

AGENDA



4:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026

NOTES:

- Meeting room is wheelchair accessible. American Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations and translation services are available upon request. Please phone 928-282-3113 at least two (2) business days in advance.
- City Council Meeting Agenda Packets are available on the City's website at:

www.SedonaAZ.gov

THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED
LIVE ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT
WWW.SEDONAAZ.GOV OR ON
CABLE CHANNEL 4.

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

PURPOSE:

- To allow the public to provide input to the City Council on a particular subject scheduled on the agenda.
- This is not a question/answer session.
- No disruptive behavior or profane language will be allowed.

PROCEDURES:

- Fill out a "Comment Card" and deliver it to the City Clerk.
- When recognized, use the podium/microphone.
- State your:
 1. Name and
 2. City of Residence
- Limit comments to **3 MINUTES**.
- Submit written comments to the City Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

3. SPECIAL BUSINESS

LINK TO DOCUMENT =

- a. AB 3263 **Discussion/possible direction** regarding sustainability programming initiatives.
- b. **Discussion/possible action** regarding ideas for future meetings/agenda items.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a public majority vote of the members constituting a quorum, the Council may hold an Executive Session that is not open to the public for the following purposes:

- a. To consult with legal counsel for advice regarding matters listed on this agenda per A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3).
- b. Return to open session. Discussion/possible action regarding executive session items.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Posted: 02/17/2026

By: DJ

JoAnne Cook, CMC, City Clerk

Note: Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(B) notice is hereby given to the members of the City Council and to the general public that the Council will hold the above open meeting. Members of the City Council will attend either in person or by telephone, video, or internet communications. The Council may vote to go into executive session on any agenda item, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) for discussion and consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney. Because various other commissions, committees and/or boards may speak at Council meetings, notice is also given that a quorum of members of these other City commissions, boards, or committees may be in attendance.

A copy of the packet with material relating to the agenda items is typically available for review by the public in the Clerk's office after 1:00 p.m. the Thursday prior to the Council meeting and on the City's website at www.SedonaAZ.gov. The Council Chambers is accessible to people with disabilities, in compliance with the Federal 504 and ADA laws. Those with needs for special typeface print, may request these at the Clerk's Office. All requests should be made **forty-eight hours** prior to the meeting.

NOTICE TO PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS: Parents and legal guardians have the right to consent before the City of Sedona makes a video or voice recording of a minor child, pursuant to A.R.S. § 1-602(A)(9). The Sedona City Council meetings are recorded and may be viewed on the City of Sedona website. If you permit your child to attend/participate in a televised City Council meeting, a recording will be made. You may exercise your right not to consent by not allowing your child to attend/participate in the meeting.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
102 ROADRUNNER DRIVE, SEDONA, AZ

The mission of the City of Sedona government is to provide exemplary municipal services
that are consistent with our values, history, culture and unique beauty.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA BILL

AB 3263
February 25, 2026
Special Business

Agenda Item: 3a

Proposed Action & Subject: Discussion/possible direction regarding sustainability programming initiatives.

Department	Sustainability Department, Bryce Beck
Time to Present	90 min
Total Time for Item	120 min
Other Council Meetings	December 10, 2025, June 11, 2025, September 11, 2024, May 11, 2024, November 14, 2023, June 28, 2023
Exhibits	None

Finance Approval	Reviewed 2/12/26 BGW	
City Attorney Approval	Reviewed 2/11/26 KWC	Expenditure Required
		\$ N/A
City Manager's Recommendation	Reviewed ABS 2/11/26	Amount Budgeted
		\$ N/A
		Account No. (Description)

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Overview

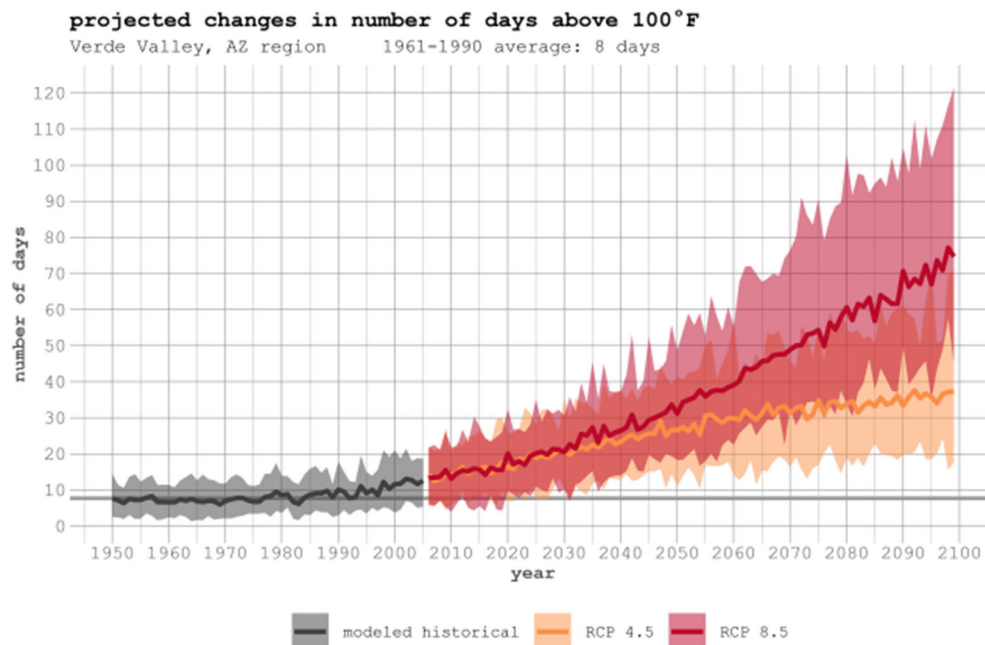
Sustainability staff develop programs and initiatives in five main areas derived from the Climate Action Plan (CAP): Buildings and Energy, Transportation and Land Use, Materials and Consumption, Water and Natural Systems, and Climate Resilience. For this agenda discussion, updates in the following sustainability projects will be provided: 2024 Municipal and Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventories, public EV charging strategy, and programming updates.

Recap of Why Sedona is pursuing Climate Action:

The Sedona Climate Action Plan was adopted in July of 2021 with strong scientifically supported goals for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and action items that were developed with community feedback. The 2021 plan created actions and initiatives to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change that were found in the Verde Valley Climate Profile that was completed in 2020. Since that time, the need for increased climate action has grown, and community feedback has continued to support programs to address the effects of a changing climate.

Increased greenhouse gas emissions are projected to increase the number of days above 100°F from the historical average of 8 days per year to as many as 75 by 2100 under a business-

as-usual scenario (RCP 8.5). Under a scenario where larger greenhouse gas reduction strategies are implemented, the projections estimated an average of 35 days above 100°F by the same year. A chart to illustrate this from the 2020 Verde Valley Climate Profile is below.



The 2020 Verde Valley Climate Profile found that along with increasing temperatures, the region has an increased risk to see:

- Pronounced heavy rainfall events (coupled with periods of drought)
- Increased risk to human health from heat exposure, smoke from wildfires, and vector-borne diseases (i.e. West Nile Virus)
- Substantial reduction in runoff from the Salt/Verde river system (23% by 2050).
- Future fire frequency could increase by 25%
- Commonly grown crops in the Verde Valley may be negatively affected by increased wildfires, hotter temperatures, and drier soils.

The effects and drivers of climate change have been further solidified in the Environmental Protection Agency's 2023 5th National Climate Assessment and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2023 Climate Change Synthesis Report. Both reports state that human activities, driven by the consumption of fossil fuels, have unequivocally caused increases in greenhouse gas concentrations and temperatures, which have caused widespread changes to environmental systems.

The community has continued to express a strong desire to see programs and initiatives to mitigate and adapt to these effects. The Climate Science and Solutions Graduate Program with Northern Arizona University conducted an online survey and in-person tabling of approximately 75 people to solicit community feedback in the Fall of 2025 as part of a climate vulnerability assessment presented to Council on December 10th, 2025. Charts highlighting the summary of the community feedback received is below:

How likely are you to support the implementation of city-wide actions that address climate change?

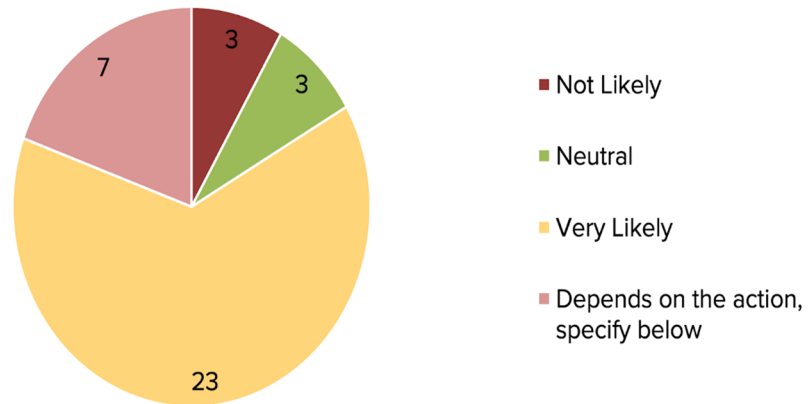


Figure 1: Online Survey Results.

What vulnerability areas would you like to see solutions created for most? Please choose your top 5

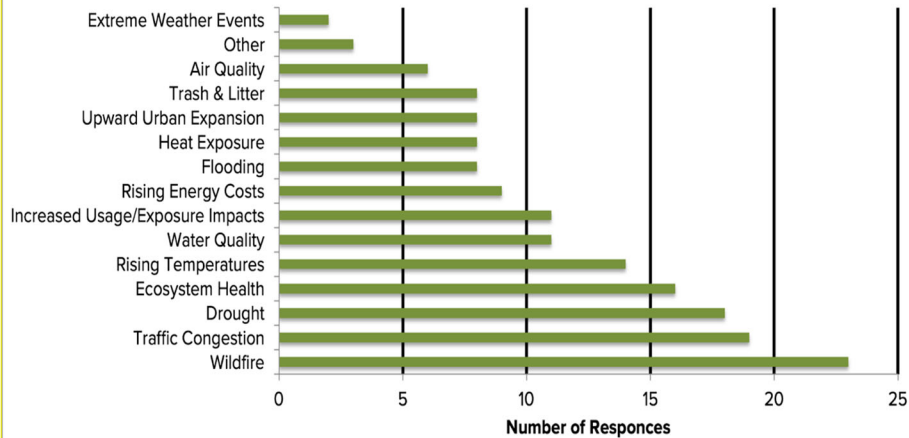


Figure 2: Climate Change Survey Results, continued.

Sedona Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Question Board Results

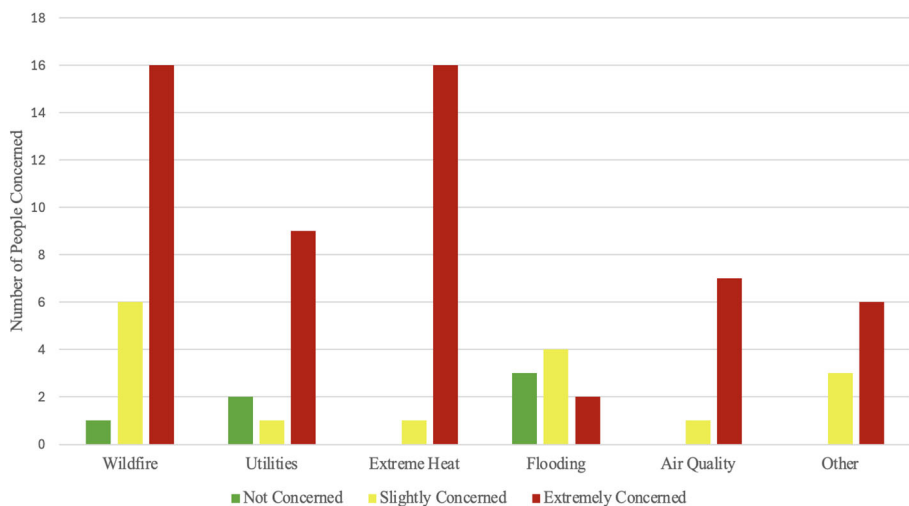


Figure 3: Fest of Fall Tabling Results

To track progress and identify mitigation strategies towards achieving the city's community and municipal greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets established by the Climate Action Plan and Municipal Sustainability Plan, the Sustainability Department completes yearly emissions inventories. Additional sustainability programming is created to help adapt to the changing climate and reduce environmental impacts.

GHG Inventory

Inventory Overview:

The 2021 Climate Action Plan (CAP) for the City of Sedona sets out a scientific based goal of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030, while the 2024 Municipal Sustainability Plan (MSP) strives for carbon neutrality in municipal operations by 2030. These goals are based off the UN International Panel of Climate Change Reports which strives to prevent global warming past 1.5 degrees Celsius by the end of the century. Greenhouse gas emissions inventories are conducted annually to evaluate progress towards emissions goals and objectives laid out in the CAP and MSP.

Emissions are generally bucketed in three different scopes:

- **Scope 1:** Direct emissions from owned or controlled sources (i.e. fleet, equipment, natural gas usage)
- **Scope 2:** Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity. (i.e. APS electricity for building HVAC and lighting systems)
- **Scope 3:** All other indirect emissions that occur in the value chain, including both upstream and downstream emissions. (i.e. purchased goods, commuting, waste disposal)

Municipal operations have more direct control over scopes 1 and 2 and less control over scope 3. Scope 3 consists of categories such as investments, employee commuting, end of life of purchased products, and much more. Scope 3 typically constitutes a majority of emissions for an organization, but is also the most difficult to accurately calculate and influence change.

The greenhouse gas inventories have led to the creation of a variety of projects and programs in municipal operations and the community that have reduced emissions, improved utility costs, and provided additional benefits. Some of the projects that have been derived from our greenhouse gas accounting practices include:

- Electric Vehicle Procurement
- EV Chargers at City Hall, Posse Grounds Park, Sunset Park, and the Parking Garage
- Solar Lighting at Posse Grounds Park
- Green Power Partners Program with Arizona Public Service
- Streetlights Retrofit Installation, completed this year
- Wastewater HVAC Upgrades
- Wastewater Backwater Filtration System upgrades
- Solar Co-Ops
- Home Energy Retrofit Program
- Virtual Power Purchase Agreement Coalition

Municipal Inventory:

The Municipal inventory calculations contain numerous categories of emissions sources, including employee commuting; the municipal fleet; public transportation services; solid waste

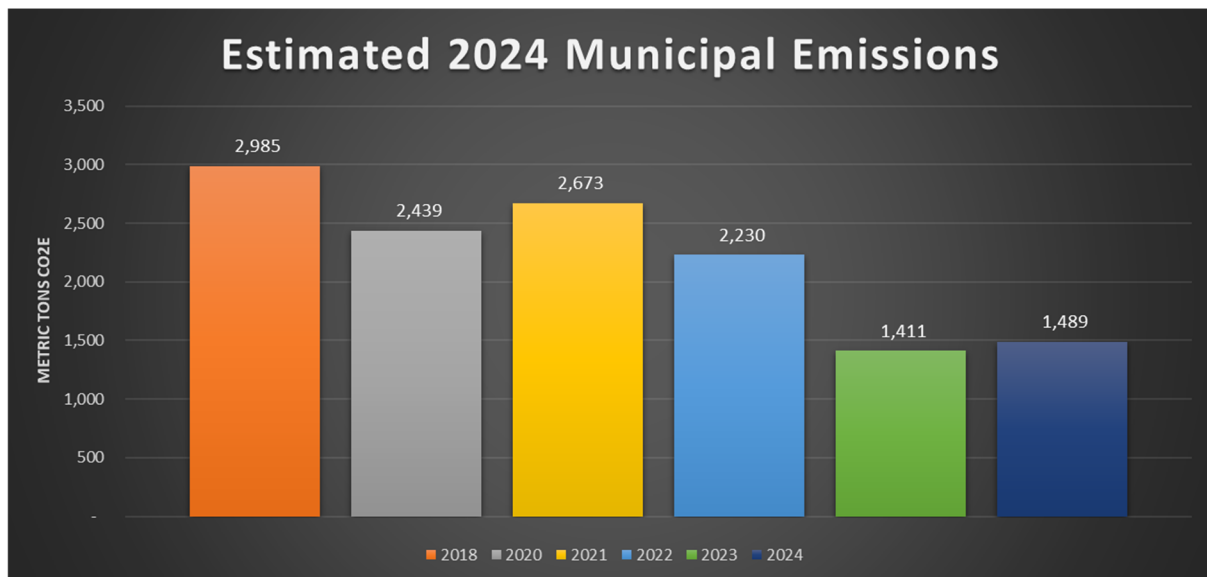
disposal; electricity and gas consumption in buildings, streetlights, and traffic signals; fugitive emissions from HVAC systems; water delivery; and wastewater treatment processing.

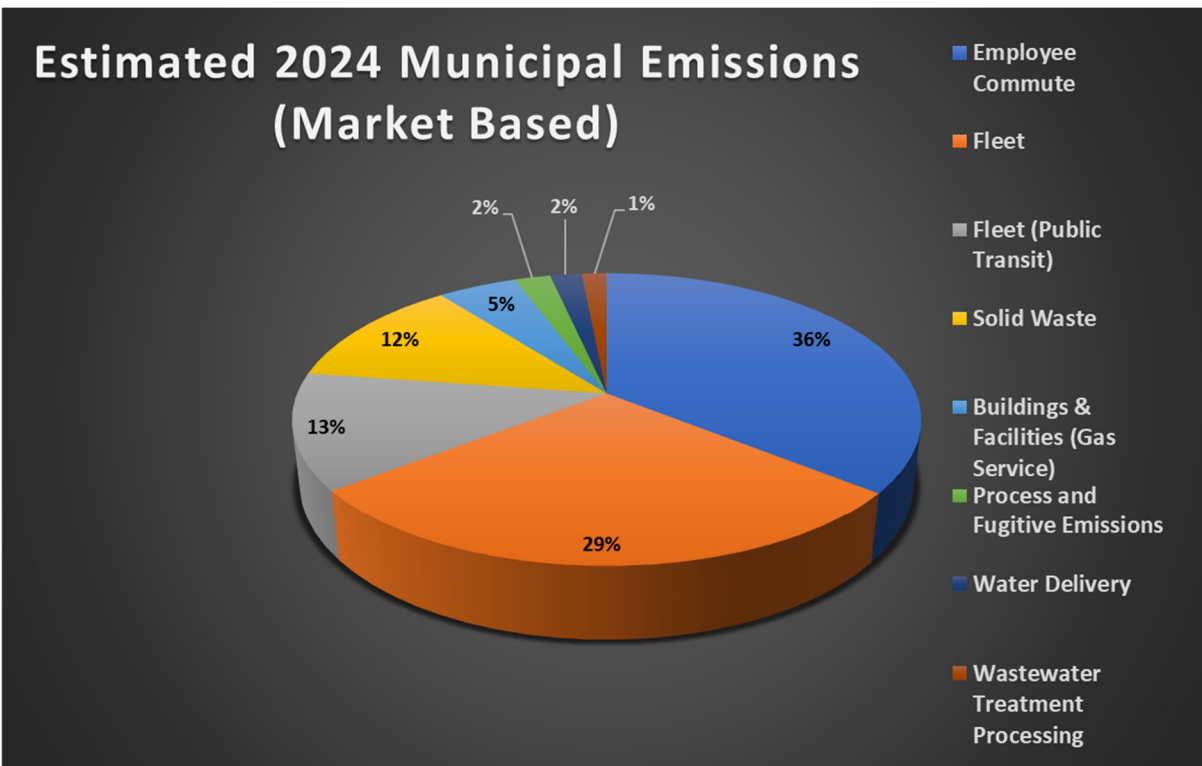
Since the 2018 baseline year, the city has reduced its annual emissions by approximately 50% with its most notable reduction taking place in 2023 with the signing of the Green Power Purchase Agreement (GPPA) through APS. This agreement has allowed the city to claim Renewable Energy Credits (REC's) to cover all emissions associated with electricity consumption at all city owned buildings, streetlights, and traffic signals. Prior to the GPPA, electricity consumption was responsible for approximately 50% of the total inventory emissions in 2021.

Overall, in 2024, the City's total emissions rose slightly (6%), compared to the previous year by 78 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). The two primary drivers of that increase were in employee commuting and solid waste disposal. Both of these categories are considered scope 3 emissions which are more difficult to accurately calculate and control.

Overall, the categories within the municipal inventory in 2024, listed from greatest to smallest emission sources, are:

1. Employee Commuting
2. Municipal Fleet
3. Public Transit
4. Solid Waste Disposal
5. Natural Gas Consumption from Buildings and Facilities
6. Process and Fugitive Emissions
7. Water Delivery
8. Waste Water Treatment Processing





Community Inventory:

The Community inventory calculations contain numerous categories of emissions sources that include on-road travel, residential and commercial electricity, residential and commercial natural gas, residential and commercial solid waste, aviation, and water delivery.

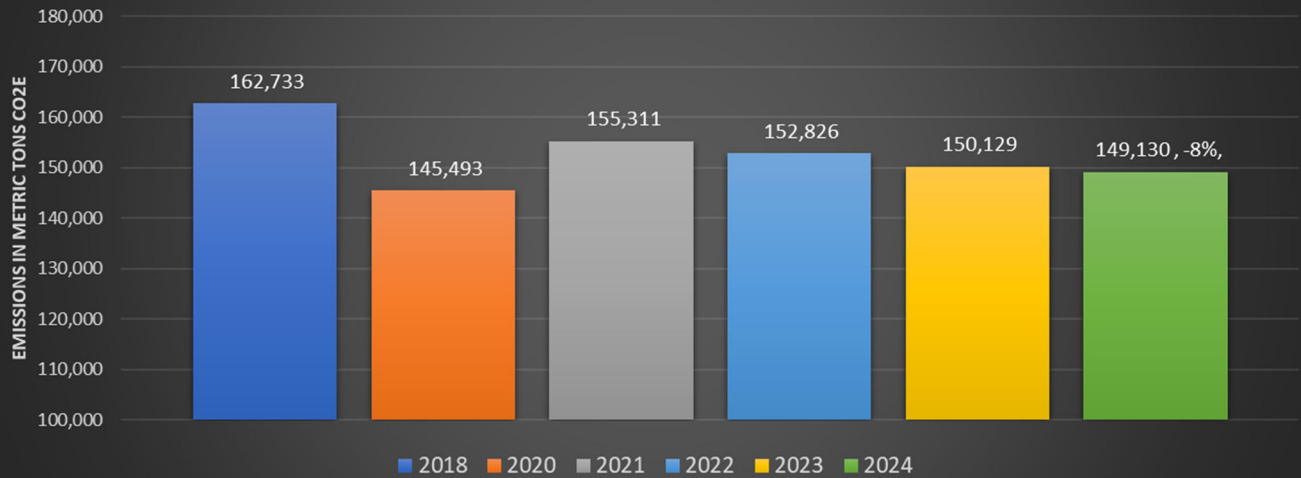
Since the 2018 baseline year, the community has steadily reduced its annual emissions. Overall, in 2024, the community reduced its emissions by approximately 8% off the baseline year of 2018.

The categories within the community inventory in 2024, listed from greatest to smallest emission sources, are:

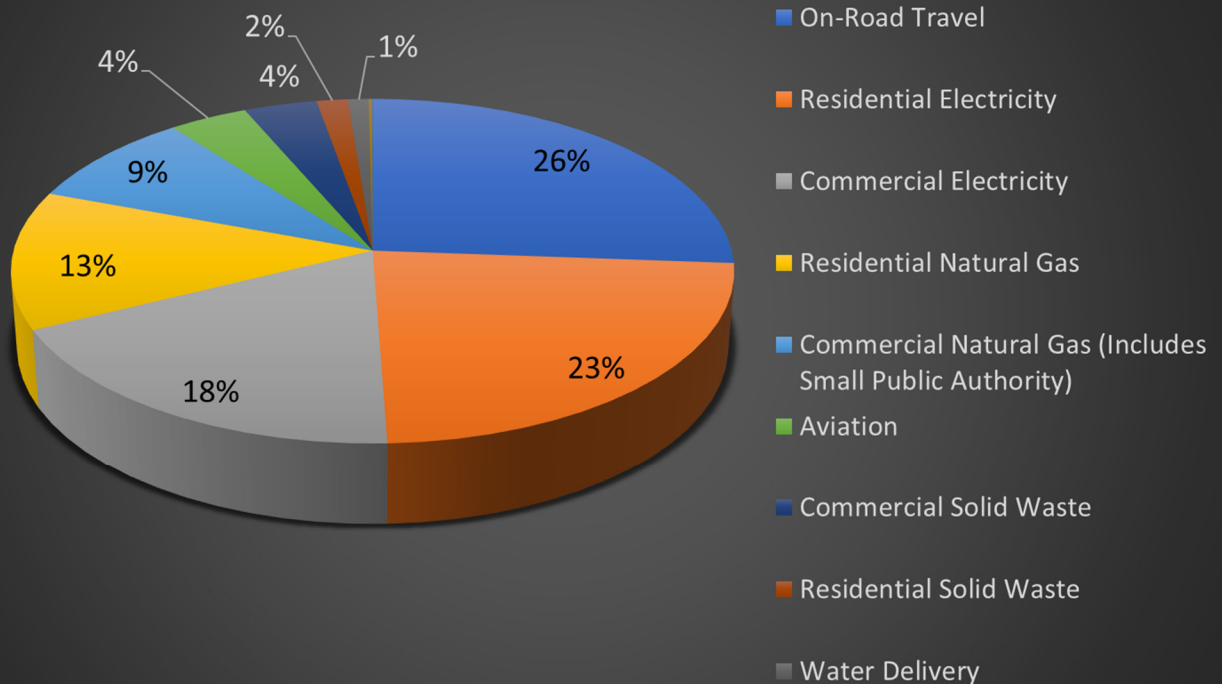
1. On-Road Travel
2. Residential Electricity
3. Commercial Electricity
4. Residential Natural Gas
5. Commercial Natural Gas
6. Aviation
7. Commercial Solid Waste
8. Residential Solid Waste
9. Water Delivery

Substantial reductions in emissions for the community are naturally harder to accomplish quickly as the City does not have, or has limited, control over the previously listed sources. Emissions from residential and commercial electricity, for example, is mostly controlled by APS in terms of what kinds of energy sources are used to generate electricity for the state. The City cannot mandate that APS commit to shutting down fossil fuel-based energy sources and replace them with renewables.

Estimated 2024 Community Emissions



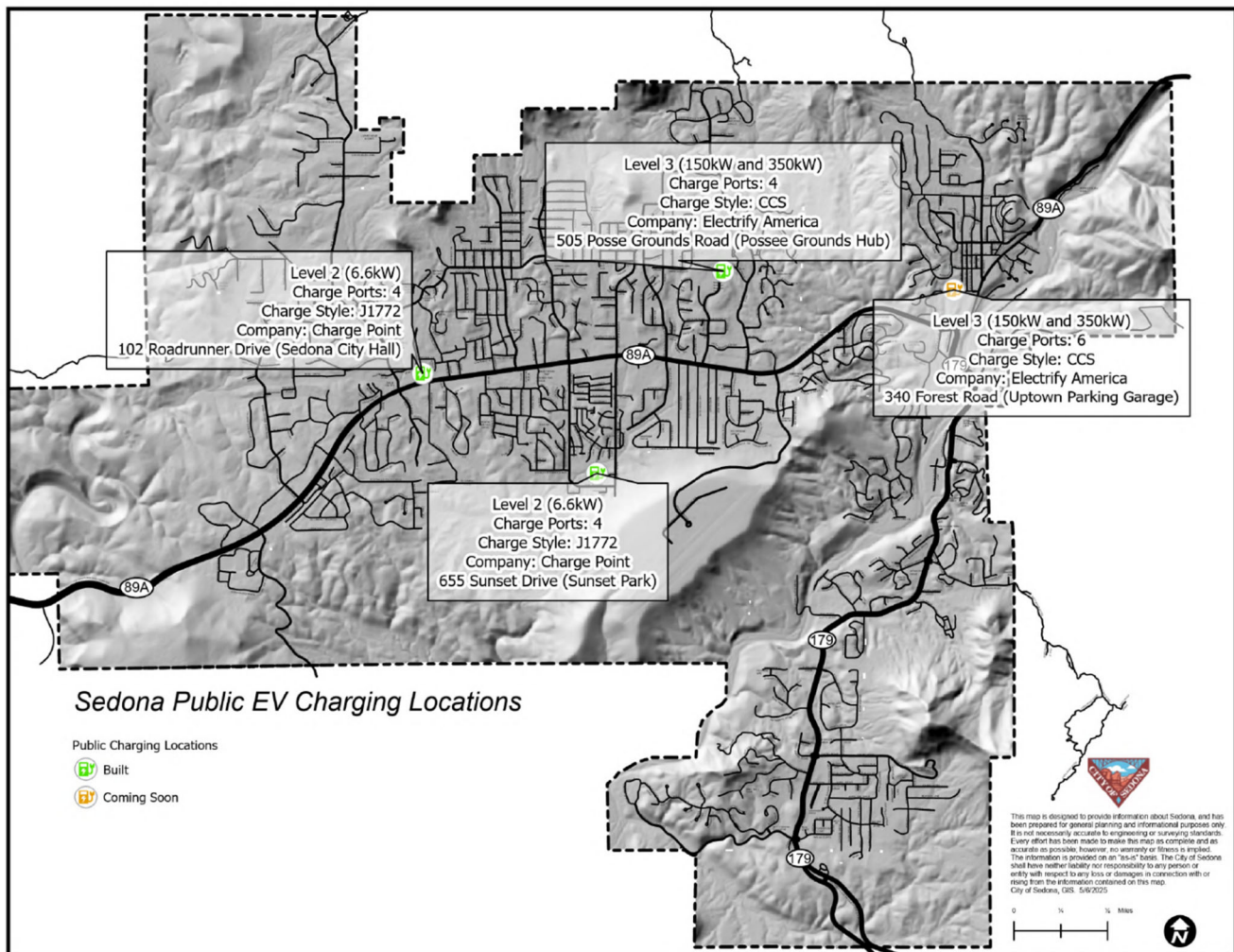
Estimated 2024 Community Emissions



Strategies to further scale and expand emissions reductions are being evaluated. These strategies include exploring Virtual Power Purchase Agreements with a consortium led by NAU, revamping solar cooperatives opportunities, potential reclaimed natural gas projects, expansion of public transit and shared use paths, and exploration of increased waste diversion options.

Public EV Charging Strategy

The City of Sedona has pursued the implementation of public facing electric vehicle charging stations since 2019. The first chargers were installed through the Arizona Public Service (APS) Take Charge program. Chargers under that program were installed at City Hall and Sunset Park. Installation of the city's first DC Fast charging stations took place at Posse Grounds Park in a partnership with Electrify America and APS. Installation of eight DC Fast charging stations are underway in the Uptown Parking Garage in collaboration with both aforementioned companies. Below is a map of current and planned publicly accessible charging stations in development, along with the level of charging found at each location.



City staff continue to explore possibilities for future public electric vehicle charging spaces to promote travel to and around the city through zero emissions vehicles. Possible future locations include:

- Future Western Gateway Development
- Future Park and Ride Location by the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Unidentified public-private partnerships within the Sedona city limits (i.e. shopping centers, multifamily housing)

Charging Station Usage

Usage at the existing sites at Level 2 (Sunset Park, Sunset Park, and retired Jordan Road locations) and DC Fast charging locations (Posse Grounds Park) has increased over time as illustrated in the charts below. Data was gathered through ChargePoint, Electrify America and APS. The chargers at Posse Grounds Park rank in the top 3 for highest utilization, along with Payson and Prescott in APS' network. APS estimates that the Posse Grounds chargers have enabled 2.1 million miles of driving.

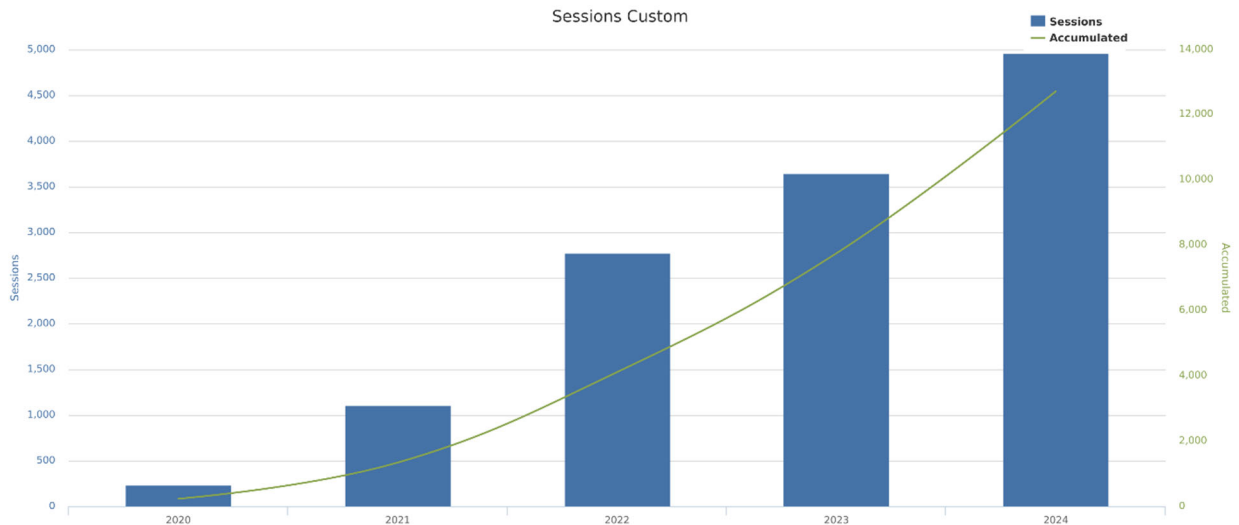


Figure 4: Charging Sessions at Municipal Level 2 Locations (Chargepoint)

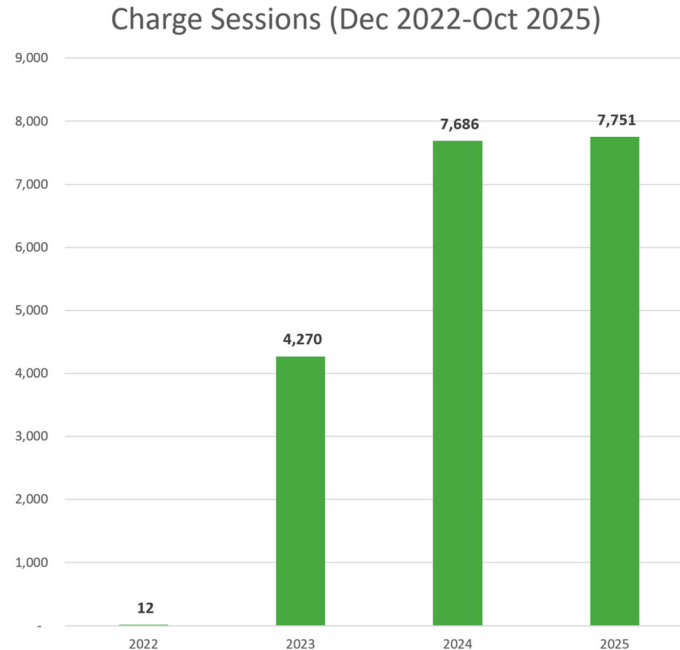


Figure 5: Charge Sessions at DC Fast Chargers at Posse Grounds Park (APS & Electrify America)

This trend is anticipated to continue as more electric vehicles are on the roads. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates approximately 33 million electric vehicles will be in use by 2030 in their modeling scenarios (2.7 million were registered in 2022). In addition, the

lack of publicly accessible electric vehicle charging has been one of the top challenges for EV drivers. Additional charging infrastructure has long been needed, and that trend will continue with more EVs in circulation. The interest in DC Fast chargers will remain strong as well, since that type of charger provides the quickest charge rate.

Arizona Department of Transportation EV Planning

Additional EV charging stations can be found at many private businesses (approximately 13) within city limits. Stations that are located within city limits are just a part of increasing electric vehicle infrastructure across the state. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has been planning and implementing additional installations as part of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) programming since 2022. In August of 2025, ADOT solicited feedback on 21 additional stations as part of the 2025 plan update. Among many identified state routes solicited for feedback, the following roadways around the Sedona area were included to have a charging site located along the route:

- SR 179: I-17 to Sedona
- SR 89/89A: Cottonwood to Sedona
- SR 260: I-17 to Cottonwood/SR 89A

Figure 1. 2022 to 2025 EV Plans AFC Corridor Overview

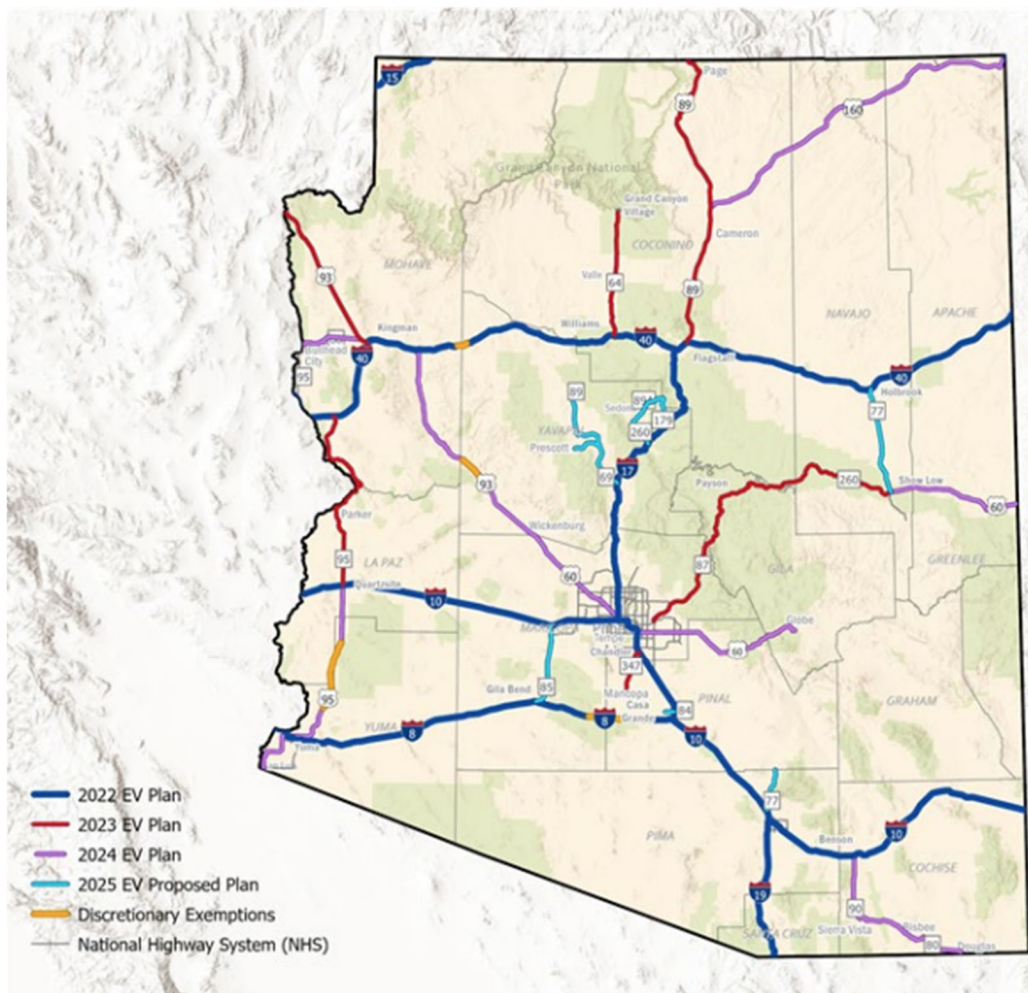


Figure 6: ADOT Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan Map (2025)



Figure 7: ADOT Phase I EV Charging Locations

The ADOT map above highlights the state highways and interstates under planning and development. The 2025 planning update efforts build upon the 18 sites that ADOT announced awards for construction in August of 2024. The first of those 18 sites should be coming online in late 2025/early 2026. ADOT is planning for the installation of up to 74 stations across the state.

Sustainability Department Updates

The Sustainability Department continues to target programs and initiatives across programming areas identified in the Climate Action Plan. A synopsis of the updates follows:

Buildings and Energy

- 5th round of the Home Energy Retrofit Project is underway with over 100 homes completed to date.
- Solar co-ops, in partnership with Solar United Neighbors, the City of Flagstaff, and Coconino County are anticipated to relaunch in Spring 2026.

Transportation and Land Use

- Sustainability Code Recommendations are targeted to back for Council review by the end of FY26.
- Public Works continues to expand shared use paths.
- 10 DC Fast charging stations are being installed in the Uptown Parking Garage.

Materials and Consumption

- Spring Limited Collection Event is scheduled for May 9th at West Sedona School.
- Due to record participation and waste collect amounts, refinement and expansion of community waste collection events are being pursued.

Water and Natural Systems

- Through the Ripple Effect Program, in partnership with Arizona Water Company, a commercial business program is launching in Spring of 2026.

Climate Resiliency

- Additional heat messaging is being developed for a Summer 2026 campaign.
- HEPA air filter program is anticipated to launch in the Spring of 2026.
- Staff are exploring options to bring a residential tree planting program forward to help address the urban heat island effect.

Significant progress has been made in program offerings and initiatives over the last few years. However, there are still gaps in coverage and topical areas, predominantly in establishing long term commercial programs and incentives, building and development incentives programs, and resiliency hubs and associated programming. Additionally, environmental education and workshop series are intermittent through AmeriCorps funding and availability.

Summary

The City of Sedona is continuing to find ways to implement climate action strategies across a variety of programming areas. The programming areas were recently reinforced by the vulnerability assessment analysis done in collaboration with the Climate Science and Solutions Program at Northern Arizona University, who presented their findings to City Council on December 10, 2025.

Annual greenhouse gas inventories at municipal and community scales were completed for 2024. Inventories continue to show opportunities and challenges for emissions reductions. Data collection, methodologies, and reduction strategies continue to improve.

Publicly accessible electric vehicle charging stations are increasing across the city and have leveraged partnerships with APS and Electrify America to reduce or eliminate capital costs for the City of Sedona, while promoting travel by zero emissions vehicles. Additional public charging locations will be evaluated as the opportunities arise. Sedona's efforts in EV charging stations help support ADOT's continued planning and implementation of stations along state routes.

While the programs and initiatives facilitated by the Sustainability Department cover a wide range of topical areas, there are current gaps in programming that will need additional capacity and resources to implement. Climate action continues to face various hurdles to implementation, but the City of Sedona has an opportunity to continue leading by example and find paths forward. Without the Climate Action Plan, programs like the Home Energy Retrofit Project, Community Compost Program, Sustainable Neighborhoods Program, electric vehicle

charging stations, extremely successful waste diversion events, and more may not have come to fruition.

Climate Action Plan/Sustainability Consistent: ☒Yes - ☐No - ☐Not Applicable

Board/Commission Recommendation: ☐Applicable - ☒Not Applicable

Alternative(s): N/A

MOTION

I move to: For possible direction only.