



Montgomery County Climate Action Plan

Climate Governance Actions



VISION: Montgomery County has institutionalized an organizational culture and structure that fosters creativity, cross-departmental collaboration and innovation to implement systemic climate solutions.

- Align and orient staffing, technical capacity, processes and decision-making to address climate change.
- Embed continuous improvement and accountability into ongoing work.
- Use all policy and process levers of government to spark the multiplier effect.
- Protect public health from climate-driven impacts.

ACTIONS:

- G-1: Build Awareness among All Montgomery County Government Staff about Climate Change
- G-2: Establish a Climate Change Academy to Integrate Climate Change Training into the Professional Development of Montgomery County Government Staff
- G-3: Incorporate Climate Competencies into Montgomery County Government Job Descriptions and Performance Plans
- G-4: Identify and Create New Positions that Are Needed for the County Government to Prepare for and Respond to Climate Hazards, Implement Climate Adaptation Measures, and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- G-5: Establish a Cross-Departmental Climate Innovation Lab to Develop, Fund, and Implement Climate and Resiliency Initiatives
- G-6: Designate Climate Ambassadors within Each County Department
- G-7: Evaluate and Update County Planning, Policy, Codes, and Operations Activities to Account for the Risks of Climate Change Impacts and Prioritize the Needs of Vulnerable Residents
- G-8: Evaluate and Update County Procurement, Planning, Policy, and Operations Activities to Reduce Greenhouse Gases
- G-9: Incorporate Climate Considerations into the County’s Budgeting Processes
- G-10: Develop Financing Strategies for Implementing Climate Actions and Incorporate Climate Considerations into County Finance Practices
- G-11: Develop Climate, Energy, Health, and Racial Equity Metrics and a Data-Driven Assessment and Reporting Process
- G-12: Formalize the Climate Leadership Team to Guide the Implementation of Climate Plan Actions
- G-13: Update the County’s Teleworking and Transit Benefit Policies to Encourage MCG Staff to Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled
- G-14: Establish Montgomery County Government Carbon Fund for Air Travel
- G-15: Consolidate County Climate Data
- G-16: Conduct Climate Vulnerability Detailed Assessments

SUMMARY:

Combatting climate change requires an organizational backbone. The actions in this section will help to institutionalize climate change considerations and foster opportunities for creativity, collaboration, and innovation among MCG staff and community partners to implement climate solutions. The ranks of MCG staff who work directly on climate issues must be expanded; at the same time, the resources across all of County Government and the community must be leveraged to support this cause. Read the [Annual Climate Work Plan](#) for the current status of Climate Governance Actions.

