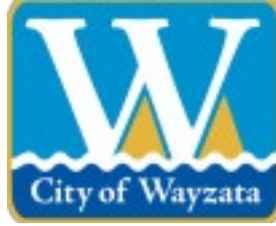


ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

**Wayzata City Hall
600 Rice Street East
Wayzata, MN 55391**

1. Roll Call
2. Approve Agenda
3. Approve February 27, Meeting Minutes
4. City Operations Resilience Plan Strategy Review
5. Arbor Month Discussion
6. Folkestone Earth Day Participation Discussion
7. Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 22
8. Adjournment



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 27, 2024 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Committee Attendees: Chair Lauren Lindelof, Ed Chute, David Ferri, Meaghan Yorro, and David Kirkland.

Wayzata City Staff Member: Nick Kieser, Parks and Environment Planner.

2. Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda with additions of an Earth Day event discussion and a multi-family building audit discussion, first by Ferri, seconded by Kirkland. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approve January 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes, first by Chute, seconded by Yorro. Motion passed unanimously.

5. 2025 Work Plan Council Discussion

Chair Lindelof provided a summary of the discussion with the City Council at their February 18 workshop. Overall, City Council was appreciative of all the accomplishments and work completed in 2024. Council was curious about the amount of cost savings that the solar installations were creating and would like to have that information passed along to them. There was more interest about the Dark Sky initiative and the timeline to bring a recommendation forward to Council.

7. Dark Sky Update

Committee Member Kirkland noted that he would be willing to help lead the Dark Sky initiative. Kirkland is passionate about the topic and he will be able to work with staff on advancing this initiative. Staff is working on setting up another meeting with Todd Burlet, the Dark Sky representative from Minnesota. Staff has also talked with a couple of lighting manufacturers to determine what options there are to retrofit existing lights in the right-of-way to be Dark Sky compliant.

8. Election of 2025 Chair and Vice Chair

The Committee discussed the roles of the Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion to approve Chair Lindelof as Chair in 2025, first by Chute, seconded by Ferri. Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Chermak as Vice Chair in 2025, first by Ferri, seconded by Yorro. Approved unanimously.

10. Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 25

11. Adjournment

RESILIENT CITY OPERATIONS

City Processes & Goals

- Establish a goal to increase resilience. Identify what it means for the City to be resilient and how to track progress toward achieving that goal. Resilience goals can be relatively general, such as those shown in the [Resilience Chapter of Rogers' 2040 Comprehensive Plan](#), or more specific, such as the resilience goals in [Minnetonka's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](#) (page 45).
- Establish greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals for City operations and track progress. Update the City operations greenhouse gas inventory every three years to evaluate progress and modify the planned strategies as needed.
- Review the City Operations Resilience Plan goals annually. Ensure the City budget aligns with the actions for the coming year.
- Incorporate sustainable purchasing. Develop and adopt a City [sustainable purchasing policy](#) to encourage purchasing goods/services that have lowered negative environmental and human health effects.
- Support alternative commutes for City employees. Help reduce vehicle miles traveled from commuting to work by increasing support for remote work, carpooling, and bike-to-work initiatives.
- Establish a staff resilience group. Promote ongoing actions, employable best practices, and staff education on related topics and in conjunction with the Energy and Environment Committee.
- Evaluate joining the [GreenSteps Cities](#) program. View resources from and follow GreenStep Cities' Best Practices, track City progress over time, and get recognition for City action.

Natural Resources

- Reinforce and fund strategies developed in the upcoming Tree Management Plan, especially:
 - Consider budget needs for increased invasive and pest species monitoring and management.
 - Model best practices on City-controlled land. This has started with park and city campus properties, but other City properties and street rights-of-way also present opportunity for improvement.
 - Invest in construction and maintenance of green infrastructure on both public and private property.
 - Enhance communication and collaboration on sustainability initiatives between city departments.
 - Continue to monitor and update natural resource inventories.
 - Consider an Increased budget for inspection and maintenance of existing and proposed green infrastructure.
 - Tree replacement policies as described in the forthcoming Tree Management Plan.

- Update City irrigation systems. Review existing system's coverage and equipment and install high-efficiency spray heads and smart controllers.
- Strengthen wellhead protection areas during the upcoming update process. Prevent contamination from nearby residential activities that could compromise water quality.
- Incorporate water savings considerations into water feature operations. Evaluate ways to reduce water consumption at the Walker and Lake splash pad and Beach House by limiting the number of spray heads in use and contacting the feature manufacturers for additional strategies.
- Capture and collect rainwater at City buildings. Collect rainwater utilizing rain barrels, cisterns, etc., and highlight these interventions as a model for residential applications.
- Continue to monitor and review runoff policies and ongoing updates to best management practices. Reduce negative impacts of stormwater to the City's lakes and wetlands by using best inflow and infiltration management practices, such as installing permeable pavements or green roofs to reduce runoff volume.
- Complete shoreline restoration projects. Continue the shoreline restoration projects outlined in the ongoing Panoway Project and expand these strategies to Wayzata Beach and other waterfront properties.
- Choose alternatives to turf grass at city sites. Explore alternatives like native prairie, perennial ground covers, low-input turf, or lawn at City outdoor space to create habitat and reduce water needs. This aligns with the City's Comprehensive plan goal to "Reduce the number of City maintained landscapes that have high levels of water consumption." Ensure necessary turf grass areas within City parks and facilities' outdoor programmed space are right-sized for programming.
- Protect and expand the City's urban tree canopy. Focus new planting efforts in areas with minimal existing tree canopy, like Wayzata's downtown.

Facilities

- Monitor building metrics within B3 Benchmarking. Expand Wayzata's use of B3 Benchmarking to track energy use, renewable energy generation, water consumption, and waste generation for all City facilities, along with associated costs. Partner with a GreenCorps member to: add facilities not currently tracked in B3 Benchmarking (prioritizing the water treatment facilities and well house); add water use, renewable energy generation, and waste data; and help automate ongoing tracking. Review this data annually to identify potential for improving resource efficiency, to evaluate the success of on-site solar systems, and to determine candidates for energy or water audits.
- Implement energy efficiency measures. Conduct energy audits of The Muni and the water treatment facilities. Use the findings from these audits – along with previous audits of other facilities – to plan and budget for energy efficiency upgrades.
- Create a plan to electrify equipment. Create an inventory of current gas equipment within City facilities, such as furnaces, boilers, water heaters, dryers, and cooking equipment. Identify electric alternatives – such as heat pumps for space heating, heat pump water heaters, and [induction cooktops](#) – and engage stakeholders to identify and work through barriers to adoption. Budget for equipment changes within the City's Capital Improvement Process and adopt electric alternatives at equipment end-of-life.

- Promote zero waste at City facilities. Expand “Green Bag” organics collection within city facilities and provide education on how to participate. Engage in a program that reviews current waste streams and recommends next steps, such as [TRUE Certification](#). Support and promote initiatives included in [Hennepin County’s Zero Waste plan](#).

Fleet

- Transition to electric light-duty fleet vehicles. Discuss the findings from the 2020 Electric Vehicle Adoption Plan with internal stakeholders, analyze costs of recommended electric vehicle options, and budget for these replacements at vehicle end-of-life.
- Install EV charging for fleet vehicles. Install one 10 kW Level 2 charger for each electric car, one 20 kW Level 2 charger for each electric light truck or SUV, and one 600 kW Level 3 charger for each electric heavy truck. Consider purchasing two additional 10 kW Level 2 chargers in the first year, as spares.
- Expand the availability of public EV chargers at City facilities. Consider facilities such as City Hall. Establish triggers for adding EV charging infrastructure, such as grant availability, construction or repaving of a parking lot, or demand from commuting City employees.

Public Infrastructure

- Continue to upgrade and maintain sewer and storm sewer system infrastructure. Continue to replace aging pipes and expand storm sewer system capacity to handle an influx of water during extreme weather events. Ensure that pumping stations and other critical infrastructure are elevated or flood-proofed to prevent damage from extreme weather events. Install monitoring systems for stormwater levels and automate the operation of stormwater gates and pumps to respond to heavy rainfall.
- Upgrade water distribution system infrastructure. Continue to replace aging distribution pipes and valves to reduce leaks, improve pressure management, and ensure sufficient water supply during peak demand periods.
- Continue to incorporate flood management infrastructure, as appropriate with new projects, such as retention basins and detention ponds. When possible, expand existing stormwater-capturing infrastructure to accommodate larger volumes of stormwater, and retrofit them with natural vegetation, wetlands, and bio-swales to improve filtration, increase water retention, and enhance ecosystem services.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Emergency Preparedness

- Continue to work on the four goals outlined in the Hennepin County Hazard Mitigation Plan:
 - Achieve certification in National Weather Service’s StormReady Program.
 - Improve community notification capabilities by reviewing available products, exploring “Next Door”, and preparing community presentations.

- Continue to investigate and inventory critical choke points in the City's water runoff infrastructure and budget for televising the stormwater system.
- Identify priority areas and budget for power lines that can be buried to reduce power failures, based on parameters such as related project work that necessitates it, partnership with Xcel or other funding source, and potential assessments to adjacent properties.
- Establish resilience hubs. Determine resilience goals for new and existing City facilities during severe weather. Consider needs such as storm or tornado shelter capabilities and extended back-up power, and implement resilience measures. Create public awareness of resilience hubs.
- Continue to improve emergency communication with the public. Continue to promote City communication channels including the City's [Emergency Notification Systems](#) and social media handles.
- Ensure emergency preparedness for public events. Establish and communicate criteria for event cancellation due to poor air quality, extreme heat, and inclement weather.
- Develop a response plan for large windfall events. This likely involves partnerships and advanced planning. An example is this [ReLeaf response plan](#) from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
- Continue to perform welfare visits or calls. Identify vulnerable residents and develop a plan to check on their wellbeing during extreme weather events like prolonged heat waves or storms that cause power outages.
- Plan for improving the waste streams for trees dying from disease or storms. Research and partnerships are needed to ensure that wood waste is diverted for reuse, biochar, biologs, and other secondary uses.
- Continue to address flood planning. Maintain the most [up-to-date precipitation data and climate projection data](#) to inform City infrastructure projects. City infrastructure projects.
- Continue to monitor needs for first responder gear and training. Ensure responders are prepared for extreme climate events and train for cross-departmental coordination during multiple emergencies.
- Consider cameras outside City buildings to reduce vandalism.

Multi-Jurisdictional Coordination

- Collaborate with local schools. Collaborate with the Wayzata School District and additional schools within Wayzata to create and implement Safe Routes to School plans, encourage schools to take advantage of the federal direct pay tax incentives for solar and the state's [Solar for Schools grant program](#), and engage students in volunteer and learning opportunities as part of plan implementation.
- Continue to partner with local, regional, and state entities on transportation initiatives. Partner with surrounding communities to take advantage of [Active Transportation Funding](#) available through the Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County when the scale of the funding justifies the administrative requirements. Work with the Metropolitan Council and other partners to support improved transit options such as enhanced bus shelters, increased route frequency, transit electrification, and last mile options for new transit stations along the light rail corridor. [See the Coalition for Clean Transportation.](#)

- Partner with Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and Lake Minnetonka Conservation District. Collaborate to implement resilient green infrastructure, help residents and businesses employ best practices for sustainable landscaping, and promote grant opportunities as they become available.
- Continue to partner with the Wayzata Conservancy to implement the Panoway Project.
- Consider working with neighboring communities to strengthen wellhead protection areas during the upcoming update to those plans.

Education & Engagement

- Update and enhance the City's website dedicated to climate action resources and updates. Host a standalone website that provides up-to-date information and resources for climate action that can be taken by residents and business owners. This site can also provide information about climate-related events, recognition, and progress made by the City. Topics may include:
 - Residential and commercial efficiency, electrification, and clean energy resources
 - Online map of biking and walking networks in the community and surrounding area
 - Resources for vehicle electrification
 - Best practices for climate friendly landscape practices
 - Workshop and event dates and information
 - A progress bar to illustrate success
- Continue to host informational workshops, planned and hosted by the Energy and Environment Committee. Many community members report a desire for more educational opportunities to learn what they can do to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change. Host workshops on the following topics:
 - Solar bulk buys, which can help reduce costs, streamline installation, and garner better warranties.
 - Ride and drive events, which can help people experience electric vehicles and bikes.
 - Native plantings and turf conversions, in partnership with local businesses.
 - Taking care of existing trees, specifically as it pertains to the treatment of emerald ash borer or Dutch elm disease
 - Water conservation, reuse, and smart irrigation practices; especially during periods of low aquifer recharge (such as droughts)
 - Dark Sky compliant initiatives
 - Reuse and swap events (e.g., sporting goods, clothing, etc.)
 - Apartment composting methods and options.
 - Healthy Living Series as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan
- Continue to include regular climate action news in The Portal, the City's weekly email, and other communications. Feature community members, businesses, or organizations who have taken climate action and to provide information on available incentives and best practices. Share stories from the City's implementation of sustainability and resilience strategies to inform and inspire community action.

- Continue to recruit more residents to sign up for City alerts. Conduct an outreach campaign to sign up more residents for City emails, newsletters, social media, and Reverse 911 to receive timely updates.
- Continue Wayzata Sustainable Champion Award program. Review application requirements to remove barriers to applying.
- Recruit more residents and corporate partners to participate in volunteer events that help maintain public open spaces and protect the Big Woods. Also consider partnership with non-profits such as [Tree Trust](#). Projects could include buckthorn and other invasive species removal, native seed collection, planting activities, etc.

Incentives

- Create commercial property depaving program. [St. Louis Park's program](#) provides incentives for green infrastructure, tree planting, depaving, and similar projects that have multiple environmental benefits.
- Continue to offer incentives to residents for climate-friendly yards. Financial incentives can help residents choose landscaping that provides habitat and stormwater benefits. Incentives might include:
 - Expand the City's [Tree Giveaway](#) program to include other pollinator and native plants.
 - Encourage use of the City Forester's [free consultation services](#).
 - Provide free or reduced cost rain barrels, WaterSense sprinkler heads, or other water-saving tools.
- Implement a green cost-share program. Several cities in the west metro, such as [St. Louis Park](#), [Hopkins](#), and [Minneapolis](#) have cost-share programs for residents and businesses that are intended to reduce the upfront costs of efficient or electric appliances, clean energy, energy assessments, storage, and electric bikes. This could also include electric tools and recreational equipment.

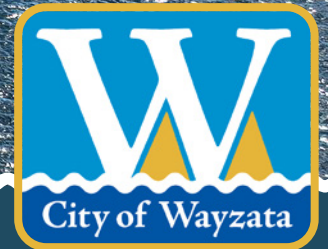
Policies & Programs

- Review and update City codes. Apply a climate lens when making decisions related to updating and enforcing the City's code of ordinances.
- Enforce energy code. Continue to enforce energy code requirements for new buildings. Provide additional training and/or outside support for this as the codes require higher levels of efficiency. Reduce barriers associated with green energy permitting processes.
- Support water conservation. Continue to implement and enforce water conservation ordinances.
- Build climate-friendly streets. Evaluate street projects to identify opportunities to enhance resilience of existing infrastructure, add green infrastructure, and adopt a multi-modal policy like the [City of Burnsville's plan](#) to create streets that are safe and designed for all users when appropriate.
- Encourage biking and walking. Continue implementation of bicycle and walking strategies included in the City's Comprehensive Plan and the Parks and Trails Master Plan. Create a Master Pedestrian Plan, a "Safe Routes to Parks" program, a City Wayfinding System, and update Design Standards to promote the development of pedestrian friendly nodes.

- Include residents and stakeholders. Champion community engagement and encourage opportunities to create buy in throughout all phases of planning processes.

DRAFT

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City Operations Resilience Plan

City of Wayzata

March 2025

Acknowledgments

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01 / Introduction

The City of Wayzata secured a Local Climate Action grant funded by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MCPA) to help fund this project, the outcome of which will be a City Operations Resilience Plan. This plan will provide strategies for Wayzata to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and increase the resilience of its City-owned facilities and City-managed operations in the face of a changing climate. The plan also provides an implementation plan with clear steps for near-term actions.

Resilience is the ability of people and their communities to anticipate, absorb, recover, and adapt to or thrive amidst changing climate conditions and hazard events. Understanding what conditions are changing and how the City can mitigate and adapt to these new realities is essential in – and preserving valuable ecosystems for generations to come.

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02 / Climate Vulnerability Assessment

In order to effectively plan for a resilient future, it is important to understand the current state of Wayzata. This section outlines projected climate conditions, inventories the City's existing conditions, and overviews existing programs, policies, and initiatives already in place that are relevant to this resilience plan. Together, this information provides an overview of the City's current vulnerability to changing climate conditions and potential hazards, and acts as a foundation for the strategies outlined in future sections.

Climate Projections

According to the Minnesota DNR, our state's average temperatures have increased by nearly 3°F since 1895, while precipitation has increased by an average of 3.4 inches in that same timeframe. The majority of this change has occurred over the past several decades, with the top ten warmest and wettest years on record all occurring since 1996, and projections indicate these trends will continue into the future.

By the mid-century (2040-2059) Wayzata can expect to experience wetter springs, drier summers, with an increased chance for hotter temperatures and extreme storm events year-round. Annual average temperatures throughout the entire seven-county metro area are set to increase between 3.5-4.5°F over the next 15-30 years. As shown in [Figure 01.1](#) and [Figure 01.2](#), Wayzata is projected to receive an additional 1.0-1.4 inches of precipitation in spring months, while summers will be more prone to drought and are projected to lose 1.5-0.9 inches of precipitation. These projected changes can result in unsafe outdoor temperatures, poor air quality, flash flooding, and low water levels, which will impact the health and safety of people, alter ecosystems, affect outdoor activities like fishing, boating, and winter sports, and strain infrastructure and building energy systems.

Figure 01.1 Difference in projected spring precipitation by mid-century from historic simulation*

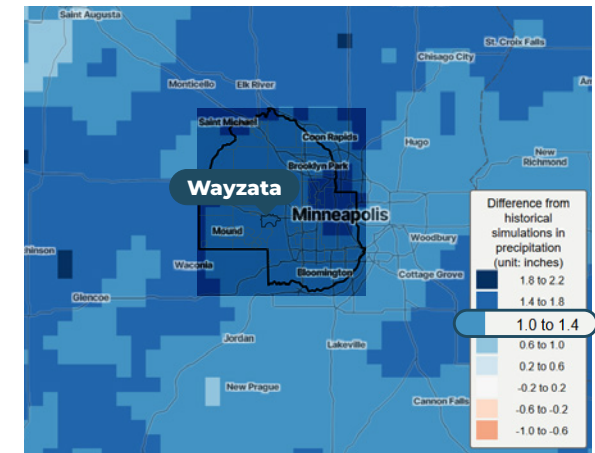
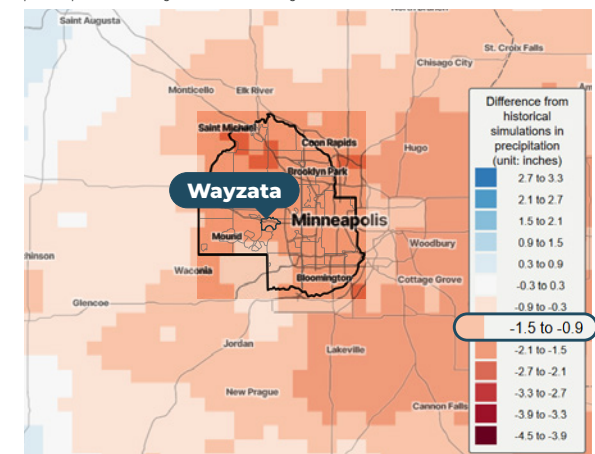
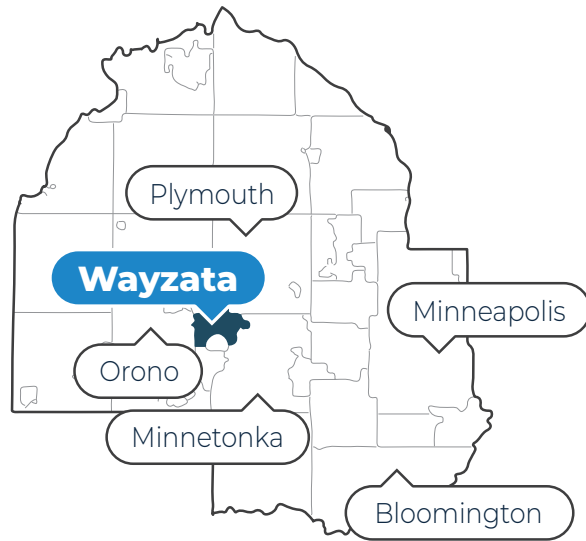


Figure 01.2 Difference in projected summer precipitation by mid-century from historic simulations*

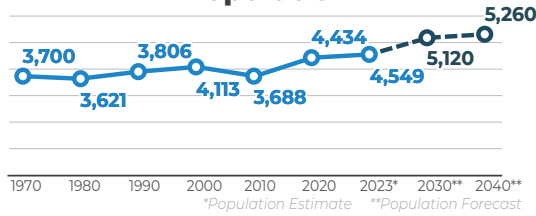


* Source: Minnesota CliMAT using an intermediate emissions SSP 245 scenario

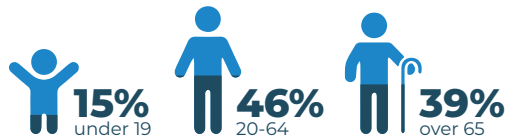
Figure 02.1 Demographic Profile Infographics



Population



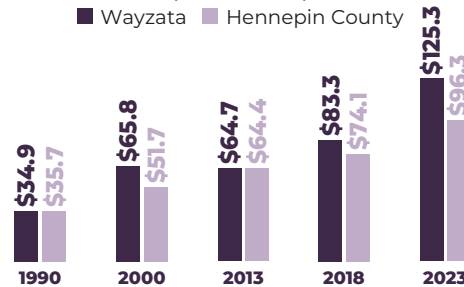
Age Distribution



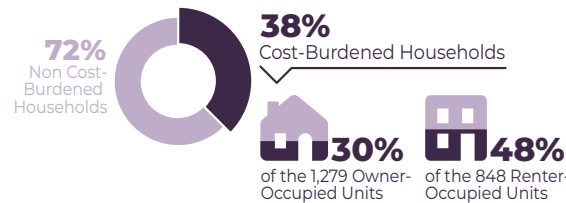
Top Employment Industries



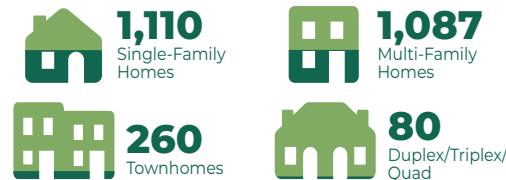
Median Income (in \$000s)



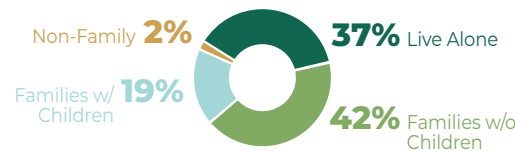
Cost-Burdened Households



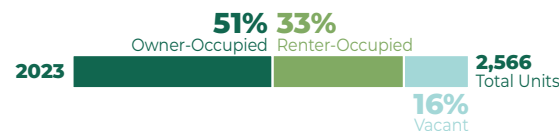
Housing Types



Household Type



Household Tenure



People

While this study is focused on the resilience of city operations and facilities, it is important to look at the people these amenities are serving to ensure adopted strategies are targeting the groups that need them most.

The demographics of a community are closely tied to its climate vulnerability, as not all populations are able to respond or adapt to climate changes or extremes as easily as others. For example, residents who rent their home have less control over home's heating or cooling systems and might not have direct access to AC during an extreme heat event. While Wayzata's 2023 median household income (\$125,300) was significantly higher than Hennepin County's median of \$96,300, almost 40% of households were still considered to be "cost-burdened" (MN Compass). A household is considered cost-burdened when more than 30% of their monthly income is spent on housing costs (i.e. rent or mortgage, utilities, etc.). Of Wayzata's cost-burdened households, 31% were owner-occupied while almost 48% of cost-burdened households were occupied by renters.

Age is an important demographic factor to consider when looking at climate vulnerability in Wayzata, with almost 40% of the population reporting as 65 or older according to the 2023 American Community Survey. Of residents over 65, over 50% reported living with some type of disability and just over 12% reported living alone. Both factors further increase vulnerability to extreme climate events.

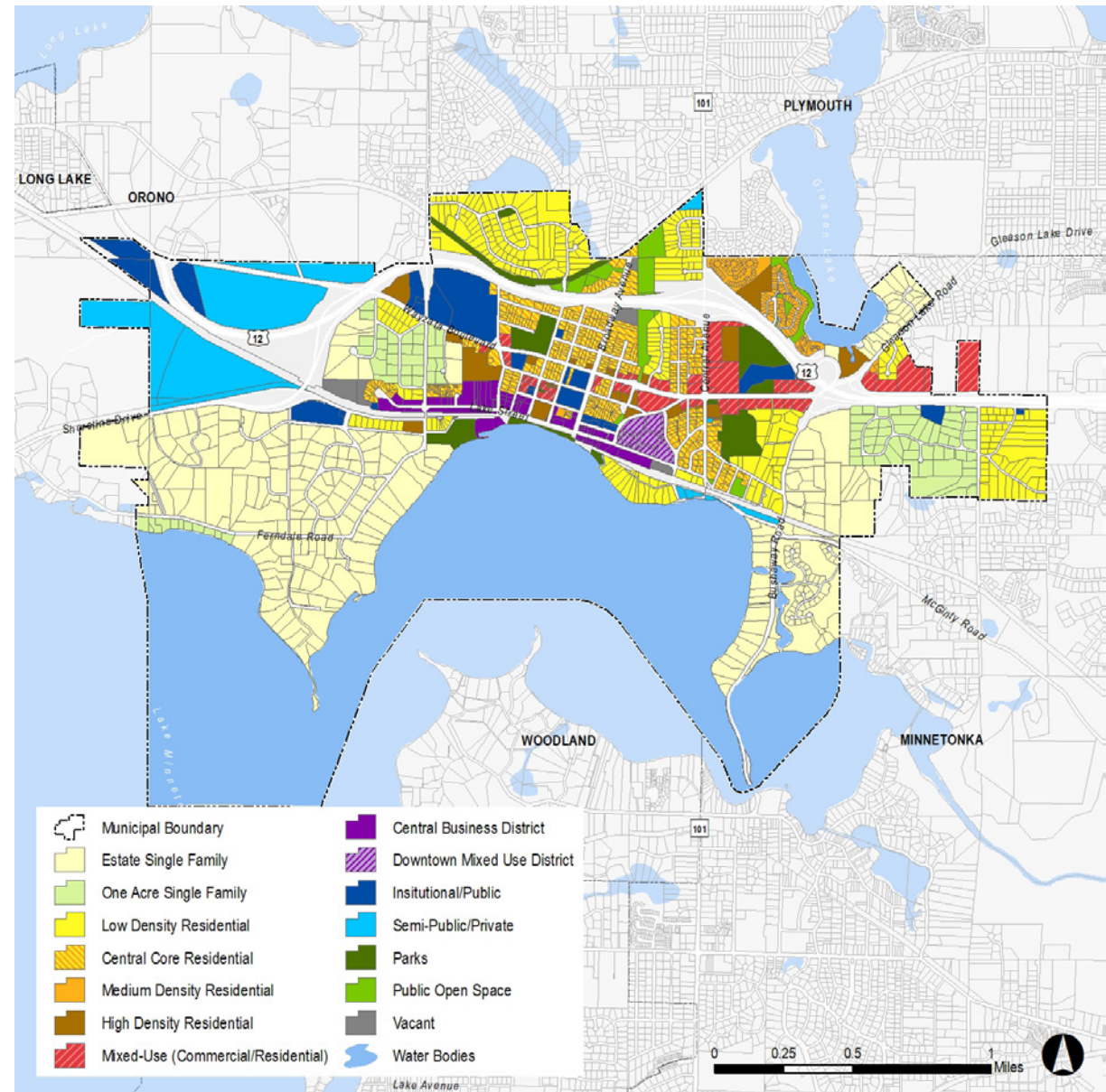
According to the EPA, older adults can be more vulnerable to climate change and its associated health impacts due to their limited mobility, bodily response to heat, increased likelihood of health conditions, compromised immune systems, and dependence on others for medical care and assistance.

Land Use

Over 40% of Wayzata's city limits is comprised of open water, a fact that is heavily reflected in the City's identity as a lakeside village. Of land that is not submerged, the majority is used by low density residential (51.8%), while over 16% of land area is dedicated to the City's downtown business, downtown mixed use, and central core residential uses. Wetlands compose a significant amount of land area across all land uses, and are an important consideration for development, stormwater runoff, and ecological protection.

Looking forward, the future land use outlined in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan includes only slight modifications to existing land uses that increase density and reinforce Wayzata's downtown core.

Figure 02.2 Existing Land Use



Land Cover & Surface Temperature

An area's land cover can greatly affect how it feels to be in that space on a hot day – especially for members of the community who are more vulnerable to extreme temperatures. There are two larger categories that land cover can be grouped into as it relates to the associated surface temperature: heat generating and heat abating. Heat generating land covers contribute to hotter temperatures at the surface level, and include primarily human-made structures and hardscapes, such as buildings, pavements, and bare soils which are shown in grays and browns on [Figure 02.3](#). Heat abating land covers help cool surface temperatures and are primarily composed of natural features like trees, wetlands, and lakes. These land covers are shown as greens and blues in [Figure 02.3](#).

[Figure 02.4](#) shows how land cover translates directly into land surface temperature. Taken on a June day in 2022, this graphic illustrates how areas with less vegetation and more pavement are exceedingly hotter at the surface level. Much of the hottest land in the city is along major roadways, but it is also notable that Wayzata's downtown and adjacent lakeshore area were measured to be just as hot as the transportation corridors. Understanding where Wayzata's hottest areas are can help the city make targeted decisions when determining how to implement resiliency strategies that will make the largest impact.

Figure 02.3 Land Cover (2015)

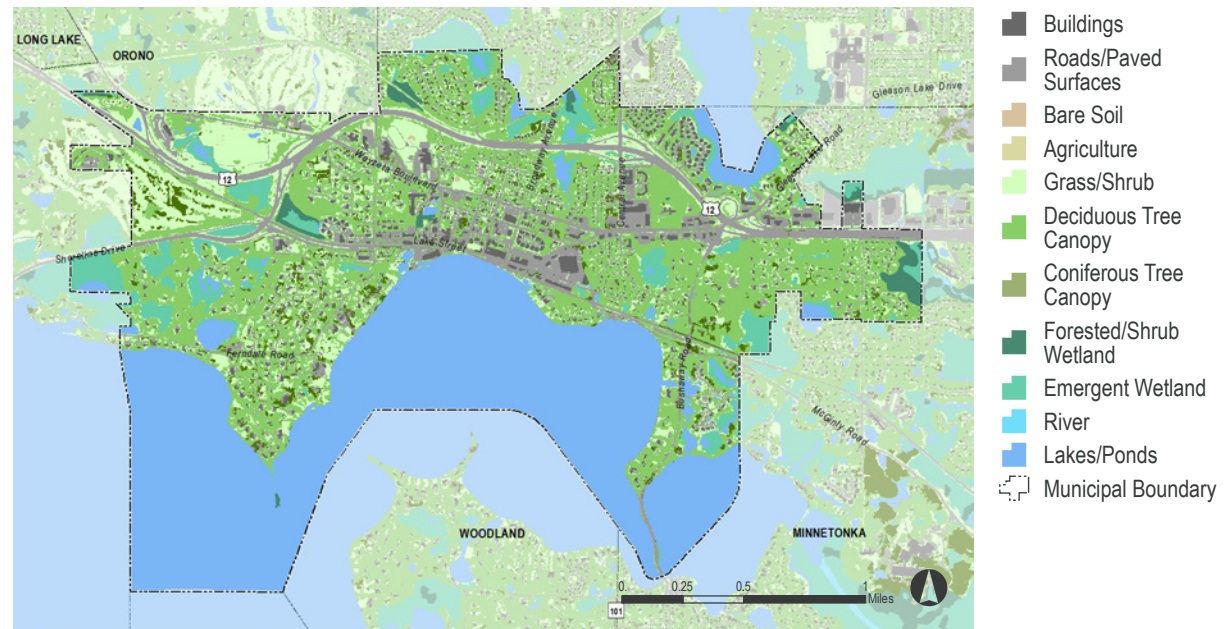
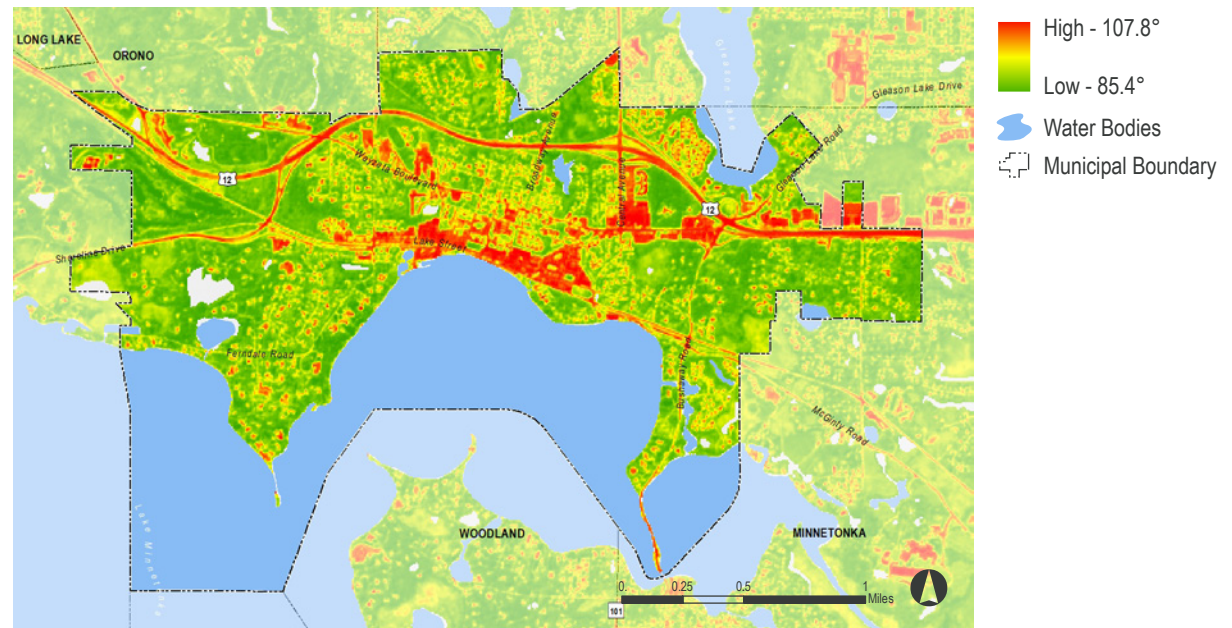


Figure 02.4 Land Surface Temperature (June 2022)



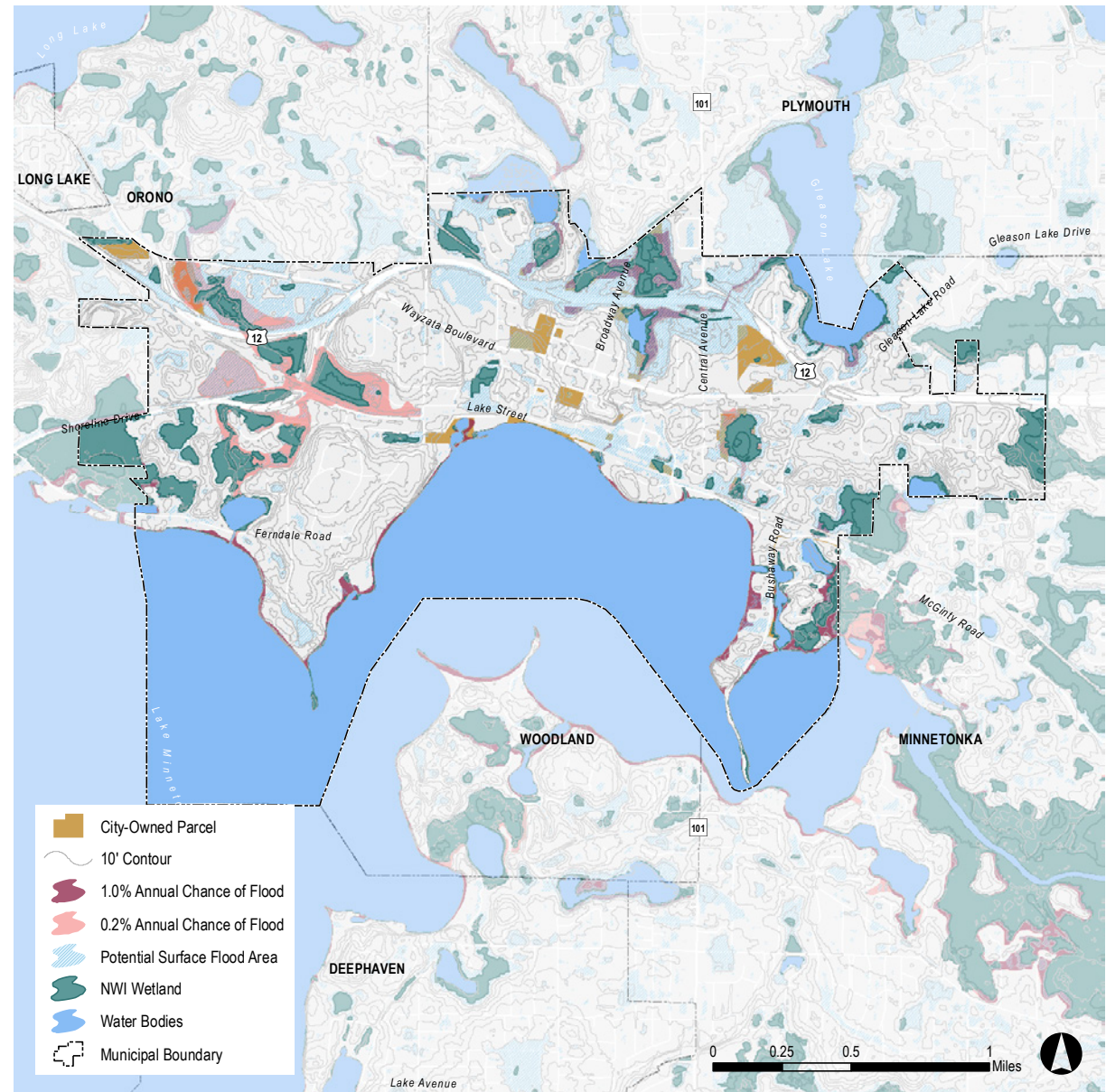
Flooding

As previously noted, much of Wayzata is already considered to be lake and/or wetland, including several stormwater management areas that are owned by the City, but primarily function as stormwater storage areas. During precipitation events, which are projected to increase in frequency seasonally and in severity year-round, other areas that are prone to flooding may be increasingly at risk.

The 100-year and 500-year flood plains represent 1.0% and 0.2% annual chances of flooding respectively. The majority of land within the floodplain is along the shores of Lake Minnetonka and in and around the City's wetland and drainage areas as shown in [Figure 02.5](#). Areas noted as "Potential Surface Flood Area" are low points identified by localized flood mapping for climate vulnerability established by Metropolitan Council using LiDAR data from spring and fall of 2011. They are not definitive flooding locations, but rather areas where flooding may occur due to surface elevation. Land use, soil type, stormwater infrastructure, and other factors determine if areas will in fact become inundated during rainfall, as well as how long that inundation period will span.

The Panoway Project along Lake Minnetonka's north shore includes significant efforts to restore the shoreline's native ecological function, which would help abate flood risks in that zone. Historically, the east end of downtown would experience surface flooding, but innovative

Figure 02.5 Flood Vulnerability



stormwater management practices implemented as part of the Promenade project have reduced that issue. Similar interventions throughout the rest of Wayzata's downtown could assist in remediating the risk of surface flooding. The public works site also appears as if it is susceptible to surface flooding, but recent filling operations have reduced water issues and protect the outdoor storage areas.

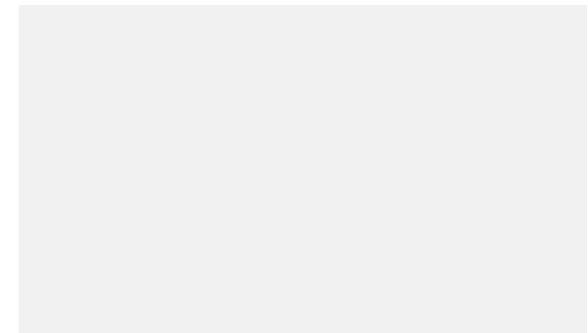
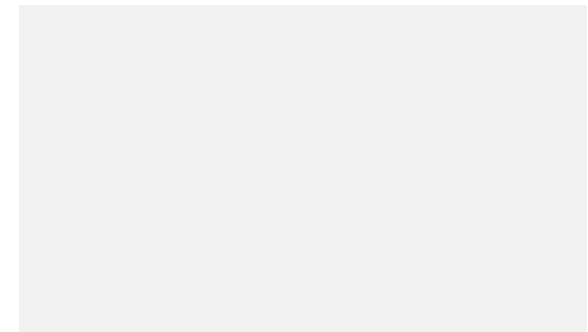
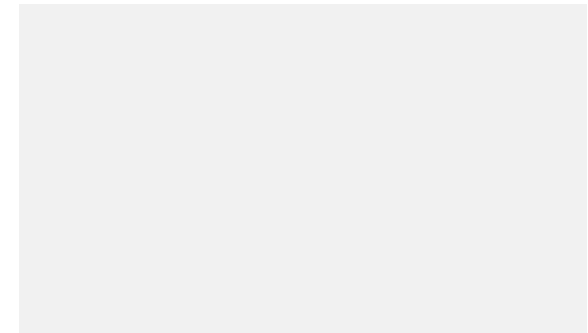
Publicly-Owned Assets

Land

Over 96 acres are owned by the City of Wayzata across its facilities, parks and open space, cemetery, and drainage areas. Those areas include:

- + **City Hall:** this property contains the City's civic campus: city hall, fire station, police department, county library, and the children's garden. It is located on the site of the City's original Public Square, a hilltop overlooking Wayzata's downtown.
- + **Big Woods Preserve:** a large park with an important remnant of "big woods," a forest habitat that was typical in this area pre-European settlement. This forest is prone to climate impacts, especially invasive species, disease, drought, blow-down events, and others.
- + **Klapprich Park & Bell Courts:** located in the City's center, this park is highly programmed across all seasons with various athletic facilities and open spaces. The City's water tower and water treatment facility are located on site.
- + **Wayzata Beach & Shaver Park:** a very popular facility, especially in the summer months due to the swimming beach and season concession stand. Shaver Park is west of the beach and contains the historic Trapper's Cabin, as well as a trailhead for the Dakota Rail Regional Trail, which runs from Wayzata to St Bonifacius.
- + **Nature Center:** a natural park and trail area that originally contained informal and boardwalk pathways that have since been closed to the public due to maintenance and access issues. This area is very important for stormwater management, intercepting runoff before it enters Lake Minnetonka.
- + **Margaret Circle Park:** on the north side of Wayzata, this smaller park has a neighborhood field that is flooded in the winter months for ice skating.
- + **Heritage Park:** well-connected to downtown and public transit, this small park is the venue for many annual community gatherings.

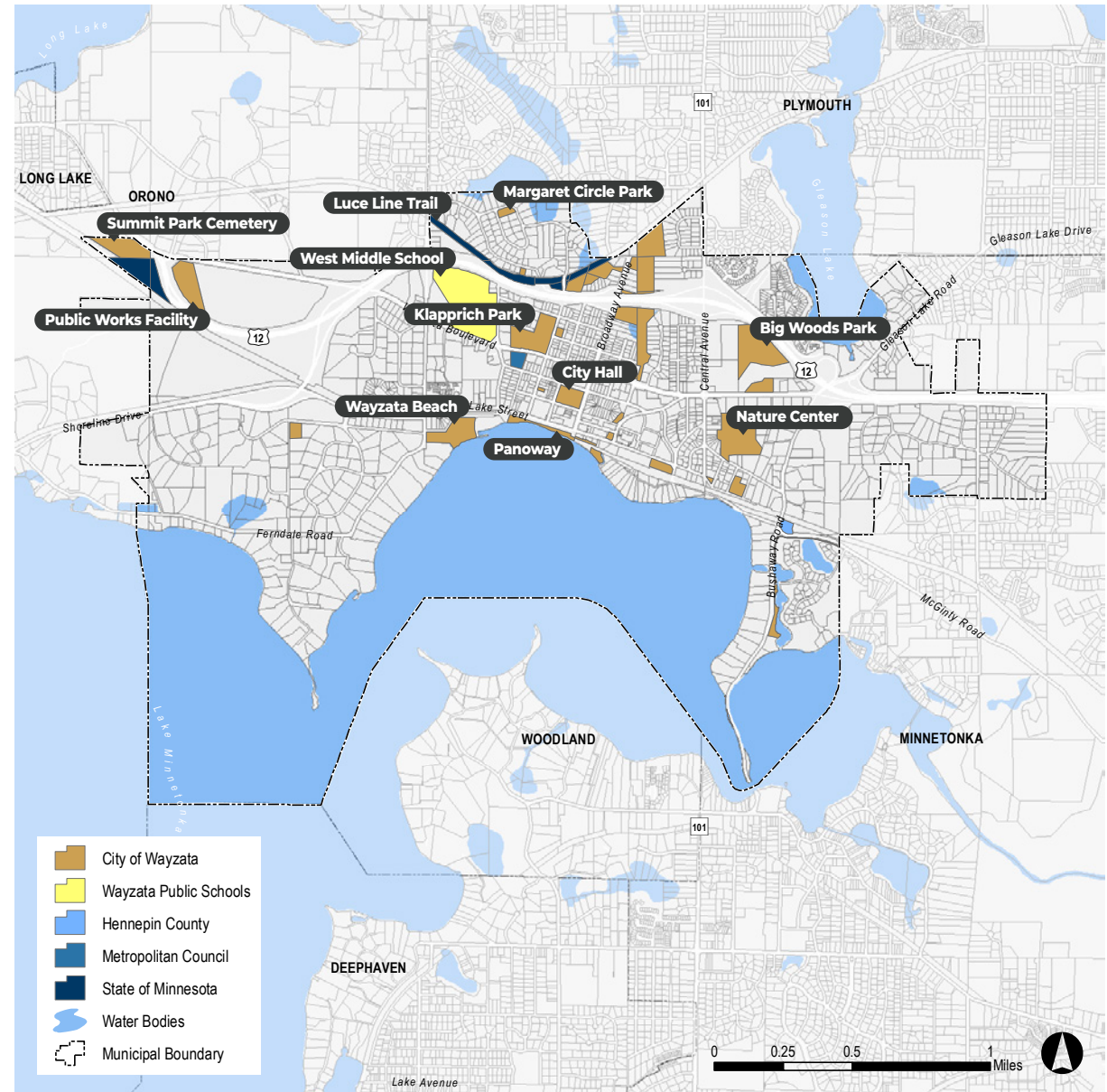
Other areas, identified by the Hennepin County Hazard Mitigation Plan as "choke points" in the stormwater system are carefully maintained with weekly inspections to reduce flood risk. No City-owned buildings are located in areas that are prone to flooding.



Images of city land

- + **Post Office Park & WPA Post Office:** across the street from each other, the historic post office and pocket garden are important to the “Old Wayzata” culture. Volunteers maintain the pocket park’s garden spaces.
- + **Great Lawn Park:** a privately-owned public space in Wayzata’s Downtown that hosts performances, gatherings, and contains a nature playground.
- + **Panoway Project:** the Lakewalk is the product of the Panoway/Lake Effect Project and contains boardwalks and shoreline restoration spanning from the historic Wayzata Depot to the Section Foreman House and future site of Eco Park.
- + **Summit Park Cemetery:** owned and maintained by the City, the public cemetery sits on a high point in Wayzata’s north west corner. There is a wetland along the north side of the property.
- + **Greenlawn Cemetery:** located in the City-owned parcel just east of Klapprich Park, this public cemetery is considered a historic site.
- + **Drainage Areas:** many of the City-owned parcels identified on [Figure 02.6](#) (and the triangular parcel along Highway 12 owned by the State of Minnesota) are used for stormwater drainage from adjacent developments. These areas are very important in intercepting and filtering contaminated water before it infiltrates into the groundwater aquifers (the City’s primary water source) or is funneled into Lake Minnetonka.

Figure 02.6 Publicly Owned Land



Facilities

The City of Wayzata owns and operates 13 facilities and 22 lift stations for water distribution. These facilities include:

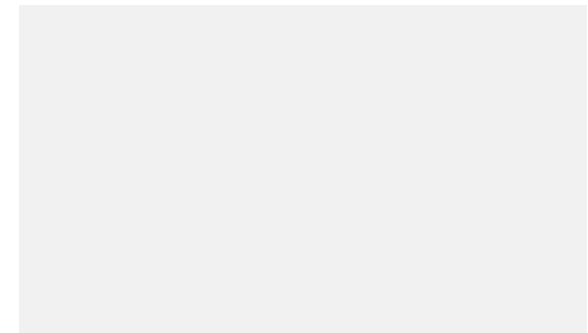
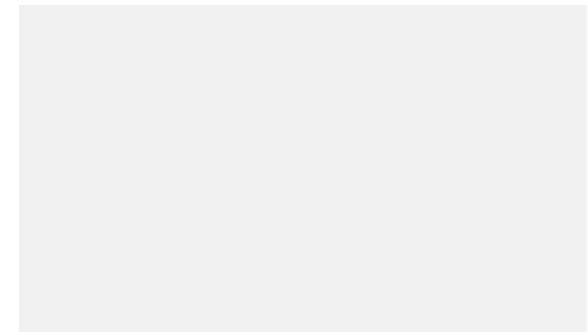
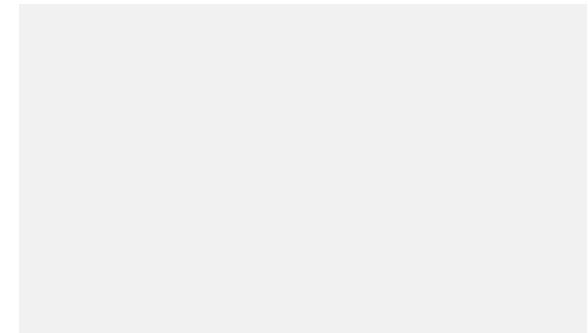
- + **City Hall:** owned and operated by the City, Wayzata's City Hall serves as the City's main civic facility. City Hall is around 17,600 gross square feet.
- + **Public Works Facility:** owned and operated by the City, Wayzata's Public Works Facility consists of enclosed parking space, maintenance space, and an office. At just over 23,000 gross square feet, the Public Works Facility is Wayzata's largest facility not used for water treatment. The Public Works Facility had solar panels installed in 2023. Outdoor areas at this facility are used for storage of salt, equipment, etc.
- + **Fire Station:** owned and operated by the City, Wayzata's Fire Station is just over 12,000 gross square feet. The Fire Station serves as fire truck storage and the hub for Wayzata's volunteer fire department (about 30 members). Solar arrays were installed at the Fire Station in 2024.
- + **The "Muni" (Wayzata Bar and Grill / Wayzata Wine and Spirits):** owned and operated by the City since 1947, the Muni facility is just under 13,000 gross square feet and contains the Wayzata Bar and Grill and municipal liquor store. Solar arrays were installed at the Muni in 2024.

- + **Water Treatment and Delivery Facilities:** the City owns and operates one well house, one water treatment facility, one combined well house and water treatment facility, and 22 lift stations. The City treats and delivers water for residents, businesses, their own municipal buildings, and two outside communities: Minnetonka and Orono. Groundwater is sourced from three wells.
- + **Other Facilities:** in addition to the above facilities, the City owns and operates six other facilities, including a parking ramp, the historic Section Foreman House, and four small parks buildings.

Fleet

As of 2024, Wayzata owns 74 fleet vehicles across nine City departments. Vehicles include:

- + **Light-duty cars and trucks:** the City owns 4 light-duty cars and 37 light-duty trucks and SUVs (less than or equal to ½ ton in weight). Many of these vehicles are used as police interceptors.
- + **Medium and heavy-duty trucks:** the City owns 11 medium or heavy-duty trucks (greater than ½ ton in weight). 5 of these vehicles are small dump trucks used by the Parks or Streets Departments.
- + **Specialty vehicles:** the City owns 22 specialty vehicles, such as water, pumper, and fire trucks, loaders, tractors, and other equipment for construction and maintenance.



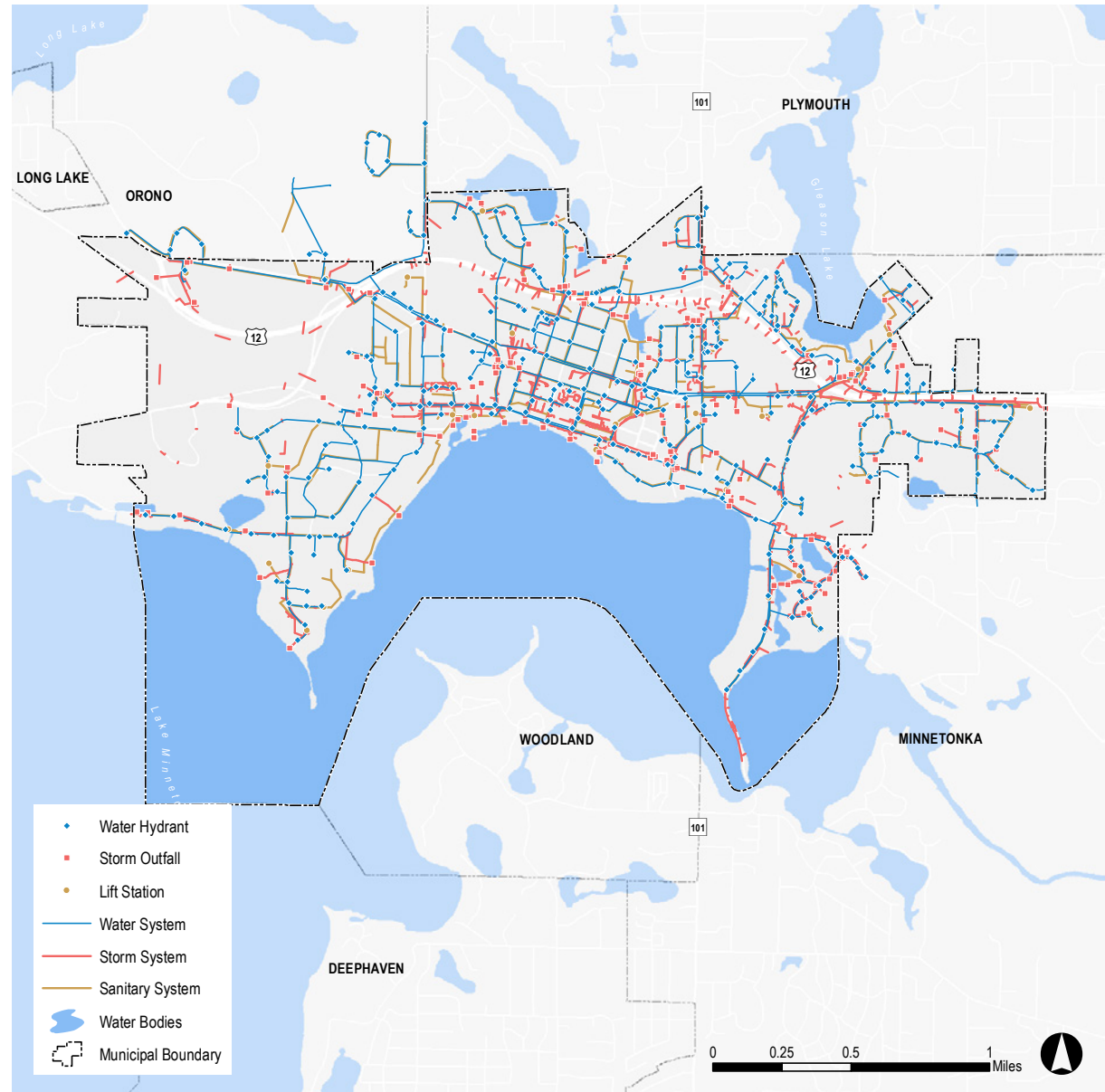
Images of city facilities

Public Infrastructure

Wayzata's existing sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and water distribution infrastructure includes the:

- + **Sanitary Sewer System:** The system consists of a network of pipes, manholes, and pumping stations that collect and transport wastewater to treatment facilities.
- + **Water Distribution System:** This system includes a network of pipes, valves, hydrants, and reservoirs that deliver treated water to residents.
- + **Storm Sewer System:** The storm sewer network includes pipes, drains, and channels that direct stormwater runoff to local water bodies. In addition, stormwater detention ponds are in place to manage runoff from heavy rainfall and mitigate flooding risks.

Figure 02.7 Public Infrastructure



Existing Policies, Programs, & Plans

Adapting to the changing climate is not a new goal for Wayzata, and several strategies, actions, and initiatives have already been established throughout the City's, Hennepin County's, and other related agencies' existing policy and planning documents. These resources were reviewed as part of this process to build on those existing efforts and ensure what is working continues to remain relevant.

- + **Panoway Project/Lake Effect Plan (2014-ongoing):** Panoway on Wayzata Bay is the City's initiative to improve, restore, and enhance the areas and docks along the shore of Lake Minnetonka within the City of Wayzata. The Wayzata Conservancy is a public private partnership that helps raise public awareness and generate fundraising efforts for this project.
- + **Local Water Supply Plan (2018):** This plan analyzes existing water supply and demand, projects future needs, identifies emergency preparedness procedures, and outlines the City's water conservation plan.
- + **Wayzata 2040, Sailing Ahead (2018):** Established in 2017, this visioning project was conducted to act as the framework for the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan and focused extensively on community engagement in an effort to create shared goals for how Wayzata will evolve over the next ten, twenty, and thirty years.
- + **Surface Water Management Plan (2019):** This document serves as a comprehensive planning tool guiding the conservation, protection, and management of Wayzata's surface water resources.
- + **Parks and Trails Master Plan (2019):** The Parks and Trails Master Plan provides recommendations to the City Council for the preservation, protection, enhancement and promotion of a healthy Parks and Trails system for the benefit and enjoyment of all community members and visitors.
- + **2040 Comprehensive Plan Update (2023):** Built on the vision, community engagement efforts, and guiding principles established under the "Wayzata 2040, Sailing Ahead" project, the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update outlines goals, objectives, and policies to help guide growth and development within Wayzata over the next 15 years.
- + **Hennepin County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Volume 3 (2024):** The Hennepin County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan aims to identify the county's major hazards, assess the vulnerability, and reduce associated risks using a variety of data and best practice measures to implement mitigation projects.

03 / Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Community-Wide Greenhouse Gas Inventory

In 2023, almost 86,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) were emitted due to activities occurring within Wayzata. Over half of the community's greenhouse gas footprint is from vehicles traveling within the city's geographic boundaries.¹ Most of the remaining emissions are from the energy used in buildings, with a small percentage from managing waste generated within the community (Figure 03.1). Heating fuels (such as gas,² propane, and fuel oils) cause more emissions than electricity, and businesses cause more emissions than homes.

Figure 03.1 Wayzata 2023 greenhouse gas breakdown by activity, fuel type, and sector*

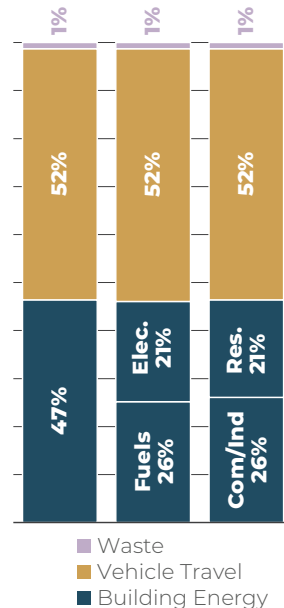
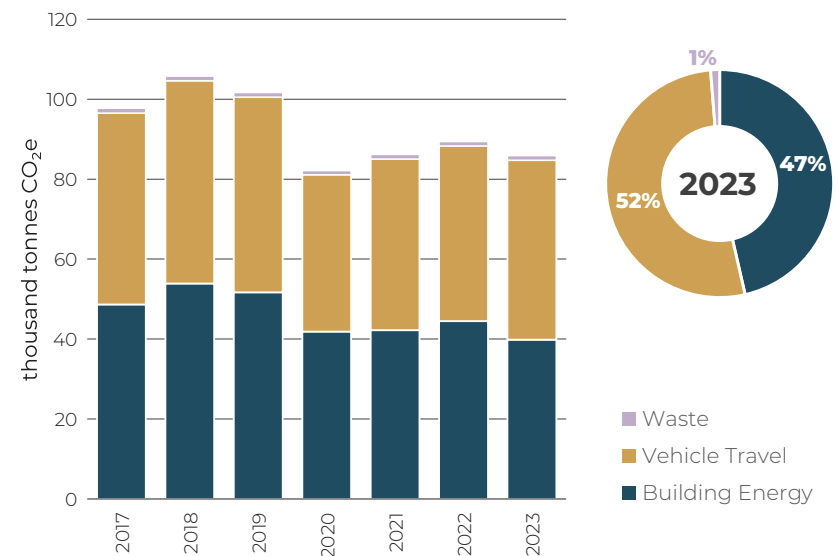


Figure 03.2 Wayzata greenhouse gas emissions by activity from 2017-2023 (left) and 2023 breakdown by activity (right)*



* Data Source: Regional Indicators Initiative

¹ Note that transportation greenhouse gas emissions for this report are calculated using data that tracks any vehicle that drives within the City of Wayzata boundaries, including pass-through traffic. As a city with a major highway (Highway 12), there are vehicle trips counted that are not associated with people that live or work in Wayzata.

While tracking all vehicle trips within the city's boundary is a common data practice, it should be noted that the City of Wayzata has limited ability to alter vehicular patterns and even less ability to alter vehicle trips that begin and end outside of the city's boundaries.

² This plan uses the term "gas" rather than "natural gas" in order to drop some of its connotations as inherently climate-friendly. The gas we use for heating is a fossil fuel comprised primarily of methane – which is a potent greenhouse gas.

Community-wide emissions have decreased by 14% since 2017, with reductions in every sector ([Figure 03.2](#) and [Figure 03.3](#)):

- + Emissions from energy used in buildings dropped by 22%, with reductions in both commercial/industrial emissions and residential emissions.
 - Electricity emissions dropped by 33% due to a combination of improved electricity efficiency and using cleaner sources for electricity generation.
 - Emissions from heating fuels were about the same in 2023 as in 2017, but vary significantly from year to year based on the weather ([Figure 03.4](#)).
- + Vehicle travel emissions dropped by 7% due to cleaner vehicles. Though vehicle travel dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic, Wayzata's vehicle miles traveled have since returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- + Waste emissions dropped by 7% due to reductions in waste generated.

Figure 03.3 Wayzata greenhouse gas emissions trends from 2017-2023 by activity. Percentages show the change in emissions from 2017 to 2023. (Data Source: Regional Indicators Initiative)

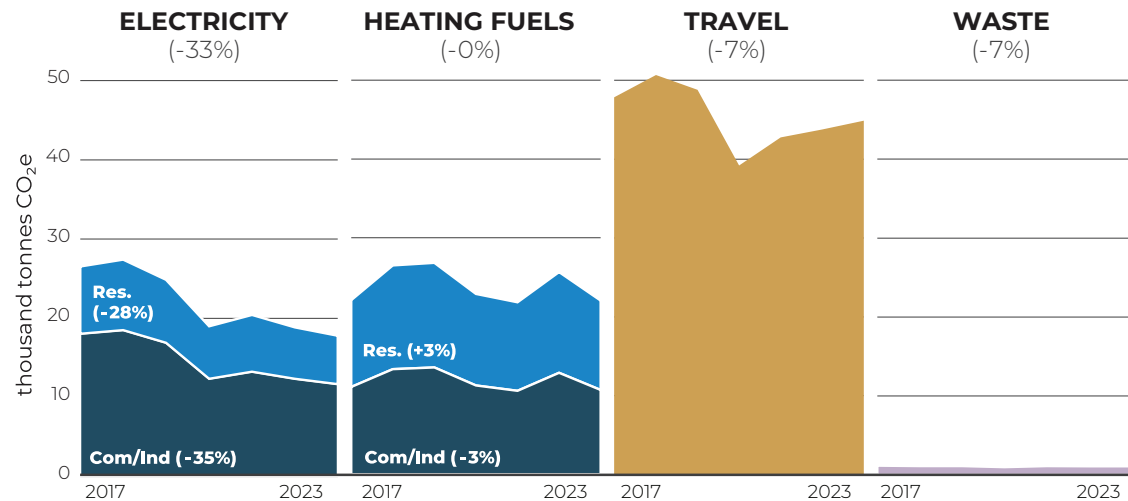
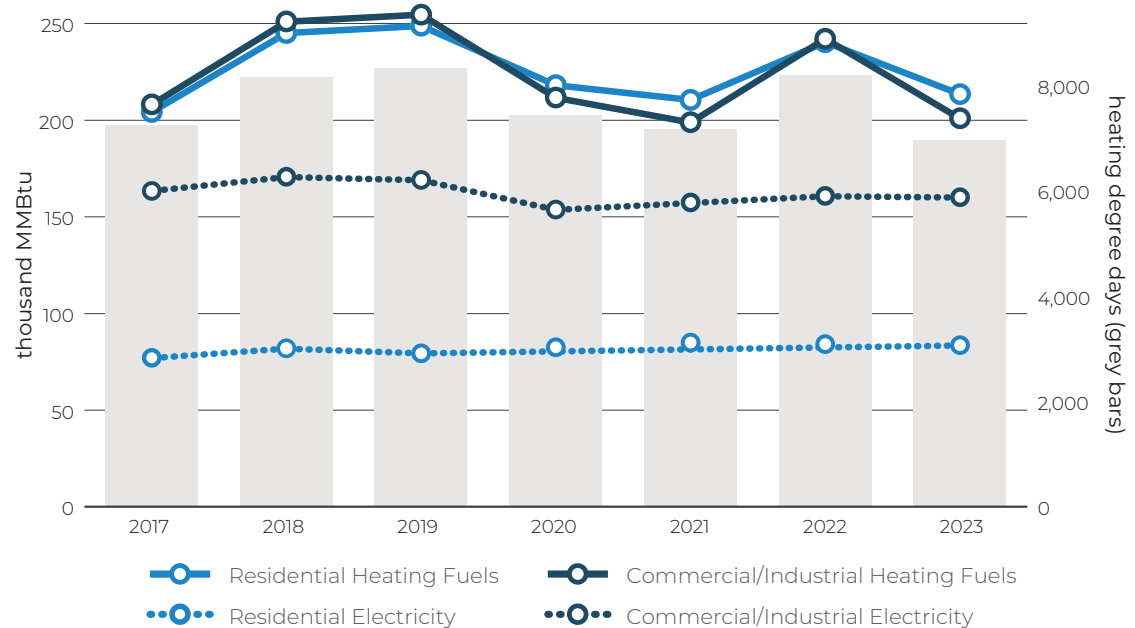


Figure 03.4 Wayzata energy use by fuel type and sector from 2017-2023. Heating degree day (HDD) data is also shown to highlight the impacts of weather on heating fuels like fossil gas, propane, and fuel oil. Degree days represent the difference between the daily average temperature and 65 degrees Fahrenheit, so HDD is a measure of how cold it was in a given year. (Data source: Regional Indicators Initiative)



Local Solar Potential

Solar power is a large potential source of clean energy for Wayzata, and certain areas of the city are better suited to energy generation from solar than others. [Figure 03.5](#) displays the areas of Wayzata with the largest solar potential in light yellow. Wayzata's Comprehensive Plan identified that across the city, there is the gross potential to generate 276,963 MWh/yr of energy through solar power, 24,627 MWh/yr of which from rooftop generation. The plan includes solar access protection policies to maximize this potential resource.

Figure 03.5 *Solar Suitability*

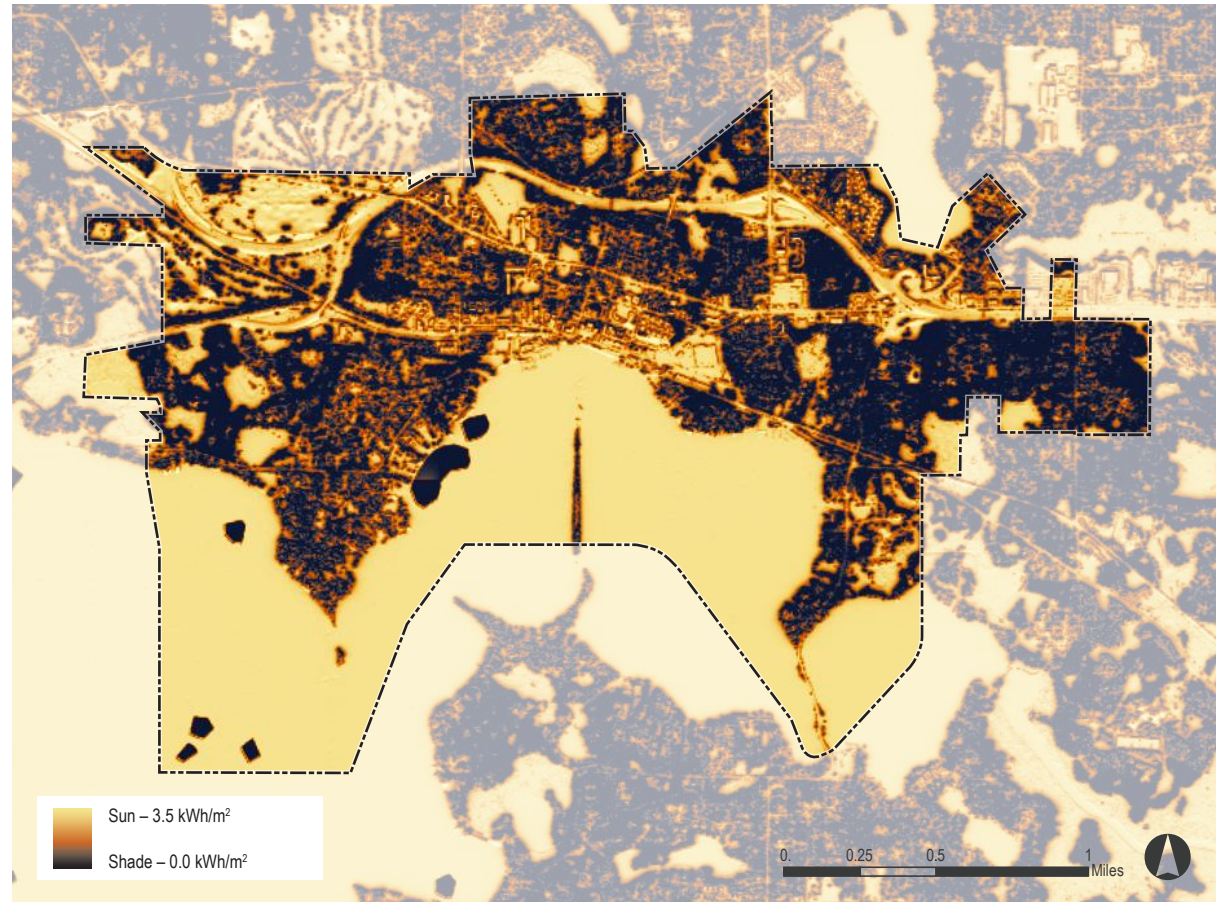


Figure 03.6 City operations greenhouse gas emissions by source for 2022-2024

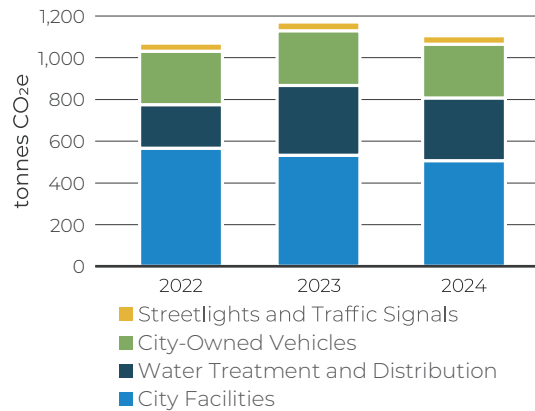


Figure 03.7 City operations greenhouse gas emissions from gas and electricity use by facility type for 2024

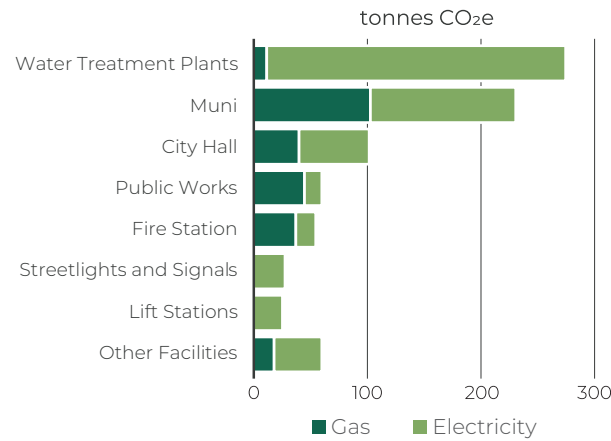
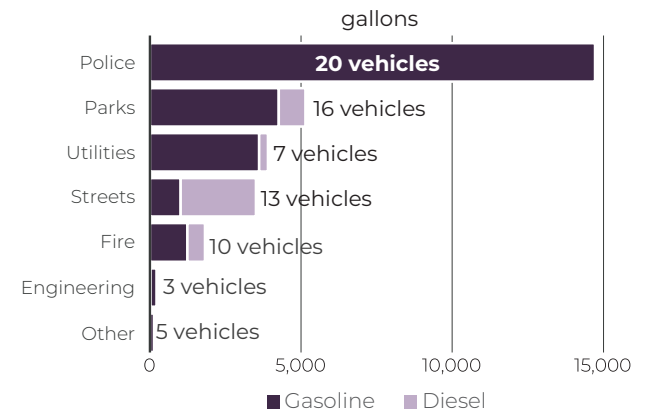


Figure 03.8 City operations gallons of vehicle fuel used by department for 2024



City Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory

About 1% of the community's greenhouse gas emissions are from City operations. In 2024, almost 1,100 metric tons of CO₂e were emitted due to the energy used in City facilities, water treatment and distribution systems, and fleet vehicles, and an additional 280 – 460 metric tons were emitted due to indirect (Scope 3) activities from employee commutes.

Key findings from a greenhouse gas inventory of City operations for years 2022-2024 include:

- + The energy used in City facilities makes up nearly half of the City's greenhouse gas footprint. Energy for water treatment and delivery, and fuel used by fleet vehicles, are each responsible for an additional quarter of

the City's greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions from the energy used for streetlights and traffic signals is minimal ([Figure 03.6](#)).

- + Emissions from City operations increased by 3% since 2022, due to increased energy used for water treatment and distribution ([Figure 03.6](#)).
- + While the City's electricity use is higher than their gas use, electricity is getting cleaner over time, whereas gas is not.
- + Together, the City's water treatment plants and "Muni" facility represent 60% of the emissions from City operations non-travel energy use. The Muni is the City's largest gas user ([Figure 03.7](#)).

- + The City uses more energy for water treatment and distribution compared to similar cities. This is due to higher water demand per capita and higher energy used per gallon of water treated.
- + Police Department vehicles use half of the City's vehicle fuels, although they represent less than 30% of the City's vehicle fleet ([Figure 03.8](#)).

While City operations are the direct cause of only a small percentage of the community's total greenhouse gas emissions, the City has the greatest control over them. Reducing these emissions and improving the resilience of the City's facilities will save energy and public funds and serve as crucial demonstrations of the City's commitment and leadership.