

PROJECT PRINCIPLES

THIS IS A CRITICAL DECADE FOR DELIBERATE CLIMATE ACTION. THE DECISIONS MADE TODAY WILL SET THE COURSE FOR EDMONTON'S RESILIENCE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Edmonton's climate is changing and the City of Edmonton is taking action. City Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, signalling the need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and build a more sustainable future. Since then, the City adopted two climate strategies which set the path for Edmonton to become a low carbon and climate resilient city:

- [Edmonton's Community Energy Transition Strategy and Action Plan](#) (approved in April 2021) is the City's climate change mitigation plan, which outlines pathways for Edmonton to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.
- [Climate Resilient Edmonton: Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan](#) (approved December 2020) is the City's climate change adaptation plan, which helps us respond to the impacts of climate change and protect the community, infrastructure and services.

PRINCIPLES

The foundations of the climate strategies continue to guide the City's climate action approach. In addition, the following principles are being used to inform action concepts:

1. **Near-Term Benefit with Long-Term Impacts.** Updated actions will support and maintain the City's existing goals related to energy transition and adaptation. Updated actions will also focus on near-term benefits such as improving safety and health, reducing pollution, growing the economy, creating jobs, saving people money, and creating innovation opportunities for post secondary institutes, students and market leaders. As part of this update, actions will have positive impacts for Edmontonians today, as we work toward our long-term goals.
2. **Focused Implementation and Accountable Climate Action.** Climate action requires accelerated efforts. The updated actions will take a strategic approach that prioritizes and focuses action for the next four years. Updated actions will be specific, measurable, and achievable within the next four year period (2027 - 2030). This will be included in the final action plan after refinements are made during phase 2 of public engagement. Updates will improve accountability throughout the City and identify opportunities where external partners can plan a role in implementation.

3. **Creating Pathways to Partnerships.** Partnership is essential for updated actions. Climate action requires collective and inclusive effort. Almost 80% of Edmontonians agree that the impact of climate change will be reduced if people work together on solutions. Updated actions will be developed in collaboration with external community partners to reflect the important role of the community in championing climate action. Actions will use a variety of levers to achieve our climate goals and will identify the role the City will take to foster climate action with partners.
4. **Integrating with City Goals.** To address the diverse needs and expectations of residents, the updated actions will support existing City goals.

Through thoughtful planning and implementation of climate change actions, Edmonton is on its way to becoming a more resilient city. Edmonton's climate goals can be achieved by working together with community members, industry leaders, Indigenous communities, post-secondary institutions, and other levels of government, to develop and implement innovative solutions that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance climate resilience, and create a more sustainable future for all Edmontonians.