



# Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

In February 2019, the Board of Supervisors (Board) unanimously adopted the [Fairfax Green Initiatives Board Matter](#), introduced by Supervisors Storck, Foust and (now Chairman) McKay to expedite consideration of 19 environmental and energy action items. Fourteen additional action items were included in the [Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Board Matter](#), introduced by Supervisor Storck and adopted by the Board in July 2020.

Between 2019 and 2022, staff tracked progress on Fairfax Green Initiatives through an Implementation Matrix, identifying the status, action to date, and county agencies overseeing each item. During this time, 26 of the 33 items were completed and implementation of the remaining seven initiated. When the [CECAP Implementation Plan](#) was presented to the Board’s Environmental Committee in December 2022, it included actions matching the seven ongoing Fairfax Green Initiatives items. To avoid duplicative reporting, these ongoing items will be tracked through CECAP implementation updates. Ongoing items are highlighted in the matrix below along with their corresponding CECAP Implementation Actions.

## Fairfax Green Initiatives #1

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
1. Direct the County Executive to report to the Environmental Committee no later than June 2019 on:				
1a. A draft process, resources and timeline to develop a CECAP.	OEEC	X		A draft process, resources, and timeline for CECAP were presented at the June 2019 Environmental Committee meeting and funding approved in September 2019. The CECAP planning process was initiated in January 2019 and culminated with a final report, accepted by the Board in September 2021.
1b. A process for contracting with an ESPC or recommend other such initiatives that produce a similar outcome and timeframe.	OEEC	X		A process to contract with an Energy Service Company (ESCO) was presented at a June 2019 Environmental Committee meeting. Two ESCOs were then selected to undertake Investment Grade Audits and upgrades at County facilities.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
2. Refer to the Development Process Committee for discussion and consideration whether County staff should review and report back to the Committee on the costs and benefits of the following:				
2a. Comprehensive Plan and Zoning changes that would incentivize and support more environmentally sustainable development.	DPD		BEE.3 T.4 T.18 T.19 NR.10	<p>As part of the Zoning Ordinance Modernization (zMOD) project, a new Zoning Ordinance, adopted in March 2021, (and readopted in May 2023) includes new uses to support electric vehicle charging infrastructure and solar projects at residential, commercial, and County facilities.</p> <p>Additional Comprehensive Plan and Zoning changes will be identified and reported on through CECAP implementation.</p>
2b. Building design and code changes, including the International Green Construction Code (IgCC), that could inspire and expedite energy saving practices on all new construction and significant renovations.	LDS Gov't Relations		BEE.2	<p>The <a href="#">2023 Legislative Program</a>, adopted December 2022, includes a position statement supporting the adoption of the IgCC and full provisions of the IECC, and more flexibility for localities to increase energy efficiency by adopting stronger local building standards. The County continues its efforts to work with the VA Dept of Housing and Community Development and its Board to obtain endorsement of the IECC for statewide adoption.</p> <p>In September 2021, LDS established a <a href="#">Green Building Recognition Program</a> to acknowledge designers and contractors who voluntarily build green in Fairfax County.</p>
3. Refer to the Budget Committee for discussion and consideration the following:				



## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
3a. GO, ED and other capital bonding options that could accelerate energy saving initiatives, provide high economic returns on investments and support other community benefits that would enable green building, energy savings renovations and green purchasing practices.	DMB	X		The County will continue to utilize all debt financing mechanisms to address its capital needs and maintain adherence to its self-imposed debt ratios. The County's Capital Improvement Program assumes an out-year bond referenda program that incorporates LEED certification for all future project cost estimates to further the County's commitment to green initiatives.
3b. Support for the County Executive's current consideration for the FY 2020 budget of increased dedicated County energy, climate change and environment related staffing.	DMB	X		The FY 2020 budget included dedicated funding for the Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination (OEEC), which was established in July 2019.
4. Refer to the Environmental Committee for discussion and consideration the following:				
4a. Discuss accelerating goals and targets for the Operational Energy Strategy.	OEEC FMD FCPA DVS	X		First adopted in 2018, the Board adopted an update to the Operational Energy Strategy (OES) in July 2021. The update includes a new goal to be energy carbon neutral by 2040, as well as accelerated goals and targets across the energy use and efficiency, green buildings, renewables, fleet electrification, goods and services and waste management focus areas.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
4b. Brief Committee on options to increase the pursuit of grant and cooperative agreement funding for energy efficiency, conservation, weatherization, cogeneration, renewable energy, energy resilience and greenhouse gas emission reductions, through public-private partnerships, foundations, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Federal government to provide greater energy reduction support for all residents, consistent with One Fairfax.	DEI DPWES Gov't Relations		BEE.8 T.12	<p>Staff maintains an interagency funding and grants tracker to monitor federal and state opportunities, particularly those made available under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022. Staff anticipates reporting on grant tracking metrics through future CECAP implementation reporting.</p> <p>Staff requests Board approval to apply and/or accept federal and state funding for specific opportunities as they arise, and in accordance with County policy.</p>
4c. Discuss setting a goal that by 2025, locally generated energy (like solar) would offset County Government energy usage.	OEEC DPWES DPD FMD FCPA Gov't Relations	X		The July 2021 update to the OES includes a target to produce 25 percent of county electricity from renewable energy by 2030, and 50 percent by 2040, using FY 2018 energy use as the baseline.
4d. Complete Committee and staff work for C-PACE adoption by July 2019 with implementation by the end of 2019.	OEEC	X		Fairfax County's C-PACE program launched in February 2020.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
4e. Expedite consideration of R-PACE or other capital funding options to support residential energy use reductions.	Gov't Relations OEEC		BEE.7	Implementation requires the passage of enabling legislation in the General Assembly. As required by Budget Item 125 (E) in the 2020-2022 state Budget, in December 2021, Virginia Energy submitted a Work Group report on R-PACE to the General Assembly. The Work Group, which assessed feasibility of R-PACE in Virginia, did not come to a consensus on an approach to an R-PACE program in the state; it is Virginia Energy's recommendation to await further developments from R-PACE enabled states before pursuing a program here.
4f. Identify timeframe for developing a County-specific Climate Resiliency and Adaptation Plan.	OEEC DPWES OEM DPD LDS FCHD	X		Staff presented a timeframe for a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan at the May 2020 Environmental Committee meeting. The Board approved funding in September 2020, and the Resilient Fairfax planning process launched in February 2021. The final report was accepted by the Board in November 2022.
4g. Report quarterly on all energy and climate initiatives.	OEEC	X		Staff has developed a reporting schedule for the Board's Environmental Committee. Additional updates are distributed in memoranda to the Board.





## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
5a. Recommending to the Board low-cost and no-cost options along with public-private partnerships that can assist residents in planting additional trees that will increase existing tree canopy. The Commission should report annually to the Board on progress and accomplishments.	DPWES FCPA	X		In September 2019, the Tree Commission led the development of the <a href="#">Tree Action Plan</a> , which addresses the requests in Fairfax Green Initiatives #1, 5a, as well as other strategies to conserve and manage Fairfax County's urban forest. Updates are reported annually by the Tree Commission.
6. Direct the County Executive to report to the Board no later than September 2019 the following:				
6a. Report on strengthening Green Building Policies for County Facilities.	DPWES FMD FCPA FCRHA OEEC	X		The 2021 update to the OES includes a target that all new construction and major renovations of buildings over 10,000 ft. <sup>2</sup> beginning planning and design in 2021 achieve LEED Gold Certification with additional goals to achieve a 50 percent energy performance improvement, be Net-Zero Energy ready, and require all-electric building systems and equipment, unless the Board is informed why it cannot meet such standards by the 30 percent design phase.
6b. Report on a solar public-private partnership agreement.	OEEC	X		In December 2019, the County announced contracts with multiple solar PPA service providers to implement solar PPA projects at sites throughout the County.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
<p>6c. Report on increasing County leadership and accountability for climate change initiatives:</p> <p>i. Ensure County leadership accountability for results and outcomes through SMART goals.</p> <p>ii. Include energy management criteria in performance evaluations of departmental heads and senior executives.</p> <p>iii. Engage County staff and departments in competitions to lower energy use.</p> <p>iv. Develop incentive program to reward employees who provide energy saving ideas that are acted upon.</p> <p>v. Develop partnerships like the DOE's Better Buildings Challenge.</p>	<p>CEX</p> <p>DHR</p> <p>OEEC</p> <p>OEEC</p> <p>DEI OEEC</p>	<p>X</p>		<p>6c.ii. In February 2021, DHR issued an updated performance evaluation form for departmental heads, which includes criteria related to the Environmental Vision and green initiatives.</p> <p>6c.iii – iv. Fairfax Employees for Environmental Excellence (FEEE) regularly educates, engages, and incentivizes Fairfax County employees to participate in challenges to advance sustainability at home and in the workplace.</p> <p>6c.v. Following the adoption of the July 2021 OES update, and its commitment to energy carbon neutrality by 2040, Fairfax County became a <a href="#">designated partner</a> in the DOE's <a href="#">Better Climate Challenge</a>.</p>
7. Encourage each Board office to:				





## Fairfax Green Initiatives Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
7a. Identify, if it has not already done so, a District environmental liaison to foster community energy savings outreach, initiatives, education and engagement, County programs awareness, partnerships with local groups and serve as liaison with County staff and other Board offices.	BOS	X		OEEC has developed an Environmental and Communications Collaborators group to share relevant environmental and energy information with liaisons in each of the Board offices.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

### Fairfax Green Initiatives #2

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
1. Direct DPWES to:					
1a. Research and report to the Environment Committee on the options for expanding our existing internal County compost pilot to the community as part of our trash/recycling services or drop off locations. Options to be considered could include partnering with Arlington or Prince William, like with our purple bins – placing “green” compost bins beside purple bins; collections at Farmers Markets, FCPS locations, libraries and community centers; collecting, selling and/or giving away compost materials at the I-95 Landfill Complex & I-66 Transfer Station. In addition, work with other County agencies to provide community education on backyard composting at community centers, libraries and RECenters.	DPWES	FCPA	X		DPWES presented to the Environmental Committee in February 2021 on organics collection options and ongoing and proposed pilots, including a residential food scraps drop-off program launched in November 2020 at the I-66 Transfer Station and I-95 Landfill. DPWES launched a second residential food scraps drop-off pilot in June 2021 at select area farmers markets. The program has since been expanded and taken over by FCPA. DPWES, FCPA and NVSWCD all offer educational materials on composting to county residents.
2. Direct the County Executive to:					



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
2a. Update the vehicle purchasing policy to accelerate purchases of County electric vehicles for the fleet of eligible sedans and expand the County's charging infrastructure to support additional electric vehicles. One hundred percent of eligible vehicles scheduled for purchase in FY2021 shall be replaced with electric vehicles and the infrastructure needed can be supported in FY2021.	DVS FMD OEEC	DMB DPMM FCPA Gov't Relations	X		<p>One hundred percent of eligible vehicles scheduled for purchase in FY2021, of which there were 14, were replaced with EVs.</p> <p>In November 2020, DPMM announced a contract with an EV charging services vendor to provide charging stations at County facilities. The first of these charging stations were installed in spring 2022.</p> <p>To further advance fleet electrification goals, in July 2021, the Board adopted an update to its <a href="#">Operational Energy Strategy</a>, setting a goal to electrify the County fleet by 2035.</p>
2b. Direct staff to return to the Board with a schedule to accelerate the replacement of vehicles and infrastructure to support these vehicles, with the associated investment required, before the end of calendar year 2020 to inform the FY 2022 Budget.	DVS FMD OEEC	DMB DPMM FCDOT FCPA	X		<p>One hundred percent of eligible vehicles scheduled for purchase in FY2022 were replaced with EVs.</p>



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
2c. Direct the OEEC to find immediate solutions to charging infrastructure, such as upgrading existing electrical outlets in County garages to accommodate plug-in EVs, and to adapt purchasing practices to new goal.	OEEC	DMB DPMM DVS FCPA FMD Gov't Relations	X	T.10	By 2022, EV chargers were installed at over 40 spaces in the parking garages at the Government Center, Pennino Building, Herrity Building, Public Safety Headquarters and Merrifield Center. Additional installations are planned and will be shared through future CECAP implementation reporting.
3. Direct the County Attorney to:					
3a. Report to the Environment Committee on whether the County can provide incentives for consumer EV purchases and charging stations, or similar kinds of energy reduction or efficiency investments; or what legislative changes might be necessary to do so.	Gov't Relations OCA	DMB DEI	X	T.13	OCA determined that the Board has authority to adopt a lower tax rate for EVs, but other incentives the Board may want to provide would require enabling legislation in the General Assembly. These incentives need to be identified and assessed prior to the pursuit or support of such legislation.  As noted in CECAP Implementation Action T.13, staff will continually monitor and research appropriate places to introduce legislative proposals for EV incentives through the existing legislative process. Progress on T.13 will be shared through future CECAP implementation reporting.
4. Direct the OEEC to:					
4a. Provide a plan to the Environment Committee for consideration to implement a five-cent plastic bag fee in 2021, as now allowed by law.	OEEC	DMB DPWES DTA OCA	X		An ordinance on a five-cent disposable plastic bag tax was adopted on September 14, 2021. As of January 1, 2022, the bag tax is in effect in Fairfax County.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
5. Direct FMD to:					
5a. Assess and report to the Environment Committee costs and process to phase out all existing hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerators, refrigerant cases and air conditioners from all County facilities and equipment purchases as soon as practical but no later than 2030, including ensuring proper disposal and recovery of gases and materials. Where comparably performing non-HFC products are available, effective in 2021, all new purchases would not contain HFC.	FMD DPWES FCPA FCRHA	DMB DPMM		BEE.22	<p>The lead departments are collaborating to assess, determine and report on the process necessary to accomplish this item by 2030. The departments are investigating market options, timelines and resource needs to purchase HVAC equipment with non-HFC refrigerants. However, FCPA notes that replacement options are currently not widely available to the domestic U.S. market.</p> <p>On new construction and major renovation projects, Capital Facilities is investigating options for use of non-HFC refrigerants, their availability, and timelines for phase-out by 2030.</p> <p>The departments will continue to properly dispose of HFC refrigerants under the DPWES-Solid Waste Management program.</p>
6. Refer to the Land Use Policy Committee for consideration:					



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
6a. Require energy use disclosures on residential home sales. Direct the County Attorney to provide legal review for considerations.	Gov't Relations OCA	DPD	X		OCA determined that legislation passed in the 2020 General Assembly, requiring a seller of a residential property to disclose that a buyer may obtain a building energy analysis, does not require the seller to provide an energy cost and consumption history such as the one required by Montgomery County, MD. Additional legislation would need to be passed in the General Assembly to impose the requirement on sellers or authorize localities to do so.
6b. Direct DPD to evaluate and report to the Land Use Policy Committee on further strengthening the County's Comprehensive Plan policy regarding provisions for EV ready or EV infrastructure during the rezoning process in private parking facilities.	DPD	LDS OEEC		T.4	As part of the zMOD project, a new Zoning Ordinance was adopted in March 2021 (and readopted May 2023), which permits electric vehicle charging (EVC) as a new accessory use, with certain provisions. The ordinance allows EVC spaces to count toward minimum parking requirements, canopies for solar collection systems, and the inclusion of EVC infrastructure accessory to county facilities.  OEEC and DPD will coordinate on future updates to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance to advance EV and climate goals, and report on efforts through CECAP implementation.



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
6c. Direct DPD and the County Attorney to provide a report analyzing requirements and impediments for new commercial construction and incentives for new residential construction to incorporate community solar and/or geothermal systems in project planning.	DPD LDS	OCA	X		<p>Solar Power Facilities and Solar Collection Facilities are new uses proposed as part of zMOD to more readily incorporate solar projects into County and other community facilities, commercial construction projects and individual residential sites. As part of the zMOD project, a new Zoning Ordinance was adopted in March 2021 (and readopted in May 2023)</p> <p>The County has processes in place to expedite reviews for solar and geothermal systems and permitting costs are waived for residential and commercial solar systems. LDS also offers guidance and resources to residents on the permitting and review processes for solar and geothermal.</p>
6d. Direct DPD to provide a report for ways to encourage and incentivize developers and builders in the County to adopt or accelerate residential and commercial green building practices. For example, create a green building profile that builders and developers can receive a rating on their green building practices.	DPD LDS		X		<p>DPD and LDS have determined that the creation of a Fairfax County Green Building Profile would duplicate existing third-party certifications and rating systems, and as such, the agencies suggest such a profile not be developed.</p>
7. Direct the County Executive to:					



## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
7a. Report to the Environment Committee on the feasibility of creating an Energy Efficiency Funding Pool (EEFP) pilot. Consider potential Public Private Partnerships (PPP), existing non-profit housing partnerships and other energy efficiency-focused organizations to provide a competitive grant process for funding local entities to provide workforce energy efficiency and weatherization (green jobs) training opportunities while upgrading the energy efficiency on eligible low-income and seniors homes.	DEI	CSB FCRHA OEEC OSM		BEE.3 BEE.6 BEE.11 BEE.18	<p>The CECAP Implementation Plan includes several supporting objectives and action items to advance Fairfax Green Initiatives #2, 7a, which will be tracked and reported on through CECAP implementation.</p> <p>In addition, the County coordinates with <a href="#">NVRC</a> to track home energy efficiency programs, such as <a href="#">CHP Energy Solutions</a>, which provides weatherization, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures for age- and income-qualifying residents in the region, using the federal Weatherization Assistance Program and other funding sources. CHP Energy Solutions also offers workforce development opportunities through its Research &amp; Training Center.</p>
7b. Report to the Environment Committee on the feasibility of creating a Fairfax Green Bank.	DOF Gov't Relations	DEI DMB OCA OEEC	X		<p>In fall 2020, OCA determined that the Board lacked enabling authority to establish a Fairfax Green Bank. At the request of the Board, Delegate Kory sponsored HB 1919 in the 2021 session of the Virginia General Assembly, enabling a locality to enact an ordinance establishing a green bank. The bill was signed into law in March 2020. Efforts to establish a Fairfax Green Bank are underway; reports on those efforts are shared with the Board's Environmental Committee.</p>





## Fairfax Green Initiatives #2 Implementation Matrix

Action Item	Lead Dept.	Partners	Complete?	CECAP Implementation Action	Action to Date
8. Direct the County Executive and County Attorney to:					
8a. Report to the Board on the feasibility and legality of providing guidance to Fairfax County retirement fund managers to increase support for non-greenhouse gas emitting energy investments, local green business investments and decreasing those in fossil fuels.	OCA	Retirement Administration Agency	X		OCA determined that the Board may lawfully provide guidance to Fairfax County retirement fund managers on increasing support for non-greenhouse gas emitting energy investments and decrease support for fossil fuels. However, legal difficulties could arise if mandates or limitations on investment choices are imposed.