

# UPDATE ON CLIMATE ACTION IMPLEMENTATION

John Richardson

Town Council Meeting



TOWN OF  
**CHAPEL  
HILL**

**We're ahead of schedule on our climate goals.**

**Our current projects can take us even farther.**

**We'll soon engage our residents about a plan update.**

# Background & Context

# Emissions Reduction

**2005**

base year

**28%**

2025 target

**32%**

2023 actual

# Climate Action Plan

- Adopted April 2021
- Focuses on four main action categories:



**Buildings  
& Energy**



**Transportation  
& Land Use**



**Waste, Water &  
Natural Resources**



**Resiliency**

# Council Strategic Priorities

**Environmental  
Resiliency**

**Complete  
Community**

**Org. and Fiscal  
Sustainability**

# Financial Impact

- Our work involves Town departments and partners
- Funding includes internal and external sources:
  - General Fund annual allocation
  - Local, state and federal grants
  - Incentives (e.g., utility)
  - Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) benefits

# Climate Action Plan Highlights



# Sustainable Facilities Study

- Taking a “big swing” at our 2030 targets
- Study explores rooftop solar and battery storage
- EV charging for fleet expansion is included
- Study wraps up in July 2026
- Provides us with total cost of ownership data



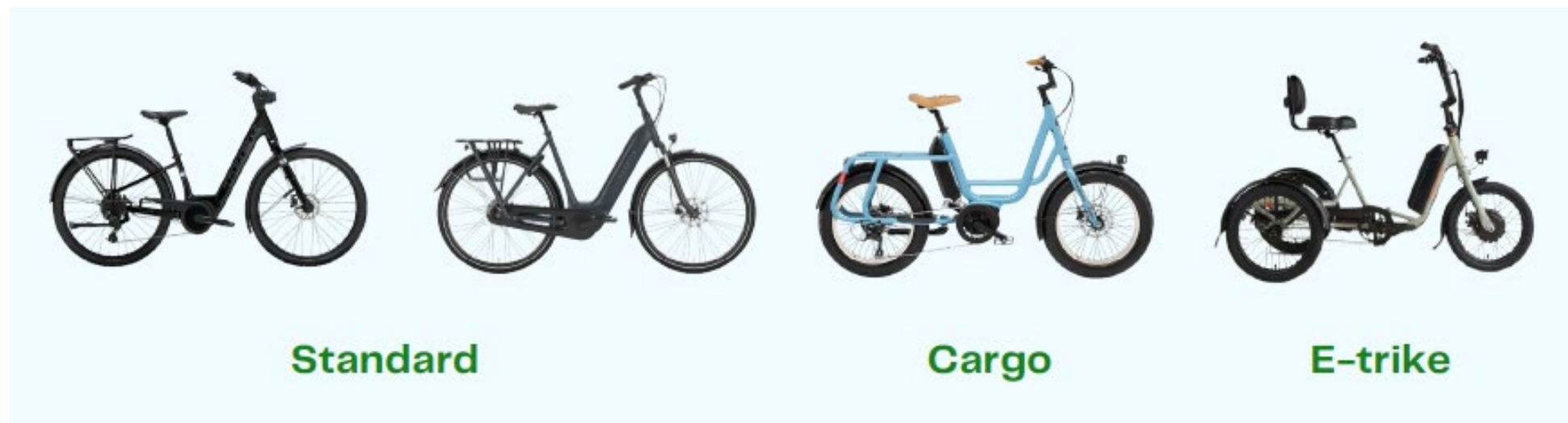
# EV Charging Stations

- Rosemary Deck doubled our capacity (20 to 40)
- We're expanding public and fleet EV stations:
  - Aquatic Center (2 to 4 plugs)
  - Public Works (fast charger)
  - New Police Department (4 new plugs)



# E-Bikes

- Residents can borrow an e-bike for up to a week
- Over 500 registrations to date
- Goal: try biking to work or shopping
- 2 local bike shops manage and maintain the bikes
- Launching a staff program in April 2026



# LEAVE YOUR LEAVES



NEW HOPE  
AUDUBON



Keep  
Durham  
Beautiful



# Leave Your Leaves

- Started in 2021
- Carrboro joined in 2023
- Orange County and Hillsborough joined in 2024
- More than 215 more sign-ups this past fall
- Over 600 sign-ups since 2023

# Climate Action Plan Update

# Climate Action Plan Update

Why do an update?

Changes can happen in multiple areas:

- Technology
- Funding
- State and federal policy
- Utility investments

# Climate Action Plan Update

What will the update include?

- Not a rewrite of the plan
- Instead, we want to share about progress
- How we are doing relative to our targets
- What changes, if any, for the next five years

# Climate Action Plan Update

## 2026 Schedule

Apr – Jul            Public Education and Engagement

Aug – Oct           Review and Plan Update

Nov                    Share Draft Update with Council

Engagement project webpage goes live this month

Q & A