

Climate Action Plan Introduction & GHG Inventory

The City of Hillsboro recognizes that our climate is changing, and we are responding with meaningful action. The City has completed a community greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and drafted two components of a comprehensive community climate action plan – one focused on reducing the GHG emissions that contribute to climate change and one focused on helping people adapt to climate change through resiliency measures. This summary is designed to provide a high-level overview of the plans.

What is climate change?

A change in global and regional climate patterns, attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases produced from using fossil fuels.

What is a Climate Action Plan (CAP)?

A CAP is response to climate change tailored to local circumstances with goals for emissions reduction and feasible strategies for action. It is a roadmap for making decisions to achieve the most impactful and cost-effective greenhouse gas reductions and resiliency actions in alignment with the City’s mission.

Climate changes happening in Hillsboro



Hotter summers & droughts



Stronger rain events



Increased intensity of winter storms



More wildfire smoke events

Community GHG Inventory

The [Community GHG Inventory](#) includes all sources of emissions to provide an understanding of the community’s GHG footprint. The locally generated emissions include:

- Building Energy**
 Electricity and natural gas for residential, commercial, and industrial facilities
- Transportation**
 Fuels for passenger vehicles, freight, transit, and airplanes at Hillsboro Airport, plus electricity for electric vehicles
- Industrial Processes & Product Use**
 Gases used in specialized manufacturing and refrigerants in air conditioners
- Waste & Wastewater**
 Landfilled organic matter creates methane, and the treatment of wastewater produces nitrous oxide and methane (GHGs)
- Agriculture, Forestry & Land Use**
 Cutting trees or converting vegetated land to developed space generates GHG emissions

Expected Future with No Actions Taken

	2025	2080's
Average summer high temperature	78 °F	88 °F
Yearly days over 90°F	6.4	58
Growing season days	224	321

Community GHG Inventory Cont.

The inventory also includes emissions generated outside of Hillsboro (imported emissions), due to community demand for goods, food, and energy products:

- **Production of Food & Goods**
Things consumed that are grown and built outside the city
- **Production of Fuel**
The mining, processing, and transportation of fuels through pipelines and power lines, and to pumps
- **Air Travel**
Commercial air travel by Hillsboro residents

Inventory Results

The inventory provides baseline data on the climate impacts of the community's daily activities and is foundational for developing projects and programs to manage emissions.

Mitigation of GHG emissions addresses the root cause of climate change to lessen the intensity of climate impacts. In addition to mitigation measures, the City will implement equitable climate adaptation strategies to aid community resiliency and ensure all people in the community are supported as the climate changes, including marginalized groups and those who are disproportionately impacted.

