



Purpose Statement & Collaborative Framework

Photo: NASA
via Unsplash



- ▲ County Executive Joe Parisi announcing the creation of the Dane County Office of Energy and Climate Change and the hiring of Keith Reopelle as its director at the Goodman Community Center in June of 2017.

This climate action plan is meant to be a high-level roadmap that builds support for GHG emission reduction strategies and actions to meet emission reduction targets. The plan will help all the people of Dane County take responsibility and do our share to mitigate climate change, but it will also serve to educate, inspire, and facilitate mitigation efforts by other governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals. Our hope is that this document will bring people in Dane County together, at many levels, to support each other in their efforts to address climate change.

On June 5, 2017, County Executive Joe Parisi opened the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change. The office's highest initial priority was to develop a county-wide, economy-wide climate action plan that will put Dane County on a path to deep-decarbonization and make Dane County a leader in the effort to mitigate climate change in a way that is just and equitable and that maximizes health benefits, economic benefits, and resiliency. This document is the culmination of that effort. There have been more than 100 volunteers from across Dane County involved in developing this CAP. Many of them are engineers, scientists, farmers, consultants, CEOs, activists, attorneys, and community leaders. All of them are Dane County citizens with a unique perspective and a pride in ensuring that Dane County remains a safe, productive, beautiful place to live in the face of a rapidly changing climate.

Fig. 5.1

Dane County Council on Climate Change Member Organizations

1000 Friends of Wisconsin	H & H Energy Services
Alliant Energy	Ho Chunk Nation
Azar Law LLC	Home Savings Bank
BIOFerm Energy Systems	IBEW Local 2304
Citizens Utility Board	Krupp General Contractors
City of Fitchburg	Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District
City of Madison	Madison Gas and Electric
City of Middleton	Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies
City of Monona	Public Health Madison & Dane County
City of Sun Prairie	RENEW Wisconsin
Clean Fuel Partners	Sierra Club
Clean Wisconsin	SunPeak
Capital Region Advocacy Network for Environmental Sustainability	Sustain Dane
Dane County Emergency Management	Urban League of Greater Madison
Dane County Office of Equity & Inclusion	UW Health
Derr Farms	Wisconsin Energy Institute
Exact Sciences	Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts
Fiskars	WPPI Energy
Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce	YWCA Madison

Figure 5.1 provides a list of the 38 organizations that make up the Dane County Council on Climate Change which is the group that was invited by the County Executive to bring diverse stakeholder perspectives to this process and ultimately give input on, or reaction to, the various recommendations presented in this CAP. Please see Appendices 1 and 2 for lists of the Climate Council member individuals and the makeup of the various working groups that helped advise the Office of Energy & Climate Change and the Council, and provided program and policy ideas for inclusion in the CAP. Other ideas came from members of the public. These work groups will continue to work with the Office of Energy & Climate Change in the coming years to help implement the CAP.

This has been a collaborative effort among the Office of Energy & Climate Change, the Dane County Climate Council, and the work groups. Not every Council member and work group member supports every recommendation or view in this report and nothing in this CAP report obligates any participant to dedicate resources to any recommendation or action.

The work groups and Climate Council considered eight key criteria in selecting and developing the 109 specific program, policy, and project recommendations contained in this CAP report:

- GHG emission reduction potential
- Feasibility
- Cost
- Equity and justice considerations
- Economic benefits
- Public health and other co-benefits
- Adaptation and resiliency benefits
- Temporal considerations (length of time to implement)

Now that this CAP is written and distributed, there are several additional steps that need to happen without delay including engaging communities to help flesh out implementation plans for the various programs and policies envisioned in this CAP, followed by the actual implementation. We will share more thoughts about these next steps in subsequent sections of this report.

