



# **Durham Region's Carbon Budget Management Framework**

Ian McVey, Manager of Sustainability

Clean Air Partnership - Municipal Carbon Budgeting Webinar

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# Corporate Climate Change Action Plan

**Regional Council  
approved the  
Corporate Climate  
Change Action Plan  
on March 24, 2021**



The Regional Municipality of Durham  
Report

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To: Finance and Administration Committee  
From: Chief Administrative Officer  
Report: #2021-A-3  
Date: March 9, 2021

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**Subject:**

2021 Climate Change Update and Corporate Climate Action Plan

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**Recommendation:**

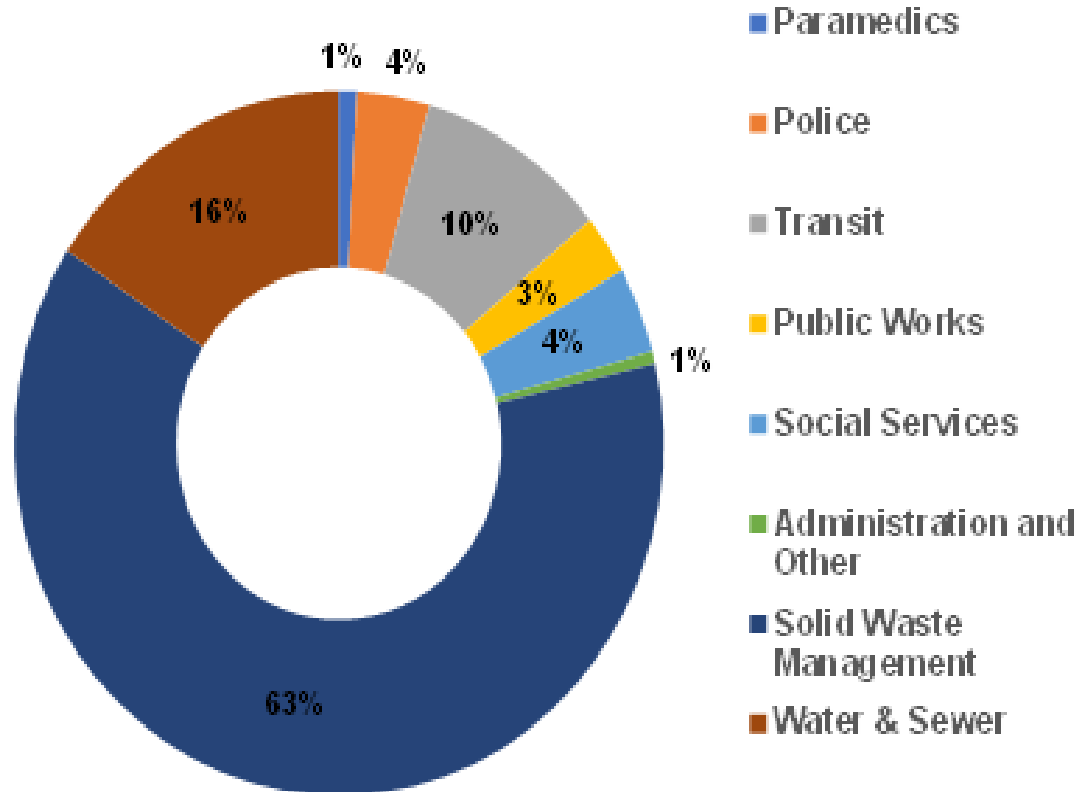
That the Finance and Administration Committee recommends to Regional Council that it:

- A) Approve new short, medium, and long-term targets to reduce corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, namely:
  - 20 per cent GHG emissions reduction by 2025, below 2019 levels,
  - 40 per cent GHG emissions reduction by 2030, below 2019 levels,
  - 100 per cent GHG emissions reduction by 2045, below 2019 levels.
- B) Approve the Durham Region Corporate Climate Action Plan which identifies how climate change considerations will be embedded across all elements of Regional business, included as Attachment #1, and as outlined in this report;



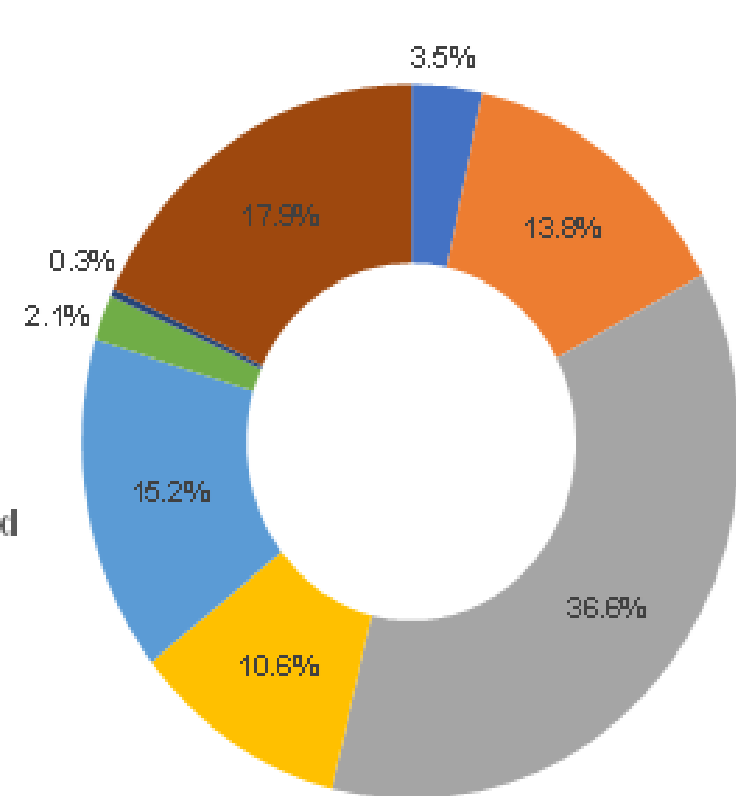
# Durham Region's Corporate GHG Footprint

**Total Corporate GHG Emissions**



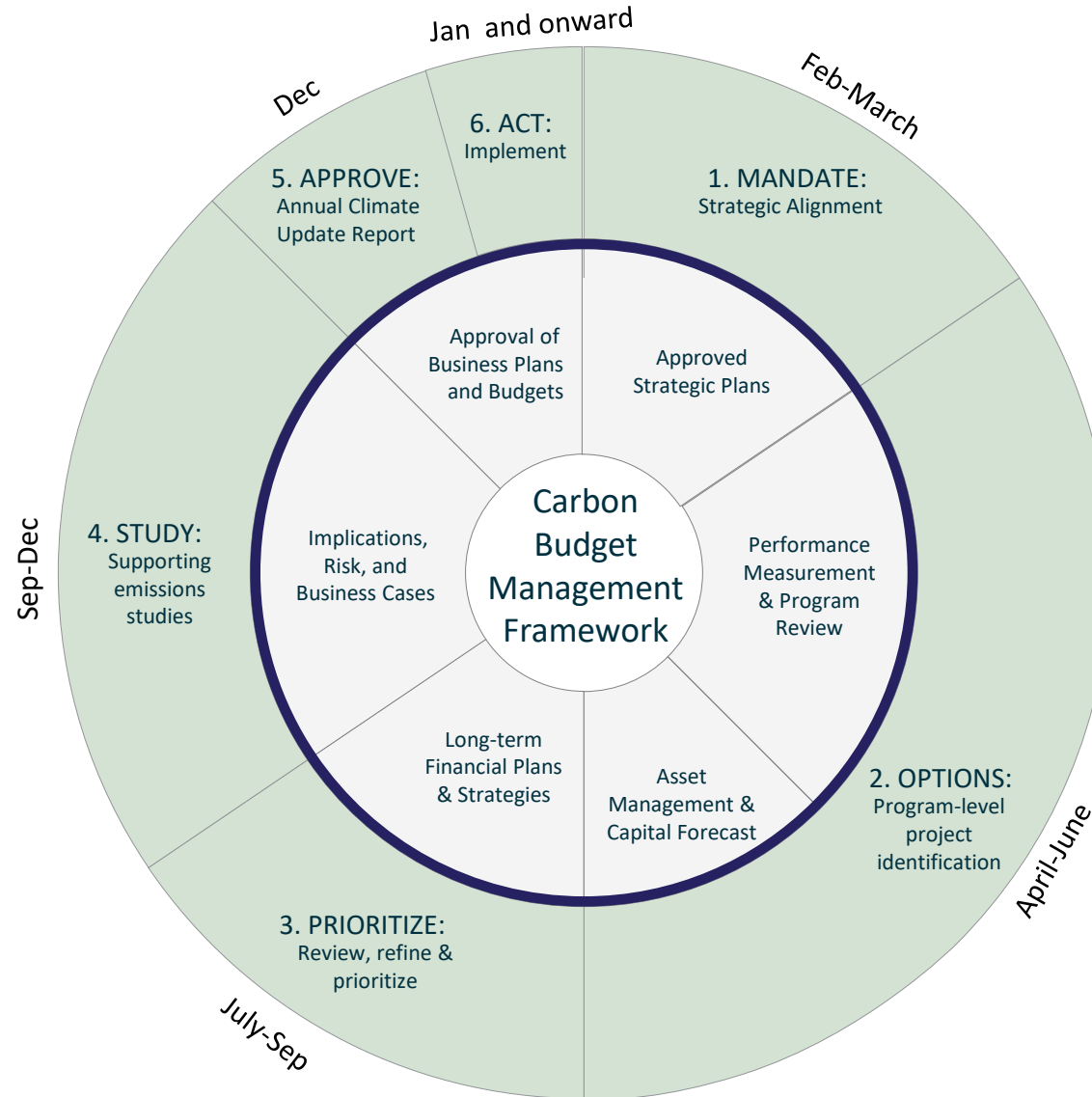
Total 2020 corporate emissions = ~172 KtCo<sub>2</sub>e

**Energy-Related GHG Emissions**

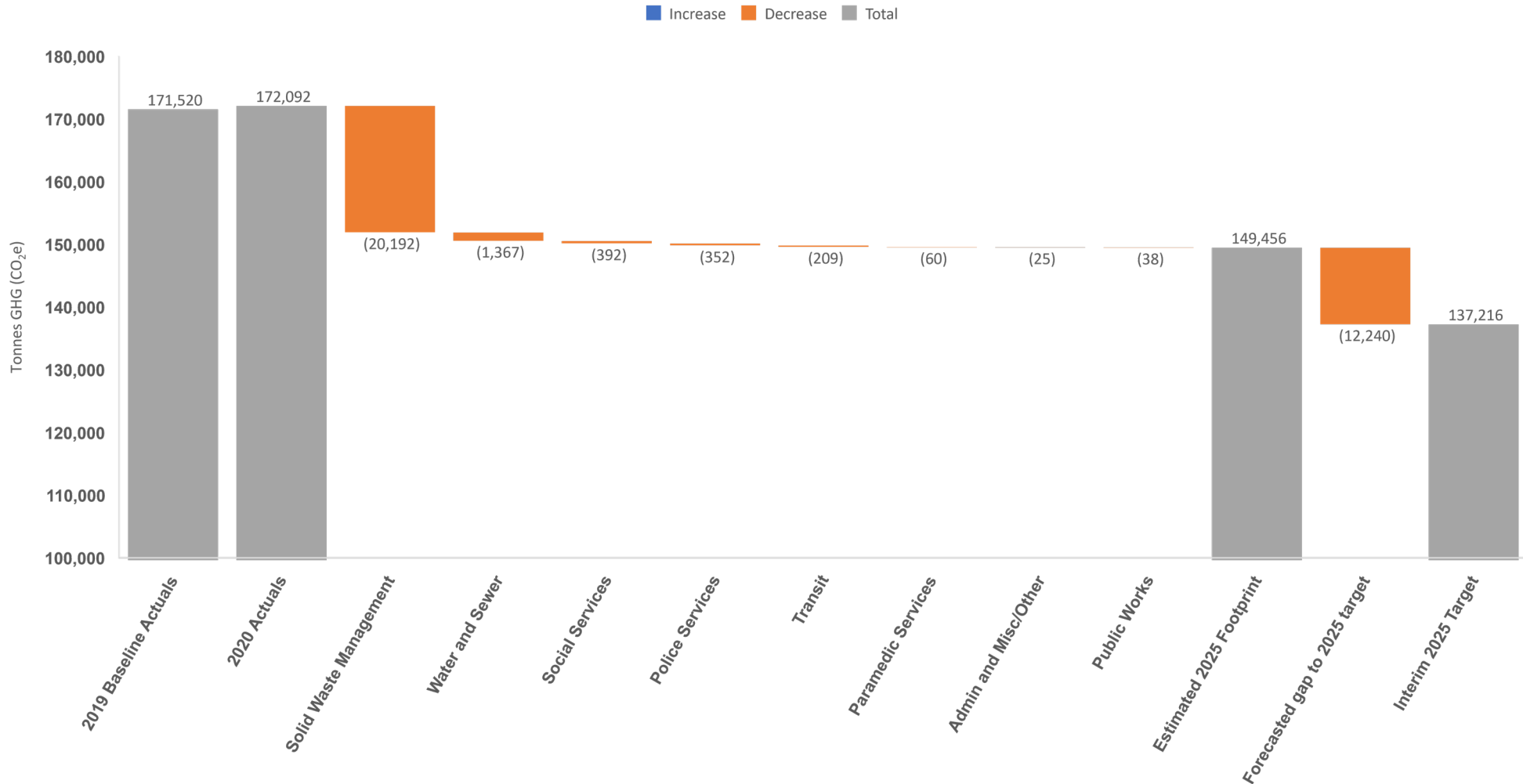


Total 2020 corporate energy-related emissions = ~50 KtCo<sub>2</sub>e

# Carbon Budget Management Process (in theory)



# 2021-2025 GHG Reduction Forecast by Corporate Operating Area



# Short-term Corporate GHG Reduction Priorities

Operating Area	GHG Reduction Initiative(s)	CCAP identified short-term GHG reduction impacts by 2025	Updated short-term GHG reduction projects by 2025
Solid Waste	Renewable natural gas production	0 - 7,500 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	4,677 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Solid Waste	Landfill biocover	12,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	16,419 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Corporate Facilities	Energy efficiency, and deep energy retrofits	1,000 - 2,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	220 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Corporate Fleet	Transition to low carbon & zero-emission vehicles	2,000 - 4,000 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	1,319 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Total		15,000 – 25,500 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	22,635 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
GHG emissions reduction target		33,900 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	34,300 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
% of target		44% to 75%	66%



# Durham Region Corporate Carbon Budget Management - Next Steps

- Develop decarbonization plans by operating area, and integrate into 10-year capital plan
  - Long-term waste management strategy
  - Water/wastewater GHG Emissions Management Strategy
  - Durham Region Transit zero emission transition plan
  - Durham Standard for Corporate Facilities – new and retrofit
- Support staff with training and tools on calculating GHG impacts at project planning/design stage
- Secure an enterprise-wide energy tracking and reporting platform
- Consider expansion of corporate footprint to include scope 3 GHG emissions categories
  - e.g. contracted waste hauling;
  - other community emissions sources indirectly influenced by corporate decisions



# Some lessons learned

- Interdepartmental engagement is key -> important role for Finance on carbon accounting/forecasting
- Top down & bottom-up process -> complex, sometimes messy, but is critical to organizational change process
  - Corporate targets frame the level of ambition, and integration into budget process brings it near-term.
  - However push and pull at budget time requires flexibility, and accommodation of operating pressures.
- Need to build climate & carbon literacy across the organization to facilitate corporate buy in and organizational alignment
- Challenges associated with addressing population driven emissions, esp. waste, wastewater, and water treatment
  - Significant capital requirements for decarbonization of these systems
  - Municipal fiscal capacity constraints require innovative solutions
- Dedicated funding stream (climate reserve fund) for low carbon projects has been critical



# Questions?

Ian McVey

Manager of Sustainability,  
Office of the Regional Chair and CAO  
905-668-7711 ext. 3803

[ian.mcvey@durham.ca](mailto:ian.mcvey@durham.ca)

[durham.ca](http://durham.ca)

@RegionofDurham

