

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
sec@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/551/Sustainable-Environment-Commission>

Tuesday
October 19, 2021

6:00 PM

Council Chambers,
2nd Floor City Hall
206 E. 3rd St.

NOTE: this meeting will be located in the Council Chambers (2nd Floor, City Hall)

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission September 21, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the September minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

2. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

3. City of Moscow Climate Workshop

Kelli will provide a summary of the Climate Workshop held Sept 27.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report and take other action as appropriate.

4. SEC Mission Statement

Tina will discuss revision of the SEC Mission Statement to include topics related to climate change.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report and take other action as appropriate.

REPORTS

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper
2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Nicole Xiao (or delegate)
3. Climate Action Working Group – Tina Hilding

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. 18th Annual Palouse Basin Water Summit · October 21st, 2021, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next SEC meeting is November 16, 2021

ADJOURN

NOTICE: Moscow City Council and committee meetings are televised, videotaped and/or recorded. Individuals attending the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the City Clerk, at (208) 883-7015 or TDD 883-7019, as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION



Steve McGeehan
Commission Chair
sec@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Kyle Steele
Staff Liaison
208-883-7133

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/551/Sustainable-Environment-Commission>

Tuesday
September 21, 2021

6:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Steve McGeehan-Chair; Victoria Seever-Vice; Tina Hilding; Gordon Wilson, Asaph Cousins

ABSENT: Natalie Wiley; Marley Pankratz; Jassen Bluto; Jamal Lyksett

STAFF: Jenifer Rossini, Administrative Assistant; Kelli Cooper, Environmental Education and Sustainability Specialist, Tyler Palmer; Deputy City Supervisor

OTHERS: David Hall

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Introduction of New Members

The SEC is pleased to welcome Gordon Wilson and Asaph Cousins to the commission.

2. Approval of Sustainable Environment Commission July 20, 2021 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval. Please note the August SEC meeting was cancelled so the July minutes must be approved at this meeting.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or provide staff further direction.

Victoria moved July 20, 2021 minutes, Tina second to approve minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

David mentioned the Annual Water Summit coming up on October 21, 2021.

4. City of Moscow Climate Workshop

Kelli will provide an update on the upcoming climate workshop scheduled for Sept 27.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report and take other action as appropriate.

In April 2021 the City announced to Council that they reached their goal of cutting carbon emissions from City operations by 20% from 2008-2020. After reaching this goal the City worked with the Climate Action Working Group and the Sustainable Environment Commission to create a new goal. On the 27th of September the City will present to Council a few things that were requested from the workshop in April:

- Carbon Sequestration numbers- to see where the City is on their carbon emissions.
- What goals should be set as a community; pushing the City goals outside of City operations.

Council did budget \$20,000 in the FY2022 budget to help fund this upcoming plan.

After the September workshop, the City plans to start drafting a climate action plan. In December they will go back to Council with the draft plan as well as make the draft plan available for public comment and review. The goal is to have the final climate action plan complete and ready for Council to adopt in spring 2022.

Kelli gave a general overview of her Greenhouse Gas presentation she presented to Council. Presentation is attached.

5. Climate Action Plan Support Letter (ACTION ITEM)

The CAWG has prepared a draft letter expressing support for the city's efforts to develop a Climate Action Plan. The SEC will discuss the letter and vote on sending to the Mayor and City Council.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Receive the report, vote to endorse the letter, or take other action as appropriate.

There have been times in the past where the SEC has been asked to write a letter of support for different actions the City has wanted to take. Examples of prior letters of support are; a grant for surface treatment for the City streets, April climate workshop and Volkswagen grant.

Gordon voiced his concern that climate change may not be 100% manmade. He believes climate is very complicated and there may be more involved with global warming than just human caused emissions.

One section reads "these challenging and expensive environmental impacts of climate change have the greatest effects on our marginalized and underrepresented communities" Steve suggested for Tina to clarify how this statement applies to Moscow.

Victoria moved to endorse a letter of support, Asaph second to approve.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

1. City Sustainability Report- Kelli Cooper

Water Summit is October 21, 2021. Summit may be held virtual.

Alisa Anderson with the City of Moscow is working on obtaining the Cities first public EV (electric vehicle) charging station with monies from the Volkswagen settlement. The University of Idaho does have a charging station on campus.

2. Moscow High School Subcommittee Report- Ilan Carter/Nicole Xiao

Reported from Kelli: There will be a climate walk out on Wednesday the 22nd.

3. Climate Action Working Group (CAWG)-Tina Hilding

Michael Jennings with the U of I says the University has extra biodiesel and asked if Tina would like to make use of it. Tyler explained that the City had issues with the biodiesel in the past.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Steve needed to know if anyone was interested in manning the public outreach table at the Farmers Market on Sept. 25th. Due to COVID and other personal commitments, there won't be an outreach table on Saturday.

Moscow League of Women Voters has a presentation about climate tomorrow the 22nd.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

1. Next Commission meeting is October 19, 2021

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM



Steve McGeehan, Chair

Steve McGeehan, Chair *(or stamped by Deputy City Clerk)*

DRAFT

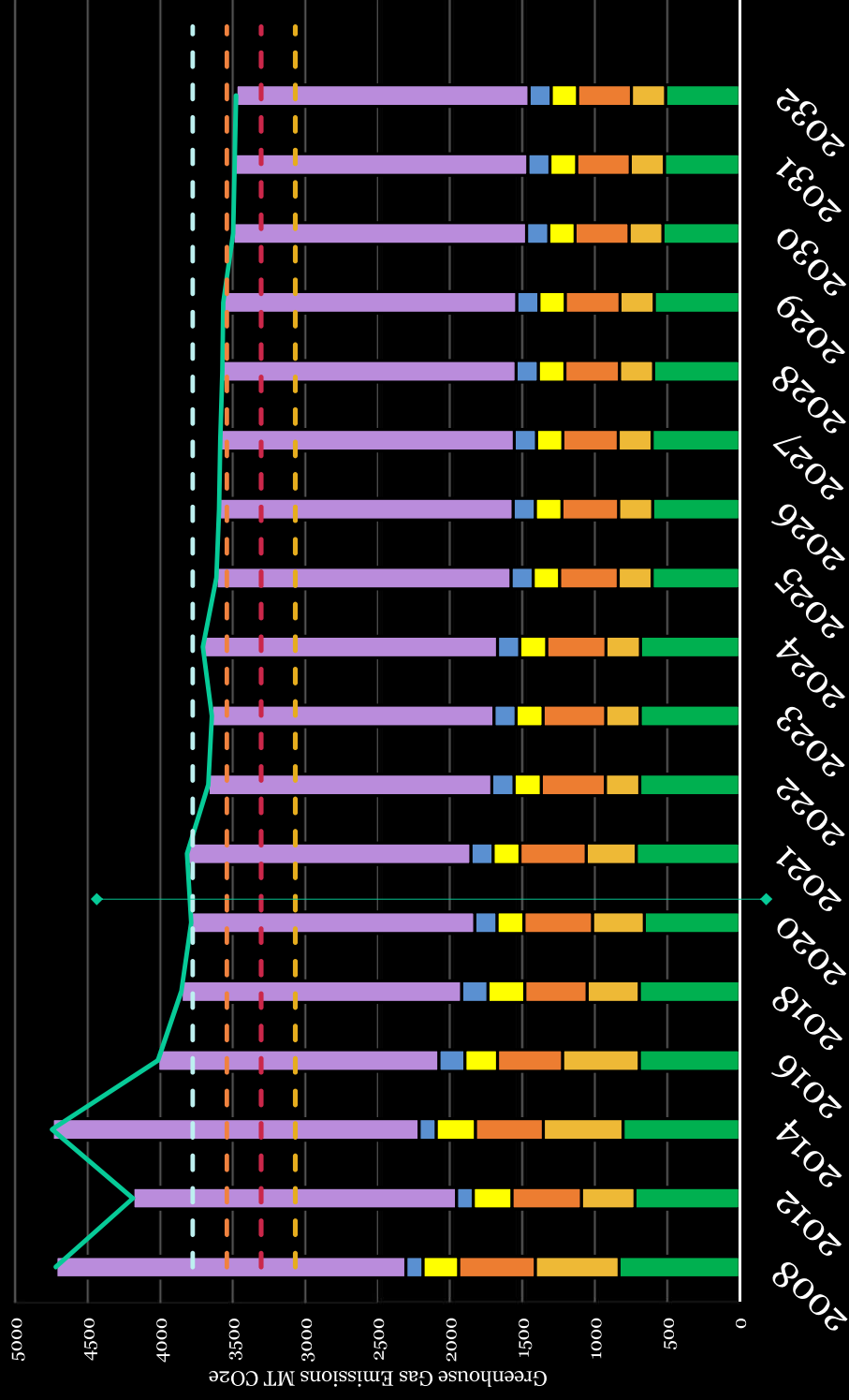
Greenhouse Gas

City Council Workshop September 27, 2021

Agenda

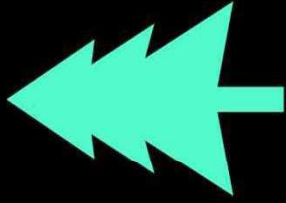
- Review Last Workshop
- Carbon Sequestration: City Operations
- Community-Wide Emissions Inventory
- Climate Action Plans

Potential Projects Forecast



Carbon Sequestration

Current Carbon Sequestration: Operations



129.95 acres of trees and shrubs

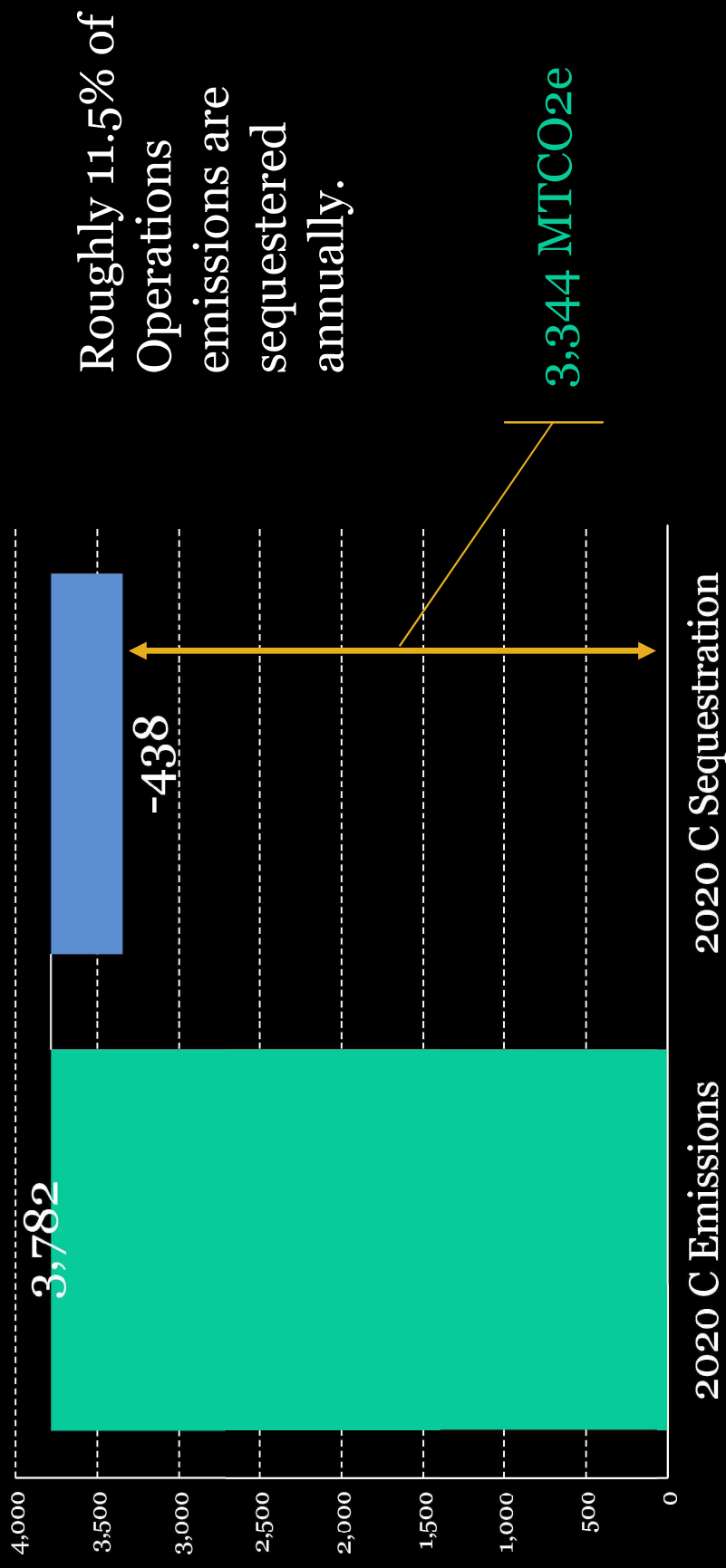
391.10 MT CO_{2e} per year
(3.010 T/acre/year)



231.88 acres of herbaceous plants

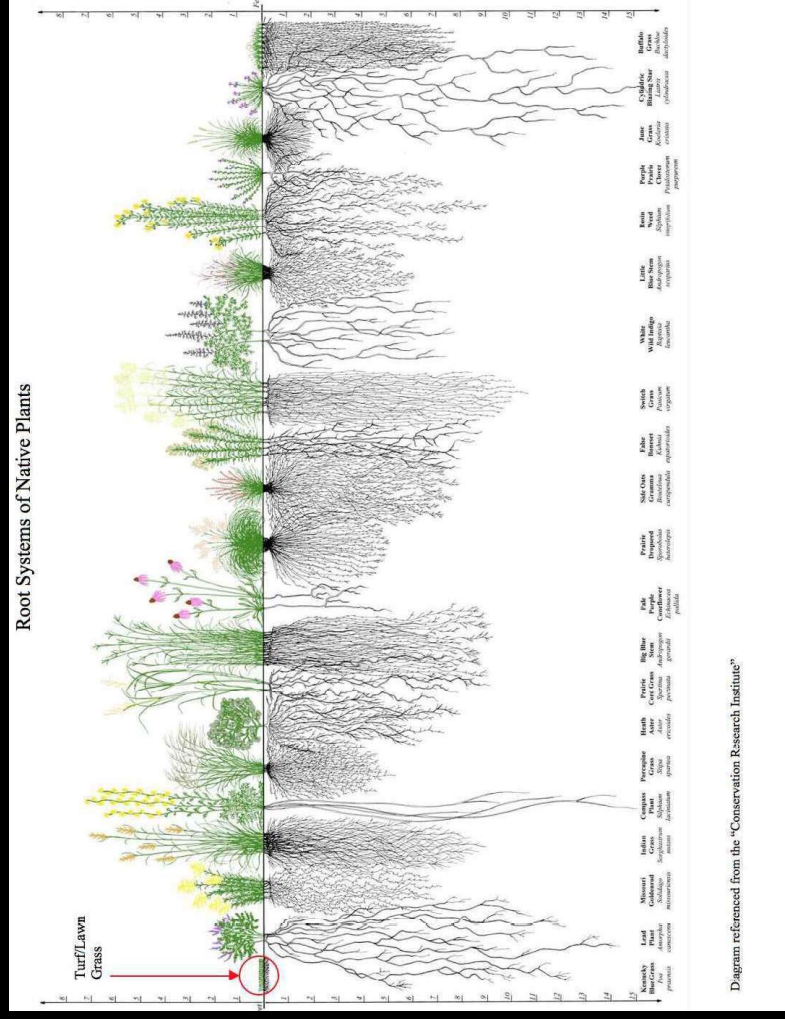
46.92 MT CO_{2e} per year
(0.5 T/hectare/year)

Emissions offset by Carbon Sequestration



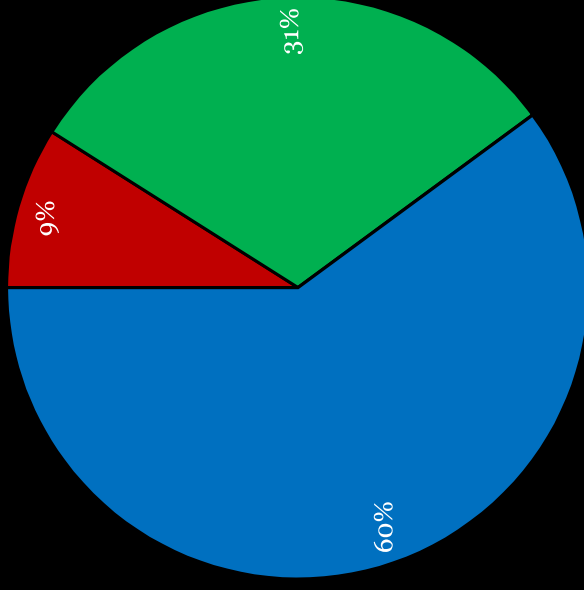
Increasing Sequestration

- Plant native plants
- Increase acreage of trees



Carbon Offsets

2020 Operations Emissions
MT CO₂e



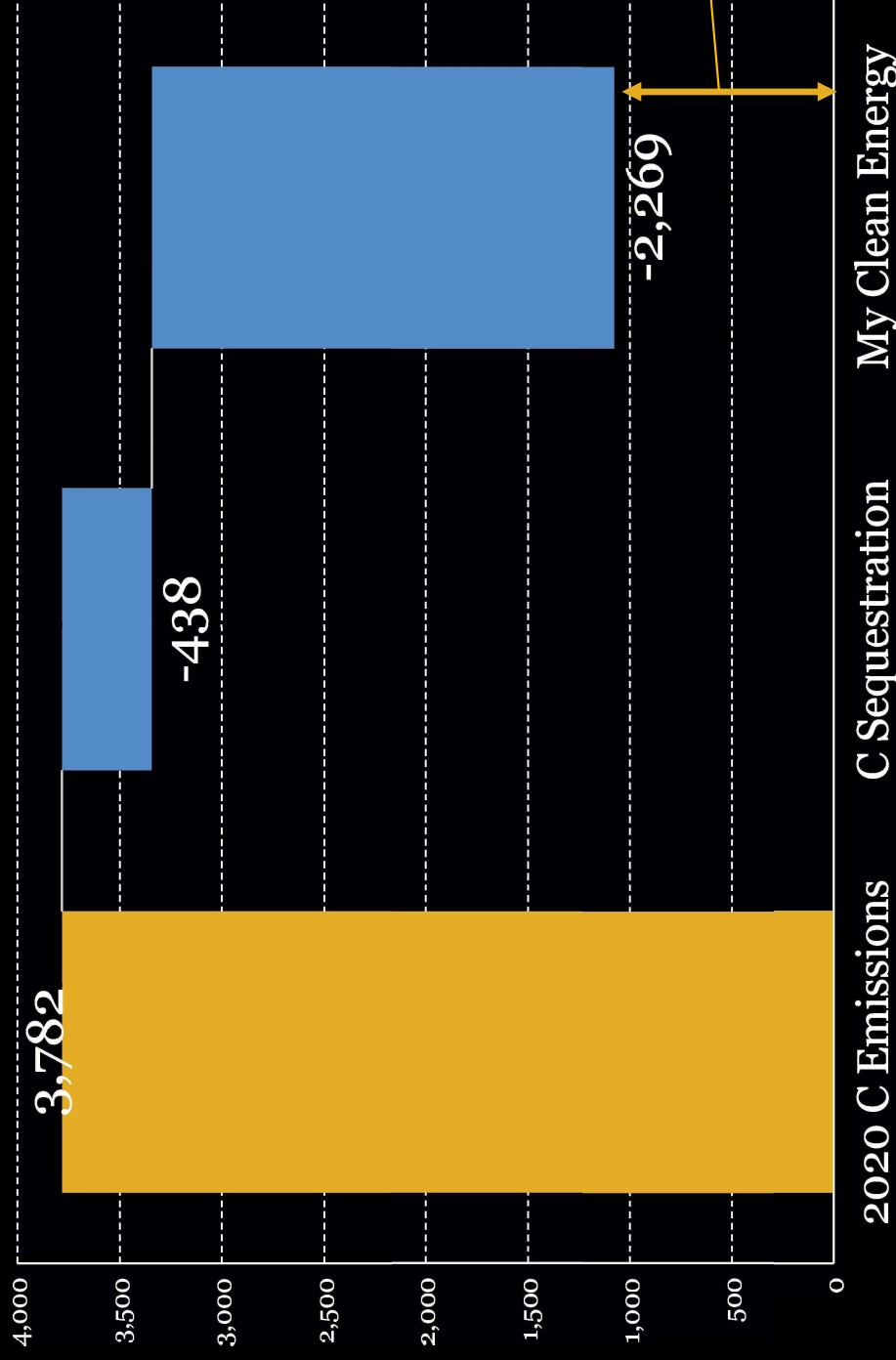
■ Other ■ Combusted Fuels ■ Purchased Electricity

- Avista My Clean Energy Program

- \$0.01/ kWh
- 2020: \$74,372.16
- 2018: \$75,438.55
- 2016: \$76,389.95

<https://www.myavista.com/energy-savings/green-options/my-clean-energy>

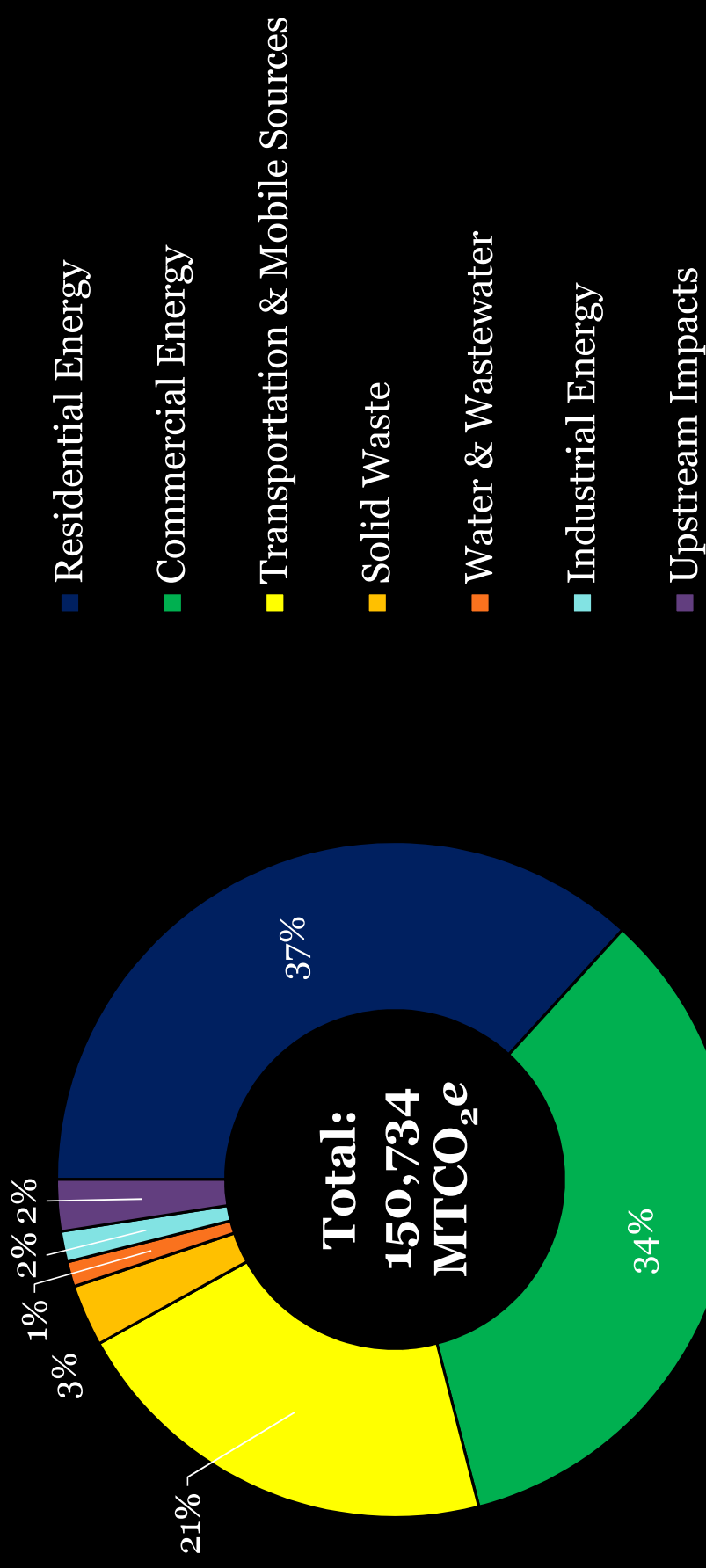
Impact of Proposed Projects



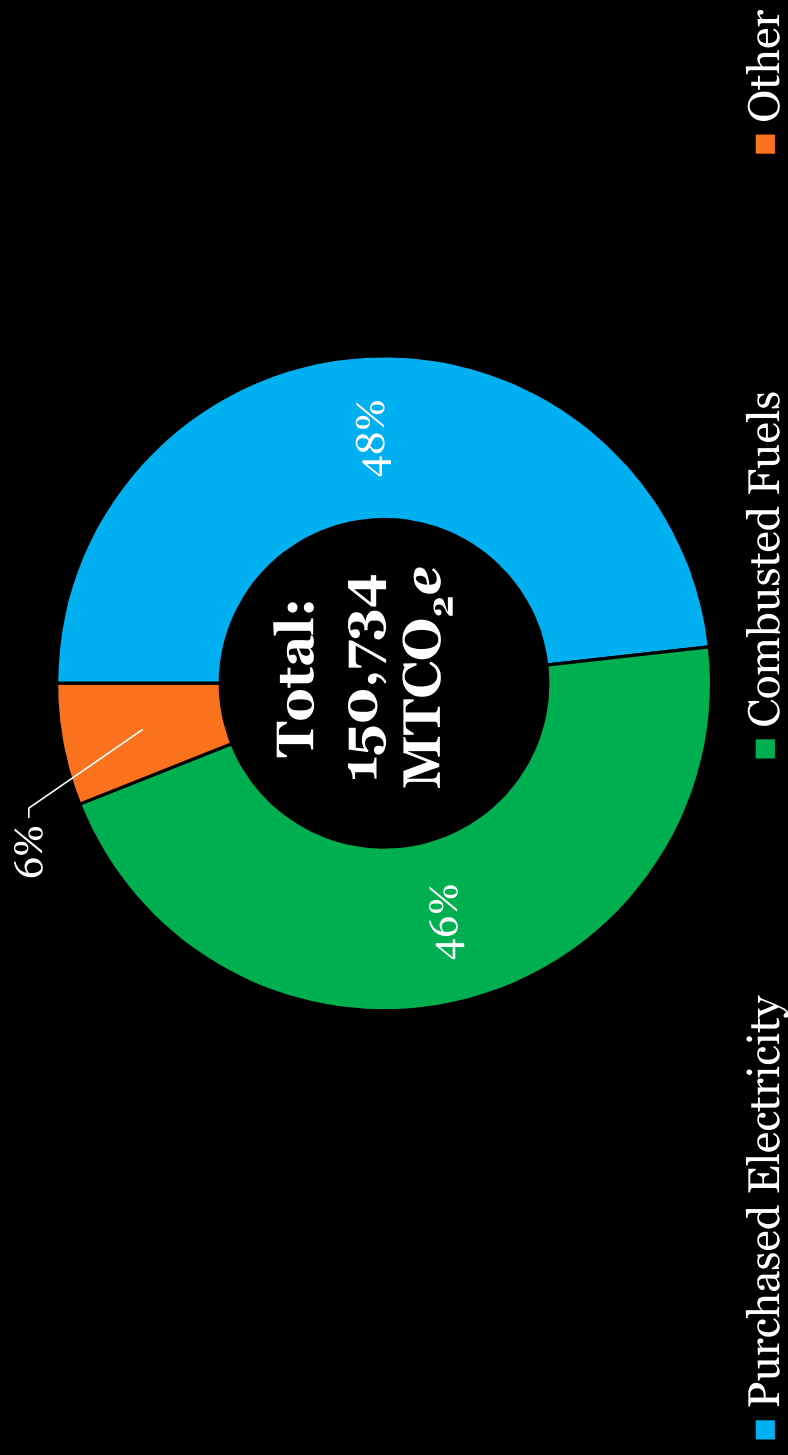
Roughly 72 % of all City Operations emissions are offset by sequestration and participation in Avista's My Clean Energy Program.

City Wide Emissions

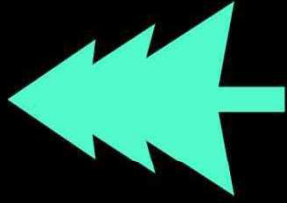
Community-Wide Emissions



Community-Wide Emissions By Scope



Current Carbon Sequestration: Community



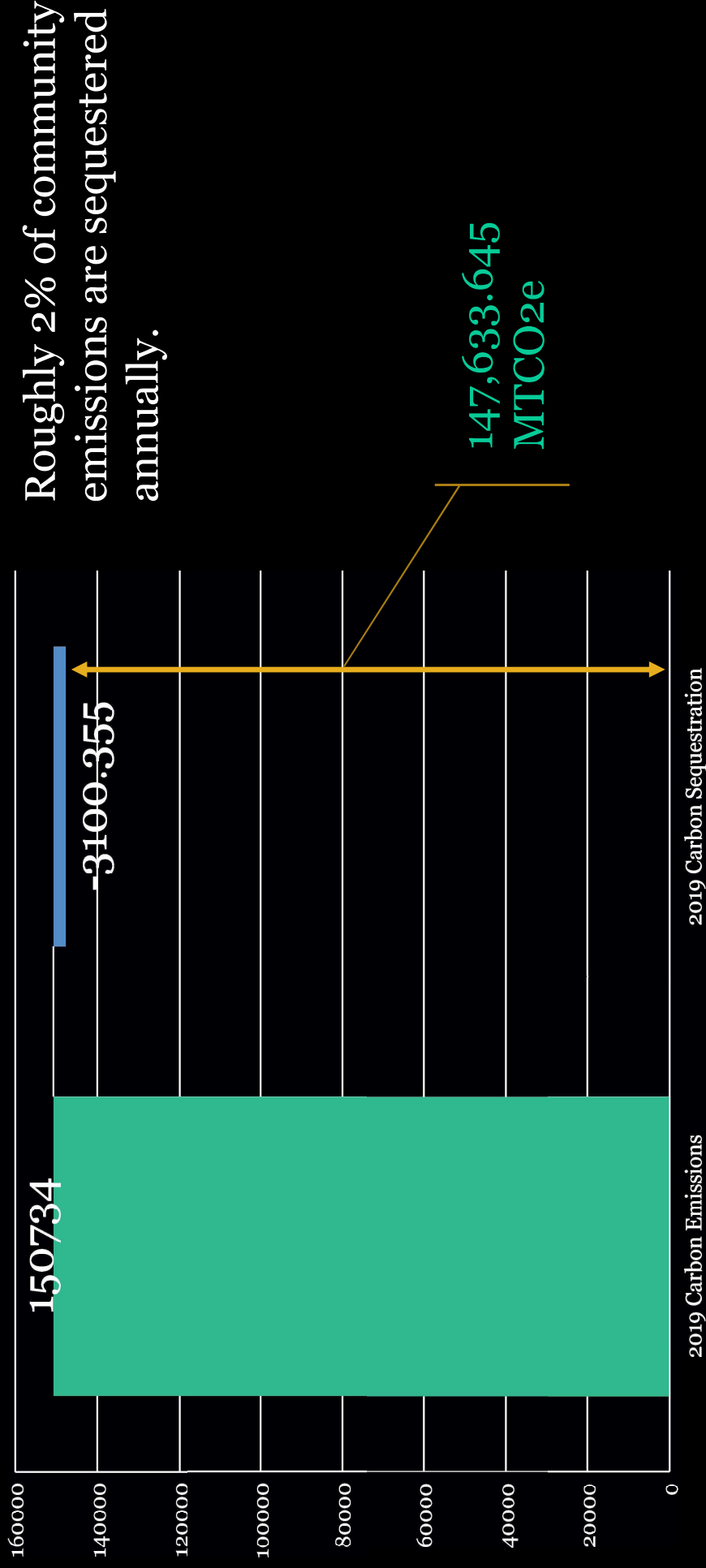
1.38 square miles of trees and shrubs

2656.17 MT CO_{2e} per year
(3.010 T/acre/year)



3.43 square miles of herbaceous plants
444.185 MT CO_{2e} per year
(0.5 T/hectare/year)

Emissions offset by Carbon Sequestration



Climate Action Plans

Climate Change Impacts



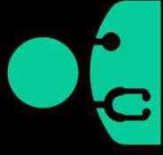
More frequent,
more intense
heat waves



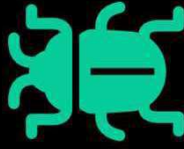
Longer, more
intense fire
Season



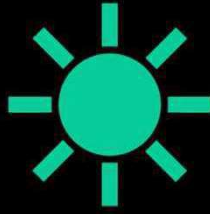
Reduced
snow pack



Human health
impacts



Increase in
pest
populations



Summer
drought
conditions



Increased risk of
flooding and
extreme weather



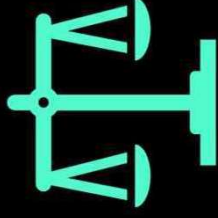
Changes in
food
availability

Pathways Forward



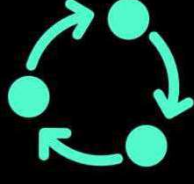
Low-Carbon

- Emissions Reduction



Net-Zero

- Emissions Reduction
- Carbon Sequestration



Resiliency

- Emissions Reduction
- Carbon Sequestration
- Adaptation for impacts

Potential Targets

- **Science Based Targets Network**
 - “Measurable, actionable, and time-bound objectives, based on the best available science, that allow actors to align with Earth’s limits and societal sustainability goals”
 - Partners with numerous Environmental and Climate Action groups
- **Ultimate goal: Net zero by 2050 with interim goal at 2030**



Potential Targets

- **Race to Zero**
 - “Global campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates decent jobs, and unlocks inclusive, sustainable growth”
 - Utilizes Science-Based Targets
 - Currently 31 cities across the US including Boise, ID participate (through ICLEI)
- **Ultimate Goal: carbon neutral by 2050 with interim goal at 2030**

Pledge

Plan

Proceed

Publish

Potential Targets

- **Sierra Club Ready For 100**
 - “A 501-C funded program to engage in public education and administrative advocacy to build support for a transition to 100% clean energy”
 - Currently 180+ communities, 10+ counties, 8 states have committed including Idaho Communities: Boise, Hailey, Bellevue, Ketchum

City Plans

- Comprehensive Plan
- Stormwater Management Plan
- Water Conservation Plan
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Multi-modal Transportation Plan
- Alternate Fuel Transition Plan

Examples From Other Communities

- **Tree Planting Program**
 - Boise, ID- “Plant 100,000 trees across the city by 2030, Plant 235,000 saplings in nearby forests by 2030”
 - Ann Arbor, MI- 10K Tree Initiative
- **Distributed Renewable Energy**
 - Ann Arbor, MI- Ann Arbor Solarize
- **Local Food Production and Availability**
 - Whitefish, MT- incentivize new construction to include greenspace/community gardening space
- **Building efficiency**
 - Burlington, VT – Create a Green Roof Policy and Incentive Program

Examples From Other Communities

- **Electric Vehicle Programs**
 - Milwaukie, OR. – “Electric Vehicle Ready” zoning regulations
 - Burlington, Canada- expand existing charging infrastructure
- **Waste Reduction**
 - Milwaukie, OR.- Repair Fair
 - Whitefish, MT- Improve public space recycling
 - Burlington, VT- Implement a residential organics collection program
 - Burlington, VT- Explore a “Pay as you throw” system for trash collection
- **Compact Mixed-Use Development**
 - Burlington VT- Incentivize urban infill development in the city core and more dense activity centers through zoning

Potential Collaborators

- Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI)
- Latah Soil and Water Conservation District
- University of Idaho Extension
- Latah Trail Foundation
- Latah County Parks and Recreation
- Friends of the Clearwater
- Palouse Land Trust
- Palouse Prairie Foundation
- Safe Routes To School
- Moscow Chamber of Commerce
- Moscow School District
- Local farmers and other agricultural stakeholders
- University of Idaho
- Climate Justice League
- The Phoenix Conservancy
- Sierra Club
- Idaho Conservation League



Heart of the Arts

Sustainable Environment Commission

A Volunteer Commission
of the City of Moscow

Kyle Steele

Environmental Services
Supervisor

Gary J. Riedner

City Supervisor

Regular Meeting Time:

Third Tuesday
of the month
6:00 p.m.

Mayor's Conference Room
of City Hall

Please check with City Hall
to confirm meeting times or
to volunteer for this or other
City Commissions

Sustainable Environment
Commission

c/o Kyle Steele
P.O. Box 9203
Moscow, ID 83843-1703
Website: www.ci.moscow.id.us

City Hall
206 East 3rd Street
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Fax (208) 883-7018
Hearing Impaired (208) 883-7019



100%
post consumer
content

September 21, 2021

To Mayor Bill Lambert and the Moscow City Council,

We are writing to express support for work to develop a climate action plan for the City of Moscow, including efforts for a science-based emissions reduction target.

As you know, Moscow's Climate Action Working Group (CAWG), a subcommittee of the Sustainable Environment Commission, recently began taking steps to look at community climate action, including climate mitigation and adaptation in Moscow. These efforts came about because of several factors, including the council's setting climate action as a strategic priority; a request from a community group to set a specific emissions reduction target; the fact that Moscow city operations had met its 2020 emissions reduction goals; awareness of localized climate action efforts around the U.S.; and increasing alarm in general about climate change impacts on our community.

As part of that effort, the CAWG worked with the University of Idaho and US Forest Service researchers to develop an impacts assessment that addressed the climate effects that Moscow can expect to experience during this century (https://webpages.uidaho.edu/~jhicke/Moscow_ClimateChangeImpactsAssessment_210318.pdf). The group has also met with several commissions and community members to gather input and have worked with several University of Idaho classes to study challenges and develop creative ideas for climate action. A University of Idaho student worked with city staff to establish the first-ever emissions inventory for the entire Moscow community.

This summer, the threat of climate change has become ever more apparent as our community and country has experienced firsthand the dangerous wildfires, poor air quality, extreme heat, severe drought, and extreme weather events that scientists have predicted with great accuracy for nearly half a century. The scientists have tended to be conservative in their predictions and have observed in many cases that the climate impacts are happening faster and are worse than they thought.

As you know, these challenging and expensive environmental impacts of climate change have the greatest effects on our marginalized and underrepresented communities. Those who can least afford to manage are the ones who are most affected by overheated apartments and lack of shade during heat waves, by health impacts from poor air quality during wildfire events, and by flooding in lower income neighborhoods.

*City Commissions are advisory to the Mayor and City Council
and this communication does not represent the official position of the City of Moscow.*



We're looking forward to development of a climate action plan that will help our community do our part to reduce emissions, sequester carbon dioxide, and develop adaptation plans for future climate disruption.

The Climate Action Plan will be critically important for the health and welfare of our community. As we move into the uncertain climate future, nearly every decision that our community makes from now on will have to be looked at through the lens of climate impacts and climate change. For the sake of our children and grandchildren and the dangerously warmer world that they inherit, we must keep our efforts to address climate change as a top priority. We're excited to work with the council on this urgent matter.

Thank you for your efforts.

Tina Hilding on behalf of the Climate Action Working Group
Steve McGeehan, Chair, Sustainable Environment Commission



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