

Everyday Actions for Community Sustainability

Office of Sustainability
Giulia Manno, Director
March 2026



Agenda

- Background on Prince William County sustainability
- Integrating sustainability into county government operations
- Sustainability in county plans – community input
- Community sustainability programs and resources
- Questions/Open Discussion



Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Goals

BOCS endorsed the following goals (Res. No. 20-773)



Reduce county-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 50% from 2005 levels by 2030.



Procure 100% renewable electricity county-wide by 2035.



Procure 100% renewable electricity for county government operations by 2030.



Achieve carbon neutrality for county government operations by 2050.



Become a Climate Ready Region by 2030.

Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan (CESMP)

25 Priority Actions



Energy

- E.1. Acquire Clean Electricity Sources for the County
- E.2. Promote Renewable Energy Incentive Programs and Develop Additional Solar Incentives
- E.3. Encourage Renewable Energy Use in Energy-Intensive Commercial Buildings
- E.4. Promote Existing Green Power Products
- E.5. Install Solar on County Government Facilities



Buildings

- B.1. Encourage Energy Efficiency and Electrification Retrofits
- B.2. Propose Green Zoning Regulations
- B.3. Encourage Energy Efficient and Electric New Construction
- B.4. Promote Energy Efficiency and Electrification Incentives
- B.5. Transition to Net-Zero County Government Facilities



Transportation

- T.1. Improve Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure and Enhance Connectivity
- T.2. Encourage Transit-Orientated Development
- T.3. Expand Existing Programs that Reduce Single-Occupancy Vehicle Trips
- T.4. Upgrade Public Transit Infrastructure
- T.5. Encourage Zero-Emission Vehicles and Charging
- T.6. Expand Public EV Charging Network
- T.7. Adopt Zero- or Low-Emissions County Fleet



Natural Resources

- N.1. Adopt Natural Open Space Requirements



Adaptation

- A.1. Develop Adaptation Plans for Critical Facilities
- A.2. Manage Stormwater Flooding Outside of the Floodplain
- A.3. Improve Power Resiliency for Critical Infrastructure
- A.4. Assess Shoreline Protection and Nature-Based Solutions
- A.5. Restore Streams to Reduce Flooding
- A.6. Encourage Technology for Residents to Make Homes Adaptive
- A.7. Plan Alternate Evacuation Routes for Flood-prone Areas

About the Office of Sustainability

VISION

Meet our community's needs today without compromising the quality of life or availability of resources for future generations.



MISSION

Strategically integrate environmental sustainability county-wide and in county government operations to meet our transforming community needs now and in the future.



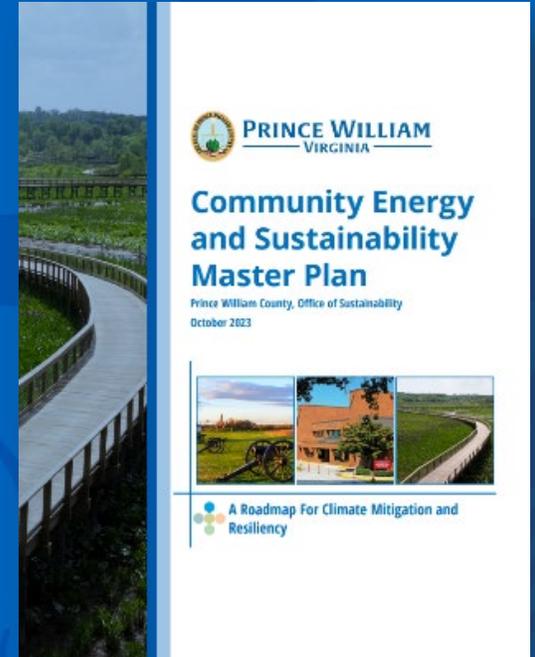
Director, Office of Sustainability

Climate and Energy
Program Manager

Sustainability Performance
Manager

Green Buildings
Manager

Climate Risk and Resilience
Manager (hiring)



Environmental Sustainability Workgroup (ESW)

The ESW focused on the development and now implementation of the Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan, and implementation of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan



Office of Sustainability | Parks & Recreation
Transformation Management Office | Equity & Inclusion
Fire & Rescue | Development Services | Public Works
Economic Development | Planning Office | Transportation
Facilities & Fleet Management | Management & Budget
Procurement | Housing | Libraries | Finance

Integration into County Operations



Rooftop solar project in design at Judicial Center

- 469 kW - Rooftop solar capacity planned for county facilities. Climate benefit equivalent to planting about 17,000 trees annually.
- Eighty-five electric vehicle chargers have been installed on county property. Project in design to install more than 70 chargers at the county complex in the coming years to support the county fleet.
- County landfill hosts a next-generation renewable natural gas facility. The project converts landfill gas into consumer-grade renewable natural gas, eliminating the need to burn landfill gas directly. Methane emissions at the landfill are reduced by approximately 95%, improving air quality and significantly lowering greenhouse gas emissions.



Public EV chargers at McCoart Building

Integration into County Plans: 2025 – 2028 Strategic Plan

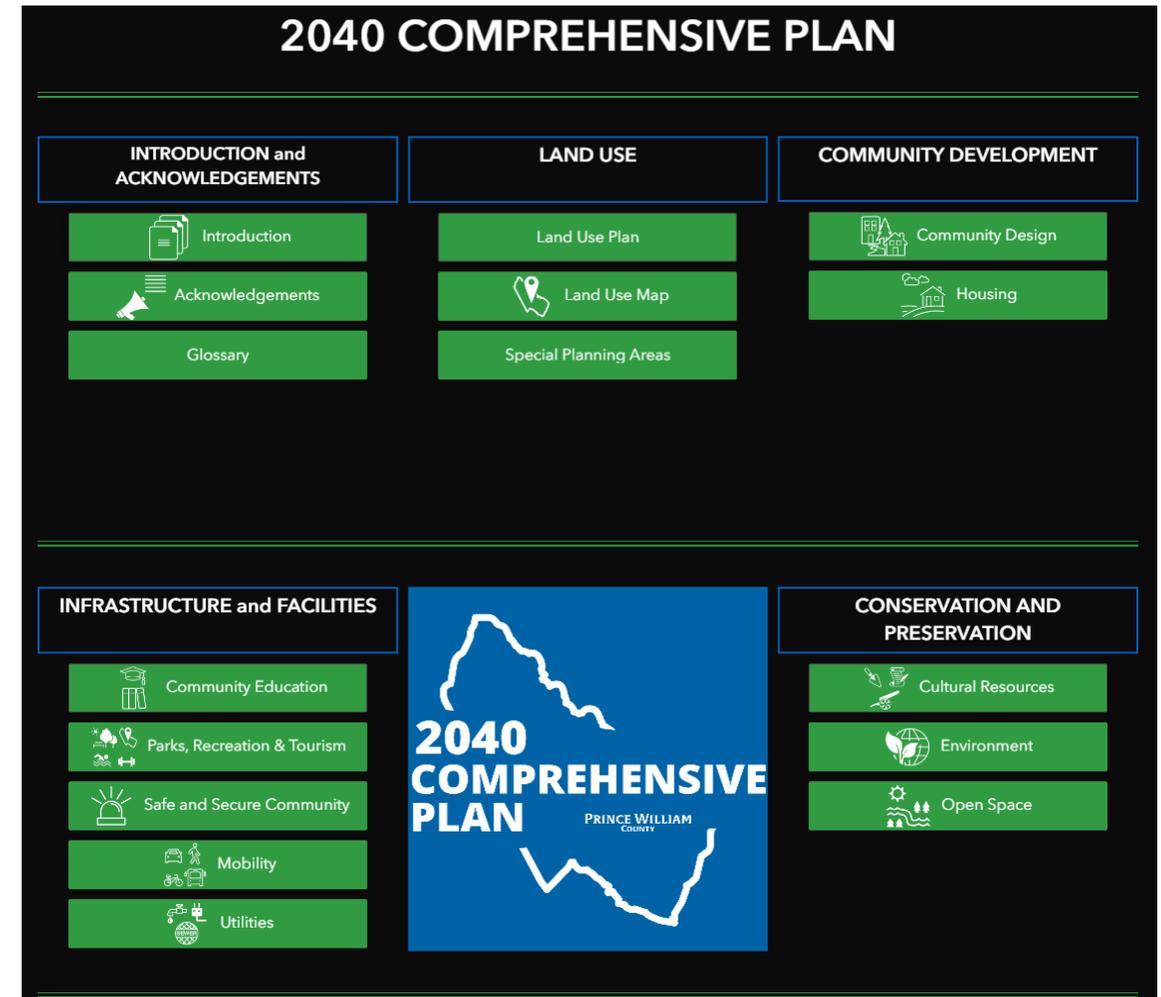
Approximately 24% of Strategic Plan actions are aligned with sustainability efforts

	Environment Goal: Preserve the county's natural beauty and resources so open spaces are protected and maintained and residents can continue to enjoy nature.
	Key Objectives:
	Safeguard the quality of the county's air, water and natural resources to protect them for current and future generations.
	Expand and enhance public parks, trails and green spaces to improve community access to nature.
	Use the Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan to guide decision-making and support climate mitigation and resiliency goals.
	Support and incentivize renewable energy development to reduce environmental impacts and improve air quality.
	Reduce and mitigate the impacts of flooding in communities.
	Mobility Goal: Enhance connectivity through transit-oriented development and improved pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.
	Key Objectives:
	Improve, expand and increase use of the county's transportation network.
	Increase awareness of transportation options so residents can identify mobility solutions that best meet their needs.
	Develop mobility projects throughout the county to ensure timely access to multiple transportation options.
	Work with community partners to implement multimodal mobility solutions that improve access, safety and connectivity.

**Integration into County Plans: *Sustainability
and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment***

What is a Comprehensive Plan Amendment?

- An official update to the comprehensive plan
- Plan is reviewed every 5 years; targeted updates may occur outside of this schedule
- Initiated by the Board of Supervisors
 - May be proposed to the Board in several ways, for example: a request from a property owner submitted to the County proposed by staff, or proposed by the Board itself



- Address sustainability and resilience gaps in the Comprehensive Plan
- Adopt policies and action strategies that are needed to meet the county's Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Goals
- Integrate CESMP recommendations into the Comprehensive Plan, as relevant
- Consider strategies to address all-hazards resilience
- **Board initiated the Sustainability and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) in May 2024**



Round 1 Public Engagement

Public meetings:

- February 18 (Virtual)
- February 26 (In-Person)
- March 4 (In-Person)

Online survey (February 18 – March 18)

Home / Sustainability and Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment / Sustainability & Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment Survey

Sustainability & Resilience Comprehensive Plan Amendment Survey

Introduction
Prince William County is updating its [Comprehensive Plan](#) to include policies and actions that promote sustainability and resilience in the county and help us prepare for the future. It:

The Comprehensive Plan is a document that explains the county's goals for the future. It:

- Shows how the county plans to grow, develop and protect important places.
- Expresses a shared vision for the future.
- Helps guide decisions about land use, design and the local economy.

The Comprehensive Plan is a guide, not a set of rules. It does [not](#):

- Set exact building heights or layouts
- Approve construction projects or funding
- Change current zoning laws or property rights

A Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) is the process the county uses to update the Comprehensive Plan based on community needs. This Comprehensive Plan Amendment will support community goals for equity, environmental health, economic prosperity, and quality of life by:

- Filling gaps related to sustainability and resilience.
- Supporting the county's climate and emergency preparedness goals.
- Incorporating appropriate actions from the county's [Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan \(CESMP\)](#).
- Meeting state requirements to consider strategies that address all-hazard resilience.

Please take 10-15 minutes to complete this survey. Your answers will help guide these updates. We want to learn more about your priorities and personal experience related to sustainability and resilience.

All survey responses will remain anonymous in any publicly-shared summaries.

Learn More and Participate!
For more information about the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process, and to learn more about sustainability and resilience, please visit pwworks.pwva.gov/sustainability-cpa.

Thank you for taking time to provide input!

Part 1: About You

1. What is your connection to Prince William County?
(Select all that apply.)

I live in the county

I work in the county

I own or operate a business in the county

I live outside the county but visit the county

I prefer not to say

—

PRINCE WILLIAM Planning

Q & A

Please limit your questions to **specific questions about the scope, process, and content of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment.**

Question submission instructions:

- Zoom webinar participants** – Submit questions using the Q&A box at the bottom of your screen.
- Participants calling in by phone** – During this meeting, you can text a question to 571-378-2597.
- Questions after this meeting?** - Email SRcpa@pwgov.org

YOUR IDEAS FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

How can the Comprehensive Plan better address sustainability and resilience at the county, neighborhood, and site/building scales?

Share your thoughts on a sticky note.

For example:
Are there **particular changes to the Comprehensive Plan** that you would like the County to consider?
Are there **specific goals, policies, or actions** that should be reflected in Comprehensive Plan amendments?

County

... [Sticky notes with ideas]

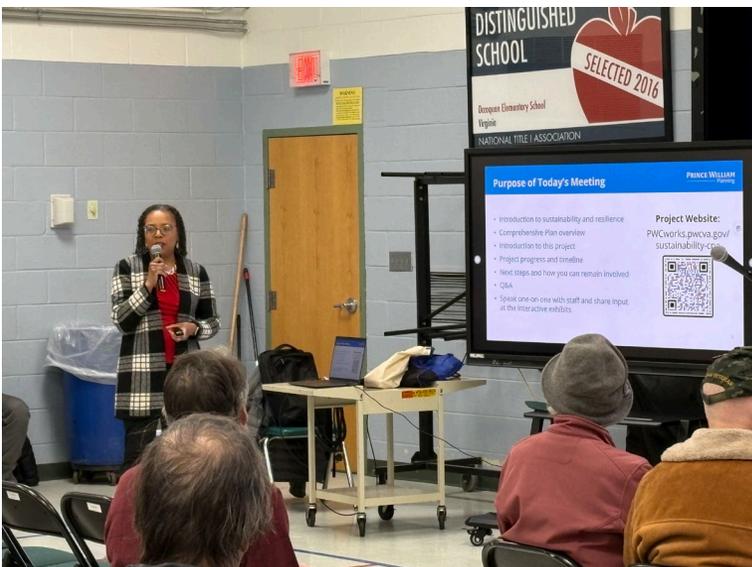
Neighborhood

... [Sticky notes with ideas]

Site/Building

... [Sticky notes with ideas]

PRINCE WILLIAM Planning



Key Sustainability-Related Findings (Survey)

- **Top environmental concerns:**
 - Loss of trees and vegetation (73%)
 - Water quality and water usage (51%)
 - Energy consumption (36%)
- **Top sustainability priorities for CPA:**
 - Preserving natural resources (82%)
 - Increasing access to parks and green space (51%)
 - Reducing water consumption; protecting and improving water quality (41%)
- **Top transportation changes to make you more willing or able to consider alternatives to traveling by gas-powered automobiles (98% drive):**
 - Making it safer/more comfortable to walk (53%)
 - Improving public transportation options (44%)
 - More housing near public transportation (20%)

Key Resilience-related Findings (Survey)

- **Top hazard concerns in the county:**
 - Power grid failure or power outage (76%)
 - Infectious disease / public health emergency (34%)
 - Extreme temperatures (29%)
- **Top hazards experienced in the county:**
 - Poor air quality (47%)
 - Extreme temperatures indoors and high energy costs (36%)
 - Extreme heat when I am outdoors (35%)
 - None (28%)
- **Readiness for emergencies (“not prepared”):**
 - Ability to leave my neighborhood due to road closures, limited transportation routes, or limited transportation options (32%)

Spring/Summer 2026

- Summarize public engagement findings
- Prepare draft Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Fall 2026

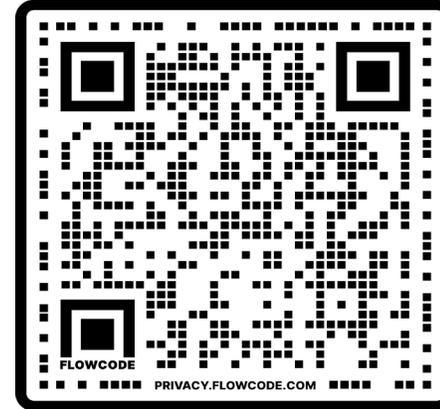
- Release draft CPA for public comment
- Conduct second round of public engagement
 - Sustainability Commission meeting to discuss feedback
- Finalize and PC and BOCS public hearings for adoption



PROJECT WEBSITES

pwcworks.pwcva.gov/sustainability-cpa

www.pwcva.gov/SRcpa



EMAIL AND ALERTS

[**SRcpa@pwcgov.org**](mailto:SRcpa@pwcgov.org)

Sign up for PWC Alerts to receive periodic updates.

www.pwcva.gov/alerts

Community Sustainability Programs and Resources



Sustainability Commission

The Prince William County Sustainability Commission was created by the Board of County Supervisors in November 2020 as a public advisory body to develop and provide recommendations on potential enhancements to the Community Energy and Sustainability Master Plan.

The commission consists of eight members appointed by the Board of County Supervisors, along with nonvoting utility representatives who serve as subject matter experts (Dominion, NOVEC, Prince William Water, Potomac Regional Transportation Commission, Virginia Railway Express, and Washington Gas)

Public meetings held every 4th Thursday of the month at the McCoart Building.



Independent Hill Library pollinator garden

Community Programs - Residential Solar



EXPANDING ACCESS TO SOLAR ENERGY

Prince William County earned SolSmart Bronze designation for advancing solar accessibility. Approximately 100 households participated in the Solarize Virginia 2025 campaign to accelerate adoption of residential solar energy.

Since 2015, a total of 3,161 residential solar installations have been completed in the county.

In 2023, the Board approved a one-time fee reduction program that waives permitting fees for residential solar installations. The county also adopted the SolarAPP+ platform, which streamlines solar permitting and accelerates project approvals.



Presented by  leap



Launching April 15, 2026

A community-based outreach initiative that reduces the cost and complexity of going solar by providing a one-stop-shop for education and installation, offering discounted prices, vetted installers, and customer support.

Community Programs- Community Housing Partners



REDUCING ENERGY BURDENS FOR RESIDENTS

As of 2025, nearly 300 households have received no-cost energy audits and weatherization assistance through Community Housing Partnership programs and related subsidies. These efforts help residents lower energy costs while improving home comfort and efficiency.



No-Cost Home
Energy Programs



Increase the energy efficiency, health, and safety of your home

Community Housing Partners (CHP) Energy Solutions provides no-cost, government and utility-funded improvements to qualified homeowners AND renters. This can include installation of insulation, LED light bulbs, heating & cooling repairs and upgrades, and more!

Community Sustainability Resource - VEConnect



Your Guide to Lower Energy Bills

VEConnect is a state website that connects homeowners, businesses, property owners, and renters to energy improvement programs.

Energy Incentives & Programs

The Energy Connect Incentives Browser is a customized tool that lists energy programs and incentives available in Virginia. To further refine your custom results by the project or incentive type, use the filters on the left. *All information you enter is anonymous.*

PROJECT TYPE ^

- Any
- Appliances
- Battery Storage
- Electrical Upgrades
- Energy Audit/Assessment
- EVs/Charging
- General
- Geothermal Energy
- HVAC
- Insulation
- Lighting & Controls
- Solar Energy
- Water Heating
- Whole Home Retrofit
- Wind Energy

Name ↕

Smart Thermostats Program	Rebate
Solar Energy Systems Tax Exemption	Other
Solar Net-Metering	Other
Solarize Virginia	Instant Discount
Virginia Taxable Income Deductions- Appliances & Equipment	Other
Virtual Energy Audit Program	Other
Water Energy Demand Response Program	Rebate
Water Energy Rebates Program	Rebate

Type ↕

First Sustainability Annual Report – Release April 2026

Climate Action Progress

17/25 - CESMP Actions initiated across county departments

10/25 - CESMP Actions currently in active implementation

Clean Energy

3,100+ - Residential solar installations across Prince William County since 2015

469 kW - Rooftop solar capacity planned for county facilities

Transportation

7,600+ - Electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles registered in Prince William County as of 2024

85 - Electric vehicle charging stations installed on county properties

Natural Resources

4,785 feet - Stream restored along Powell's Creek in 2025

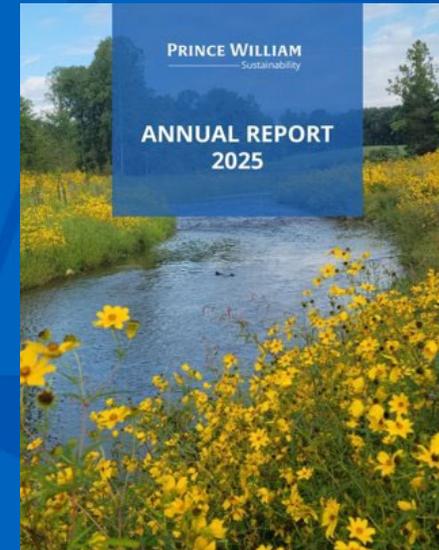
2,185 pounds - Trash captured before entering the Potomac River watershed in 2025

Community Impact

300 households - Energy audits and weatherization assistance provided as of 2025

20% savings - Flood insurance premium reduction through FEMA's Community Rating System in 2025

Updates on the county-wide greenhouse gas inventory and county's first government operations greenhouse gas inventory



Draft report cover

Thank you! Questions?

Giulia Manno

Director, Office of Sustainability

Gmanno@pwcgov.org