



CAP

Climate Action Plan
2025 Annual Report

CAP Overview

3 Goals

1. Mitigation

90% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2045 compared to 2014 levels.

2. Adaptation

Bainbridge Island is climate savvy, and can withstand the impacts of climate change.

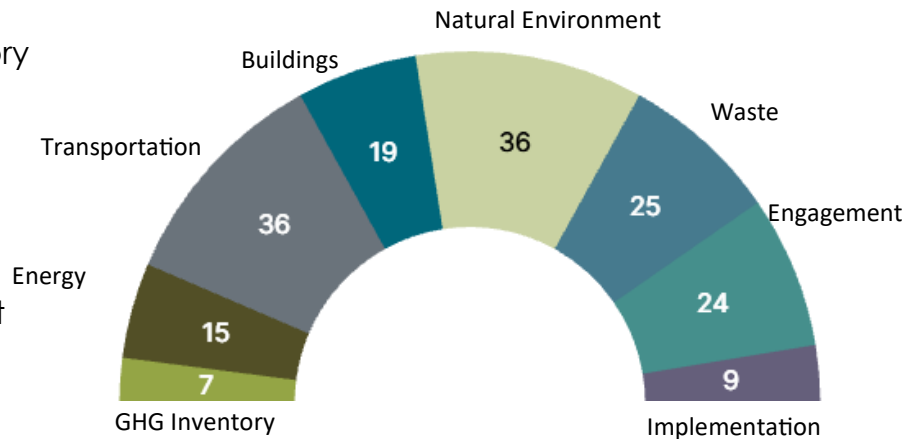
3. Community Engagement

COBI inspires community action and partners with local and regional organizations to take meaningful and equitable climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.

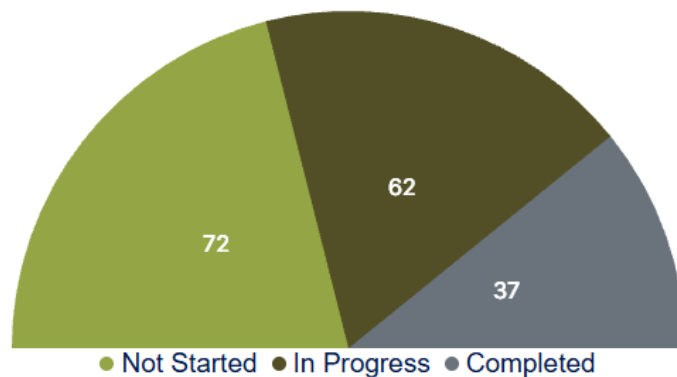
8 Sections

1. Greenhouse Gas Inventory
2. Energy
3. Transportation
4. Buildings
5. Natural Environment
6. Waste
7. Community Engagement
8. Implementation

Actions per Section



Status of Actions



171 Total Actions

79 Priority Actions

30% Priority Actions Completed

Report on Targets Established by CAP



= Completed




= In Progress



= Not Yet Met


GHG Inventory

 **By 2021, select software (e.g. ICLEI clear path) that can be used to obtain community-wide data for the next GHG emissions inventory.**

⇒ The City is now using ICLEI Clear Path 2.0 software.

 **By 2022, complete a new GHG emissions inventory, followed by an inventory in 2026 and every 5 years thereafter.**

⇒ GHG Inventory nearing completion in February of 2026 for 2023 data.

 **By 2023, complete a new forest sequestration analysis for the Island and prepare a plan to reanalyze the forest sequestration analysis periodically.**

Energy

 **By 2022, COBI will have established a Green Energy and Building Fund to assist with conversions and efficiency upgrades for homes, with a focus on low-income housing.**

⇒ From 2024 -2025, the City offered a heat pump subsidy program for income-eligible households.

 **By 2022, COBI adopts policies that prohibit propane, fuel oil, and wood stoves as the primary source of heating in all new residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal buildings.**

 **By 2040, all of Bainbridge Island's sources of electricity are carbon-free.**

⇒ In 2024, PSE reported that 49% of their electricity was carbon-free [Source](#).

⇒ The WA Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) requires Washington utilities to eliminate coal from their fuel mix by 2025, to be greenhouse gas neutral by 2030, and have 100% clean energy by 2045.

 **By 2023, half of the Bainbridge Prepares disaster hubs have installed 6-20kW solar arrays and storage for resilience.**

⇒ All disaster hubs have a 3kw generator and 1500w battery backup that can be used in a disaster for community members to charge cell phones and other key devices.

⇒ 2 of the 15 Disaster hubs have roof-top solar arrays installed and 1 solar installation is planned for the summer of 2026.

Transportation

 **By 2030, reduce VMT per capita by 25% (currently 3,000 VMT/capita), and by 50% by 2045.**

⇒ For passenger vehicles, estimated 2018 VMT per capita was 2,907 and 2021 VMT per capita was 2,886, representing a .7% decrease per capita from 2018 - 2021 [Source](#).

Report on Targets Established by CAP



= Completed



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= Not Yet Met

Transportation

 **By 2030, increase the mode share of active transportation (biking and walking) to 25% and to 50% by 2045.**

⇒ In 2021, total active transportation mode share (biking + walking) was 9% while driving in a personal vehicle was 84% [Source](#).

 **By 2030, increase the mode share of public transit to 5% (currently 2%) and to 10% by 2045.**

⇒ In 2021, transit (bus, vanpool, ferry) mode share was 7% [Source](#).

 **By 2025, transition COBI's fleet to 75% electric vehicles and the remainder to biofuels.**

⇒ By 2025, 7% of the City's fleet (light, medium, and heavy duty) was transitioned to electric.

⇒ 100% of diesel fleet vehicles are fueled by R99 renewable diesel.

 **By 2045, 80% of registered vehicles on Bainbridge Island will be either electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.**

⇒ In 2024, 12% of on-island vehicle registrations were battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric.

Buildings

 **By 2021, COBI has adopted green building standards and practices for all new municipal, residential, commercial, and industrial buildings, including affordable housing and all renovations and additions of a certain size.**

⇒ The City follows the 2021 WA State Energy Code, which includes thermal envelope requirements, high-performance windows, mechanical systems efficiency, definitions of on-site renewable energy, building performance & compliance pathways, flexibility for innovative/alternative designs, and climate-specific requirements.

 **By 2025, COBI will complete an analysis, develop a plan, and design a process for updating the plan to ensure all City-owned assets will be resilient from sea level rise over the lifespan of the infrastructure.**

⇒ In 2025, the City completed a Shoreline Roadway Assessment and developed a plan to prioritize and fund shoreline management strategies for roads at risk of flooding and landslides.

⇒ The City completed a sea level rise vulnerability & risk assessment report and story map.

 **By 2025, COBI will complete an analysis, conduct public outreach activities, and identify those properties at highest risk from sea level rise impacts over the next 50 years.**

⇒ In 2024, the City completed a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability & Risk Assessment, story map, and sea level rise calculator for use in public projects.

⇒ In late 2024, the City was awarded a FEMA BRIC grant for community engagement and planning for alternatives to mitigate flooding on Manitou Beach Drive. In 2025, the award was terminated by FEMA.

Report on Targets Established by CAP



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= Not Yet Met

Natural Environment

 **By 2021, COBI is using the EcoAdapt Climate Change Adaptation Tool to evaluate land acquisition and development proposals to ensure decisions are climate informed.**


⇒ In 2023, the City created the climate lens decision tool.

 **By 2023, COBI will complete a forest stocking density evaluation of City-owned lands to inform its forest management practices.**

⇒ Bainbridge Island's Fire District conducts wildfire risk assessments and the City's Arborist is qualified to make arboricultural recommendations for wildfire risk reduction.

 **By 2025, COBI will develop a comprehensive plan to control and reduce invasive plant species across Bainbridge Island in partnership with relevant stakeholders.**


⇒ The City provides budget to a contractor for periodic control of invasives at waterfront park. Bainbridge Island Metro Parks and the Kitsap Conservation District have also done some control.

 **By 2025, COBI will evaluate and as necessary revise the Community Forest Management Plan adopted in 2017 to ensure that it incorporates adaptation to climate change risk factors including wildfire and drought and pathogens, and will work collaboratively with all stakeholders that manage forest resources to establish consistency in priorities and planning for climate change impacts on forests across jurisdictions and ownership.**

⇒ The 2006 Community Forest Management Plan was officially adopted in 2017. This plan is anticipated to be updated in an effort to be designated and comply with the WA Department of Natural Resources Evergreen Communities Act.

 **By 2023, COBI will adopt a Groundwater Management Plan that accounts for climate change in its projections, policies, and guidance.**

⇒ In 2026, an updated groundwater management plan that incorporates the latest climate change models from the UW Climate Impacts group will be considered for adoption.

 **By 2025, COBI will integrate into its Shoreline Master Program approaches to address and adapt to the impacts of sea level rise on the natural resources of our shorelines, and will work collaboratively with all stakeholders that manage shoreline resources to establish consistency in priorities and planning for sea level rise across jurisdictions and ownership. The City should consider explicitly incorporating flood risk projection updates into its 2021 periodic review of the SMP.**

⇒ In 2025, the WA State Department of Ecology initiated rulemaking to require sea level rise hazard areas be incorporated into local shoreline master plans.

 **By 2023, agricultural uses will be incorporated into groundwater planning via the Groundwater Management Plan.**

Report on Targets Established by CAP



= Completed



= In Progress



= Not Yet Met

Waste

 **By 2021, COBI's approved sustainable procurement plan is applied across all departments for 100% of purchases.**

⇒ The City's sustainable purchasing policy can be found in section 1.5 of COBI's procurement policy manual.


 **By 2021, COBI establishes policies to substantially reduce the use of single-use disposable food service ware by Island businesses.**

⇒ City Council adopted Ordinances 2021-18, 2021-34, 2022-21, and 2023-24 that eliminate the use of single-use disposable food service ware by Island businesses.


 **By 2023, regular commercial compost services are established and consistently used.**

⇒ City Council adopted Ordinance 2023-06 requiring the City to use compost in all city projects.

⇒ The WA Department of Ecology identified Bainbridge Island as being an ORCA (Organic Recycling Collection Area) requiring local governments to offer year-round organics collection service by 2027.

 **By 2030, Bainbridge has a closed-loop system for its green and agricultural waste, such that organic materials are recycled and reused on Island to the maximum extent practicable.**

Community Engagement

 **By 2021, a majority of the Bainbridge community has ready access to current climate change information, is aware of climate change issues, and understands what COBI and what they as individuals can do about it.**

⇒ The City maintained a climate change webpage in 2021 and ran the Climate Smart campaign.

 **By 2021, COBI and committees like the CCAC meet regularly with other advisory committees, community groups and have established relationships with other jurisdictions to share, support and exchange climate change information and strategies.**

⇒ CCAC meets monthly and has established numerous sub-committees for focused work.

 **By 2022, COBI's existing authority, budget and capacity is sufficient to address and respond to climate change related issues.**

⇒ While funds were made available for three consecutive biennial budgets, it does not cover full cost of the work.

 **By 2022, COBI will have incorporated climate change into its emergency preparedness programs.**

⇒ The City's emergency preparedness program incorporates CAP actions into its strategic plan.

⇒ 4 disaster hubs have large backup generators, all hubs have a smaller 3kw generator and a 1500w Jackery battery backup.

Data Snapshot

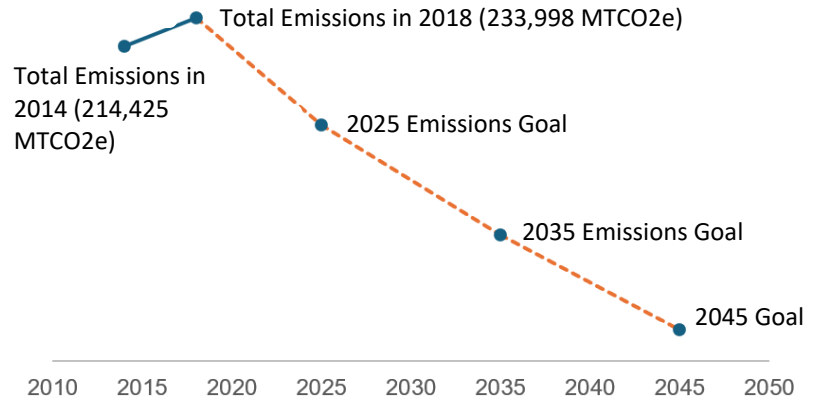
Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Bainbridge Island (MTCO_{2e})

Climate Action Plan Target

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2045 compared to 2014 levels.

What do we know?

From 2018 emissions, a 63% reduction is needed to reach the 2035 goal.



Source: 2018 GHG Inventory Report

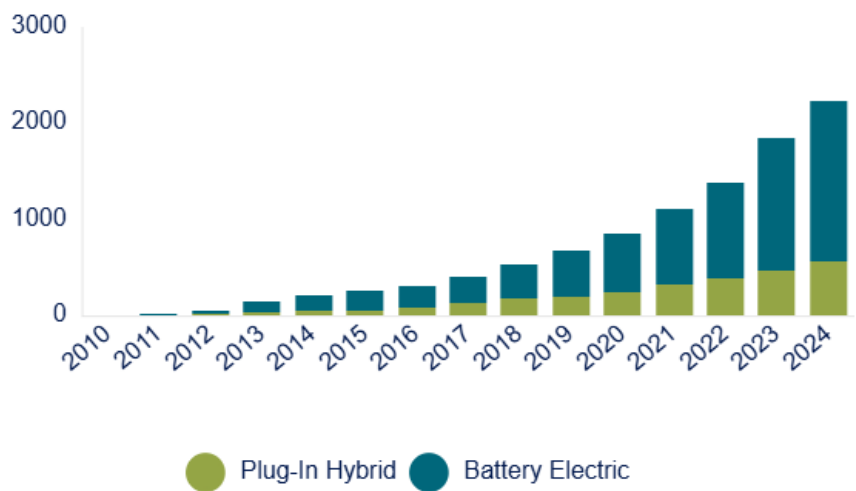
On-Island EV Registrations

Climate Action Plan Target

By 2045, 80% of registered vehicles on Bainbridge Island will be either electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

What do we know?

On-island battery electric EV registrations has increased 916% in the last 10 years.



Source: WA Department of Licensing

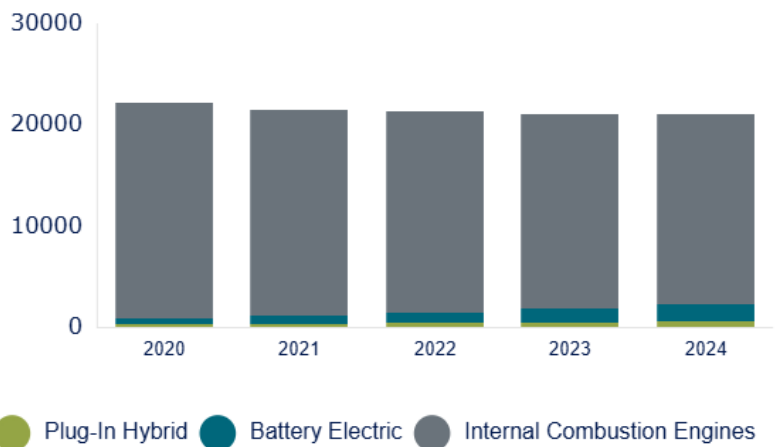
On-Island EV Registrations Compared with Gas Powered Vehicles

What do we know?

Battery electric EVs represent 8% of total on-island vehicle registrations.

&

Plug-in hybrid EVs represent 3% of total on-island vehicle registrations.



Source: WA Department of Licensing

Data Snapshot

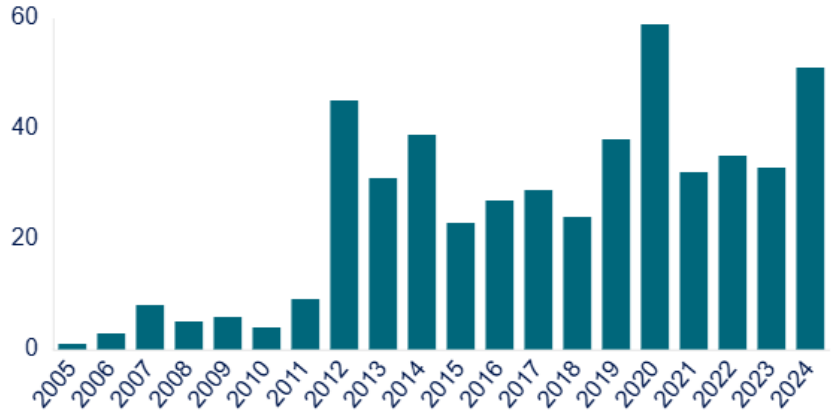
Climate Action Plan Target

By 2040, all of Bainbridge Island's sources of electricity are carbon-free.

What do we know?

By the end of 2024, a total of 502 residences installed solar panels, representing approximately 5% of total households.

of Residential Solar Systems Installed Each Year



Sources: Puget Sound Energy, US Census

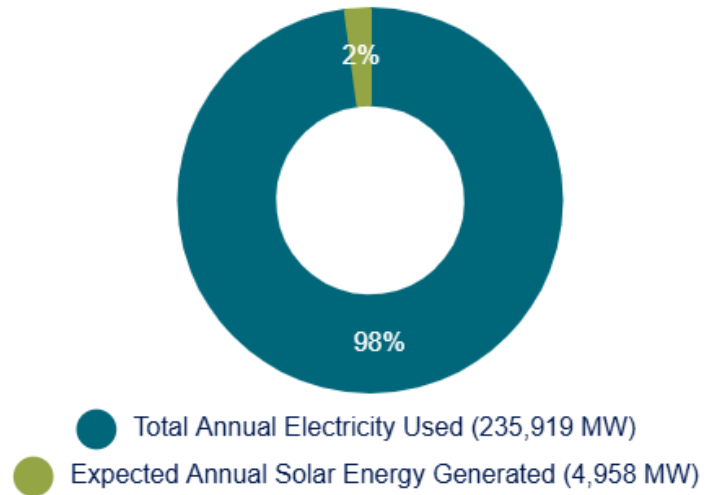
Climate Action Plan Target

By 2040, all of Bainbridge Island's sources of electricity are carbon-free.

What do we know?

As of 2024, residential solar systems contributed 2% of energy used.

% of Solar Energy Generated Compared to Electricity Used

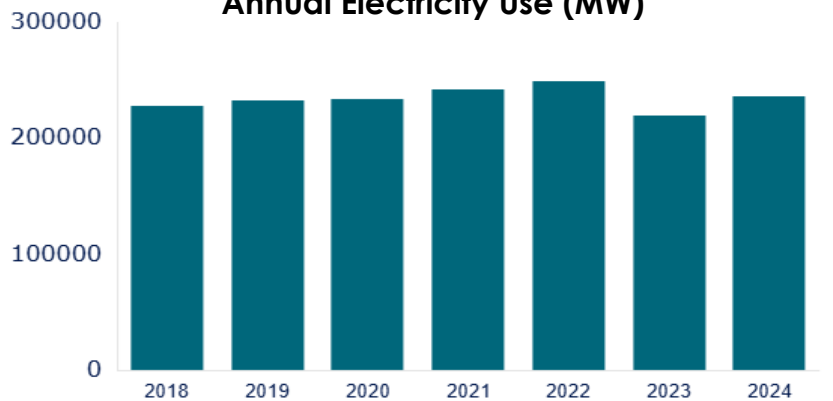


Source: Puget Sound Energy

What do we know?

Bainbridge Island's electricity usage has increased 3.5% since 2018 while the population grew 1.2% during that same timeframe.

Annual Electricity Use (MW)



Sources: Puget Sound Energy, US Census

Community Climate Actions 2025

Research

Greenhouse Gas Inventory Nearing Completion CAP Actions 2.A.2.a & 9.C.1.b

What happened? Research is being conducted to update the community greenhouse gas inventory using 2023 emissions data.

Why is this important? Greenhouse gas inventories identify sources of greenhouse gas emissions and is used for strategic planning and to direct funding to projects that reduce the pollution.

What's next? The consultant will be presenting findings to City Council.

Transportation Study Completed

CAP Actions 4.A.3.b & 4.A.3.c

What happened? A consultant was hired to evaluate solutions to a number of transportation gaps on the island and provide recommendations.

Why is this important? Working with transportation experts ensures solutions are data-informed and evidence-based and will provide the City with a roadmap to consider.

What's next? The consultant will be presenting recommendations to City Council.

Bike Traffic Count Study Completed

CAP Action 4.A.1.a

What happened? The City periodically hires a consultant to count the number of cyclists at multiple intersections across the island and what direction they travel over a period of time.

Why is this important? Understanding the volume of cyclists across the Island and where they are traveling to informs projects that upgrade the non-motorized transportation infrastructure.

What's next? The City will review data and use as a resource for future transportation planning.

Policy

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Code Updated

CAP Action 4.B.2.a

What happened? In 2022, City Council passed ordinance 2025-01 related to electric vehicle charging infrastructure. In 2024, the community requested a review of the regulations. In 2025, the City updated requirements to be in alignment with the State requirements and reduce the requirements due to challenges of compliance.

Why is this important? The City was responsive to feedback from the Climate Change Advisory Committee, residents and businesses that in a commercial setting, visitors tend to park for short times and that employees may be parked for longer periods of time. Strategies for electric vehicle charging infrastructure generally has a focus on where people spend the most time, such as at home or at a place of employment.

Community Climate Actions 2025

Pilots

Kicking Gas Heat Pump Pilot

CAP Actions 3.A.2.a, 3.A.2.b & 3.B.1.d

What happened? This pilot offset costs for 20 income-eligible households to replace a carbon emitting furnace with a high efficiency electric heat pump. More information available [here](#).



**Kicking Gas
BAINBRIDGE**

Why is this important? Many homes on Bainbridge Island rely on propane, oil, or wood for heat, impairing indoor and outdoor air quality. An electric heat pump provides cooling in the increasingly hot summers and filter out air pollutants such as wildfire smoke and mold. As the cost to install a heat pump is a barrier for many households, this pilot aimed to provide support for income-eligible households.

E-bike Subsidy Pilot Program

CAP Action 4.A.1.g

What happened A pilot subsidy program was launched to reduce barriers and encourage the usage of e-bikes.

**E BIKE
VOUCHER**

Why is this important? The high cost of e-bikes can be prohibitive for low- and moderate-income individuals. Subsidies make e-bikes more affordable, enabling a wider range of people to access this option while improving transportation access, promoting environmental sustainability, and enhancing the health and well-being of communities.

What's next? A second round of subsidies will be made available in 2026. More information available [here](#).

Public Campaign

Solarize Bainbridge Campaign Moves Forward

CAP Action 8.A.1.d, 8.B.1.f



What happened? In late 2025, the City began working with a non-profit to offer a solar energy education program.

Why is this important? Accelerating the adoption of renewable energy reduces greenhouse gas emissions and when paired with a battery system creates a more resilient system.

What's next? Keep an eye out for campaign materials in the Spring of 2026.

Community Climate Actions 2025

Infrastructure

Solar Panels Installed at Woodward Middle School CAP Action 3.B.1.b

What happened? A 120kW solar photovoltaic (PV) system was installed as a carbon offset for the newly built Ted Spearman Justice Center.

Why is this important? Carbon offsets are generated when local solar projects reduce emissions by displacing electricity from higher-carbon sources on the grid.



Bike Corral Completed CAP Action 4.A.2.e

What is happening? The bike corral located along the street at Winslow green where bikes are locked. A mural chosen by the community through a survey was painted on the road surface.

Why is this important? This prioritizes using public space traditionally dedicated to cars for bikes and e-bikes and helps to manage sidewalk clutter.

What's next? The City is considering expanding the program to install additional bike corrals across the Island.



Plans for Solar Panels for the Disaster Hub at Hyla Middle School Moves Forward

CAP Action 3.B.1.b

What is happening? In 2022, City Council directed the City to move forward with the design and installation of solar panels at the Hyla Middle school, the location of one of the Island's disaster hubs.

Why is this important? Ensuring disaster hubs are outfitted with resilient back up power systems will support residents when the hubs are active during an emergency.

What's next? The City is working with an engineer to develop a bid package for potential installation in the summer of 2026.

Community Climate Actions 2025

Outreach & Education

Wildfire Preparedness

CAP Action 6.A.3.c

What happened? A wildfire mitigation cleanup event took place in May and provided roll-off dumpsters for neighborhoods to dispose of vegetation. Also, a wildfire safety mailer was sent to every residential mailing addresses in June.

Why is this important? Wildfires are an increasing hazard. Maintaining defensible space using Firewise principles are encouraged for prevention and all residents should have access to information to protect their homes and families.



Tsunami Preparedness Workshops Offered

CAP Action 5.B.2.c, 8.B.2.a

What happened? The City hosted 4 workshops with Murden cove residents in late summer 2025 to discuss tsunami preparedness. Areas at risk for tsunamis are the same areas with highest risk and impacts from sea level rise.

Why is this important? Being prepared and knowing what to do before an emergency occurs saves lives.

Tour of Bloedel's Compost Facility

What happened? The City organized a tour of Bloedel's on-site compost facility with the Sustainable Bainbridge Zero Waste team.

Why is this important? Strengthening organizational relationships is the backbone to sustainable communities and learning about Bloedel's compost facility provided learning on the science and systems of organics management.



Workshop Offered in Residential Energy Battery Systems

What happened? In October, Spark NW and Puget Sound Energy presented on residential battery systems and PSE's flex battery program.

Why is this important? Battery systems play an important role in creating a resilient energy system, particularly important on Bainbridge Island where power outages can be more frequent.



Municipal Climate Actions 2025

Research

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Update Nearing Completion

CAP Actions 2.A.2.a & 9.C.1.b

What happened? Research was conducted to update the municipal greenhouse gas inventory using 2023 emissions data.

Why is this important? Greenhouse gas inventories pinpoint sources of emissions and is used to focus actions

Solar and Battery Storage Site Evaluation Underway

CAP Action 3.C.1.a

What happened? An engineering firm was hired to evaluate the feasibility for solar panels and a battery back up storage system at 3 City properties.

Why is this important? The objective of this project is to increase the energy resilience and reliability at critical city facilities the event of prolonged power outages.

What's next? In person site evaluations have been completed with the feasibility analysis and construction ready bid set and specification to be completed by the end of May 2026.

Policy

Commute Trip Reduction Ordinance 2025-11 Updated

CAP Action 4.A.1.a

What happened? This administrative update better aligned the City's ordinance with the County's CTR 4 year plan.

Why is this important? Washington State's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Law was first passed by the State Legislature in 1991 with goals to improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion, and reduce the consumption of petroleum fuels through employer-based programs that encourage the use of alternatives to driving alone. The 2018 GHG inventory shows that 8% of all City greenhouse gas emissions come from City employee commutes. The City offers incentives to reduce driving alone and to switch commute trips to a sustainable mode.

City Continues to Purchase 100% Renewable Energy for City Operations

What happened? In 2022, City Council passed Resolution 2022-15, directing the City to participate in Puget Sound Energy's green power purchase program for a 100% renewable energy offset. As a result, the City is recognized by the EPA as a participant in their Green Power Partnership Program.



Why is this important? Puget Sound Energy is actively building out their solar portfolio and proceeds from this program help to invest in new solar projects and give back by funding solar installations for nonprofits, tribal governments, and community organizations.

Municipal Climate Actions 2025

Infrastructure

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Installed for City Fleet

CAP Action 4.B.1.b

What happened? The City was awarded a WA State Department of Commerce grant to install 6 level 2 electric vehicle charging ports at two City locations for fleet vehicle charging.

Why is this important? This grant supports the city's effort to convert its fleet to electric while aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.



Capacity Building

City's Climate Manager Hired

CAP Action 9.A.1.b

What happened? In February, the City hired a new Climate & Sustainability Manager to implement and measure progress on actions in the Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Why is this important? There is a large amount of coordination and administrative work associated with advancing the CAP and having paid staff is critical to moving the work forward.

City Hosts UW Intern

What happened? The City hosted an intern who recently earned their graduate degree in Public Administration at UW. They worked on a number of priority City projects, one being to advance the electric vehicle charging code update for multifamily properties.

Why is this important? With limited staffing to implement the CAP and other Council priorities, hosting interns helps both provide professional experience while accelerating projects forward.

City Participated in IRS Direct Pay Program

What happened? For the first time, the City participated in the IRS Direct Pay program, also called Elective Pay, which allows local governments, along with other tax-exempt entities, to receive a cash payment for clean energy investments in electric vehicles, electric vehicle charging, and solar installations, for example.

Why is this important? Taking part in the program incentivizes clean energy investments and provides a funding source to be used for further investments.

What's next? The City filed for the purchases of 3 electric vehicles that occurred in 2024, resulting in funds that were provided back to the City.