



WESTMINSTER

# SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

MAY 2021

In 2018, the City of Westminster began the development of its first Sustainability Plan to provide a guiding framework for city staff, residents, businesses and other community partners.

## VISION

WESTMINSTER STRIVES TO BE A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE CITY, with an economically strong, socially vibrant and environmentally healthy community for current and future generations.

## LONG-TERM ASPIRATIONAL CITY GOALS

The following goals are future-focused aspirations for the entire city. The City government influences, but does not completely control the achievement of these aspirational goals. Achieving the goals will require commitment and assistance from the City's partners and the entire community.

- 100% renewable electricity
- 100% electric vehicles
- 100% of residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park
- 100% energy efficient, healthy homes

## ELEVATING WESTMINSTER'S VALUES AND PRIORITIES

Five cross-cutting connections help elevate Westminster's values and priorities.



**Education:** A key component of implementing the strategies will be community education through communication and engagement.



**Equity:** Creating an inclusive community is a growing component of municipal sustainability work. Inclusion is achieved by taking an equitable approach, ensuring that diverse groups and communities within the community have similar rights, opportunities and access to all forms of community capital programs and services, as well as engagement opportunities.



**Climate:** Several of the strategies and actions identified in the Plan contribute to a reduction in GHG emissions, especially within the Energy, Housing and Neighborhoods and Transportation and Mobility themes.



**Resilience:** Community resilience is typically defined as the ability to anticipate, accommodate and positively adapt to natural and human-caused hazards, disruptions and cycles (e.g., economic). Every chapter of the Plan includes actions that enhance the resilience of city operations, residents' lives and businesses' ability to operate successfully.



**Safety:** A sustainable city is a safe city. Westminster is working to improve safety in the city for all residents and businesses. Enhancing social capacity and connections, preventing the dumping of hazardous waste, and prioritizing transportation safety are just a few of the ways in which the Plan emphasizes safety.

# SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FRAMEWORK

The Westminster Sustainability Plan focuses on actions that can be implemented within the next 5-10 years. The Sustainability Plan can be applied by staff to guide annual work plans, by elected officials to prioritize policy action, and by community partners to identify opportunities to collaborate and contribute.

As priorities of the community change, efforts identified for future implementation may be dropped, delayed or expedited, and new priority efforts may be added. This is especially true given the COVID-19 public health crisis and the resulting economic challenges.

The Plan is split into **seven themes**, each with a unique objective to guide progress toward the vision. There are many strategies identified to achieve the objectives, goals, and vision of the Plan. Below are the seven themes and associated objectives.



Establish a resilient, equitable and reliable energy future powered by low-carbon and renewable energy.



Foster a dynamic and diverse economy that cultivates and strengthens a wide array of economic opportunities.



Increase awareness of and access to healthy lifestyle options, including recreation opportunities, healthy foods and wellness services for all.



Support a vibrant, connected and sustainable mix of diverse and adaptable neighborhoods that facilitate a sense of community.



Cultivate improved waste and materials management that supports source reduction, sustainable diversion and regulatory compliance through accessible services and programs for all sectors.



Innovate to provide a safe, connected, accessible and inclusive multimodal transportation network.



Perpetuate the legacy of Westminster's natural resources by conserving and maintaining thriving natural systems and enhancing city infrastructure.

The Plan contains strategies, specific actions and metrics to track progress. For each strategy, key roles are identified along with a projected timeline and resource needs.

**For more information** on the Sustainability Plan, please visit the City's website at [www.cityofwestminster.us/Residents/CityServices/Sustainability/SustainabilityPlan](http://www.cityofwestminster.us/Residents/CityServices/Sustainability/SustainabilityPlan).

If you have questions about the Sustainability Plan, please email [sustainability@cityofwestminster.us](mailto:sustainability@cityofwestminster.us).