

**Craig, Sondra**

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**From:** cvm <cvanmaren@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 17, 2025 6:11 AM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External  
**Subject:** Budget for climate action

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Dear Council Members,

In July 2019, the City Council committed to reducing community-wide carbon emissions, by 20% by 2025 and more in future years, as part of a global effort to avert climate disaster. We are *\*not\** on track locally and now know that our goal was too timid.

Part of that 2019 resolution included a requirement that city spending be assessed to determine whether it would help our carbon reduction goal or hurt it.

I don't believe that has ever been done and I don't believe it has been done with respect to this budget.

I urge you to prioritize funding for programs and services that allow people to access them by walking, biking, and public transportation. It's essential, as we know from our climate action plan, that public transportation, including MTU and SMRT, be strengthened and improved to reduce commuter and community-wide vehicle miles traveled. We must increase funding for city programs that help people and businesses shift to renewable and renewable-generated electricity.

One of our most important 2023 Climate Action Plan steps is to, "maintain appropriate funding to support plan implementation." [Cross-Cutting Action 3]

I urge you to identify and protect budget items that will help us reach our carbon-reduction pledge sooner. I urge you to read the latest findings on the hellish trajectory delay and inaction have set in motion.

<https://iefworld.org/climate2025>

Cathy Van Maren

Sent from [Proton Mail](#) for Android.