



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Nolan Sagan, Sustainability Coordinator

Date: November 12, 2024

Subject: FY 2024/25 Climate Action Plan Update

In August 2020, the City of Ames, with the help of a consultant, conducted a [community-wide greenhouse gas inventory](#). The inventory estimated the greenhouse gas emissions associated with the activities of people who live, work, learn, visit and recreate within the City's geographic boundaries. This results, in addition to a series of public engagement sessions, were then used to help develop the City's first [Climate Action Plan](#) that was accepted by the Ames City Council on June 13, 2023.

Since July 1, 2010, the City of Ames has entered annually into a contract with Iowa State University (ISU) to utilize the services of ISU's full-time Director of Sustainability. The contract covered a maximum of 480 hours annually (or no more than 25 percent of the Director of Sustainability's time). The initial scope of services focused on the reduction of electric consumption, and as additional opportunities and needs arose through the years, the scope of services expanded and diversified to meet the City's needs. After 14 years, in June 2024, the City entered into a two-month contract with ISU to extend the partnership to help with the transition of adding a new full-time Sustainability Coordinator position to the City. The Sustainability Coordinator role has been filled since July 2024, and a primary duty of this position is to coordinate the continued implementation of the Climate Action Plan.

Since the City's partnership began with ISU's full-time Director of Sustainability, an annual fiscal mid-year and year-end sustainability report has been provided to the Ames City Council, typically in the months of January and June. With the Sustainability Coordinator now hired, and given the amount of exciting work happening, the mid-year update is being provided sooner than January.

Following the acceptance of the Climate Action Plan, on January 9, 2024, staff issued a [report](#) outlining seven initial action steps from the Climate Action Plan in accordance with thorough evaluation criteria. These action steps have been the Sustainability Coordinator's main focus, as well as serving as a resource for staff and the community through education and outreach activities.

The presentation on November 12 will focus on the progress made to date in

relationship to the seven action steps.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[FY 2024-25 Climate Action Plan Update.pptx](#)