commercial water use by 10% by 2033 (from 2022 levels)
- Increase return flow percentage by 10% by 2033
- Maximize annual water banking
- Maintain treated groundwater deliveries to Safe Yield levels

## WATER STRATEGIES

- WTR 1** Ensure water system resiliency.
- WTR 2** Reduce municipal water use.



# WASTE

Develop a circular economy approach for materials management and effective citywide diversion of all waste streams.

Managing waste better and more efficiently benefits everyone. Recycling or reusing goods reduces the reliance on finite natural resources and yields cost savings by buying less and avoiding landfill fees. Solid Waste trucks will drive fewer miles on city streets, litter is reduced, jobs can be created and fewer landfills need to be built and maintained. Because of these benefits, achieving 'zero waste' has become a common long-term target for municipalities and organizations. Sustainable materials management (SMM) goes beyond diversion to maximize environmental benefits and extend the life cycle of products and materials by keeping them in circulation as long as possible. This approach looks at extraction of resources, design, production and use of products, as well as end-of-life management and disposal. One application of SMM is the creation of a circular economy, which "reduces material use, redesigns materials and products to be less resource intensive, and recaptures 'waste' as a resource to manufacture new materials and products."

## WASTE TARGETS

- Reduce landfill refuse per single-family household by 25% by 2030 and 90% by 2040 (from 2022 levels)
- Reduce landfill refuse citywide by 90% by 2040
- Reduce municipal landfill refuse by 35% by 2030 and 90% by 2040 (from 2024 levels)  
*(excludes municipal green landscaping debris hauled under city contract)*
- Achieve a 35% diversion rate by 2030 (single-family households)
- Achieve a 90% diversion rate by 2040 (citywide)
- Achieve a 35% diversion rate by 2030 and a 90% diversion rate by 2040 (municipal waste)
- Increase the percentage of Solid Waste Services commercial accounts that recycle to 40% by 2030
- Achieve a diversion rate from the brush and bulk waste stream of 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2040
- Divert 15,000 tons annually of citywide organic waste from the landfill by 2030 and 30,000 tons annually by 2040 *(excludes brush and bulk and municipal green landscaping debris hauled under city contract)*
- Maintain a recycling contamination rate below 10% by 2025 and below 5% by 2045

## WASTE STRATEGIES

- WST 1** Increase diversion rates.
- WST 2** Strengthen local markets for recycled content, recyclable and reusable materials.
- WST 3** Expand opportunities for diverting organic waste from the landfill.
- WST 4** Reduce waste generation.



Like many metropolitan areas, Scottsdale has been working for years to improve air quality. The region’s two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter (PM), as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The causes of these pollutants are complex, given the number of sources and how far both can travel in the air. Particulate matter, classified as small (PM-2.5) or large (PM-10), usually occurs as blowing dust or smoke from fires or fireworks. Ground-level ozone is created when nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and sunlight react, making ozone primarily a summer issue.

### AIR QUALITY TARGETS

- Reduce unhealthy air days in Scottsdale by 2030
- Reduce illnesses for pollution-related health events (per 100,000 population) by 2030
- Reduce municipal fleet fuel use by 10% by 2030 and 40% by 2050 (from 2023 levels)
- Increase number of publicly available charging ports four-fold by 2027 and ten-fold by 2030 (from 2023 levels)

### AIR QUALITY STRATEGIES

- AQ 1** Clean Scottsdale’s air.
- AQ 2** Support adoption of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles.

# EXTREME HEAT

Ensure that the community prevents, is prepared for, responds to and recovers from extreme heat.

Temperatures in 2023 set records for extreme heat: regionally, for the hottest July and the most heat-related fatalities, and globally, for the hottest year ever. Located in the Sonoran Desert, Scottsdale and other Valley cities are experiencing a trend of increasing average temperatures going back over a century of data. But averages only tell some of the story, since the number and length of heat waves has also been increasing.<sup>5</sup> The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs also makes nighttime temperatures uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

These long and hot summers impact human health, quality of life and economic vitality. Increased heat results in added energy use and higher air conditioning. Staying indoors during extreme heat is not always an option, and the impact of people deferring work, shopping or other activities can have a negative impact on the economy.

## EXTREME HEAT TARGETS

- Reduce average July day- and night-time air temperatures by 2030
- Reduce average surface temperatures by 2030 in the Greater Airpark, Old Town and McDowell Road/Scottsdale Road growth areas
- Reduce illnesses for heat-related health events (per 100,000 population) by 2030
- Increase tree and shrub canopy to 20% by 2030 and 25% by 2040

## EXTREME HEAT STRATEGIES

- HT 1** Expand heat relief communication and education.
- HT 2** Protect people from the health effects of extreme heat.
- HT 3** Identify urban design improvements including structured shade and built environment.
- HT 4** Plant more trees and implement other nature-based solutions.

## IMPLEMENTATION

The city of Scottsdale will take the lead on implementing the Community Sustainability Plan and be a catalyst for further action by the private sector, non-profits and community members. Achieving sustainability for Scottsdale requires a common vision and engagement from the whole community to prioritize effective solutions. Implementation of the plan will be strategic and strive to maximize the benefits for all Scottsdale residents and visitors. The plan is designed to be a living, working document that will focus our resources and collective action where it will be most impactful.

The city will take important steps to ensure continuous evaluation and improvement:

1. Produce an annual progress report that includes a section chronicling city achievements and data.
2. Formally update the plan every three years.

Implementing some of the plan’s 15 strategies and 93 actions will begin immediately, while others will start later or evolve and be revised over time. Implementation will require that specific project plans be developed for each action, identifying costs, personnel needs, barriers and milestones.

An implementation table for each priority shares four elements for each action:

**Time Horizon For Completion:** Quick Win,\* 1-3 years, 3-10 years or Ongoing

**Lead Agencies & Partners:** Additional partners will likely be added during project development

**Costs:** Costs are estimated and may change during project development or implementation

- \$ – **Low** (\$0 - \$50,000)
- \$\$ – **Moderate** (\$50,001 - \$250,000)
- \$\$\$ – **High** (Over \$250,000)

**Benefits:**

-  Environmental (air quality, carbon emissions, waste reduction, drought relief)
-  Economic (\$ savings, attracting businesses and tourism)
-  Social (health & safety, quality of life, equity, resiliency)

\* After initial implementation, “quick wins” may transition to “ongoing” programs.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The city of Scottsdale hopes that residents, businesses and non-profits are also motivated to improve the world around them. Work with us and support one of the actions in the plan or be innovative and start your own project! Here are some places to get started:

The plan provides specific actions for achieving long-term goals and will require efforts by city government and members of the community. In each section, the “What Can You Do?” graphics will include more interesting tips and suggestions – check them out!

The [CoolClimate Network](#) offers a simple tool to help you understand your personal environmental impact. They even have a [version for businesses](#). Use the calculators to see what kinds of changes you can make to your travel, buildings and shopping and make a pledge to act.

Engage your family, neighbors and co-workers about sustainability. Ask them questions about what concerns them the most and tell them what you’re doing to make an impact. Conversations about the environment can help people connect over shared values.

Scottsdale may not be a large city, but our position as a respected tourist destination in a unique desert environment has always shaped our commitment to being good environmental stewards. This is not the end of our planning but rather a starting point for a continued sustainability journey – join us!



## ENDNOTES

- 1 ["Is it too late to prevent climate change?"](#) NASA Global Climate Change.
- 2 ["Phoenix just posted the hottest month ever observed in a U.S. city,"](#) Washington Post.
- 3 ["Arizona Then and Now: Summer heat,"](#) *Arizona Republic*, 07/28/2016.
- 4 ["Scottsdale Tourism Study - Visitor Statistics,"](#) City of Scottsdale, September 2022.
- 5 ["Arizona Then and Now: Summer heat,"](#) *Arizona Republic*, 07/28/2016.

# INTRODUCTION

## WHY A SUSTAINABILITY PLAN?

Scottsdale is well-known for livability, unparalleled leisure and world-class amenities. The diversity and natural beauty of Scottsdale's landscapes are among its defining features, and the city has long championed environmental stewardship while maintaining a high quality of life for residents, visitors and businesses. The public consistently agrees the "overall quality of natural environment in Scottsdale" is essential or very important.<sup>1</sup>

*"Sustainability is a condition of living that enables the present generation to enjoy social wellbeing, a vibrant economy and a healthy environment, without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy the same."*

- [Scottsdale General Plan 2035](#),  
page 280

As Scottsdale nears build-out, expanding our sustainability efforts is even more important. The city understands that without thoughtful planning and stewardship, our environment and quality of life may be negatively impacted by long-standing practices and systemic trends – including drought, extreme heat, air pollution and economic and social inequities. The worsening impacts of climate change compel further sustainability action by Scottsdale.

The benefits of planning for sustainability in Scottsdale are numerous. The plan's key elements – energy, water, waste, air quality and extreme heat – all improve our natural environment. But the proposed solutions also bring other positive outcomes – including cost savings, health and safety improvements, equity and economic vitality. **We know these benefits outweigh the upfront costs because we already see community members taking similar action.**

The city will need to work in partnership with residents and businesses to succeed. The plan builds on Scottsdale's legacy of effective, resident-centered governance and sound economic management. The plan provides a roadmap and specific action steps for achieving long-term goals and will require cohesive implementation by the City of Scottsdale, businesses, civic organizations and individual members of the community.



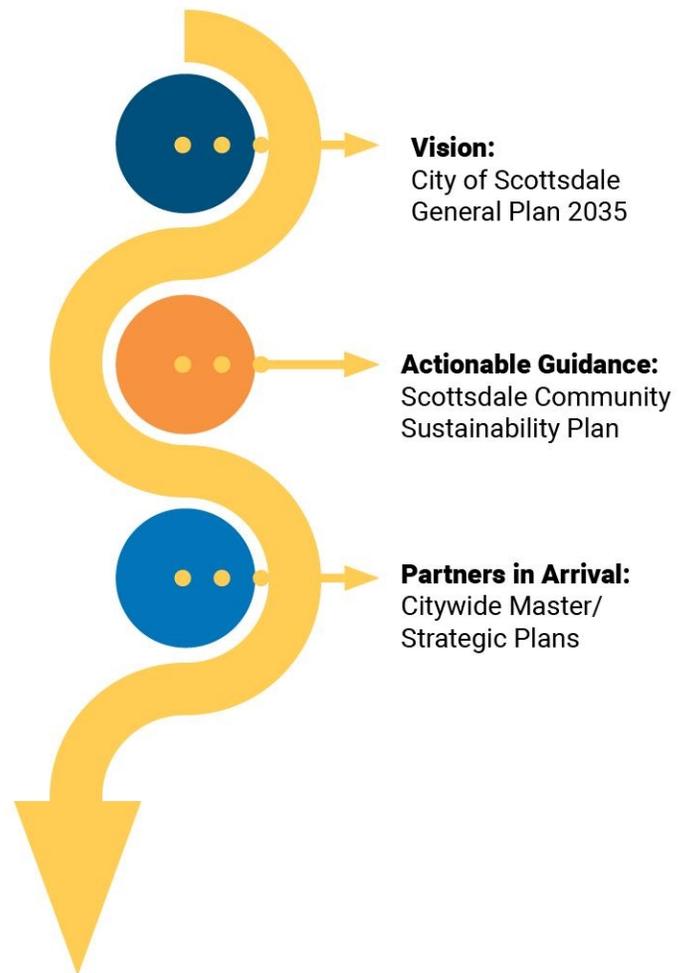
With this plan, Scottsdale embraces a comprehensive approach to achieving ambitious targets and commits to being held accountable for those actions. This Community Sustainability Plan – as imagined by City Council and Scottsdale voters through the approval of the 2035 General Plan – enhances and expands the work already being done by city staff, residents and businesses. Starting from the ‘vision’ of the General Plan, the plan complements others already in place to achieve targets and implement new programs.

Scottsdale may not be a large city, but our position as a respected tourist destination in a unique desert environment has always shaped our commitment to being good environmental stewards. This is not the end of our planning but rather a starting point for a continued sustainability journey – join us!

*“Sustainability can be summarized as our stewardship of natural capital for future generations, going well beyond economic and environmental development to embrace health care, urbanization, energy, materials, agriculture, business practices, social services and government... Sustainability is a concept with as much transformative potential as justice, liberty, and equality.”*

- [Dr. Michael Crow, President, Arizona State University](#)

### ROADMAP



## SUSTAINABILITY ~~IS NOT NEW TO~~ A SCOTTSDALE **GUIDING PRINCIPLE**

Scottsdale's sustainability journey goes back decades and has fortified the city's legacy as a place of innovation. "Seek Sustainability" was one of the guiding principles of CityShape 2020. And Scottsdale's commitment to environmental stewardship was again reaffirmed in the General Plan 2035, which identifies five core elements of sustainability and the environment – Open Space, Environmental Planning, Conservation, Water Resources and Energy. As part of a commitment to livability and quality of life, Scottsdale prioritizes services and facilities for residents, including 43 parks, four public libraries and eight resource centers.

*"Keep Scottsdale safe, wild & beautiful. Maintain Scottsdale's small town feel."*

*"100% supportive of a Sustainability Plan for City of Scottsdale"*

- [Resident feedback on the draft Sustainability Plan](#)

Over the years, Scottsdale has proactively found creative solutions to environmental challenges and committed to make life better for residents and visitors. The city responded to flooding problems by building the Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt, a series of parks and amenities covering 11 miles in the center of the city, which was also the first non-structural flood control solution in the country.

Over 30,000 acres of desert habitat have been permanently preserved through the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Currently, 37% of Scottsdale's footprint is open space (public and private including the Preserve). Meaningful desert open space – whether actively or passively managed – is a fundamental part of Scottsdale's character and is created and maintained with the support of residents, for their benefit and for the benefit of the environment.



The city uses zoning and other requirements to guide development in desert and mountain areas, through policies like the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Overlay District (ESL). The ESL ordinance requires a percentage of each property be permanently preserved as Natural Area Open Space and that specific environmental features be protected through land use dedications and easements. Character Area Plans, like those for Desert Foothills and Dynamite Foothills, support these goals.

Scottsdale pioneered total wastewater reuse and water banking through advanced purification systems, recycling and storing water and reducing reliance on non-renewable surface water. The Scottsdale Water Campus is home to the Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWT), one of the most sophisticated recycled water facilities in the world and the third permanent facility in the nation permitted as a pilot program for Advanced Recycled Purified Water (ARPW). The AWT is one of the largest potable water purification facilities in the world and can treat up to 20 million gallons of recycled water a day.

Launched in 1998, Scottsdale’s first-in-the-state Green Building Program encourages a whole-systems approach through building design and construction to minimize environmental impacts, reduce energy use and improve occupant health. **IN 2005, CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED A LEED<sup>2</sup> GOLD REQUIREMENT OR HIGHER FOR ALL PUBLIC BUILDINGS**, leading to the construction of the first LEED Platinum certified fire station in the country – Scottsdale Fire Station 602. In 2022, Scottsdale became the first in the state and one of only a few cities nationwide to adopt mandatory ‘green’ building code requirements by mandating compliance with the International Green Construction Code (IgCC).

Achieving these large and difficult milestones has not kept the city from undertaking other projects and initiatives that reflect Scottsdale’s forward-thinking approach to desert living. The city’s Xeriscape Garden serves as an inspiration to residents and developers, demonstrating just how beautiful a water-wise, natural desert landscape can be. The community science programs offered by the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy protect biodiversity, mitigate invasive plants and restore ecological balance. The Scottsdale Public Library even ‘checks out’ seeds and citizen science kits to make hands-on learning accessible to all.



Additionally, municipal operations model good stewardship practices for the whole city. The city partners with utilities to reduce our use of electricity on high-demand days and has installed solar panels at the North Corporation Yard complex. Solar installation will cover parking lots with solar panels. LED installations continue throughout our facilities and low-consumption fixtures, flush valves, showerheads, metering faucets, cooling tower controllers and bottle fillers are used to conserve water.

Other practices also model municipal leadership:

- Responding to a call to reduce water use by 5% between 2021 and 2022, the city saved 38 million gallons through conservation and turf removal, exceeding its goal with a 6% overall reduction.
- Parks & Recreation increased their efforts, with use dropping to 25% below the allotment from the Arizona Department of Water Resources. Specifically in 2022, the city converted over 140,000 square feet of non-functional/non-recreational turf to xeriscape, saving more than 5.3 million gallons of water annually.
- The city also saved almost 4 million gallons of water from 40 city-maintained sites through irrigation controllers that shut off watering during summer monsoon rain events.
- ~~Two recent city events—the~~ **THE** 2023 State of the City Address ~~and the 2022 Employee Awards—were~~ **WAS A** zero waste functions, achieving ~~more than~~ 93% diversion from the landfill.



# THE SCIENCE OF SUSTAINABILITY

The science behind sustainability efforts is compelling. NASA's records and analysis confirm that the climate is warming and warming faster than any time in the past 10,000 years. Average temperatures are up two degrees Fahrenheit, mostly in the last 40 years, and driven by emissions of carbon dioxide and other human activities.<sup>3</sup> Most of these emissions result from burning fossil fuels for electricity, heat and transportation. The result is an amplification of the natural greenhouse gas effect (which is essential for the Earth to be habitable), resulting in more heat trapped in the atmosphere (Figure 1).

Models estimate that temperatures may increase another 4.5 to 8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100,<sup>4</sup> but other changes in our climate are occurring much faster and can already be seen. NASA has compiled datasets that show warming oceans, rising sea levels and more extreme weather events, among a long list of impacts. Extreme heat acts a threat multiplier, worsening air quality and making our climate more arid.

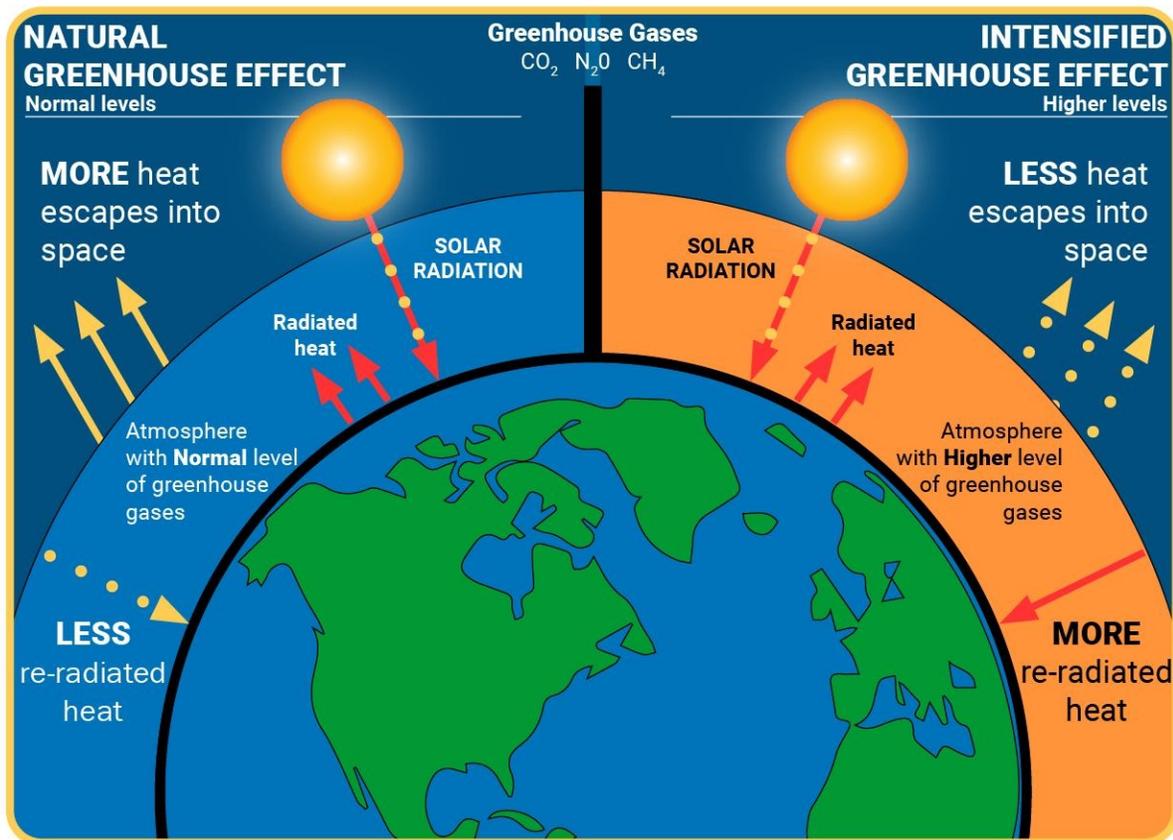


Figure 1. Source: National Park Service

*"The implications of the science around climate change are alarmingly clear. The link between greenhouse gases and climate change is now well established, and scientists are gaining a greater understanding of what the Earth might look like if it were to warm by 1.5°C, 2°C [2.7°F, 3.6°F], or more."*

- Deloitte, ["Act Now: Future Scenarios and the Case for Equitable Climate Action"](#)

Temperatures Valleywide in July 2023 made it the hottest month ever recorded in a U.S. city – a result of natural variability, the urban heat island effect and climate change.<sup>5</sup> This new record continues a trend of increasing average temperatures going back over a century of data (Figure 2). But averages only tell some of the story, since the number and length of heat waves has also been increasing.<sup>6</sup> The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs makes nighttime temperatures uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

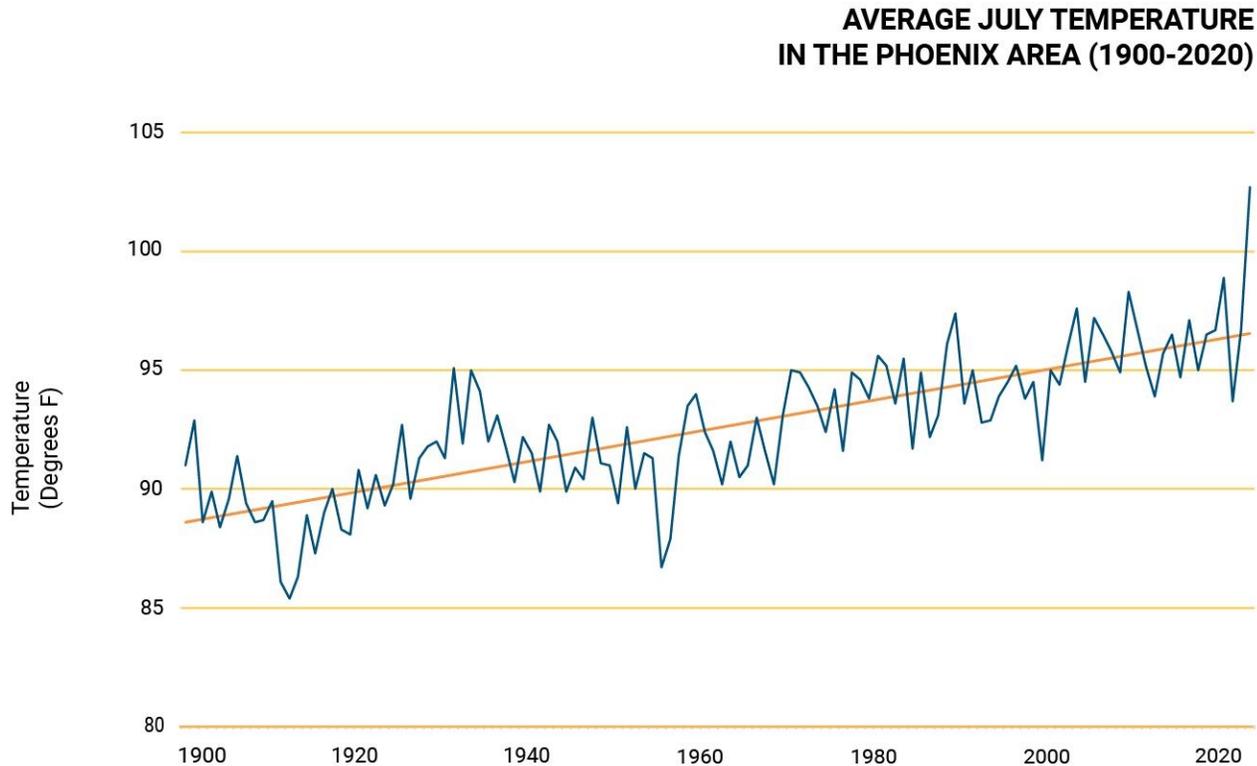


Figure 2. [Source: National Weather Service NOWData, Phoenix Area, Monthly Summarized](#)

The desert southwest is also experiencing one of its worst droughts in 1,200 years. Insufficient rainfall and snowpacks have lowered lake levels, endangered water supplies and impacted soil moisture and vegetation. The [Arizona Department of Water Resources](#) monitors drought conditions using precipitation and streamflow data, compares annual data to a 40-year historical record and publishes weekly reports on the status and level of the drought. Similarly, both Scottsdale and the Central Arizona Project assess the impacts of the drought on predicted water supply and react accordingly. The over-allocation of Colorado River water supplies, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential – and more difficult.

Scientific data helps us understand how our air quality is changing and the resulting health impacts. The region’s two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter (PM), as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The causes of these pollutants are complex, especially given how far ozone, dust and smoke can travel in the air. Regional air quality has fluctuated in recent years, in part reflecting the influence of extremely hot summers on the number of unhealthy days. In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards – 30% or 106 days. In 2020 and 2021, the air quality was in the ‘very unhealthy’ range for more than two months.

**DAILY AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI) VALUES: OZONE  
PHOENIX-MESA-SCOTTSDALE**

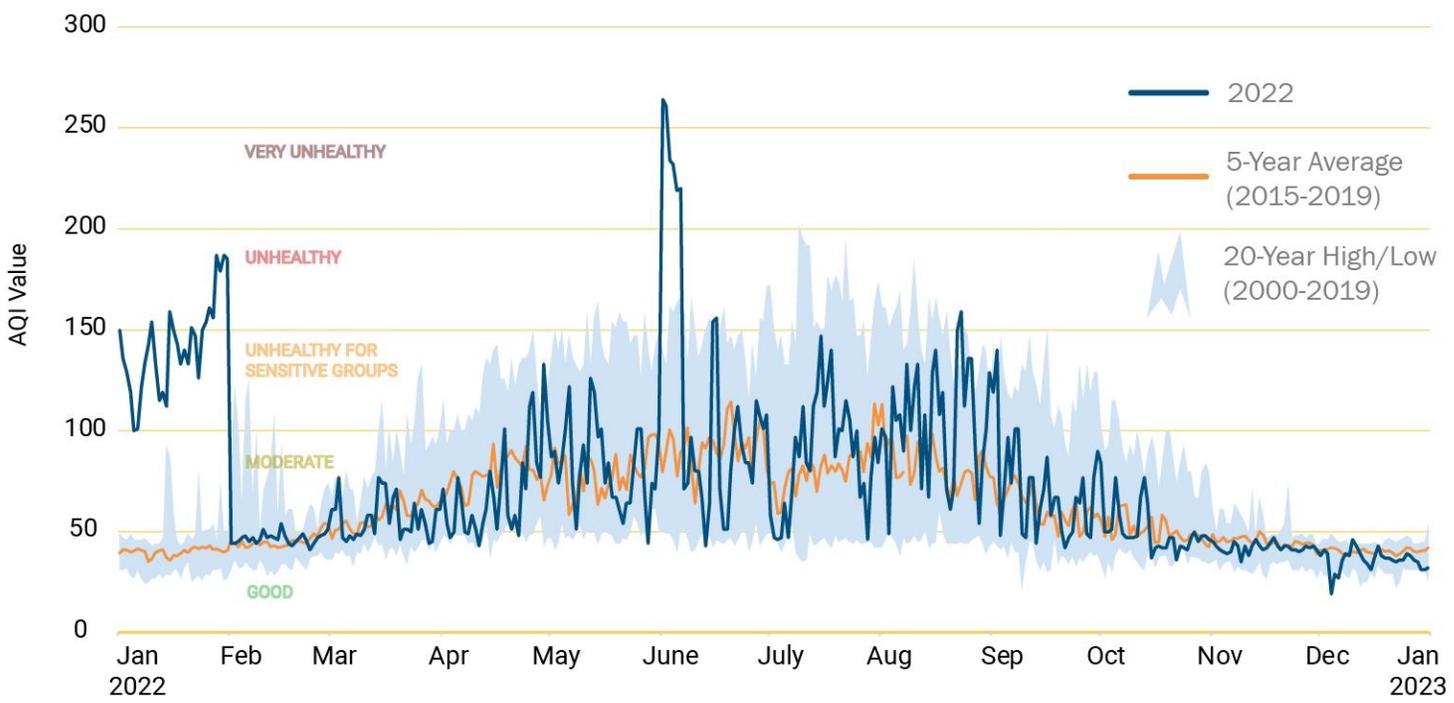


Figure 3. *Source: Air Data - Daily Air Quality Tracker*

Now is the time to act. NASA reports that 97 percent of climate scientists “agree that humans are causing global warming and climate change,”<sup>7</sup> and 7 out of 10 people locally agree that global warming is happening.<sup>8</sup> To preserve Scottsdale as a highly livable city that is environmentally and economically healthy, we are responding with mitigation and resiliency solutions to these challenges.

*“Climate change will impact water prices, food prices, housing prices...energy prices, it will impact our quality of life, our health, our jobs and economy.”*

- [Resident feedback on the draft Sustainability Plan](#)

## THE ECONOMICS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Just as the science of sustainability motivates us to take action, the economics of sustainability help us understand how to get started, guiding the efficient use of resources and the long-term response to climate change. The concept of the 'triple bottom line' means that financial, social and environmental performance should influence decision-making, highlighting how our ecosystem fuels the economy.

Safeguarding a sustainable future for Scottsdale will require investments, both by the city government and by residents and businesses. Innovation and other factors have been driving down the costs of technology like photovoltaic systems (down 80% since 2010), and rebates and grants can also lower upfront costs. Similarly, the prices of renewable energy, electric vehicles and batteries have also dropped.

A case-by-case comparison of costs to benefits – including the cost of doing nothing – will identify projects that make financial sense. Reducing energy and water use often yields favorable cost-benefit ratios, meaning that the cumulative savings from lowered use can exceed the costs in a short period of time. Benefits to consumers can be quantified – like reduced utility bills and maintenance costs when utilizing longer-lasting lightbulbs – or be more subjective as when occupants are more comfortable. A seminal work by McKinsey identified numerous negative-cost options for improving energy efficiency in buildings and appliances, which are recommended as quick wins.<sup>9</sup> **NEGATIVE-COST OPTIONS GENERATE SAVINGS ON AN INVESTMENT OVER THEIR LIFE CYCLE.**

Another way to assess the economics of policies or projects is through life cycle analysis, by analyzing the costs and benefits of an item from production to end-of-life disposal. For solid waste, this involves different calculations for different efforts. Reusing items can save money by deferring expenditures. For recycling, there are tradeoffs like the environmental cost of mining for bauxite versus the collection and recycling costs of aluminum. Overall, the region-specific costs of transportation and maintenance of landfills should also influence sound decision-making.

Similarly, the utility staff in Gilbert commissioned a report to examine the overall impact on rates of reducing water demand. This analysis of avoided costs quantified the impacts of conservation over 20 years and found that water rates are 5.8% lower than they would have been without the per capita reductions. The conclusion was that by conserving water, customers avoided the higher costs of building new infrastructure to deliver and treat additional water supplies.<sup>10</sup>

*Macerich [which owns and operates [Scottsdale Fashion Square](#) and [Kierland Commons](#)] "aims to set the bar for sustainability in the real estate industry by operating properties with purpose that "walk the walk" in stewarding resources for the shopping centers' guests, investors, tenants, industry partners, employees, communities and the planet."*

Failing to act also has costs, highlighting the relationship between a healthy economy and the environment. Extreme heat, poor air quality and drought can affect the economy in a range of ways: health impacts, loss of business when people stay indoors or cut visits short and utility bills squeezing disposable income.

A recent study by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) evaluated the impacts of extreme heat in the Phoenix area across five indicators of human and economic wellbeing: mortality, morbidity, labor productivity, roadway infrastructure and energy demand. On the low end of the estimated range, the economic consequences of inaction would average \$1.9 billion between 2020 and 2059. The largest source of these costs was heat-related mortality (\$898 million) and labor productivity losses (\$855 million).<sup>11</sup>

The TNC study also analyzed the return on investment for two solutions – adopting cool roofs for 100% of buildings in the area and increasing the urban tree canopy to 25% by 2050. For each, the accumulated benefits were estimated to exceed the upfront costs by 4:1 or higher, even without including benefits like reduction in air pollution or reduced stormwater runoff.<sup>12</sup>

Another study in the journal Science evaluated the economy-wide impacts of different future warming scenarios and found that Maricopa County would see a 5-10% drop in gross domestic product by the end of the century (Figure 4).<sup>13</sup> The Atlantic Council similarly examined broad economic impacts and calculated that losses from decreased labor productivity would exceed \$5 million per year by 2050 in Maricopa County and that occupational injuries due to human heat stress could be as high as 20,000 per year.<sup>14</sup> **THE SAME STUDY ESTIMATES MARICOPA COUNTY WILL SEE A 15-20% INCREASE IN ENERGY COSTS.**

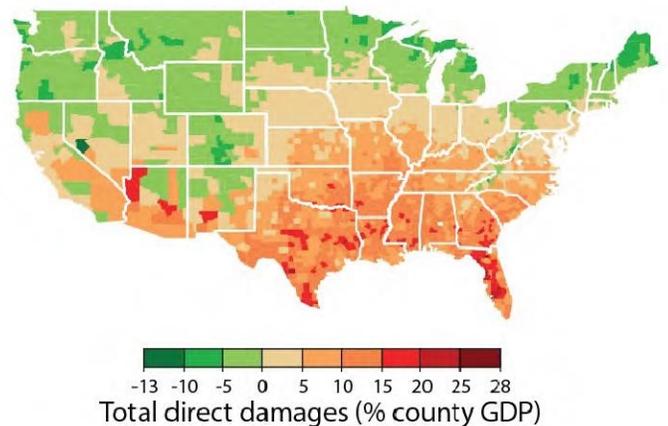


Figure 4. [Source: "Estimating economic damage from climate change in the United States," Science, Hsiang et al, June 2017](#)

- 33 percent of companies list improving operational efficiency and lowering costs as a top reason for addressing sustainability
- 94 percent say their companies have integrated sustainability into strategic planning
- 53 percent say company performance on sustainability is at least somewhat important to attracting and retaining employees

- [McKinsey & Company survey](#)

Support for sustainability in Scottsdale is driven by many factors, including the economic benefits of action. As a city that thrives on innovation, collaboration and sustainable growth, Scottsdale already fosters a business-friendly climate that generates some of the world's most successful companies and entrepreneurs. The beauty and sustainability of the region's natural environment is integral to its economic vitality, with tourism alone having an estimated annual economic impact of \$2.5 billion.<sup>15</sup> A recent study found that 64% of visitors to Scottsdale cited 'beautiful scenery' as a key factor in deciding to visit.<sup>16</sup> **POOR AIR QUALITY AND EXTREME HEAT CAN HAVE A CHILLING EFFECT ON TOURISM BY INFLUENCING POTENTIAL VISITORS TO CHOOSE ALTERNATIVE VACATION AND CONFERENCE DESTINATIONS.**

As individual projects are identified to move the city closer to its goals, an analysis of costs and benefits will be used to set priorities. A greener future can also be one where residents, tourists and businesses continue to prosper. To sustain our economy, it is essential we take actions to ensure that our ecosystem is healthy.

*"The rapidly escalating costs of continuing greenhouse gas emissions continue to outpace the costs of mitigation (future citizens considered), and we bear responsibility to plan and implement aggressive mitigation."*

- [Resident feedback on the draft Sustainability Plan](#)

## OUR COMMUNITY VALUES

Scottsdale established Community Values to guide implementation of the goals of the 2035 General Plan. The Community Sustainability Plan reflects these values as it stewards the natural environment, protects human health and advances the social and economic well-being of the community for the present and future generations.



### Respect Character and Culture

Enhance and protect Scottsdale’s unique features, neighborhood identity, character, livability, southwestern heritage, and tourism through appropriate land uses and high standards for design. Create vibrant and attractive places that accommodate a variety of ages and incomes and support the arts and multicultural traditions.



### Conserve and Preserve the Environment

Lead the region in the stewardship and sustainable management of the Sonoran Desert environment and conservation of natural resources and open spaces for the visual, physical, and personal enrichment of everyone.



### Collaborate and Engage

Promote strong, visionary leadership that is transparent, responsive, and efficient; collaborates regionally; respects and honors our community values; recognizes the benefit of interactive community involvement and volunteerism; and embraces citizens as active partners in decisions that affect their neighborhoods and city.



### Foster Well-Being

Promote a culture of lifelong physical and mental health, safety, and well-being for residents, visitors, employers, and employees. Foster social connectivity across cultural and generational boundaries by cultivating a welcoming environment; respecting human dignity; and recognizing and embracing citywide and regional diversity.



### Connect the Community

Connect all community members within the city and to the region by striving for cost-effective, adaptable, innovative, safe, and efficient mobility options. Connectivity and mobility involve more than getting people from here to there, connectivity and mobility influence the form and comfort of urban communities.



### Revitalize Responsibly

Vigorously evaluate the short- and long-term impacts of development and redevelopment decisions to ensure that public and private investment work collaboratively to support and maintain the unique features and local identity that make Scottsdale special, and contribute positively to the community’s physical, fiscal, and economic needs and high quality of life.



### Advance Innovation and Prosperity

Embrace a diverse and innovative economy to sustain our high quality of life through a variety of businesses, health and research institutions, and educational, technological, tourism and cultural elements.

## HOW THE PLAN WAS DEVELOPED

The Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan is an important part of the city's commitment to a more sustainable future as it implements creative solutions to solving environmental challenges. The City Council included adoption of a sustainability plan as part of the city's 2022 and 2024 organization strategic plans, and the plan was identified as part of the General Plan 2035 implementation.

### GETTING STARTED

Work on the plan began in June 2021, with support of the Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solution Service (ASU) and with input from the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC) and other community members. ASU researchers interviewed city personnel, researched best practices and frameworks and collected ideas about possible actions at community meetings, resulting in an initial draft plan.

### CITY COUNCIL DIRECTION

Beyond driving the creation of the sustainability plan, City Council feedback at five Work Study Sessions resulted in a sharp focus on the priorities, a push to develop baseline metrics and set numeric targets, and the need to include the costs and benefits of action. The discussion at these sessions included a range of specific input on topics and requested the use of narratives to tell a story about why sustainability is important.

### SCOTTSDALE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION (SEAC)

SEAC has been involved in the plan development from the beginning, sharing their valuable expertise and reviewing plan drafts. Input from this seven-member public body has shaped the plan framework and message, ensured the plan reflects the character of Scottsdale and set our sights high to achieve aspirational targets.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The city has been committed to a broad public input process with outreach to residents, boards and commissions and other stakeholders for their feedback. Staff and subject matter experts have provided their guidance and ideas along the way. Two sets of community meetings were held in May and October 2022 in conjunction with a public questionnaire to elicit feedback on an early draft and on overall priorities. As interim drafts were posted online and discussed at public meetings, additional input was gathered and incorporated into the plan. A final draft was posted for public review before City Council adoption.

See Acknowledgments for more information on city departments and Boards and Commissions that contributed to the plan.



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## FRAMEWORK & PRIORITIES

### FOR A SUSTAINABLE, RESILIENT & THRIVING SCOTTSDALE

To turn this plan into action, Scottsdale has established five priority areas for becoming a sustainable, resilient, and thriving community: **Energy**, **Water**, **Waste**, **Air Quality** and **Extreme Heat**. This framework – which grew from the goals and policies for sustainability set in the 2035 General plan (see Appendix A for a detailed list) – supports the protection of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem and will help attract residents and visitors, providing economic benefits and ensuring a high quality of life.

**THIS PLAN IS AN ASPIRATIONAL DOCUMENT AND NOT A MANDATE, SO THERE ARE NO PENALTIES IF TARGETS ARE NOT MET.** For each priority, targets will be set and strategies and actions identified that help achieve the target. **THE INDICATORS AND BASELINE DATA FOR EACH PRIORITY SHOW “WHERE WE ARE” AND ARE TIED TO TARGETS THAT ARE “WHERE WE WANT TO BE.”** The work builds on existing plans (see Appendix B), looking beyond what the city is doing and providing policy direction where efforts are newer or are now more urgent. ~~The structure facilitates collaboration and reinforces the connections between the topics.~~

~~The Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan helps us envision and realize our future as a sustainable, resilient, and thriving community. The five Priorities are Scottsdale’s most pressing matters, and the section on each Priority includes Strategies, Indicators, Targets, and Actions.~~

**THESE FIVE PRIORITY AREAS SOMETIMES OVERLAP IN IMPORTANT WAYS, SO THE PLAN STRUCTURE FACILITATES COLLABORATION AND REINFORCES THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE TOPICS. TACKLING THE CHALLENGES OF ENERGY AND WATER CONSUMPTION AND WASTE GENERATION PROVIDE BENEFITS LIKE COST SAVINGS, IMPROVED HEALTH AND REDUCED POLLUTION. THESE STEPS ALSO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND ADDRESS EXTREME HEAT. FOR EXAMPLE, FEWER GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS MEAN LESS POLLUTED AIR AND LOWER TEMPERATURES, WHICH IN TURN RESULTS IN LESS ENERGY NEEDED TO COOL BUILDINGS. ADDING DESERT-ADAPTED TREES FILTERS POLLUTANTS FROM THE AIR AND PROVIDES SHADE.**

**Strategies** are goal-oriented and provide general guidance to help us address the Priority. They are carried out through specific Actions.

**Indicators** allow baselines to be determined and progress to be measured. Indicators link Priorities and **Targets** – defining **where we are today** and **where we would like to be in the future**.

**Actions** provide specific direction to achieve the Targets.

**Implementation** sections for each Priority detail when work will be accomplished and who will lead the efforts.

In total, the 15 strategies and more than 93 actions in this plan reflect a comprehensive action plan for Scottsdale. Some are extensions of programs and initiatives that are already well-developed, while others are completely new and need to be started from scratch.

## ENERGY

Maximize the use of renewable energy resources, energy efficiency and responses to climate challenges.

## WATER

Conserve, protect and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future.

## WASTE

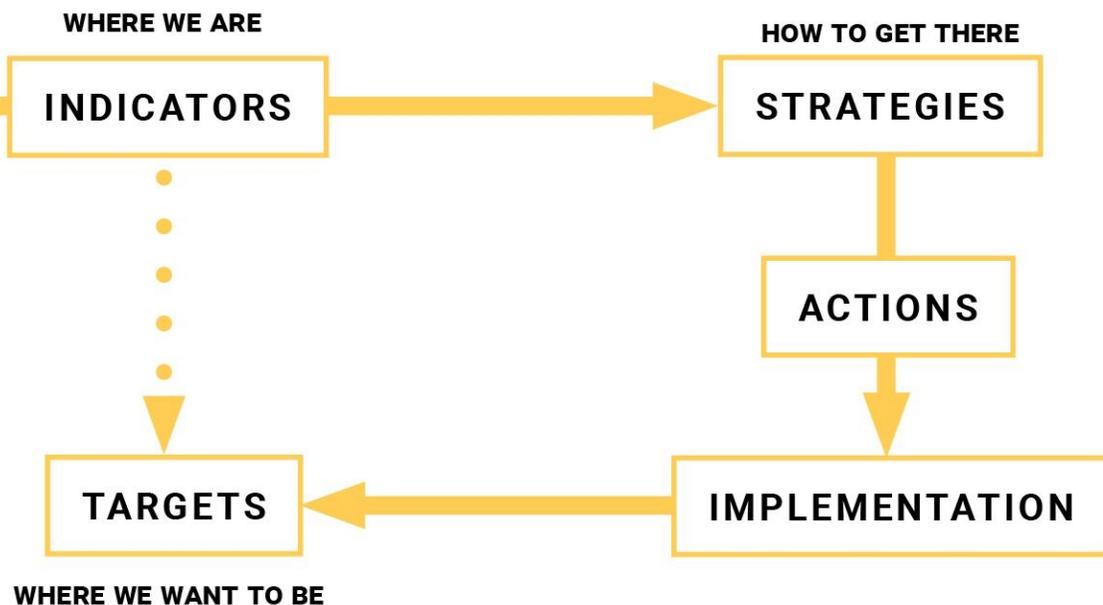
Develop a circular economy approach for materials management and effective citywide diversion of all waste streams.

## AIR QUALITY

Reduce contaminants and pollutants to improve air quality and protect community health.

## EXTREME HEAT

Ensure that the community prevents, is prepared for, responds to and recovers from extreme heat.



## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

### IMPLEMENTATION

The city of Scottsdale will take the lead implementing the Community Sustainability Plan and be a catalyst for further action by the private sector, non-profits and community members. Achieving sustainability for Scottsdale requires a common vision and engagement from the whole community to prioritize effective solutions. Implementation of the plan will be strategic and strive to maximize the benefits for all Scottsdale residents and visitors. The plan is designed to be a living, working document that focuses our resources and collective action where it will be most impactful.

Implementing some of the plan's 15 strategies and 93 actions will begin immediately, while others will start later or evolve and be revised over time. Implementation will require that specific project plans be developed for each action, identifying costs, personnel needs, barriers and milestones. Timelines for completion of programs will vary, and the City Council may fund or not fund programs at any time. The city will seek funding for priority projects and identify possible City Code updates to address key strategies.

An implementation table for each priority shares four elements for each action:

**Time Horizon FOR COMPLETION:** Quick Win,\* 1-3 years, 3-10 years or Ongoing

**Lead Agencies & Partners:** Additional partners will likely be added during project development

**Costs:** Costs are estimated and may change during project development or implementation

\$ -- **Low** (\$0 - \$50,000)

\$\$ -- **Moderate** (\$50,001 - \$250,000)

\$\$\$ -- **High** (Over \$250,000)

**Benefits:**



Environmental (air quality, carbon emissions, waste reduction, drought relief)



Economic (\$ savings, attracting businesses and tourism)



Social (health & safety, quality of life, equity, **RESILIENCY**)

City staff will also work to address capacity-building and cross-cutting efforts. Efforts are underway to identify staff and community champions for sustainability, increase awareness of sustainability solutions and expand community engagement. An employee Green Team is also working on specific projects to improve internal operations.

Implementation of the sustainability plan will focus on accountability and will be accomplished with a high level of transparency and stakeholder participation.

\* After initial implementation, "quick wins" may transition to "ongoing" programs.

**ADMINISTRATION**

There will be three important ways the city administers the plan to ensure continuous evaluation and improvement:

1. Produce an annual report that includes updates on implementation of actions, progress toward sustainability targets including data on the indicators and a section specifically chronicling municipal achievements and data. The reports will be presented annually to City Council and the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission and will discuss possible amendments to the plan.
2. Formally update the plan every three years, providing an opportunity to include new strategies and actions and amend existing ones as well as update targets to reflect new opportunities and progress made.
3. Track operating and capital spending on sustainability-related work and operational savings and project rebates in partnership with the City Treasurer.

**SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL REPORTS & PLAN UPDATES**

YEAR 0	YEARS 1 & 2	YEAR 3	YEARS 4 & 5	YEAR 6
Adoption	Annual Reports	Annual Report	Annual Reports	Annual Report
		Plan Update		Plan Update



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The city of Scottsdale hopes that residents, businesses and non-profits are also motivated to improve the world around them.

Work with us and support one of the actions in the plan or be innovative and start your own project! Here are some places to get started:

### WHAT IS MY IMPACT?

The [CoolClimate Network](#) offers a simple tool to help you understand your personal environmental impact. They even have a [version for businesses](#). Use the calculators to see what kinds of changes you can make to your travel, buildings and shopping and make a pledge to act.

### TALK ABOUT IT!

Engage your family, neighbors and co-workers about sustainability. Ask them questions about what concerns them the most and tell them what you're doing to make an impact. Conversations about the environment can help people connect over shared values.



### LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT SCOTTSDALE IS DOING

Go to [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov) and search "sustainability" to find out more about the latest initiatives and how you can be part of the solution.

### SUGGESTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY

- Support farmers' markets
- Plant trees
- Use light colored roofs
- Replace non-porous pavement with porous pavement to absorb water
- Carpool or use alternative forms of transportation to get around the city
- Don't water lawns in the afternoon when most of the water will evaporate
- Install pool motor timers and variable speed pumps for pools
- Don't heat pools all winter long
- Donate to your favorite cause
- Volunteer in your neighborhood or for a city project

### OTHER RESOURCES

[Tips from ASU](#)

[Sustainable travel tips](#)

[Eco-tourism in the desert](#)

[Sustainable books to read](#)

[Ways to reduce food waste](#)

[Hiking in the desert](#)

[Sustainability health tips](#)

[Another good list of simple tips](#)

[Sustainable fashion tips](#)

READ THE PLAN

The plan provides specific actions for achieving long-term goals and will require efforts by city government and members of the community. In each section, the "What Can You Do?" graphics will include more interesting tips and suggestions – check them out!

**AIR QUALITY**

Reduce contaminants and pollutants to improve air quality and protect community health.

Like every metropolitan area, Scottsdale and other cities in the Valley have been working for years to improve air quality. The region's two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter (PM), as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The amount of these pollutants in our region, given the number of vehicles and how far both can travel in the air.

Particulate matter, classified as levels (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) or larger (PM<sub>10</sub>), usually comes on blowing dust or smolder from fires or fireworks, but other sources can be particularly troublesome. These can come in complex mixtures of chemicals like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. To reduce PM, Scottsdale makes extensive use of recycled asphalt millings and additions for dust mitigation on unpaved dirt and roads. It also uses a fleet of Robert Bosch 125 Street Sweeper to reduce traffic-generated dust.

Ground-level ozone is created when nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and sunlight react, making ozone primarily a summer issue. Industry facilities, motor vehicles and gasoline vapors are primary sources of these poisonous chemicals. Interestingly, ozone can be both a source of VOCs and a key strategy in cleaning a wide range of pollutants from the air.

Regional air quality has varied in recent years, in part reflecting the influence of extremely hot summers on the number of unhealthy air days. In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards.

**AIR QUALITY INDEX (PM2.5/PM10 SCOTTSDALE CORE-BASED STATISTICAL AREA)**

Good or Moderate Days (F)

Unhealthy Days (F)

Figure 1.1

To signal when air quality is expected to be unhealthy, the state of Arizona projects High Pollution Advisory Days. This advisory system allows people to take steps to avoid exceeding federal standards for ozone or PM. In most recent years, there have been from 10 to 15 advisories, with 2021 and 2022 each having more than 15 advisories issued related to ozone levels. To these days, the city informs all its employees and contractors about hot burning, wood burning and off-road diesel restrictions.

There are two air sampling stations in Scottsdale taking hourly readings of ozone and one taking readings of PM-10 levels. Both pollutants can exceed federal standards during the summer, sometimes by substantial amounts. There are also two monitors for PM-2.5 just outside Scottsdale boundaries. The graphs (Figures 1.2 and 1.3) show how the ozone transport into higher elevations during summer afternoons, individual dust storms and holiday traffic cause readings to exceed safety limits.

**AIR QUALITY**

**MONITOR**

**Commercial**  
Transport air quality sensors have to pilots and terminals, more time also provide shade and cooling.

**Residential**  
Fewer hot air quality days, air business operational developments and attract tourists and tourists change to building and infrastructure, electric vehicles can be more expensive to operate.

**Health**  
The greatest impact of better air quality will be improved health and quality of life.

**WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

- Switch to electric-powered driving and other fuel-saving options
- Avoid idling unnecessarily and long drive thro lines
- Fuel your vehicle after dark
- Consider to replace your used burning fireplace, wood stove or fire pit with natural gas units
- If you have a law MOC, consider to use

For more tips, go to [www.aqca.gov](http://www.aqca.gov) and search "air quality"

**STRATEGIES & ACTIONS:**

**STRATEGY AQ 1**  
Clean Scottsdale's air

**ACTIONS**

- AQ 1.1 Participate in regional efforts to improve air quality and actively participate in regional AQ planning and policy committees and reports (e.g., MAQ, MGAQ).
- AQ 1.2 Engage stakeholders to air quality, including the community and residents about air quality and high pollution advisory days, including benefits of electric-powered technologies required and air quality improvement when to improve transportation of outdoor wood burning, grasses, wood stoves and fire pits with outdoor lighting.
- AQ 1.3 Continue requirement of dust control plans for special event using approved parking.
- AQ 1.4 Promote Maricopa County program to convert gas to electric to reduce emissions.
- AQ 1.5 Promote and enhance the municipal Travel Reduction Program.
- AQ 1.7 Create education campaigns related to vehicle idling and parking on streets.

**STRATEGY AQ 2**  
Support adoption of electric vehicles and other alternative fuel vehicles.

**ACTIONS**

- AQ 2.1 Identify locations of publicly available EV charging stations.
- AQ 2.2 Develop a financially sustainable plan for purchasing additional electric and other alternative fuel vehicles for the city fleet.
- AQ 2.3 Invest in a charging infrastructure plan identifying future opportunities, and program.

*"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can."*

- Anonymous

## ENDNOTES

- 1 [“The National Community Survey: Scottsdale, AZ Report of Results 2023,”](#) p. 10; “essential” or “very important” responses = 85% in 2023.
- 2 [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design](#)
- 3 [“How Do We Know Climate Change is Real?”](#) NASA Global Climate Change: Evidence.
- 4 [“Is it too late to prevent climate change?”](#) NASA Global Climate Change.
- 5 [“Phoenix just posted the hottest month ever observed in a U.S. city,”](#) Washington Post.
- 6 [“Arizona Then and Now: Summer heat,”](#) *Arizona Republic*, 07/28/2016..
- 7 [“Do scientists agree on climate change?”](#) NASA Global Climate Change, Questions.
- 8 [“Yale Climate Opinion Maps 2021,”](#) ~~February 23, 2022~~ **DECEMBER 13, 2023**; Estimated % of adults who think global warming is happening for Congressional District **6 1 = 68% 73%**.
- 9 [“Reducing US greenhouse gas emissions: How much at what cost?”](#) McKinsey, December 1, 2007.
- 10 [“Water Conservation Keeps Rates Low in Gilbert, Arizona,”](#) Alliance for Water Efficiency, June 2017.
- 11 [TNC, 2021: Economic Assessment of Heat in the Phoenix Metro Area](#) [deBoer, A. Schwimmer, E, McGregor, A. Adibi, S. Kapoor, A. Duong, S. Love, J. Bonham-Carter, C. Lindquist, J.] In Phoenix, AZ.
- 12 [TNC, 2021: Economic Assessment of Heat in the Phoenix Metro Area](#) [deBoer, A. Schwimmer, E, McGregor, A. Adibi, S. Kapoor, A. Duong, S. Love, J. Bonham-Carter, C. Lindquist, J.] In Phoenix, AZ.
- 13 [“Estimating economic damage from climate change in the United States,”](#) Science, Hsiang et al, June 2017.
- 14 [“Extreme heat: The economic and social consequences for the United States,”](#) Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Foundation Resilience Center, Atlantic Council, August 31, 2021.
- 15 [“Scottsdale Tourism Study - Visitor Statistics,”](#) City of Scottsdale, September 2022.
- 16 [“Longwoods Advertising Effectiveness Report,”](#) City of Scottsdale, May 2023.

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# ENERGY

Maximize the use of renewable energy resources, energy efficiency and responses to climate challenges.

Residents and businesses rely on electricity and other energy sources every day to operate computers, cooling appliances and lighting. Much of this energy is provided by regulated utilities and comes from burning fossil fuels like coal or natural gas for electricity, heat and transportation.

Using less energy yields cleaner air and health benefits, supports green jobs and generates cost savings. For example, efficient appliances and heating/cooling equipment can reduce the utility bill for the average household by \$500 per year. Taking additional steps to use more clean or renewable energy further protects the environment by reducing pollutants and greenhouse gases.

The use of fossil fuels emits heat-trapping pollution into the atmosphere forming a thick blanket around the Earth, causing our planet to overheat and creating irreversible damage. NASA's records and analysis confirm that the climate is warming and warming faster than any time in the past 10,000 years. Average temperatures are up two degrees Fahrenheit, mostly in the last 40 years, and driven by emissions of carbon dioxide and other human activities.<sup>1</sup> The result is an amplification of the natural greenhouse gas effect (which is essential for the Earth to be habitable) resulting in more heat trapped in the atmosphere.

Models estimate that temperatures may increase another 4.5 to 8 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100,<sup>2</sup> but other changes in our climate are occurring much faster and can already be seen. NASA has compiled datasets that show warming oceans, rising sea levels and more extreme weather events, among a long list of impacts. Temperature increases also act as a threat multiplier, worsening air quality and making our climate more arid.

The Fifth National Climate Assessment documents how greenhouse gas emissions have been falling nationwide, but not fast or far enough. As a result, water resources in the Southwest region will continue to be threatened by a drier and hotter climate. The extreme heat also reduces crop yields, increases wildfire risk and impacts human and ecosystem health.<sup>3</sup>





Two important ways to transition to fossil-free energy involve installing more renewable energy like wind or solar and improving the efficiency of buildings and transportation.

Arizona is ranked 5th in the nation for the total capacity of solar energy,<sup>4</sup> and Scottsdale's potential rooftop capacity is over 2,000 megawatts (MW).<sup>5</sup> Current installations of distributed solar in the city are over 90 MW, generating enough electricity to power more than 14,000 homes for an entire year.

Energy efficiency – reducing the amount of energy needed to provide products and services – is a proven way to move toward a cleaner environment and to save money. The features of a building can significantly impact finances, operational costs, health, safety and comfort. For example, adding insulation to a building or upgrading windows keeps a house cooler and lowers energy bills. Arizona ranks in the middle tier when graded against other states on a range of factors related to adoption of energy efficient policies and practices.<sup>6</sup> Scottsdale's residents used **more than** 3.9 million megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity in 2022, which is 50% more per capita than the amount used in Phoenix.

The City of Scottsdale has begun to address energy efficiency through impactful and cost-efficient initiatives. Scottsdale's first-in-the-state Green Building Program encourages a whole-systems approach through design and construction to minimize environmental impacts and reduce the energy consumption of buildings while contributing to occupant health. The program led to the construction of the first LEED Platinum certified fire station in the country – Scottsdale Fire Station 602. We are auditing more than 50 buildings, participate in demand response programs and offer Residential and Commercial Solar Guidelines. It is notable that the treatment and transport of water represents a large portion of municipal electricity use.



The city gathered a large amount of data to understand better how energy is used in Scottsdale, focused on the years between 2018 and 2022. As part of the process to develop an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, trends in the use of electricity and natural gas were analyzed, and a basic forecast model was developed to guide policy choices.

**Citywide, electricity purchased from utilities has remained fairly constant since 2018, but would have been 4% higher without the solar installations on houses and businesses.** For 2022, total energy use equaled 16,232 kilowatt hours (kWh) per capita and 9.2 kWh per square foot of building space. **The amount of solar energy installed on homes and businesses – commonly called distributed solar – has almost doubled since 2018 (up 90%) driven mostly by the residential sector.** In 2022, over 90 megawatts (MW) of distributed solar systems were installed in the city (78 MW residential and 12 MW commercial) including 350 kilowatts on municipal property.

**CITYWIDE ELECTRICITY USE  
(THOUSANDS MEGAWATT HOURS - MWh)**



Figure 1. Source: 2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

**INDICATOR**

Citywide electricity use  
(2022 = 3,874,290 megawatt hours or 9.2 kWh/ft<sup>2</sup>)

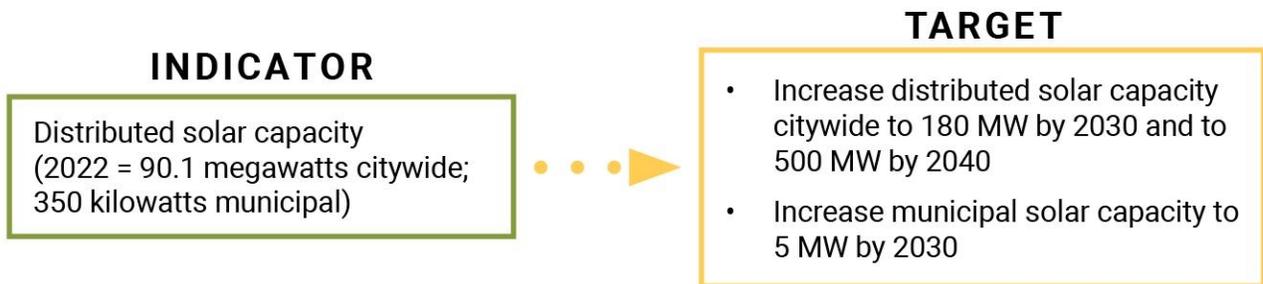
**TARGET**

Reduce citywide electricity use per square foot by 15% by 2035 (from 2022 levels)

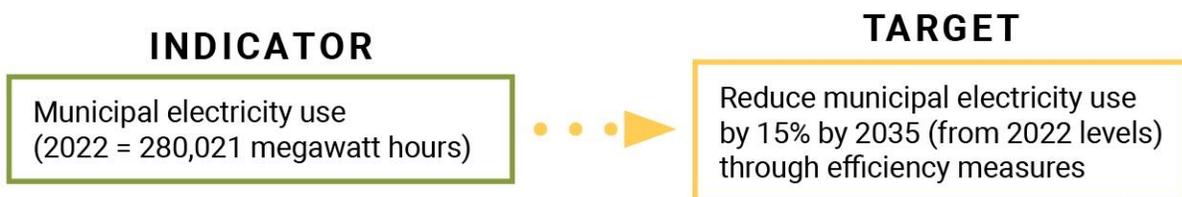
DISTRIBUTED SOLAR CAPACITY (MEGAWATTS)



Figure 2. Source: [2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory](#)



In the same timeframe, municipal electricity use dropped slightly driven by energy efficiency improvements and increased numbers of staff working from home. In 2022, municipal natural gas use rose by ~~27%~~ **15%** to ~~625,185~~ **675,004** therms, due to new or repaired facilities coming online. **Citywide natural gas use rose slightly (up 2.6%) to 49,779,824 therms.**



Between 2018 and 2022, citywide greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 7% to 3,078,925 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e.\* The majority of these emissions were the result of electricity use (49%), with transportation (41%) also being an important contributor. Other sources include natural gas (9%), solid waste and wastewater (1.4%) and refrigerant loss (0.2%).

GHG emissions have decreased over a period of population and economic growth for a variety of reasons: different sources of electricity (as utilities have switched to natural gas and solar), increased energy efficiency in buildings and increased solar installations on homes and businesses. It is possible that emissions may rebound given the post-pandemic economic recovery.

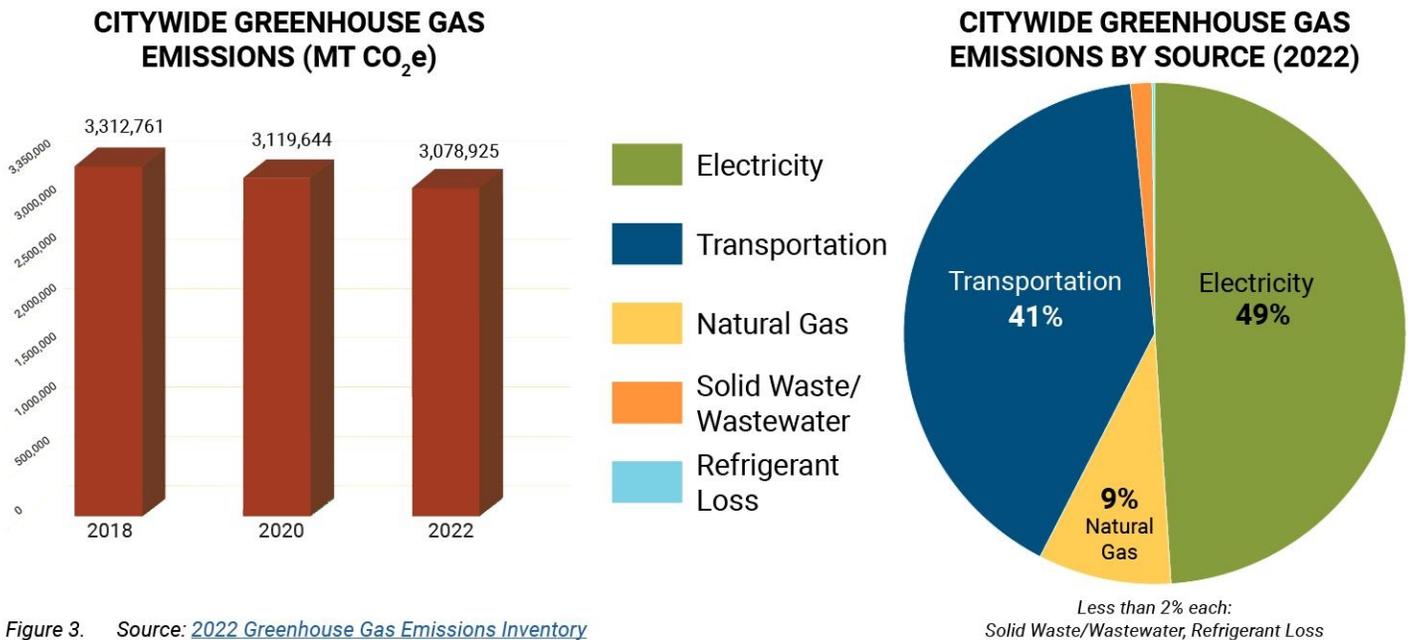
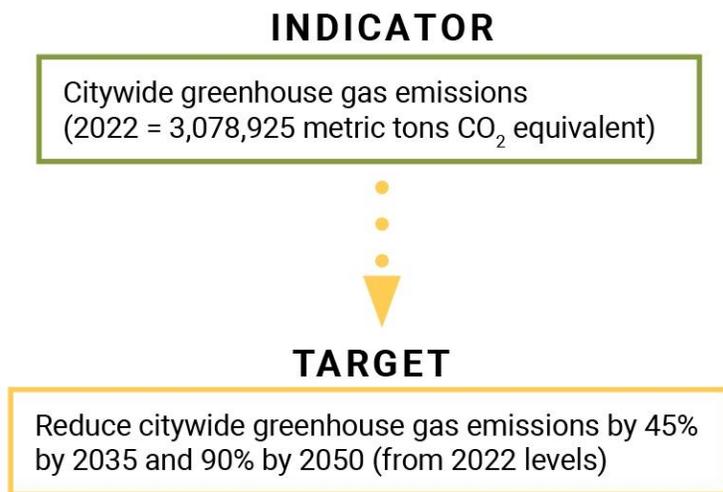


Figure 3. Source: [2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory](#)



\* Scottsdale’s citywide GHG emissions inventory was conducted in accordance with the GHG Protocol for Cities BASIC level reporting requirements. The municipal operations GHG emissions inventory was conducted according to the Local Government Operations Protocol. Both protocols are the international standard for conducting citywide and municipal operations GHG emissions inventories, respectively. The “2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory” documents in more detail how emissions were calculated, which sources are included in the BASIC level reporting and how the forecasting model was created.

During the same time period, emissions from Scottsdale’s municipal operations decreased roughly ~~10%~~ **11% to 184,299 181,584 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e** (or 6% of the citywide total).\* Because the city’s emissions are mostly driven by electricity use in buildings (~~61%~~ **62%**), 2020 emissions were markedly lower during pandemic-related shutdowns but also reflect efforts to improve the energy efficiency of our buildings. Waste-related emissions (23%) play a larger role than citywide, due to municipal collection of residential waste and treatment of water. Other sources of emissions are transportation (8%), natural gas (~~3%~~ **2%**), refrigerant loss (3%) and transmission and distribution (T&D) losses (2%).

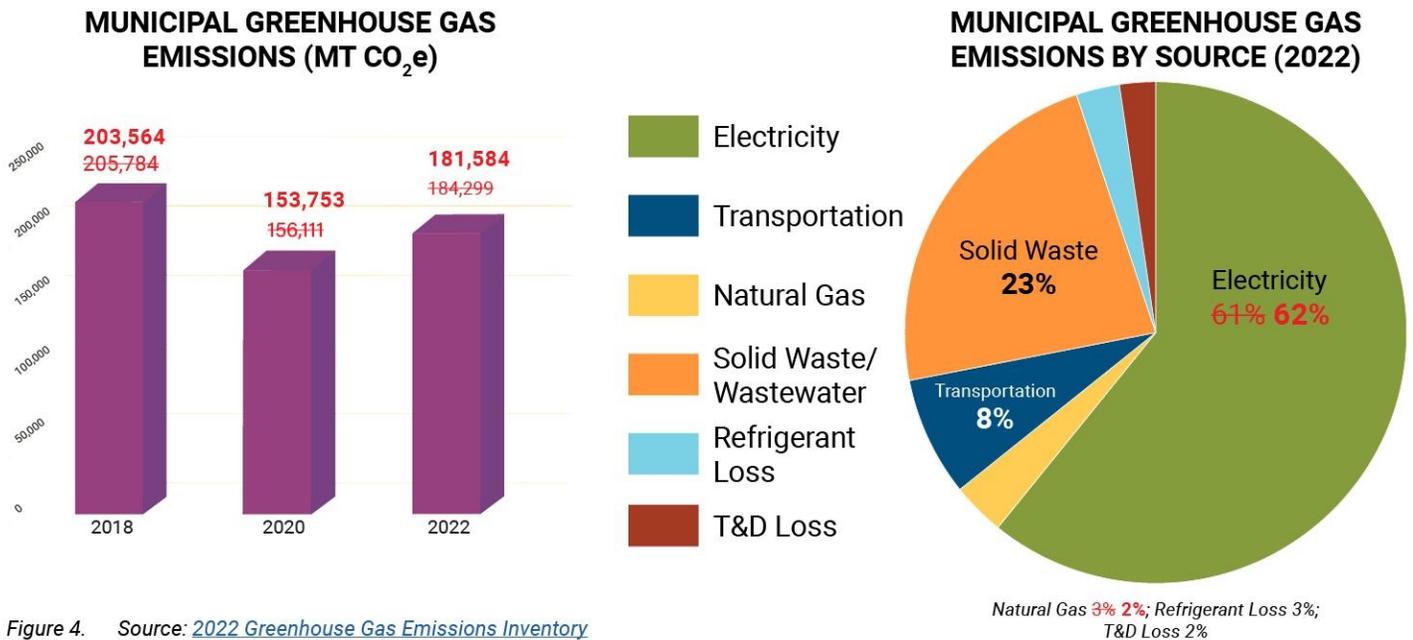


Figure 4. Source: [2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory](#)

### INDICATOR

Municipal greenhouse gas emissions (2022 = ~~184,299~~ **181,584** metric tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent)

### TARGET

Reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050 (from 2022 levels)

As part of the process to estimate the inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, Scottsdale also developed a forecasting model to analyze current trends at the community, state and national levels and use this information to estimate future community-level GHG emissions in Scottsdale. The model builds on the inventory and uses other sources of trend data to help estimate future energy pathways. To maintain simplicity and clarity, the model concentrates on the most significant sources of citywide emissions.

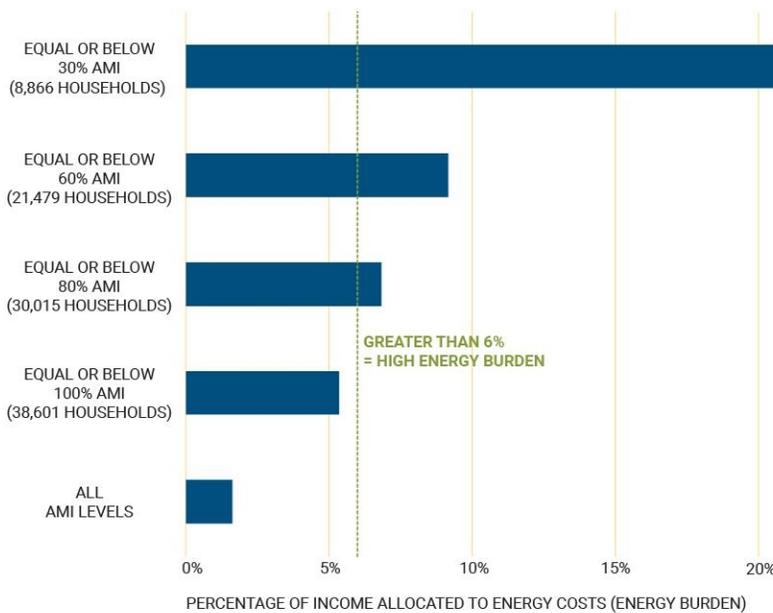
Given the inherently unpredictable nature of technological advancements, policy changes and a myriad of other factors that influence future conditions, the model's results should be viewed as directional indicators rather than absolute certainties, more offering a compass than a map. The future is uncertain, and the model's results need to be interpreted with this in mind. The forecast model looked at five scenarios: baseline, accelerated renewable energy development, increased energy efficiency, electric vehicle growth and all-of-the-above.

For each scenario, assumptions were made about key variables like advances in vehicle technology or predicted changes in the electrical grid. Model projections were then calculated out to year 2050, showing possible pathways to guide strategic planning. The baseline scenario is used as a point of comparison for the impact of interventions in the other four policy scenarios. One insight from the model is that electric vehicle growth can have a high impact on reducing emissions below the baseline scenario.



While the city has pursued energy efficiency in facilities and operations, such efforts may not be easy for all residents. Energy burden is the percentage of household income spent on energy expenses. A household’s energy burden is considered high if it is above 6% and severe if above 10%. **The average energy burden for all households in Scottsdale is 2%. However, households making 80% or less than the area median income (AMI) have an average energy burden above 6%, with that number rising to 21% for households 30% and below of the AMI.** As one way to address this problem, the Scottsdale Community Assistance Office oversees [Housing Rehabilitation Programs](#) that remodel older homes to be more energy efficient and make repairs for the health and safety of income qualified residents.

**2016 ENERGY BURDEN BY % OF AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI)**



**INDICATOR**

Average energy burden by income bracket (2016 = 21% for households 30% and below of area median income)



**TARGET**

Reduce the average energy burden to 6% or less for all households by 2035

Figure 5. Source: Office of State & Community Energy Programs LEAD Tool; data accessed August 2023

The number of green buildings – those that comply with IgCC, LEED, Scottsdale Green Building Program or Green Rehab guidelines – has been steadily increasing and is expected to rise more quickly with the adoption of mandatory green construction codes. Currently, just under 2% of all buildings have met a green building standard.

**INDICATOR**

Number of green buildings (2022 = 1,588 out of 96,703 or 2% of total)



**TARGET**

Increase the percentage of green buildings to 10% of the total by 2035

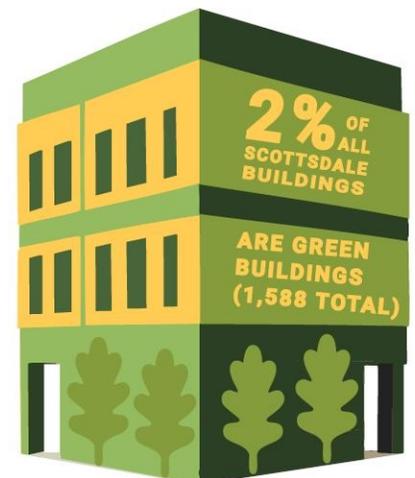


Figure 6. Sources: City of Scottsdale, FEMA

BENEFITS	
	<b>Environmental:</b> Improved air quality and lower greenhouse gas emissions; mitigation of the impacts of increased temperatures and extreme weather
	<b>Economic:</b> Reducing energy use and installation of solar lowers costs for households and businesses and increases investment in clean energy businesses
	<b>Social:</b> Lowered energy burden for low-income households; improved indoor air quality; <b>INCREASED RESILIENCY TO POWER OUTAGES</b>

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Install a photovoltaic system on your roof or over a parking lot</li> <li>▪ Conduct an energy audit of your building or use the APS <a href="#">‘energy analyzer’</a> or SRP’s <a href="#">‘energy manager’</a></li> <li>▪ Clean or replace all HVAC filters regularly</li> <li>▪ Investigate utility rebates and tax incentives for energy efficient equipment</li> <li>▪ Purchase Energy Star appliances</li> <li>▪ As light bulbs burn out, replace them with LED bulbs.</li> </ul> <p>For more tips, visit the <a href="#">U.S. Department of Energy</a> or go to <a href="#">Scottsdaleaz.gov</a> and search “green building”</p>

## STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

### STRATEGY NRG 1

**Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.**

#### ACTIONS

- NRG 1.1** Promote energy efficiency improvements for existing residential and commercial properties especially for lower income households; educate property owners on utility and other incentives.
- NRG 1.2** Develop guidance on ways to reduce utility bills.
- NRG 1.3** Provide education for homeowners about solar financing options.
- NRG 1.4** Consider free solar permits for residential installations.
- NRG 1.5** Increase participation in state weatherization program.
- NRG 1.6** Update greenhouse gas inventory at least every three years and expand to include refrigerant emissions; estimate impact of strategies and actions on emissions.
- NRG 1.7** Publicly report on greenhouse gas emissions and reduction strategies.
- NRG 1.8** Educate the public on the impacts of climate change and mitigation strategies.
- NRG 1.9** Increase awareness of 811 and other ways to reduce accidental leaks or releases from natural gas lines.

### STRATEGY NRG 2

**Improve municipal energy performance.**

#### ACTIONS

- NRG 2.1** Employ ~~a citywide~~ **AN** energy management system **FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS** and track ~~city~~ energy use.
- NRG 2.2** Increase the number of large city-owned buildings connected to the energy management system.
- NRG 2.3** Conduct energy audits and assessments for all municipal buildings.
- NRG 2.4** Continue to convert streetlight systems, park lighting and other civic lighting to LED technology.
- NRG 2.5** Dedicate staff resources to managing energy programs.
- NRG 2.6** Develop a master plan for solar development on city-owned properties, including battery and other storage capacity.

- NRG 2.7** Share information on savings achieved through municipal solar installations.
- NRG 2.8** Evaluate joining utility green power programs, establishing city-utility partnership agreements and/or the use of microgrids.
- NRG 2.9** Continue to participate in utility demand response programs; identify other opportunities to contribute to grid resiliency.
- NRG 2.10** Join EPA Green Power Partnership.
- NRG 2.11** **EXPAND MUNICIPAL ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION AND STORAGE CAPACITY, FOCUSING ON LARGE USERS AND CRITICAL FACILITIES.**

### STRATEGY NRG 3

**Reduce energy impacts of the built environment through sustainable building practices and policies.**

#### ACTIONS

- NRG 3.1** Adopt and implement energy and green construction codes that advance efficient construction practices to address affordability and regional characteristics.
- NRG 3.2** Support code requirements for new residential construction to install solar systems or be 'solar ready.'
- NRG 3.3** Strengthen enforcement of all building codes.
- NRG 3.4** Encourage installation of solar panels when a new roof or deep retrofit occurs.
- NRG 3.5** Continue LEED Gold requirement for new civic structures.

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY NRG 1 Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.</b>				
<b>NRG 1.1</b> Promote energy efficiency improvements for existing residential and commercial properties.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Utilities, residents, businesses	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Cost savings</li> <li>📉👤 Lower emissions/energy burden</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 1.2</b> Develop guidance on ways to reduce utility bills.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Utilities, residents, businesses	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Cost savings</li> <li>📉👤 Lower emissions/energy burden</li> </ul> <p><b>RESILIENCY</b></p>
<b>NRG 1.3</b> Provide education for homeowners about solar financing options.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Cost savings</li> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul> <p><b>RESILIENCY</b></p>
<b>NRG 1.4</b> Consider free solar permits for residential installations.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Cost savings</li> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 1.5</b> Increase participation in state weatherization program.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Community Services <b>Partners:</b> OEI, State of Arizona, residents	\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Cost savings</li> <li>📉👤 Lower emissions/energy burden</li> </ul> <p><b>RESILIENCY</b></p>
<b>NRG 1.6</b> Update greenhouse gas inventory at least every three years.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 1.7</b> Publicly report on greenhouse gas emissions and reduction strategies.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 1.8</b> Educate the public on the impacts of climate change and mitigation strategies.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Residents, businesses	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 1.9</b> Increase awareness of ways to reduce accidental leaks or releases from natural gas lines.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>📉 Lower emissions</li> </ul>

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY NRG 2 Improve municipal energy performance.</b>				
<b>NRG 2.1</b> Employ a <del>citywide</del> <b>AN</b> energy management system and track <del>city</del> energy use.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.2</b> Increase the number of large city-owned buildings connected to the energy management system.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.3</b> Conduct energy audits and assessments for all municipal buildings.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.4</b> Continue to convert lighting to LED technology.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities, Transportation & Streets	\$\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.5</b> Dedicate staff resources to managing energy programs.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.6</b> Develop a master plan for solar development on city-owned properties, including battery and other storage capacity.	3-10 years 1-3 YEARS	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> <li>👤 <b>RESILIENCY</b></li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.7</b> Share information on savings achieved through municipal solar installations.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> <li>👤 <b>RESILIENCY</b></li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.8</b> Evaluate joining utility green power programs, establishing city-utility partnership agreements and/or the use of microgrids.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Utilities	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> <li>👤 <b>RESILIENCY</b></li> </ul>
<b>NRG 2.9</b> Continue to participate in utility demand response programs.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities, Water	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>💰 Municipal savings</li> <li>🌱 Lower emissions</li> <li>👤 <b>RESILIENCY</b></li> </ul>

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>NRG 2.10</b> Join EPA Green Power Partnership.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	 Lower emissions
<b>NRG 2.11 EXPAND MUNICIPAL ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION.</b>	<b>3-10 YEARS</b>	<b>LEAD: FACILITIES PARTNERS: OEI, WATER</b>	<b>\$\$\$+</b>	 <b>MUNICIPAL SAVINGS</b>  <b>LOWER EMISSIONS</b>  <b>RESILIENCY</b>
<b>STRATEGY NRG 3 Reduce energy impacts of the built environment through sustainable building practices and policies.</b>				
<b>NRG 3.1</b> Adopt and implement energy and green construction codes that advance efficient construction practices.	<b>3-10 years ONGOING</b>	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$	 Cost savings  Local jobs
<b>NRG 3.2</b> Support code requirements for new residential construction to install solar systems.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$	 Cost savings  Local jobs  <b>RESILIENCY</b>
<b>NRG 3.3</b> Strengthen enforcement of all building codes.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$	 Cost savings  Local jobs
<b>NRG 3.4</b> Encourage installation of solar panels when a new roof or deep retrofit occurs.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$	 Cost savings  Local jobs  <b>RESILIENCY</b>
<b>NRG 3.5</b> Continue LEED Gold requirement for new civic structures.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Plan Review	\$\$-\$\$\$	 Cost savings  Local jobs

## ENDNOTES

- 1 [“How Do We Know Climate Change is Real?”](#) NASA Global Climate Change: Evidence.
- 2 [“Is it too late to prevent climate change?”](#) NASA Global Climate Change.
- 3 U.S. Global Change Research Program, [“Fifth National Climate Assessment,”](#) and “28. Southwest” 2023.
- 4 “State Solar Spotlight: Arizona,” Solar Energy Industries Association. <https://www.seia.org/sites/default/files/2022-09/Arizona%20State-Factsheet-2022-Q3.pdf>.
- 5 “Rooftop Solar Potential,” [Google Environmental Insights](#), accessed 1/5/2024.
- 6 [“2022 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard,”](#) ACEEE, December 2022.

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# WATER

Conserve, protect and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future.

Providing quality drinking water and ensuring adequate water supplies has been a long-standing priority in Scottsdale. As reflected in the recently adopted “Sustainable Water Management Principles,” Scottsdale Water thinks and acts strategically with its water resources – from supply, quality, and conservation to recycling and recharge. Staff works around the clock to ensure your drinking water surpasses all federal, state and local water quality regulations. ~~In fact, water from your tap must pass much more stringent standards than bottled water.~~

The city has a long record of substantial infrastructure investments and community water conservation programs. Staff administers several residential and commercial incentive rebate programs, offers residential outdoor efficiency checks and a commercial audit program, manages ordinance compliance like water waste complaints, and offers water efficiency educational opportunities. Demand for these services has been growing since the activation of Stage 1 of the city’s Drought Management Plan.

In fiscal year 2023 residential and commercial turf conversion rebates incentivized removal of 440,000 square feet of grass – an almost 425% increase from the previous year and a 250% increase over the five-year average. In the same year, homeowner associations’ (HOAs) consultations and recommendations grew by 175% and have proven to yield significant water savings. With the large number of HOAs in Scottsdale, a target of 100% consultation across HOA communities is ambitious. Residential outdoor water efficiency checks also grew by 160% when compared to the previous five year average.





When looking at total potable water demand data over the last decade and a half, a steady slight decrease in total demand and an increase in the number of accounts tells the story of conservation and increased efficiency.

In 2021, the city enacted Stage 1 of its Drought Management Plan and in doing so also requested all customers voluntarily reduce water consumption by at least 5%.<sup>1</sup> The conservation work has paid off. Even during the hottest month on record (July 2023), water use dropped in Scottsdale, saving 7% when compared to July 2022 and nearly **18 180** million gallons of water.<sup>2</sup>

While these accomplishments have placed the city in a positive position related to its water resources, addressing the challenges of the future will require an even more substantial effort. The over-allocation of Colorado River water supplies, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential. The current megadrought, which started in 2000, is the worst in 1,200 years and has impacted reservoir levels on the Colorado River<sup>3</sup> and Central Arizona Project’s water supplies.

In 2022, Scottsdale Water customer accounts totaled more than 70,000 acre-feet of potable water or 62 million gallons per day of safe, reliable drinking water. **Total water use is on a downward trend even as the number of connections has increased by 9% (Figure 1). IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT FIGURE 1 REPRESENTS METERED DATA AND NOT TOTAL WATER PRODUCTION.**

**SCOTTSDALE WATER TRENDS  
METERED POTABLE WATER DEMAND (ACRE-FEET)**

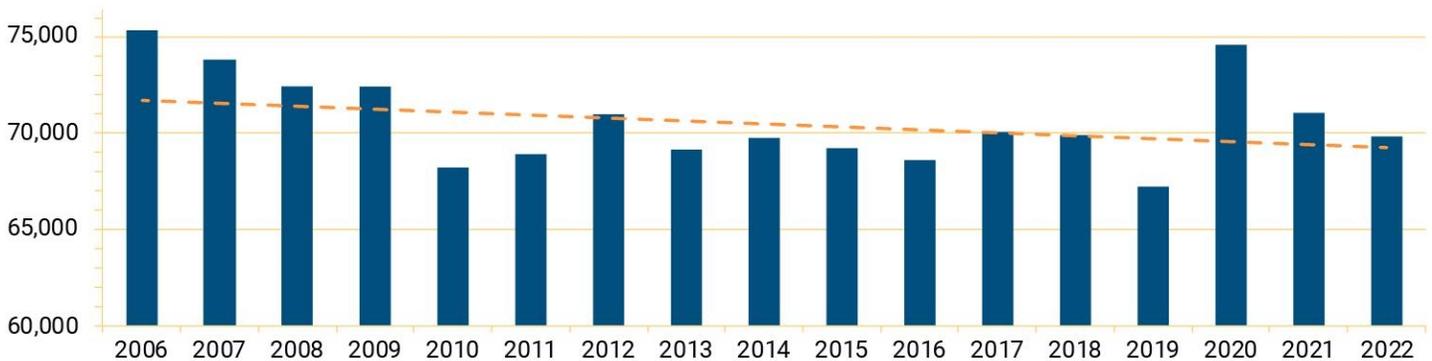


Figure 1. Source: Scottsdale Water

In 2022, the average residential customer (which comprise almost 90 percent of the active water accounts) used 13% less water than in 2000 or 199 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) for residential water use (Figure 2).

**SCOTTSDALE RESIDENTIAL WATER USE  
(GALLONS PER CAPITA PER DAY)**

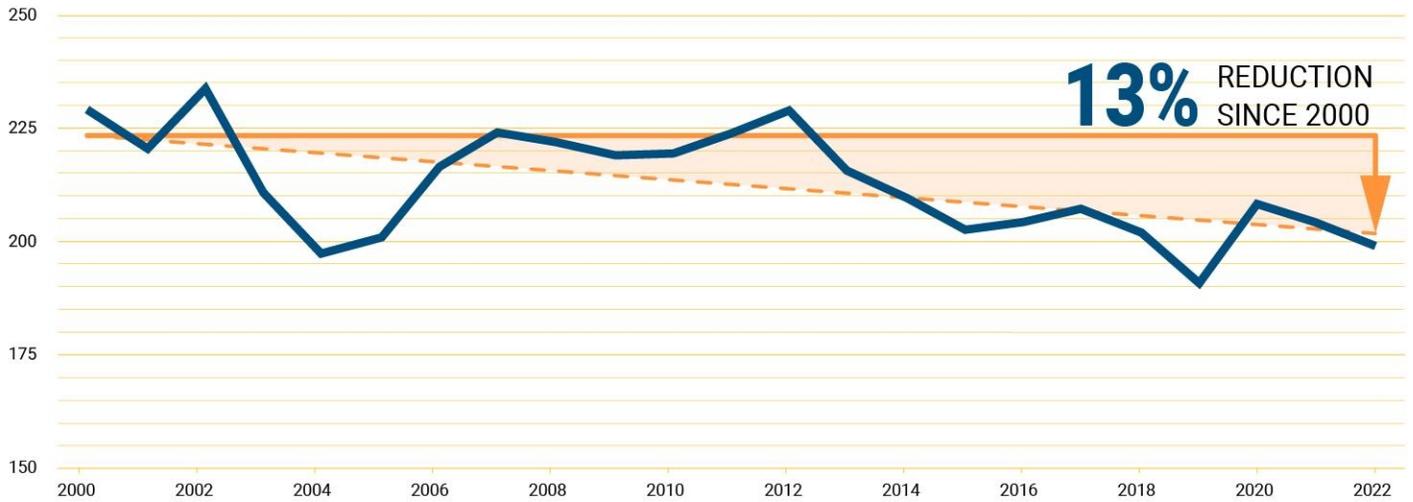


Figure 2. Source: Scottsdale Water

**INDICATOR**

Gallons per capita per day of residential water use (2022 = 199 gpcd)

**TARGET**

Reduce residential water use (gallons per capita per day) to 170 by 2033

The overall conservation trends hold no matter the size of the meter for the single-family homes. Average residential water use varies by meter size and by season. The number of total customers has grown since 2014, but demand has decreased, showing that growth has not affected water use (Figure 3).

**AVERAGE WATER USE, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL  
(GALLONS USED PER METER SIZE)**

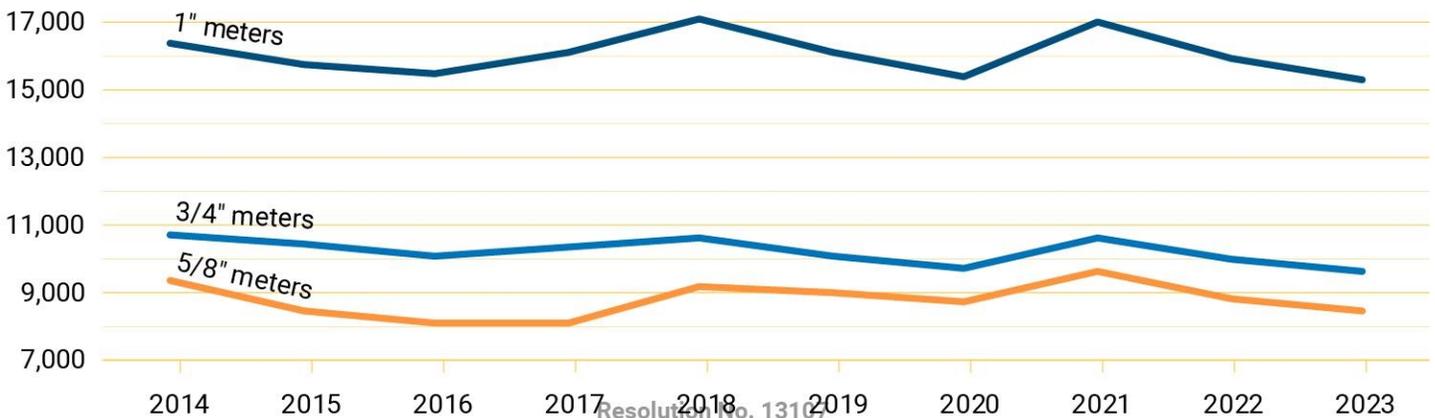


Figure 3. Source: Scottsdale Water

**Municipal water use represents around 2% of total potable city use and has dropped almost 10% since 2017.** Scottsdale Facilities and Parks & Recreation have been proactively working to reach optimal and efficient water use in city-owned facilities and in the provision of services to the community.

**INDICATOR**

Gallons of municipal water use  
(2022 = 438,172,762 gallons)



**TARGET**

Reduce municipal potable water use by 5% by 2027 (from 2022 levels)

Scottsdale Water has targeted improvements in the amount of water used by Multi-Family Residential (MFR) customers and their HOAs to irrigate their common areas with water-use budgets, rebates and tips for overall water efficiency.

**INDICATOR**

Gallons of irrigation water use for HOA properties (2022 baseline data to be established in a future annual report)



**TARGET**

Reduce irrigation water use for HOA properties by 10% by 2033 (from 2022 levels)

Commercial water use has been relatively stable even during periods of economic growth. Future efforts will focus on developing strategies for efficiencies for existing users without affecting the ability to build Scottsdale's economy.

**INDICATOR**

Gallons of commercial water use  
(2022 = 3,818,311,019)



**TARGET**

Reduce commercial water use by 10% by 2033 (from 2022 levels)

Scottsdale Water was the first Arizona water utility to implement indirect potable reuse with the Advanced Recycled Purified Water (ARPW) infrastructure at the Advance Water Treatment facility (AWT). The AWT is one of the largest and most sophisticated indirect potable reuse facilities in the world and, in 2019, became the third plant in the nation and the first in Arizona to be permitted for direct potable reuse.

Scottsdale’s reclamation system has approximately 1,500 miles of sewer collection lines and over 40 lift stations. For decades, Scottsdale has used 100 percent of its recycled wastewater for beneficial, non-potable reuse or recharge. As a part of Scottsdale water resources portfolio, a portion of Advanced Recycled Purified Water (ARPW) is recharged into the aquifer as a kind of savings account to be able to recover it via groundwater wells in times of prolonged drought and shortage. Another portion of the ARPW is delivered to turf facilities through the Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS). ~~Another use of a portion of Scottsdale’s wastewater is to deliver it to the 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment where it is used for the cooling tower at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating station and the Tres Rios Wetlands.~~ **THE THIRD PORTION OF SCOTTSDALE’S WASTEWATER IS DELIVERED TO THE JOINTLY OWNED AND PHOENIX-OPERATED 91ST AVENUE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT WHERE IT IS TREATED AND USED FOR THE COOLING TOWER AT PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION AND THE TRES RIOS WETLANDS.**

**Of the total amount of water that is delivered to customers, approximately 33% is currently “returned” to the sewer system, CAPTURING INDOOR/OUTDOOR EFFICIENCY FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS.** Future decreases in outdoor use and increases in irrigation efficiency would lead to a higher percentage of overall “return” flow. As an indicator of conservation for all customers, the city seeks to increase the return flow percentage over what has been seen in the last 10 years.

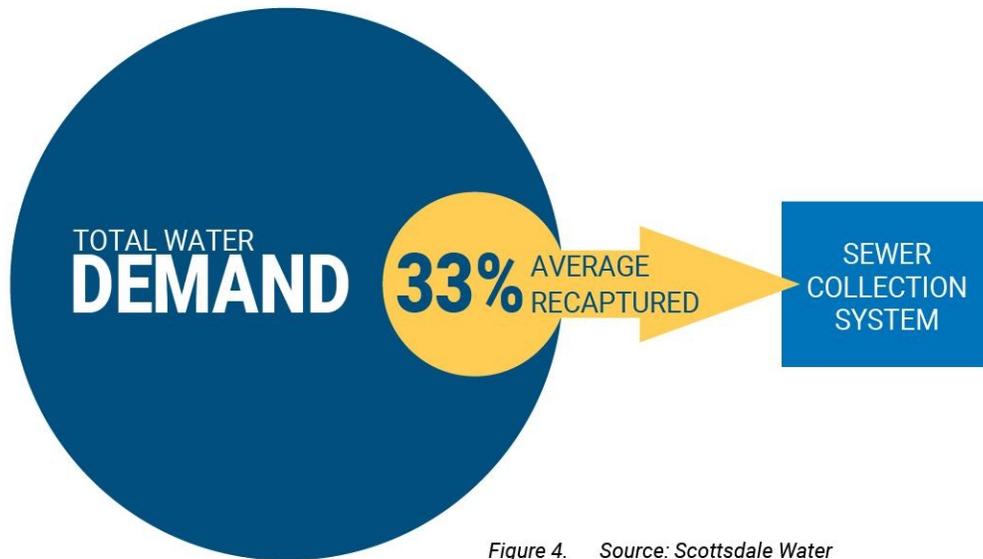


Figure 4. Source: Scottsdale Water

**INDICATOR**

Return flow percentage or wastewater captured in the sewer collection system (2022 = 33% of total potable water demand)

**TARGET**

Increase return flow percentage by 10% by 2033, ~~capturing indoor/outdoor efficiency for both residential and commercial customers~~

Scottsdale has excelled at proactive long-range planning to ensure safe and adequate water supplies and best management practices on water conservation efforts, total wastewater reuse, and water banking. Scottsdale helps ensure quality water supplies by reclaiming or reusing water, recharging excess to the aquifer, and treating groundwater. **The amount of groundwater delivered has remained fairly constant and kept to an internal target of Safe Yield.**

**INDICATOR**

Gallons of **SUPPLY SOURCED FROM** groundwater **treated** (2022 = 1,823 million gallons)



**TARGET**

Maintain treated groundwater deliveries to Safe Yield levels

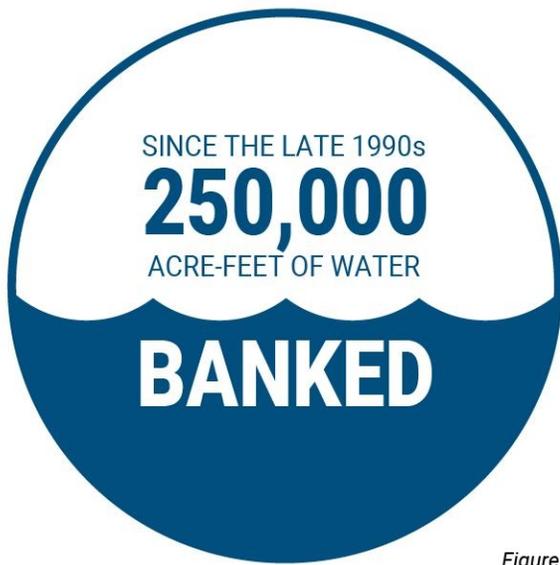


Figure 5. Source: Scottsdale Water

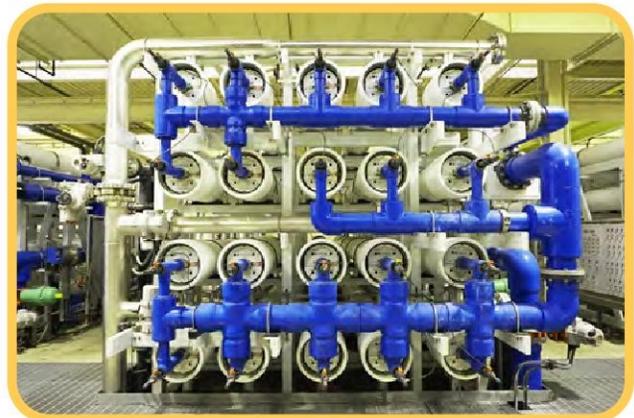
**INDICATOR**

Gallons of water recharged in aquifer (2022 **CUMULATIVE** = 250,000 acre feet)



**TARGET**

Maximize annual water banking



### BENEFITS



#### Environmental:

Using water efficiently brings a level of relief from the drought and reduces carbon emissions by using less energy to pump and treat water



#### Economic:

More secure water supplies aid business operations/development and attract tourists; conservation means lower water bills for customers



#### Social:

Clean and secure drinking water for all residents supports health & equity



### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Use the WaterSmart app to monitor use and receive leak notifications
- Convert non-functional turf (grass) areas to desert-adapted landscapes
- Consider a WaterSense Smart Irrigation controller upgrade
- Understand your landscape water needs
- Plant native and drought tolerant plants
- Replace faucets, showerheads, and toilets with WaterSense-labeled fixtures

For more tips, go to [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov) and search “water”

## STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

### STRATEGY WTR 1

Ensure water system resiliency.

#### ACTIONS

- WTR 1.1** Communicate the leak detection benefits of registering for the online visualization portal and leak alerts (WaterSmart), aiming to double participation by 2025.
- WTR 1.2** Encourage removal of privately-owned non-functional/non-recreational turf through education and turf removal rebates.
- WTR 1.3** Promote improvements to irrigation equipment and plumbing fixtures for residential and commercial customers.
- WTR 1.4** Expand water conservation programs focused on homeowners associations (HOAs).
- WTR 1.5** Review water use and conservation in development projects through the framework of the Scottsdale Sustainable Water Management Principles.
- WTR 1.6** Showcase and benchmark best practices of water efficient buildings & landscaping.
- WTR 1.7** Encourage site development strategies that incorporate green infrastructure, low impact development, and stormwater harvesting.
- WTR 1.8** Develop strategies to encourage efficient water practices for commercial businesses.
- WTR 1.9** Convert all water meters to Automatic Meter Infrastructure.
- WTR 1.10** Conduct water efficiency consultations with all HOAs by 2033.
- WTR 1.11 EXPLORE AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE WATER USE IN POOLS, SPAS AND FOUNTAINS.**

### STRATEGY WTR 2

Reduce municipal water use.

#### ACTIONS

- WTR 2.1** Remove non-functional/non-recreational turf at city facilities and retrofit municipal irrigation systems to smart controllers.
- WTR 2.2** Monitor leaks and implement advanced drip irrigation systems.
- WTR 2.3** Maintain high-efficiency toilets and faucets in city buildings.
- WTR 2.4** Install new cooling tower controllers in all municipal facilities by 2025.

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WTR 1 Ensure water system resiliency.</b>				
<b>WTR 1.1</b> Communicate the benefits of registering for WaterSmart.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers	\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.2</b> Encourage removal of privately-owned turf.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, HOAs, landscapers	\$-\$\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.3</b> Promote improvements to irrigation equipment and plumbing fixtures.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, HOAs, landscapers	\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.4</b> Expand HOA water conservation programs.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> HOAs	\$-\$\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.5</b> Utilize Scottsdale Sustainable Water Management Principles in development review.	Quick-win <b>ONGOING</b>	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Developers	\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.6</b> Showcase and benchmark water efficient buildings & landscaping.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, developers, landscapers	\$	⌘ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.7</b> Encourage sustainable site development strategies.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water, OEI <b>Partners:</b> Residents, developers	\$	🌱 Nature 👤 Reduced flooding

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>WTR 1.8</b> Develop efficient water practices for businesses.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Commercial customers	\$-\$\$	Ⓢ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.9</b> Convert water meters to Automatic Meter Infrastructure.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers	\$	Ⓢ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.10</b> Conduct HOA water efficiency consultations.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> HOAs	\$	Ⓢ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.11 EXPLORE AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE WATER USE IN POOLS, SPAS AND FOUNTAINS.</b>	<b>1-3 YEARS</b>	<b>LEAD: WATER PARTNERS: CUSTOMERS, HOAS, DEVELOPERS</b>	<b>\$-\$\$</b>	Ⓢ <b>CUSTOMER SAVINGS</b>
<b>STRATEGY WTR 2 Reduce municipal water use.</b>				
<b>WTR 2.1</b> Remove non-functional/non-recreational turf at city facilities and retrofit municipal irrigation systems to smart controllers.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$-\$\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<b>WTR 2.2</b> Monitor leaks and implement advanced drip irrigation systems.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<b>WTR 2.3</b> Maintain high-efficiency toilets and faucets in city buildings.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<b>WTR 2.4</b> Install new cooling tower controllers in municipal facilities.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings

## ENDNOTES

- 1 ["Scottsdale asking water users to use 5% less, conserve more amid water shortage,"](#) ABC15 Arizona, January 12, 2022.
- 2 ["Scottsdale shows reduced water use during hottest month on record,"](#) City of Scottsdale, August 14, 2023.
- 3 ["Rapid intensification of the emerging southwestern North American megadrought in 2020–2021,"](#) Nature Climate Change, Williams, Cook and Smerdon, Vol 12, March 2022.

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# WASTE

Develop a circular economy approach for materials management and effective citywide diversion of all waste streams.

Managing waste better and more efficiently benefits everyone. Recycling or reusing goods reduces the reliance on finite natural resources and yields cost savings by buying less and avoiding landfill tipping fees. Solid waste trucks will drive fewer miles on city streets, litter is reduced, jobs can be created, and fewer landfills need to be built and maintained. Increasing recycling, changing how vendors package their goods and offering compost receptacles reduces the pressure on landfills, saves energy and lessens upstream pollution from manufacturing.

Because of these benefits, achieving 'zero waste' has become a common long-term target for municipalities and organizations. While the overall goal – a holistic approach to minimizing the amount of waste sent to landfills – is often similar, precise definitions vary and sometimes include different waste streams. Most follow familiar principles to 'reduce, reuse, recycle' and often define zero waste as a 90% reduction or diversion rate.<sup>1</sup>

Sustainable materials management (SMM) goes beyond diversion to maximize environmental benefits and extend the life cycle of products and materials by keeping them in circulation as long as possible. This more holistic approach looks at extraction of resources, design, production and use of products, as well as end-of-life management and disposal (Figure 1) and identifies actions that reduce impacts on soils, water, the air we breathe and ecosystems.

One application of SMM is the creation of a circular economy, which "reduces material use, redesigns materials and products to be less resource intensive, and recaptures 'waste' as a resource to manufacture new materials and products." This circularity provides an important framing as Scottsdale works to become a more sustainable city.

## LIFE CYCLE OF MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

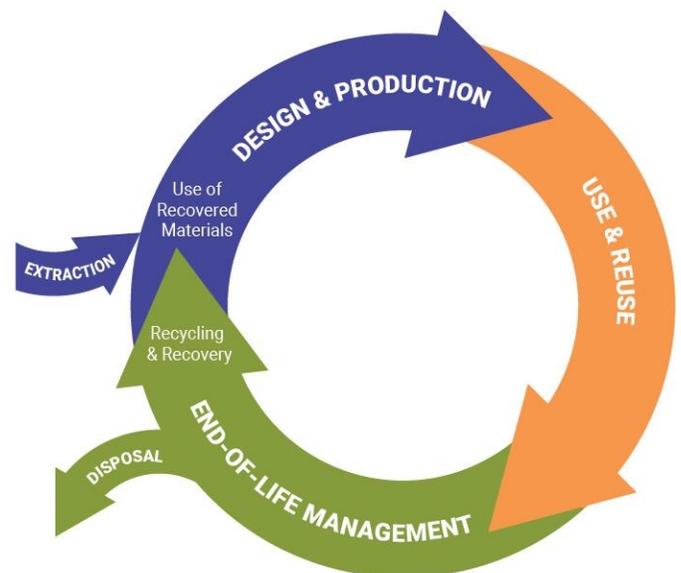


Figure 1. Source: [Materials Management in Oregon](#)

The 2018 [Community Solid Waste Reuse and Recycling Strategic Plan](#) set eight policy objectives to guide the work of Scottsdale Solid Waste Services. These policies are driven by the community's values and vision as represented in General Plan 2035. Together, they provide a comprehensive approach to meeting community expectations for how Scottsdale will approach the reduction, reuse, collection, recovery and disposal of solid waste materials generated within the city, while adhering to the sustainability ethic that is so important to our residents. As a companion document to this Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan, the Strategic Plan includes detailed objectives for each of its policies and steps that can be taken to realize those goals.



Historically, members of the Scottsdale community have supported and embraced efforts to divert waste from the landfill. Scottsdale Solid Waste Services has provided single-stream recycling collection to all single-family homes since 1996. Each residential customer is also provided monthly pickup of bulk items and uncontained brush (landscaping debris). Finally, as part of the base single-family service fee, residents can also receive on-call move-in box collection, appliance collection, household hazardous waste collection and participate in quarterly e-waste drop-off events.



Scottsdale Solid Waste Services maintains a contractual agreement with the Salt River Landfill (SRL) for the disposal of refuse. The estimated operational lifespan of the landfill extends through 2035, with ongoing efforts by the SRL to prolong the facility's utility beyond this period. Waste is transported by the department either directly to the Salt River Landfill or to the Scottsdale Transfer Station, where it is consolidated into larger transport vehicles destined for the landfill. In addition, the Salt River Landfill Complex houses a Materials Recovery Facility, which the city employs for processing recyclable materials.

Like most municipalities, the city is motivated to divert material from the landfill in part by limited landfill space. When the Salt River Landfill reaches the end of its lifespan, the City will have to use alternative sites that are up to four times further away, meaning more fuel, labor, vehicle wear and air pollution. Bringing less waste to the landfill helps extend its usable life, avoiding future costs associated with opening a new landfill. Annie Leonard, the creator of "The Story of Stuff," said it best: *"When we throw anything away it must go somewhere."*

There are multiple providers of material management services in Scottsdale. Single-family residences and city facilities are serviced by Scottsdale Solid Waste Services. The commercial sector, which includes multi-family housing and businesses, is mostly serviced by private haulers but can also choose to contract with the city.

Unlike residents of single-family households, Scottsdale’s multi-family complexes and other commercial customers do not automatically receive recycling service. A quarter of Scottsdale’s residents live in multi-family housing, so it is important to find effective methods to increase diversion and reduce waste in these communities. This need is underscored by the fact that, at the beginning of 2024, only 18% of the city’s 1,150 commercial account customers recycled.

Construction and demolition (C&D) debris represents a significant portion of the waste generated in Scottsdale and the surrounding region. Nationwide, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports that 600 million tons of C&D waste were generated in 2018, more than twice the amount of municipal solid waste generated.<sup>2</sup> Scottsdale Solid Waste Services can provide roll-off containers for landfill disposal of C&D debris. Private haulers are also very active in this sector, with only limited data reported to the city. Private haulers and other service providers also offer options for recycling and reuse of construction materials and salvaged building materials. Of note, building code changes in 2023 in Scottsdale now require that all commercial projects achieve at least a 50% diversion of nonhazardous construction, demolition and deconstruction waste material.

Materials management planning is hampered by many data gaps. Data on landfill refuse, recycling and organics diversion from municipal facilities is incomplete, but will be estimated starting in 2024 based on existing data and periodic waste audits. In the commercial sector, the city has little data from private haulers for commercial spaces and multi-family housing.

**In fiscal year 2022/23, Scottsdale Solid Waste Services collected 61,814 tons of landfill refuse (black containers) and 22,903 tons of recycling (mauve containers) from single-family residential households.** The combined 84,717 tons was 10% less by weight than in 2009, in part due to lighter recyclables as more plastic is used today. **At the same time, the amount of landfill refuse collected per household is down almost 13% to under 1,500 pounds.** These numbers include waste collected by the city for single-family household but excludes other waste streams not collected weekly. In FY 2022/23, Scottsdale Solid Waste Services also collected 20,263 tons of brush and bulk from single-family households.

**SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSEHOLD LANDFILL REFUSE  
(POUNDS PER HOME/FISCAL YEAR)**

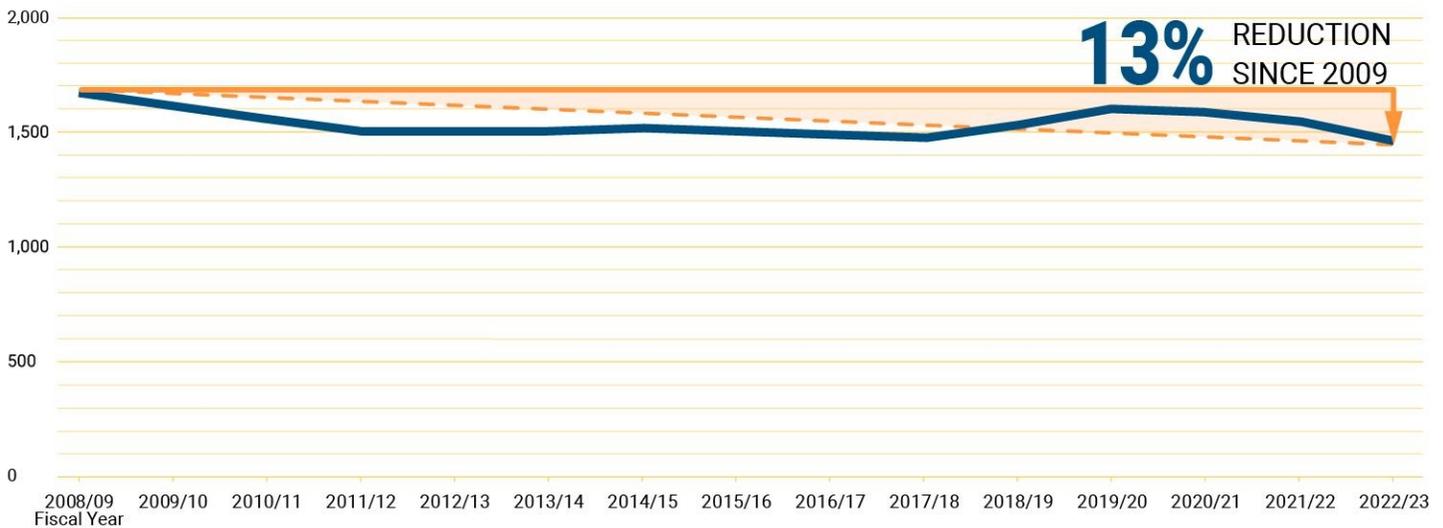


Figure 2. Source: Scottsdale Solid Waste Services

**INDICATOR**

Pounds of landfill refuse per single-family household (2022-2023 = 1,465 pounds)



**TARGET**

Reduce landfill refuse per single-family household by 25% by 2030 and 90% by 2040 (from 2022 levels)

**INDICATOR**

Tons of landfill refuse citywide (Baseline data to be established in a future annual report)



**TARGET**

Reduce landfill refuse collected citywide by 90% by 2040

**INDICATOR**

Tons of municipal landfill refuse collected (Baseline data to be established in a future annual report)



**TARGET**

Reduce municipal landfill refuse by 35% by 2030 and 90% by 2040 (from 2024 levels)  
*(excludes municipal green landscaping debris hauled under city contract)*



A key component of sustainable materials management is diversion. Diversion is any action that keeps waste out of the landfill, from well-known actions like recycling or composting to reuse and waste prevention.

Source reduction is the design, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, and use of materials in ways that reduce the quantity or toxicity of waste generated. Source reduction preempts the need to collect, process and dispose of materials by preventing their generation in the first place. Examples of source reduction practices include: repairing or refurbishing, purchasing in bulk, choosing reusable over single-use and donating unwanted items with useful life remaining.

In addition, while the subject of refuse and recycling collection generally prompts images of large trucks driving down the streets emptying containers along the way, there are many alternatives available within the community, including textile collection drop-off points, retail outlets accepting used light bulbs, batteries, motor oil, or plastic grocery bags for proper disposal, and thrift stores and other markets for reusable items.

Scottsdale Solid Waste Services provide weekly recycling pickup for approximately 84,000 single-family homes. The city's contracted recycling facility operator sorts recyclable materials by commodity and sells them through various markets, with a portion of the revenues coming back to the city. While this revenue does not always provide a positive revenue stream after accounting for the costs of collection and transportation, it does provide environmental savings over the alternative of landfill disposal. The same could potentially be true for other recyclable commodities outside of the curbside single-stream recycling program.

In fiscal year 2022/23, single-family residential households diverted 27% of the material by weight from disposal in the landfill through recycling, a rate that has held steady for several years. This rate is equal to recycling tonnage (mauve containers) divided by the sum of landfill refuse and recycling tonnages (black and mauve containers) and does not include any organics diversion<sup>3</sup>. Currently the methodology for calculating diversion rates is not consistent across Valley cities, so comparisons are difficult. Scottsdale is a leader in the Valley in diversion, although there is room for significant improvement.



Figure 3. Source: Scottsdale Solid Waste Services

**INDICATOR**

Diversion rates  
(FY 2022-2023 = 27% for single-family residents)

**(BASELINE DATA FOR CITYWIDE AND MUNICIPAL WASTE TO BE ESTABLISHED IN A FUTURE ANNUAL REPORT)**

**TARGETS**

- Achieve a 35% diversion rate by 2030 (single-family households)
- Achieve a 90% diversion rate by 2040 (citywide)
- Achieve a 35% diversion rate by 2030 and a 90% diversion rate by 2040 (municipal waste)

**INDICATOR**

Percentage of Scottsdale Solid Waste Services commercial accounts that recycle  
(FY 2022-2023 = 18%)

**TARGET**

Increase the percentage of Scottsdale Solid Waste Services commercial accounts that recycle to 40% by 2030

Organic material – mostly yard and food waste – in the waste stream is another great opportunity for diversion. Nationally, approximately 349 pounds of food waste is generated per person each year, with the majority ending up in landfills. Food waste reduction saves consumers money, conserves resources associated with the production of wasted food and reduces methane emissions from landfills.

Just like with ‘reduce, reuse, recycle’ for overall waste, there are multiple ways to reduce food waste. A study from the State of Oregon looked at ways to prioritize prevention of food waste, generating a helpful hierarchy from prevention to rescue, recovery and disposal (Figure 4). Some of these actions are difficult to quantify but are still important waste management tools. Horse manure from the WestWorld equestrian center and Scottsdale’s many horse properties could also be diverted.



Figure 4. Adapted from: [Oregon Wasted Food Study](#)

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>TARGET</b>
<b>BRUSH AND BULK DIVERSION RATE (FY 2022-2023 = 0 %)</b>	Achieve a diversion rate from the brush and bulk waste stream of 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2040
<b>INDICATOR</b> Tons of organic waste diverted from landfill (Baseline data to be established in a future annual report)	<b>TARGET</b> Divert 15,000 tons annually of citywide organic waste from the landfill by 2030 and 30,000 tons annually by 2040 (excludes brush and bulk and municipal green landscaping debris hauled under city contract)

Single-family residents can dispose of yard waste, including grass clippings, tree trimmings and other organic material, during their monthly brush and bulk pickup. Usually, this waste is mixed with other materials, either before pickup or in the city’s collection vehicles. The city is currently exploring ways to separate brush from bulk waste as part of the transfer station expansion. Here, commercial landscapers will be able to dispose of their organic materials. As of 2024, there is no available data on diversion of organic materials from these private haulers.



For recycling and organics diversion to be most effective, the materials need to be properly sorted. Mixing trash or items soiled with food or liquids with recycling or using plastic bags for collecting recyclables cause recycling facility shutdowns, reduce the market value of commodities and raise the city’s costs. The Salt River Landfill maintains a separate green (yard) waste disposal area where loads with minimal non-organic contamination are diverted from the landfill. For organic waste, contamination leads to increased costs or even entire loads being redirected back to the landfill.



**In 2019, the contamination rate for mixed recyclables sent by Scottsdale Solid Waste Services to the recycling facility was 14%, calculated through annual audits by the recycling facility operator.** Similar rates for other Valley cities range from 12% to 30%.

**INDICATOR**

Recycling contamination rate  
(2019 = 14%)



**TARGET**

Maintain a recycling contamination rate below 10% by 2025 and below 5% by 2045

BENEFITS	
	<p><b>Environmental:</b> Generating less waste extends the life of landfills, lowers the risk of litter and reduces air, land and water pollution; diverting organics reduces methane production</p>
	<p><b>Economic:</b> A circular economy reduces demand for raw materials, creates new jobs and decreases waste hauling and disposal costs</p>
	<p><b>Social:</b> A cleaner city reduces the impacts of landfills on more vulnerable communities; more convenient diversion options improve quality of life</p>

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Switch to reusable bags and water bottles instead of single-use plastics.</li> <li>▪ Compost your food scraps and yard waste.</li> <li>▪ Learn what items you can recycle in Scottsdale to prevent recycling contamination. Look for drop-off locations for items that are difficult to recycle.</li> <li>▪ Switch to digital documents to reduce paper use both at work and home.</li> <li>▪ Donate reusable items as an alternative to bulk pickup.</li> <li>▪ Support local businesses by shopping locally.</li> </ul> <p>For additional advice, visit <a href="http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov">ScottsdaleAZ.gov</a> and search for "solid waste"</p>

## STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

### STRATEGY WST 1

**Increase diversion rates.**

#### ACTIONS

- WST 1.1** Encourage addition of recycling infrastructure in existing commercial and multi-family housing.
- WST 1.2** Promote commercial and multi-family recycling.
- WST 1.3** Support implementation of code requirements for diversion of construction and demolition waste for commercial projects.
- WST 1.4** Work to make city-sponsored events zero waste.
- WST 1.5** Develop a green event program and resources for event planners.
- WST 1.6** Host an expo with vendors to promote and educate about green event options.
- WST 1.7** Investigate ways to encourage private haulers to bring recycling to the transfer station.
- WST 1.8** Expand the transfer station to include permanent household hazardous waste and electronics collection, a Swap Shop, and organic waste diversion facilities.
- WST 1.9** Conduct waste characterization studies.
- WST 1.10** Investigate ways to improve data collection from private haulers and for municipal waste.

### STRATEGY WST 2

**Strengthen local markets for recycled content, recyclable and reusable materials.**

#### ACTIONS

- WST 2.1** Adopt municipal green purchasing policies that prioritize purchasing based on sustainability practices and reduced waste generation.
- WST 2.2** Attract circular economy companies and entrepreneurs
- WST 2.3** Encourage innovative reuse of materials.

## STRATEGY WST 3

**Expand opportunities for diverting organic waste from the landfill.**

### ACTIONS

- WST 3.1** Establish a green or organic waste drop-off program.
- WST 3.2** Promote organic waste diversion.
- WST 3.3** Promote composting by food retailers and the food service industry.

## STRATEGY WST 4

**Reduce waste generation.**

### ACTIONS

- WST 4.1** Promote donation of reusable items through City media channels and education campaigns, prioritizing recovery over landfill disposal.
- WST 4.2** Expand reuse of surplus municipal goods.
- WST 4.3** Educate on the benefits of reusable and compostable packaging and bags.
- WST 4.4** Create a program to reuse building materials.
- WST 4.5** Educate HOAs, homeowners, property managers, and landscapers about reducing the volume of landscaping debris generated.

ACTION		TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WST 1 Increase diversion rates.</b>					
<b>WST 1.1</b>	Encourage addition of recycling infrastructure.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Property Owners	\$-\$\$\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Municipal savings
<b>WST 1.2</b>	Promote commercial and multi-family recycling.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Businesses, residents	\$-\$\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Municipal savings
<b>WST 1.3</b>	Support implementation of code requirements for diversion of construction and demolition waste.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Developers	\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Municipal savings
<b>WST 1.4</b>	Work to make city-sponsored events zero waste.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Parks & Recreation, Tourism, Stadium, Scottsdale Arts, attendees	\$-\$\$	♻️ Less waste
<b>WST 1.5</b>	Develop a green event program and resources for event planners.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Event planners	\$	♻️ Less waste
<b>WST 1.6</b>	Host an expo with vendors to promote and educate about green event options.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Event planners, city-owned venues, vendors	\$-\$\$	♻️ Less waste
<b>WST 1.7</b>	Encourage private haulers to bring recycling to the transfer station.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Private haulers	\$\$	♻️ Less waste
<b>WST 1.8</b>	Expand the transfer station.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Capital Projects	\$\$\$+	♻️ Less waste 👤 Resident convenience
<b>WST 1.9</b>	Conduct waste characterization studies.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> ASU	\$	♻️ Less waste ♻️ Increased composting
<b>WST 1.10</b>	Investigate ways to improve data collection.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Private haulers	\$\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Municipal savings

Resolution No. 13107

EXHIBIT 1

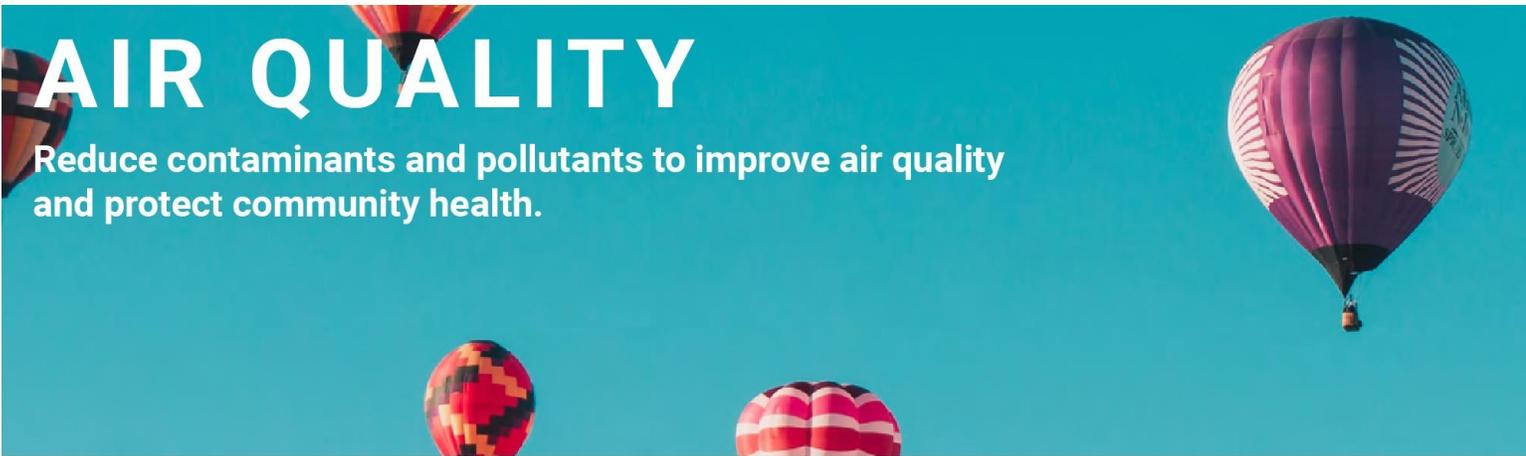
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ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WST 2 Strengthen local markets for recycled content, recyclable and reusable materials.</b>				
<b>WST 2.1</b> Adopt municipal green purchasing policies based on sustainability practices and reduced waste generation.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Purchasing <b>Partners:</b> Solid Waste	\$-\$\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less waste</li> <li>💰 Local jobs</li> </ul>
<b>WST 2.2</b> Attract circular economy companies and entrepreneurs.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Economic Development	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less waste</li> <li>💰 Local jobs</li> </ul>
<b>WST 2.3</b> Encourage innovative reuse of materials.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Residents, businesses	\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less waste</li> <li>💰 Local jobs</li> </ul>
<b>STRATEGY WST 3 Expand opportunities for diverting organic waste from the landfill.</b>				
<b>WST 3.1</b> Establish a green or organic waste drop-off program.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Capital Projects	\$\$\$+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less waste</li> <li>💰 Business savings</li> </ul>
<b>WST 3.2</b> Promote organic waste diversion.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Communications	\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less methane</li> <li>💰 Local jobs</li> </ul>
<b>WST 3.3</b> Promote composting by food retailers and the food service industry.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Restaurants, grocery stores	\$-\$\$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♻️ Less methane</li> </ul>

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WST 4 Reduce waste generation.</b>				
<b>WST 4.1</b> Promote donation of reusable items.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> Non-profits	\$-\$\$	♻️ Less waste
<b>WST 4.2</b> Expand reuse of surplus municipal goods.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Purchasing <b>Partners:</b> Solid Waste, City departments	\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Municipal savings
<b>WST 4.3</b> Educate on the benefits of reusable and compostable packaging and bags.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Communications	\$-\$\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Resident savings
<b>WST 4.4</b> Create a program to reuse building materials.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Developers, Construction industry, Deconstruction and reuse organizations	\$\$\$	♻️ Less waste 💰 Cost savings
<b>WST 4.5</b> Educate about reducing the volume of landscaping debris generated.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Solid Waste <b>Partners:</b> AMWUA, Desert Botanical Garden	\$	♻️ Less waste

## ENDNOTES

- 1 [“How Communities Have Defined Zero Waste,”](#) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- 2 This same methodology will be used for calculating the diversion rate for municipal waste, but composting and diversion of brush and bulk items will be included in the citywide diversion rate.
- 3 [“Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: 2018 Fact Sheet,”](#) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



Like many metropolitan areas, Scottsdale and other cities in the Valley have been working for years to improve air quality. The region’s two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter (PM), as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The causes of these pollutants are complex, given the number of sources and how far both can travel in the air.

Sources of particulate matter, classified as small (PM-2.5) or large (PM-10), include blowing dust, smoke from fires or fireworks and vehicle tire wear and tear. Most particulates form as a result of complex reactions of chemicals like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. To reduce PM, Scottsdale makes extensive use of recycled asphalt millings and stabilizers for dust mitigation on unpaved lots and roads. It also uses a fleet of filtered (PM-10) street sweepers to reduce traffic-generated dust.

Ground-level ozone is created when nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and sunlight react, making ozone primarily a summer issue. Industrial facilities, motor vehicles and gasoline vapors are primary sources of these precursor chemicals. Interestingly, trees can be both a source of VOCs and a key strategy in filtering a wide range of pollutants from the air.<sup>1</sup>

**Regional air quality has varied in recent years, in part reflecting the influence of extremely hot summers on the number of unhealthy air days. In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards (Figure 1).**

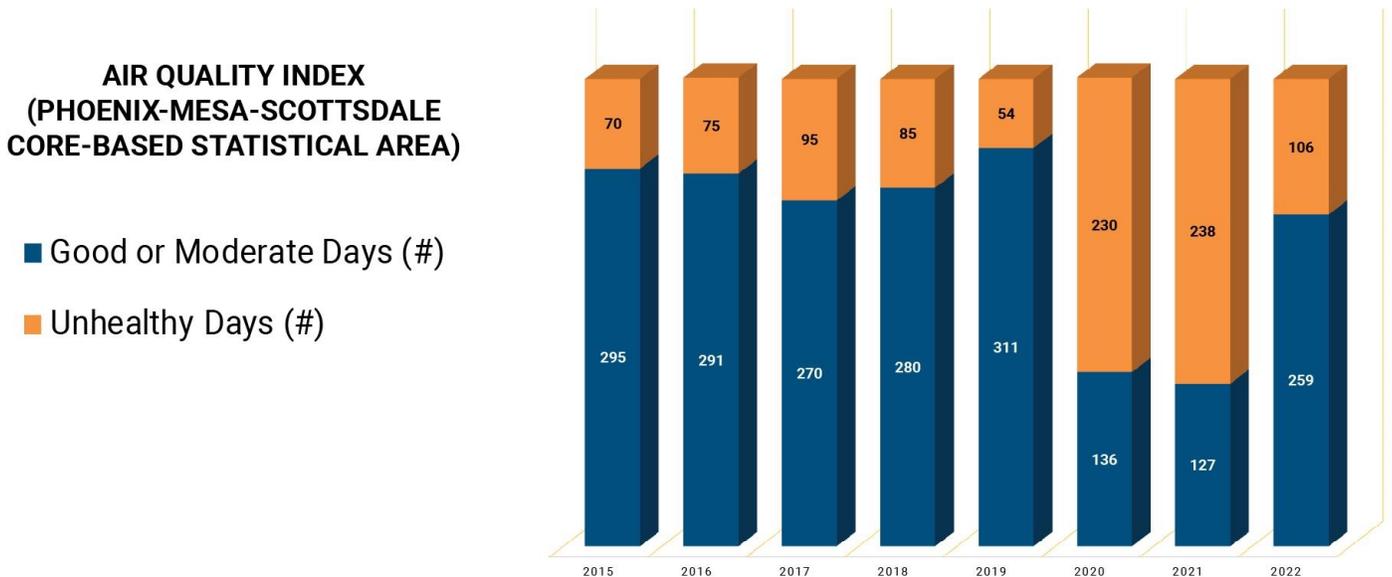


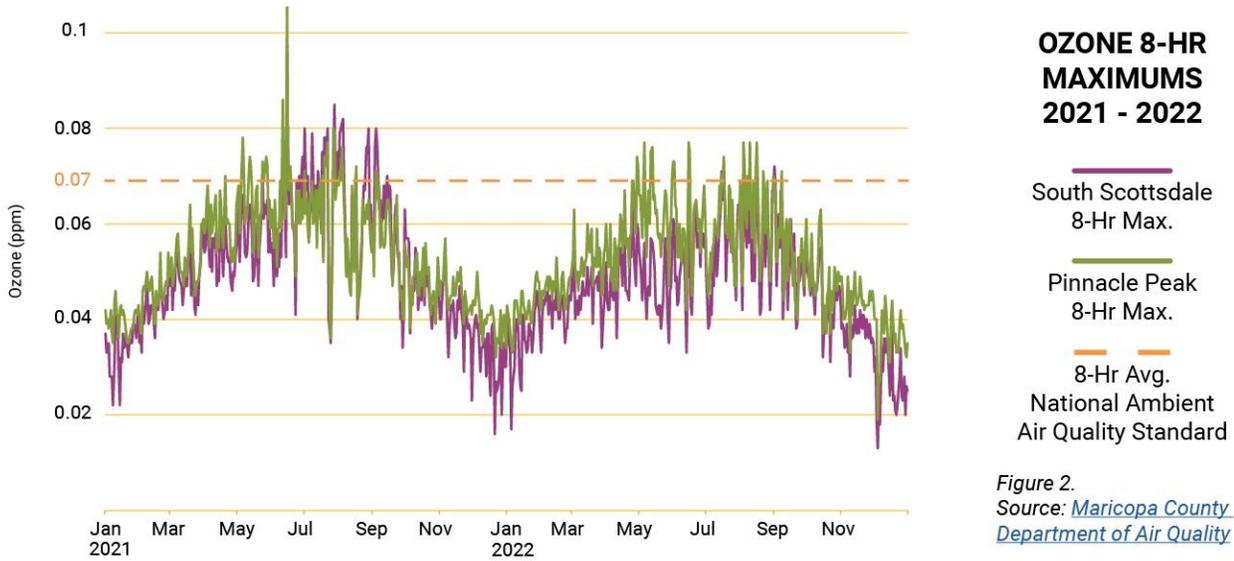
Figure 1. Source: EPA



To signal when air quality is expected to be unhealthy, the state of Arizona projects High Pollution Advisory Days. This advance notice allows people to take steps to avoid exceeding federal standards for either ozone or PM **OR TO MODIFY THEIR ACTIVITIES TO MITIGATE HEALTH IMPACTS**. In most recent years, there have been over 50 such advisories, with 2021 and 2022 each having more than 65 advisories (mostly related to ozone levels). For these days, the city informs all its employees and contractors about leaf blowing, wood burning and off-road travel restrictions.

There are two air sampling monitors in Scottsdale taking hourly readings of ozone and one taking readings of PM-10 levels. Both pollutants can exceed federal standards, sometimes by substantial amounts. There are also two monitors for PM-2.5 just outside Scottsdale boundaries. Figures 1, 2 and 3 illustrate readings above healthy limits in 2021-2022 and the impact on air quality of daily activities, ozone transport into higher elevations during summer afternoons, individual dust storms and holiday activities.



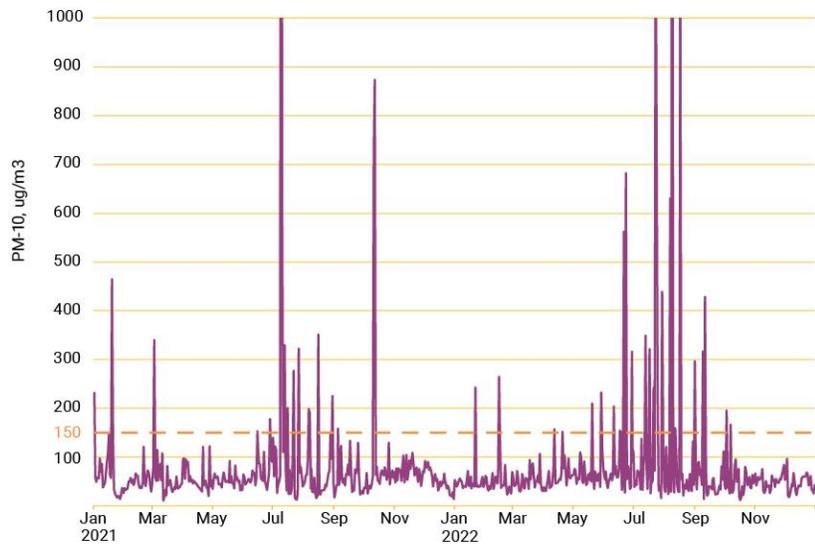


**PM-10 DAILY MAXIMUMS 2021 - 2022**

South Scottsdale PM-10 Daily Max.

24-Hr National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Figure 3.  
Source: [Maricopa County Department of Air Quality](#)



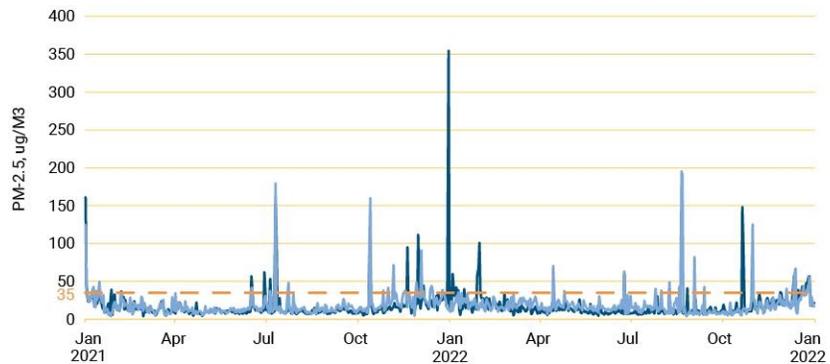
**PM-2.5 DAILY MAXIMUMS 2021 - 2022**

North Phoenix PM-2.5 Daily Max.

Tempe PM-2.5 Daily Max.

24-Hr National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Figure 4.  
Source: [Maricopa County Department of Air Quality](#)



**INDICATOR**

Regional **good to moderate UNHEALTHY** air days (#)  
(2022 = **259 106** days)



**TARGET**

Reduce unhealthy air days in Scottsdale by 2030

Extensive modeling demonstrates that every part of the city can be exposed to poor air quality, although not always at the same time for the same pollutant (Figure 5).

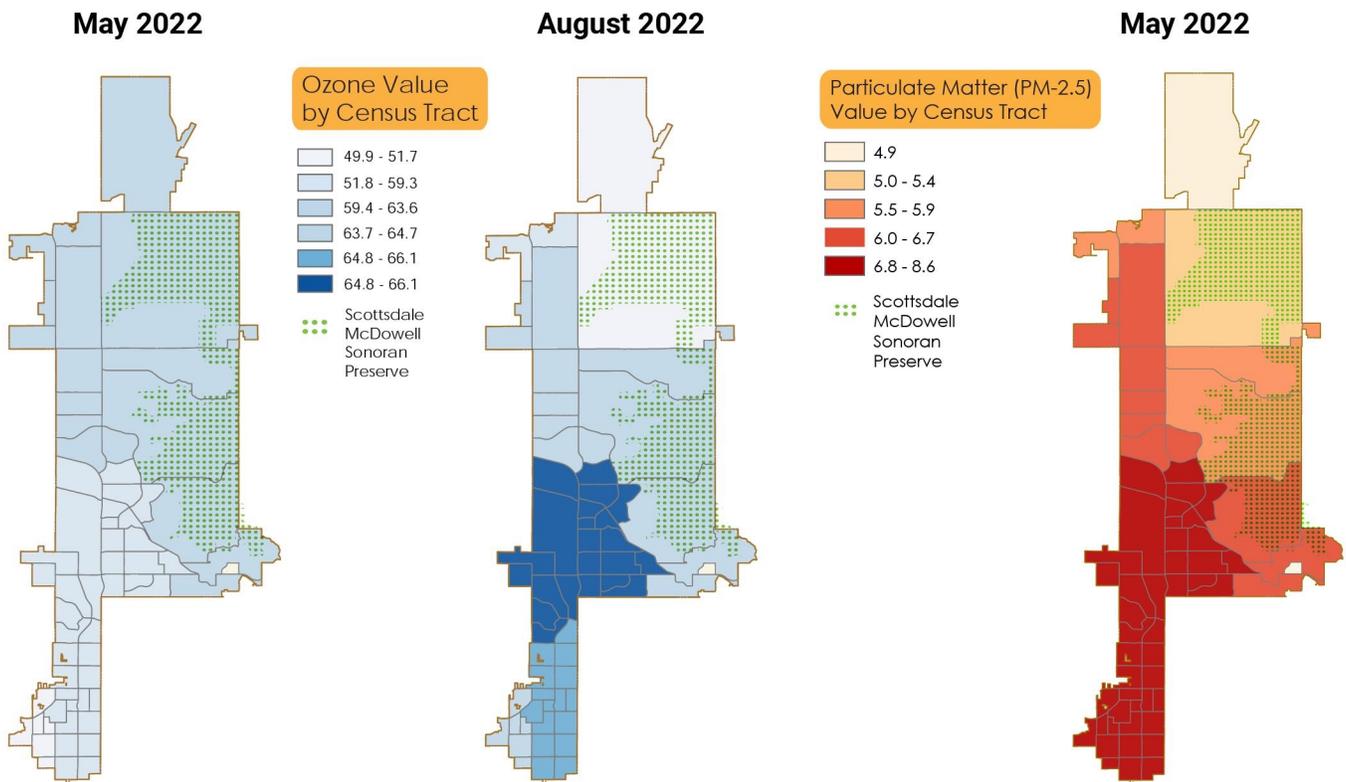
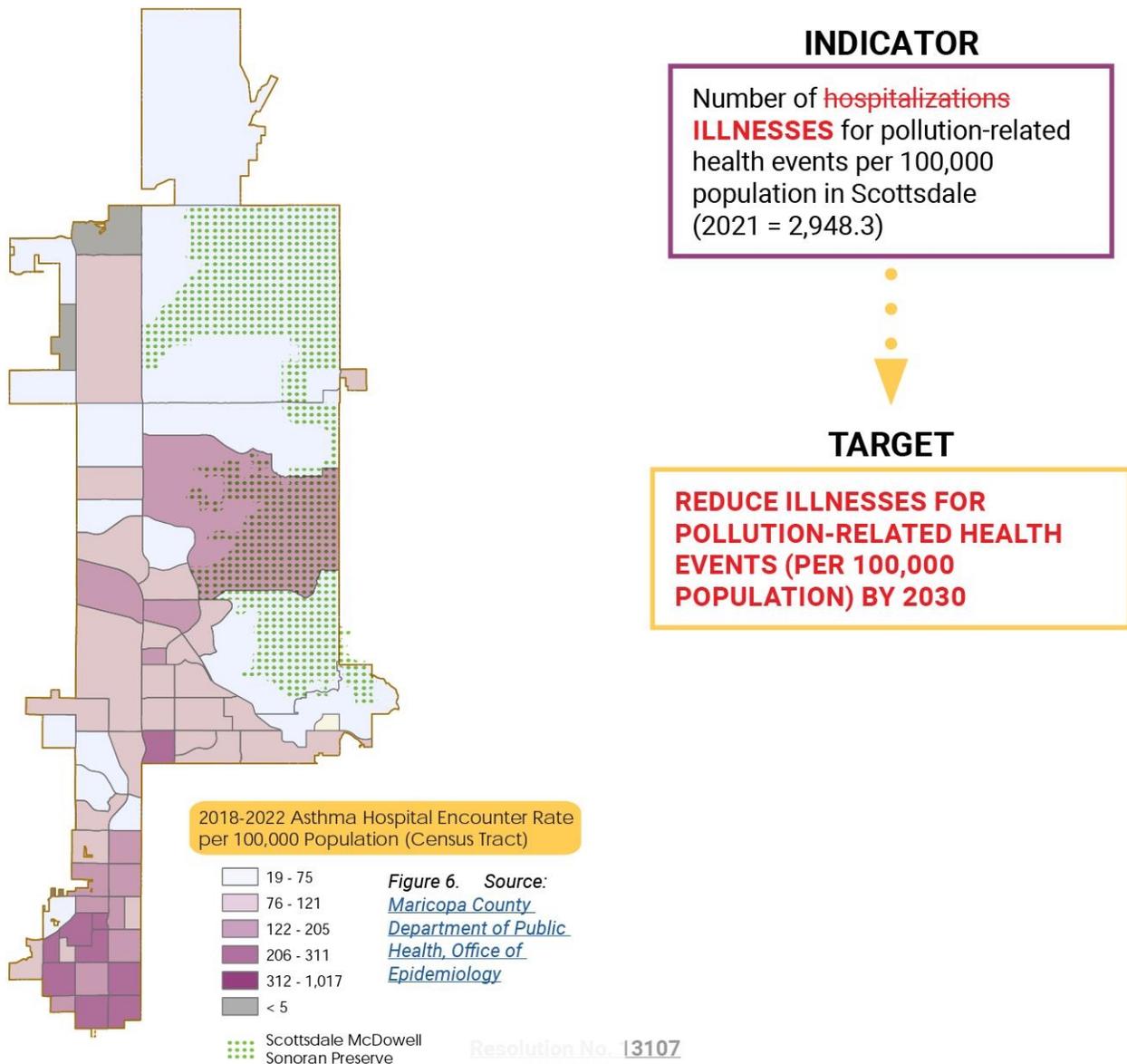


Figure 5. Source: [City Health Dashboard](#)

Ozone **AND PARTICULATE MATTER** can aggravate a range of health issues, including asthma, COPD and heart disease, compounding how extreme heat can also influence their incidence and severity. **Maricopa County tracks illnesses and deaths for these disorders, which have fluctuated over time. Asthma illnesses in Scottsdale are lower than in the rest of Maricopa County per 100,000 population (Table 1), and asthma hospital encounters (2018-2022) are concentrated in census tracts in south and central Scottsdale (Figure 6).**

*Table 1. Incidents among Scottsdale residents, per 100,000 population (TOTAL FREQUENCY)*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Asthma illnesses	210.1 (517)	196.7 (493)	115.3 (294)	121.6 (310)	156.1 (398)
COPD illnesses	335.7 (795)	287.7 (682)	185.5 (443)	148.2 (347)	163.5 (398)
COPD deaths	50.0 (112)	61.9 (121)	57.7 (124)	47.8 (107)	N/A 41.6 (106)
Heart disease illnesses	2,766.8 (6,807)	2,740.6 (6,868)	2,375.0 (6,056)	2,678.5 (6,830)	2,755.7 (7,027)
Heart disease deaths	217.5 (535)	224.3 (562)	231.0 (589)	251.0 (640)	N/A 245.1 (625)



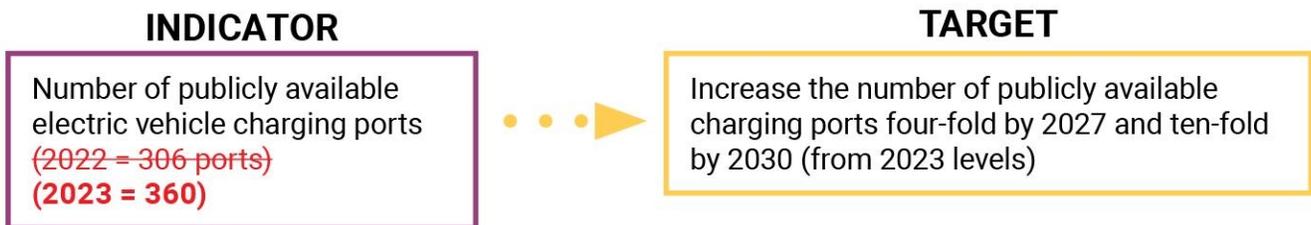
Scottsdale has been an active partner with Maricopa County and neighboring cities to formulate, adopt and implement laws and codes that have improved air quality Valleywide. Even as population and vehicle travel has increased, ozone levels decreased by 13 parts per billion ~~since 2000, and precursor emissions have decreased by over 50 percent from 2011 through 2020~~ **BETWEEN 2000 AND 2020, BUT INCREASED BY APPROXIMATELY TWO PARTS PER BILLION SINCE 2020** according to the [Maricopa Association of Governments](#).

However, federal standards for ozone are tightening due to an improved understanding of the health effects, and metro Phoenix currently has the fifth-worst ozone levels in the country.<sup>2</sup> Because of the extended transport of air pollutants from outside the Valley, improving air quality requires regional cooperation and a long-term commitment to taking daily steps to reduce emissions. Failure to meet the Clean Air Act standards can have economic repercussions, since the tighter standards may trigger regulations that could discourage growth of new, large businesses. **METRO PHOENIX IS CURRENTLY RANKED NINTH FOR WORST PM-2.5 POLLUTION<sup>3</sup> AND IS NOT EXPECTED TO MEET THE NEW EPA ANNUAL PM-2.5 STANDARD (EFFECTIVE MAY 2024).**

The city follows and reinforces federal, state and county requirements. It also commits to additional steps to support cleaner air for residents and visitors related to vehicles. **Scottsdale has reduced the environmental impact of its municipal vehicles by switching to compressed natural gas (CNG) as a fuel source and by using less gasoline and diesel fuel. Total fleet fuel use is down 3% 7% since 2016.** The Fleet and Solid Waste departments significantly reduce vehicle miles through sophisticated route optimizations. Relatedly, the Transportation and Streets Department champions the use of van pool and bus pass programs by employees.



Supporting the regional transition to electric and other alternate fuel vehicles can also improve air quality. **The number of publicly available electric vehicle charging ports in Scottsdale has increased dramatically, up 18% in just one year, reflecting resident and business interest in this technology.** This trend reflects the economics of electric vehicles, which can be \$50 less expensive for a full charge versus a tank of gasoline.<sup>4</sup> The city also plans to install electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in at least five locations.



BENEFITS	
	<p><b>Environmental:</b> Improved air quality reduces harm to plants and animals; more trees also provide shade, cooling, <b>FOOD AND SHELTER FOR WILDLIFE</b></p>
	<p><b>Economic:</b> Fewer bad air quality days aid business operations/development, attracts tourists and lessens damage to buildings and infrastructure; electric vehicles can be less expensive to operate</p>
	<p><b>Social:</b> The greatest impact of better air quality will be improved health and quality of life</p>

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Switch to electric-powered blowers and other landscaping equipment</li> <li>▪ Avoid idling unnecessarily and long drive-thru lines</li> <li>▪ Fuel your vehicle after dark</li> <li>▪ Eliminate or replace your wood-burning fireplace, wood stove or fire pit with natural gas units</li> <li>▪ Plant a low-VOC emitting tree</li> </ul> <p>For more tips, go to <a href="http://Maricopa.gov">Maricopa.gov</a> and search "air quality"</p>

## STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

### STRATEGY AQ 1

**Clean Scottsdale's air.**

#### ACTIONS

- AQ 1.1** Participate in regional efforts to improve air quality and actively participate in regional AQ planning and policy committees and councils (e.g., MAG, MCAQD).
- AQ 1.2** Expand education/outreach to city employees, businesses and residents about air quality and High Pollution Advisory days, including benefits of electric-powered landscaping equipment and reduced single occupancy vehicle trips.
- AQ 1.3** Encourage replacement of existing wood-burning fireplaces, wood stoves and fire pits with cleaner options.
- AQ 1.4** Continue requirement of dust control plans for special events using unpaved parking.
- AQ 1.5** Promote Maricopa County program to convert from gas to electric yard equipment.
- AQ 1.6** Promote and enhance the municipal Travel Reduction Program.
- AQ 1.7** Create education campaigns related to vehicle idling and parking on unpaved lots.

### STRATEGY AQ 2

**Support adoption of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles.**

#### ACTIONS

- AQ 2.1** Advertise locations of publicly available EV charging stations.
- AQ 2.2** Develop a financially sustainable plan for purchasing additional electric and other alternate fuel vehicles for the city fleet.
- AQ 2.3** Create an EV charging infrastructure plan identifying barriers, opportunities, and priorities.

ACTION		TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY AQ 1 Clean Scottsdale's air.</b>					
<b>AQ 1.1</b>	Participate in regional efforts.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Maricopa County	\$	 Health
<b>AQ 1.2</b>	Expand education/outreach about air quality.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Residents, businesses, employees	\$	 Health
<b>AQ 1.3</b>	Encourage replacement of existing wood-burning units.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Residents, developers	\$	 Health
<b>AQ 1.4</b>	Continue requirement of dust control plans for special events.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Tourism <b>Partners:</b> Event planners	\$	 Health
<b>AQ 1.5</b>	Promote Maricopa County program to convert from gas to electric yard equipment.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Maricopa County	\$	 Health
<b>AQ 1.6</b>	Promote and enhance the municipal Travel Reduction Program.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Transportation & Streets <b>Partners:</b> Employees, Maricopa County, Valley Metro	\$	 Health  Fuel savings
<b>AQ 1.7</b>	Create education campaigns related to vehicle idling and parking on unpaved lots.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI, Transportation & Streets	\$	 Health  Fuel savings

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY AQ 2 Support adoption of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles.</b>				
<b>AQ 2.1</b> Advertise locations of publicly available EV charging stations.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	 Health  Fuel savings
<b>AQ 2.2</b> Develop a plan for purchasing additional alternate fuel vehicles.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Fleet <b>Partners:</b> Other city departments	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Municipal savings
<b>AQ 2.3</b> Create an EV charging infrastructure plan.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Other city departments	\$-\$\$	 Health  Fuel savings

## ENDNOTES

- 1 Read more about the benefits of trees and Scottsdale's strategies to increase tree canopy in the Heat section.
- 2 ["Phoenix ranks 5th in ozone pollution, but a new report finds fewer bad air days overall,"](#) Updated April 22, 2023, [Arizona Republic](#).
- 3 "State of the Air 2024," American Lung Association, [Year-Round Particle Pollution Trends](#).
- 4 ["Is it cheaper to refuel your EV battery or gas tank? We did the math in all 50 states,"](#) Updated August 14, 2023, [Washington Post](#).

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# EXTREME HEAT

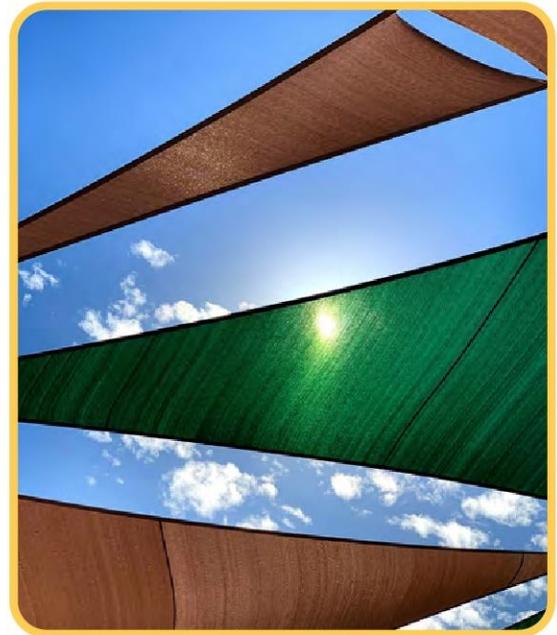
Ensure that the community prevents, is prepared for, responds to and recovers from extreme heat.

Temperatures in 2023 set records for extreme heat: regionally, for the hottest July and the most heat-related fatalities, and globally, for the hottest year ever. Located in the Sonoran Desert, Scottsdale and other Valley cities are experiencing a trend of increasing average temperatures going back over a century of data. But averages only tell some of the story, since the number and length of heat waves has also been increasing.<sup>1</sup> The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs also makes nighttime temperatures uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

These long and hot summers impact human health, quality of life and economic vitality. Increased heat results in added energy use and higher air conditioning costs. Staying indoors during extreme heat is not always an option, and the impact of people deferring work, shopping or other activities can have a negative impact on the economy. Pets, wildlife and plants are also affected by the heat. Even the region's iconic saguaro cacti lost arms and died in large numbers during the heat wave in July 2023.

Rising temperatures compound a myriad of other interrelated problems, including the drought as hotter temperatures further shrink water supplies. Hotter temperatures increase the frequency and destructiveness of wildfires and draw more moisture from the ground generating intense and frequent haboobs (dust storms). Air quality is degraded as wildfires and haboobs significantly increase concentrations of particulate matter and other pollutants, and heat directly increases the production rate of ground-level ozone.

Exposure to extreme heat and air pollution also compounds health impacts. One study found the risk of death from all causes increased 6% on days with extreme high temperatures, 5% on days with high concentrations of fine particulate matter and 21% on days with both conditions present. When cause of death was isolated to cardiovascular and respiratory, the increased risk in co-exposure conditions was even higher – 30% and 38%, respectively.<sup>2</sup>



NOAA records show that Scottsdale is experiencing an upward trend in air temperatures both during the day and at night. This rise can be seen in average summer temperatures as well as the highest temperatures each month.

### AVERAGE JULY TEMPERATURES

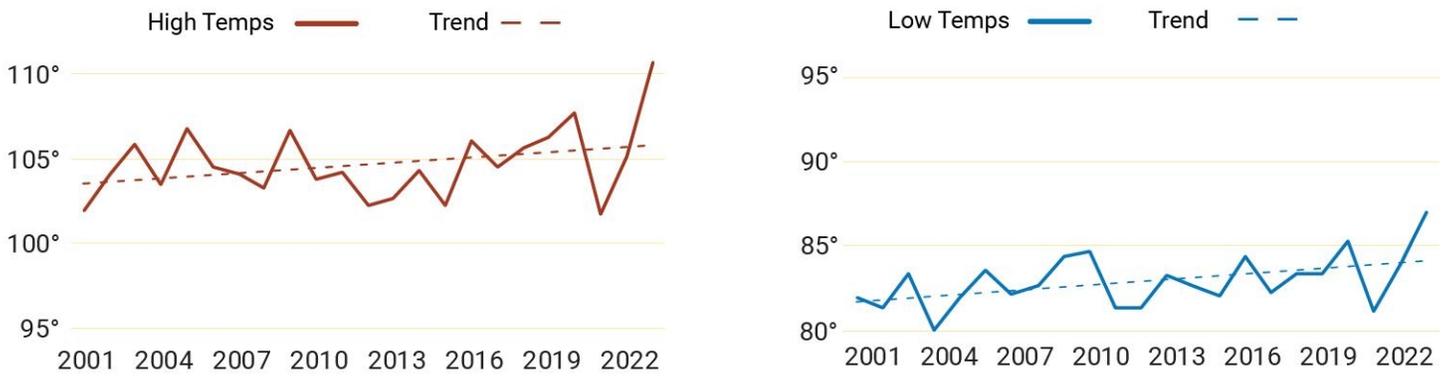


Figure 1. Source: [National Weather Service NOWData](#)



The number of excessively hot days and nights is also increasing, indicating that the heat season is getting longer. Comparing recent averages (2015-2023) to earlier years (2001-2014), there are now 5-8 additional days each year with extreme heat.

Table 1. Annual Summarized Data: Scottsdale Airport Weather Station			
	2001-2014 Average	2015-2023 Average	Maximum (year observed)
Number of Days 110+	8	16	30 (2023)
Number of Nights 90+	2	7	20 (2023)

Table 1. Source: [National Weather Service NOWData](#)

**INDICATOR**

Average air temperatures, July  
 (2023 average high = 110.7°F)  
 (2023 average low = 87.1°F)



**TARGET**

Reduce **AVERAGE JULY** day- and night-time air temperatures by 2030

**INDICATOR**

Average surface temperatures, Summer  
 (2020 average Greater Airpark = 129.0°F)  
 (2020 average Old Town = 129.5°F)  
 (2020 average McDowell Road / Scottsdale Road = 131.4°F)



**TARGET**

Reduce average surface temperatures by 2030 in the Greater Airpark, Old Town and McDowell Road/Scottsdale Road growth areas

Another way to measure heat is using land surface temperature. Satellite imagery has been used to compile a map of the hottest areas in the city, based mostly on 2020 summer data (Figure 2). Unlike the NOAA data based on air temperatures, these data record the temperatures of the highest surface, like the street or a rooftop. There is a feedback loop between these two ways of measuring heat, since hot surfaces contribute to the urban heat island effect that raises air temperatures.

**Surface temperatures vary substantially across Scottsdale, ranging between 95.1°F and 165.5°F.** The average temperature for the entire City was 122.5°F, but three areas were higher, which generally align with General Plan 2035 designated Growth Areas: the Greater Airpark, Old Town and McDowell Road/Scottsdale Road. In fact, the average in McDowell Road/Scottsdale Road was almost 10 degrees higher (131.4°F) than the rest of the city.

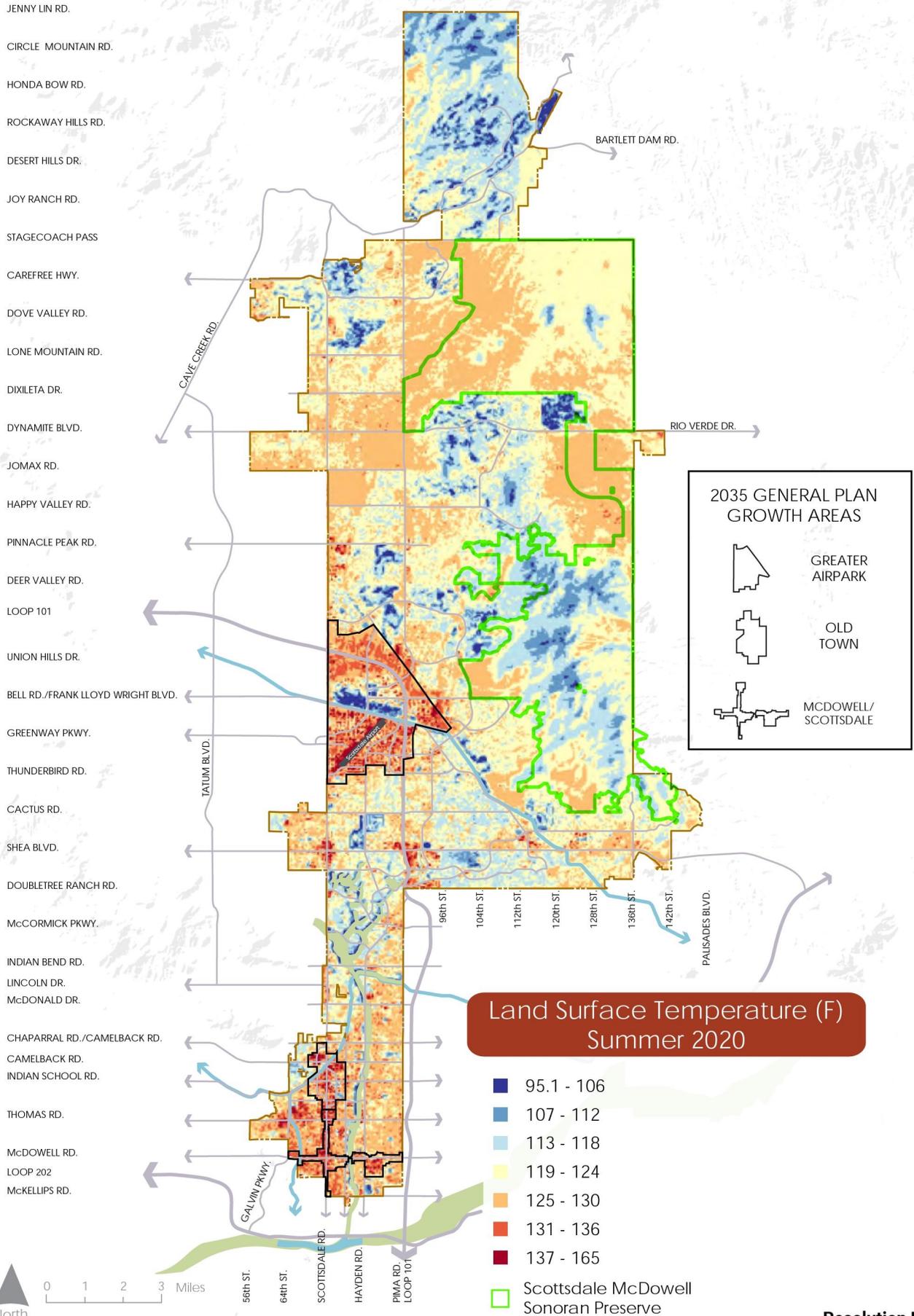


Figure 2. Source: Cooler Scottsdale Study

Exposure to extreme heat can impact the body’s ability to cool itself, harming vital organs or aggravating existing conditions like heart disease. When night-time temperatures are also higher than normal, these health impacts are amplified. Those experiencing homelessness can be the most vulnerable, but heat-related deaths can also occur indoors if the air conditioning is broken or set too high due to inability to pay. Seniors can start feeling the health effects of heat at lower temperatures, so may be more physically vulnerable than others.

**In Scottsdale, heat-related mortality and illnesses resulting in hospitalization are lower than in other parts of Maricopa County and have varied over time.** Data do not include illnesses that were not treated at a hospital. It is not possible to map whether these deaths and illnesses are in the hottest areas of the city, due to privacy reasons and data limitations.

Table 2. Incidence per 100,000 population (total frequency)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Heat Deaths					
Maricopa County Residents	3.2 (138)	3.8 (165)	6.2 (273)	6.0 (267)	7.4 (328)
Scottsdale Residents	3.7 (9)	1.6 (**)	3.9 (10)	3.1 (8)	2.8 (7)
Heat Illnesses					
Maricopa County Residents	43.8 (1,861)	44.2 (1,912)	39.6 (1,748)	43.7 (1,927)	52.5 (2,318)
Scottsdale Residents	31.3 (77)	33.5 (84)	26.7 (68)	27.5 (70)	36.1 (92)

Table 2. Source: Maricopa County Department of Health \*\* suppressed to protect confidentiality

**INDICATOR**

Heat-related morbidity and mortality resulting in hospitalization, per 100,000 population

(2022 deaths = 2.8)  
(2022 illnesses = 36.1)



**TARGET**

Reduce **hospitalizations ILLNESSES** for heat-related related health events (per 100,000 population) by 2030



In 2020, the city partnered with Arizona State University to assess patterns of urban heat in Scottsdale. The result was the [Identifying Strategies for a Cooler Scottsdale](#) (Cooler Scottsdale) study that analyzed heat mitigation and management efforts including tree planting and structured shade. The report offers goals and specific strategies to reduce temperatures in the City and make it more comfortable for residents and visitors including:

1. Increase tree canopy, particularly along frequently traveled pedestrian walkways and along the south and west facades of buildings.
2. Reduce the land area of exposed dark asphalt, dark roofs and other hot surfaces.
3. Improve and increase pedestrian shade amenities through building-integrated and free-standing shade structures, particularly along frequently traveled walkways and in locations that support public transportation.



The study found that 19 of the city's 20 hottest census block groups are in Southern Scottsdale. In addition, census block groups with higher average incomes had lower land surface temperatures. Land surface temperature decreased by more than 1°F for each \$10,000 increase in mean per capita income.

As summers grow hotter due to the urban heat island effect and climate change, more strategies are needed to make Scottsdale cooler and to help people manage with the heat, especially in previously developed areas like Southern Scottsdale. The City's "Beat the Heat" program brings summer relief for homebound seniors. This program serves two equally important functions. First, the city serves homebound seniors with heat relief items to help keep them cool during the summer. Second, staff and volunteers assess the needs of our vulnerable seniors and help connect them to any needed resources.

Grant-funded programs also assist low to moderate income households with home weatherization and repair or replacement of AC units. There are eight citizen assistance centers, senior centers and libraries operating as cooling centers or hydration stations, and the city partners with nonprofits to provide day relief centers that give refuge from the outdoors and navigation for additional services.

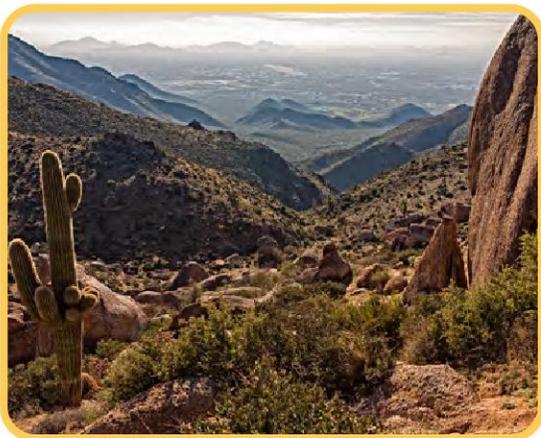
Protecting city employees who work outdoors is another important part of the response to extreme heat. Most city departments hold safety meetings and adjust schedules to deal with the summer heat, although there is not a standardized citywide policy. Parks and Recreation Maintenance staff utilize a buddy system during the summer to spot employees suffering from heat-related health problems arising during the working period. The city is monitoring potential new guidance from the state to prevent these types of workplace injuries.

As discussed in the Cooler Scottsdale study, a primary way to reduce heat is through shade and cooler surfaces. Currently, 37% of Scottsdale is open space (public and private including the McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Through land management policy including the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Overlay District (ESL), the city uses zoning and other requirements to guide development in its desert and mountain areas. The ESL ordinance requires that a percentage of each property be permanently preserved as Natural Area Open Space (NAOS). The city also manages developed open spaces, like the Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt and other parks.

A third way to measure heat is mean radiant temperature (MRT). MRT is a measure of the heat load on the human body at a given time and location, based on direct, diffuse and reflected thermal and solar radiation. MRT can be a better indicator than air temperature of heat-related mortality, heat stress and thermal comfort. Compared to full exposure, MRT is:

- Approximately 55°F lower under mature, fully leafed trees in Old Town and on Waterfront
- Approximately 30°F lower under mature, desert-adapted trees
- Up to 50°F lower under bus stops with full, wide shade structures

Shaded, light-colored and pervious pavement materials store less heat and have lower surface temperatures compared to conventional hardscape design. Unshaded, dark and impervious pavement materials, such as asphalt, can reach peak summertime surface temperatures of 120–150°F. These surfaces transfer heat downward to be stored in the pavement subsurface, where it is re-released as heat at night. The solar reflectance index (SRI) is a measure of a surface's ability to reflect and emit solar heat. For example, a standard black surface SRI value is 0 and a standard white surface is 100. Surfaces made of materials with a high SRI are often referred to as "cool surfaces." These surfaces can remain approximately 50 to 60°F cooler than traditional materials during peak summer weather. An example is roofing materials. Traditional roofing surfaces can reach summer peak temperatures of 150 to 185°, while a "cool roof" transfers less heat into the building, yielding energy savings and a more comfortable indoor environment.



To capture the potential for shade and cooler surfaces, the Cooler Scottsdale study analyzed land cover in Scottsdale using remote sensing and data from aerial imagery captured in 2015 (*Figure 3*). Six land cover types were examined: building, asphalt, bare soil & concrete, tree & shrub, grass and water. Darker surfaces – like buildings and paved surfaces – will tend to be hotter unless they are partially or fully shaded (including by installing solar panels). Greener areas, whether trees, shrubs or grass, will be cooler and can provide important air quality benefits.

**13% of Scottsdale is covered with trees and shrubs, with larger percentages being asphalt and buildings (33%) or bare soil and concrete (45%). The amount of green landscape varies across the city, and tree canopy coverage is as low as 6% in south Scottsdale.** These differences in surface type are also visible in the earlier map of average surface temperature.

JENNY LIN RD.

CIRCLE MOUNTAIN RD.

HONDA BOW RD.

ROCKAWAY HILLS RD.

DESERT HILLS DR.

JOY RANCH RD.

STAGECOACH PASS

CAREFREE HWY.

DOVE VALLEY RD.

LONE MOUNTAIN RD.

DIXILETA DR.

DYNAMITE BLVD.

JOMAX RD.

HAPPY VALLEY RD.

PINNACLE PEAK RD.

DEER VALLEY RD.

LOOP 101

UNION HILLS DR.

BELL RD./FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT BLVD.

GREENWAY PKWY.

THUNDERBIRD RD.

CACTUS RD.

SHEA BLVD.

DOUBLETREE RANCH RD.

McCORMICK PKWY.

INDIAN BEND RD.

LINCOLN DR.

McDONALD DR.

CHAPARRAL RD./CAMELBACK RD.

CAMELBACK RD.

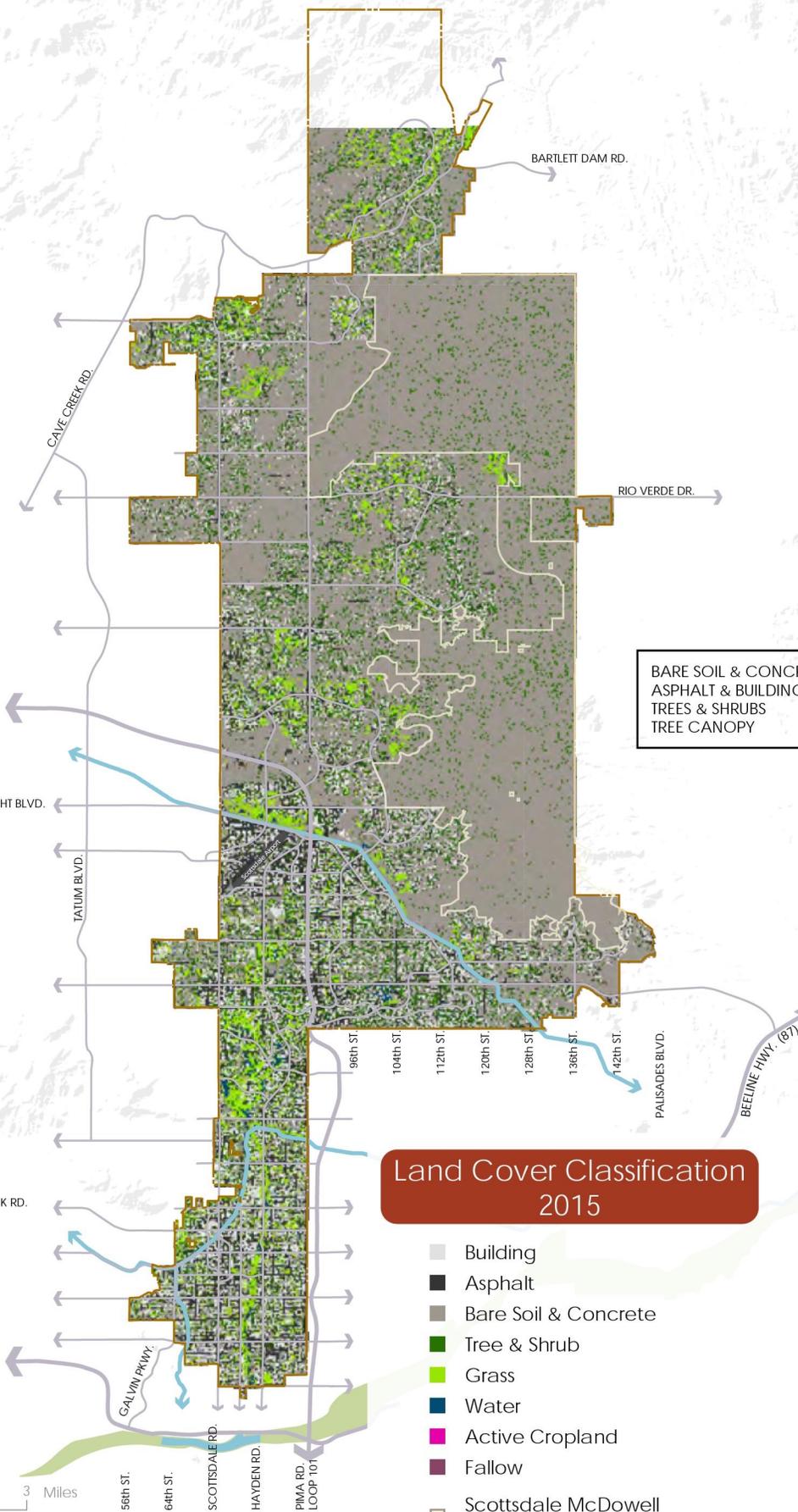
INDIAN SCHOOL RD.

THOMAS RD.

McDOWELL RD.

LOOP 202

McKELLIPS RD.



BARE SOIL & CONCRETE	45%
ASPHALT & BUILDINGS	33%
TREES & SHRUBS	13%
TREE CANOPY	6%

### Land Cover Classification 2015

- Building
- Asphalt
- Bare Soil & Concrete
- Tree & Shrub
- Grass
- Water
- Active Cropland
- Fallow
- Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Figure 3. Source: Cooler Scottsdale Study of 120

Scottsdale has already begun to increase the number and health of our trees and will continue these efforts through the development of a Shade and Tree Plan. Parks and Recreation maintains an inventory of trees on city property and works to increase tree plantings. The Shade and Tree Plan will also address existing trees, since tree or natural shade needs to be periodically replaced due to storm damage and lack of proper maintenance or watering.

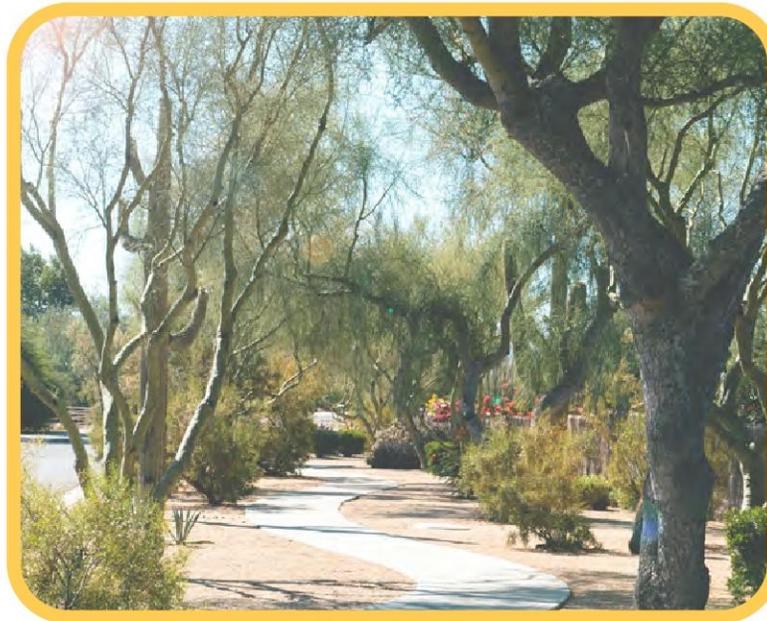
The city has also enacted design guidelines, plans and code related to shade and heat. Design guidelines for Old Town Scottsdale strongly recommend shaded or covered walkways, and guidelines for commercial development set minimum requirements for tree planting including trees for shade in parking lots. Mandatory commercial green building codes adopted in 2022 also require “cool roofs” and not less than 50% of site hardscape (like walkways and parking areas not covered by solar energy systems) be shaded or meet one of the other heat island effect mitigation options.

**INDICATOR**

Percentage of tree and shrub canopy  
  
(2015 = 13%)

**TARGET**

Increase tree & shrub canopy to 20% by 2030 and to 25% by 2040



**WHILE HEAT MITIGATION MEASURES ARE IMPORTANT, THEY DO NOT ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF INCREASINGLY HOTTER TEMPERATURES. STRATEGIES, ACTIONS AND TARGETS TO AVOID GETTING HOTTER ARE OUTLINED IN OTHER SECTIONS OF THIS PLAN.**

BENEFITS	
	<p><b>Environmental:</b> Increased tree canopy cover provides ecosystem services, reduction of stormwater runoff and improved air quality; shading that uses solar panels also decreases emissions</p>
	<p><b>Economic:</b> Reducing the need for air conditioning cuts energy costs; providing shade and addressing worker safety reduces health care costs and encourages economic activity</p>
	<p><b>Social:</b> Reducing daytime and nighttime temperatures improves health and quality of life, especially when actions are focused on those most vulnerable to the heat</p>

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Plant a tree or volunteer at a tree-planting event</li> <li>▪ Stay hydrated and wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing</li> <li>▪ Check on a friend or neighbor when the temperature rises</li> <li>▪ Lighten the color of your roof and other hardscaped surfaces</li> <li>▪ Let the city know if you see any maintenance needs for trees or shade structures in the public right-of-way</li> <li>▪ Install solar screens or window coverings to reduce solar gains</li> </ul> <p>More tips are available in the <a href="#">Cooler Scottsdale</a> study</p>

## STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

### STRATEGY HT 1

**Expand heat relief communication and education.**

#### ACTIONS

- HT 1.1** Engage employees and residents in creative ways on needed response to heat options, especially in the hottest areas.
- HT 1.2** Collaborate with regional, statewide, and national governmental and other entities on best practices on heat mitigation engagement strategies.
- HT 1.3** Expand communication on locations of cooling and hydration centers in the city.
- HT 1.4** Support and expand existing outreach programs like “Beat the Heat.”

### STRATEGY HT 2

**Protect people from the health effects of extreme heat.**

#### ACTIONS

- HT 2.1** Expand response strategies for extreme heat and increase the number of cooling centers; explore the value of pop-up cooling stations.
- HT 2.2** Seek grant or other funding for supplies for cooling centers.
- HT 2.3** Seek grant or other funding for weatherization, green rehab and air conditioner repair/replacement programs for low-income households.
- HT 2.4** Develop partnerships with local utilities for weatherization and tree planting programs.
- HT 2.5** Create Resiliency Hubs for neighborhoods with higher populations of seniors and lower income residents.
- HT 2.6** Develop a more robust and detailed plan for large scale heat disaster response including power grid failure.
- HT 2.7** Review municipal guidelines for heat protection for employees.

### STRATEGY HT 3

Identify urban design improvements including structured shade and built environment.

#### ACTIONS

- HT 3.1 Support private and public strategies to reduce the area of exposed dark asphalt, dark roofs and other hot surfaces.
- HT 3.2 Promote cool roofs and sidewalks and other cool infrastructure technologies and options.
- HT 3.3 Promote shading for site hardscape on existing commercial and multifamily developments.
- HT 3.4 Identify areas most impacted by the heat island effect and prioritize mitigation for these areas to reduce heat impacts.
- HT 3.5 Coordinate heat and shade work with other active plans such as the Old Town Character Area Plan.

### STRATEGY HT 4

Plant more trees and implement other nature-based solutions.

#### ACTIONS

- HT 4.1 Increase tree canopy and building-integrated or free-standing shade structures through a Shade and Tree Plan; study the value of shade on a return-on-investment basis and balance benefits of natural shade and water usage.
- HT 4.2 Encourage use of desert-adapted trees to support heat reduction and water conservation strategies.
- HT 4.3 Investigate an urban forestry program to balance shade and water use and to ensure trees are maintained (including in city parks).
- HT 4.4 Study options to improve proper tree maintenance and replacement near commercial and multifamily buildings.
- HT 4.5 Partner with non-profits, volunteers, and businesses to plant more trees especially in underserved or older neighborhoods and in areas of high pedestrian activity; evaluate a 'matching tree' initiative.
- HT 4.6 **PLANT TREES IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR GROWTH.**

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY HT 1 Expand heat relief communication and education.</b>				
HT 1.1 Engage employees and residents on response options.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Employees, residents	\$	 Health
HT 1.2 Collaborate with other governments and entities on best practices.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Other government agencies	\$	 Health
HT 1.3 Expand communication on locations of cooling and hydration centers in the city.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> Human Services <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Arizona Department of Health Services	\$	 Health  Equity
HT 1.4 Support and expand existing outreach programs like "Beat the Heat."	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Human Services	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Equity
<b>STRATEGY HT 2 Protect people from the health effects of extreme heat.</b>				
HT 2.1 Expand response strategies, increase number of cooling centers, explore pop-up cooling stations.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Human Services <b>Partners:</b> OEI	\$\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Equity
HT 2.2 Seek grant or other funding for supplies for cooling centers.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Human Services <b>Partners:</b> OEI	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Equity
HT 2.3 Seek grant or other funding for weatherization, green rehab and air conditioner repair/replacement programs for low-income households.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Human Services <b>Partners:</b> OEI	\$\$\$	 Health  Cost savings
HT 2.4 Develop partnerships with local utilities for weatherization and tree planting programs.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Utilities	\$	 Health  Cost savings

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>HT 2.5</b> Create Resiliency Hubs for neighborhoods with higher populations of seniors and lower income residents.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Human Services	\$\$\$	 Health  Equity
<b>HT 2.6</b> Develop a more robust and detailed plan for large scale heat disaster response including power grid failure.	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> Emergency Management	\$	 Safety
<b>HT 2.7</b> Review municipal guidelines for heat protection for employees.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Facilities, Parks & Rec	\$	 Health
<b>STRATEGY HT 3 Identify urban design improvements including structured shade and built environment.</b>				
<b>HT 3.1</b> Support private/public strategies to reduce hot surfaces.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Planning & Development, developers, residents	\$	 Health
<b>HT 3.2</b> Promote cool infrastructure technologies and options.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Planning & Development/OEI <b>Partners:</b> Developers, residents	\$	 Health  Cost savings
<b>HT 3.3</b> Promote shading for site hardscape on existing commercial and multifamily developments.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Planning & Development <b>Partners:</b> Developers, businesses	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Cost savings
<b>HT 3.4</b> Identify areas most impacted by the heat island effect and prioritize mitigation for these areas.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI	\$	 Health
<b>HT 3.5</b> Coordinate heat and shade work with other active plans.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI/Planning & Development	\$	 Health

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY HT 4 Plant more trees and implement other nature-based solutions.</b>				
<b>HT 4.1</b> Increase tree canopy and shade structures through a Shade and Tree Plan	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Multiple city departments	\$\$\$	 Health  Air quality
<b>HT 4.2</b> Encourage use of desert-adapted trees to support heat reduction and water conservation strategies.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI/Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> Planning & Development, Scottsdale Water	\$\$\$	 Health  Air quality
<b>HT 4.3</b> Investigate an urban forestry program to balance shade and water use and to ensure trees are maintained.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$\$\$	 Health  Air quality
<b>HT 4.4</b> Study options to improve proper tree maintenance and replacement near commercial and multifamily buildings.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Planning & Development	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Air quality
<b>HT 4.5</b> Partner to plant more trees.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Planning & Development	\$-\$\$\$	 Health  Air quality
<b>HT 4.6</b> <b>PLANT TREES IN LOCATIONS THAT ACCOMMODATE THEIR GROWTH.</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD: PARKS &amp; REC</b> <b>PARTNERS: OEI, PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	 <b>HEALTH</b>  <b>AIR QUALITY</b>

## ENDNOTES

- 1 [“Arizona Then and Now: Summer heat,”](#) *Arizona Republic*, 07/28/2016.
- 2 [“The Effects of Coexposure to Extremes of Heat and Particulate Air Pollution on Mortality in California: Implications for Climate Change,”](#) *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, Volume 206, Issue 9.

# GLOSSARY

## A

**Advanced Purified Recycled Water (APRW)** – Water from the process at the Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWT) that uses recycled water from the city’s conventional water reclamation plant and further treats it through ozonation, membrane ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet photolysis.

**Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWT)** – The Scottsdale Water Campus is home to the Advanced Water Treatment Facility (AWT), the first permanent facility in Arizona permitted as a pilot program for Advanced Purified Recycled Water (APRW).

**Air Quality Index** – The U.S. AQI is EPA’s index for reporting air quality. For each of six pollutants an AQI value of 100 generally corresponds to an ambient air concentration that equals the level of the short-term national ambient air quality standard for protection of public health.

**Alternative Energy or Fuel** – Energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels, such as, sunlight and wind.

## B

**Built Environment** – Human-made elements including, buildings, structures, roads, canals, paths, and trails, that together create the physical character of an area or community.

## C

**Character Area Plan (CAP)** – The second level of Scottsdale’s three-level General Plan structure that guides more detailed planning, land use, and character for a defined sub-area of the city.

**Circular Economy** – In the linear economic model, products are made, used, and disposed of in the landfill. The circular economy is an alternative model of production and consumption in which resources are kept in use for as long as possible to extract maximum value, then recovered to regenerate new materials. This is achieved through intentional design of products and systems and by employing reuse, leasing, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing, and recycling. The circular economy minimizes waste, pollution and carbon emissions and conserves energy, water, and other resources.

**Citywide** – Occurring or extending throughout Scottsdale, including everyone who lives here.

**Conservation** – (1) The controlled use and systematic protection of a resource, including environmental or cultural resources; or (2) To use something sparingly so as not to exhaust supplies.

**Cool roof/surface** – A roof or surface designed to reflect solar energy away from its surface.

## D

**Design Guidelines** – Non-mandatory provisions that steer the design of buildings and are used by staff, the city’s boards and commissions, and City Council for evaluating projects. Design guidelines are usually applied in a particular area or to a particular use to protect investment or establish a unifying look for an area. Typical guidelines might focus on building orientation, architectural details, and streetscape considerations.

**Distributed Solar/Generation** – Using small sources of electrical power, such as solar, micro-turbines, fuel cells, or other generating devices, at designated sites to meet individual customer energy load. These sources (i.e., generators) are sized to match a specific load, such as a house, industry, or community.

**Diversion rate** – A diversion rate is the proportion by weight of all material diverted from the landfill to the total of all waste material generated, expressed as a percentage.

**Drought** – Three or more consecutive years of less-than-average rainfall.

**Drought Management Plan** – The City of Scottsdale Water Resources Department management program of responses to drought and/or shortage conditions.

## E

**Electric Vehicle (EV)** – A car or truck that runs solely on an electric motor, with no internal combustion engine.

**Energy Burden** – The percentage of gross household income spent on energy costs

**Effluent** – Wastewater, treated or untreated, that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall.

**Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL)** – Land in Scottsdale with unique and sensitive natural features, including mountains and hills, large rock formations, native landscapes, archeological and historical sites, significant washes, Scenic Corridors, wildlife habitats, and land with special hazards.

**Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO)** – A set of zoning regulations originally adopted by the City of Scottsdale in 1991 (and subsequently revised) to guide future development in the desert and mountain areas of Scottsdale. The Ordinance includes standards to ensure that new construction will be compatible with the natural beauty of the area.

**Extreme heat** – A period of at least 2-3 days of high heat with temperatures above 90 degrees, according to the Arizona Emergency Information Network.

## F

**Fossil Fuels** – Buried, combustible geologic deposits of organic materials, formed from decayed plants and animals, that have been converted to crude oil, coal, natural gas, or heavy oils by exposure to heat and pressure in the earth's crust over millions of years. Fossil fuels are generally considered "non-renewable" energy sources.

## G

**General Plan** – The Scottsdale General Plan is a comprehensive, long-range plan consisting of community goals and policies setting forth objectives, principles and standards for the state mandated elements of land use, circulation, open space, growth areas, environmental planning, cost of development, water resources, conservation (natural resources), recreation, public services and facilities, public buildings, housing, conservation, rehabilitation and redevelopment, safety, bicycling, energy, and neighborhood preservation and revitalization. In addition, the Scottsdale General Plan includes community-created elements for economic vitality, character and design, community involvement, arts and culture, tourism, and a healthy community.

**Green Building** – The practice of increasing the efficiency of building resource use, including energy, water, and materials, while also reducing negative effects on human health and the environment during the building's lifecycle through site layout, building design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal. In this plan, green buildings are defined as those that comply with IgCC, LEED, Scottsdale Green Building Program or Green Rehabilitation Program (Green Rehab) guidelines.

**Greenhouse gas (GHG)** – A gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation (like carbon dioxide and methane), usually emitted upon combustion of fossil fuels for energy.

**Greenhouse effect** – According to NASA, the greenhouse effect is when heat is trapped near Earth’s surface by greenhouse gases.

**Growth Areas** – Areas of the community that best accommodate future growth allowing increased focus on creating or enhancing transportation systems and infrastructure coordinated with development activity.

## H

**Heat Island** – The phenomenon involving elevated temperatures in urban/suburban areas as compared with outlying rural/undeveloped surroundings. Heat islands are generally caused by reduced vegetation, solar heat absorption, material heat capacity, use of energy, and building spacing.

**High Pollution Advisory** – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality issues high pollution advisories (HPA) on days when air pollution levels are expected to exceed federal health standards.

**Homeowners’ Association (HOA)** – An organization initially established by developers of residential subdivisions. Control of the entity is transitioned to a board of home owners. An HOA is typically responsible for administration of the subdivision’s codes, covenants and restrictions (CC&Rs), and other property controls for maintaining a safe and quality environment and design uniformity. Most neighborhoods built in Scottsdale after 1980 have HOAs.

## I

### **International Green Construction Code (IgCC)**

– The International Green Construction Code establishes minimum regulations for building systems and site considerations using prescriptive and performance-related provisions and is developed collaboratively by the International Code Council, the American Institute of Architects (AIA), ASHRAE, the US Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES).

## J

## K

**Kilowatt (kW)** – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000 watts (capacity).

**Kilowatt hour (kWh)** – A measure of energy consumption equal to using 1,000 watts for one hour (use).

## L

**Landfill refuse** – The amount of total waste generated that is sent to the landfill.

**LED** – Light-emitting diode, an energy-efficient lighting source.

**LEED** – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a green building certification program.

**Low-Impact Infrastructure, Green Infrastructure**

– An approach to stormwater management that mimics the natural hydrology of a site and uses captured stormwater run-off. This contrasts with conventional methods that convey stormwater offsite as quickly as possible to regional drainage facilities. The low-impact model views stormwater as a resource, reduces stormwater runoff, uses natural systems for filtration, and helps protect ecologically sensitive areas within a development.

## M

**Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)**

– The Maricopa Association of Governments provides a forum for local governments working together on issues that affect the lives of everyone in the greater Phoenix region.

**Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD)**

– The Maricopa County Air Quality Department works to improve air quality throughout the county.

**(Scottsdale) McDowell Sonoran Preserve** – A permanently protected preserve of Sonoran Desert and mountains with the purpose of maintaining scenic views, protecting wildlife and desert plant habitat, and preserving archaeological and historical resources and sites, while providing public access for educational and passive outdoor recreational opportunities. Upon completion, Scottsdale's Preserve will consist of about one-third of the city's land mass.

**Mean radiant temperature (MRT)** – MRT is a measure of the heat load on the human body at a given time and location, based on direct, diffuse and reflected thermal and solar radiation.

**Megawatt (MW)** – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000,000 watts (capacity).

**Megawatt hour (MWh)** – A measure of energy consumption equal using 1,000,000 watts for one hour (use).

**Municipal** – Associated with or owned by Scottsdale.

**Multi-Family Housing** – 1) A building, or part of a building, designed for occupancy by three (3) or more families; or 2) A housing variety associated with high- and moderate-density development within Suburban, Urban, and Mixed-Use Neighborhood land uses. Multi-family housing may be owner or renter occupied.

## N

**Native Plants** – Plants indigenous to an area or from a similar climate and requiring little or no supplemental irrigation once established.

**NASA** – The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, a U.S. government agency.

**NOAA** – The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a U.S. government agency.

**Natural Area Open Space (NAOS)** – Areas of undisturbed natural desert, but may include revegetated areas.

**Natural Resource** – A feature or phenomenon in nature that enhances the quality of human life, including land, water, air, vegetation, geology, animal habitat, and topography.

## O

**Open Space** – Any parcel or area of water or land that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use for the purpose of (1) the preservation of natural resources; (2) the managed production of resources; (3) outdoor recreation; or (4) public health and safety.

**Organic Waste** – Any waste material that is biodegradable.

## P

**Particulate Air Pollution** – A mixture of large and fine solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air.

**Porous pavement** – Paving surfaces that allow stormwater to percolate and infiltrate into the soil or layers below.

Q

R

**Recharge, Groundwater** – The natural or human-induced process of infiltration and percolation of rainwater, surface water, or treated wastewater, from land areas, streams, or engineered methods through permeable soils into aquifers that provide underground storage.

**Reclaimed Water** – Wastewater that is treated to remove solids and certain impurities to a level that is suitable for such uses as turf irrigation, landscape application, water features, and aquifer recharge.

**Recycling** – The recovery of materials such as paper, glass, plastic, metals, construction and demolition material and organics from the waste stream, along with the transformation of those materials to make new products, thereby reducing the use of virgin raw materials. Recycling includes three steps which create a continuous loop: 1) collection and processing of recyclable materials, 2) manufacturing new products from recycled materials, and 3) purchasing products with recycled content.

**Renewable Energy Source** – Energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels, including, sunlight and wind.

**Resiliency Hubs** – Community-serving facilities augmented to support residents and coordinate resource distribution and services before, during, or after a natural hazard event (Urban Sustainability Directors' Network)

S

### **Scottsdale Environmental Advisory**

**Commission** – A City Council appointed citizen commission to advise the Council on issues related to preservation and enhancement of the environment.

**Scottsdale Sustainability Steering Team** – A group of city staff advising the City Manager and making

recommendations on issues related to sustainability and the environment, as defined in the General Plan 2035. Operationally, the team provides a forum to elevate to leadership important or citywide issues that impact the achievement of sustainability goals.

**Safe Yield** – A groundwater management goal to achieve and maintain a long-term balance between the annual amounts of groundwater extracted and recharged in the aquifer.

**Sensitive Design Principles** – Program and documents aimed at strengthening the focus on design in the community, promoting coordination of the city's design-related efforts and resources, and guiding discussion of design-related issues.

**Solid Waste** – Unwanted or discarded solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material. Commonly referred to as "trash" or "garbage." As a general category, however, solid waste includes many items that are not "trash," such as metal, paper products, glass, and other recoverable resources.

**Stormwater, Stormwater Runoff** – Water generated from rain, snowmelt, or drainage. Runoff is generated when precipitation flows over land or impenetrable surfaces (e.g., asphalt) and does not absorb into the ground. As runoff flows over the land, it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment, and other pollutants that may adversely affect water quality, if untreated.

**Sustainability** – For the purposes of the General Plan, sustainability is a condition of living that enables the present generation to enjoy social well-being, a vibrant economy, and a healthy environment, without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy the same.

T

U

**Unhealthy air day** – A day when the air quality index (AQI), an indicator of overall air quality, is above 100.

V

**Volatile organic compound (VOC)** – VOCs are gases that are emitted from certain solids or liquids, some of which may have short- and long-term adverse health effects.

W

**Wastewater** – The used or effluent water from homes, communities, and businesses. It includes both domestic and commercial sewage and contains multiple types of pollutants.

**Water Conservation** – Any beneficial reduction in water loss, use, or waste. This includes water management practices and programs that improve the use and/or efficiency of water, functional process, and behavior.

**Watershed** – The area of land where all of the water underneath it, or draining off it, goes to the same place. All areas of Scottsdale drain into the larger Salt River and Gila River watersheds. Some areas of the community drain to smaller tributaries, including the Verde River, the Indian Bend Wash, and other minor watersheds.

X

**Xeriscape** – Landscaping or gardening that reduces or eliminates the need to irrigate.

Y

Z

**Zero Waste** – The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix A: Related Scottsdale General Plan 2035 Goals

<b>Energy</b>	<p><u>Energy Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal E 1 - Become a net-zero community</li> <li>Goal E 2 - Reduce energy consumption</li> <li>Goal E 3 - Promote energy efficiency</li> <li>Goal E 4 - Increase energy efficiency of city facilities</li> <li>Goal E 5 - Develop renewable energy sources</li> </ul> <p><u>Environmental Planning Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal EP 2 - Demonstrate environmental stewardship</li> <li>Goal EP 5 - Encourage environmentally sound design</li> <li>Goal EP 8 - Plan, prepare, adapt for climate impacts</li> </ul> <p><u>Conservation Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal CONSV 1 - Achieve a sustainable balance</li> </ul> <p><u>Public Buildings Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal PB 1 - Provide safe, accessible, and adaptable public buildings</li> <li>Goal PB 2 - Design, construct, &amp; renovate public buildings</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<p><u>Environmental Planning Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal EP 6 - Surpass water quality standard</li> </ul> <p><u>Water Resources Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal WR 1 - Ensure long-term water supplies</li> <li>Goal WR 2 - Prepare for climatic impacts</li> </ul> <p><u>Conservation Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal CONSV 3 - Protect watersheds</li> <li>Goal CONSV 4 - Conserve water</li> </ul>
<b>Waste</b>	<p><u>Environmental Planning Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal EP 4 - Expand recovery, reuse, and recycling</li> </ul> <p><u>Public Services &amp; Facilities Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal PSF 1 - Maintain an innovative solid waste system</li> </ul>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<p><u>Environmental Planning Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal EP 3 - Improve air quality</li> <li>Goal EP 8 - Plan, prepare, adapt for climate impacts</li> </ul>
<b>Extreme Heat</b>	<p><u>Environmental Planning Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal EP 7 - Reduce heat islands</li> </ul> <p><u>Safety Element</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal S 1 - Prevent hazards</li> <li>Goal S 2 - Prepare for emergencies</li> <li>Goal S 3 - Deliver emergency response</li> </ul>

## APPENDICES

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### Appendix B: Existing Plans and Programs

#### Energy & Air Quality

- [Commercial Solar Guidelines](#) (2019)
- [Design Standards and Policy Manual](#) (2018)
- [Sensitive Design Principles](#) (2001)
- [Energy & Green Building Programs](#)
- [Environmental Compliance](#)

#### Water

- [Sustainable Water Management Principles](#) (2022)
- [Integrated Water Resources Master Plan](#) (2022)
- [Drought Management Plan](#) (2021)
- [Scottsdale Water Strategic Plan](#) (2019-2024)
- [Water Conservation and Other Programs](#)

#### Heat

- [Strategies for a Cooler Scottsdale](#) (2022)
- [Emergency Preparedness Jurisdictional Project Summary](#) (2018; 2021)
- [Extreme Heat Resources](#)

#### Waste

- [Community Solid Waste and Recycling Strategic Plan](#) (2018)
- [Solid Waste Programs](#)

# SUSTAINABILITY TIMELINE

## ▲ 2024: Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan

- 2023: Solar infrastructure is added to the North Corporation Yard
- 2023: Natural grass in front yards of new single-family homes prohibited
- 2022: Adopted mandatory Green Construction Code for commercial and multifamily buildings
- 2021: 2035 General Plan approved by voters
- 2020: Began installing LED streetlights
- 2019: Water Campus is first in Arizona to be permitted for direct potable reuse
- 2019: Scottsdale received ASU inaugural Resilience Prize
- 2019: Preserve reaches current size of 30,500 acres
- 2017: Traffic signal coordination began
- 2016: First class of the Scottsdale Water Citizen Academy
- 2012: Adoption of voluntary incentivized green construction code
- 2011: Named a Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community
- 2010: Began installing LED traffic signals
- 2009: Fire Station 602 – city’s first LEED Platinum certified building
- 2008: Xeriscape Garden, a 5.5-acre demonstration garden, opens
- 2008: Compressed natural gas fueling infrastructure is added to public works facilities
- 2007: Granite Reef Senior Center – city’s first LEED certified building (Gold)
- 2005: First city in the country to require new municipal buildings to be LEED Gold certified
- 2003: City’s first energy code adoption for residential and commercial construction
- 2002: 2001 General Plan adopted by voters
- 2000: Transportation Management Center became operational
- 2000: Establishment of Sensitive Design Principles for new development
- 1999: First Sustainability Indicators Report produced (“Scottsdale Seeks Sustainability”)
- 1998: Water Campus (the largest public works project in city history to date) started operations
- 1998: Green Building Program established as first in Arizona and fifth in the country
- 1996: Solid Waste Transfer Station is constructed
- 1996: Scottsdale begins curbside recycling collection program
- 1996: CityShape 2020 included guiding principle to “Seek Sustainability”
- 1995: Voters approved tax to fund expansion of Preserve
- 1994: Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve created
- 1993: First component of the city’s Intelligent Transportation System installed to reduce congestion
- 1993: Sustainability resident board created (now Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission)
- 1991: Environmentally Sensitive Lands Overlay District ordinance adopted
- 1982: Water Conservation Office is formed
- 1982: Scottsdale named a Tree City USA
- 1981: Native Plant Ordinance passes
- 1980: Scottsdale Trolley makes first run
- 1970s: Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt constructed
- 1969: First mechanical garbage truck constructed by city staff (Godzilla)
- 1967: Eldorado Park, Scottsdale’s first major park, is built.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This plan was collaboratively developed by numerous stakeholders committed to advancing a sustainable future for the City of Scottsdale. Contributors include:

### SCOTTSDALE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor David D. Ortega  
Tammy Caputi  
Tom Durham  
Barry Graham

Betty Janik  
Kathy Littlefield  
Solange Whitehead

### SCOTTSDALE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Ute Brady  
Natalie Chrisman Lazarr  
Walter Cuculic  
Tara Iyengar  
Ryan Johnson

Alisa McMahon  
Andrew Scheck  
Tammy Bosse (2017 - 2023)  
Anthony Coleta (2018 - 2024)

### PROJECT STAFF

Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager  
Erin Perreault, Executive Director, Planning, Economic Development and Tourism  
Cindi Eberhardt, Director of Operation, Planning, Economic Development and Tourism  
Lisa McNeilly, Sustainability Director  
Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager  
Adam Yaron, Planning & Development Area Manager  
Taylor Reynolds, Principal Planner  
Nick Carroll, Planner

### OTHER CONTRIBUTING CITY OF SCOTTSDALE DEPARTMENTS AND STAFF

Sustainable Scottsdale Steering Team	Public Works
Planning & Development Services	Transportation and Streets
Long Range Planning	Solid Waste
Environmental Initiatives	Facilities Parks & Recreation
Tourism and Events	Fleet
Economic Development	Community Services
Office of Communication and Citizen Service	Water
Police	Web and Design Services
Fire Department and Emergency Management	

### PARTNERS

Rob and Melani Walton Sustainability Solutions Service at Arizona State University team: Raj Buch, Mark Roseland, Alicia Marseille, Bill Campbell and Richard Hauck

### SPECIAL THANKS

The time and efforts of numerous citizens, community members and staff who contributed so generously to this project are also greatly appreciated.





**CITY OF**  
**SCOTTSDALE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**  
**PLAN**



**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, April 8, 2024 6:48:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [Post Work Study Comments - General + Heat.pdf](#)  
[Post Work Study Comments - Oregon](#)  
[linear - circular | Sustainable Brands\[25\].png](#)  
[linear - circular | Sustainable Brands.pdf](#)  
[WA State circular.png](#)  
[WA State circular.pdf](#)

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## General

I am unable to find anywhere in the draft Plan (including the sections identified as "in accordance with November 13, 2023 City Council Work Study Session") an explanation that actions are to be **completed** within their specified "Time Horizon." That information should be added to the Implementation section in the Introduction (page 22 in the above-referenced draft).

## Extreme Heat

1. Figure 1 y-axis: remove 95° and add 115° because the "high temps" line exceeds 110°
2. Air temperature target should but does not specify: time of year? average or highest temperature?  
Suggestion: Reduce average July day- and night-time air temperatures by 2030
3. Suggested language in response to Councilwoman Janik's request for a surface temperature indicator:

Average Surface Temperatures in Growth Areas,  
June-August, cloud-free, approximately 11 AM

Greater Airpark Growth Area (2020 average = 129.0°)

Old Town Growth Area (2020 average = 129.5°)

McDowell Road/Scottsdale Road Growth Area (2020 average = 131.4°)

4. Surface temperature target should but does not specify:  
time of year? time of day? conditions (raining, cloudy, full sun)? average or highest temperature?
5. Suggested language in response to Councilwoman Janik's request for an action to ensure that trees are planted appropriately to accommodate future growth:  
HT 4.6 Amend planning documents and the zoning ordinance to ensure new development accommodates the size and above- and below-ground needs of trees at maturity.
6. Councilwoman Janik requested an addition to the Extreme Heat section to connect "prevents" in "Ensure that the community **prevents**, is prepared for, responds to and recovers from extreme heat" with actions in other sections of the Plan that will help **prevent** extreme heat.  
Suggested language to go at the end of the Narrative (March Work Study draft page 90):  
While heat mitigation measures are important, they do not address the root causes of increasingly hotter temperatures. So even as Scottsdale strives to live with extreme heat, we must also take bold action to avoid getting even hotter. Steps in that direction are outlined in other sections of this plan.
7. Miscellaneous (page numbers in left column reference page numbers in the March Work Study draft)  
82 I think "costs" was inadvertently deleted at "air conditioning costs."  
86 Target: heat-related related health events  
90 2023 adoption is incorrect. The IgCC was adopted in 2022, with a 2023 effective date. The Sustainability Timeline on page 3 and Introduction on page 7 (of the draft referenced under "General" above) correctly state 2022 adoption.

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 1:58:47 PM  
**Attachments:** [Post Work Study Comments - Waste.docx](#)  
[Post Work Study Comments - Waste.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Lisa,

Weirdness. Just in case there's any issue with the Adobe document, I've created a new pdf from the Word document and both are attached (Word & pdf).

Alisa

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**From:** "McNeilly, Lisa" <LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1:00 PM  
**To:** "A. McMahon" <mcmahon.a@cox.net>  
**Subject:** RE: Sustainability Plan

Commissioner McMahon,

I was able to open the file, by saving and then opening in Adobe.

Thank you,  
Lisa

Lisa McNeilly  
Sustainability Director  
City of Scottsdale  
[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)  
(480) 312-2831



---

**From:** A. McMahon <mcmahon.a@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 10, 2024 11:43 AM  
**To:** McNeilly, Lisa <LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov>  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Lisa,

Thank you for checking. Please let me know whether you are able to open the attachment this time.

Some of the graphics were in a different format than I sent before (png).

Alisa

"Waste" (alternate titles suggested below)

1. To comport with the commission's motion, the first "organic" diversion target should read:

"Achieve a diversion rate from the brush and bulk stream of 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2040"

This format states the target more cleanly and clearly. Moreover, it mirrors the structure in, for example, the emissions targets (action by % 1 by year 1 and by % 2 by year 2). In addition, "waste" has been deleted per Councilman Durham's request.

2. The two "organic" diversion targets should be separated and have separate indicators. The first "organic" target evolved from *only* green landscaping debris to *all* brush and bulk. Suggested indicator for the first target:

Brush and bulk diversion rate  
(FY 2022-2023 = 0%)

3. Alternative formats for diversion targets. Alternative 2 or 3 is preferred over alternative 1.

Alternative 1 (changes to municipal bullet only; the changes mirror those described in #1 above)

- Achieve a 35% diversion rate (single-family households) by 2030
- Achieve a 90% diversion rate (city-wide) by 2040
- Achieve a diversion rate for municipal refuse of 35% by 2030 and 90% by 2040

Alternative 2

- Achieve a diversion rate for single-family households of 35% by 2030
- Achieve a diversion rate city-wide of 90% by 2040
- Achieve a diversion rate for municipal refuse of 35% by 2030 and 90% by 2040

Alternative 3

- Achieve a single-family household diversion rate of 35% by 2030
- Achieve a city-wide diversion rate of 90% by 2040
- Achieve a municipal diversion rate of 35% by 2030 and 90% by 2040

4. During the Work Study, it was stated the Plan will make clear how each diversion target will be calculated. In addition, each diversion target should have its own indicator.

5. Figure 1, the first indicator, and the first target apply only to the black container. That needs to be made clear. One method is to add "(black containers)" after "landfill refuse" in Figure 1, the first indicator, the first target, and in the narrative here:

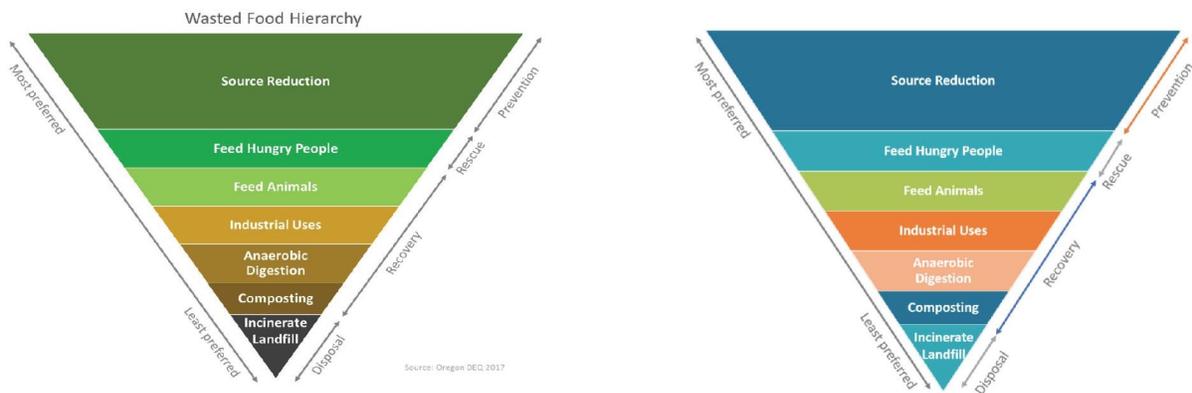
At the same time, the amount of landfill **waste refuse (black containers)** collected per household is down almost 13% to under 1,500 pounds.

6. Because municipal landfill reduction and diversion targets have a shorter timeframe than city-wide landfill reduction and diversion targets, a better order for landfill reduction and diversion targets is: 1<sup>st</sup> single-family, 2<sup>nd</sup> municipal, 3<sup>rd</sup> city-wide.

7. Multiple council members requested emphasis on circular vs. linear economy, sustainable materials management, and resource recovery vs. landfill disposal, including an illustrative diagram.
  - a. I would be happy to write a paragraph or two about this topic for consideration. Please let me know if that would be welcomed.
  - b. See suggested graphics below (pages 3-4).
8. In light of multiple council members' requests to replace "waste" wherever possible:
  - a. It would be appropriate to restore the original title of this section, "Waste as a Resource," or select a new title such as "Resource Recovery" or "Sustainable Materials Management."
  - b. Several suggestions for alternatives to "waste" in the narrative section can be found on pages 9-12 of my "Comments re: Waste 2/21/24 Draft Posted 2/9/24" submitted 2/19/24.
9. Use of the "What if we called waste a resource?" photo is particularly fitting in light of Council's feedback regarding "waste." However, it is very hard to read the sign on the truck in the March Work Study draft. To achieve the purpose of including the photo, it must be larger. (The original photo can be cropped in the vertical dimension.)
10. Figure 2 should not say "total." The blue circle is black and mauve containers only.
11. The graphic identified as Figure 3 should include its title: "Wasted Food Hierarchy."

The figure on the left below is from "Oregon DEQ Strategic Plan for Preventing the Wasting of Food" 2017 ([www.oregon.gov/deq/filterdocs/foodstrategic.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/deq/filterdocs/foodstrategic.pdf)). The figure on the right below is from "Oregon Wasted Food Study Summary of Findings" 2019 prepared for Oregon DEQ ([www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/Documents/ORWastedFoodMeasStudySummary.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/deq/mm/Documents/ORWastedFoodMeasStudySummary.pdf)). Both figures are titled "Wasted Food Hierarchy."

Preferably, the title will be located on top of the inverted pyramid (as on the left side below). Or, it could be located after "Figure 3" (as in the 2019 Summary of Findings).



12. The graphic identified as Figure 3 should appear in one of its published colors.

In the draft Plan, the colors are completely different from either figure above. Furthermore, "Composting" is hard to read against the dark background. I recommend using the original 2017 version (above left) because the color spectrum of green to brown communicates the graphic's message more effectively than random/repeated colors do. (Note: the letters in both are white.)

13. In WST 3.1, what is the difference between "green" and organic"? Is the action intended to establish a drop-off program for green landscaping debris or *all* organic material?
14. The Time Horizon of WST 4.5 will not be a "quick win" and done! The Time Horizon should be "ongoing" like WST 4.3, a similar "education" action.
15. Typos
  - a. March Work Study draft pg 74  
Mixing trash or items soiled with food or liquids with recycling or using plastic bags for collecting recyclables ~~are problematic~~ cause recycling facility shutdowns, reduce the market value of commodities and raise the city's costs.
  - b. Implementation tables (all five of them)  
"on-going" should be "ongoing"

### Graphics

This graphic beautifully illustrates the difference between linear economy and circular economy:

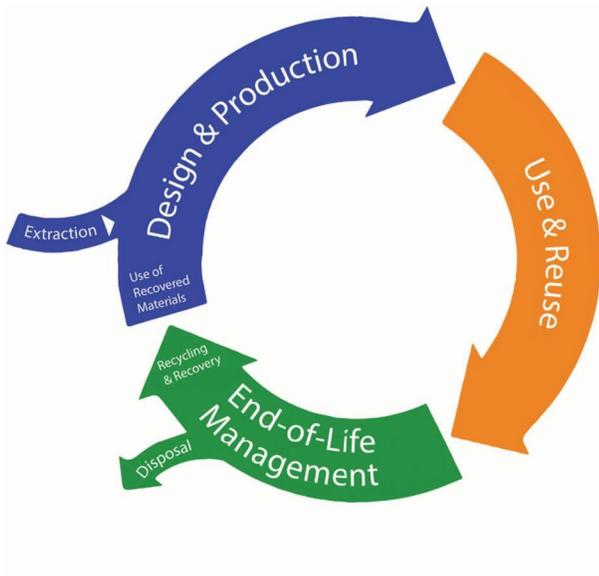


Image: Sustainable Brands

Source: Sustainable Brands  
World Economic Forum

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/04/how-to-build-a-business-in-the-circular-economy/>

Another graphic option:



Source: Department of Ecology, State of Washington, adapted from Oregon's Dept of Environmental Quality  
<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/1504019.pdf>

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Water  
**Date:** Friday, April 12, 2024 3:42:08 PM  
**Attachments:** [Post Work Study Comments - Water.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

**WATER**

draft "in accordance with November 13, 2023 City Council Work Study Session"

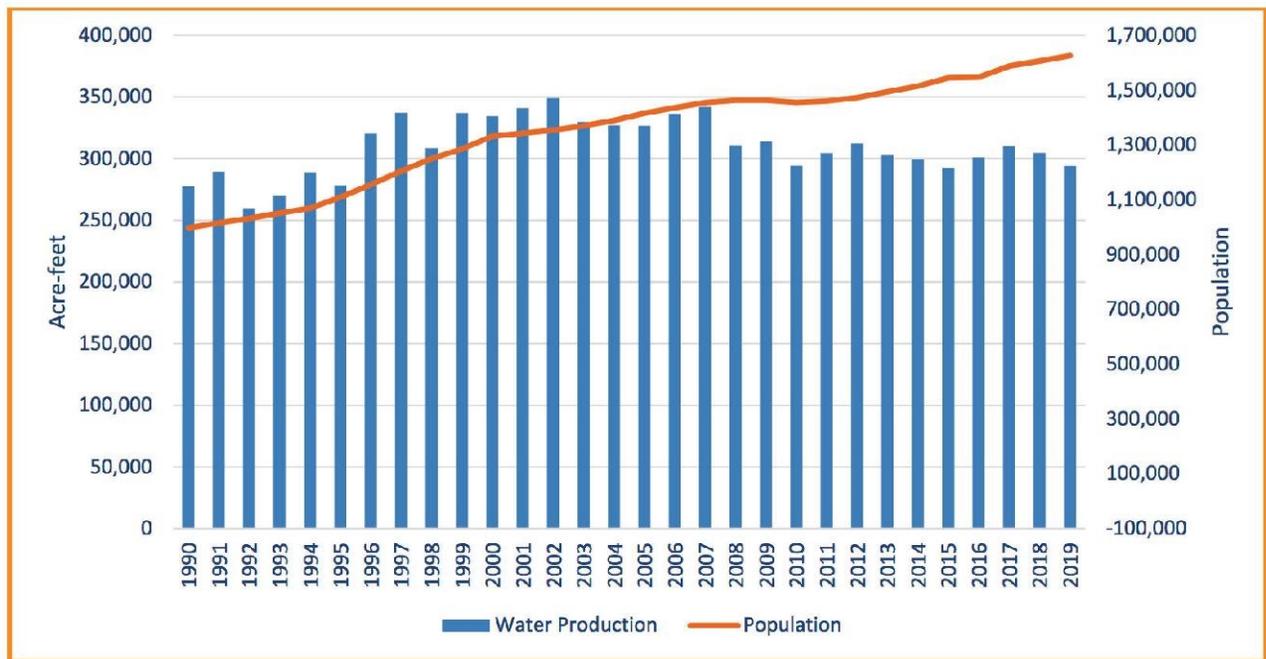
1. Five months ago, at the November Work Study Session, staff asked for more time to put together a golf course target. Councilwomen Janik requested that discussions continue with "a sense of immediacy . . . pedal to the metal." Councilmembers Graham and Whitehead linked the credibility of the Plan with addressing golf course water consumption. Does staff have a proposed golf course target?
2. Strategy WTR 1 is "Ensure water system resiliency." Ensuring the resiliency of our water system includes ensuring we have the energy to move and treat water and wastewater.

The Water Campus is the City's largest energy consumer. The 2016 plan to install a 2.3 megawatt PV system with battery storage at the Water Campus did not come to fruition. That system would have provided critical resiliency, supplied approximately 10% of power consumed by the Water Campus, controlled demand spikes, and reduced demand charges.

The Plan does not include a target or action related to increasing power source redundancy and reducing the carbon footprint of our water system through alternative energy sources. Councilmembers Littlefield and Whitehead spoke to this topic at the March Work Study Session.

ADD: An energy-related resiliency action to Strategy WTR 1.

graph referred to in notes on pages 41 and 43:



**FIGURE 3. PHOENIX WATER PRODUCTION VS POPULATION GROWTH, 1990 - 2019**

# WATER

**Conserve, protect and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future.**

Providing quality drinking water and ensuring adequate water supplies has been a long-standing priority in Scottsdale. As reflected in the recently adopted “Sustainable Water Management Principles,” Scottsdale Water thinks and acts strategically with its water resources – from supply, quality, and conservation to recycling and recharge. ~~Staff works around the clock to ensure your drinking water surpasses all federal, state and local water quality regulations. In fact, water from your tap must pass much more stringent standards than bottled water.~~

These two sentences speak in a different voice from the rest of the plan (e.g., "your tap"). In fact, they are a quote from the Executive Director's message on the city's website. They seem out of place in this plan.

The city has a long record of substantial infrastructure investments and community water conservation programs. Staff administers several residential and commercial incentive rebate programs, offers residential outdoor efficiency checks, ~~MISSING VERB~~ (e.g., "manages the") commercial audit program, manages ordinance compliance like water waste complaints, and offers water efficiency educational opportunities. Demand for these services has been growing since the activation of stage 1 of the city's Drought Management Plan.

In fiscal year 2023 residential and commercial turf conversion rebates incentivized removal of 440,000 square feet of grass – an almost 425% increase from the previous year and a 250% increase over the five-year average. In the same year, participation by homeowner associations (HOAs) in consultations and recommendations grew by 175%. Residential outdoor water efficiency checks grew by 160% when compared to the previous five-years ~~average~~, and HOA consultations have proven to yield significant water savings. With the large number of HOAs in Scottsdale, a target of 100% consultation is ambitious and prudent.

When looking at total potable water demand data over the last decade and a half, a steady slight decrease in total demand and an increase in the number of accounts tells the story of conservation and increased efficiency.

In 2021 the city enacted Stage 1 of its Drought Management Plan and in doing so also requested all customers to voluntarily reduce water consumption by at least 5%.<sup>1</sup> The conservation work has paid off. Even during the hottest month on record (July 2023), water use dropped in Scottsdale, saving 7% when compared to July 2022 and nearly 18 million gallons of water.<sup>2</sup>

- Endnote 1's link is broken.
- Shouldn't 18 million be 180 million?

While these accomplishments have placed the city in a positive position related to its water resources, addressing the challenges of the future will require an even more substantial effort. The over-allocation of the Colorado River water supplies, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential. The current megadrought, which started in 2000, is the worst in 1,200 years and has impacted reservoir levels on the Colorado River<sup>3</sup> and the Central Arizona Projects water supplies.

In 2022, Scottsdale Water delivered potable water of more than about 70,000 acre-feet or 62 million gallons per day of safe, reliable drinking water to its customers. Total water use is on a downward trend even as the number of connections has increased by 9% (Figure 1).

- "Potable water" covers it. "Safe, reliable drinking water" sounds like a commercial.
- Figure 1 indicates 2022 delivery is just under 70,000, not "more than 70,000." Which is correct? However, www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water states that Scottsdale Water delivered "more than 68 million gallons" per day in 2022. That would be about 76,000 acre feet per year. Which is correct: 70 K or 76 K?
- 9% over what time period?

Figure 1: Identify dashed yellow line.

Label x-axis and y-axis (general note for all graphs).

Figure 1 does not depict the number of connections, number of accounts, or 9% increase (see gray highlights). That data could be incorporated on the right side y-axis. See example on first page.

**SCOTTSDALE WATER TRENDS  
POTABLE WATER DELIVERIES (ACRE-FEET)**

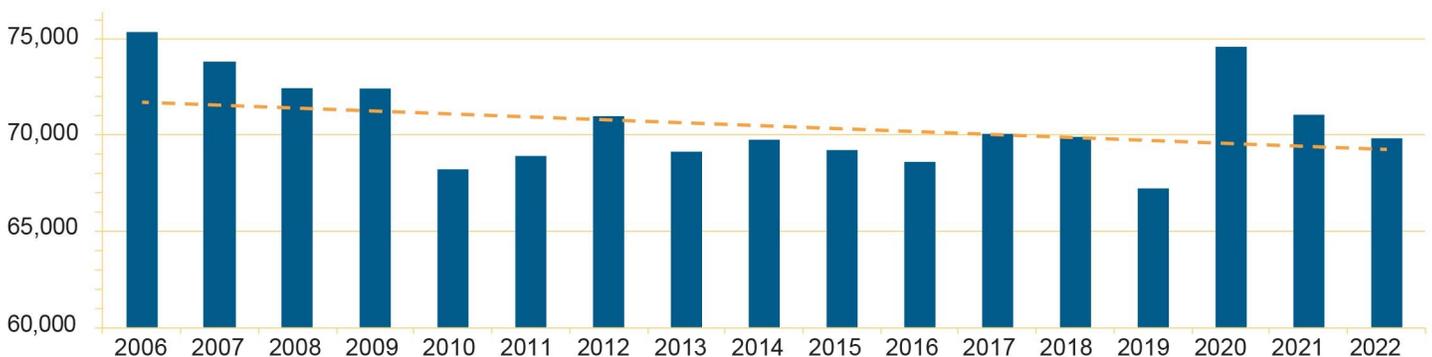


Figure 1. Source: Scottsdale Water

In 2022, the average residential customer (which comprise of almost 90 percent of the active water accounts) used 13% less water than in 2000 or 199 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) for residential water use (Figure 2).

Figure 2: 13% is correct, but why are the yellow solid and dashed lines below, instead of at, the 2000 point? It appears the dashed line in Figure 2 has a different meaning than the dashed line in Figure 1. To avoid confusion, you could just use shading here, without the dashed line.

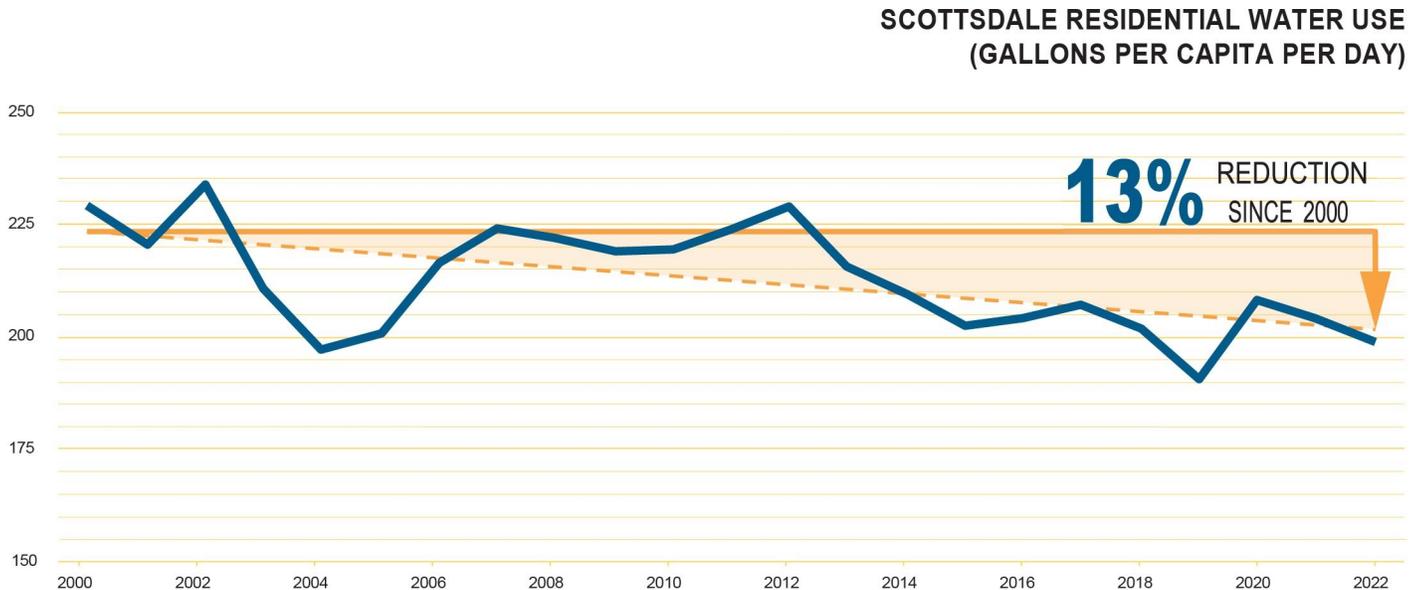


Figure 2. Source: Scottsdale Water

**INDICATOR**

Gallons per capita per day of residential water use (2022 = 199 gpcd)



**TARGET**

Reduce residential water use (gallons per capita per day) to 170 by 2033

Municipal water use represents around 2% of total potable city use and has dropped almost 10% since 2017. Scottsdale Facilities and Parks & Recreation have been proactively working to reach optimal and efficient water use in city-owned buildings facilities and in the provision of services to the community.

**INDICATOR**

Gallons of annual municipal water use (2022 = 438,172,762 gallons)



**TARGET**

Reduce annual municipal potable water use by an additional 5% relative to 2022 by 2027

- Are references to years in the Water section fiscal years or calendar years?
- "An additional" should be stricken because it a) is not relevant to the target and b) applies to other targets as well.

Scottsdale Water has targeted improvements in the amount of water used by homeowners' associations (HOAs) to irrigate their common areas ~~with~~ through water-use budgets, rebates, and tips for overall water efficiency.

**INDICATOR**

**TARGET**

Gallons of irrigation water use for HOA properties (2022 = TBD)



Reduce irrigation water use for HOA properties by 10% ~~from~~ relative to 2022 levels by 2033

makes parallel to municipal target language

Commercial water use has been relatively stable even during periods of economic growth. Future efforts will focus on developing strategies for efficiencies for existing users without affecting the ability to build Scottsdale's economy.

**INDICATOR**

**TARGET**

Gallons of commercial water use (2022 = 3,818,311,019)



Reduce commercial water use by 10% ~~from~~ relative to 2022 levels by 2033

makes parallel to municipal target language

This overall conservation trends holds no matter the size of the meter for the single-family homes. Average residential water use varies by meter size and by season. **The number of total customers has grown since 2014, but demand has decreased, showing that growth has not affected water use (Figure 3).**

- "This overall conservation trend" has no reference here. What trend? Move up to page 41?
- In Figure 3, is "gallons used per meter size" per month?
- Figure 3 does not support the bold sentence. Figure 3:
  - Does not depict growth in total customers. See first page for an example of a graph that does.
  - Does not depict total single family residential demand.
  - Therefore does not depict that "growth has not affected water use."
  - Only depicts average use per meter and, with some small ups and downs, the averages are relatively flat over time. Generally, 2016, 2020 and 2023 had relatively similar lower use, with higher use in between.

**AVERAGE WATER USE, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (GALLONS USED PER METER SIZE)**

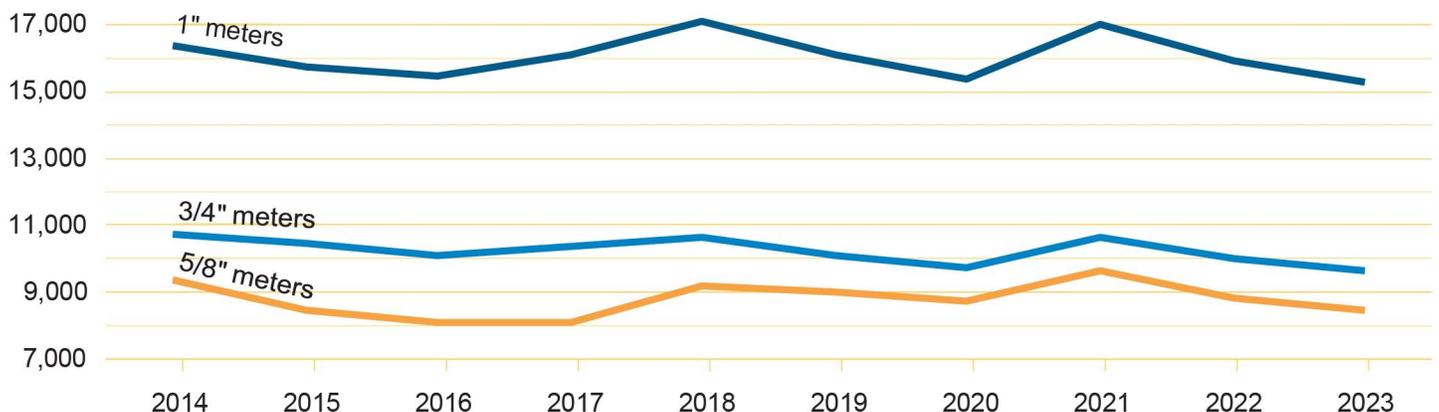
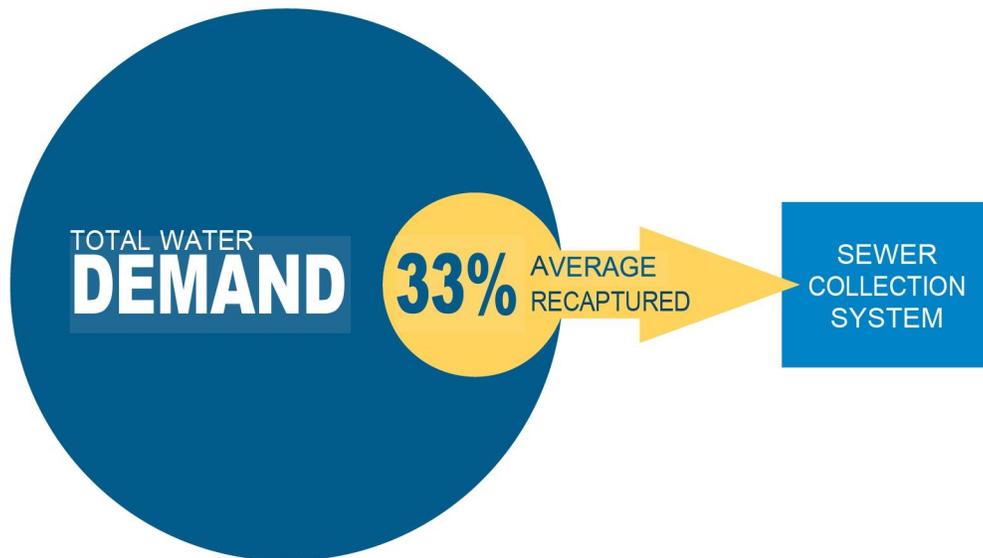


Figure 3. Source: Scottsdale Water

Scottsdale’s reclamation system has approximately 1,500 miles of sewer collection lines and over 40 lift stations. For decades, Scottsdale has used 100 percent of its recycled wastewater for beneficial, non-potable reuse or recharge. As a part of Scottsdale water resources portfolio, a portion of Advanced Water Purification (AWP) recycled water is recharged into the WTR aquifer as a kind of savings account to be able to recover it **in** **via** groundwater wells in times of prolonged drought and shortage. Another portion of the AWP recycled water is delivered to **turf facilities golf courses** through the Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS). A final portion is delivered to the 91st Avenue Wastewater Treatment **Plant** where it is used for the cooling tower at Palo Verde Nuclear Generating station and the Tres **Rees Rios** Wetlands.

- WTR? Also on page 45.
- Please confirm the accuracy of the gray highlight, i.e., that we send water treated to Advanced Water Purification level to the 91st Avenue WWTP.

**Of the total amount of water that is delivered to customers, approximately 33% is currently “returned” to the sewer system.** Future decreases in outdoor use and increases in irrigation efficiency would lead to a **high higher** percentage of overall “return” flow. As an indicator of conservation for all customers, the city seeks to increase the return flow percentage over what has been seen in the last 10 years.



**INDICATOR**

Return flow **percentage or** **wastewater captured in the sewer collection system** (2022 = 33% of total potable water demand)

**TARGET**

Increase return flow percentage by 10% **relative to 2022** by 2033, **capturing indoor/outdoor efficiency for both residential and commercial customers**

---

**Increase return flow percentage to 43% of total potable water demand by 2033**

alternative language:

- Indicator: "or" is confusing because they are one-in-the-same. Best to define elsewhere and use just one in the target.
- If "relative to 2022" is not the intent of the Target, then the baseline in the Indicator should be changed to match the intent of the Target.
- "Capturing indoor/outdoor efficiency for both residential and commercial customers" does not belong in the target, but could be stated in the paragraph above the graphic.

Scottsdale has excelled at proactive long-range planning to ensure safe and adequate water supplies and best management practices on water conservation efforts, total wastewater reuse, and water banking. Scottsdale helps ensure quality water supplies by reclaiming or reusing water, recharging excess to the WTR aquifer, and treating groundwater. The amount of groundwater treated has remained fairly constant and kept low, at approximately 5% of total water supply and kept to an internal target of Safe Yield.

INDICATOR

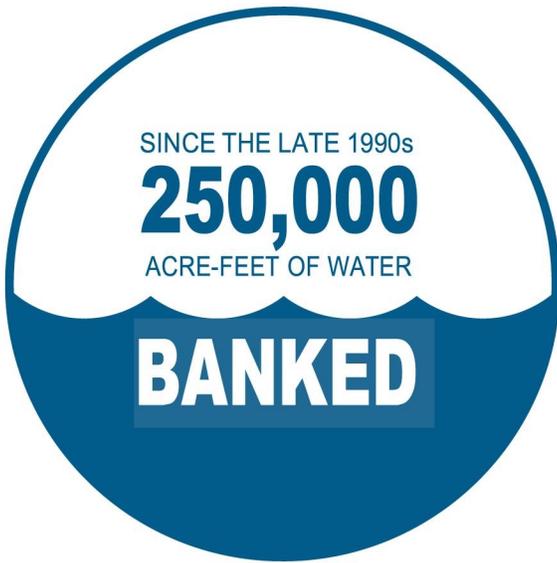
Gallons of supply sourced from groundwater treated (2022 = 1,823 million gallons)



TARGET

Maintain treated groundwater deliveries to Safe Yield levels

SEE NOTES FOR PAGE 45 ON NEXT PAGE



INDICATOR

Gallons of water recharged in aquifer (2022 = 250,000-acre feet- ??? gallons)



TARGET

Maximize annual water banking

According to the graphic above, 250,000 acre-feet is the amount recharged since the late 1990's.

Scottsdale Water was the first Arizona water utility to implement indirect potable reuse with the Advanced Water Purification (AWP) at the Advanced Water Treatment Facility treatment facility (AWT). The AWT is one of the largest and most sophisticated indirect potable reuse facilities in the world and, in 2019, became the third plant in the nation and the first in Arizona to be permitted for direct potable reuse.

NOTES FOR PAGE 45

Top left paragraph:

- At "treating groundwater" highlighted gray, are you referring to the Superfund Cleanup?
- The Superfund Cleanup should be mentioned in this Plan.
- Indicate how long groundwater use has "remained fairly constant and low."
- Define/explain "Safe Yield": groundwater replenishment (recharge) equals groundwater pumped.
- In the bold sentence, "groundwater treated" is confusing and unclear: Groundwater treated under the Superfund Cleanup? Pumped groundwater treated before it goes into the supply? Water treated before it goes into the ground (recharge)? This must be clarified for the average citizen to understand the Plan.
- The same confusion applies to the Indicator and Target top right. I think there you intend "groundwater treated" and "treated groundwater" to refer to groundwater that is pumped, treated and deposited into the supply. See suggested clarifications redlined on page 45.
- Regarding 5% (in the bold sentence): If 1,823 million gallons represents the amount of 2022 water supply sourced from groundwater, 5% does not appear to be accurate. For 2022, it looks like 7-8% of our supply came from groundwater:

acre feet per year	gallons per year	gallons per day	5% of gallons per year	1823 M gallons % of gallons per year
70,000	22,809,600,232	62,492,055	1140 M gallons	7.99%
76,170	24,820,000,000	68,000,000	1241 M gallons	7.34%

Note: See page 41 for source of figures in blue.

The city website states: "Scottsdale receives less than 10 percent of its water supply from groundwater sources." (<https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/water/water-supply>) "Less than 10 percent" is accurate according to the calculations above.

### BENEFITS



#### Environmental:

Using water efficiently brings a level of relief from the drought and ~~reduced~~ **reduces** carbon emissions by using less energy to pump and treat water



#### Economic:

More secure water supplies aid business operations / development and attract tourists; conservation means lower water bills for customers



#### Social:

Clean and secure drinking water for all residents supports health & equity

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Use **Scottsdale Water's the** WaterSmart app **to** monitor use and **receive** leak notifications
- Convert non-functional turf (grass) areas to desert-adapted landscaping ~~adaptive landscape~~
- ~~Consider Upgrade~~ to a WaterSense Smart Irrigation controller ~~upgrade~~
- Understand your landscape water needs
- Plant native and drought tolerant plants
- Replace faucets, showerheads, and toilets with WaterSense labeled fixtures

For more tips, go to [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov) and search "water"



Most people won't even realize this is a photo of the water trailer. Suggestion: select a different photo that really shows the trailer.

# STRATEGIES & ACTIONS

## STRATEGY WTR 1

Ensure water system resiliency.

### ACTIONS

- WTR 1.1** Communicate the leak detection benefits of registering for the online visualization portal and leak alerts (WaterSmart), aiming to double participation by 2025.
- WTR 1.2** Encourage removal of privately-owned non-functional/non-recreational turf through education and turf removal rebates.
- WTR 1.3** Promote improvements to irrigation equipment and plumbing fixtures for residential and commercial customers.
- WTR 1.4** Expand water conservation programs focused on homeowner associations.
- WTR 1.5** Review water use and conservation in development projects through the framework of the Scottsdale Sustainable Water Management Principles.
- WTR 1.6** Showcase and benchmark best practices of water efficient buildings & landscaping.
- WTR 1.7** Encourage site development strategies that incorporate green infrastructure, low impact development, and stormwater harvesting.
- WTR 1.8** Develop strategies to encourage commercial water efficient business practices.
- WTR 1.9** **Ensure Convert** all water meters **converted** to Automatic Meter Infrastructure.
- WTR 1.10** Conduct water efficiency consultations with all HOAs by 2033.
- WTR 1.11** **Explore and implement strategies to reduce water use in pools, spas and fountains.**

ADD: An energy-related resiliency action. See notes on first page.

## STRATEGY WTR 2

Reduce municipal water use.

### ACTIONS

- WTR 2.1** Remove non-functional/non-recreational turf at city facilities and retrofit municipal irrigation systems to smart controllers.
- WTR 2.2** Monitor leaks and implement advanced drip irrigation systems.
- WTR 2.3** Maintain high-efficiency toilets and faucets in city buildings.
- WTR 2.4** Install new cooling tower controllers in all municipal facilities by 2025.

See notes on page 49.

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WTR 1 Ensure water system resiliency.</b>				
<b>WTR 1.1</b> Communicate the benefits of registering for WaterSmart.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers	\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.2</b> Encourage removal of privately-owned turf.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, HOAs, landscapers	\$-\$-\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.3</b> Promote improvements to irrigation equipment and plumbing fixtures.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, HOAs, landscapers	\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.4</b> Expand HOA water conservation programs.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> HOAs	\$-\$-\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.5</b> Utilize Scottsdale Sustainable Water Management Principles in development review.	Quick-win Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Developers	\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.6</b> Showcase and benchmark water efficient buildings & landscaping.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, developers, landscapers	\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.7</b> Encourage sustainable site development strategies.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water, OEI, <b>Planning &amp; Development</b> <b>Partners:</b> Residents, developers	\$	🌱 Nature 👤 Reduced flooding
<b>WTR 1.8</b> Develop commercial water efficient business practices.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Commercial customers	\$-\$-\$	💰 Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.9</b> Convert water meters to Automatic Meter Infrastructure.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers	\$	💰 Customer savings

<b>WTR 1.10</b> Conduct HOA water efficiency consultations.	5-10 ? - ? years	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> HOAs	\$	Ⓢ Customer savings
<b>WTR 1.11</b> Explore and implement strategies to reduce water use in pools, spas and fountains.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Water <b>Partners:</b> Customers, HOAs, Developers	\$-\$-\$	Ⓢ Customer savings

WTR 1.10 5-10 years is not one of the options.

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY WTR 2 Reduce municipal water use.</b>				
<b>WTR 2.1</b> Remove non-functional/ non-recreational turf at city facilities and retrofit municipal irrigation systems to smart controllers.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$-\$-\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<b>WTR 2.2</b> Monitor leaks and implement advanced drip irrigation systems.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<b>WTR 2.3</b> Maintain high-efficiency toilets and faucets in city buildings.	On-going	<b>Lead:</b> Facilities	\$	Ⓢ Municipal savings
<del><b>WTR 2.4</b> Install new cooling tower controllers in municipal facilities.</del>	Quick-win	<del><b>Lead:</b> Facilities</del>	\$	<del>Ⓢ Municipal savings</del>

- 2.1 These are two very different actions and should be listed and tracked separately. Consider a specific time horizon for completion of both.
- 2.2 Recommend splitting into two separate actions with different Leads and Time Horizons:
  - Monitor leaks – Should include *indoor* leaks as well. Accordingly, add "Facilities" to "Lead."
  - Implement advanced drip irrigation systems – Do any city facilities that do not fall under Parks & Rec's domain require such systems? If so, add the appropriate department(s) to "Lead." Consider a time horizon for completion.
- 2.3 "Maintain" is unclear. Maintenance? Installation? Clarify intent. In addition, add "showers" or "showerheads" (for city facilities such as aquatic centers). If installation is the intention, add a specific time horizon for completion.
- 2.4 Wasn't this completed by January 2023 – over a year ago? It appears so from published reports and Gretchen's statements at the November Work Study. If completed over a year ago, this action should be deleted.

## ENDNOTES

- 1 [“Scottsdale asks residents to use five percent less water and conserve more,”](#) City of Scottsdale, January 11, 2022.
- 2 [“Scottsdale shows reduced water use during hottest month on record,”](#) City of Scottsdale, August 14, 2023.
- 3 [“Rapid intensification of the emerging southwestern North American megadrought in 2020–2021,”](#) Nature Climate Change, Williams, Cook and Smerdon, Vol 12, March 2022.

Endnote 1's link is broken.

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Energy  
**Date:** Sunday, April 14, 2024 9:51:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [Post Work Study Comments - Energy.pdf](#)

---

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Lisa,

Energy comments attached. The Strategies & Actions comments are similar to those I submitted previously. I have included them for three reasons: there are some differences, City Council direction at the Work Study, and you didn't receive my first Energy Strategies & Actions comments in time to process them before the Work Study.

Thank you,  
Alisa

## ENERGY

left column = page numbers in Work Study draft

53 Scottsdale's residents used **more than** 3.9 million megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity in 2022

54 Provide source for MWs of distributed solar (APS and SRP)

54 Indicator: change 2022 baseline to "per square foot" to comport with target.

56 Add "city-wide" to the greenhouse gas target

Reduce **city-wide** greenhouse gas emissions (relative to 2022) by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050

57 Add "municipal" to the greenhouse gas target

Reduce **municipal** greenhouse gas emissions (relative to 2022) by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050

59 However, households making 80% or less than the area median income (AMI) have an average energy burden above 6%, with that number rising to 21% for households **below 30% and below** of the AMI.

59 Indicator

Average energy burden by income bracket (2022 = 21% for households <b>below 30% and below</b> of area median income)
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### Strategies and Actions

61 Throughout the plan, "city-wide" is contrasted with "municipal." Assuming NRG 2.1 applies to municipal operations, "city-wide energy management system" is confusing. Suggestion:

Employ an **city-wide** energy management system **for municipal operations throughout the city** and track city energy use.

64 See 61 above

### Shorten time horizon from "3-10 years" to "1-3 years" on four actions

3.1 Adopt and implement energy and green construction codes that advance efficient construction practices to address affordability and regional characteristics

- ▶ Building codes are published on a three-year cycle: e.g., 2021, 2024, 2027. Our General Plan provides for energy and building code review and update on an "on-going/periodic" basis as opposed to every "1-5 years" or "5-10 years." Scottsdale typically adopts building codes on a three-year cycle. We adopted the 2021 building codes in 2022, which means we would begin reviewing the 2024 codes this year or next for possible adoption in 2025. For these reasons, "ongoing" or "1-3 years" is a more appropriate timeframe than "3-10 years."

- 2.1 Employ a citywide energy management system and track city energy use
- 2.5 Dedicate staff resources to managing energy programs
- 2.6 Develop a master plan for solar development on city-owned properties

► These three municipal actions will pay for themselves! Why wait?

At the Work Study, Councilmembers Durham and Janik requested this change on NRG 2.6.

Proposed Actions

- X.X Develop an operational matrix to facilitate consideration of emissions implications in city decision-making

Quick win      Lead: OEI      \$

Lower emissions / Resilience

- In an earlier version of the Sustainability Plan, an "implementation toolkit" was to be "developed to provide an operational matrix to support future decision-making." This action would restore that tool.
- "Resilience" or "Resiliency" is a Social (and Economic) Benefit that could be added to many of the Energy actions.

- X.X Expand municipal on-site renewable energy generation and storage capacity with priority given to facilities that consume the largest amount of energy or provide critical functions

3-10 years      Lead: OEI, Facilities, Water      \$\$\$

Municipal savings / Lower emissions / Resilience

- This is one possible response to direction given by Councilmembers Littlefield and Whitehead at the March Work Study regarding renewable energy at the Water Campus.

In 2016, the Scottsdale City Council approved a 2.3 MW solar project at the Water Campus that would have provided 10% of the power used at the Water Campus at that time. Shortly after, the City employee spearheading the project left Scottsdale for another Valley city and the project was never built.

In March 2018, Tempe completed a similar solar project at its water treatment plant. The system provides 30% of the plant's annual power, with an estimated savings of \$530,000 over 20 years. At that time, the system helped Tempe reach a milestone of powering 10% of city operations with renewable energy.

- X.X Maximize the benefits of municipal renewable energy by aligning demand with production through "smart grid" technologies and other tools

Ongoing      Lead: OEI, Facilities, Fleet      \$-\$\$

Municipal savings / Lower emissions / Resilience

- X.X Support state legislation for community choice aggregation

1-3 years      Lead: Government Relations, OEI      \$

Cost savings / Lower emissions / Lower energy burden / Resilience

- X.X Collaborate with other municipalities to evaluate the energy and cost savings for families and businesses available through energy retail choice, including community aggregation  
1-3 years      Lead: OEI      \$  
Cost savings / Lower emissions / Lower energy burden / Resilience
  
- X.X Develop and implement a municipal electrification policy  
1-3 years      Lead: OEI, Facilities, Fleet      Partners: Utilities      \$-\$\$  
Municipal savings / Lower emissions / Resilience
  
- X.X Support city-wide electrification efforts  
1-3 years      Lead: OEI      Partners: Utilities, residents, businesses      \$  
Cost savings / Lower emissions / Resilience
  
- X.X Collaborate with other municipalities and partners to restore and maintain local control over matters related to energy and emissions  
Ongoing      Lead: Government Relations, OEI      \$  
Cost savings / Municipal savings / Lower emissions / Lower energy burden / Resilience

Reorganization

On pages 4 and 5 is a proposed reorganization of Energy Strategies and Actions. All existing and proposed new actions are included. However, this reorganization is recommended regardless of how many proposed new actions are added.

For tracking purposes, existing strategy and action numbers are maintained; proposed new strategies and actions are numbered X and X.X, respectively.

**Energy 2** Improve municipal energy performance

- 2.1 Employ a citywide energy management system and track city energy use
- 2.2 Increase the number of large city-owned buildings connected to the energy management systems
- 2.3 Conduct energy audits and assessments for all municipal buildings
- 2.5 Dedicate staff resources to managing energy programs
- 2.4 Continue to convert streetlight systems, park lighting and other civic lighting to LED technology
- 2.8 Evaluate joining utility green power programs, establishing city-utility partnership agreements and/or the use of microgrids
- 2.9 Continue to participate in utility demand response programs; identify other opportunities to contribute to grid resiliency

**Energy X** Increase municipal and city-wide renewable energy capacity and use

- 2.6 Develop a master plan for solar development on city-owned properties, including battery and other storage capacity
- X.X Expand municipal on-site renewable energy generation and storage capacity with priority given to facilities that consume the largest amount of energy or provide critical functions
- X.X Maximize the benefits of municipal renewable energy by aligning demand with production through "smart grid" technologies and other tools
- 2.7 Share information on savings achieved through municipal solar installations
- 2.10 Join EPA Green Power Partnership
- 1.3 Provide education for homeowners about solar financing options
- 1.4 Consider free solar permits for residential installations
- 3.4 Encourage installation of solar panels when a new roof or deep retrofit occurs
- X.X Support state legislation for community choice aggregation
- X.X Collaborate with other municipalities to evaluate the energy and cost savings for families and businesses available through energy retail choice, including community aggregation

**Energy X** Reduce municipal and city-wide greenhouse gas emissions

- 1.7 Update greenhouse gas inventory at least every three years and expand to include refrigerant emissions; estimate impact of strategies and actions on emissions
- 1.8 Publicly report on greenhouse gas emissions and reduction strategies
- X.X Develop an operational matrix to facilitate consideration of emissions implications in city decision-making
- X.X Develop and implement a municipal electrification policy
- X.X Support city-wide electrification efforts
- X.X Collaborate with other municipalities and partners to restore and maintain local control over matters related to energy and emissions
- 1.9 Educate the public on the impacts of climate change and mitigation strategies

- 1.10 Increase awareness of 811 and other ways to reduce accidental leaks or releases from natural gas lines

**Energy 3** Reduce energy impacts of the built environment through sustainable building practices and policies

- 3.1 Adopt and implement energy and green construction codes that advance efficient construction practices to address affordability and regional characteristics
- 3.2 Support code requirements for new residential construction to install solar systems or be 'solar ready'
- 3.3 Strengthen enforcement of all building codes
- 3.5 Continue LEED Gold requirement for new civic structures

**Energy 1** Improve city-wide energy efficiency

- 1.1 Promote energy efficiency improvements for existing residential and commercial properties especially for lower income households and educate property owners on utility and other incentives
- 1.2 Develop guidance on ways to reduce utility bills
- 1.6 Increase participation in state weatherization program

**From:** [Nancy J Stephens](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Draft Community Sustainability Plan + Scottsdale Earth Fest (9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at Cactus Park) + Other Earth Week events  
**Date:** Thursday, April 18, 2024 7:42:17 PM

---

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Hello Lisa,

Thank you for sharing this plan and I am encouraged that the City is thinking and planning about this. I understand that the plan is aspirational and that you cannot do everything immediately. I'm no expert so I cannot comment on specifics of the plan. It seems good.

So thanks,  
Nancy Stephens

On Apr 16, 2024, at 3:08 PM, McNeilly, Lisa <[LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov)> wrote:

I wanted to share an update on the Community Sustainability Plan, plus some reminders about Earth Week events in Scottsdale! As always, thank you for your interest in making Scottsdale a more sustainable city.

Community Sustainability Plan: I wanted to let you know that the [draft Community Sustainability Plan has been posted for public comment](#). The draft includes the direction from City Council received at the recent Work Study Sessions, with edits have not yet been reviewed by City Council tracked in red. Public comments are being accepted through April 30, 2024, and City Council is expected to consider adoption of the plan at their May 21, 2024, meeting.

Let us know what you think! There is a comment form on the website or you can send me feedback directly.

<image006.jpg>[Earth Fest + Earth Week](#):  
Celebrate Scottsdale Earth Week, April 20-27!

Learn about the city's sustainability initiatives and conservation efforts. Don't miss Earth Fest from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at Cactus Park. Additional events throughout the week include guided nature walks, an edible landscape presentation and educational opportunities.

Details: [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](#), search "[Earth Week](#)."

Thank you,  
Lisa McNeilly

Lisa McNeilly  
Sustainability Director  
City of Scottsdale  
[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)  
(480) 312-2831  
<image007.jpg>

**From:** [notifications@cognitoforms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitoforms.com) on behalf of [City of Scottsdale](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Comment - KerryOlsson  
**Date:** Monday, April 22, 2024 6:17:29 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

## Entry Details

NAME	Kerry Olsson
EMAIL	kerry@theolssons.com
COMMENTS	Wow! Congratulations Lisa and the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission. This is a PLAN! Love what you have done. So much improved over what we discussed last year. Thank you for taking the time to invest in a more actionable product.
YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BE EMAILED ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.	No

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Air Quality  
**Date:** Monday, April 29, 2024 3:52:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [Air Quality draft for public comment 4-2024 comments.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Lisa,

Air Quality comments attached. The last two pages are related to Air Quality in the Introduction.

Some of the comments for Air Quality page 86 are related to Extreme Heat page 98. I will send comments for page 98 later today.

Please let me know whether or not you received the comments I emailed re: Water (April 12) and Energy (April 14). I just realized I did not receive an acknowledgement email for either one. Since you usually send one, I'm wondering if you received them.

Thank you,  
Alisa

see Legend for comments at top of page 83

# AIR QUALITY

Reduce contaminants and pollutants to improve air quality and protect community health.

Like many metropolitan areas, Scottsdale and other cities in the Valley have been working for years to improve air quality. The region's two biggest concerns are ozone and particulate matter (PM), as these exceed federal health-based standards most frequently. The causes of these pollutants are complex, given the number of sources and how far both can travel in the air.

Sources of particulate matter, classified as small (PM-2.5) or large (PM-10), ~~usually occurs as include~~ blowing dust, ~~or~~ smoke from fires or fireworks, ~~and vehicle tire wear and tear. but other sources can be particulates from car tires or~~ Most particulates form as a result of complex reactions of chemicals like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides, ~~which are pollutants emitted from automobiles, industries and power plants.~~ To reduce PM, Scottsdale makes extensive use of recycled asphalt millings and stabilizers for dust mitigation on unpaved lots and roads. It also uses a fleet of filtered (PM-10) street sweepers to reduce traffic-generated dust.

- Reason: "*usually* occurs as blowing dust or smoke" and "*can be* ... car tires or complex reactions" downplay the very real, ongoing sources of particulate pollution. This kind of framing feeds the narrative that a) 'nothing can be done' because we can't control dust storms, b) unhealthy air occurs only when certain limited events happen (e.g., haboobs, holidays), and c) "no-burn days" and discouraging fireworks will solve the problem. Our Sustainability Plan should not feed that narrative.
- Source for suggested revision to 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence: [www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/particulate-matter-pm-basics](http://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/particulate-matter-pm-basics)

Ground-level ozone is created when nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and sunlight react, making ozone primarily a summer issue. Industrial facilities, motor vehicles and gasoline vapors are primary sources of these precursor chemicals. Interestingly, trees can be both a source of VOCs and a key strategy in filtering a wide range of pollutants from the air.<sup>1</sup>

Regional air quality has varied in recent years, in part reflecting the influence of extremely hot summers on the number of unhealthy air days. In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards (Figure 1).

## AIR QUALITY INDEX (PHOENIX-MESA-SCOTTSDALE CORE-BASED STATISTICAL AREA)

- Good or Moderate Days (#)
- Unhealthy Days (#)

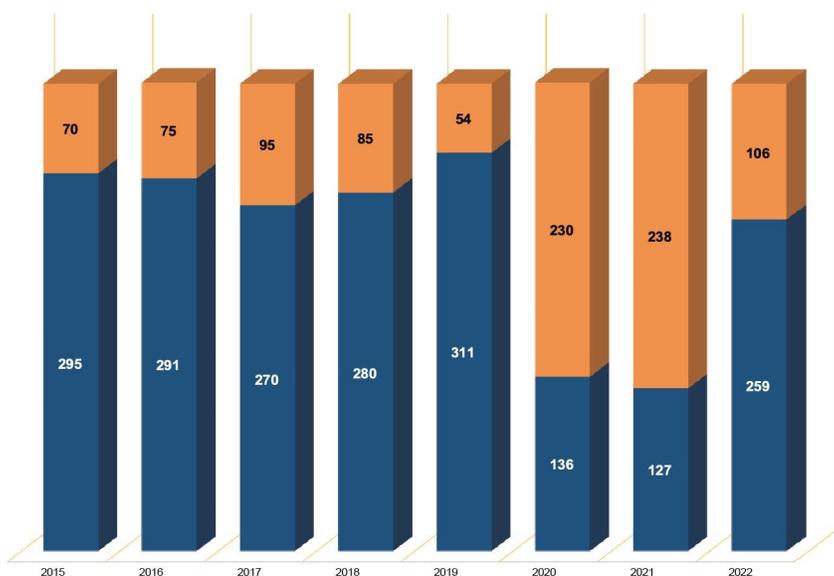


Figure 1.

Source: EPA

### Legend

XXX	XXX in 4/16/24 draft for public comment
XXX and XXX	suggested additions and deletions redlined
X and X	difficult-to-see suggested additions and deletions redlined
XXX	text moved (only at top paragraph on page 87)
XXX	reasons, explanations, comments, questions

- "Projects" doesn't seem like the right word. ADEQ [issues High Pollution Advisories](https://azdeq.gov/HPA). <https://azdeq.gov/HPA>



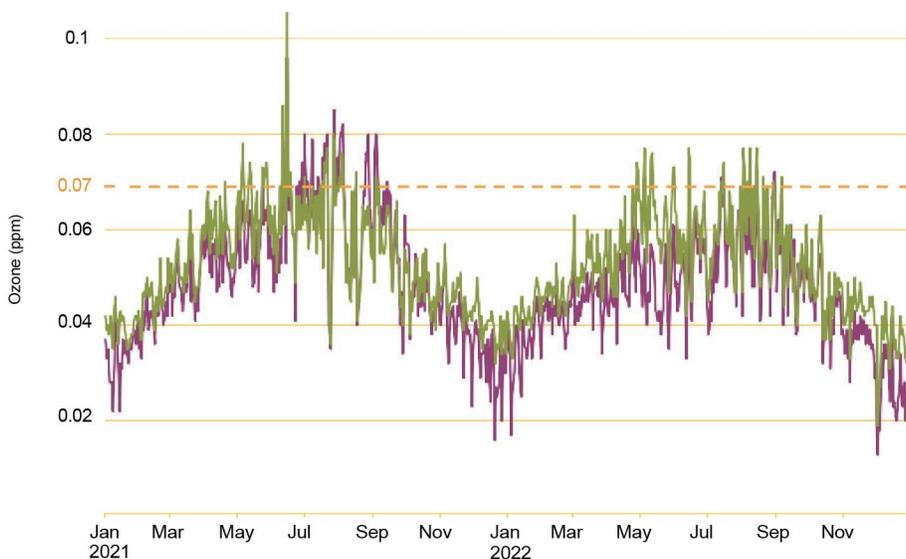
To signal when air quality is expected to be unhealthy, the state of Arizona ~~projects~~ ~~issues~~ High Pollution Advisories ~~Advisory Days~~. This advance notice ~~serves two purposes~~. ~~allows people to take steps to avoid exceeding federal standards for either ozone or PM~~. It gives people the opportunity to proactively reduce their contribution to pollutant levels by, for example, carpooling. It also allows people to modify their activities to mitigate negative health consequences of high pollution by, for example, avoiding outdoor exercise. In most recent years, there have been over 50 such advisories, with 2021 and 2022 each having more than 65 advisories (mostly related to ozone levels). For these days, the city informs all its employees and contractors about leaf blowing, wood burning and off-road travel restrictions.

- Reason for addition: Alerting the public to health risk is an equally, if not more, important purpose of HPA's.

There are two air sampling monitors in Scottsdale taking hourly readings of ozone and one taking readings of PM-10 levels. Both pollutants can exceed federal standards ~~during the summer~~, sometimes by substantial amounts. There are also two monitors for PM-2.5 just outside Scottsdale boundaries. ~~The readings from these monitors in 2021-2022 are shown in Figures 2, 3 and 4. The graphs (Figures 1, 2 and 3) show how the ozone transport into higher elevations during summer afternoons, individual dust storms and holiday activities cause readings above healthy limits.~~

#### Reasons:

- Exceedances are not limited to the summer months. Ozone exceedances occur in virtually every month and are quite common in April and September. In fact, during April 2024, we've already had one ozone exceedance and three ozone High Pollution Advisories. Likewise, the graphs on page 84 reflect PM-10 and PM-2.5 exceedances outside the summer months. In addition, see bar graph at "Additional notes for page 85."
- American Lung Association's 2024 "State of the Air" report ranks Metro Phoenix 5th worst for ozone pollution and 9th worst for year-round (annual) PM-2.5 pollution. Those rankings are not the result of occasional spikes. The stricken sentence conveys the message that exceedances are purely isolated events and mostly beyond our control. That message minimizes the problem and stifles any meaningful effort toward improvement. The suggested alternative sentence is neutral.



**OZONE 8-HR MAXIMUMS 2021 - 2022**

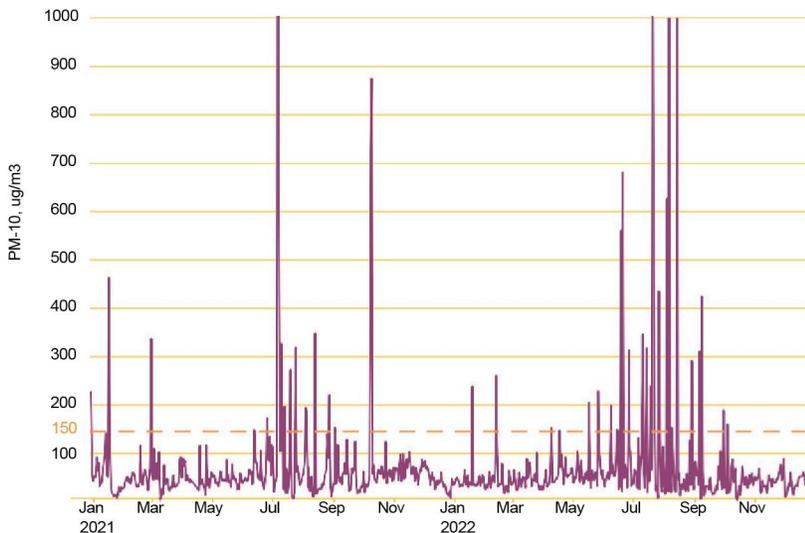
- South Scottsdale 8-Hr Max.
- Pinnacle Peak 8-Hr Max.
- - - 8-Hr Avg. National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Figure 1.2.  
Source: [Maricopa County Department of Air Quality](#)

**PM-10 DAILY MAXIMUMS 2021 - 2022**

- South Scottsdale PM-10 Daily Max.
- - - 24-Hr National Ambient Air Quality Standard

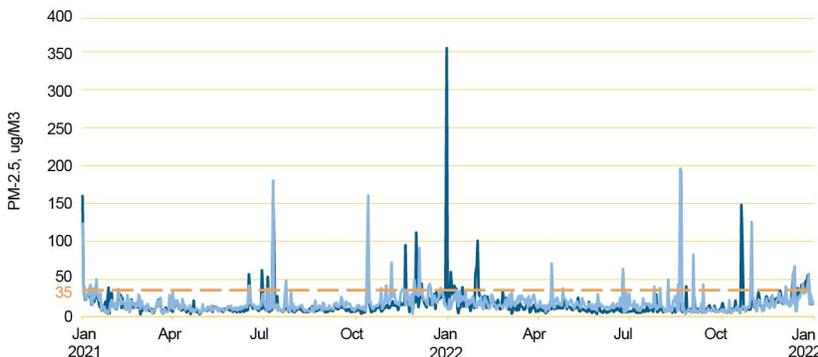
Figure 2.3.  
Source: [Maricopa County Department of Air Quality](#)



**PM-2.5 DAILY MAXIMUMS 2021 - 2022**

- North Phoenix PM-2.5 Daily Max.
- Tempe PM-2.5 Daily Max.
- - - 24-Hr National Ambient Air Quality Standard

Figure 3.4.  
Source: [Maricopa County Department of Air Quality](#)



see note on next page

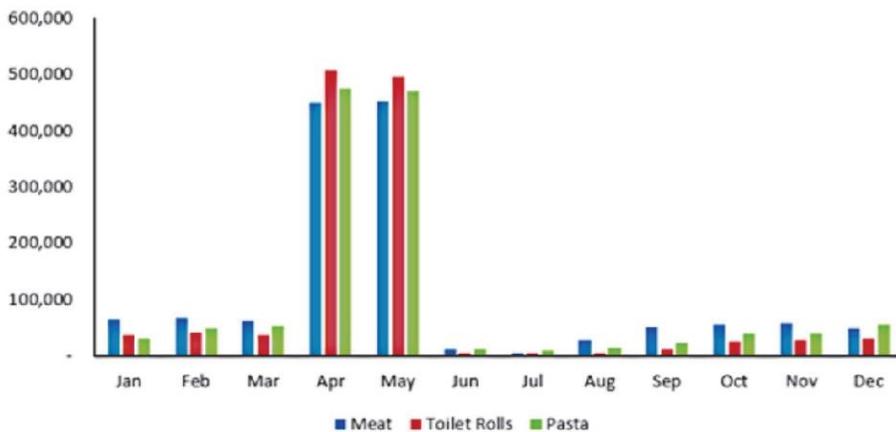
Note for Page 84

The PM-2.5 graph is ineffective because a) the January 2022 New Year's spike buries the story and b) the North Phoenix and Tempe lines excessively overlap. Solutions: 1) a y-axis break between 200 and 350 and 2) make the graph taller (same size as the PM-10 graph).

If MCAQD cannot provide a broken y-axis graph, an internet search for "broken y-axis" or "break in y-axis" with or without "Excel" provides sources for how-to create a broken y-axis chart. There are other format options as well, such as a panel chart.

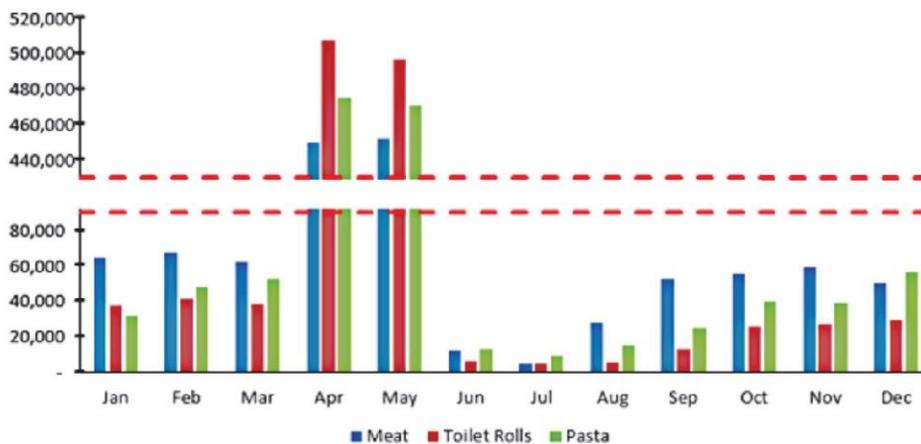
Example of problem and solution:

If I use a Clustered Column chart to represent this data, the problem becomes apparent — see the following screenshot:



The majority of the data is swamped by the large values for April and May. If you can quantify the values for July and August from this chart alone, I suggest you do not need to see an optometrist any time soon.

One way to display this data is by using a "broken y-axis" chart, where not all the values on the y-axis are shown — see the screenshot below. (Please also refer to the downloadable [Excel file](#) for a modelled example).



source: <https://www.fm-magazine.com/news/2022/nov/excel-broken-y-axis-charting.html>

**INDICATOR**

**TARGET**

Regional Air Quality Index ~~good to moderate~~ **unhealthy** air days (#)  
(2022 = **259 106** days)



Reduce the number of Air Quality Index **unhealthy** air days ~~in Scottsdale~~ by 2030

Reasons:

- The indicator and the target should match, i.e., baseline # unhealthy days → reduce # unhealthy days.
- "Air Quality Index" is needed to define the target standard. This is the case even though "unhealthy air day" is defined in the Glossary. (Note that "good to moderate air days" is not defined in the Glossary.)
- Delete "in Scottsdale" because we do not have an AQI assessment specific to Scottsdale.

See additional notes for page 85 on next page.

Extensive modeling demonstrates that every part of the city can be exposed to poor air quality, although not always at the same time for the same pollutant (Figure 5).

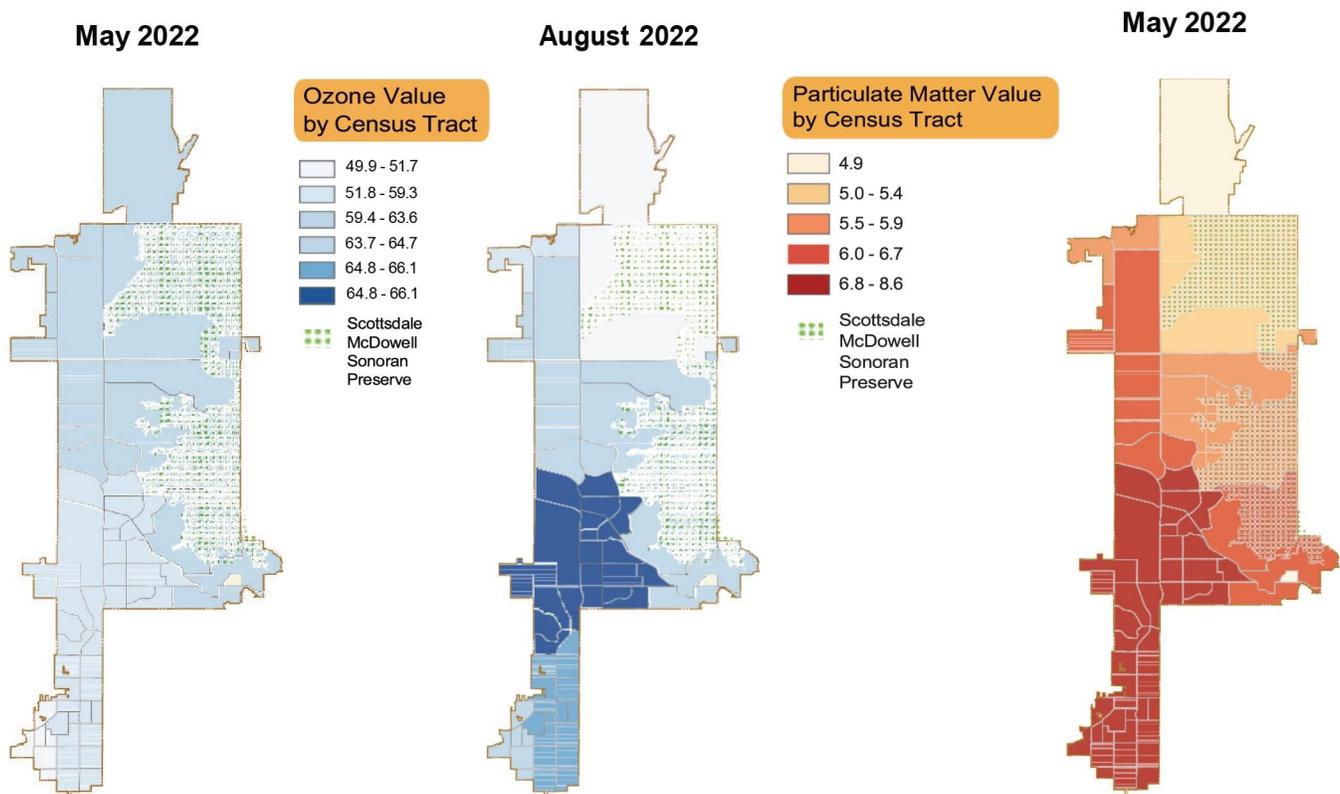
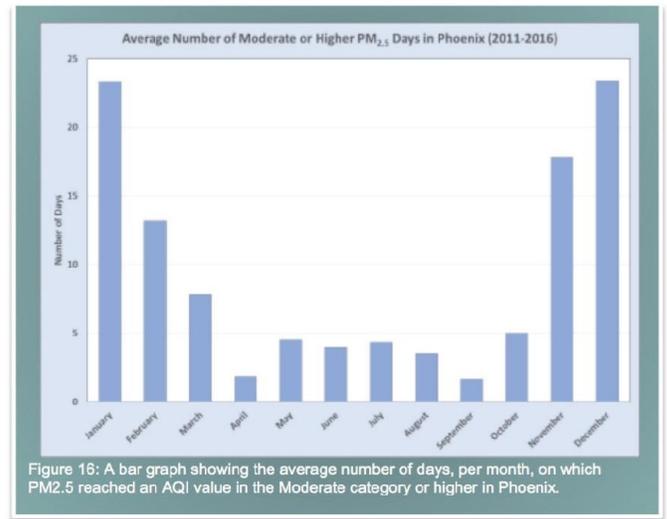


Figure 5.  
Source: City Health Dashboard

Additional notes for page 85

Census Tract Maps

- Is the PM map all PM, PM-2.5 or PM-10?  
From the source website, it appears to be PM-2.5. Whatever it is, it should be labeled accordingly.
- Re: using the month of May for the PM map  
The number of moderate and unhealthy PM-2.5 days is highest in the winter months (see bar graph right). That is not solely due to isolated holiday activities. It is also the result of our terrain coupled with seasonal factors such as nocturnal inversions, temperature inversions, stagnation, and the frequency of weather systems. December 2022 would be a more appropriate representation for PM-2.5 levels.



Source: Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

- Given that there are only three official air sampling monitors in Scottsdale (two ozone, one PM-10, and zero PM-2.5), how/where does cityhealthdashboard.com obtain census tract level data? The paragraph above the maps refers to "extensive modeling." Is that how these maps were created? If so, to make that connection obvious, cite to the (added) figure number at the end of the sentence:  
 "... although not always at the same time for the same pollutant (Figure 5)."
- In the prior draft, the green Preserve color in the background bled through and interfered with the census tract colors. The green dots may be better, but they are still a distraction in these very small, color-coded maps. I suggest removing the Preserve from these maps.

See additional notes for page 86 on next two pages.

Ozone and particulate matter can aggravate a range of health issues, including asthma, COPD and heart disease, compounding how extreme heat can also influence their incidence and severity. Maricopa County tracks illnesses and deaths for these disorders, which have fluctuated over time. Asthma illnesses resulting in hospital encounters in Scottsdale (Table 1) per 100,000 population are lower than in the rest of Maricopa County per 100,000 population (Table 1), and asthma hospital encounters (2018-2022) are concentrated in census tracts in south and central Scottsdale (Figure 4.6).

Table 1. [Incidents] [Incidence] among Scottsdale residents, per 100,000 population, and (total frequency)

Table 1. Incidents among Scottsdale residents, per 100,000 population, AND TOTAL FREQUENCY					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Asthma illnesses	210.1 (517)	196.7 (493)	115.3 (294)	121.6 (310)	156.1 (398)
COPD illnesses	335.7 (795)	287.7 (682)	185.5 (443)	148.2 (347)	163.5 (398)
COPD deaths	50.0 (112)	61.9 (121)	57.7 (124)	47.8 (107)	N/A 41.6 (106)
Heart disease illnesses	2,766.8 (6,807)	2,740.6 (6,868)	2,375.0 (6,056)	2,678.5 (6,830)	2,755.7 (7,027)
Heart disease deaths	217.5 (535)	224.3 (562)	231.0 (589)	251.0 (640)	N/A 245.1 (625)

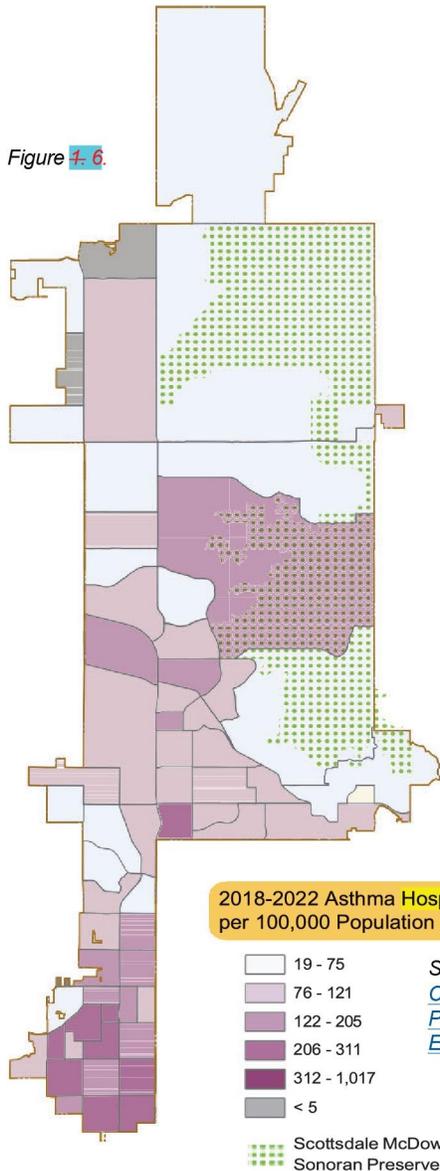


Figure 4.6.

INDICATOR

Number of hospitalizations for pollution-related health events per 100,000 population in Scottsdale (2021 = 2,948.3) (2022 = 3,075.3)



TARGET

REDUCE HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR POLLUTION-RELATED HEALTH EVENTS (PER 100,000 POPULATION) BY 2030

Figure to left:

- In the legend, < 5 should be at the top of the list.
- The legend is missing one or more categories from 5 to 18.
- The green dots are a distraction in this small, color-coded map. I suggest removing the Preserve from this map.

- Many sources corroborate the addition of particulate matter to the first sentence. Here are two: [www.lung.org/research/sota/health-risks](http://www.lung.org/research/sota/health-risks) ("What Can Particles Do To Your Health" pull-down) [www.airnow.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/aqi\\_brochure\\_02\\_14\\_0.pdf](http://www.airnow.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/aqi_brochure_02_14_0.pdf) (page 7-8)
- Does Maricopa County's Office of Epidemiology use the term "hospital encounters" or "hospitalizations"? The figure is titled "Asthma Hospital Encounter Rate." The indicator and target use the term "hospitalizations." "Hospitalization" may imply admission, whereas I presume the data includes, for example, ER visits that did not result in admission. I suggest using the data source's terminology and being consistent in all five locations highlighted yellow on page 86.

Reasons for redlined changes in sentence preceding the table:

- Specify that the asthma illness data includes *only those illnesses that resulted in hospital encounters*.
- Move "Table 1" because "Table 1" after "Maricopa County" inaccurately suggests to the reader that County figures are in the table.
- Move "per 100,000 population" because the comparison with Maricopa County is per 100,000 and the sentence reads more smoothly.
- Specify that the hospital encounters concentrated in south and central Scottsdale are for *asthma* only.
- "(2018-2022)" can be deleted here; it's stated in the title of the figure.

Table 1 (also see redlined title on page 86):

- Does Maricopa County's Office of Epidemiology use the term "incidents" or "incidence"?
- Do the reported deaths include all deaths or only those that occurred in hospitals? If the latter, specify that the deaths in Table 1 *include only those that occurred in hospitals* by adding one of these notes to the table:
  - Table 1 includes only deaths that occurred in a hospital.
  - Table 1 does not include deaths that occurred in places other than a hospital.
- Specify that the illnesses in Table 1 *include only those that resulted in hospital encounters*. Add one of these notes to the table:
  - Table 1 includes only illnesses treated in a hospital.
  - Table 1 does not include illnesses treated in places other than a hospital.
- Indicate in some fashion that the total frequency data is in parentheses.
- Does the illness data represent a) Scottsdale *residents* wherever they visited a hospital in Maricopa County or b) people *treated in Scottsdale hospitals* regardless of where they live? What about the mortality data?
- In 2022, 398 is listed as the total frequency for two illnesses that have different per 100,000 figures.
- See spreadsheet and two notes on next page.

Indicator:

- The "number of hospitalizations" in 2021 (2,948.3) is the sum of illnesses only; it does not include deaths. (My redline change to 2022 was calculated accordingly.) The parallel Indicator in Extreme Heat states both illnesses and deaths. The Targets in both sections are "reduce hospitalizations." Do we intend to include deaths in the Targets? Not all deaths occur in hospitals. See the question in the second bullet under Table 1 above. We need to clarify the Indicators and Targets in both sections.

1. Presumably the population figure used to calculate the "per 100,000" figures would be the same for all categories within a given year. The calculated multipliers/populations in the unshaded cells are more or less consistent within each year, whereas the calculated multipliers/populations in the shaded cells are not.

2. It appears the same population was used for 2020, 2021 and 2022. That is inconsistent with other City documents.

	2018	calculated multiplier	calculated population
Asthma illnesses	210.1 (517)	2.461	246,073
COPD illnesses	335.7 (795)	2.368	236,819
COPD deaths	50.0 (112)	2.240	224,000
Heart disease illnesses	2,766.8 (6,807)	2.460	246,024
Heart disease deaths	217.5 (535)	2.460	245,977

	2019	calculated multiplier	calculated population
Asthma illnesses	196.7 (493)	2.506	250,635
COPD illnesses	287.7 (682)	2.371	237,052
COPD deaths	61.9 (121)	1.955	195,477
Heart disease illnesses	2,740.6 (6,868)	2.506	250,602
Heart disease deaths	224.3 (562)	2.506	250,557

	2020	calculated multiplier	calculated population
Asthma illnesses	115.3 (294)	2.550	254,987
COPD illnesses	185.5 (443)	2.388	238,814
COPD deaths	57.7 (124)	2.149	214,905
Heart disease illnesses	2,375.0 (6,056)	2.550	254,989
Heart disease deaths	231.0 (589)	2.550	254,978

	2021	calculated multiplier	calculated population
Asthma illnesses	121.6 (310)	2.549	254,934
COPD illnesses	148.2 (347)	2.341	234,143
COPD deaths	47.8 (107)	2.238	223,849
Heart disease illnesses	2,678.5 (6,830)	2.550	254,993
Heart disease deaths	251.0 (640)	2.550	254,980

	2022	calculated multiplier	calculated population
Asthma illnesses	156.1 (398)	2.550	254,965
COPD illnesses	163.5 (398)	2.434	243,425
COPD deaths	41.6 (106)	2.548	254,808
Heart disease illnesses	2,755.7 (7,027)	2.550	254,999
Heart disease deaths	245.1 (625)	2.550	254,998

typo? 398 on two lines

See additional notes for page 87 on next two pages.

Scottsdale has been an active partner with Maricopa County and neighboring cities to formulate, adopt and implement laws and codes that have dramatically improved air quality Valleywide. ~~Even as population and vehicle travel has increased, ozone levels have decreased by 13 parts per billion since 2000, and precursor emissions have decreased by over 50 percent from 2011 through 2020 according to the Maricopa Association of Governments.~~

Re: stricken sentence above, see "Additional notes for page 87" at ①.

However, federal standards for ozone are tightening due to an improved understanding of the health effects, and Metro Phoenix currently has the fifth-worst ozone levels in the country.<sup>2</sup> Because of the extended transport of air pollutants from outside the Valley, improving air quality requires regional cooperation and a long-term commitment to taking daily steps to reduce emissions. Failure to meet the Clean Air Act standards can have economic repercussions, since the tighter standards may trigger regulations that could discourage growth of new, large businesses.

- Reason: American Lung Association's "State of the Air" reports cover Metro Phoenix, including Scottsdale.
- Consider updating endnote 2 to a more "current" source. See "Additional notes for page 87" at ②.
- Insert paragraph re: new PM-2.5 NAAQS here. See "Additional notes for page 87" at ③.

The city follows and reinforces federal, state and county requirements. It also commits to additional steps to support cleaner air for residents and visitors related to vehicles. **Scottsdale has reduced the environmental impact of its municipal vehicles by switching to compressed natural gas (CNG) as a fuel source and by using less gasoline and diesel fuel. Total fleet fuel use is down 3% 7% since 2016.** The Fleet and Solid Waste departments significantly reduce vehicle miles through sophisticated route optimizations. Relatedly, the Transportation and Streets Department champions the use of van pool and bus pass programs by employees.



Supporting the regional transition to electric and other alternate fuel vehicles can also improve air quality. **The number of publicly available electric vehicle charging ports in Scottsdale has increased dramatically, up 18% in just one year, reflecting residents and business interest in this technology.** This trend reflects the economics of electric vehicles, which can be \$50 less expensive for a full charge versus a tank of gasoline.<sup>3</sup> The city also plans to install electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in at least five locations.



① This sentence is misleading and should be deleted:

"Even as population and vehicle travel has increased, ozone levels have decreased by 13 parts per billion since 2000, and precursor emissions have decreased by over 50 percent from 2011 through 2020 according to the [Maricopa Association of Governments](#)."

Phoenix-Mesa, AZ	
8-Hour Ozone	
3-Year Period	Design Value (ppm)
1998-2000	0.088
1999-2001	0.085
2000-2002	0.085
2001-2003	0.087
2002-2004	0.085
2003-2005	0.084
2004-2006	0.083
2005-2007	0.083
2006-2008	0.081
2007-2009	0.076
2008-2010	0.077
2009-2011	0.077
2010-2012	0.081
2011-2013	0.081
2012-2014	0.080
2013-2015	0.077
2014-2016	0.076
2015-2017	0.075
2016-2018	0.077
2017-2019	0.077
2018-2020	0.079
2019-2021	0.080
2020-2022	0.081

The MAG source is a letter in a MAG-AQTAC meeting agenda packet. The ozone levels referenced in the source letter are ozone design values.

See table left. Taking the highest design value that includes 2000 (0.088) and the lowest design value that includes 2020 (0.079), the difference is only 9 parts per billion (.009 ppm) – not 13 parts per billion.<sup>1</sup>

Regarding precursor emissions, the source letter specifies only certain precursors: "i.e., oxides of nitrogen and volatile organic compounds." Limiting the analysis to these two precursors, between 2011 and 2020, Maricopa County experienced a 20.85% reduction in annual emissions and a 12.45% reduction in season-day emissions. "Decreased by over 50 percent" is only correct if the analysis is limited to a single precursor (nitrogen oxides) and annual (not season-day) emissions. Conversely, if the third precursor, carbon monoxide, is included, Maricopa County experienced only a 12.21% reduction in annual emissions and a 6.31% *increase* in season-day emissions.<sup>2</sup>

The source letter continues:

However, despite our successes in controlling local sources and achieving significant reductions local ozone formation over the past two decades, the ozone design value for the Phoenix-Mesa area has **increased by approximately two parts per billion since 2020**, putting our area in jeopardy of being "bumped up" from a Moderate area to a Serious area.<sup>3</sup>

Bottom Line: Maricopa County is currently designated as nonattainment for ozone and classified as Moderate for the **2008** 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).<sup>4</sup>

The 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS is 0.075 ppm.

The 2015 8-hour ozone NAAQS is 0.070 ppm.

② [www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2024/04/25/most-polluted-cities-in-the-united-states/73451714007/](http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2024/04/25/most-polluted-cities-in-the-united-states/73451714007/) OR [www.lung.org/research/sota/city-rankings/msas/phoenix-mesa-az#pmann](http://www.lung.org/research/sota/city-rankings/msas/phoenix-mesa-az#pmann)

③ The PM-2.5 NAAQS has just been revised for the first time since 2012, with an effective date of May 6, 2024. It is timely to add a paragraph about the new standard to the Plan. Otherwise, we will be three years into the new standard before the change is reflected in our Plan.

Option 1 <sup>5</sup>

Metro Phoenix is currently ranked ninth among US metro areas for worst year-round PM-2.5 pollution. Effective May 2024, EPA strengthened the primary annual PM-2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard. The change was made to provide increased public health protection consistent with the latest available health science. Studies demonstrate that long- and short-term exposures to PM-2.5 at concentrations allowed by the previous standard (set in 2012) cause adverse health effects on the cardiovascular, respiratory and nervous systems and lead to cancer and premature death. Studies also demonstrate improvements in public health, including a lower mortality rate, when PM-2.5 levels are brought down. Based on 2020-2022 air monitoring data, Maricopa County is not expected to meet the new standard.

Option 2 <sup>5</sup>

Metro Phoenix is currently ranked ninth among US metro areas for worst year-round PM-2.5 pollution. Effective May 2024, EPA strengthened the primary annual PM-2.5 standard. The change was made to provide increased public health protection consistent with the latest available health science. Studies demonstrate that adverse health effects from exposure to PM-2.5 are occurring at concentrations allowed by the previous standard (set in 2012), while improvements in public health, including reductions in mortality, follow decreases in PM-2.5 levels. Based on 2020-2022 air monitoring data, Maricopa County is not expected to meet the new standard.

Endnotes

1. Source: Design Value Reports at [www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-design-values](http://www.epa.gov/air-trends/air-quality-design-values)
2. Source: Maricopa County Periodic Emissions Inventory Reports at [www.maricopa.gov/2652/Periodic-Emissions-Inventory-Reports](http://www.maricopa.gov/2652/Periodic-Emissions-Inventory-Reports)
3. Italics in original, bold added.
4. Sources: [www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/16/2024-07954/air-plan-revisions-arizona-maricopa-county-air-quality-department](http://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/16/2024-07954/air-plan-revisions-arizona-maricopa-county-air-quality-department) and [www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/ancl.html](http://www3.epa.gov/airquality/greenbook/ancl.html)
5. Sources: [www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/final-reconsideration-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-particulate-matter-pm](http://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/final-reconsideration-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-particulate-matter-pm), [www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/2024-pm-naaqs-final-overview-presentation.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/2024-pm-naaqs-final-overview-presentation.pdf), [www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-overview.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-overview.pdf), [www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-air-quality-index-fact-sheet.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-air-quality-index-fact-sheet.pdf), [www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/06/2024-02637/reconsideration-of-the-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-for-particulate-matter](http://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/03/06/2024-02637/reconsideration-of-the-national-ambient-air-quality-standards-for-particulate-matter)

## BENEFITS



### Environmental:

Improved air quality reduces harm to plants and animals; **more trees improve air quality and also provide shade, and cooling, food, and shelter for birds and wildlife**



### Economic:

Fewer bad air quality days aid business operations / development, **and** attract tourists and lessens damage to buildings and infrastructure; electric vehicles can be less expensive to operate



### Social:

The greatest impact of better air quality will be improved health and quality of life; **fewer High Pollution Advisories means fewer days that residents and visitors are advised to refrain from exercise and outdoor activities**

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Switch to electric-powered blowers and other landscaping equipment
- Avoid idling **unnecessarily** and **long** drive-thru lines
- Fuel your vehicle after dark
- Eliminate or replace your wood-burning fireplace, wood stove or fire pit with natural gas units
- Plant a low-VOC emitting tree

For more tips, go to [Maricopa.gov](http://Maricopa.gov) and search “air quality”

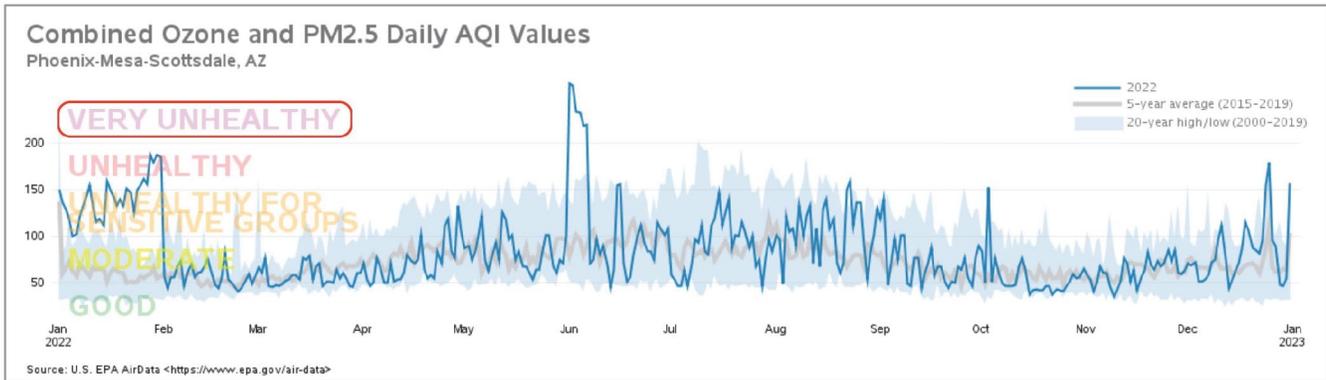
- AQ 1.3** Encourage **replacement removal** of existing wood-burning fireplaces, wood stoves and fire pits **or replacement** with cleaner options.
- AQ 1.4** Continue requirement of dust control plans for special events using unpaved parking.
- AQ 1.5** Promote Maricopa County program to convert **from** gas to electric yard equipment.

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>AQ 1.3</b> Encourage <b>removal or</b> replacement of existing wood-burning units.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Residents, developers	\$	👤 Health
<b>AQ 1.5</b> Promote Maricopa County program to convert <b>from</b> gas to electric yard equipment.	Quick win	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Maricopa County	\$	👤 Health

**Notes for Air Quality paragraphs in the Introduction**

The Science Of Sustainability - page 25

1. "VERY UNHEALTHY" has been omitted from Figure 3 and should be restored. See red box in graph below. (This graph is combined ozone and PM-2.5.)



2. Delete "(Figure 1)" at:

In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards – 30% or 106 days (Figure 1).

This reference is to Figure 1 in the Air Quality section, not in the Introduction.

The Economics Of Sustainability - page 27

This is the extent of the discussion about the economics of air quality:

Extreme heat, poor air quality and drought can affect the economy in a range of ways: health impacts, loss of business when people stay indoors or cut visits short and utility bills squeezing disposable income.

Three paragraphs about extreme heat follow. There is much more to be said about the economic consequences of air pollution! Suggestions:

- Ozone nonattainment  
The projected cost of ozone nonattainment is a significant economic factor and is not acknowledged.
- Tourism  
"Cut visits short" may be a reference to tourists, but, given the importance of tourism to Scottsdale, a more direct statement is warranted. Our natural environment is a large part of Scottsdale's draw. Air is part of the natural environment (and many decades ago, our air quality was itself a draw). Moreover, air quality affects the ability of visitors to enjoy our natural environment. When outdoor activity is limited by unhealthy air quality, it is not advisable – and can even be dangerous – for visitors to partake of the activities they come here to do, for example, hike in the Preserve and play golf.

Suggested text:

Poor air quality affects tourism by influencing potential visitors to choose alternative vacation and conference destinations.

OR

Poor air quality and extreme heat can have a chilling effect on tourism by influencing potential visitors to choose alternative vacation and conference destinations.

- Economic growth

From young parents deciding where to raise children to CEOs deciding where to locate corporate headquarters, the natural environment and a healthy environment are common criteria. Poor air quality and the inability to engage in outdoor recreation on unhealthy air days are strikes against choosing Scottsdale.

- "Health impacts" is mentioned in the sentence in the Introduction, but not fleshed out. The economic impacts of health impacts include the cost of healthcare and the cost of lost productivity.

- Labor productivity of outdoor workers

Just as with extreme heat, outdoor workers are affected by air quality. Unhealthy air lowers their productivity, causes missed workdays, and may force them off the job entirely. (See cited TNC study at page 45.) Just as with extreme heat, outdoor work can be shut down on unhealthy air days.

- "loss of business when people stay **home indoors** " better makes the point

**From:** [notifications@cognitoforms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitoforms.com) on behalf of [City of Scottsdale](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Comment - Mary AnnMiller  
**Date:** Monday, April 22, 2024 6:46:22 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

## Entry Details

**NAME** Mary Ann Miller

**EMAIL** Miller.maryann1@gmail.com

**COMMENTS** While you educate people on light versus dark roofs, can you also include the negative impact of artificial turf? So many flips in south Scottsdale are using this plastic grass. In addition to the heat factor, at some point they will end up in the landfill.

**YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BE EMAILED ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.** No

**From:** [notifications@cognitoforms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitoforms.com) on behalf of [City of Scottsdale](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Comment - IsaacDizon  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024 9:32:57 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

## Entry Details

**NAME** Isaac Dizon

**EMAIL** [dizon.isaac@gmail.com](mailto:dizon.isaac@gmail.com)

**COMMENTS**

As a resident invested in the well-being of our community, I would like to propose enhancements in two key areas: water conservation and landscaping practices.

Firstly, I believe there should be a stronger emphasis on integrating recycled and reclaimed water into our drinking water supply. This technology is readily available within our city and presents a tangible opportunity for meaningful water conservation efforts. Incorporating this initiative into our sustainability goals would underscore our commitment to environmental stewardship. Let's make this a priority. Go big or go home!

Additionally, I urge the city to prioritize the promotion of xeriscape gardens as a sustainable landscaping solution. While the mention of a test garden is noted, I advocate for broader implementation and education on the benefits of xeriscaping. In addressing the prevalence of artificial turf, which contributes to heat retention, promoting xeriscape gardens can mitigate urban heat island effects and conserve water resources. Grass is beautiful. When it is torn out, we really need to put foliage back in its place. Not only are plants

appealing visually, they also cool our city.

Furthermore, I propose a holistic approach to water usage, particularly regarding golf courses. Rather than penalizing these establishments for water consumption, I suggest incentivizing them to contribute to the beautification of unused open spaces. This could involve planting trees and shrubs in areas where grass has been reduced, thereby enhancing the aesthetic appeal of our city while maintaining the quality of life factors that golf courses provide. Keep the golf courses green and make it easy to plant up rocky, hot and barren spaces.

In conclusion, I urge the City of Scottsdale to consider these suggestions in the development and implementation of its sustainability plan. By prioritizing water conservation and sustainable landscaping practices, we can foster a more resilient and environmentally conscious community for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,  
Isaac Dizon  
Resident of Scottsdale

---

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BE EMAILED  
ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.

No

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**From:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**To:** [Chandni Bhakta](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Scottsdale Sustainability Plan - AMA questions  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 24, 2024 3:55:00 PM

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Ms. Bhakta,

Thank you for reaching out about the Community Sustainability Plan.

Before addressing your individual concerns, I wanted to clarify that the plan is an aspirational document and similar to a master plan. As such, it does not involve changes to ordinances or supersede existing decision-making processes. Implementation will require that specific project plans be developed for each action, identifying costs, personnel needs, barriers and milestones. The City Council may fund or not fund programs at any time and any proposed code updates would be handled on a separate track.

For your specific questions, I can confirm that the City intends to abide by state law and not limit the work of private solid waste companies. In terms of trees, adoption of the plan would not require any retrofits.

Please let me know if I can answer any additional questions.

Best,  
Lisa McNeilly

Lisa McNeilly  
Sustainability Director  
City of Scottsdale  
[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)  
(480) 312-2831



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**From:** Chandni Bhakta <[Chandni@azcapitolconsulting.com](mailto:Chandni@azcapitolconsulting.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024 1:42 PM  
**To:** McNeilly, Lisa <[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)>  
**Subject:** Scottsdale Sustainability Plan - AMA questions  
**Importance:** High

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I had some concerns regarding the draft proposal as it may impact our members, I would like to seek clarification on the following:

- There is a provision in state statutes that allows multifamily to use private solid waste companies (see below). The language is concerning as it can indicate refraining commerce for property owners.
- For trees and shading, is there a retrofit requirement to add trees and shading to existing properties above what was approved in their original landscape plans approved by the city? AMA would oppose anything that requires owners to add more trees, shading and water.

*49-746. Private enterprise recycling and solid waste management: definitions*

*A. A municipality of this state shall not prohibit or unreasonably restrain a private enterprise from delivering recycling or solid waste management services to commercial, industrial or multifamily residential properties within or to the municipality.*

*B. The municipality shall prescribe rules for the delivery of recycling and solid waste management services for commercial, industrial and multifamily residential properties that promote availability of these services and competition in the delivery of these services.*

*C. A municipality of this state shall not be mandated to provide recycling and solid waste management services to commercial, industrial and multifamily residential properties.*

*D. Multifamily residential properties shall provide the applicable municipality with at least a sixty calendar day notice to terminate recycling or solid waste management services.*

*E. For the purposes of this section:*

*1. "Dwelling unit" has the same meaning prescribed in section 33-1310.*

*2. "Multifamily residential properties" means any real property that has one or more structures and that contains five or more dwelling units for rent or lease that are subject to title 33, chapter 10.*

I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your time.

Best,

Chandni Bhakta  
Capitol Consulting, LLC  
P.O. Box 13116  
Phoenix, AZ 85007-3116

Office: (602) 712-1121

Cell: (602) 909-4689

**From:** [notifications@cognitoforms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitoforms.com) on behalf of [City of Scottsdale](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Comment - JamesSherrin  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 3:13:04 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

## Entry Details

**NAME** James Sherrin

**EMAIL** james.sherrin@outlook.com

**COMMENTS**

### Energy

Why is there no mention of the palo Verde nuclear facility as a way to reduce greenhouse gas and increase our energy supply? It already exists, functions and is non-polluting. Why not put more emphasis on it? Or at least mention it. I would also say the same about hydro-electric power generation. it too is proven, non-polluting and renewable.

Increasing green buildings to 10% seems to encourage continued development rather than conservation. Isn't the greenest building the one that wasn't built? Wouldn't ensuring that all new construction is green or meets some LEEDS standard a better goal?

### Waste

Why is the goal for commercial waste not equal to personal or municipality? Companies need to do their share too. I think it is unfair to put so much of the burden on the people.

Short term rental properties don't seem to understand how recycling, and sometimes

garbage, works. Having some strategies around education would be helpful.

Scottsdale's brush program has been around for a while, but most residents don't utilize it. Here too education would be a good strategy.

Air quality

I don't see how increasing charging locations helps with air pollution and it directly counters waste given the large batteries required for electric cars.

While I don't think it's mentioned here, I wanted to raise up that the concept of "road diets" have been gaining traction. Wouldn't narrowing the roads lead to more pollution with increased idling? Maybe something here that counteracts against road diets would be good.

Main document

If staff isn't working in the office it seems wrong to state that city usage is down, instead hasn't it has simply moved to residential.

How much would "free" solar permits cost me as a tax payer?

Overall, I'd like to see more emphasis on commercial versus residential given their low percentage.

Nrg 3.2 and 3.4 how do they impact historical neighborhoods? I believe that Scottsdale's historical neighborhoods should be protected.

I know I've been critical in my feedback, but I did want to share that there are several things in the plan I agree with. The largest one is the tree initiative. In south Scottsdale, the number of trees appears to be dropping. Short term rentals cut them out (I assume to reduce costs) and even

apartment complexes have been removing them. Some sort of program to encourage people to keep or increase trees sounds great. Even if it's just educating folks on things like the free tree program offered by SRP.

Scottsdale has a lot of great programs already in place. I believe just simple education can go a long way to helping you reach your goals and the costs are relatively low.

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YES, I WOULD LIKE TO BE EMAILED ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.

Yes

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**From:** [Kristin Heggli](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Sustainability Plan Comment - KristinHeggli  
**Date:** Monday, April 29, 2024 9:26:13 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Thank you for the reply! Although it's disappointing that Scottsdale still isn't considering light rail, it's nice to see in the Transportation Action Plan that BRT is up for a feasibility study along Scottsdale Road. Adding some density along Scottsdale Road (which has already happened in some areas), would further aid the city's sustainability goals. I also appreciate the new bike lanes on 68th Street between Thomas and Indian School. I bike to work in Old Town Scottsdale (sometimes combined with bus) and this bike lane has made getting to work much easier and safer, while filling a gap in the network.

Kristin

On Apr 29, 2024, 12:19 PM -0700, McNeilly, Lisa <[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)>, wrote:

Ms. Heggli,

Good morning and thank you for your interest in the Community Sustainability Plan and for your very thoughtful comment. I will include your email in the packet for the City Council item for adoption of the plan (scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>).

The plan's framework – with sections on energy, water, waste, air quality and extreme heat – was designed to address top priorities without duplicating other existing plans, including the Transportation Action Plan. As we implement the sustainability plan, we'll report on progress in areas like emissions and can consider an expanded framework when the plan is updated in three years.

Lisa McNeilly

Lisa McNeilly

Sustainability Director

City of Scottsdale

[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)

(480) 312-2831



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**From:** [notifications@cognitofirms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitofirms.com) <[notifications@cognitofirms.com](mailto:notifications@cognitofirms.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2024 9:38 AM

**To:** McNeilly, Lisa <lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov>

**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Comment - KristinHeggli

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**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Extreme Heat  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 30, 2024 1:56:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Extreme Heat 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

## 1. HT 4.6

## Suggested language:

Amend planning documents and the zoning ordinance to ensure new development accommodates the size and above- and below-ground needs of trees at maturity.

## Another suggestion:

Amend planning requirements and process to ensure new development accommodates the size and above- and below-ground needs of healthy trees at maturity.

## 4/16/24 draft language:

Plant trees in appropriate locations to accommodate growth.

I tested the 4/16/24 draft language on six people individually. I asked: "What does this mean?" They interpreted "to accommodate growth" as:

"urban growth"	"to accommodate growth of the city"
"development" (2)	"future growth of the city"
"planting trees in places where they won't interfere with growth of the city"	

Not one interpreted growth as TREE growth! But all were pleased to learn that the intention is planning for the long-term health and survival of trees. Planning that accommodates the size and above- and below-ground needs of trees at maturity includes, for example: space for roots, roots not being enveloped in heat-trapping hardscape surfaces, space for natural height without topping, space for natural form without constant pruning [see WST 4.5], sufficient space to maintain non-interference with traffic sight lines, and other conditions for long-term health and survival.

Please revisit the language so this action will serve its intended purpose. In addition, Planning & Development should be the Lead or Co-Lead. While Parks & Rec should certainly abide by HT 4.6, the action is primarily directed at ensuring a long life for trees required of projects that go through Planning and Development.

## 2. Figure 3 (page 101)

Regarding the land cover percentages added to Figure 3 after the Work Study:

- Where does "tree canopy 6%" come from? The "Cooler Scottsdale" study states:

Direct estimates of tree canopy coverage (excluding shrubs, accounting for varying tree crown diameters) are not directly available from either the LiDAR or land cover classification data.

I don't see in the study even an estimate of a 6% tree canopy. The only reference to 6% is tree and shrub land cover for south Scottsdale. Please correct or provide source. This is important given the tree and shrub canopy target.

- In "Cooler Scottsdale," bare soil and concrete are represented by the same color and a combined percentage. Asphalt and buildings are not – different colors, different percentages, and different analyses (e.g., pages 28 and 29). Their different colors are reflected in Figure 3's legend. So why not list their separate percentages in Figure 3 (17% and 16%, respectively)?

- I suggest listing all six "Cooler Scottsdale" classifications, including Grass 7% and Water 1%. ("Cooler Scottsdale," Figure 6, page 11)
- Title the list: "Land Cover Fractions Citywide 2015." ("Cooler Scottsdale," Figure 6, page 11)

The added Preserve boundary is difficult to discern in the legend.

### 3. Page 98

\* = Coordinate these bullets with submitted comments for Air Quality page 86.

- \* Does the Maricopa County Department of Public Health – Office of Epidemiology use the term "hospital encounters" or "hospitalizations"? "Hospitalization" may imply admission, whereas I presume the data includes, for example, ER visits that did not result in admission. I suggest using the data source's terminology.

Table 2:

- \* Does the Maricopa County Department of Public Health – Office of Epidemiology use the term "incidents" or "incidence"? If "incidence," correct title.
- \* Do the reported deaths include all deaths or only those that occurred in hospitals? If the latter, specify that the deaths in Table 2 *include only those that occurred in hospitals* by adding one of these notes to the table:

Table 2 includes only deaths that occurred in a hospital.

Table 2 does not include deaths that occurred in places other than a hospital.

- \* This sentence is in the paragraph above Table 2:

Data do not include illnesses that were not treated at a hospital.

The sentence partially works to convey that illness data *includes only those illnesses that resulted in hospital encounters*. However, it does not reference Table 2 and the double negative is a bit confusing. A better alternative would be adding one of these notes to the table:

Table 2 includes only illnesses treated in a hospital.

Table 2 does not include illnesses treated in places other than a hospital.

- \* Indicate in some fashion that the total frequency data is in parentheses.
- \* Does the morbidity data represent a) Scottsdale *residents* wherever they visited a hospital in Maricopa County or b) people *treated in Scottsdale hospitals* regardless of where they live?
- \* Does the mortality data represent a) Scottsdale *residents* wherever they died in Maricopa County or b) people who *died in Scottsdale hospitals (or anywhere in Scottsdale)* regardless of where they lived?

## Indicator and Target:

- See second bullet under Table 2 above. If the data includes all deaths, whether they occurred in a hospital or not, move "resulting in hospitalization" so it applies only to morbidity:

Heat-related morbidity **resulting in hospitalization** and mortality, per 100,000 population

- \* The parallel Indicator in Air Quality is "number of hospitalizations" and includes only illnesses in the count. The Targets in both sections are "reduce hospitalizations." Do we intend to include deaths in the Targets? Not all deaths occur in hospitals. See the question in the second bullet under Table 2 above. We need to clarify the Indicators and Targets in Extreme Heat and Air Quality.
  - The Target still says "related" twice.
4. Re: "It is not possible to map whether these deaths and illnesses are in the hottest areas of the city, due to privacy reasons and data limitations."

This is not true for deaths. Maricopa County Department of Public Health reports heat-related deaths by zip code. For example, see 2023 here:

<https://maricopa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=a714000329904086b5db6270cd062462>

I do not know whether the data is also available by census tract or for heat-related illnesses.

5. Surface temperature target: Reduce **average summer** surface temperatures [page 96]
6. Figure 1 y-axis: remove 95° and add 115° because the "high temps" line exceeds 110° [page 95]

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Energy  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 5:00:34 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Energy 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Lisa,

As promised, the document attached replaces the one I sent last night which was missing note #3. Please toss last night's "Comments on Energy 4-2024 draft" and process this complete one instead.

I look forward to reviewing the corrected Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory.

Thank you,  
Alisa

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**From:** "McNeilly, Lisa" <LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov>  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 9:41 AM  
**To:** "A. McMahon" <mcmahon.a@cox.net>  
**Subject:** RE: Sustainability Plan - Energy

Thank you. I'll be posting the inventory shortly. Lisa

Lisa McNeilly  
Sustainability Director  
City of Scottsdale  
[lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:lmcneilly@scottsdaleaz.gov)  
(480) 312-2831



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**From:** A. McMahon <mcmahon.a@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2024 11:55 PM  
**To:** McNeilly, Lisa <LMcNeilly@Scottsdaleaz.gov>  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Energy

Lisa,

Please see attached. Is the corrected Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory available yet? I look forward to seeing it.

Thank you,

Alisa

1. Energy Burden (page 47)

- a. When the year in Figure 5 was corrected to 2016, the Indicator was not corrected. In addition, the data breakpoint is  $\leq 30\%$ , not  $< 30\%$ . The Indicator should therefore read:

Average energy burden by income bracket  
 (2022 2016 = 21% for households at or below 30% of area median income)

- b. Likewise, the sentence in the paragraph above the Indicator should read:

However, households making 80% or less than the area median income (AMI) have an average energy burden above 6%, with that number rising to 21% for households at or below 30% of the AMI.

Source: Figure 5 and <https://lead.openei.org/docs/LEAD-Tool-Methodology.pdf>

- c. In the Target, "by 2035" shouldn't be bold.

2. Resiliency as Benefit (pages 51-53)	listed but perhaps shouldn't be	<b>not listed but definitely should be</b>
	1.2 1.3	1.1 1.5
	2.7	2.1 2.2 2.3 2.8 (microgrids)
		3.1 3.5

Energy efficiency, energy codes and green building increase energy resiliency through passive survivability and grid resilience. Microgrids and energy management systems, combined with distributed solar production and storage, are powerful municipal tools to increase resiliency.

Sources:

[www.energycodes.gov/energy-resilience](http://www.energycodes.gov/energy-resilience)

[www.energy.gov/eere/energy-resilience](http://www.energy.gov/eere/energy-resilience)

[www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/PNNL\\_Energy\\_Resilience%20Guide\\_PNNL\\_Final.pdf](http://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2023-09/PNNL_Energy_Resilience%20Guide_PNNL_Final.pdf)

<https://energy.ri.gov/renewable-energy/energy-storage/battery-storage/resilient-microgrids-critical-services>

- 3. After the Work Study, NRG 2.6 was changed from ~~\$\$-\$\$\$~~ (\$50K - over \$250K) to \$\$\$+ (over \$250K plus).

"Over \$250 K plus" is redundant and the difference between that and "over \$250 K" is unclear.

Setting that aside, what prompted the change? Even \$250 K seems high for such a plan. I reached out to several municipal resources and everyone agreed. Here are three helpful responses:

- One Valley city is about to sign a contract for a solar, battery and microgrid master plan, including evaluation of 40 municipal sites. Price: \$150,000
- "No, it should not be that much. **Maybe** you could get higher than \$250K if the plan included detailed solar design et cetera, but a master plan typically doesn't go down to that level, as that is more appropriate once you have a master plan to determine next steps. Typically, more detailed site analysis and solar design is done by solar developers as part of the project financing once the city gets to that point. Not to mention, there may be grant funding, et cetera, that could help offset costs. Here's a whole list of resources, many free, for local governments:

[https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/local-government-guide-solar-deployment.](https://www.energy.gov/eere/solar/local-government-guide-solar-deployment)"

[Note: I took a quick look at the website. Good information!]

- A master plan may not be the smartest way to go. RFPs cost next to nothing.

Step 1: City staff should be able to compile a list of the most eligible potential projects based on well-known criteria such as:

- small facilities that pay the highest electricity rates
- large facilities that use the most energy
- facilities that pay high demand charges
- facilities that serve critical functions
- roof factors (e.g., age, condition, available space, orientation, shading)

Step 2: City staff can then prepare RFPs for these potential projects.

Step 3: Respondents will do the analysis at no cost to the city.

Based on this research, ~~\$\$-\$\$\$~~ (\$50K - over \$250K) is a more accurate cost estimate and should be restored.

4. Typo at NRG 2.11: "OFI" (page 53)

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Introduction  
**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2024 8:09:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Introduction 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

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18

... while maintaining a high quality of life for residents, visitors and businesses.

High quality of life for businesses?

20

"Seek Sustainability" was one of the guiding principles in ~~the 1996~~ CityShape ~~2020~~ General Plan.

The Guiding Principles were a product of CityShape 2020. However, CityShape 2020 was not a General Plan. It was an educational and community outreach process conducted from 1994 to 1996. It was designed as a comprehensive review of Scottsdale's General Plan to reaffirm that the plan was consistent with the *Shared Vision* from Scottsdale Visioning. Its ultimate purpose was to recommend ways to improve the next General Plan. The General Plan that then followed was General Plan 2001.

20

As part of a commitment to livability and quality of life, Scottsdale prioritizes services and facilities for residents, including 43 parks, four public libraries and eight resource centers.

This sentence doesn't belong in this plan – it's a remnant from an early version of the plan that contained a Community Services section.

21

The city's Xeriscape Garden serves as an inspiration to residents and developers, demonstrating just how a beautiful a water-wise, natural desert landscape can be.

21

Scottsdale pioneered total wastewater reuse ... (second paragraph)

Should this paragraph be updated to reflect the change in the Water priority from advanced water purification to advanced recycled purified water?

22

Solar installation will proceed with new covered parking lots with solar panels.

New parking lots? The bond solar projects are rooftop installations and canopies over existing parking lots.

22

LED installations continue throughout our facilities and low-consumption fixtures, flush valves, ~~showerheads~~, metering faucets, cooling tower controllers and bottle fillers are used to conserve water.

Showerheads are included in fixtures.

22

- In 2005, Scottsdale became the first city in the country to require all new city buildings to be certified at the LEED Gold standard or higher.

1) Redundant with page 21 (except 21 doesn't say "or higher"). Delete one. Say "or higher" in the one you keep.

2) Add "or higher" to action NRG 3.5 on pages 50 and 53.

"Or higher" is in keeping with the 2005 City Council Resolution:

Section 2. That the Scottsdale City Council hereby declares that all new, occupied (as defined by the City's building code) city buildings, of any size, will be designed, contracted and built to achieve the LEED™ Gold certification level, and to **strive for the highest level of certification** (currently Platinum) whenever project resources and conditions permit. [bold added]

22

- Responding to a call to reduce water use by 5% between 2021 and 2022, the city saved 38 million gallons through conservation and turf removal, exceeding its goal with a 6% overall reduction.

Aren't the water savings detailed in the next two bullets included in this 38 million gallon reduction? If so, the next two bullets should be sub-bullets of this one.

22

- ~~Two recent city events—the~~ The 2023 State of the City Address ~~and the 2022 Employee Awards—~~ were was a zero waste functions, achieving ~~more than~~ 93% diversion from the landfill.

As acknowledged at the December SEAC meeting, the diversion rate on the 2022 Employee Awards slide is incorrect. The actual rate was 63% (85.8/135.12). The 2023 State of the City rate was almost exactly 93% (93.08%).

23

The result is an amplification of the natural greenhouse gas effect that is essential for the Earth to be habitable, resulting in more heat trapped in the atmosphere (Figure 1).

1) As written, it sounds like the amplification is essential for the Earth to be habitable. In the Energy section, this sentence was somewhat clarified by changing it to:

The result is an amplification of the natural greenhouse gas effect (which is essential for the Earth to be habitable) resulting in more heat trapped in the atmosphere.

2) Add "(Figure 1)" at the end of the sentence.

24

This new record continues a trend of increasing average temperatures going back over a century of data (Figure 2).

24

The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs also ~~means that makes~~ nighttime temperatures ~~were~~ uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

"Were uncomfortably high" when? The edits make the sentence read as it does in the Extreme Heat priority.

24

The over-allocation of the Colorado River water ~~supplies supply~~, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential – and more difficult.

The Colorado River is generally referred to as a supply, not multiple supplies. The comma makes the sentence easier to follow.

Note: This comment also applies to the same sentence in the Water priority on page 57.

25

See comments on page 15 of Air Quality comments previously submitted.

25

In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards – 30% or 106 days (~~Figure 1~~).

The reference to Figure 1 is Figure 1 in the Air Quality section, not in the Introduction.

25

and ~~almost~~ 7 out of 10 people locally agree that global warming is happening.

38

8. "[Yale Climate Opinion Maps 2021 2023](#)," ~~February 23, 2022~~ December 13, 2023; Estimated % of adults who think global warming is happening for Congressional District ~~6 = 68%~~ 1 = 73%.

The link goes to 2023 Opinion Maps. Scottsdale is in Congressional District 1 and the current percentage is 73%.

I wonder if this question is more relevant and interesting:

Estimated % of adults in Congressional District 1 who think global warming will harm future generations = 68% (almost 7 out of 10)

26

Benefits to consumers can be quantified – like reduced utility bills and maintenance costs when utilizing longer-lasting LED lightbulbs – or be more subjective as when **building** occupants are more **thermally** comfortable.

26

A seminal work by McKinsey identified numerous negative-cost options for improving energy efficiency in buildings and appliances, which are recommended as quick wins. **Negative-cost options generate positive economic return on investment over their lifecycle.**

OR

A seminal work by McKinsey identified numerous negative-cost options for improving energy efficiency in buildings and appliances., ~~which are~~ **Negative-cost options generate positive economic return on investment over their lifecycle, and therefore are** recommended as quick wins.

"Negative-cost" is not a commonly-understood term. Source of definition: McKinsey report, pg xii.

26

Another way to assess the economics of policies is through life cycle analysis ... (fourth paragraph)

The paragraph is a confusing description of LCA. "Policies" doesn't seem to go with "disposal." LCA is not usually discussed in cost/benefit terms. I don't know what the second sentence means. Et cetera. Here is a possible alternative sourced from Ellen MacArthur Foundation materials:

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) is another method to quantify sustainability. LCA is a process to evaluate the environmental impacts of a product, material, service, activity or process over the course of its lifetime – from cradle to grave. LCA is used, for example, to identify and rectify environmental impact hotspots; make informed decisions about product design, material selection, and manufacturing processes; compare products and services to make "greener" purchasing decisions;

and identify cost-saving opportunities, such as reducing energy and resource use, improving supply chain efficiency, and minimizing waste. For instance, LCA can quantify trade-offs like the environmental cost of mining for bauxite versus collecting and recycling aluminum.

27

See comments on pages 15 and 16 of Air Quality comments previously submitted.

27

The largest sources of these costs ~~was~~ **are** heat-related mortality (\$898 million) and labor productivity losses (\$855 million).

27

For each, the accumulated benefits were estimated to exceed the upfront costs after 4-5 years . . .

I do not see in the report that the benefit-cost analysis is presented in terms of years. In fact, doing so would seem difficult given that the benefit and cost calculations are cumulative and include timing complexities such as phased implementation and the life cycle of trees. If the study does not present results in terms of years, replace "4-5 years" with the monetary benefit-cost ratio.

27

Another study, in the journal Science, evaluated the . . . by the end of the century (Figure 2 4).

1) The TNC study was not in the journal Science. The commas clarify that the second study is not *another* study in that publication. 2) Figure number correction.

For the average reader, energy bills are more relatable than GDP. Consider one of these additions:

Another study, in the journal Science, evaluated the economy-wide impacts of different future warming scenarios and found that Maricopa County would see a 5-10% drop in gross domestic product (Figure 4) and a 15-20% increase in energy expenditures by the end of the century (~~Figure 2~~).

OR (as the second sentence in the paragraph):

The same study estimates Maricopa County will see a 15-20% increase in energy expenditures.

27

The Atlantic Council similarly examined broad economic impacts and calculated that **by 2050 in Maricopa County**, losses from decreased labor productivity would exceed \$5 million per year ~~by 2050 in Maricopa County~~ and ~~that~~ occupational injuries due to human heat stress could be as high as ~~15,000~~ **20,000** per year.

1) In comparing slides 7 and 8 on the source website, it appears occupational injuries are estimated to be as high as 20,000 – not 15,000 – by 2050.

2) The edit clarifies that "by 2050 in Maricopa County" also applies to the occupational injuries part.

28

A greener future can also be one where residents, ~~tourists~~ **tourism** and businesses continue to prosper.

Tourists continue to prosper?

28

To sustain our economy, it is essential ~~that~~ we take actions to ensure ~~that~~ our ecosystem is healthy.

29

advances the social and economic well-being of the community for ~~the~~ present and future generations.

30

The City Council included adoption of a sustainability plan as part of the city's 2022 and 2024 organization strategic plans, and ~~it the plan~~ was identified as an ~~element~~ implementation item ~~of in~~ ~~the~~ General Plan 2035 ~~implementation~~.

"It" is "the City Council." "Elements" in General Plan 2035 are the 24 sections.

30

SEAC has been involved in the plan development from the beginning, ~~the commissioners~~ sharing their valuable expertise and reviewing plan drafts.

30

See Acknowledgments for more information on city departments and Boards and Commissions ~~who~~ ~~that~~ contributed to the plan.

32

The structure facilitates collaboration and reinforces the connections between the ~~topics~~ priorities.

... **SO THE PLAN STRUCTURE FACILITATES COLLABORATION AND REINFORCES THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE TOPICS.**

Same sentence twice in two different paragraphs.

32

**TACKLING THE CHALLENGES OF ENERGY, ~~AND~~ WATER CONSUMPTION AND WASTE GENERATION PROVIDES ~~S~~ BENEFITS LIKE COST SAVINGS, IMPROVED HEALTH AND REDUCED POLLUTION.**

32

**Similarly, ~~ADDING~~ DESERT-ADAPTED TREES FILTERS POLLUTANTS FROM THE AIR AND PROVIDES SHADE.**

32

In total, the 15 strategies and ~~more than 91~~ 92 actions

34

Implementing some of the plan's 15 strategies and ~~91~~ 92 actions

34

**Time Horizon FOR COMPLETION:** Quick Win,\* 1-3 years, 3-10 years or Ongoing

\* After initial implementation, "quick wins" may transition to "ongoing" programs.

The content of the footnote is rather important. Yet the asterisk is almost imperceptible and the footnote itself is so small and buried, it's easily overlooked. In the box, even if the font remains small, the sentence will be seen.

34

Social (health & safety, quality of life, equity, ~~resiliency~~)

35

1. Produce an annual report that includes updates on: implementation of actions, progress toward achieving targets, ~~sustainability goals including indicator and target data, on the indicators and a section specifically chronicling~~ city achievements and data. The reports will discuss possible plan amendments and be presented annually to City Council and the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission. ~~and will discuss possible amendments to the plan.~~

Without legislative edits:

1. Produce an annual report that includes updates on: implementation of actions, progress toward achieving targets, indicator and target data, and city achievements and data. The reports will discuss possible plan amendments and be presented annually to City Council and the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission.

Clearer and more succinct. Includes "targets."

Is "city achievements" intended to be "municipal achievements"? If so, make that change.

36

- Don't water lawns in the afternoon when most of ~~the water will evaporate it gets evaporated~~ "It" is "the afternoon." The afternoon gets evaporated.

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Glossary  
**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2024 8:33:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Glossary 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

1. add "Advanced Recycled Purified Water (ARPW)" (or replace "Advanced Water Purification (AWP)")
2. add "Air Quality Index" (see figures on pages 6, 25 and 82)
3. Alternative Energy or Fuel – Energy sources, **such as sunlight and wind**, that do not rely on fossil fuels ~~such as, sunlight and wind.~~

Original language sounds like sunlight and wind are examples of fossil fuels.

4. City-wide - remove hyphen
5. ~~Cool roof/surface – A roof that is either painted white, shaded or covered in vegetation (green roof), or covered with solar panels.~~

Cool roofs do not have to be painted or white. Cool roofs are available in a variety of materials and colors. The key is material with a high solar reflectance index and proper installation technique. Moreover, the definition of "cool roof" typically does not include green roofs, shaded roofs, or roofs covered in solar panels.

Proposed definition:

A roof that reflects a high amount of solar energy away from its surface (solar reflectance) and efficiently radiates absorbed heat away from the building (thermal emittance). Cool roofs stay cooler and reduce the amount of heat conducted into a building by using pigments that are highly reflective in the near infrared (non-visible) portion of the solar spectrum. Cool products are available in a variety of lighter and darker colors.

Source: Cool Roof Rating Council (CRRC) - <https://coolroofs.org/>

CRRC rates roofing and other materials for compliance with EnergyStar, ICC codes, CALGreen Title 24, and many other codes and standards.

TNC's "Economic Assessment of Heat in the Phoenix Metro Area" describes cool roofs and cool pavement similarly to the proposed definition above:

Cool roofs are those that have been designed to reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat than standard roofs. Made of highly reflective paint, sheet covering, or reflective tiles or shingles, cool roofs have the potential to reduce near-surface temperature and reduce energy demand for interior cooling, resulting in reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and improved air quality, among other benefits. (pg 21)

Replace existing roofs with light-colored materials with high solar reflectance. (table 5, pg 21)

Reflective pavements ("cool pavements") are a well-known urban heat adaptation measure. Cool pavements' light coloring has a higher albedo, which increases the reflectance of solar radiance and effectively reduces the surface temperature of the paved surface. (pg 24)

6. General Plan – The Scottsdale General Plan is a comprehensive, long-range plan ... In addition, the Scottsdale General Plan includes community-created elements for economic vitality, character and design, community involvement, ~~arts and culture~~ **arts, culture & creative community**, tourism, ~~and a healthy community, and education.~~

One element is omitted, another has the wrong title.

7. Green Building – The practice of increasing ... In this plan, green buildings are defined as those that comply with IgCC, LEED, Scottsdale Green Building Program or **Scottsdale Green Housing Rehabilitation Program g Guidelines and Standards.**

Because of the green building target, it is important that the Green Housing Rehabilitation Program be fully and accurately described in this definition. The edits above reflect the two documents that comprise the Program requirements.

In addition, where that target is discussed in the last paragraph on page 47, "Green Rehab guidelines" should be replaced with:

**Scottsdale Green Housing Rehabilitation Program g Guidelines and Standards**

8. kW 9. kWh 11. MW 12. MWh

For each of the four, Option 1 is the original language (with corrections) and Option 2 is a suggested alternative. Reasons:

- 1) The Option 1 definitions state the number of kilo- and megawatts, but don't provide a sense of how the defined terms differ or how they're used. Since people often find these terms confusing, this is an opportunity to clarify their meaning and use.
- 2) "Kilowatt hour" and "Megawatt hour" are used to describe power generation **and** energy consumption. Their Option 1 definitions (## 9 and 12) are limited to energy consumption.

8. Option 1

Kilowatt (kW) – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000 watts (capacity).

- Option 2

Kilowatt (kW) – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000 watts (~~capacity~~). kW is used to describe the rated power, the maximum output of a generating unit (such as a rooftop solar installation) at a single point in time (**capacity**).

9. Option 1

Kilowatt hour (kWh) – A measure of energy consumption equal ~~to~~ using 1,000 watts for one hour (use).

- Option 2

Kilowatt hour (kWh) – A unit of measure that describes the amount of energy produced by one kilowatt (1,000 watts) in one hour. In addition to generation, kWh is used to describe energy consumption (use), e.g., how much energy an appliance or household uses over time.

10. Landfill ~~waste~~ refuse – The amount of total waste generated that is sent to the landfill.

11. Option 1

Megawatt (~~k~~MW) – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000,000 watts (capacity).

Option 2

Megawatt (MW) – A unit of measure of electrical power equal to 1,000,000 watts (capacity).

MW is used to describe the rated power, the maximum output of a generating unit (such as a utility-scale solar plant) at a single point in time (capacity).

12. Option 1

Megawatt hour (~~k~~MWh) – A measure of energy consumption equal to using 1,000,000 watts for one hour (use).

Option 2

Megawatt hour (MWh) – A unit of measure that describes the amount of energy produced by one megawatt (1,000,000 watts) in one hour. In addition to generation, MWh is used to describe energy consumption (use), e.g., how much energy a building or city uses over time. MWh is also used to describe the demand on a power grid.

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Appendix Question: Is the "Sustainability Timeline" supposed to be marked "Appendix C"?

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Executive Summary  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 5:38:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Executive Summary 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

4 ... while maintaining a high quality of life for residents, visitors and businesses.

High quality of life for businesses?

5 Scottsdale pioneered total wastewater reuse ... (third paragraph)

Should this paragraph be updated to reflect the change in the Water priority from advanced water purification to advanced recycled purified water?

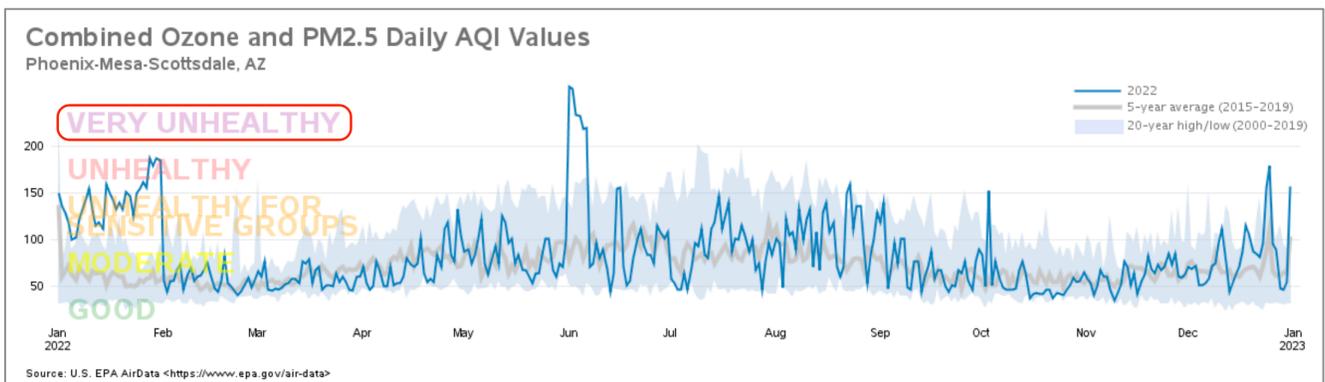
5 In 2005, City Council adopted a LEED Gold or higher requirement for all public buildings ...

"Or higher" comports with the 2005 City Council Resolution. See submitted comments for Introduction page 22.

6 The cumulative effect of multiple days of extreme daytime highs also means that makes nighttime temperatures were uncomfortably high, combining to create a deadly weather phenomenon.

"Were uncomfortably high" when? The edits make the sentence read as it does in the Extreme Heat priority.

- 6 1) Figure 1 is not identified in the text and air quality is discussed on the next page.
- 2) "VERY UNHEALTHY" has been omitted and should be restored. See red box in graph below. (Graph below is combined ozone and PM-2.5.)



7 The over-allocation of the Colorado River water supplies supply, coupled with trends of a hotter and drier climate, make protecting water resources essential – and more difficult.

The Colorado River is generally referred to as a supply, not multiple supplies. The comma makes the sentence easier to follow.

7 A greener future can also be one where residents, tourists tourism and businesses continue to prosper.

Tourists continue to prosper?

7

To sustain our economy, it is essential ~~that~~ we take actions to ensure ~~that~~ our ecosystem is healthy.

8

Tackling the challenges of energy, ~~and~~ water consumption and waste generation provides benefits like cost savings, improved health and reduced pollution.

8

~~Similarly~~, adding desert-adapted trees filters pollutants from the air and provides shade.

8

The final paragraph appears to have been put on the wrong page. Where does it go?

11

Staff **administers** several residential and commercial incentive rebate programs, **offers** residential outdoor efficiency checks, [redacted] a commercial audit program, **manages** ordinance compliance like water waste complaints, and **offers** water efficiency educational opportunities.

- 1) Missing verb, e.g., runs, operates, conducts.
- 2) Same issue in the same sentence on page 56.

12

- 1) Citation needed for quote in last sentence.
- 2) Same issue with the same sentence on page 68.

["What is a Circular Economy?"](#) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

12

12 Reduce landfill refuse [redacted] citywide by 90% by 2040

71 Reduce landfill refuse collected citywide by 90% by 2040

Missing word on page 12 or an unnecessary word on page 71.

13

Particulate matter, classified as small (PM-2.5) or large (PM-10), usually occurs as blowing dust or smoke from fires or fireworks.

The characterization that PM "usually occurs as blowing dust or smoke from fires or fireworks" ignores the Valley's very real, ongoing sources of particulate pollution. In doing so, it feeds the narrative that a) 'nothing can be done' because we can't control dust storms, b) unhealthy air occurs only when certain limited events happen (e.g., haboobs, holidays), and c) "no-burn days" and discouraging fireworks will solve the problem. That message minimizes the problem and stifles any meaningful effort toward improvement.

American Lung Association's 2024 "State of the Air" report ranks Metro Phoenix 9th worst among U.S. cities for year-round (annual) PM-2.5 pollution. Such a ranking does not result from occasional events like Christmas Day fireplace use and dust storms.

#### Sources of particulate pollution:

Fine particles [PM<sub>2.5</sub>] can be emitted directly from a variety of sources, including vehicles, smokestacks, and fires. They also form when gases emitted by power plants, industrial

processes, and gasoline and diesel engines react in the atmosphere. Coarse particles [PM<sub>10</sub>] include road dust that is kicked up by traffic, some agricultural operations, construction and demolition operations, industrial processes, and biomass burning.

source: [www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-overview.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-02/pm-naaqs-overview.pdf)

13

Ground-level ozone is created when nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and sunlight react, making ozone primarily a summer issue.

Ozone exceedances occur in the Valley in virtually every month and are quite common in April and September. In fact, in April 2024, we had one ozone exceedance and three ozone High Pollution Advisories.

13

13 Increase  number of publicly available charging ports four-fold by 2027 and ten-fold by 2030 (from 2023 levels)

87 Increase the number of publicly available charging ports four-fold by 2027 and ten-fold by 2030 (from 2023 levels)

Missing word on page 13 compared with page 87.

14

Increased heat results in added energy use and higher air conditioning costs.

This was corrected on page 94, but not on page 14.

15

1. Produce an annual progress report ~~that includes city achievements and data.~~
2. Formally update the plan every three years.
3. Track spending and savings.

List all three. Regarding #1: either keep it general or include all aspects, not just "city achievements."

15

Implementing some of the plan's 15 strategies and ~~91~~ 92 actions

15

**Time Horizon For Completion:** Quick Win,\* 1-3 years, 3-10 years or Ongoing

\* After initial implementation, "quick wins" may transition to "ongoing" programs.

The content of the footnote is rather important. Yet the asterisk is almost imperceptible and the footnote itself is so small and buried, it's easily overlooked. In the box, even if the font remains small, the sentence will be seen.

15

Social (health & safety, quality of life, equity, resiliency)

**From:** [A. McMahon](#)  
**To:** [McNeilly, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Waste  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024 2:51:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [Comments on Waste 4-2024 draft.pdf](#)

---

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

1. Citation needed for quote in last paragraph on page 68.

“[What is a Circular Economy?](#),” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

2. Clarify endnote to clarify how diversion will be calculated. The proposed change also a) provides for organic diversion other than composting and b) removes a "waste" reference. I recommend Option C.

**Option A**

This same methodology will be used for calculating the municipal diversion rate ~~for municipal waste~~, but ~~composting and diversion of organic material and~~ brush and bulk ~~items~~ will be included in the citywide diversion rate.

This same methodology will be used for calculating the municipal diversion rate, but organic material and brush and bulk will be included in the citywide diversion rate.

**Option B**

This same methodology will be used for calculating the municipal diversion rate. On the other hand, organic material and brush and bulk will be included in the citywide diversion rate.

**Option C**

This same methodology will be used for calculating the municipal diversion rate. The citywide diversion rate will include organic material and brush and bulk.

3. Endnote 2 should be 3 and vice versa.

4. For consistency with terms elsewhere in the section and removal of "waste," change:

page	from	to	notes
73	yard	landscaping debris	
74	yard waste	landscaping debris	see paragraph below
74	green (yard) waste	green waste (landscaping debris)	see paragraph below
75	yard waste	landscaping debris	

5. Places to remove "waste":

page

69 ~~Waste Refuse~~ is transported by the department either directly to the Salt River Landfill

72 diversion indicator delete "waste"; no replacement needed

72 diversion target (municipal) delete "waste"; no replacement needed; repeat on pg 12

73 first sentence delete "in the waste stream"; no replacement needed

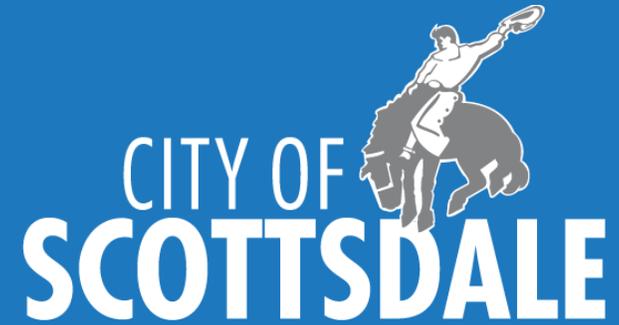
73 A study from the State of Oregon looked at ways to prioritize prevention of ~~food waste~~ ~~wasted food~~, generating a helpful hierarchy ... (Figure 4).

[Note: Oregon has championed the term "wasted food." Note the hierarchy title in figure 4.]

73 ... still important ~~waste material~~ management tools.

- 73 brush & bulk target change to one of these options and repeat on pg 12  
Achieve a diversion rate from ~~the brush and bulk waste stream~~ of 50% ...  
Achieve a **brush and bulk** diversion rate ~~from the brush and bulk waste stream~~ of 50% ...
- 74 Single-family residents can dispose of ~~yard waste landscaping debris~~, including grass clippings, tree trimmings and other organic material, during their monthly brush and bulk pickup. Usually, this ~~waste debris~~ is mixed with other materials, either before pickup or in the city's collection vehicles. The city is currently exploring ways to separate brush from bulk ~~waste~~ as part of the transfer station expansion.
- ...
- The Salt River Landfill maintains a separate green ~~(yard)~~ waste **(landscaping debris)** disposal area where loads with minimal non-organic contamination are diverted from the landfill. ~~For organic waste,~~ Contamination leads to increased costs or even entire loads being redirected back to the landfill.

6. Even after making the changes recommended above, there will remain dozens of references to "waste" in this section. At this point in the process, another solution is available that would bridge the worlds of waste management and sustainable materials management: restore the original title "Waste as a Resource." I have previously suggested that title as well as others. "Waste as a Resource" has the advantages of:
- It was the title of this section when the first version of the plan was presented to City Council in March 2023 so it must have been acceptable to staff; and
  - It allows the word "waste" to be used (sparingly) to aid the transition/paradigm shift from waste management to sustainable materials management.
7. It must be made clear that the reduction in the first target on page 71 is a reduction in the black container only. This is one way to do so:
- Indicator: Pounds of landfill refuse per single-family household **(black container)**
8. Separate the two targets on page 73. As discussed with Dave Bennett at the February SEAC meeting, the brush & bulk target is not an organic target. It's a brush and bulk target.
9. WST 3.1 Establish a green or organic waste drop-off program.  
What do we intend to establish a drop-off program for? "Organic waste" is now defined in the Glossary. What does "green" mean? If the intention is a drop-off program for any and all organic (biodegradable) material, delete "green or." Otherwise, clarify what the alternative "green" is. For example, is it green landscaping debris?



# Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan

**Item 7 – May 21, 2024**

# Community Sustainability Plan: Background

- Implementation priority of voter-approved General Plan 2035
- Part of the city's 2022 and 2024 Organization Strategic Plans
- Groundwork by ASU's Walton Sustainability Solutions Service
- Contributions from Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission



# Community Sustainability Plan: Background (cont'd)

- Direction from three Council Work Study Sessions in 2022 and 2023:
  - Focus on five priorities: energy, heat, air quality, water, and waste
  - Collect baseline data and set meaningful targets
  - Work with Commission, staff and external experts
  - Include storytelling about why sustainability is important
  - Avoid redundancy with other plans
- Updated plan vetted at two subsequent Council Work Study Sessions:
  - Introduction, Air Quality and Water (November 13, 2023)
  - Extreme Heat, Waste and Energy (March 19, 2024)

# Community Input

- Input from Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission
- Community meetings and an online questionnaire
- Presentations to and input from other Boards and Commissions
- Public testimony at City Council Work Study Sessions and Commission meetings
- Interim drafts posted online; draft for public review (April 2024)

# Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan

**EXECUTIVE  
SUMMARY**



**INTRODUCTION**



**ENERGY**



**WATER**



**WASTE**



**GLOSSARY**

**APPENDICES**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**



**AIR  
QUALITY**



**EXTREME  
HEAT**



# Framework for a Sustainable, Resilient & Thriving Scottsdale

## ENERGY

Maximize the use of renewable energy resources, energy efficiency, and responses to climate challenges – **Energy**.

## WATER

Conserve, protect, and deliver quality drinking water safely and reliably to the community, now and into the future – **Water**.

## WASTE

Develop a circular economy approach for materials management and effective citywide diversion of all waste streams – **Waste**.

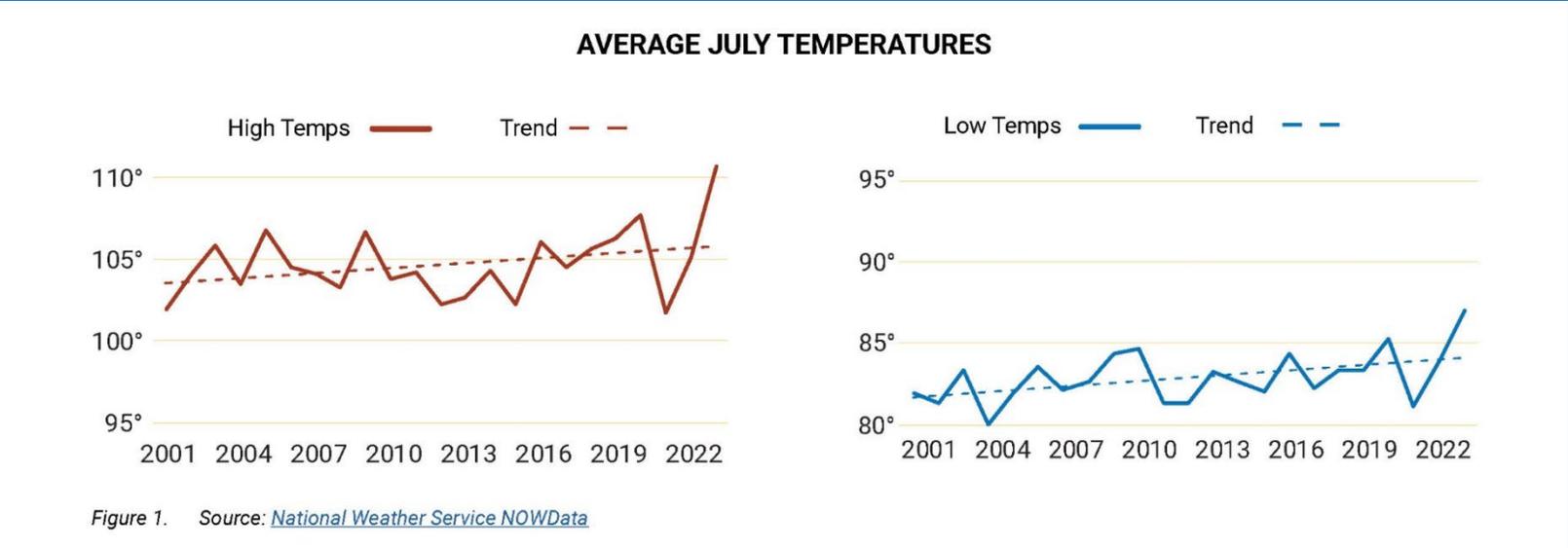
## AIR QUALITY

Reduce contaminants and pollutants to improve air quality and protect community health – **Air Quality**.

## EXTREME HEAT

Ensure that the community prevents, is prepared for, responds to, and recovers from extreme heat and other natural hazards that diminish quality of life or impact the environment – **Extreme Heat**.

# Indicators and Targets: Extreme Heat Example



## INDICATOR

Average air temperatures, July  
(2023 average high = 110.7°F)  
(2023 average low = 87.1°F)



## TARGET

Reduce **AVERAGE JULY** day- and night-time air temperatures by 2030

# Strategies and Actions: Extreme Heat Example

## **STRATEGY HT 4**

**Plant more trees and implement other nature-based solutions.**

### **ACTIONS**

- HT 4.1** Increase tree canopy and building-integrated or free-standing shade structures through a Shade and Tree Plan; study the value of shade on a return-on-investment basis and balance benefits of natural shade and water usage.
- HT 4.2** Encourage use of desert-adapted trees to support heat reduction and water conservation strategies.
- HT 4.3** Investigate an urban forestry program to balance shade and water use and to ensure trees are maintained (including in city parks).
- HT 4.4** Study options to improve proper tree maintenance and replacement near commercial and multifamily buildings.
- HT 4.5** Partner with non-profits, volunteers, and businesses to plant more trees especially in underserved or older neighborhoods and in areas of high pedestrian activity; evaluate a 'matching tree' initiative.
- HT 4.6** **PLANT TREES IN APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS TO ACCOMMODATE THEIR GROWTH.**

# Implementation Tables

**Time Horizon FOR COMPLETION:** Quick Win,\* 1-3 years, 3-10 years or Ongoing

**Lead Agencies & Partners:** Additional partners will likely be added during project development

**Costs:** Costs are estimated and may change during project development or implementation

\$ – **Low** (\$0 - \$50,000)

\$\$ – **Moderate** (\$50,001 - \$250,000)

\$\$\$ – **High** (Over \$250,000)

**Benefits:**



Environmental (air quality, carbon emissions, waste reduction, drought relief)



Economic (\$ savings, attracting businesses and tourism)



Social (health & safety, quality of life, equity, **RESILIENCY**)

# Implementation Tables: Extreme Heat Example

ACTION	TIME HORIZON	LEAD AGENCY(IES) & PARTNERS	COSTS	BENEFITS
<b>STRATEGY HT 4 Plant more trees and implement other nature-based solutions.</b>				
<b>HT 4.1</b> Increase tree canopy and shade structures through a Shade and Tree Plan	3-10 years	<b>Lead:</b> OEI <b>Partners:</b> Multiple city departments	\$\$\$	👤 Health 🌿 Air quality
<b>HT 4.2</b> Encourage use of desert-adapted trees to support heat reduction and water conservation strategies.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> OEI/Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> Planning & Development, Scottsdale Water	\$\$\$	👤 Health 🌿 Air quality
<b>HT 4.3</b> Investigate an urban forestry program to balance shade and water use and to ensure trees are maintained.	1-3 years	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec	\$\$\$	👤 Health 🌿 Air quality
<b>HT 4.4</b> Study options to improve proper tree maintenance and replacement near commercial and multifamily buildings.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Planning & Development	\$-\$\$\$	👤 Health 🌿 Air quality
<b>HT 4.5</b> Partner to plant more trees.	Ongoing	<b>Lead:</b> Parks & Rec <b>Partners:</b> OEI, Planning & Development	\$-\$\$\$	👤 Health 🌿 Air quality
<b>HT 4.6</b> <b>PLANT TREES IN LOCATIONS THAT ACCOMMODATE THEIR GROWTH.</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD: PARKS &amp; REC</b> <b>PARTNERS: OEI, PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>👤 HEALTH</b> <b>🌿 AIR QUALITY</b>

# Plan Implementation (cont'd)

Implementation will begin immediately.

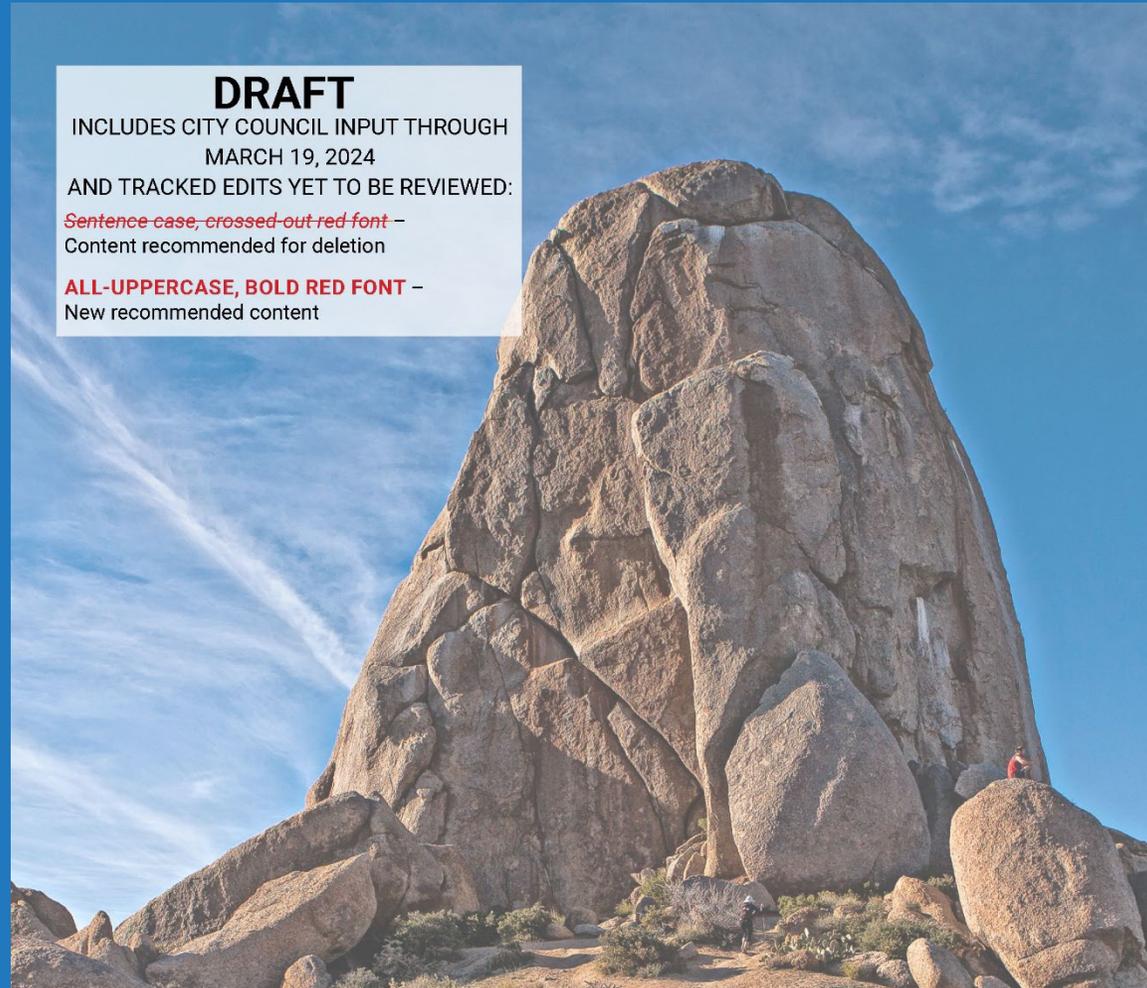
- Some steps will start later or be revised over time.
- Identify costs, personnel needs, barriers and milestones.

Ensure continuous evaluation and improvement:

1. Produce an annual progress report.
2. Formally update the plan every three years.



# Community Sustainability Plan



## **DRAFT**

INCLUDES CITY COUNCIL INPUT THROUGH  
MARCH 19, 2024

AND TRACKED EDITS YET TO BE REVIEWED:

~~Sentence case, crossed-out red font~~ –  
Content recommended for deletion

**ALL-UPPERCASE, BOLD RED FONT** –  
New recommended content

# City Council Action Options:

## Option A

Adopt Resolution No. 13107 approving the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan and declaring it to be a public record.

## Option B

Adopt Resolution No. 13107 approving the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan without targets and declaring it to be a public record.

## Option C

Continue adoption of Resolution No. 13107 to a later date to allow additional community outreach.

---

**From:** Mary Beth Weise <bethquest@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 11, 2024 8:58 AM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Sustainable plan

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Please vote against the sustainable plan for the City of Scottsdale. It will cost homeowners more money and make it more difficult to live in Scottsdale.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

---

**From:** William Dorr <williamsdorr@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 12, 2024 1:49 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan.

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Not good. Vote against it. Bill Dorr

---

**From:** PATRICK CAYCE <phcayce@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 4:18 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** May 21 Sustainability Plan Vote

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

I respectfully urge all council members to vote to table the proposed Climate Plan to allow time for more adequate public review and discussion. The proposal, as it exists today, commits to many objectives that may, or may not, be achievable without significant taxpayer expense or inconvenience.

Areas such as Water Reduction, Waste Reduction, Extreme Heat Management, Air Quality and Energy Goals require extensive cost evaluations and value gained analysis before this plan should even be considered.

This is a plan that will establish direction for decades. It should certainly be worthy of a few more months to allow adequate public scrutiny.

Thank you for your consideration, Patrick Cayce: 11102 E. Purple Aster Way, Scottsdale 85262

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**From:** Laurie Flambouras <laurie.azkukla@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 4:56 PM  
**To:** City Council; Mayor David D. Ortega  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Mr Mayor and City Council,

I just got an email about the sustainability plan. It made me think about the STRs and now, possible, the ADUs. Arizona has to be concerned about using water wisely. I doubt anyone has looked into how much more water the STRs use than normal residential housing. I see parties of close to 20 bachelorettes renting the STRs near me. Many people start their day with a shower. They seem to have fun all day and then probably shower again before going out to party more. With washers and dryers available in the STRs, there are probably many loads of wash going. I know the owners pay the water bill, but that isn't the point. We residents are asked to conserve water, get rid of lawn, change plants, all of which I do. Are there any studies regarding how much water these STRs use.

I have a horrible feeling that ADUs are going to be another thing we can't control. The State of Arizona hates it when the feds tell them what to do, but the State is certainly more than willing to take over all local zoning laws from the cities. A few years in the future, we will hear the same complaints about the lack of housing and the homeless, and will wonder how we got here. Catering to the STR lobbyists is exactly the opposite of solving the situation. Shame on politicians who can't foresee they are making the problems worse. It won't solve housing and it will add to the problems of STRs.

Laurie Flambouras  
7307 E Fillmore St  
Scottsdale, AZ  
85257

Laurie.AZkukla@gmail.com

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**From:** DAN Troop <dantroop1@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 8:26 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Scottsdale's Climate Action Plan—5/21/24

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

A fair question from someone who emailed me about this matter is highlighted below. Why does the city keep pushing these hidden agendas with their hidden costs down our throats?

I'm getting a little tired (make that very tired) of people in government who supposedly work for us telling us what a bunch of gluttons we all are and how we must cut back. It is the job of government to protect the lives and property of the citizenry and to maintain order, not to regulate every aspect of our existence with such measures as those described below.

Most if not all of these goals are not possible to meet without imposing a great deal of pain on your constituents, and I think the members of the council know this. It's time for the council to stand up to those who advocate for such measures, especially those on staff who do so, and say no.

Why does the Council spend time on nonsense like the Climate Action Plan when we have traffic congestion, infrastructure maintenance, crime prevention, the critical housing shortage and the related issues with STRs, as well the need for better management of our resources so periodic tax increases like the ones proposed for the ballot in November are only a last resort? That would seem to be a more appropriate use of your time.

I hope all of the members of the Council will seriously consider the negative implications of the "Climate Action Plan" and send the authors of it back to the drawing board. I vote in almost every election, and I'll be watching. And I'm sure I'm not alone.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Dan Troop  
Scottsdale

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**From**  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 9, 2024 8:43 PM  
**To:** 'DAN Troop' <dantroop1@msn.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Scottsdale's Climate Action Plan—5/21/24

Here is one for you! why do they keep pushing these hidden cost down our face.

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**From:** Barry Graham <[bsgraham@gmail.com](mailto:bsgraham@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 9, 2024 6:30 PM  
**To:** undisclosed-recipients:  
**Subject:** Scottsdale's Climate Action Plan—5/21/24

On Tue May 21, Scottsdale City Council will vote on a "[Sustainability Plan](#)." The plan is climate-focused—ignoring (or worsening) the city's fiscal sustainability—so many cities call these 'Climate Action Plans.'

Much of the document contains benign and flowery language attempting to raise awareness about the climate, green technologies, shade benefits, and water conservation.

However, there are goals embedded in the plan that promote mandates, increased costs, and divisiveness:

**Waste Reduction Goal (p.12):** Households to reduce waste/trash by 90% in 15 years. Dave Bennett (Scottsdale's Waste Manager) told council this would require increasing rates on households—And raises concerns about toxic illegal dumping.

**Water Reduction Goal (p.11):** Households to reduce water consumption 1.3% per year until 2033. Scottsdale residents have voluntarily reduced their water consumption by 0.6% per year since 2000—Very impressive, but less than half of the goal. Although the Plan goes easy on commercial entities, the city will have to raise your water rates to meet the water-reduction goals.

**Air Quality Goal (p.89):** The plan leads off with participating in "regional efforts to improve air quality" including with MAG. MAG's first [recommendation to reduce ozone](#) is for you to ***drive as little as possible: carpool or use public transit.***

**Extreme Heat goal (p.102):** Increase citywide tree canopy from 13% to 25%. It sounds nice, but City Manager says this goal is impractical because it requires land, water, and millions of dollars that we don't have.

**Energy goal (p.10):** Citywide electricity reduction of 15% in 10 years—***regardless of energy source.*** Since residents buy energy from APS/SRP, the plan marshals city resources to monitor, audit, and report on energy users, and to expand mandates for green-codes on both residents and business.

**Culture wars:** The plan wades into culture wars, framing goals as social justice, with at least 12 references to Equity.

If you have concerns or doubts, attend (and speak at) the meeting on 5/21/24 and/or email City Council: [citycouncil@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:citycouncil@scottsdaleaz.gov)

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**From:** Austin Fairbanks <austin.k.fairbanks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 13, 2024 8:35 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Cc:** Lane, Benjamin  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Analysis by a Scottsdale Resident  
**Attachments:** Scottsdale Sustainability Plan Analysis.pdf

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Honorable Mayor and Council,

I recently took some time to review the proposed [Sustainability Plan](#) that Council is scheduled to consider later this month. I am asking that this email and the attached report be included in your materials and posted online with the relevant Council Agenda item 7.

As a Scottsdale homeowner, I have real concerns about the implementation of this Plan - which strikes me as a Climate Action Plan introduced through the backdoor.

I would be happy to provide greater detail on the calculations and estimates I used, if requested. Ultimately, I believe you should reject the Plan as introduced and instead focus on bottom-up adaptability and resiliency solutions - not unattainable climate goals and mandates - as the guiding stars for a sustainable Scottsdale.

Respectfully submitted,  
Austin Fairbanks  
Scottsdale Resident

## Scottsdale “Sustainability Plan” Analysis

by Austin Fairbanks, Scottsdale Resident

As home of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, conservation is clearly important to Scottsdale, its residents and the tourists who bring billions of dollars into our community annually. Recognizing this, the City of Scottsdale has undertaken to create a “[Sustainability Plan](#).” Unfortunately, the true cost of the proposed Plan is undisclosed - likely because it cannot be determined - and is spread among taxpayers and possible requirements of residents.

### The Scope of the Problem

Cost-benefit analysis is essential to questions of sustainability and conservation. While there can certainly be intangible benefits to a more sustainable environment, the costs to creating that environment are necessarily tangible - the money and time spent on pursuing these goals.

As a starting point to creating a more sustainable environment, it is important to define the scope of the problem and the role Scottsdale can play in addressing it. The underlying assumption of the proposed Plan is anthropogenic or man-made climate change. The leading theory is that emissions of greenhouse gasses, such as CO<sub>2</sub>, are causing global climate change. So, what is Scottsdale’s level of emissions as compared to global greenhouse gas emissions?

According to 2020 [data from Maricopa County](#), total greenhouse gas emissions in Scottsdale were about 3,070,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. This represents 6.6% of total GHG emissions in Maricopa County. According to [data from the World Bank](#), the United States total in 2020 was 5,510,000,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent and the global total was 46,120,000,000 metric tons. Therefore, Scottsdale contributes about 0.056% of US greenhouse gas emissions and 0.00067% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

Therefore, while there is nothing necessarily objectionable about promoting a sustainable environment, sound policymaking contextualizes the scope of the problem. In this case, any costs borne by Scottsdale taxpayers and residents should be thought of as leading to a climate impact of up to under *seven millionths of a percent* of the total problem.

This is not to say Scottsdale cannot act in a productive way to enhance sustainability, but it should guide the City’s focus. In a dry and arid desert environment, increased temperatures could pose challenges. Resilience and adaptability to a new climatic reality is a better use of scarce resources than pursuing global targets that Scottsdale can hardly impact.

### Energy

#### *NRG 1*

#### Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

This strategy is built around two primary goals, both of which apply well beyond the current ability of the City government to control. The first goal is to reduce energy use, with a target of a 15% reduction per square foot by 2035. The second goal is to reduce greenhouse gas

emissions, with a goal of a 90% reduction by 2050. Unfortunately, these objectives combine to form a misguided policy that could reduce the economic vitality in Scottsdale.

While, according to many climate scientists, greenhouse gas emissions are a leading contributor to anthropogenic climate change, Scottsdale's impact on the overall climate is microscopic. 41% of emissions come from transportation - which includes not only automobiles but also the impact of the Scottsdale Airport. While future adoption of greener electric vehicles may reduce the share of emissions coming from automobiles, the fact is that transportation-related emissions would need a 90% cut in the coming decades. Past experiences have indicated that imposing unpopular lane reductions and mass transit options are the easiest ways to reduce the number of motorists on Scottsdale roads. And any attempt to undermine Scottsdale Airport could imperil the future of Scottsdale's vibrant Airpark.

When it comes to reducing emissions, another important fact is that Scottsdale has little direct control over how Corporation Commission-regulated utilities generate electricity. To the extent that SRP and APS seek to provide reliable power at a reasonable cost to consumers, they may end up using natural gas in addition to renewable sources to ensure demand is met.

Then there is the issue of why the City wants its residents to reduce energy use. **Energy use alone does not cause climate change.** While encouraging energy efficiency can save residents money, energy use itself should not be viewed as a separate part of this strategy. If the City does decide to tackle greenhouse gas emissions, it does not need to additionally try to reduce energy consumption.

## *NRG 2*

### Improve municipal energy performance.

This strategy is, at least on the surface level, relatively straightforward and unobjectionable. It makes sense for the City to invest, where possible and cost-benefit analysis suggests it is cost-effective, in making improvements to energy performance of City-owned properties.

However, because these costs aren't in the form of direct mandates to residents, the costs are instead proposed to be carried by taxpayers. **To achieve a 90% reduction in municipal greenhouse gas emissions, as the Plan proposes, the City may need to spend a quarter of a billion dollars.<sup>1</sup> Of course, this cost is passed directly along to Scottsdale taxpayers - and if the City does not have an estimated \$283 million laying around, new revenue sources would need to be identified.**

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<sup>1</sup> According to the [IEA](#), annual investment must reach \$4 trillion by 2030 to reach net zero globally by 2050. So, given the global total of 46,120,000,000 MT CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, an annual cost of about \$86 per metric ton from 2030 to 2050 is required. Given Scottsdale's 181,584 metric tons over the 30 year window, net zero would cost Scottsdale \$315 million. With a 90% reduction, it would result in a total cost to the City of \$283 million.

Instead of setting lofty goals that City Staff will interpret as a policy direction to be pursued, Scottsdale should focus on targeting the specific issues that are presenting a climatic or sustainability challenge to the City. For example, while reducing total greenhouse gas emissions may signal “progress” to some observers, it misses the point of preserving a sustainable future for residents of Scottsdale. The ultimate concern is whether future users of City services can enjoy the same level of quality from Scottsdale as current users. When considering a solution that requires a quarter of a billion dollars of investment, the natural follow-up is: might another solution make more efficient use of scarce taxpayer dollars?

### *NRG 3*

#### Reduce energy impacts of the built environment through sustainable building practices and policies.

This strategy is predicated on imposing burdensome requirements on Scottsdale residents - especially future Scottsdale homeowners. The Plan calls for the adoption of green construction codes, which would presumably require builders to meet certain ecological and sustainability standards in order to do their jobs. This passes costs on to the citizens of Scottsdale - all while attempting to pursue unrealistic targets.

One notable example of practically unattainable goals is the call for 10% of all buildings in Scottsdale to be “green buildings” by 2035. Currently, the City has a little over 1.6% of all buildings meeting the green criteria. Using [permitting reports](#), in 2023 there were about 576 new commercial, single-family or multi-family buildings permitted<sup>2</sup> and 149 buildings demolished. Even if every single new building is mandated to be “green,” if the number of net buildings (permitted minus demolished) remains the same as 2023, Scottsdale would only hit 8.8% - still short of the 10% target that is promoted in the plan. Of course, green buildings come with additional construction costs. According to [researchers at MIT](#), the average green building costs 6.5% more than the average standard building. **Best efforts to meet this target would require a mandate on new construction that may cost residents an additional \$89.3 million.**<sup>3</sup> This would only exacerbate issues with the increasing cost of housing in Scottsdale.

This highlights the fact that costs are measured almost exclusively in terms of the cost to the taxpayers via City costs. Costs to residents are all-too-often ignored or understated. In fact, the common “Benefits” of this strategy are cost savings and local jobs. But this misunderstands basic economics. If you are mandated to buy an expensive gizmo, you may be creating jobs for the local gizmo factory. But, absent a mandate, that money would still be spent, saved or invested - and in a way that you probably preferred.

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<sup>2</sup> “New” buildings include buildings coded by the City as Commercial New, Commercial Shell, Single-Family Residence, Multifamily Residence Buildout or Multifamily Residence Shell.

<sup>3</sup> The construction industry in Maricopa County is about \$2.3 billion, according to the [US Census Bureau](#). Scottsdale’s population is 5.3% of Maricopa County, which is used as a proxy for Scottsdale’s share of the construction industry. Scottsdale’s share is then multiplied by the 6.5% increase in construction costs and then multiplied by the 11 years until 2035.

Finally, this strategy seems to ignore the repeated tagline of the Plan that it “is an aspirational document and not a mandate.” This strategy is built around red-tape, mandates and strengthened enforcement - all of which must necessarily carry penalties. The key is that these penalties are borne by the citizens, residents and taxpayers of Scottsdale.

## **Water**

### *WTR 1*

#### Ensure water system resiliency.

The Plan touts a 13% reduction in water usage (per capita) between 2000 and 2022, or increments of roughly 0.6% per year. This reflects an exciting trend and presents a bottom-up solution to the water challenges that face Scottsdale and Arizona more broadly. However, the associated goal is for a reduction from 199 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) to 170 gpcd by 2033. This 14.5% reduction in just 11 years from 2022 would require an annual increment of about over 1.3% of reduction per year. This is more than double the historic trend rate per year.

With this in mind, the precise details that undergird this strategy become very important. Looking at a couple other goals - those relating to HOA irrigation for lawns and commercial water use - you can see that they are only slated for a 10% reduction. **The Sustainability Plan, therefore, calls for more drastic cuts to residential water than other water users.**

How do these goals translate into decisions made by, for instance, Scottsdale Water? One possible answer would be to increase the relative share of water rates on residents, rather than commercial or multifamily water users.

### *WTR 2*

#### Reduce municipal water use.

This strategy focuses on use of water by the City. Three of the four policies contemplated by this strategy are already ongoing, and the fourth is a “quick win.” None of these appear particularly objectionable as it makes sense for the City to be efficient in its water usage. The other takeaway is that the adoption of a Sustainability Plan is not required for the City to take certain actions to help conserve resources sustainably. Where needed and demonstrated to be efficient, City Staff already feel empowered to make important decisions, such as monitoring leaks and maintaining high-efficiency toilets and faucets.

## **Waste**

Generally, the Waste policies are standard sustainability goals involving recycling, which is a worthwhile objective to be pursued. The overall goal is to “develop a circular economy approach,” which begs the question about what assumptions underpin a circular economy.

According to the Plan's Glossary, "The circular economy minimizes waste, pollution and carbon emissions and conserves energy, water, and other resources." At first glance, this appears to be a sensible model, but research by the [Fraser Institute](#) raises some apparent contradictions behind the circular economy model as contrasted with the "linear model."

First, advocates of a circular economy suggest that the market provides too few incentives for manufacturers and entrepreneurs to tackle the challenge of pollution and waste. In reality, many of the largest advances against waste come from the manufacturers and entrepreneurs themselves. Circular economy proponents also suggest that there are major cost savings and profit opportunities in their model, but somehow claim that businesses and entrepreneurs are unwilling to seize these opportunities without governmental prodding. Basic economics proves that either the gains don't exist, which is possible, or more likely market actors are already seeking out these efficiency savings.

WST 2.1 is one particular example where these faulty assumptions are built into the Plan. The action called for is the "adopt[ion] of municipal green purchasing policies that prioritize purchasing based on sustainability practices and reduced waste generation." The City should certainly encourage recycling and efficiency, but building "green" policies into procurement may lead to higher costs of doing business for the City - leading to either reduced quality of services citywide or higher taxes for our residents.

## **Air Quality**

### *AQ 1*

#### Clean Scottsdale's air.

One of the policies that are proposed to help clean Scottsdale's air and improve air quality is to continue cooperation with regional groups such as the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). MAG is designated by the State as having responsibility for ensuring air quality conforms to the federal Clean Air Act. According to [MAG](#), about 80% of ozone in the Maricopa/Pinal county area is natural or from sources outside of the region. Nonetheless, the federal government is threatening to revoke certain funding sources if the region does not improve its air quality.

Unfortunately, MAG may not always have the best interests of Scottsdale residents in mind. Their [first suggestion](#) for individuals to help improve air quality is "Drive as little as possible". MAG, which is also responsible for transportation planning (and a key partner for transportation funding) in the region, has been a proponent of the Light Rail, which should never come to Scottsdale. MAG has been a proponent of bus rapid transit, which limits access to road lanes to buses only. And MAG has been a proponent of lane reconfigurations, commonly known as "road diets." **Regional transportation planning is serving environmental interests, rather than the needs of Scottsdale residents.**

## AQ 2

### Support adoption of electric and other alternative fuel vehicles.

While many environmental advocates push for electric vehicles (EVs), it is important that a municipal government, such as Scottsdale, does not use its resources in the furtherance of a private sector industry. **Pushing for adoption of EVs (with a mention of “other alternative fuel vehicles” which have yet to emerge commercially) prioritizes the 1.3% of vehicles in Arizona in 2022 that were either electric or plug-in hybrid electric**, according to the [U.S. Department of Energy](#).

Another questionable decision would be advertising the location of publicly-available EV charging stations. It is currently unclear whether the City maintains any EV charging stations, but the Plan reports the City’s intent to install EV charging stations in five locations. Assuming the City does not have any publicly available charging ports, this means that taxpayer funds would go towards advertising privately-owned or privately-operated businesses. Scottsdale has never been in the business of promoting the nearest Circle K or Chevron station, and it makes just as little sense to get into the advertising business on behalf of EV charging stations, often run by giants like Tesla.

One area that could benefit residents is by looking at existing barriers to EV charging, which is part of AQ 2.3’s infrastructure plan. We should all be cautious, however, of the City establishing priorities for future EV charging sites. This could quickly turn into Scottsdale bearing the cost of building these charging stations, which would ironically undermine some of the Sustainability Plan’s energy objectives.

### **Extreme Heat**

The proposed strategies and policies around Extreme Heat are generally reflective of the resiliency and adaptability approach that I have advocated for at the outset of this analysis.

That said, some of the measurements of success are largely out of the control of the City. For example, the average July temperatures in 2030 are likely to be the result of larger climatic shifts than any action taken by Scottsdale. Average surface temperatures in various parts of Scottsdale represent a better measure of efforts to reduce the impact of extreme heat on residents and visitors alike.

I would also be somewhat wary of the focus on “equity” that is being advanced as a benefit of extreme heat. Instead of looking at extreme heat as a result of economic inequality or perceived social disadvantages, it would be more prudent to reduce extreme heat by identifying where to plant trees, for instance, using a science-based approach.

It should be noted that, while some of the ideas to address Extreme Heat are worthy of consideration, the Sustainability Plan is to be taken as a single document. Given the onerous

energy, water and other policies that will pass costs along to Scottsdale residents and taxpayers, it would still be imprudent to accept the Plan as a whole.

## **Conclusion**

There are a few important ideas in the Sustainability Plan that would contribute to making Scottsdale a place where future generations can live with just as much opportunity as our current residents. However, after careful consideration of both the strategies being pursued and the targets being chased after, the Plan as a whole misses the mark.

Scottsdale prudently decided to develop a Sustainability Plan, unlike other cities which have adopted “Climate Action Plans.” This is a tacit recognition that our goal should be building a City where future generations can enjoy healthy lives and a dynamic economy in the midst of our stunning environmental resources. Unfortunately, the Sustainability Plan reads a lot like a Climate Action Plan:

- Energy use is something to be reduced, not transformed.
- Water use cuts are aimed squarely at residents.
- Hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars and unfunded municipal mandates are contemplated without the Plan ever coming clean about the true cost.

Instead, a municipal Sustainability Plan should focus on adaptation and resilience. Where the Plan calls for adapting to and overcoming inevitable challenges like those presented by extreme heat, it is at its best. But where the Plan calls for new building code mandates that are untethered to safety requirements and implicitly backs increased residential water rates, it shows itself as a Climate Action Plan being ushered in by the backdoor.

Scottsdale City Council should reject the Sustainability Plan as presented, but continue to look carefully into ways to ensure Scottsdale remains a great place to live, work and raise a family for decades into the future.

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**From:** James Herbster <james@herbster.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2024 1:14 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan

⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Council

Here are my comments.

- 1 What is the cost involved in creating this plan? Including the city employee time as well as outside consultants.
- 2 in various spots it discusses ways to keep cars from idling and driving. I saw nothing about how to do that. How about keeping the traffic that is on the road moving. At least daily there is a freeway accident that restricts traffic flow. Why? Too many drivers drive recklessly. Too much speeding and red light violations with no punishment since there are few police monitoring. We need more electronic means of monitoring and that includes the AZDOT activity on the freeways.
- 3 WASTE—very ambitious goal. The only way to doing less miles is to go to once per month pickup instead of weekly. Good luck with that.
- 4 WATER-reduce the current usage to 170 gal per day. What is the current average? That goal sounds reasonable to me since mine is less than 75 now.
- 5 Finally how can the city promote businesses like the Chip factory to be built inside the 101 when they use so much water?

Jim Herbster  
jimherbster@icloud.com

**From:** [Jeanne Suliere](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Jeanne Suliere](#)  
**Subject:** Scottsdale Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 7:40:08 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Scottsdale City Council -

You will be voting on the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan in the next week ( May 21st).  
I urge you to vote NO on this plan. Why?

It is not “equitable” or equitable only in the fact that it will RAISE water and electric and garbage bills for ALL consumers.

Monitoring motor vehicles, how much we drive, smacks of an Orwellian trend that does not become the integrity of our city.

The valley as a whole, including Scottsdale, does not marry well into public transportation. The logistics don't work. This is not Europe with small cities clustered together.

Water conservation has always been a concern of mine, especially living in the desert. So why the huge increase in apartment buildings? This is an enormous strain on our water supply and reckless. Why not force ALL golf courses to use only gray water for their acres and acres of grass? That would be an equitable idea.

Garbage waste - instead of increasing rates, a re-implementation of recycling would be a much better option. I know some waste management companies have two garbage cans for each home. One for garbage and one for plastics, glass, aluminum, etc.

Why can't this be expanded to MORE communities? Raising rates is not fair and punishes the consumer, especially with the exorbitant inflation rate all of us are already experiencing.

Electricity is already at a premium. Why punish the consumer even more? It is unfair to punish us for example, because of the electricity strain caused by electric charging stations and in private residences, due to EV's when a majority of consumers do not own EV's and do not want to for many reasons I won't go into at this time.

In closing this Scottsdale 'Sustainability' Plan is flawed and punishes the consumer and does not promote 'equity'.

Raising electric, water, and garbage rates puts a further burden on the consumer with the already high inflation rate we are already experiencing.

Please vote NO on this plan.

A Concerned Resident,  
Jeanne Suliere

**From:** [Linda Tomko](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 8:58:10 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Please don't even think of asking current residents to cutback on their electricity and water for sustainability! Don't you think we already are cutting back to keep our costs down?

Why not stop allowing the building of these huge multi unit properties that seem to be popping out of the ground like weeds!

Who thinks that is sustainable?

Don't politicians live in the same world as the rest of us and can't they see the real problems? I get sick to my stomach knowing all these residential facilities are going to be a big problem regarding water resources and traffic, etc.

Linda Tomko  
Scottsdale resident since 1996

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Bob Pejman](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Lane, Benjamin](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, May 19, 2024 2:30:46 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor & Councilmembers -

Of course every resident wants the livability & quality of life in Scottsdale to be sustainable.

Unfortunately, the 5 Priority Areas of the proposed Sustainability Plan - Energy, Water, Waste, Air Quality, and Extreme Heat - have been worsened by overdevelopment.

Knowing this, why did our council vote to approve 3500+ apartment units over the past 3 years, on top of the 10,000+ units already in the pipeline?

Like clockwork, everytime council votes for a new large apartment complex, residents are promised there's enough water and power—with no adverse effects on the environment and current residents.

Now, to compensate for the adverse effects of 14,000 more apartments, the city has embarked on an aggressive utility-rationing agenda called the **Sustainability Plan**. To highlight the extreme nature of the agenda: *'Reduce trash collection (refuse) per single-family household by 90% within 15 years'*.

Although higher utility and trash collection rates are not expressly stated in the plan, raising fees and instituting surcharges are the ***only ways*** to achieve the plan's aggressive goals - the price that residents must now pay for injecting the thousands of apartments into the city.

The saddest part is that the segment of Scottsdale's population who will be hardest hit by increases in basic utility fees are the elderly and fixed income folks - the same segment already devastated by inflation, rising rents, and economic uncertainty.

Instead of our City government helping them, it will be creating policies which will further harm them financially.

Here is the most obvious question for those who created this plan: **Why are there no limits on future up-zonings, which increase demands on water and power and emit waste and air toxins?**

A Sustainability Plan that doesn't include this basic requirement is merely a plan to 'sustain' even more development.

Thank you,

Bob Pejman

**From:** [Cheryl](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability  
**Date:** Sunday, May 19, 2024 5:32:57 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

I find your proposal to increase fees for basic needs arrogant. please don't jump on this green deal stuff. We're doing our best for the Earth as it is manipulated to change. Care for the residents that pay your salary...no new taxes  
Cheryl dubois, scottsdale  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Robert Bachta](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainably Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:39:55 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Sir,

Kate and I are very concerned about the “Sustainability Plan “ that is currently being considered by the council. We urge you to drop this matter as we consider it detrimental for our city and quality of living in Scottsdale.

Sincerely,

Bob & Kate Bachta  
9991 E Peregrine Pl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Charles Peters](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:36:32 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Mayor and Council:

As a senior citizen who has lived in Scottsdale for over 30 years, I encourage you to apply a 'real world' cost-benefit analysis to all aspects of the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan, particularly to likely increases in resident fees associated with waste, water, and power.

Seniors, especially those on fixed incomes, are disproportionately affected by rising utility costs. Any systematic plan to raise such fees would create an increased burden on this large, but vulnerable demographic.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards

Charles E. Peters  
8311 E Via de Ventura  
#2103  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

**From:** [Rick Plumhoff](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Brianna](#); [Patrick Keon](#)  
**Subject:** No on Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:37:35 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Please vote NO on the proposed Sustainability Plan.  
This “sustainability plan” will impose unnecessary higher costs and burdensome mandates on Scottsdale residents.

If you wish to help the environment in an impactful way, please conduct a new ridership study for the city busses and Scottsdale Trolley system. They’re burning tons of diesel daily plus wear and tear to drive very few people around.

Rick Plumhoff  
Scottsdale Ranch

R. W. Plumhoff  
[Rwplumhoff@me.com](mailto:Rwplumhoff@me.com)

**From:** [Sharri Riva](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:38:45 PM

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Wish I could be there, but recently had surgery and can't. However I appose thespian and burden on the residents of Scottsdale.

At the same time more hi rise apartments are being approved, that burden our community, then you want to add this plan. It's is an insult !

How about keeping our growth down. Then some of this won't be necessary.

Hope if this get's approved that it's remembered @ election time.

Sharri Riva

**From:** [john rizk](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability plan !!  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:29:54 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

NO NO NO NO we do not need this .

**From:** [Scott Simanson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:24:39 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

DON" T WANT IT! DON" T NEED IT!

25230 N 93rd Way 85255

**Scott Simanson**

Realtor®

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Arizona Properties

480-694-5914

**From:** [Ignacio del Valle](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 1:42:13 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Scottsdale City Council and Mayor,

I am writing to comment on the coming discussion on the Sustainability Plan.

After reviewing the plan I am astonished at the vague and unprofessional manner in which the plan is written. I am wondering if anyone would Google search to see if this document has been written for other cities. When plans like this are written so vague it encourages city planners to have NO real guidelines and the ability to be unaccountable. The citizens of Scottsdale already are suspicious of what is going on with the running of the city. Please Don't approve this plan. The voters are watching. Just a reminder.

Sincerely,

Ignacio del Valle  
9275 N 103rd Pl,  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

**From:** [Southwest Lin](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote on Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:48:07 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

To the City Council:

Please do not pass the proposed Sustainability Plan. The plan increases costs for Scottsdale residents with proposed increases to waste and water management and taxes.

Instead, someone needs to research how to curb development of multi-family housing, such as condos and high-rise buildings, to increase sustainability in Scottsdale.

I encourage you to do the right thing for a plan that benefits residents rather than large businesses and developers.

Thank you,

Linda Sussman  
Resident of Winfield Community, North Scottsdale

**From:** [Tom](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** sustainability plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:00:19 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Once again, you are continuing to pursue “woke” issues with our tax money. The subject “plan” is not needed and is moving Scottsdale in the wrong direction. For those of you promoting this issue, remember the election is coming. For those opposed to this “plan” hang in there!

Tom Smith  
10239N 100th Pl  
85258  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kim Beres](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan Needs to be Re-worked to be Realistic  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:12:27 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Scottsdale City Council,

I am very concerned about your proposed "Sustainability Plan" and I think the plan requires further thought and considerable revisions before moving forward.

In an election year, it would be wise to be thoughtful about proposals and this one does not seem to have been thought through well at all.

The Plan's household waste reduction goal of 90% reduction in 15 years is unrealistic and is way too high. It will encourage illegal waste dumping, which is probably not what you intend. The water reduction goals of reducing water consumption by 1.3%/year are also too lofty and ultimately penalize residents for poor overdevelopment decisions that are bringing more people to our city which increases our overall water usage. The extreme heat goal of increasing the tree canopy is a great idea but how do you plan to accomplish this? Does the city have the land and resources to execute it? Do you plan to incentivize residents to plant more trees in their yards? Many will be hesitant to plant more trees given the water reduction goals. Additionally, the goal of citywide electricity reduction of 15% in 10 years regardless of energy source also needs further clarity - shouldn't "green" energy be excluded from this goal? Again, many of the issues in this plan seem to be solves for the City's poor overdevelopment decisions. I am disappointed with what I've read so far and I know this City Council can do better.

I will definitely be voting in the upcoming City election for the candidates who practice thoughtful, researched and realistic decision-making.

Please go back to the drawing board on your "Sustainability Plan."

Sincerely,

Kim Beres

**From:** [mgteplitz@gmail.com](mailto:mgteplitz@gmail.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan, Resolution No. 13107  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:11:17 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Mayor Ortega and City Council Members,

First, I want to acknowledge the significant amount of effort made to draft the Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan, Resolution No. 13107.

My concerns are the following:

“As Scottsdale nears build-out” is mentioned several times throughout the draft. However, there is no definition of what build-out means and the point at which Scottsdale has no sustainable building capacity remaining. The number of complaints from current residents would indicate that the capacity is nearly met today. It is critical to define what “build-out” means; otherwise, it becomes a moving target and overbuilding will result. As studied in the Air Quality and Extreme Heat sections, these two of the five priorities are directly affected by density. Add a third priority, Water and THREE of the five priorities are directly affected by higher density. It is imperative that the definition of what it means to have Scottsdale at the build-out maximum be defined as soon as possible. This is foundational to the success of this Plan and maintaining quality of life in Scottsdale.

Nowhere in the Energy section does the Plan mention working with the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). Scottsdale can do everything to reduce energy usage but without support of the ACC and associated energy suppliers in the Valley and Statewide, efforts will have a limited effect. My family has looked into adding solar panels to our house. It would cost us significantly more each month than what we are spending now because we focus on APS’ fees/hour. Add onto the fact that solar energy would be less reliable because APS could use the solar energy storage I generate to provide energy elsewhere in the grid. The Scottsdale Sustainability Plan MUST work with the ACC.

Finally, this is a grand Plan. Too grand. Timelines beyond three years are highly questionable as data inputs, building, water availability and changes from outside Scottsdale will significantly impact the value of the Plan. A defined set of realistic actionable items should be defined for the immediate future. The Plan is not yet ready for adoption.

Respectfully,

*Marilyn Teplitz*  
[mgteplitz@gmail.com](mailto:mgteplitz@gmail.com)  
(m) 480-221-5461



**From:** [pauline richards](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** "Sustainability Plan"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:05:30 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

I am opposed to the "Sustainability Plan" that, if implemented, will impose unnecessary higher costs and burdensome mandates on Scottsdale residents.

I am just a citizen taxpayer, however, I am tired of the city council disregarding the welfare of the citizens of Scottsdale. The city council is downgrading the desirability of Scottsdale as the best place to live. It is time to put the citizens first, not the developers and "monitors" of the citizens. Why spend money to "monitor" Scottsdale citizens. Whose idea is this?

**When George Orwell wrote 1984 he meant it to be a warning, not an instruction manual.**

**Pauline Richards  
7036 N Via De Amor, 85258**

**From:** [Barbara Dickerson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan - Please Vote no!  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:13:55 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

This is a Trojan Horse that includes unreasonable mandates Scottsdale residents don't need and can't afford.

John and Barbara Dickerson

**From:** [Ron Cacini](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Ron Cacini](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Act  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:49:55 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

We are completely opposed to this initiative/bill.

Stop trying to camouflage issues. Do you think Scottsdale residents are stupid?

Move on if you can't do your job fairly and honestly.

Thank you.

Ron Cacini  
Resident 28 years

**From:** [feldex@aol.com](mailto:feldex@aol.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:59:17 PM

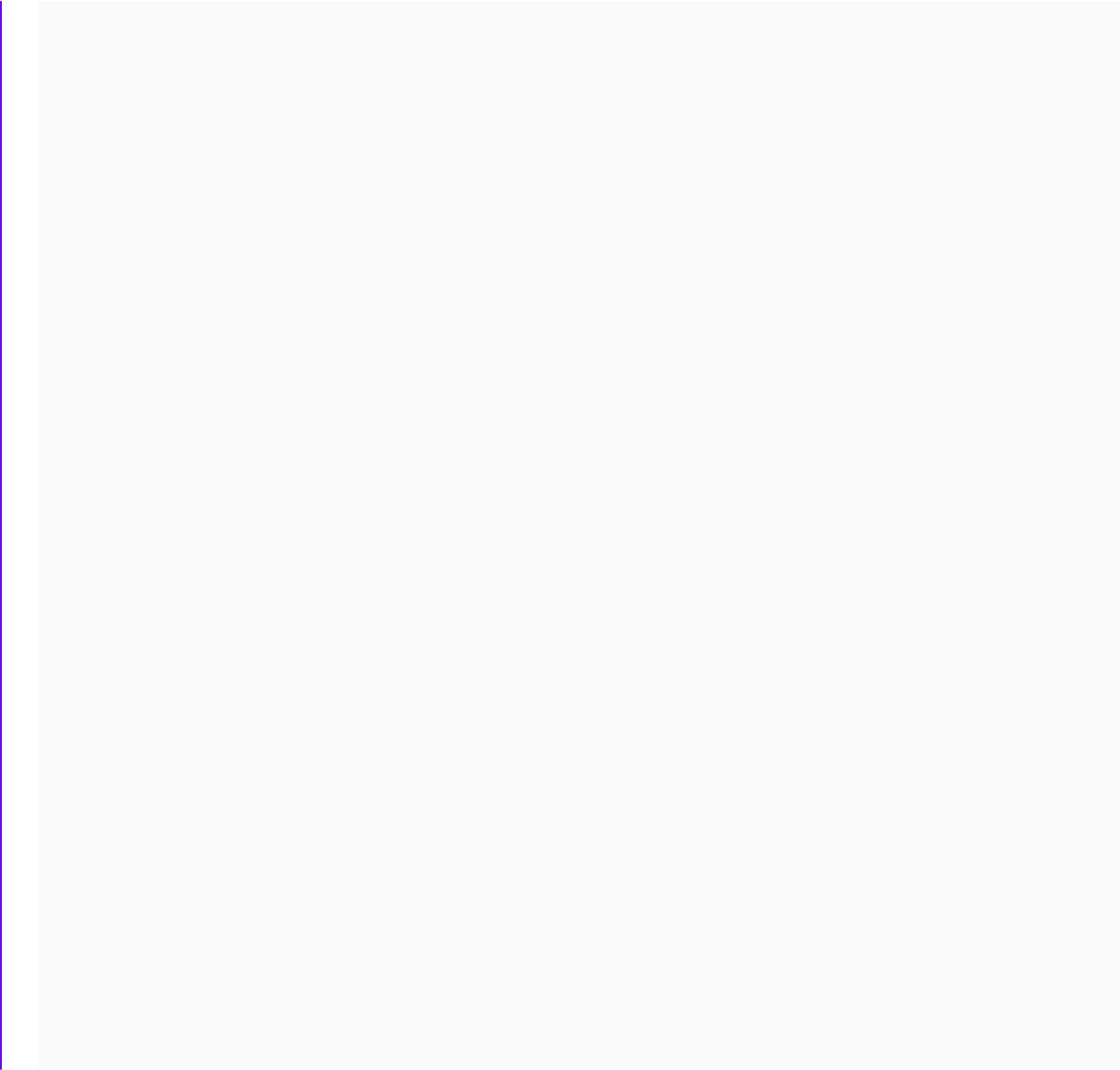
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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

Stop approving all the apartments that are using more water, electricity, adding to traffic problems, creating higher temps due to added cement. Developers and council are creating a huge problem and asking residents to pay for....the "solution" while enjoying a less desirable quality of life. More people tell me they are simply fed up and looking for alternatives .What is even more egregious is that the luxury housing you continue to approve does nothing to address the housing crisis. And finally, you want people to leave their vehicles at home yet your transit has long been substandard with many of your bus shelters still uncovered. I guess you can bike. Peddle your way to better health or a heat stroke. When will you realize you cannot pave over an entire city without contributing to higher temps? You are simply building a better oven and asking the rest of us to pay for it. Finally, I am all for more trees, community gardens etc . Anything that will soften the harsh, cold cement landscape you are creating. Rather than asking residents/the city to pay for the tree canopy perhaps you can ask developers to contribute since they have created the problem of increased high temps due to the addition of ....cememt in the form of apartments. They used to litter the landscape with unattractive public art. Let them contribute something useful and beneficial to the environment which they have helped destroy. Trees

Lisa Haskell  
Sadly, I haven't had a heat stroke ....yet.



**From:** [Susan Kauffman](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:18:07 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Although you may think you are trying to improve quality of life in Scottsdale, you aren't. It's the staff's lack of awareness of what is available now and what will be here in the next five years that will increase our quality of life. The Council takes all staff recommendations as necessary and made without prejudice.

1. Electric cars: They emit more methane than gas cars, the digging of the "rare earths" necessary to make batteries pollutes dangerously, and what do we do with old batteries. We don't recycle them, we haven't or won't figure out how to re-use them. And we pay for the charging stations through electricity price raises, tax on fuel and roads, personal income tax, etc. Will this help Scottsdale? More costs?

The automotive environmentally safer alternative has arrived. Hydrogen fueled cars. Safe emissions, use fuel that is easily recycled and re-used. and productions costs minimal. World-wide there are over 130,000 hydrogen cars on the road. They take 5 minutes to charge. Why build a bunch of battery charging stations when they will be useless in less than 10 years?

2. Water usage. Lessening MY water consumption and paying for more water when you and past councils have voted for apartment complexes, instead of houses, more hotels so we can support events attended by people not interested in this city's sustainability and allow all of those housing types to add swimming pools. This is the water conservation that Scottsdale brags about?

3. Garbage. Look to food manufactures to re-package. Citizens don't make cans, glass, paper packaging, etc. that cause larger and more landfills.

When I see who sends these ideas to the council, it is a poorly educated staff about what is coming ahead soon. And an attitude of "people is Scottsdale can afford this." I also see some council members who aggrandize themselves by the desire to leave their legacy.

When did elected officials decide they could force changes on the citizenry? Let the free market do its work of making affordable, appealing consumer goods. Bureaucratic staff needs to work with the market, not read about ideas that only interest them, and only tell council members one side of the story. Remember we brag about how low our taxes are here. To force all these sustainability changes may not even help our environment, but is sure will increase the cost of living by adding extraordinarily high taxes to things we use in every day life.

Susan Kauffman, Charles Blackmon  
480-229-3334  
[susantk@icloud.com](mailto:susantk@icloud.com)  
11334 E Desert Vista Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255



**From:** [lynpaonessanj@gmail.com](mailto:lynpaonessanj@gmail.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Scottsdale sustainably  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:29:37 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Sent from my iPhone

Dear City Council,

I would like to stress my concerns about the development plans of apartment buildings in Scottsdale.

My concerns are about sustaining Scottsdale quality of life. We in the past had to conserve water and I'm concerned that will be an issue as more development with high rise apartment living. Not to mention the animals as we are taking away their homes as well.

Another concern is the cost of living will increase and restrictions for water usage forcing people to lose their homes.

Please stop the big apartment buildings and taking away the beauty of our mountains and animals.

Thank you  
Lynn Paonessa

**From:** [Craig M Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:18 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

We do NOT want to become California, overregulated, expensive, and controlled by bad government policy. Vote no .

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Craig M Bennett  
9953 E Balancing Rock Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[craigbennett6@gmail.com](mailto:craigbennett6@gmail.com)

**From:** [Susie Luhrs](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:11 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Susie Luhrs  
27000 N Alma School Pkwy  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[susieluhrs@me.com](mailto:susieluhrs@me.com)

**From:** [Dennis Pullaro](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:20 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please don't import California style climate regulations to Arizona!!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Dennis Pullaro  
11570 N 90th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[planeman737@proton.me](mailto:planeman737@proton.me)

**From:** [Margaret Cox](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:22 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Margaret Cox  
7700 E McCormick Pkwy  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[malgosiabc@hotmail.com](mailto:malgosiabc@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Marcia Sahag](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:23 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Marcia Sahag  
14285 E Geronimo Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[sahag.marcia@gmail.com](mailto:sahag.marcia@gmail.com)

**From:** [Janet Fernstrom](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:24 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I have since 1966. I am owner and lover of the city. The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

I OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Janet Fernstrom  
8637 E Buena Terra Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
fromjanet2u@reagan.com

**From:** [Mary Smith](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:30:25 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Mary Smith  
10800 E Cactus Rd Unit 39  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[msmith1803@aol.com](mailto:msmith1803@aol.com)

**From:** [Morales, Isol](#)  
**To:** [Kurth, Rebecca](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:15:45 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Marie Ankrom <[user@votervoice.net](mailto:user@votervoice.net)>  
Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 2:18 PM  
To: Mayor David D. Ortega <[dortega@ScottsdaleAz.gov](mailto:dortega@ScottsdaleAz.gov)>  
Subject: Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

My question (s) to all of the Scottsdale City Council. Is as follows.

- 1) Why do the taxpayers, citizens have to pay for your outrageous ideas?
- 2) Why do the taxpayers not get a real vote, or legitimate input?
- 3) Why do the citizens, tax payers get put on the hook for more waisted tax dollars?
- 4) Why do projects like this end up costing taxpayers more than the so called costs?

These so called "climate initiative's" never pan out as the original .. In theory. When the rubber hits the road the practical effects, impact is way beyond than your proposed solution.

Your hands are out..and in our pockets...

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Marie Ankrom  
9415 E Via Dona Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[sunbun@cox.net](mailto:sunbun@cox.net)



**From:** [paul rowe](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:20:24 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I sent an email regarding this proposal. Please do not forward this draft.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

paul rowe  
5206 N 78th Pl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
[pgrowe47@gmail.com](mailto:pgrowe47@gmail.com)

**From:** [Noella Kuntz](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:20:17 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I strongly oppose the sustainability plan. We do not need any California style energy mandates in Arizona. Just a reminder that the council is to represent the Wishes of voters and citizens of Scottsdale. In many past votes you have shown a blatant disregard for representing the wishes of the people and in some cases denying their input. Please uphold your obligations with a no vote.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Noella Kuntz  
9418 E Hidden Green Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
nkuntz10@gmail.com

**From:** [Wendy Cyr](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:20:18 PM

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Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Wendy Cyr  
22805 N 91st Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[azwendycyr@gmail.com](mailto:azwendycyr@gmail.com)

**From:** [Shawn Sullivan](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:16 PM

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Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Shawn Sullivan  
9478 E Trailside Vw  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[sullivanshmd@yahoo.com](mailto:sullivanshmd@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Laurel Quaders](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:20:17 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

We don't want to be like CA!!!!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Laurel Quaders  
7284 E Vaquero Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[laurel25cents@me.com](mailto:laurel25cents@me.com)

**From:** [Cristina Sipos-Convery](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:15 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Cristina Sipos-Convery  
5849 N Granite Reef Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
[cristinasc2004@yahoo.com](mailto:cristinasc2004@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Trent DeBusk](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:13 PM

---

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Trent DeBusk  
6521 E Calle del Media  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[trentwdebusk@gmail.com](mailto:trentwdebusk@gmail.com)

**From:** [David Reich](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:13 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I have read through these plans and I don't believe the goals laid out are achievable in any fiscally responsible way. As such, I want to voice my strong opposition to these plans moving forward.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

David Reich  
8102 E Del Cristal Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
dgreich@gmail.com

**From:** [Janet Louchheim](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:14 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Janet Louchheim  
8602 E Hazelwood St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[jlouchheim@gmail.com](mailto:jlouchheim@gmail.com)

**From:** [Alison Swanson](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:13 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This is a bad idea for Scottsdale.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Alison Swanson  
7810 E Softwind Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[94sophia@cox.net](mailto:94sophia@cox.net)

**From:** [Cindi Hoffman](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:13 PM

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Sincerely,

Cindi Hoffman  
9885 E Davenport Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[Cindi.hoffman1@gmail.com](mailto:Cindi.hoffman1@gmail.com)

**From:** [Christina Delord](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:12 PM

---

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Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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Sincerely,

Christina Delord  
10862 E Palm Ridge Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[pcdelord@me.com](mailto:pcdelord@me.com)

**From:** [Allison Barkley](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:11 PM

---

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Allison Barkley  
8801 N 85th St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[adbarkley40@gmail.com](mailto:adbarkley40@gmail.com)

**From:** [Joanna Rounds](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:11 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This plan goes too far!!  
Please vote no!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Joanna Rounds  
13234 N 94th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[joanna.rounds@gmail.com](mailto:joanna.rounds@gmail.com)

**From:** [Paulette Maslick](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:12 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please be our voice and oppose this.

Thank you!

Paulette Maslick

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Paulette Maslick  
9361 E Sky Line Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[maslickfam@aol.com](mailto:maslickfam@aol.com)

**From:** [Angela Jacobsen](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:11 PM

---

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Angela Jacobsen  
7562 E Belleview St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257  
[ajaexpressions@gmail.com](mailto:ajaexpressions@gmail.com)

**From:** [heather quarders](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:11 PM

---

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Dear Mayor Ortega,

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

heather quarders  
6128 E Edgemont Ave  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257  
hquarders13@gmail.com

**From:** [Kassandra Caldwell](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 2:10:10 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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Sincerely,

Kassandra Caldwell  
8225 E Coolidge St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
akassandrasc11@gmail.com

**From:** [Mary Harrington](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:20:11 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

We do not need this misnamed "sustainability plan." By approving all these high rise apartments and condos along the Scottsdale Rd corridor and other areas, YOU are creating the problems!!! Please don't turn this lovely city into Phx or CA.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Mary Harrington  
8468 E Arroyo Seco Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
[mary.c.harrington@comcast.net](mailto:mary.c.harrington@comcast.net)

**From:** [Deborah Gilman](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:20:11 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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Sincerely,

Deborah Gilman  
19172 N 93rd Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[debgilman@cox.net](mailto:debgilman@cox.net)

**From:** [Dorie Duff](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:30:11 PM

---

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Dear Mayor Ortega,

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Sincerely,

Dorie Duff  
PO Box 1810  
Scottsdale, AZ 85252  
[dorieduff@protonmail.com](mailto:dorieduff@protonmail.com)

**From:** [Teresa Funk](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:40:06 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Stop wasteful plans that degrade quality of life for Residents

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Teresa Funk  
33811 N 70th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
[funksoasis@gmail.com](mailto:funksoasis@gmail.com)

**From:** [vinny paul](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:40:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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Sincerely,

vinny paul  
1833 N 77th St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257  
[vinny\\_az@yahoo.com](mailto:vinny_az@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Danielle Trzyna](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:40:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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Sincerely,

Danielle Trzyna  
4264 N 81st St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[trzyna07@yahoo.com](mailto:trzyna07@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Barb Novota](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:50:07 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

So under the guise of "sustainability" we pay & pay & pay for water, trash, & basic living needs. Meanwhile lots of people make lots of money off ridiculous demands by the climate czars. No thanks.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Barb Novota  
20391 N 93rd Pl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[babs314@gmail.com](mailto:babs314@gmail.com)

**From:** [marilyn daniels](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:50:07 PM

---

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

marilyn daniels  
6914 E Quail Track Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
nitmard@aol.com

**From:** [Diane Piantek](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:50:08 PM

---

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Diane Piantek  
9401 E Rimrock Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[dpiantek@yahoo.com](mailto:dpiantek@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Laura Stockslager](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 3:50:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please serve you whole constituency and work toward solutions that are cost effective for your residents and aren't just set to line the pockets of donors. We moved to this area because of its past policies and are not looking to see drastic changes that are not based on sound research.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,

Laura Stockslager  
9455 E Cavalry Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[lstockslager@cox.net](mailto:lstockslager@cox.net)

**From:** [Priscilla Wilson](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:00:10 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I oppose the Sustainability plan. I hope you will too.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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Sincerely,

Priscilla Wilson  
11030 N 119th Pl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[priscilla.a.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:priscilla.a.wilson@gmail.com)

**From:** [Lauren Castiglia](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:00:10 PM

---

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Sincerely,

Lauren Castiglia  
11132 E Winchcomb Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[laurencastiglia@gmail.com](mailto:laurencastiglia@gmail.com)

**From:** [Richard Schroder](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:20:11 PM

---

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Sincerely,

Richard Schroder  
8711 E Pinnacle Peak Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[briasage@aol.com](mailto:briasage@aol.com)

**From:** [Paul Scrivner](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:20:09 PM

---

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Sincerely,

Paul Scrivner  
3002 N 82nd St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[pscrivner@protonmail.com](mailto:pscrivner@protonmail.com)

**From:** [Pat Shaler](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:08:33 AM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Please vote "no". thank you. Pat Shaler  
Sent from my iPad

**From:** [commissionerkaminski@gmail.com](mailto:commissionerkaminski@gmail.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan is not Sustainable  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 7:41:22 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am sorry that I did not meet the deadline for public comment on this document, but wish to express my concerns regarding the goals of this plan. Although I am a supporter of sustainable practices and efforts to conserve resources, this document is overreaching in scope and expectations and burdensome to residents and businesses alike. I laud aspirations to improve the environment and quality of life, however I question the feasibility of some of these goals and potential burdens to residents and businesses.

Regarding Energy Goals page 10:

I support the use of solar power and efforts to reduce energy consumption by better insulation and use of energy building codes. The numbers shown there seem achievable but will impact cost of construction, particularly for businesses. Will we be allowing more people to move to Scottsdale (consuming more power)? The exodus of residents from California who are leaving due to rolling brown-outs and laws that have made their lives unlivable should be a warning but is it realistic to reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2035 and 90% by 2050 (from 2022 levels)? Are you suggesting home and business audits of everyone in Scottsdale to see who turns off the lights at night and keeps their building at 85 degrees? If my questions sound ridiculous, so does this goal. Are there any other desert cities that have successfully achieved 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions?

Regarding Water Goals page 11:

I support voluntary water reduction, but do NOT support increased fees for water usage for businesses or residents.

These goals are also in conflict with the aspirations of a 25% tree canopy, as I see more businesses and residents remove trees to save money (on maintenance and water): look at south Scottsdale, yards are replaced with zero-scape, not xeriscape (ie. NO Plants just artificial turf and rock). I have many trees on my property, they require water, if property owners are financially penalized for using water to irrigate trees, then the trees will be cut down. Many of the desert trees provide limited shade, anything with large leaves will require water to survive. If you are trying to save water, maybe mandate removal of all palm trees, which use water and produce very little shade value. If this suggestion sounds ridiculous, I'm sure the resorts would agree.

Regarding Waste Goals page 12:

Reduce landfill refuse per single-family household by 25% by 2030 and 90% by 2040 (from 2022 levels); I see this as a direct attack on single-family residences. Why are single-family residences called out separately when the very next goal is the same, **city wide**?

As a single-family home we compost, we generate ½ to 1 pink bin of recycle material a week (which I've heard does not get recycled), and have *maybe* 2 bags of waste per week unless we have a party. How do you expect us to reduce this by 90% without moving from the city? When the short-term rentals around me *fill 2 black bins a week and do not recycle at all*, maybe the goal should be

removing the 5,000 short term rentals being used as hotels and converting them back to single-family homes to reduce waste and increase housing availability. Multi-family residences do not typically recycle, I've seen the attempts to recycle and shared trash containers leads to contaminated recycled waste from diapers to dog feces, communal trash can't be monitored for waste separation or reduction. I am not sure where this goal comes from but it is not realistic. Will we be increasing the solid waste fees to pay for trash police to monitor the waste generated at every property?

Regarding Air Quality page 13:

I know many people with asthma and allergies, and have used our hospital for breathing issues and appreciate this effort. There is no mention of use of air blowers used by all the landscape crews making Scottsdale beautiful. I am sure businesses and resorts would not be willing to hire people to use brooms or vacuums to clear dirt and debris from the properties served, but in neighborhoods who can afford landscape crews, this is a large source of dust. PM-10 is not significant issue in the built environment of everything paved or covered in gravel or artificial turf, relative to the agricultural land from the large community to the east, where dust is blown in the wind across Scottsdale. It is unrealistic to expect to clean Scottsdale's air with large swaths of undeveloped land sitting adjacent to the entire length of the city. I support the unquantified first two targets to Reduce unhealthy air days in Scottsdale by 2030 and Reduce hospitalizations for pollution-related health events (per 100,000 population) by 2030, *any improvement will be good*. The second two are achievable, although the black plumes of smoke from one or multiple car battery explosions may not help the air quality, I'm not sure what the data is on this to determine impacts. We have already banned wood burning fire places and regulate no-burn days, so I am curious to know how bad the air quality is in 2024 compared to 2000 (after the fireplace ban was enacted). In 2022, almost 1 in 3 days exceeded federal air quality standards, but have the Federal air quality standards changed resulting in this statistic?

Regarding Extreme Heat page 14:

When it is so hot that saguaros cook in the city (but not in their native landscape outside of town) then you know we've hit all-time high temperatures. However, there is no mention of the tall stucco buildings that absorb heat and radiate it back while blocking natural air currents to cool the area. Non-quantifiable targets are more realistic, such as reduce average July day- and night-time air temperatures by 2030 and Reduce surface temperatures by 2030 in the Greater Airpark, Old Town and McDowell Road/ Scottsdale Road growth areas. Reduce hospitalizations for heat-related health events (per 100,000 population) by 2030. I FULLY SUPPORT the target to increase tree and shrub canopy to 20% by 2030 and 25% by 2040 however, it will not be feasible with the goal of water reduction and potential rate increases to reduce consumption. Suggestions for this section would be to maintain open space (larger setbacks between buildings) to maintain natural airflow through the built environment, to increase natural shade canopies in this open space (setbacks that support healthy large tree canopies), building heights in proportion to the landscape provided (ie. if the trees are Eucalyptus or Pine then 4 stories, if trees are Mesquite or Paloverde then 2 stories) so that building surfaces can be shaded and reduce heat gain on vertical surfaces exposed to the sun. Alternatively, a few taller buildings with greater open space around them would allow airflow. Massive blocks of apartments with limited land for landscape are a contributing factor to the heat gain. The further north you travel in Scottsdale, the more open space there is, and the cooler the

ambient temperature.

THIS PLAN IS AN ASPIRATIONAL DOCUMENT AND NOT A MANDATE, SO THERE ARE NO PENALTIES FOR NOT ACHIEVING THE TARGETS

However, I have concerns that in order to implement these aspirational goals, it will result in an increase in property taxes, fees or other penalties to home owners and businesses impacted by the plans details. The exodus from California of residents seeking relief from laws impacting their livelihood and quality of life should be a warning to potential impacts of setting unrealistic targets.

Again, my sincerest apologies for not following this through process and providing earlier input. Maybe some more time could be spent working through the details to assure this plan is sustainable and is not a burden to the community.

Thank you,  
Diana Kaminski

**From:** [BILL MCCLURE](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 7:10:37 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Please do not pass any sustainability plan that includes or results in any fee increases. Keep all mandates to an absolute bare minimum.

The role of local government is to take care of the required services and stay out of the way of the community. Activist government always results in high taxes, lower overall quality of life and financial difficulties. If you need any examples please see San Francisco, Chicago or Baltimore.

Thank you,  
Bill McClure  
23822 N 85th Street  
Scottsdale AZ 85255  
314-249-5615

**From:** [Susan](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:57:49 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

HELL NO on another waste of taxpayer money. Better uses for our money.

Susan Leeper

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

**From:** [joezimmerman52@gmail.com](mailto:joezimmerman52@gmail.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:47:18 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Back to the drawing board on this one! No new fees or taxes.  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Nancy](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:27:25 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

The subject is an unnecessary plan for sure  
at this time! Please concentrate on  
Repairing all the potholes in our streets! We also need Police to enforce  
the speed limit at our school crossings.  
Nancy Rae Smith  
10239 North 100th Place  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Julia Pitula](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Enough!  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:01:59 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Please stop the Sustainability Plan! Not everyone is wealthy in Scottsdale! Increasing more rates and prices is outrageous! Why should I pay because other residents and city council are abusive! Your job is to help residents not destroy us! ENOUGH!

**From:** [brad.newman1@icloud.com](mailto:brad.newman1@icloud.com)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO on the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 8:38:41 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Scottsdale City Council,

I am vehemently opposed to the Sustainability Plan that you are quietly pushing through before the election. Such a plan should be carefully considered as the Plan does not make sense to address the root causes of problems in Scottsdale.

The proposed onerous reductions in the consumption of basic city services (waste and water) are positioned to solve a consumption problem caused by the overdevelopment of high-density housing (HDH). Over development of HDH and the “need” for this Sustainability Plan are problems caused by the majority members of the council who love to approve HDH projects. Now, they want the single-family homeowners to pay for their mistakes. We need only to look at the developers who fund their campaigns to see how they will vote on new HDH projects and the Sustainability Plan. Why aren’t developers being required to fund the resource needs of their expansive projects rather than taxpayers?

If we truly have a resource availability problem, then all HDH projects should be cancelled immediately. You cannot promote development of HDH while at the same time claim the availability of basic city resources are endangered HDH drives added resource needs. All HDH projects must be stopped to sustain Scottsdale well into the future.

Lastly, the proposed monitoring of energy usage in my house is nonsensical and none of your business. You only need to know if my bill is paid on-time or not. If I have solar capability installed on my house, why is providing for my own sustainability not enough?

The Sustainability Plan is simply another way to tax and invade the lives of Scottsdale residents. I strongly urge you to vote NO to this terrible idea.

Brad Newman  
39602 N 104<sup>th</sup> Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

**From:** [Cindy Metz](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:38:10 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

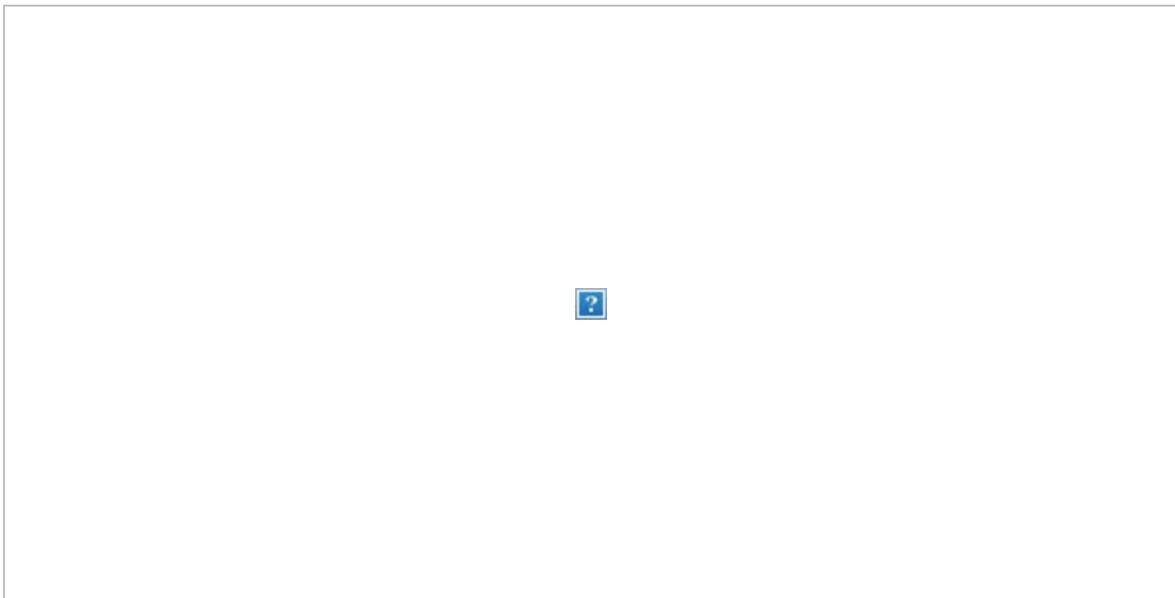
Mayor David Ortega and City Council Members,

I urge you to vote NO on the sustainability plan.

The city has been doing a great job managing our resources and we do not need to have this become part of our protocol.

Best,

Cindy



[Top Reasons to Work with Reisdorf Metz & Partners](#) | [Western Equestrian Estate](#) | [DC Ranch - Scottsdale, AZ](#)

[Get to Know Zip Code 85255 in Scottsdale, AZ](#)

**From:** [Jim Haxby](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan Item 7  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:02:26 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Council Members:

While the goal of this plan is admirable, if passed, this will ruin the quality of life in Scottsdale. It is absurd that we approve high density projects one after another, thousand in the pipeline that will use large quantities of water, generate large quantities of solid waste, add to traffic and the heat sink. If passed this will harm long time residents that have moved here for the quality of life in Scottsdale. It will raise the cost of living in Scottsdale and very doubtfully will meet the goals.

I hope you all will think about this, the earths climate has been changing lone before man. I'm sure not one Council member had to dodge a dinosaur on the way to the Council meeting. Man has been looking for a way to change the weather for hundreds of years, and hasn't been successful and nor will this plan be successful. Don't ruin Scottsdale! Vote NO on item 7 !

Thank You  
Jim Haxby

**From:** [CPR](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:00:50 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor & Council members -

I agree wholehearted with Bob Pejmans following letter:

I've been a resident and business owner in Scottsdale since 1992. I'm tired of all the pro development, especially rental residential and how the previous councils and current are ruining Scottsdale.

Of course every resident wants the livability & quality of life in Scottsdale to be sustainable.

Unfortunately, the 5 Priority Areas of the proposed Sustainability Plan - Energy, Water, Waste, Air Quality, and Extreme Heat - have been worsened by overdevelopment.

Knowing this, why did our council vote to approve 3500+ apartment units over the past 3 years, on top of the 10,000+ units already in the pipeline?

Like clockwork, every time council votes for a new large apartment complex, residents are promised there's enough water and power—with no adverse effects on the environment and current residents.

Now, to compensate for the adverse effects of 14,000 more apartments, the city has embarked on an aggressive utility-rationing agenda called the **Sustainability Plan**. To highlight the extreme nature of the agenda: '*Reduce trash collection (refuse) per single-family household by 90% within 15 years*'.

Although higher utility and trash collection rates are not expressly stated in the plan, raising fees and instituting surcharges are the ***only ways*** to achieve the plan's aggressive goals - the price that residents must now pay for injecting the thousands of apartments into the city.

The saddest part is that the segment of Scottsdale's population who will be hardest hit by increases in basic utility fees are the elderly and fixed income folks - the same segment already devastated by inflation, rising rents, and economic uncertainty.

Instead of our City government helping them, it will be creating policies which will further harm them financially.

Here is the most obvious question for those who created this plan: **Why are there no limits on future up-zonings, which increase demands on water and power and emit waste and air toxins?**

A Sustainability Plan that doesn't include this basic requirement is merely a plan to 'sustain' even more development.

Chris Frank  
6902 E. Gary Rd  
Scottsdale 85254  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kim Hines](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:37:44 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

As a small business owner living in Scottsdale and the fiancée of a Firefighter who also work for this City, I urge you to vote NO on the Sustainability Plan. We are both outdoor enthusiasts and love to experience the Sonoran Preserve that we want to continue to be able to live near. With the massive growth, increased taxes and increase in all of the other costs of owning a home in this area, the increased costs of this plan will push us out of the city. Again, please vote NO

Thank you,

*Kim Hines*

**From:** [Bridget Tarzwell](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** SUSTAINABILITY  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:32:12 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

THIS PLAN IS ILL-CONCEIVED, NOT LOGICAL AND ONLY SUPPORTING CONTINUED UNWANTED HIGH DENSITY DEVELOPMENT.

PLEASE DO NOT VOTE IN FAVOR OF THIS. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR TAXPAYING CITIZENS, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF US THAT ARE FULL TIME, YEAR ROUND RESIDENTS, IT PUTS MOST OF THE BURDEN ON OUR BACKS.

WE NEED A WHOLE NEW SLATE ON THE COUNCIL, BASED ON PAST FEW YEARS PROPOSALS/VOTES/DISREGARD FOR YOUR VOTING CITIZENS. THIS IS HOW I AM VOTING THIS YEAR.

**Bridget O'Boyle Tarzwell**

**From:** [Rosemary Boyle](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:22:09 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor & Council members -

The 5 Priority Areas of the proposed Sustainability Plan - Energy, Water, Waste, Air Quality, and Extreme Heat - have been worsened by overdevelopment. And in spite of this the council has voted to approve 3000+ more apartments in addition to the 10000+ already approved.

Every time the council votes for a new large apartment complex, residents are promised there's enough water and power—with no adverse effects on the environment and current residents.

Now, due to the adverse effects of 14,000 more apartments, the city has embarked on an aggressive utility-rationing agenda called the **Sustainability Plan**. Raising fees for utility and trash collections will no doubt be necessary to achieve the plan's goals. Thus the residents end up paying for the addition of the thousands of apartments being built.

The segment of Scottsdale population who will be hardest impacted by any increase are the elderly and those on a fixed income. Instead of helping their citizens they are harming them financially.

A question for those who created this plan: **Why are there no limits on future up-zonings, which increase demands on water and power and emit waste and air toxins? A plan that doesn't include basic requirements results in more development.**

Thank you,  
Rosemary Boyle

**From:** [Amy Springmann](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Reject the "Sustainability Plan"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:06:31 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Scottsdale City Council,

I just became aware of the "Sustainability Plan" that may be voted on soon. I urge you to hold off on approving this plan as it sounds like it will mandate and monitor certain behaviors of Scottsdale citizens and increase costs to them.

It is not the role of government to control and alter the behaviors of law-abiding citizens. I understand that this plan has good intentions, but it sounds like government overreach.

In my opinion, this plan needs to be rejected as it mandates too much government interference in our daily lives. Scottsdale citizens are an educated & informed populace that does well in taking care of the environment and encouraging responsible behavior, and we don't need overstepping and costly government mandates manipulating us.

Amy Springmann  
7545 E Windrose Drive  
Scottsdale AZ 85260

**From:** [Gloria Saeger](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:56:22 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

Some decisions should be placed directly in the hands of residents, particularly when City Council has made controversial choices opposed by the vast majority of residents, such as road diets and approving massive apartment projects.

These measures, often intended to promote sustainability and manage urban growth, often backfire, leading to increased costs, traffic congestion, reduced parking, strained local infrastructure, and water concerns.

Many of us feel frustrated by our needs and preferences being overlooked in favor of broad urban planning and utopian sustainability goals.

For a more balanced and equitable outcome, allow Scottsdale voters to decide on the November ballot if a Sustainability Plan really aligns with the needs, desires, and budgets of those of us affected by it.

Thank you,

Gloria Saeger

**From:** [Arthur Deal](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Possible proposed "Sustainability Plan" to be reviewed or voted on May 21  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:41:38 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

I have been informed that there is a plan under consideration that proposes serious reductions in many elements relating to services and urban conditions for residents in our city. This plan, I am told, would be on the agenda for the May 21 council meeting. Please send me a copy of this document or a link to it, so I can evaluate the possible impact of this proposal on my household.

John Deal  
5936 East Cambridge, Scottsdale

**From:** [Cynthia Chandley](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:49:32 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

I have reviewed the information regarding this plan you may be voting on tomorrow. Please understand this plan will not be well received by residents. It is my understanding that this plan will likely raise taxes and increase regulations applied to residents for goals that are not likely to improve the quality of life in Scottsdale. It may be helpful to provide ideas and suggestions to residents on how to achieve environmental goals but it is not helpful to force these issues through yet more road diets, regulations, restrictions, utility costs and taxes. I believe many of my Scottsdale neighbors agree with my comments here and will vote accordingly at the next opportunity.

Cynthia Chandley

**From:** [Ginny Bertoncino](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** VOTE NO ON SUSTAINABILITY PLAN  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:04:25 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Please vote no tomorrow night. Residents object to this style of approach. Please leave Scottsdale alone. ~G

**From:** [Sue Powell](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:30:53 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please vote against the Sustainability Plan. Nothing about it is sustainable! It's only going to raise the cost of living and move us toward a lifestyle that is not sustainable. Don't follow CA policies that are already failing! Keep Arizona free from the nonsense.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sue Powell  
9675 E Tear Drop COVE  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[expect.gr8things@yahoo.com](mailto:expect.gr8things@yahoo.com)

**From:** [DENNIS RYAN](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:30:54 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Everyone says it is a CLIMATE EMERGENCY. What this is one big money grab.  
So many of your studs turn up to be wrong.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

DENNIS RYAN  
41514 N 106th St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[DGRCBR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DGRCBR@GMAIL.COM)

**From:** [Sal Goetsch](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 4:51:12 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Don't continue to be foolish about these impossible goals if you have any memory of why you entered public office, to help our city remain a good place to live without these BS tactics no one in their right mind wants,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sal Goetsch  
11243 E Caribbean Ln  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[sallcomm@comcast.net](mailto:sallcomm@comcast.net)

**From:** [Sandra Mooney](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:00:15 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sandra Mooney  
7526 E Aster Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[sandra103@pm.me](mailto:sandra103@pm.me)

**From:** [Jay Stuckey](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:00:20 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Jay Stuckey  
10185 E Meadow Hill Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[jaystuckeyiii@live.com](mailto:jaystuckeyiii@live.com)

**From:** [Michael Harbin Jr](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:00:21 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

As a citizen of Scottsdale it is already expensive to live here--this "Sustainability Plan" will only increase the cost of living here significantly in the future--I AM OPPOSED to this plan that doesn't make a significant change in our air quality of overall environment.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Michael Harbin Jr  
8466 E Tecolote Cir  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
[zrbn@comcast.net](mailto:zrbn@comcast.net)

**From:** [Melissa Stuckey](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:10:13 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The green measures are faulty and Scottsdale is about to fall victim to it. Green mandates are suspect and not clearly thought out, just like the decline in electric vehicles. I have living in Scottsdale for 33 years and plan to live here for the remainder of my life. I would hate to have to pay even more in taxes and/or services for fixing these failed plans in years to come.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Melissa Stuckey  
10185 E Meadow Hill Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
yevf2014@gmail.com

**From:** [Sharon Lang](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:20:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Don't buy into this. Weather has ben cyclic for centuries. Think about whose monies are invested in this plan.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sharon Lang  
7894 E Camino Vivaz  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[sharonrdms@gmail.com](mailto:sharonrdms@gmail.com)

**From:** [Marcus Tork](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:40:07 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This is the wrong approach, not what we residents and citizens want, bad for families already suffering inflation from bad policy, and built on faulty assumptions of radicals.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Marcus Tork  
6113 E Monterey Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[marcus.tork@protonmail.com](mailto:marcus.tork@protonmail.com)

**From:** [Diane Frei](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 6:40:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please oppose!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Diane Frei  
25033 N Ranch Gate Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[dianefrei@msn.com](mailto:dianefrei@msn.com)

**From:** [Sharon Ohlmacher](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:00:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Climate does change:) these proposals are too costly

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sharon Ohlmacher  
8514 E Country Club Trl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[dakotarose816@yahoo.com](mailto:dakotarose816@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Jacqueline Nagode](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:00:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This plan imposes punitive actions on individuals that are not needed & will result in increased expenses for individuals & businesses. This climate action plan is punitive and unneeded.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Nagode  
7298 E Echo Ln  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[jnagode@cox.net](mailto:jnagode@cox.net)

**From:** [Bobbi Hansen](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:30:09 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Bobbi Hansen  
7881 E Via Bonita  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[bobbi7797356@gmail.com](mailto:bobbi7797356@gmail.com)

**From:** [Carol Shedlock](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 7:50:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please vote against the "Sustainability Plan," which would be a Trojan horse to usher in all sorts of populace-controlling measures in the name of the climate religion. We see you and we recognize the endgame. This is not the thoughtful way to take decisions for Scottsdale's free people.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Carol Shedlock  
6657 E Running Deer Trl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
[cjshedlock@protonmail.com](mailto:cjshedlock@protonmail.com)

**From:** [Patricia Kiraly](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 8:00:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I oppose the Sustainability Plan.

The Plan outlines “goals” to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Patricia Kiraly  
19950 N 102nd St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[pgkiraly@yahoo.com](mailto:pgkiraly@yahoo.com)

**From:** [Lori Jo Underhill](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 8:00:10 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Lori Jo Underhill  
6835 E Camelback Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[lorijounderhill@gmail.com](mailto:lorijounderhill@gmail.com)

**From:** [Sandra Morrison](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 8:10:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sandra Morrison  
39690 N 106th St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[salamanderaz@msn.com](mailto:salamanderaz@msn.com)

**From:** [Diane Thomas](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 8:50:07 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please do not buy in to the "Climate crisis" which is destroying our economy. It is time to wait on deciding on climate issues until it is actually proven by scientific research instead of by radical leftist that falsify data. Europe has seen the light, Hopefully Scottsdale will also!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Diane Thomas  
41543 N Saguaro Forest Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[detgolf@gmail.com](mailto:detgolf@gmail.com)

**From:** [Julia Pitula](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Enough!  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:02:00 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Please stop the Sustainability Plan! Not everyone is wealthy in Scottsdale! Increasing more rates and prices is outrageous! Why should I pay because other residents and city council are abusive! Your job is to help residents not destroy us! ENOUGH!

**From:** [Victoria Craig](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:40:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please oppose the "sustainability plan" which is based upon the totally false premise that gas and oil sources of energy negatively affect the climate. The so-called "green" energy sources (wind, solar, electric) are considerably more toxic to the environment than natural gas and oil will ever be and also are unreliable sources of energy. The Climate Action Plan is onerous and unnecessary. PLEASE do your homework regarding climate, carbon emissions, etc so you make decisions based upon truthful, accurate, scientific information.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Victoria Craig  
32676 N 68th Pl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
vsraig@gmail.com

**From:** [Kathleen Hahn](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:09 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please stop wasting time and money on the fake climate crisis. God is THE climate changer. We need to be good stewards. That's all.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Hahn  
6035 E Vernon Ave  
Scottsdale, AZ 85257  
[loshahns@hotmail.com](mailto:loshahns@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Daniel Smith](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This is a bad plan. Scottsdale does not need this. Stop wasting time on useless plans and start looking at existing infrastructure that needs updating. We don't need anyone telling us how to live. Garbage is part of a municipal responsibility and limiting it has serious consequences. There will be garbage everywhere and all that comes with that. How do you propose to reduce water use but plant more trees? Just vote no!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Daniel Smith  
9385 E Trailside Vw  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[dscek@shaw.ca](mailto:dscek@shaw.ca)

**From:** [KELLY PULLARO](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Do not California my Arizona.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

KELLY PULLARO  
11570 N 90th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[kpullaro@gmail.com](mailto:kpullaro@gmail.com)

**From:** [Kathryn Pullaro](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:07 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please don't make Arizona like California. I oppose this strongly!!!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Kathryn Pullaro  
11570 N 90th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[kapullaro@gmail.com](mailto:kapullaro@gmail.com)

**From:** [Brenda Warneka](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:07 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

We do not want to end up like California. We will not vote for anyone who supports this.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Brenda Warneka  
7181 E Camelback Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
[warneka@cox.net](mailto:warneka@cox.net)

**From:** [Deborah Knuckey](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 9:10:07 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Deborah Knuckey  
11053 E Laurel Ln  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[debk97@aol.com](mailto:debk97@aol.com)

**From:** [John Gordon](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Monday, May 20, 2024 10:00:08 PM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I am totally against the sustainability plan.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

John Gordon  
8519 E Clydesdale Trl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
[johnbgordon60@gmail.com](mailto:johnbgordon60@gmail.com)

**From:** [Sheila Roe](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:00:08 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I am writing to express my opinion that the Sustainability Plan as proposed is wrong for Scottsdale. All responsible people are concerned with energy, the environment and precious resources. However, the draconian measures proposed in the plan as stated infringe on our rights as individuals and place Scottsdale in jeopardy of regulating itself out of affordability for residents.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Sheila Roe  
10800 E Cactus Rd Unit 10  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[sheilaroe@msn.com](mailto:sheilaroe@msn.com)

**From:** [Cynthia Burger](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 5:10:07 AM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

I am NOT in favor this plan! Explain the vast number of city buses traveling all over the county that are empty... start there!

Climate Control (or whatever the latest buzz phrase words are) is another way to regulate and tax. If we so worried with our climate and resources, we would not have SO overbuilt our valley.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Burger  
9280 E Thompson Peak Pkwy Unit 23  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[cburger55@icloud.com](mailto:cburger55@icloud.com)

**From:** [Jason Gerek](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 2:10:09 AM

---

External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Funny, how reducing consumption will reduce waste... but doesn't the economy run on people buying things? And is it the best way, taking a page from California, who doesn't exactly have the best track record in managing anything via government? The COVID response, the homelessness crisis... need I go on? DO NOT DO THIS TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS! Who wants this??

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Jason Gerek  
10125 E Meadow Hill Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
[JasonGerek@gmail.com](mailto:JasonGerek@gmail.com)

**From:** [Deborah Adams](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:50:09 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This is not a good idea by any means we do not want to become CA

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Deborah Adams  
11336 E Cinder Cone Trl  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[debbie.e.adams22@gmail.com](mailto:debbie.e.adams22@gmail.com)

**From:** [Gail Derscheid, OD](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:20:13 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Gail Derscheid  
10800 E Cactus Rd Unit 65  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[gbassod@aol.com](mailto:gbassod@aol.com)

**From:** [Kathleen Fischer](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 8:20:18 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

Please be aware of this Plan that would affect us all!!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Fischer  
10260 E White Feather Ln  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[katcfischer@gmail.com](mailto:katcfischer@gmail.com)

**From:** [NANCY DOTY](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [NANCY DOTY](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:57:42 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Finishing my previous email!!!

I'm asking you to vote "NO" tonight in approving the Sustainability Plan being presented to the Council this evening.

It has many problems such as:

**Extreme Heat Goal**...requires money that we don't have in implementing this goal

**Waste Reduction Goal:** Will mean rates will increase in order to meet this goal

**Air Quality Goal:** This goes right along with Road Diet Goal which citizens oppose. We want to have roads where we can drive our cars....not less. It's hot here and bikers will not use the roads with our extreme heat and besides, there are already many bike paths that work very well.

The staff who came up with this Plan should be reviewed. This is called "Job security" for them. They need to be given direction that meets the needs and desires of citizens.

Nancy A. Doty  
Scottsdale Citizen  
Voter

**From:** [ellen.laybourne](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** CLIMATE CONTROL THE POPULATION AND TAKE MORE TAXES  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:53:47 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

MAN cannot control the Climate. The entire purpose of this governmental nonsense is to control the population and make life ever more expensive without any actual benefit. Consider the push for public transit (unleash prosperity hotline issue #1010 may/2/24). Phoenix, 1960, public transit ridership was 4%, 2019 2%, 2022 1%. And last year the federal government spent \$21 BILLION on transit. THAT IS MY TAX DOLLARS. Not a day goes by that the "government" at all levels does not make plans to SPEND MORE MONEY!!!! STOP THE MADNESS!!!

**From:** [Jason Alexander](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [City Manager Mailbox](#); [Worth, Daniel](#); [tfthornton@arizonadigitalfreepress.com](mailto:tfthornton@arizonadigitalfreepress.com); [sam.kmack@arizonarepublic.com](mailto:sam.kmack@arizonarepublic.com); [tscanlon@timeslocalmedia.com](mailto:tscanlon@timeslocalmedia.com); [jgraber@iniusa.org](mailto:jgraber@iniusa.org); [info@cogsaz.org](mailto:info@cogsaz.org)  
**Subject:** Rebutal to Littlefield's Sustainability Plan Comments  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:24:58 AM  
**Attachments:** [Screen Shot 2022-10-03 at 1.30.27 PM.png](#)

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Hello Councilors,

Yesterday I read an opinion from the Littlefield PAC opposing the proposed Sustainability Plan. The fundamental premise of Littlefield's position is wrong - that all fees for service and enforcement are bad no matter what they gain us in quality of life. There is a balance between fiscal conservatism and necessary spending for health and wellness, avoiding free-rider impacts and negative externalities. That is a core premise of free market economics. A race to the bottom of taxes and fees often results in lowered quality of life; not all spending is bad. Specifically, Littlefield objects to fees for reductions in waste collection, increases in water conservation, improved heat mitigation, and energy use reduction. He acknowledges that the goals are worthy, and is focused on the implementation. I think we should all be open to thoughtful, data-centric critiques of government programs to maximize their effectiveness, but Littlefield offers none. He simply complains about fees. We've always had fees for services, such as garbage collection. The extent of the fee impacts the level of service. The Council just had this discussion related to the Water Department last week, which passed 7-0. If we had no fees for garbage collection, we would have no garbage collection, and we would have garbage in our streets. Is a city without garbage collection where Littlefield wants to live?

Littlefield makes other claims that make no sense. 1. MAG recommends carpooling or using public transportation to reduce ozone. What is bad about carpooling?

Carpooling has been part of the American ethos since the gas shortages of the 70's.

Less traffic, more money in our pockets, better for the environment. Littlefield is shockingly arguing for more traffic. What does he dislike more - traffic, ozone, or "woke" government simply asking he conserve trips? 2. Complaints that fees make it harder on first responders, families, seniors to live here. This is a red herring, derivative of his central complaint against all fees. No one likes fees, money is tight for most of us, but no taxes and no fees are not in-and-of-themselves the goal of good public policy. There is never a good time to raise rates, and waiting for that "better economy" will never happen. When public policy promises a good outcome especially over conserving scarce resources, we should phase it in. 3. Littlefield argues for a false choice between Sustainability or park maintenance, paying first responders, and fixing potholes. Bob and Kathy Littlefield have been in office 22 years straight. They have spoken out against the vey ballot measure that would pay for parks, police, fire. They voted against the Transportation Plan in 2022 that would fix potholes. They haven't done anything during their quarter century in office to fix these problems, but shamefully direct blame away from themselves when they were empowered to solve these problems. 4. Littlefield again argues the impact of fees on Homelessness, rather than the quality of life benefits. Homelessness is an issue. So Why did Kathy Littlefield vote against the bridge housing program and funding the Paiute Center? Again, Littlefield is redirecting blame rather than offering solutions.

5. Littlefield says apartments are the root cause of our need for sustainability.

Attached, please find a memo from our Water Department showing how apartments use half the water of single family homes.

Sadly, Littlefield repeats a pattern of objection to major initiatives, by coming heavy at the midnight hour, rather than working collaboratively during the process to affect the changes he wants. The Littlefields have launched torpedoes at the General Plan, the Transportation Action Plan, the 2024 Ballot Initiatives, and now the Sustainability Plan after each plan was months or years in the making. That's not teamwork. That's not putting the City and its residents first, that's not respecting the office and working with colleagues to represent your constituents. Its whining over an outcome he doesn't like, its not helping the City move forward.

Finally, Littlefield's positions are incredibly selfish, entitled and damning to our children. Our children have the most to gain from our decisions, whereas the rest of us have diminishing stakes. When it comes to the environment and the future, we are borrowing it from our children.

I hope you find this analysis insightful and helpful to your deliberations. I urge you to use facts and data in your decision-making, and avoid climate-change denialism and entitlement.

Thank you.

**From:** [Gloria Saeger](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Is Scottsdale missing the livability mark?  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 11:07:41 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

This morning, Fox Business announced the top 5 cities to live in. Scottsdale was not listed. Nor was Scottsdale listed on BusinessInsider Top 15(link below) or even the [Livability.com](#) top 100 (link below), which focuses on cities with populations of 75,000-500,000. Gilbert, Tempe, and Chandler made it, but Scottsdale did not.

What are these cities doing right that our city is not? Perhaps Council's should be focusing on making our city more inviting to live in, rather than mandating ideological sustainability standards.

Thank you,  
Gloria Saeger

businessinsider.com



**From:** [Bob Saeger](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** City Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 10:35:52 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor and City Council:

If the sustainability plan was practical and based on common sense, I'd be all in favor of it. However, it is a dangerous ideology that will diminish residents' quality of life, imposing draconian regulations and restrictions that could stifle economic growth, limit personal freedoms, and lead to increased costs of living. Prioritizing idealistic vision over practical considerations creates more problems than it solves, leaving residents to bear the brunt of its negative impacts on daily life.

Thank you,

Dr. Bob Saeger  
50-year Scottsdale Resident

**From:** [Angie Moffatt](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** SUSTAINABILITY PLAN  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 10:07:48 AM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Scottsdale City Council,

Before you meet to approve the proposed Sustainability Plan, please briefly scan the information on ENERGY below, provided by Alex Epstein (author and expert on energy). There are many reasons NOT to embark on a utility-rationing plan, but one very big reason is the energy required for the progressive AI movement. **Reducing reliable fossil fuels and focusing heavily on energy from solar and wind will not be near enough energy required just for AI alone.** Not to mention energy required for the 10,0000+ units approved for development and additional unforeseen reasons. “You can’t see the forest through the trees.” Why do you think California and Texas are experiencing brown outs??!! Just because other cities, states are jumping on the “green” energy bandwagon doesn’t mean it’s right.

Plan for the future realistically and smart. Nothing in this plan improves the quality of life for anyone in Scottsdale. This plan is only going to burden the lower income/elderly/fixed income residents with more policies and fees. Recently, Phoenix and Scottsdale had the highest inflation rate in the Country.

The answer is to focus on responsibly limiting development, which is extremely burdening resources and emitting toxins and waste.

Thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Angela Moffatt

## Tech giants' self-made AI energy crisis

For years tech giants have been helping climate catastrophists shut down reliable fossil fuel electricity. Now the grid they've helped gut cannot possibly supply their growing AI needs.

ALEX EPSTEIN  
MAY 16



READ IN APP

*For years tech giants have been helping climate catastrophists shut down reliable*

*fossil fuel electricity, falsely claiming they can be replaced by solar/wind.*

*Now the grid they've helped gut can't supply their growing AI needs.<sup>1</sup>*



- **For the last decade, tech giants** such as Apple, Microsoft, Meta, and Google have, through dedicated anti-fossil-fuel propaganda and political efforts, **promoted the shutdown of reliable fossil fuel power plants in favor of unreliable solar and wind.**



- **Tech giants have propagandized against reliable fossil fuel power plants by falsely claiming to be "100% renewable" and implying everyone could do it.** In fact, they have just paid utilities to credit them for others' solar and wind use and blame others for their coal and gas use.<sup>2</sup>



- In addition to their “100% renewable” propaganda, **tech giants directly endorsed people and policies who shut down reliable fossil fuel power plants.**

E.g., The RE100 coalition, including Google, Apple, Meta, and Microsoft, advocates for policies to “accelerate change towards zero carbon grids at scale by 2040.”<sup>3</sup>



- **Companies' propaganda that solar/wind could rapidly replace fossil fuels has proven false.**

Statewide blackouts in California (2020) and Texas (2021) were caused by the failure of solar/wind—which can go near zero at any time—to make up for lack of reliable fossil fuel capacity.

- Thanks in significant part to tech giants' advocacy, **we have now shut down**

enough reliable power plants to be in a nationwide electricity crisis.

For example, most of North America is at elevated/high risk of electricity shortfalls between 2024-2028.<sup>4</sup>



- **The anti-fossil-fuel, pro-unreliable solar and wind political climate that tech giants have fostered is getting much worse**, as the Administration has pledged to further reduce reliable electricity supply via power plant shutdowns and add artificial demand through EV mandates.

## Biden's EV mandate: a dictatorial attack on the American driver and the US grid

ALEX EPSTEIN · APR 22

[Biden's EV mandate: a dictatorial attack on the American driver and the US grid](#)



Biden's de facto mandate of over 50% EVs by 2032 is a dictatorial attack on the American driver and the US grid that will 1. Force Americans to drive inferior cars. 2. Place massive new demand for reliable electricity on a grid that is declining in reliable electricity supply.

[Read full story](#)

- While for years tech giants didn't seem to have any concern about the electricity

supply disaster their propaganda and policies were bringing about, they are now very interested because of the accelerating power requirements of computing, above all the hyper-competitive AI space.

- **To function at its potential, AI requires massive amounts of power.** E.g., state-of-the-art data centers can require as much electricity as a large nuclear reactor.<sup>5</sup>



- Electricity demand from US data centers already doubled between 2014 and 2023. Now with the fast growth of energy-hungry AI, **demand from data centers could triple from 2.5% to 7.5% of our electricity use by 2030**, according to Boston Consulting Group.<sup>6</sup>



- **In large part due to AI, nationwide electricity demand is projected to skyrocket.** Official 10-year projections for the US have summer and winter peak demand rising by over 79 gigawatt and over 90 gigawatt. 90 gigawatt is equivalent to adding the entire power generating capacity of California (!)<sup>7</sup>



- Given the woeful underpowered grid that AI giants have helped bring about, **dramatically rising demand from AI** will not only contribute to massive electricity shortages, but it **will also destroy a lot of potential for AI to occur in the United States.**
- **Limited and expensive electricity will force data centers to operate with higher cost or lower capacity within the US—or take a performance hit** in the form of increased latency (which can drastically reduce the value of the product) by moving offshore.
- **Not only is offshoring data centers destructive from an economic standpoint, it also poses a substantial security risk.** E.g., Building a data center in China—which we already depend on dangerously for critical minerals

—gives the CCP physical power over more parts of our economy.

- Economically, data centers are a gold mine of opportunities.

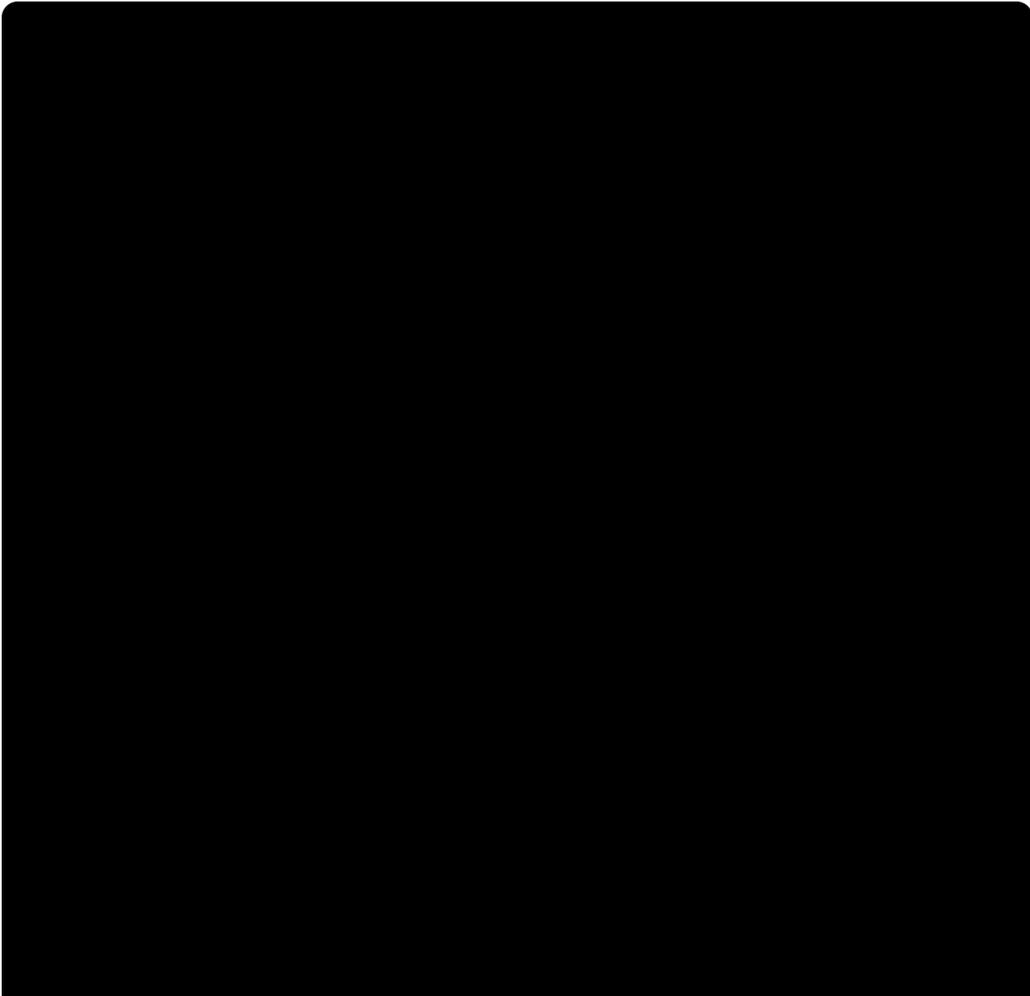
Globally, data centers employed 2M people full-time in 2019, many in high-skill/high-pay jobs—and this number is forecast to increase nearly 300K by 2025.

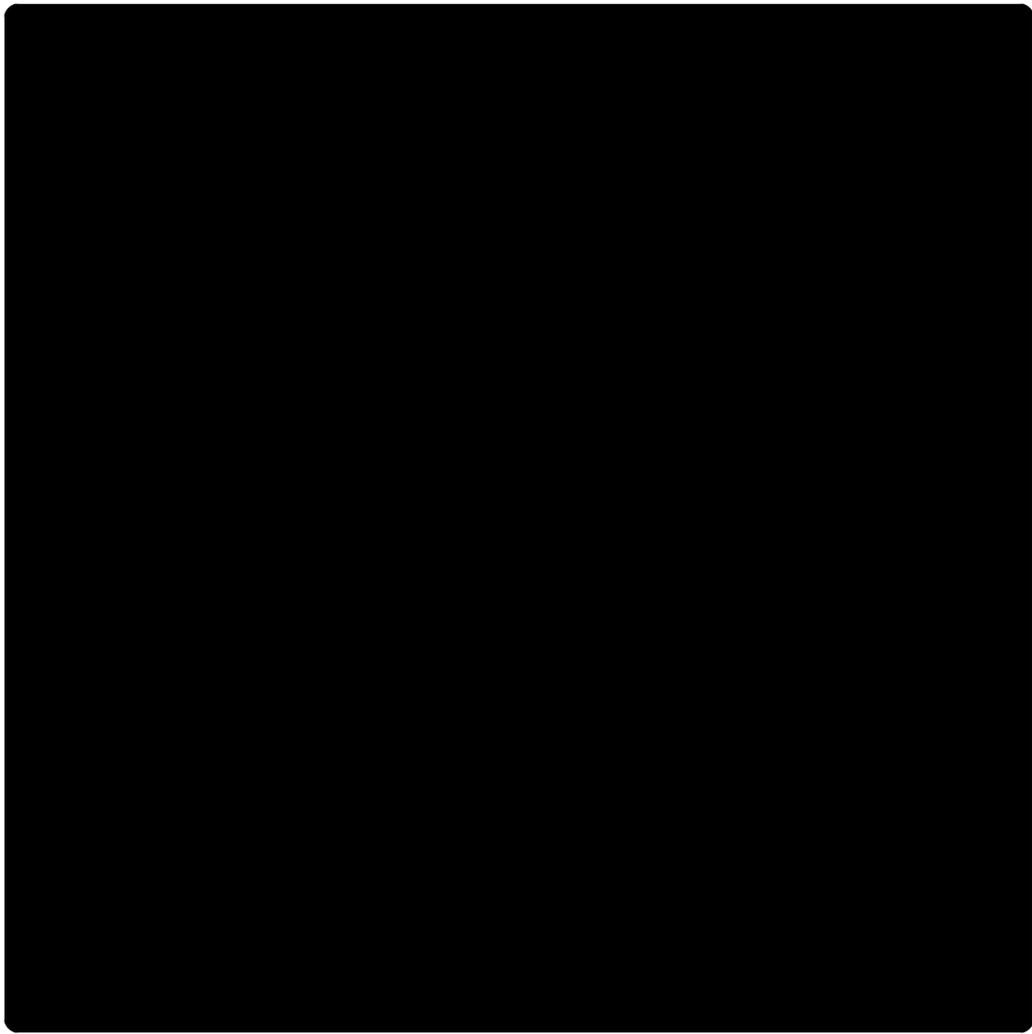
**Our gutted grid will cost many Americans these opportunities.<sup>8</sup>**



- **In the face of woefully inadequate electricity supply for their AI goals, tech giant CEOs are finally speaking up about the lack of power.**

E.g., Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg said in an interview that energy will be the #1 bottleneck to AI progress.





- **It is not enough for tech giants to warn us about the lack of reliable power. They need to take responsibility for their anti-fossil-fuel advocacy that helped caused it.** And they need to support energy freedom policies that allow all fuels to compete to provide reliable power.

## End preferences for unreliable electricity

ALEX EPSTEIN · DECEMBER 14, 2022

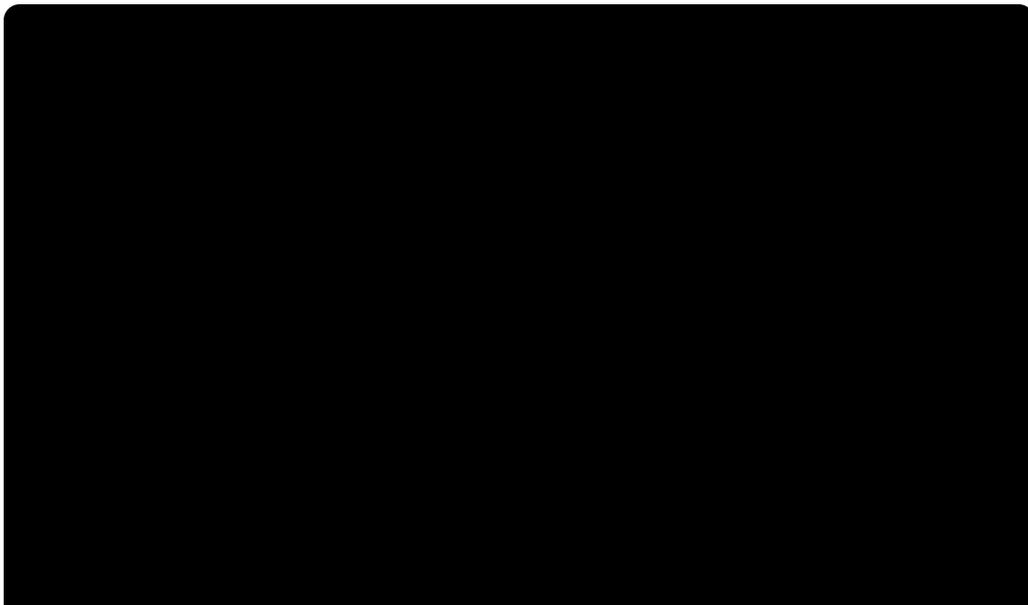
## End preferences for unreliable electricity

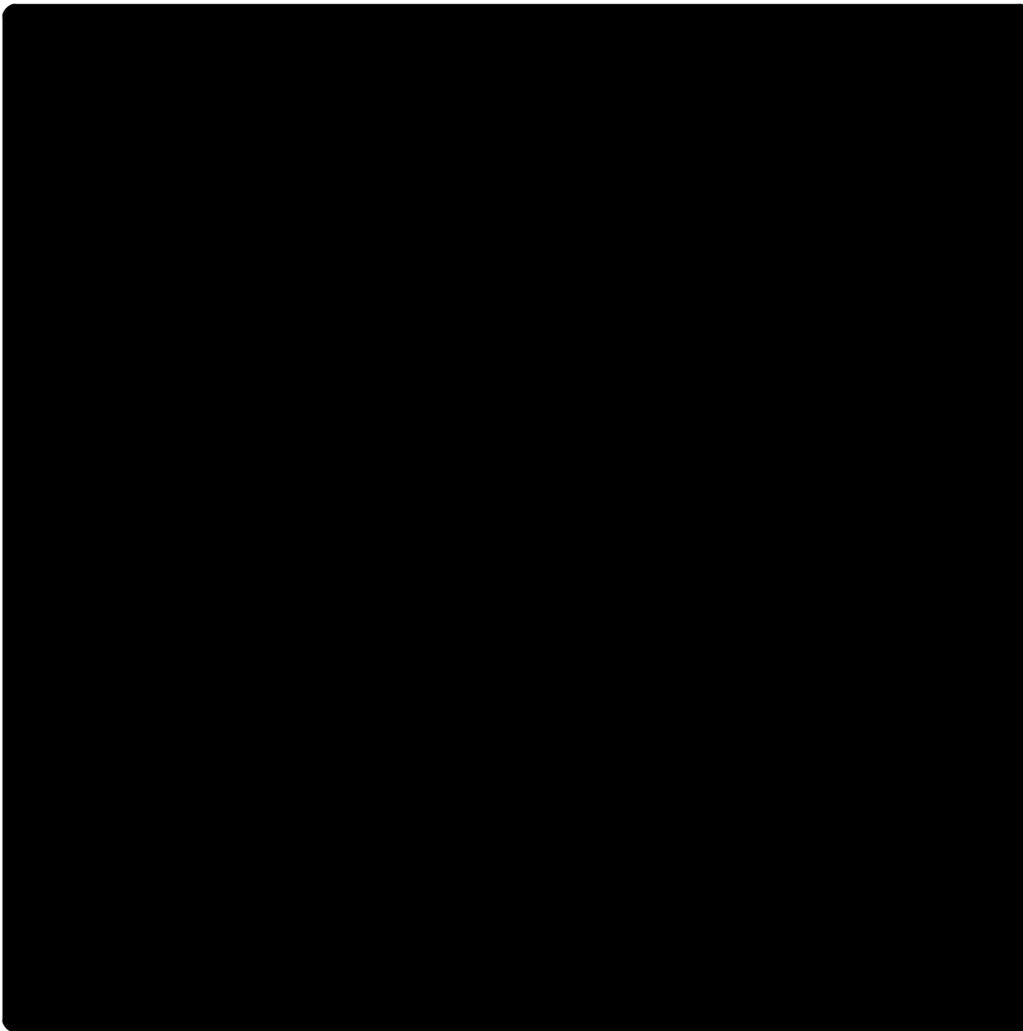


Today's grids are being ruined by systemic preferences for unreliable electricity: 1) no price penalty for being unreliable 2) huge subsidies for unreliaables 3) mandates for unreliaables Congress should end these now. The Opportunity America, given its combination of abundant domestic energy resources, technological ingenuity, and free-market competition, has ...

[Read full story](#)

- An example of a tech giant influencer not taking any responsibility for causing the electricity crisis is BlackRock CEO Larry Fink, who pushed companies and governments to adopt "net-zero" policies using mostly solar/wind, but now admits they can't power AI data centers!





- A better attitude toward electricity was expressed by OpenAI CEO Sam Altman: "There will always be people who wait and sit around and say 'we shouldn't do AI because we may burn a little more carbon'... the anti-progress streak" and this "is something that we can all fight against."<sup>9</sup>
- **America faces a choice. We can either continue our current trajectory, descend into a Third World grid, and become totally inhospitable for AI, or we can adopt energy freedom policies and become a world leader in both AI and electricity.**
- Share this article with tech giant CEOs and tell them to publicly apologize for damaging our grid and to commit to energy freedom policies.

**From:** [Charles Blackmon](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote NO - Proposed Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:52:43 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

**Dear Council Members:**

**Please vote NO on the proposed Sustainability Plan. Scottsdale has been a leader in environmental sustainability for decades. The citizens in our community have worked hard and invested billions of dollars to protect our environment. Despite our efforts, the proposed plan punishes us in several ways:**

**Waste Reduction Goal (p.12): Households to reduce waste/trash by 90% in 15 years. Dave Bennett (Scottsdale Waste Manager) told City Council this will require increasing rates on households—And it raises concerns about toxic illegal dumping.**

**Water Reduction Goal (p.11,58): Households to reduce water consumption 1.3% per year through 2033. Scottsdale residents have voluntarily reduced their water consumption by 0.6% per year since 2000—Very impressive, but less than half the rate of this goal. To meet this goal, the city will have to raise your water rates.**

**Air Quality Goal (p.89): Participate in "regional efforts to improve air quality" with MAG. MAG's top recommendation to reduce ozone is to *drive as little as possible: carpool or use public transit.***

**Extreme Heat goal (p.102): Increase citywide tree canopy from 13% to 25%. Sounds nice—but City Manager says this goal requires land, water, and millions of dollars *that we don't have.***

**Energy goal (p.10): Citywide electricity reduction of 15% in 10 years—*regardless of energy source.* Promotes expanding costly mandates for green-codes on both residents and business and marshaling city resources to monitor, audit, and report on users.**

Charles Blackmon

Charles Blackmon  
[charlesblackmon@icloud.com](mailto:charlesblackmon@icloud.com)  
Mobile: 480-241-4713

**From:** [Anne Ward](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:30:34 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Do NOT approve the Sustainability Plan!! You want feedback from residents, well this is it.

You've ignored pleas to slow down development. You've ignored pleas to be reasonable regarding road diets. (Who's going to walk or ride a bike when it's 100+ degrees. Or when they have packages to carry at even lesser temperatures.) You've already increased costs on everything.

Your allegiance seems to be anywhere but with the residents of this city. And that's a polite way of putting it.

Don't approve this plan. It's harmful to the people you are supposed to represent. We have reduced waste, we have reduced water usage, we are committed to the ideology but this plan isn't the answer.

Anne Ward  
City Resident and Voter

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [brad kunde](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** The Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:23:52 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Scottsdale Council Members,

The Sustainability Plan is nothing more than a left-wing social engineering plan. It is my opinion, that any of the City Council Members who vote for this plan are socialists! They are not who they purport themselves to be.

Brad Kunde

**From:** [mltrs](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:15:58 AM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Hello Council Members - I am more than concerned about this plan - and am expressing my concerns - our water is going to run out even tho you say we are ok - cutting items important to the citizens of Scottsdale like trash less pickups and other items - please recheck yourself on these various items as when voting time comes you will hear from the citizens and their feelings when it is too late to reconsider your choices. - Mary Lee Schneiderhan

**From:** [NAN HUNTER](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:02:03 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

As a lifelong resident of Scottsdale (I attended Kiva Elementary and Saguaro High School ) quality of life in Scottsdale is on the decline. The Sustainability Plan is completely out of touch with the priorities citizens of Scottsdale care about. Please focus on removing and rehousing homeless, paying police and fire more, and hiring more police. With the southern border crisis, we do NOT FEEL SAFE HERE ANYMORE.

Please address legislative issues such as revised setback codes for new buildings. The thousands of units of multi family buildings are now built right to the sidewalk. Previously, Scottsdale always had setbacks, allowing for trees and landscaping, and making the city attractive. Also, codes could require trees and shade to be integrated in and around these new buildings .

Another real problem is short term rentals. Please write city codes to restrict them.

I would favor tax uses to build more parks with trees and water features.  
The excessive development of multi family housing is putting a strain on existing parks.

I OPPOSE THE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Thank you,  
Nan Hunter

7616 East Krall Street  
Scottsdale 85250

**From:** [Joan Lang](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:10:10 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Joan Lang  
12420 E Doubletree Ranch Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259  
[wandjlang@gmail.com](mailto:wandjlang@gmail.com)

**From:** [Ellie Otto](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 9:10:06 AM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This is DISGUSTING!! Who do you think you are to inflict this on the residents of Scottsdale???? Shame on you!! If you had not passed all the high-rise construction this would not be a problem! Once again, you took it upon yourselves to ruin Scottsdale!! Guess what--you are not GODS and should be thinking of taking care of the residents instead of ruining their lives with your nonsense--road diets, etc. What were you thinking--or not thinking is better put! This was a beautiful city when I moved here and now it is trash--thanks to Scottsdale City Councils now and past! I ask myself--why do this to the city you "supposedly" LOVE? Vote NO, NO and NO on this destructive "Sustainability Plan"!

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Ellie Otto  
7415 E Princess Blvd Unit 2013  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[ellieottoaz@gmail.com](mailto:ellieottoaz@gmail.com)

**From:** [Arthur Deal](#)  
**To:** [Kurth, Rebecca](#); ["SherwoodHts"](#); [City Council](#); [Perreault, Erin](#)  
**Subject:** "Sustainability Plan" on May 21 agenda  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:00:10 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

I had hoped to get an email attachment with the PLAN or a link. but I was forced to look it up from a reference in the Council's agenda for tonight.... It is a 357-page document (or really, only 223 pages if one dismisses the 134 pages of emails from residents included in the plan).

Please note:

1. the Plan has very ambitious goals, but the path from now (2024) to this future environmental Nirvana (2035) is unclear. Contrary to the text, the plan does not provide "a roadmap and specific action steps for achieving long-term targets." There are no precise metrics or details on how this will happen --- just vague goals. It is basically bureaucratic exercise in virtue signaling
2. The plan talks about "costs" but costs, as in "money out of our pockets," are totally absent. To achieve even a modest share of the stated goals in the plan, the increases in fees charged to residents would have to be astronomical. If the plan were honest or serious, there would be a projection showing the financial impact on residents, or even to city coffers. Best not talk about that...
3. All of the dozens of letters from residents in that last 134 pages of the plan urge that this plan be rejected. As one emails says "Hell no!" Why doesn't COS put it to a vote?
4. I find it interesting that this matter of sustainability is on the agenda following a proposal for a new 40-acre development, a change in land annexation policy and new water and infrastructure projects. What is this? Build more so one can have more to sustain? The fact is Scottsdale (and all of Metro Phoenix) need to put the break on this rampant development. As another letter said: "The greenest building is one that is not built".

I urge the Council to reject this plan and fire anybody that put this inane pedazo de mierda together. It is insulting and useless.

John on Cambridge

PS: If the Scottsdale Sustainability people were planning the D-Day invasion, the whole invasion plan would be "get a bunch of people in a bunch of boats and land in France somewhere."

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**From:** Kurth, Rebecca <RKurth@Scottsdaleaz.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 4:38 PM  
**To:** Arthur Deal <jdeal@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Possible proposed "Sustainability Plan" to be reviewed or voted on May 21

Thank you for contacting Mayor Ortega and the City Council with your thoughts and comments on this topic, your correspondence has been received. Your message has been forwarded to the appropriate staff.

[Rebecca Kurth](#)

Management Assistant to Mayor and City Council  
Office of Mayor David D. Ortega | City of Scottsdale

o [480-312-7977](tel:480-312-7977)

Scottsdale City Hall  
[3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd.](#)  
[Scottsdale, AZ 85251](#)

[ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov)

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**From:** Arthur Deal <jdeal@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2024 5:41 PM

**To:** City Council <CityCouncil@scottsdaleaz.gov>

**Subject:** Possible proposed "Sustainability Plan" to be reviewed or voted on May 21



**From:** [Kristin Olson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** No to your sustainability plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 12:54:12 PM

**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

This plan is unnecessary and I wanted to send my rejection to your sustainability plan. Hope that you will reconsider this at the vote this evening and take another look at what you are doing to the citizens of Scottsdale.

Thank you-directions of mine are highlighted below:

**Waste Reduction Goal (p.12):** Households to reduce waste/trash by 90% in 15 years. Dave Bennett (Scottsdale Waste Manager) told City Council this will require increasing rates on households—And it raises concerns about toxic illegal dumping.

**Water Reduction Goal (p.11,58):** Households to reduce water consumption 1.3% per year through 2033. Scottsdale residents have voluntarily reduced their water consumption by 0.6% per year since 2000—Very impressive, but less than half the rate of this goal. To meet this goal, the city will have to raise your water rates.

**Air Quality Goal (p.89):** Participate in "regional efforts to improve air quality" with MAG. MAG's top recommendation to reduce ozone is to ***drive as little as possible: carpool or use public transit.***

**Extreme Heat goal (p.102):** Increase citywide tree canopy from 13% to 25%. Sounds nice—but City Manager says this goal requires land, water, and millions of dollars ***that we don't have.***

**Energy goal (p.10):** Citywide electricity reduction of 15% in 10 years ***—regardless of energy source.*** Promotes expanding costly mandates for green-codes on both residents and business and marshaling city resources to monitor, audit, and report on users.

**Here are a few of the many questions we have received from residents about this proposal:**

- Is this the price residents pay—higher bills for trash, water and power—for the tens-of-thousands of apartments added over the past few decades?
- We're told that teachers, public safety workers, and city employees can't afford to live in Scottsdale—Doesn't this plan make it worse for them?
- Instead of spending our tax-dollars to monitor and audit residents—among other climate priorities—why can't the city council prioritize South Scottsdale parks, filling potholes, and paying police and firefighters?
- With economic uncertainty and inflation, does the City Council understand that higher fees will make life tougher for families, low-income residents, and fixed-income seniors?
- I thought City Council was concerned with rising homelessness. Won't increasing basic living-costs nudge more people in that direction?
- Why is City Council wading into 'culture wars'? The plan promises to "bring equity" to Scottsdale? Why can't City Council be non-ideological and boring?

***In fact, it is clear the real purpose of this plan is to force Scottsdale citizens to pay for (with their dollars and with a lowered quality of life) even more overdevelopment that they have said loudly and forcibly they do not want!***

Bottom line, this proposal is completely unnecessary and is actually detrimental to truly keeping Scottsdale a leader in sustainability. It should at a minimum be sent back to the drawing board for major revisions.

Kristin Olson  
19079 N 95th Way  
Scottsdale AZ 85255  
719-964-8792  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Denis Slawsby](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 12:14:23 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

My wife and I are opposed to the sustainability plan as proposed. It seems to be unnecessary and detrimental to the citizens of Scottsdale.

It appears to be a vehicle that will add a further expense to the tax payers of Scottsdale and remove or replace public input to the scope and enforcement of regulations that will be part of our daily life. Do we really want to follow the lead of major cities like LA, Chicago, New York ?

Denis and Mary Slawsby  
10195 E Wethersfield Rd  
85260

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Tom Krolick](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 12:06:42 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

The only way to achieve sustainability is to STOP DEVELOPEMANTS AND BUILDING !!!!  
This is not hard to understand, so conserve water and valuable resources by ending development in Scottsdale.

Thomas Krolick

**From:** [Gerald O'Keefe](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:07:50 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

The above mentioned Plan is a VERY bad idea. It is nothing but a veiled tax increase. The citizens of Scottsdale do not need it.

Mary Louise O'Keefe RN  
Gerald O'Keefe DMD

**From:** [Elisa V](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability proposal  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:04:06 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Dear Mayor & Council members -

Of course every resident wants the livability & quality of life in Scottsdale to be sustainable.

Unfortunately, the 5 Priority Areas of the proposed Sustainability Plan - Energy, Water, Waste, Air Quality, and Extreme Heat - have been worsened by overdevelopment.

Knowing this, why did our council vote to approve 3500+ apartment units over the past 3 years, on top of the 10,000+ units already in the pipeline?

Like clockwork, every time council votes for a new large apartment complex, residents are promised there's enough water and power—with no adverse effects on the environment and current residents.

Now, to compensate for the adverse effects of 14,000 more apartments, the city has embarked on an aggressive utility-rationing agenda called the Sustainability Plan. To highlight the extreme nature of the agenda: 'Reduce trash collection (refuse) per single-family household by 90% within 15 years'.

Although higher utility and trash collection rates are not expressly stated in the plan, raising fees and instituting surcharges are the only ways to achieve the plan's aggressive goals - the price that residents must now pay for injecting the thousands of apartments into the city.

The saddest part is that the segment of Scottsdale's population who will be hardest hit by increases in basic utility fees are the elderly and fixed income folks - the same segment already devastated by inflation, rising rents, and economic uncertainty.

Instead of our City government helping them, it will be creating policies which will further harm them financially.

Here is the most obvious question for those who created this plan: Why are there no limits on future up-zonings, which increase demands on water and power and emit waste and air toxins?

A Sustainability Plan that doesn't include this basic requirement is merely a plan to 'sustain' even more development.

Thank you,

Elisa Verhille  
11429 N 109th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

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**From:** [Anthony Giaccone](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:31:08 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

To Whom It May Concern

I want to strongly voice my support of the sustainability plan that will be before you shortly.

The quality of life in Scottsdale and it's reputation as a forward thinking community is at stake.

Do the right thing for your constituents , make Scottsdale BETTER!

Anthony Giaccone

Director of National Accounts

BellesBoard/The Club Leadership Alliance

BellesBoard, A Blackbaud Partner

Providing Board and Committee Portals for the Club Industry

The Future of Your Club's Governance – Available NOW!

[AGiaccone@BellesBoard.com](mailto:AGiaccone@BellesBoard.com)

Cell/Text 631.428.1874 (Eastern Time)

Calendly account –

[https://calendly.com/tony\\_bellesboard/30min](https://calendly.com/tony_bellesboard/30min)



**From:** [David Langston](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:25:09 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Please do not vote yes and implement your Sustainability Plan. Stop voting to raise our taxes every chance you get.

DAVID LANGSTON  
10950 E Gelding Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

**From:** [ROMA HOOK](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:30:12 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

The plan would also require increasing water rates, again "reducing" consumption by making it too expensive for residents to afford!

They also want to work with the Maricopa Association of Governments to "improve" air quality, but just last year MAG released their proposed air quality "control measures" that were nothing more than a carbon copy of the California plan of banning the sale of gas cars, regulating gas stoves out of existence, and other draconian measures to restrict individual liberty.

Finally, the city wants to reduce all energy use by 15% in 10 years, pushing expensive "green code" mandates on residents and businesses and using bureaucrats for enforcement.

The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

ROMA HOOK  
7325 E Princess Blvd Unit 2111  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
[romajhook@gmail.com](mailto:romajhook@gmail.com)

**From:** [Daniel Foote](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please join this long-time resident in OPPOSING the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 1:40:10 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

This plan will increase the cost of living for current and future residents with negligible benefit. These costs will undoubtedly bring the pre-blight look currently gracing the north side of Chapparal Road west of the canal. As a long-time resident and former city employee, I urge you to reconsider this plan. I and many other voters will remember your vote.

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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The fact is these Climate Action Plans are built on faulty presuppositions propagated by radical climate alarmists.

PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Daniel Foote  
7543 E Coolidge St  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
dfootecpa@gmail.com

**From:** [Jo Anne Kindler](#)  
**To:** [Mayor David D. Ortega](#)  
**Subject:** Please OPPOSE the "Sustainability Plan!"  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:00:11 PM

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External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!

Dear Mayor Ortega,

The Plan outlines "goals" to reduce energy, water, and waste and purportedly to lower temperatures. State agencies are BANNED from planning to reduce emissions to lower temperatures, cities and towns should be too!

This plan would require increasing trash collection rates to meet their target of reducing waste by 90% in 15 years, to price you out of consuming what the city sees as too much because it will become too costly to throw out. In other words, throwing out the trash is now too expensive for you? No problem, just consume less!

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PLEASE...OPPOSE the Sustainability Plan!

Sincerely,

Jo Anne Kindler  
9414 E Monument Dr  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
[jokindler2@gmail.com](mailto:jokindler2@gmail.com)

**From:** [Albert Monillas](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote against the Sustainability Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:28:50 PM

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**External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

Please vote AGAINST the Scottsdale Sustainability Plan. The plan is climate focused—ignoring or worsening the city's FISCAL sustainability.

**Albert Monillas**  
**9242 N 117th St**  
**Scottsdale AZ 85259**

**From:** notifications@cognitoforms.com on behalf of City of Scottsdale <notifications@cognitoforms.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 3:29 PM  
**To:** Cordova, Rommel  
**Subject:** City Council Public Written Comment Form - Suzanne Brown

**⚠ External Email: Please use caution if opening links or attachments!**

# City of Scottsdale

## Web Scottsdale City Council Meeting Written Comment Form

[Open Form](#)

### Entry Details

<b>Agenda Item</b>	
MEETING DATE	5/21/2024
WHICH AGENDA ITEM WOULD YOU LIKE TO COMMENT ON?	07. Scottsdale Community Sustainability Plan
<b>Name</b>	
FULL NAME	Suzanne Brown
NAME OF GROUP OR ORGANIZATION	Scottsdale Area Association of REALTORS®
<b>Contact Information</b>	
PHONE	(480) 945-2651
EMAIL	suzanne@scottsdalerealtors.org
ADDRESS	8600 E Anderson Dr, Suite 200

CITY

Scottsdale

## Comment

COMMENT

Mayor Ortega and City Council Members,

The Scottsdale REALTORS® have long encouraged good stewardship of our environment and natural resources which requires careful monitoring and regulation of development influenced by the demands of the growing community.

REALTORS® will support policies and programs that encourage conservation, education, and balanced incorporation of the environment, and the wise use of natural resources which also preserve private property rights.

Overall, the Sustainability Plan is aspirational and likely to focus on education, outreach, and incentives to encourage citizens to make more sustainable choices in their daily lives and help Scottsdale achieve its environmental goals. Along those lines, the Scottsdale REALTORS® would like to be one of the Community Champions included for sharing sustainability awareness but also to help work through any possible City Code updates.