

Carbon Neutrality Plan Revisions

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Agenda

Carbon Neutrality Plan Revisions

- 1. Three types of revisions to the Carbon Neutrality Plan (CNP)**
 - New information
 - Standard annual revisions
 - Plan consolidation
- 2. New CNP Target Areas**
- 3. Discussion**





Three Types of Revisions



1. Incorporation of new information

- **Financial investment** needed
- Adoption of the **Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan**
- **Partner** commitments: NAU, FUSD, County



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- Adoption of the Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan
- Partner commitments: NAU, FUSD, County

2. Standard annual revisions

- Update our GHG **emissions inventory**
- Minor edits



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- Adoption of the Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan
- Partner commitments: NAU, FUSD, County

2. Standard annual revisions

- Update our GHG emissions inventory
- Minor edits

3. Plan consolidation

- Incorporate **resilience strategies and actions** from the 2018 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)



CAAP-CNP Integration



Staff members are working with various stakeholders to incorporate CAAP target areas into the CNP.

- **COF Teams:**
 - Housing
 - Economic Vitality
 - PROSE
 - Wildland Fire
 - Water Services
 - Facilities
- **Coconino County Health and Human Services**
- **External advisory groups:**
 - Sustainability Commission
 - Business Climate Advisory Group

Previous CNP target areas



The revised CNP incorporates **six** new target areas!

Neighborhoods

Community Resilience

Equitable Systems

Decreased
Dependence on Cars

Housing for All

Inclusive Recreation



Energy

Electric Mobility

Clean Electricity

Building Fuel
Switching

Consumption

Reduced Building
Energy Use

Sustainable
Consumption

Water Security



Commitments

Healthy Forests
and Open Spaces



Health and Safety



Economic Prosperity



Carbon Dioxide
Removal

PRIORITY ONE: WE WILL STRENGTHEN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Resilience

Equitable Systems

Decreased Dependence on Cars

Housing for All

Inclusive Recreation



Housing for All

Flagstaff will create a vibrant and more livable community through increased housing options for residents at all income levels and family sizes.

Flagstaff's 10-Year Housing Plan – vision statement

This Target Area incorporates the goals and content of Flagstaff's 10-Year Housing Plan, developed in 2021 to respond to Flagstaff's Housing Emergency. The Flagstaff City Council unanimously adopted the 10-Year Housing Plan on February 15, 2022.

WHAT IT MEANS

Housing is a collective benefit

There is a strong and growing movement among Flagstaff community members, housing advocates, and City Council to ensure all Flagstaff residents have access to affordable housing. On December 1, 2020, City Council declared a Housing Emergency in Flagstaff, committing to prioritizing affordable housing within City operations to create safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities for all community members.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines affordable housing as spending no more than 30% of monthly gross income on housing costs. Households that spend more than 30% on rent or mortgage costs are considered "housing cost burdened"; households spending more than 50% are "severely housing cost burdened." Within the Flagstaff 10-Year Housing Plan, "affordable housing" is defined as households paying 30% or less of monthly gross income towards the home in which they reside, using HUD's definition.

In an expensive housing market like Flagstaff's, some form of subsidy is necessary for housing to be affordable for many lower income households. Housing subsidies come in many forms. Housing subsidy types include rental assistance, eviction prevention, and down payment assistance. Other forms include non-profit affordable housing, public housing, voucher programs, and some forms of co-operative and private sector housing. Throughout the Housing Plan, the term "housing subsidy" is defined as any form of financial assistance aimed towards decreasing housing costs.

The stories we hear from residents and local reports verify that a lack of affordable housing is not just an individual problem, but rather a community problem that has collective consequences that negatively impact Flagstaff. The Flagstaff 10Year Housing Plan demonstrates how the consequences of failing to create, preserve, and provide access to affordable housing in Flagstaff are linked to lasting negative effects on our neighborhoods, health, children, environment, and jobs. The Housing Plan provides a path forward for the next ten years and offers solutions to reducing Flagstaff's Housing Emergency.



Housing Plan

POLICY INITIATIVES

Create housing options for households at all income levels and family sizes occupied by local residents.

- Create 1: Incentivize the creation of affordable units through various programs and mechanisms.
- Create 2: Ensure that the Flagstaff Regional Plan includes robust affordable housing goals and policies.
- Create 3: Create a dedicated funding source for affordable housing in Flagstaff.
- Create 4: Amend the Flagstaff Zoning Code to facilitate the development of all housing types.
- Create 5: Explore regulatory efficiency and cost-saving practices.

Connect people to equitable housing solutions.

- Connect 1: Reduce homelessness in the Flagstaff community and seek creative solutions to foster housing permanency for all.
- Connect 2: Implement a framework for centering equity in proposed and existing housing practices, policies, and programs.
- Connect 3: Integrate healthcare into housing programs, and housing into healthcare programs, as appropriate.

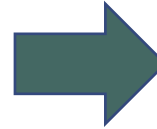
Preserve affordable housing.

- Preserve 1: Encourage the adaptive reuse of buildings.
- Preserve 2: Expand efforts to preserve existing housing stock.

Protect people from housing discrimination and remove housing barriers.

- Protect 1: City Council will continue to lobby and support federal and state legislation to encourage changes to federal and state laws, and to increase the amount of funding available for the preservation and construction of affordable housing.
- Protect 2: Ensure affordable housing is a part of every Flagstaff neighborhood and work to address disparate impact as part of any development or redevelopment.
- Protect 3: Continue Flagstaff's commitments to further federal and Arizona Fair Housing laws in all housing-related services and programs, value the efforts of those who seek to reduce barriers to equitable housing opportunities, and provide Fair Housing education and resources to the community.

Refer to the Detailed List of Policy Initiatives and Strategies on page 52.



CNP – Housing for All Target Area

STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE HOUSING FOR ALL

These strategies match the policies initiatives in the Flagstaff 10-year Housing Plan. See page 52 of the Housing Plan for the timeline, implementation, and collaboration information for each policy and strategy.

HA-1: Create housing options for households at all income levels and family sizes occupied by local residents.

Opportunities for action:

1. Incentivize the creation of affordable units through various programs and mechanisms.
2. Ensure that the Flagstaff Regional Plan includes robust affordable housing goals and policies.
3. Create a dedicated funding source for affordable housing in Flagstaff.
4. Amend the Flagstaff Zoning Code to facilitate the development of all housing types.
5. Explore regulatory efficiency and cost-saving practices.

HA-2: Connect people to equitable housing solutions.

Opportunities for action:

1. Reduce homelessness in the Flagstaff community and seek creative solutions to foster housing permanency for all.
2. Implement a framework for centering equity in proposed and existing housing practices, policies, and programs.
3. Integrate healthcare into housing programs, and housing into healthcare programs, as appropriate.

HA-3: Preserve affordable housing.

Opportunities for action:

1. Encourage the adaptive reuse of buildings.
2. Expand efforts to preserve existing housing stock.

HA-4: Protect people from housing discrimination and remove housing barriers.

Opportunities for action:

1. City Council will continue to lobby and support federal and state legislation to encourage changes to federal and state laws, and to increase the amount of funding available for the preservation and construction of affordable housing.
2. Ensure affordable housing is a part of every Flagstaff neighborhood and work to address disparate impact as part of any development or redevelopment.
3. Continue Flagstaff's commitments to further federal and Arizona Fair Housing laws in all housing-related services and programs, value the efforts of those who seek to reduce barriers to equitable housing opportunities, and provide Fair Housing education and resources to the community.

Inclusive Recreation

Flagstaff will ensure abundant and equitable access to recreational opportunities, prepare for changes to recreation due to climate change, and reduce emissions from recreation.

WHAT IT MEANS

Flagstaff offers exceptional recreational opportunities to both residents and visitors, whether through City of Flagstaff parks, recreation centers, or access to surrounding National Forest land. These diverse recreational opportunities provide residents with the ability to achieve physical and mental health and wellness. The City of Flagstaff Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Events Division seeks to ensure access to parks and recreation, connectivity, health and wellness, inclusion and equity, and natural resource protection.

Changing conditions will affect recreation for both residents and visitors alike, and may stress the City's ability to ensure accessibility, equity and inclusion across all parks and recreation facilities. For more on how climate change will affect visitation, see the Economic Prosperity Target Area on page 139.



Inclusive Recreation strategies

- IR-1** Protect natural areas and ecosystem services that are most vulnerable to the impacts of increased visitation and climate change.
- IR-2** Ensure equity, accessibility, and inclusion across all City of Flagstaff Parks and Recreation facilities, helping all members of the Flagstaff community to meet their health and wellness needs.
- IR-3** Plan for changes to recreation, reduce emissions, and respond to the impacts of climate change on current Parks and Recreation facilities and operations.

Water Security

Flagstaff will ensure that water resources are distributed equitably and sustainably, the community is empowered to use water efficiently, and water and wastewater treatment minimizes greenhouse gas emissions.

WHAT IT MEANS

Water Security refers to the surface water, groundwater, and reclaimed water that serve our residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational, and agricultural needs. It includes 100-year water supply planning, diversification of the water supply portfolio, and conservation to sustain our water supplies and quality for future generations.

The treatment and conveyance of Flagstaff's water supply and wastewater emit a considerable quantity of greenhouse gas emissions. Actions to minimize water use and optimize treatment and conveyance processes can help lower the community's greenhouse gas footprint.

Nearly 80% of Flagstaff's water comes from forests at high risk of significant wildfire damage. Despite progress in water conservation, as our population grows, tourism increases, and the climate changes, we expect water demand to increase while climate change stresses our water resources.



Water Security strategies

- WS-1** Improve water infrastructure and expand water reuse.
- WS-2** Improve ecosystem management for protection of water resources.
- WS-3** Continue to support water conservation efforts across the Flagstaff community.
- WS-4** Maximize passive and active community rainwater infiltration.

Healthy Forests and Open Spaces

Flagstaff will support thriving local ecosystems that are resilient to climate change, publicly accessible, and store carbon dioxide.

WHAT IT MEANS

Healthy Forests and Open Spaces refers to ecosystem health, environmentally sensitive lands, plants, soils, and wildlife in the context of the conservation and protection of natural systems. This target area also includes open spaces that protect environmental quality and biodiversity, support tourism, and protect historic and cultural resources.

Flagstaff is fortunate to have a bounty of beautiful natural spaces that provide multiple benefits for the community, including the provision of clean air and water, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat. Many of Flagstaff's natural systems and surrounding natural areas will be impacted by climate change, threatening important services such as water filtration, flood abatement, recreation, and fire protection. Changes in temperature, snowpack, and the abundance of diseases and pests will stress Flagstaff's surrounding forests and the species that depend on them. Although not formally accounted for in Flagstaff's greenhouse gas emissions inventory, natural ecosystems such as forests capture and store carbon, acting as a greenhouse gas "sink." Proper ecosystem management can optimize this process of carbon sequestration, as well as minimize the potential risk of greenhouse gas emissions from wildfires.

The ponderosa pine forests of northern Arizona have existed for thousands of years and evolved to benefit from frequent fires ignited by both seasonal monsoonal weather patterns and cultural burning practices. Unfortunately, more than a century of fire suppression-based management has left the forest in an altered condition. These changes threaten Flagstaff's natural resources, economy, infrastructure, and quality of life, which negatively impact recreation and tourism-based economies.

The threats and preventive solutions are complicated but well understood. Restoring the forest to its natural, fire adapted pattern can mitigate unnatural wildfire threats. Long term forest restoration strategies will also stabilize and enhance carbon storage. Collaborative efforts that involve agencies, communities and stakeholders are required to advance risk reduction projects.



Healthy Forests and Open Spaces strategies

- HF-1** Protect existing forests, resources, and meaningful open spaces.
- HF-2** Restore and maintain the natural fire-adapted structure and pattern of the forests of the greater Flagstaff region through collaboration with partners.
- HF-3** Educate the public on forest health and wildfire risk reduction.
- HF-4** Support innovation in the forest health and wildland fire sectors.
- HF-5** Encourage diverse native plant ecosystems in the built environment.
- HF-6** Proactively manage for expected ecosystem transitions, including the potential threats to ponderosa pine forests.

Health and Safety

Flagstaff will take proactive steps to protect and improve health, provide reliable and multi-faceted access to health services, prepare for disruptive change, and increase infrastructure and emergency response system resilience.

WHAT IT MEANS

Climate change will impact health across the Flagstaff community. These impacts will range from acute risks like wildfire to more distributed impacts like increases in allergens. While the list of health impacts is extensive, pertinent examples include:

- Extreme heat and wildfire smoke are significant risks for disproportionately impacted communities such as Flagstaff's outdoor workers, the elderly, the very young, and low-income populations.
- Extreme heat kills more people in the US than any other weather event. Flagstaff will experience more days over 90 degrees as regional temperatures warm. While this is not extreme heat when compared to most other places in Arizona, Flagstaff does not possess the infrastructure or systems to deal with extended extreme heat. Many homes lack air conditioning or proper ventilation, and risks are particularly higher for elderly and low income populations, as well as those living in older buildings that don't have updated climate control infrastructure.
- Increased wildfire risk will stress emergency services and expand wildfire risk areas to encompass more homes. Increased severity and frequency of wildfires are highly likely to lead to loss of homes, challenges to businesses, damage to infrastructure and even loss of life. Both fires and flooding often necessitate temporary evacuations, that can potentially lead to long-term displacement or homelessness.



Health and Safety strategies

HS-1 Identify community health impacts from climate change and target support to assist at-risk populations in adapting to change and protecting their health.

HS-2 Prepare for changing risks to public health due to climate change and increase collaborations across agencies to improve health and climate awareness, preparedness, and resilience.

HS-3 Adequately fund services for disaster preparedness.

HS-4 Improve the resilience of public infrastructure and City facilities.

Economic Prosperity

Flagstaff will cultivate a prosperous and stable economy with abundant and equitable access to employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

WHAT IT MEANS

Economic prosperity refers to community and economic health, including opportunities to reduce emissions and help the community's business and tourism sectors prepare for climate change.

While climate change will impact all sectors of the local economy, by preparing for change, the Flagstaff community can adapt to changing conditions while creating a stronger community and greater shared prosperity. Businesses can help lead the way in this transition through creativity, innovation, and resilience.

The City of Flagstaff works to develop a diverse, sustainable economy that provides benefits across the Flagstaff community. Tourism and visitation are and will remain strong economic drivers for Flagstaff. Meanwhile, Flagstaff's business sector goes far beyond - ranging from biomedical manufacturing to astronomy and brewing. Flagstaff offers residents and visitors alike a wide range of cultural and outdoor experiences, through offerings like local bike shops, regional museums, a vibrant non-profit sector, markets and festivals. Business attraction efforts encourage relocation by companies that provide high wages and have low environmental and water impacts. All of these forces combined provide job opportunities and careers to the greater Flagstaff region.



Economic Prosperity strategies

- EP-1** Accelerate the transformation to a low-carbon economy that minimizes emissions and spurs innovation.
- EP-2** Support the adaptation efforts of local businesses as the climate changes and the economic landscape shifts.



CNP Revisions



Thank you!

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