

# CHICAGO CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

## CHICAGO 2020 PROPOSED MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

The Chicago Climate Action Plan is Chicago's roadmap for action in reducing climate change. A dynamic plan for the entire city of Chicago, it outlines specific strategies and actions and calls upon a range of governmental bodies—local, regional and national—to improve policies. Businesses whose actions are already making a difference need to do more; others must begin. Environmental, community and faith-based organization have a key role to play. Residents bear a new responsibility. Everyone must work together to accomplish significant greenhouse gas emission reductions and ensure a good quality of life for future generations.

The ultimate goal is for Chicago to achieve an 80 percent reduction below its 1990 Green House Gas (GHG) emissions levels by the year 2050. To help us achieve this and ensure we stay on track, a mid-term goal has been set to achieve a 25 percent reduction below 1990 GHG emissions levels by 2020. Five individual mitigation and adaptation strategies have been identified to get us there.

### STRATEGY 1. ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS



Without global and local action, impacts on Chicago's weather could be dramatic.

#### Actions

1. Retrofit commercial and industrial buildings
2. Retrofit residential buildings
3. Trade in appliances
4. Conserve water
5. Update City energy code
6. Establish new guidelines for renovations
7. Cool with trees and green roofs
8. Take easy steps

\*MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e = Million Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent



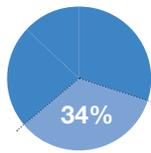
City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley  
Mayor

SEE REVERSE



## STRATEGY 2.

### CLEAN & RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES



of Total Chicago GHG Reductions  
= 5.33 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e

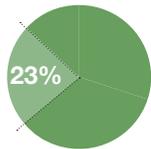
Electricity use, natural gas use and transportation are the main sources of Chicago's emissions that contribute to climate change.

#### Actions

1. Upgrade power plants
2. Improve power plant efficiency
3. Build renewable electricity
4. Increase distributed generation
5. Promote household renewable power

## STRATEGY 3.

### IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS



of Total Chicago GHG Reductions  
= 3.61 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e

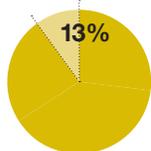
There is no single remedy, but rather many remedies with many benefits.

#### Actions

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Invest more in transit               | 6. Improve fleet efficiency                 |
| 2. Expand transit incentives            | 7. Achieve higher fuel efficiency standards |
| 3. Promote transit-oriented development | 8. Switch to cleaner fuels                  |
| 4. Make walking and biking easier       | 9. Support intercity rail                   |
| 5. Car share and carpool                | 10. Improve freight movement                |

## STRATEGY 4.

### REDUCED WASTE & INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION



of Total Chicago GHG Reductions  
= 2.03 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e

While we reduce emissions, we must prepare for the changes already happening.

#### Actions

1. Reduce, reuse and recycle
2. Shift to alternative refrigerants
3. Capture stormwater on-site

## STRATEGY 5.

### ADAPTATION

The benefits of early action will improve our quality of life and position Chicago for continued prosperity.

#### Actions

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Manage heat                  | 6. Preserve our plants and trees |
| 2. Pursue innovative cooling    | 7. Engage the public             |
| 3. Protect air quality          | 8. Engage businesses             |
| 4. Manage stormwater            | 9. Plan for the future           |
| 5. Implement Green Urban Design |                                  |

