

# Fairfax County Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP)

## Public Feedback Meetings

Fall 2020

August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

September 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Held Electronically via WebEx



**Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination**

# Welcome & Meeting Overview

ICF Facilitator

Michelle Paul Heelan



# Agenda

## **Welcome and Meeting Overview**

Meeting Purpose

How You Can Give Feedback & WebEx Tips

Getting to Know You

## **Preparing You to Provide Useful Feedback**

CECAP Process Overview

Key Terms and Definitions

## **Where We Are Now**

GHG Inventory Results

Tentative Climate Goals

## **Ways to Meet Our Climate/GHG Goals**

Transportation/Commuting, Your Home, Your Business

Your Views on Tentative Climate Goals

## **Open Discussion on the Public Engagement Process**

What works & what could be improved

## **Wrap Up and Next Steps**

# Meeting Purpose

- **Educate and inform** you about our climate and energy action plan
- **Invite** your individual feedback via our community survey
- **Understand** your opinions, preferences, and ideas about greenhouse gas emission reduction goals
- Begin to **identify** mitigation strategies that community members are interested in pursuing
- **Gather** information to improve outreach and community engagement efforts going forward

# How Can You Give Feedback?

- **Community Survey:**
  - [Available online here.](#)
  - Open until September 13
  - Available in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese
  - Please take 5-10 minutes to provide your feedback
- **Our Topics of Interest**
  - Goals
  - Individual Actions
  - Policy Choices
  - Sector Choices

# How Do I Obtain a Copy of the Slides?

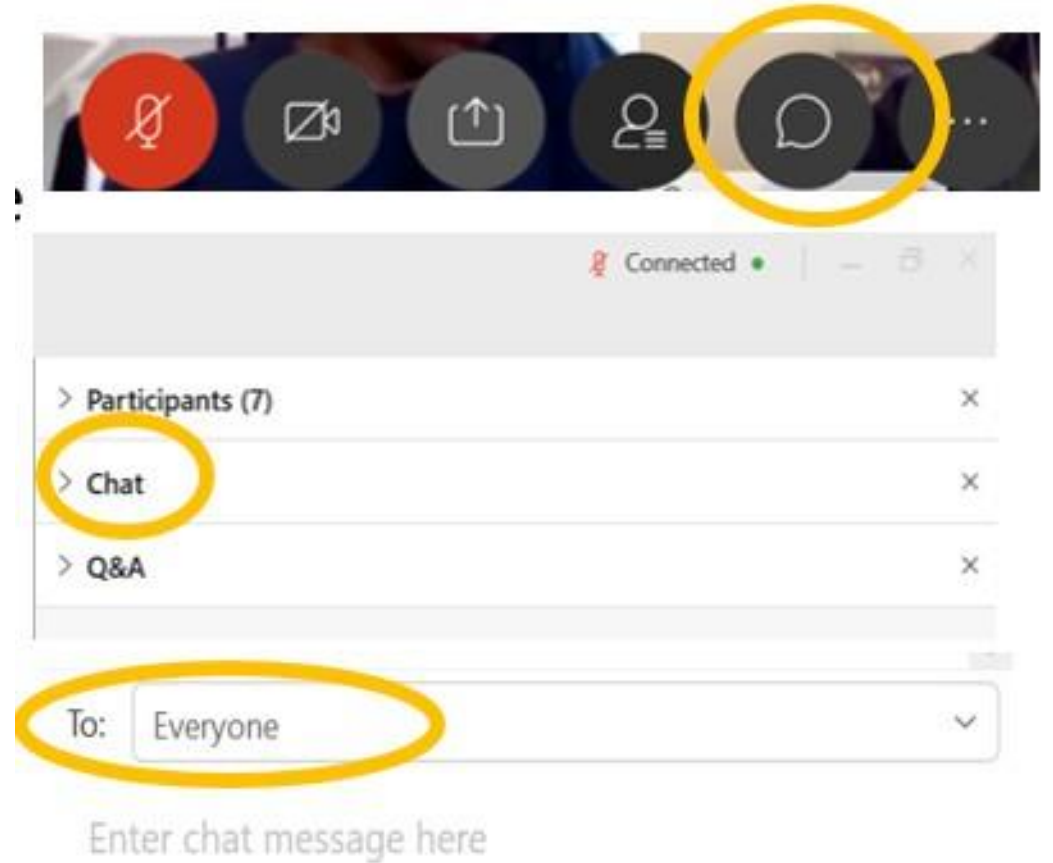
These slides are available on the Fairfax County [“Public Engagement with CECAP” webpage.](#)

# How to Use the Chat Box

1. Hover over the middle of the screen and click on the speech bubble icon to activate the Chat Panel. →

2. Select the arrow next to Chat. →

3. Write your answer in the Chat and **send to Everyone.** →



**Phone call-ins:** If you are calling in by phone, please unmute yourself and state your request to speak.

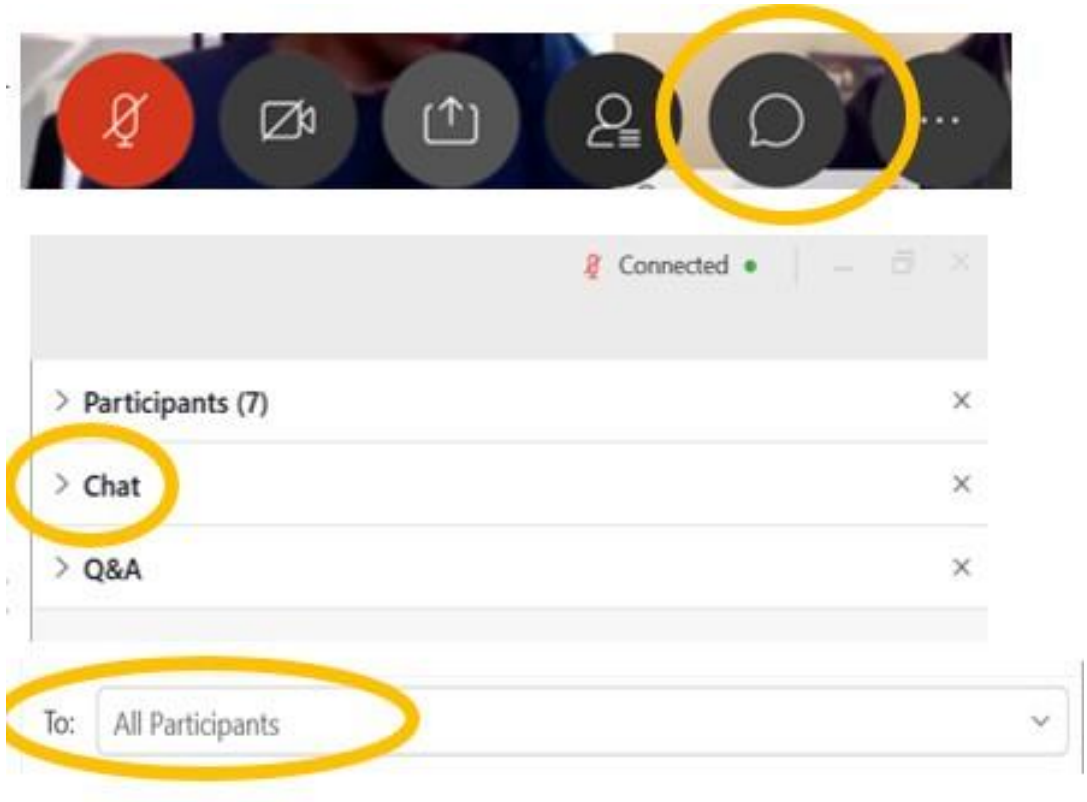
# How to Speak Up

1. Hover over the middle of the screen and click on the speech bubble icon to activate the Chat Panel. →

2. Select the arrow next to Chat. →

3. Type “**SPEAK**” in the Chat box and send to **Everyone**. →

4. The facilitator will call on you to speak.



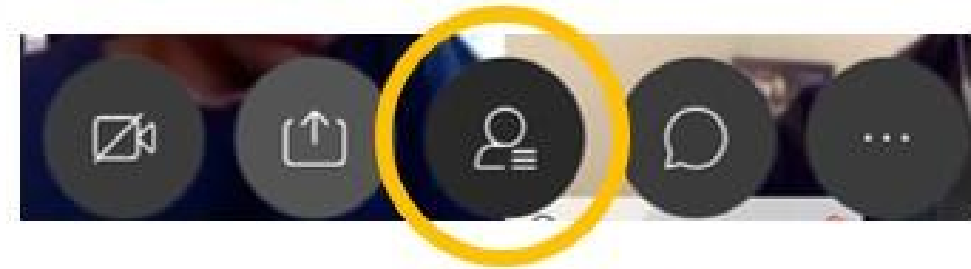
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# How to Provide Yes/No Feedback in WebEx

For Yes/No feedback:

1. Hover over the middle of the screen and click on the person icon to activate the Participant Panel.



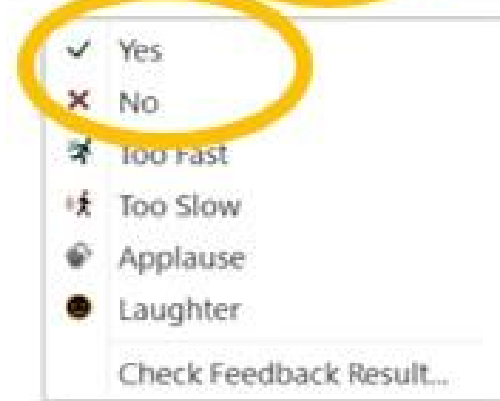
2. Select the arrow next to Participants.



3. Click on the megaphone in the bottom right corner of the Participant Panel.



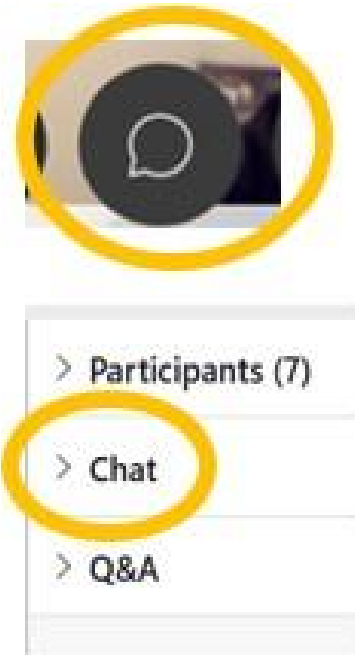
4. Use the check and X icons.



**Phone call-ins:** If you are calling in by phone, please unmute yourself and state your feedback (Yes/No).

# Getting to Know You

- How did you hear about this meeting?
  - Facebook, Twitter, NextDoor, email, someone told me about it
- To what extent are you personally concerned about climate change?
  - Very concerned, slightly concerned, not concerned
- How familiar are you with the CECAP process?
  - Very familiar, somewhat familiar, not familiar at all
- Where do you live within the County?
  - Braddock, Lee, Springfield, Sully, Providence, Mount Vernon, Hunter Mill, Mason, or Dranesville
- In the future, how would you prefer to hear about CECAP?
  - Facebook, Twitter, NextDoor, email, posters, flyers, etc



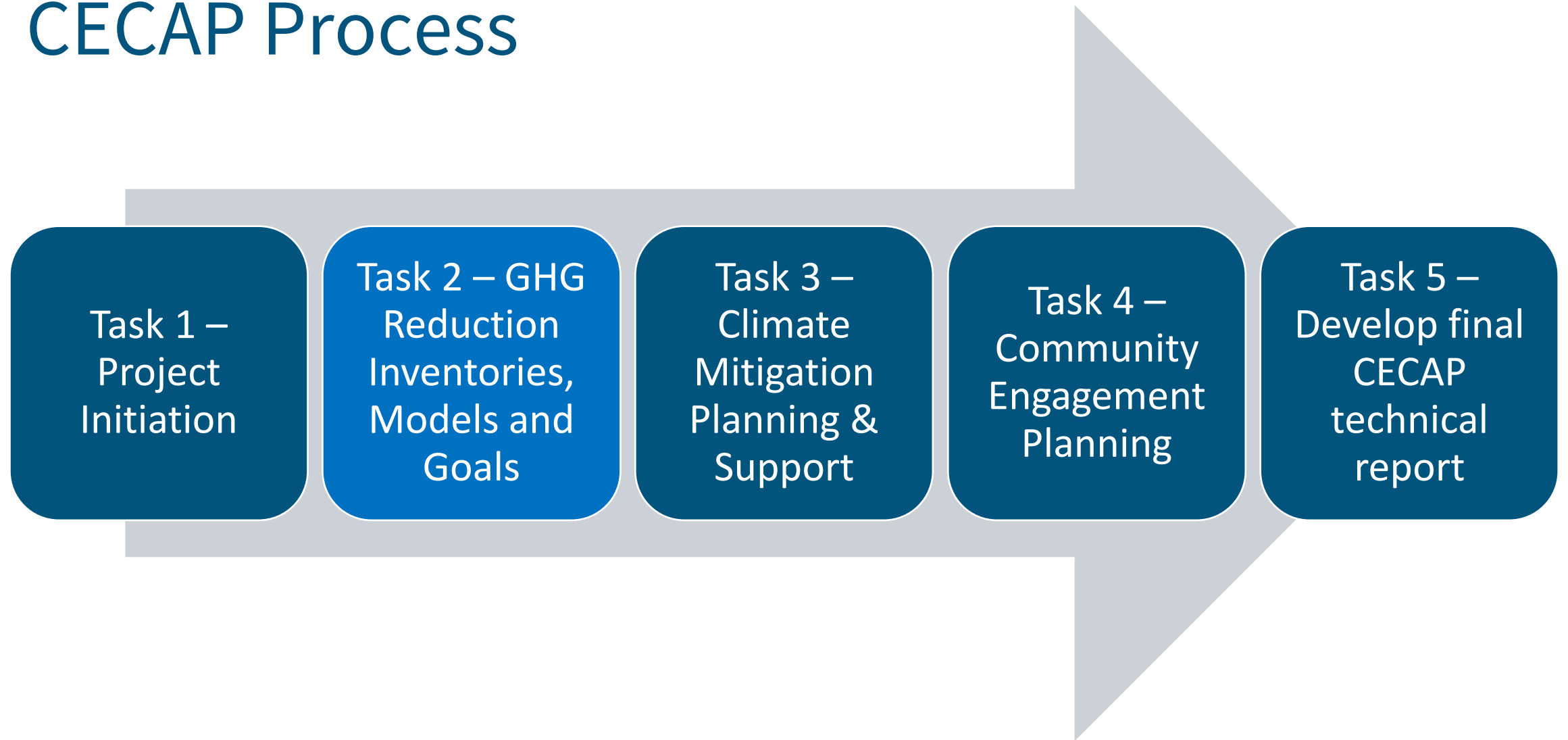
# CECAP Overview

Fairfax County

Maya Dhavale



# CECAP Process



# Community Engagement and Public Input

Public	District Focus Groups	CECAP Task Force
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Input and implementation roles</li><li>• Online access</li><li>• Outreach</li><li>• Public feedback meetings</li><li>• Public comment periods</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advisory role to Task Force</li><li>• Voice for each District</li><li>• Early reviews of key documents</li><li>• Focus Group Liaisons sit on Task Force</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Decision-making role</li><li>• Recommends Plan to Board of Supervisors</li><li>• County-wide representation</li><li>• Meetings open to the public</li></ul>

# Timeline

Month	Milestones
July 2020	Task Force meeting, focused on setting goals for CECAP
August 2020	Public input on CECAP
September 2020	Task Force meeting, focused on reviewing public input and beginning to discuss strategies to meet the goals
October 2020	Update Board of Supervisors
November 2020	Task Force meeting, focused on reviewing the draft list of strategies
December 2020	Update Board of Supervisors
January 2021	Task Force meeting focused on final list of strategies, review of community outreach/implementation draft
February 2021	Task Force meeting focused on finalizing community outreach/implementation plan
March 2021	Task Force meeting focused on finalizing community outreach/implementation plan
April 2021	Update Board of Supervisors
May 2021	Public input on draft Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan
June 2021	Final Task Force meeting, focused on reviewing public feedback and finalizing the CECAP report
July 2021	CECAP presented to the Board of Supervisors at a committee meeting, adoption to follow

# Key Terms & Definitions

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Adam Agalloco



# Key Terms

- **Greenhouse Gas (GHG):** A gas that traps heat in the atmosphere, such as carbon dioxide or methane.\*
- **GHG Inventory:** GHG inventories provide an accounting of greenhouse gas emissions from man-made sources within a specified boundary (for example, within Fairfax County).
- **Sectors:** Sources of greenhouse gas emissions are categorized by economic sector. Major sectors include transportation, electricity, industry, commercial/residential, and agriculture.

Visit the OEEC webpage [All About Climate Change](#) for more information.

\*[EPA GHG Overview](#)



# Terms For Goal Setting

- **Reduction goal/target goal/long term goal:** The emission reduction levels that a government or organization sets out to achieve by a specified time, or target year.\*
- **Interim goal:** A goal that provides a progress point for the long-term goal and works to create accountability within the plan.
- **Sector-specific goal:** A goal set for sector-specific metrics that would contribute to the overall goal of reducing emissions and/or energy use.

\*[C2ES US State GHG Emissions Targets](#)

# Terms For Goal Setting, Cont.

- **Attainable goal:** There is a clear path outlined to achieving the goal.
- **Aspirational goal:** There is not a clear path outlined for meeting the goal.
- **Science-based goal:** A goal that is established by considering the level of decarbonization required to keep global temperatures below a specified increase (e.g., 2 degrees Celsius). By the Under2 Coalition's standards, an 80x50 goal that uses 1990 as a base year could be considered science-based.
- **Zero carbon:** No carbon emitted.
- **Carbon neutral/Net zero:** Refers to achieving a net zero carbon emissions goal by balancing carbon emitted with an equivalent amount offset through carbon credits (tradable credits that typically represents one ton of carbon dioxide equivalent).
- **Be deliberate and specific in how we use:**
  - Emissions, Energy and Electricity
  - Zero carbon, Carbon neutral (or Net Zero) and Renewable

# Greenhouse Gas Inventory Results

Metropolitan Washington Council of  
Governments

Steve Walz

Director of Environmental Programs



# Greenhouse Gas Inventory Approach

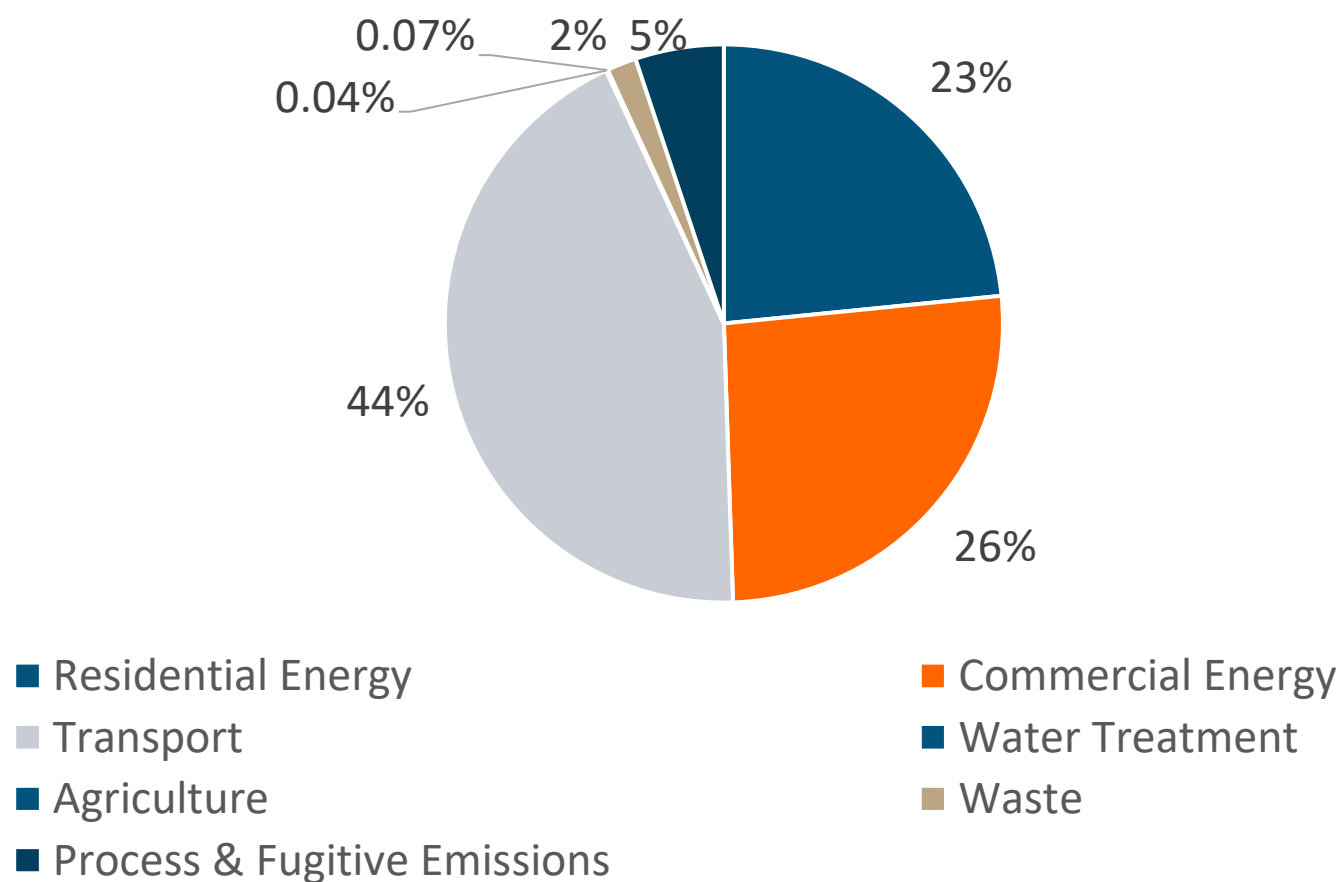
- COG develops greenhouse gas inventories at both the regional and local scales
- GHG Inventory Results and Methodology Documentation can be found on the CECAP website (see [CECAP Materials and Resources](#))
- Inventory uses an activities-based approach
  - Emissions are calculated based on activity happening in the County

# Greenhouse Gas Emission Sources

- Emission sources in COG's GHG emissions inventories include:
  - Built Environment
    - Residential and Commercial Energy Use – electricity, natural gas, petroleum fuels
  - Transportation and Mobile Emissions
    - On- and off-road
    - Aviation and Commuter Rail
  - Wastewater Treatment
  - Agriculture
  - Solid Waste
  - Process and Fugitive Emissions

# 2018 Fairfax County Inventory

- Total: 12.6 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent

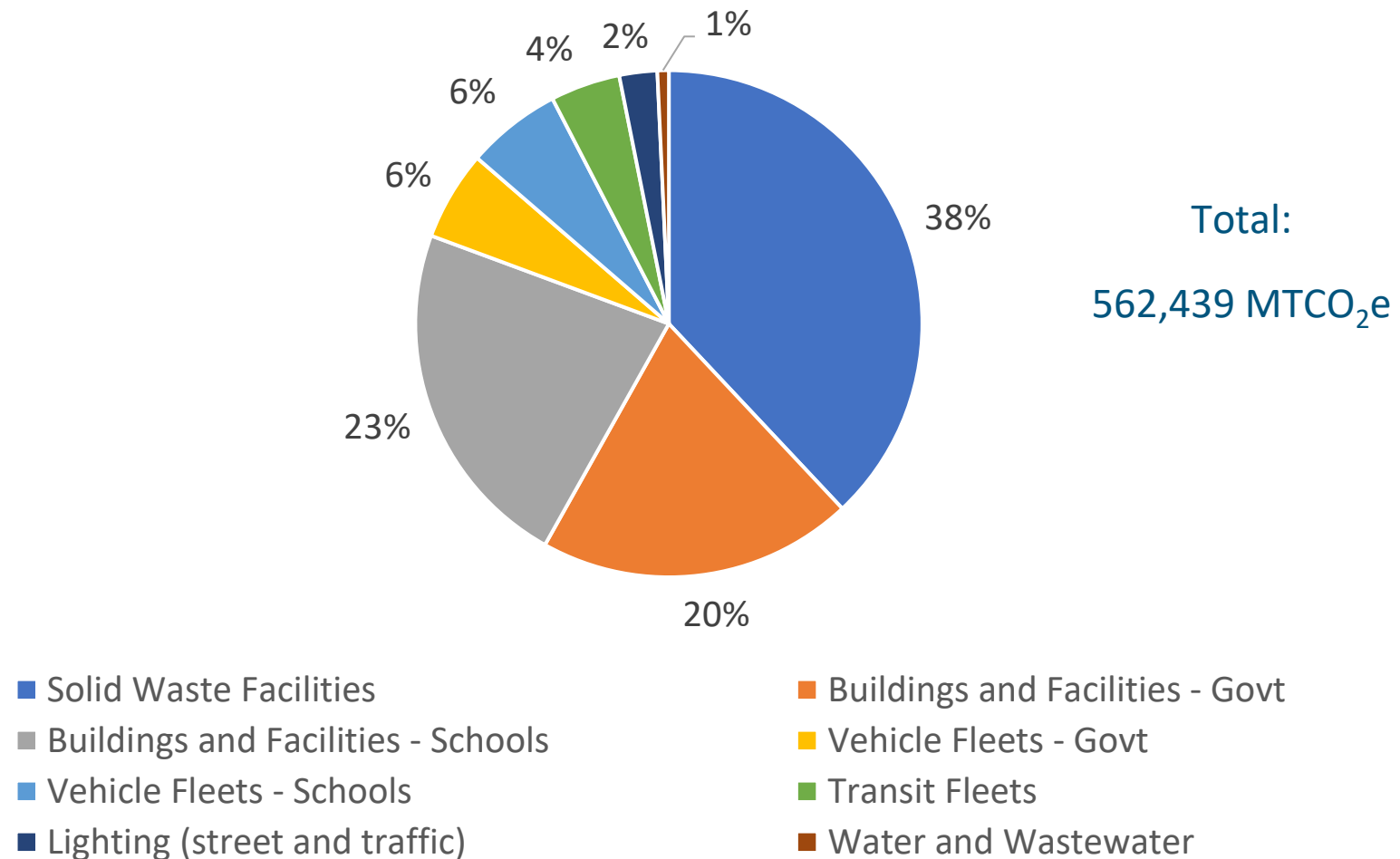


# Change in Fairfax County GHG Emissions between 2005-2018

- Despite 15% growth in population, community-wide GHG emissions decreased by over 13%
  - 14.52 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e (million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent) in 2005
  - 12.56 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018
- Per capita emissions decreased 24%
  - 14.5 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2005
  - 10.99 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018

# Fairfax County Government Operations Inventory

- 562,439 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e – approximately 4-5% of the community wide inventory

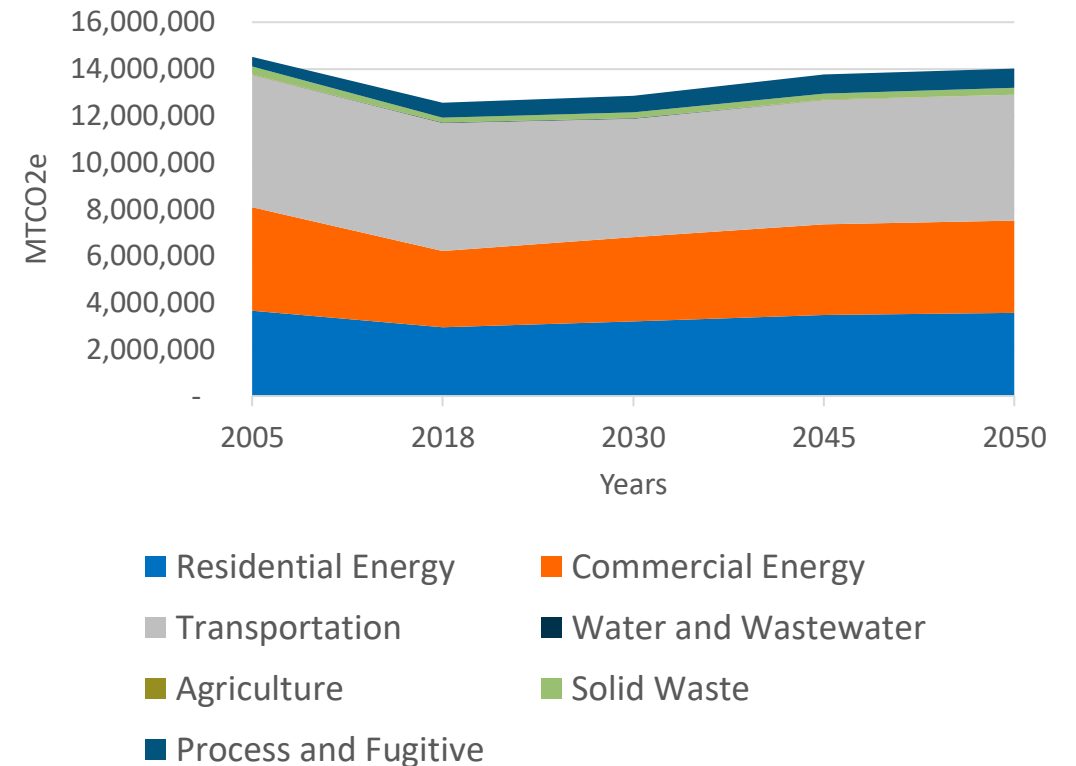




# Fairfax County Business as Usual (BAU) Community Emissions

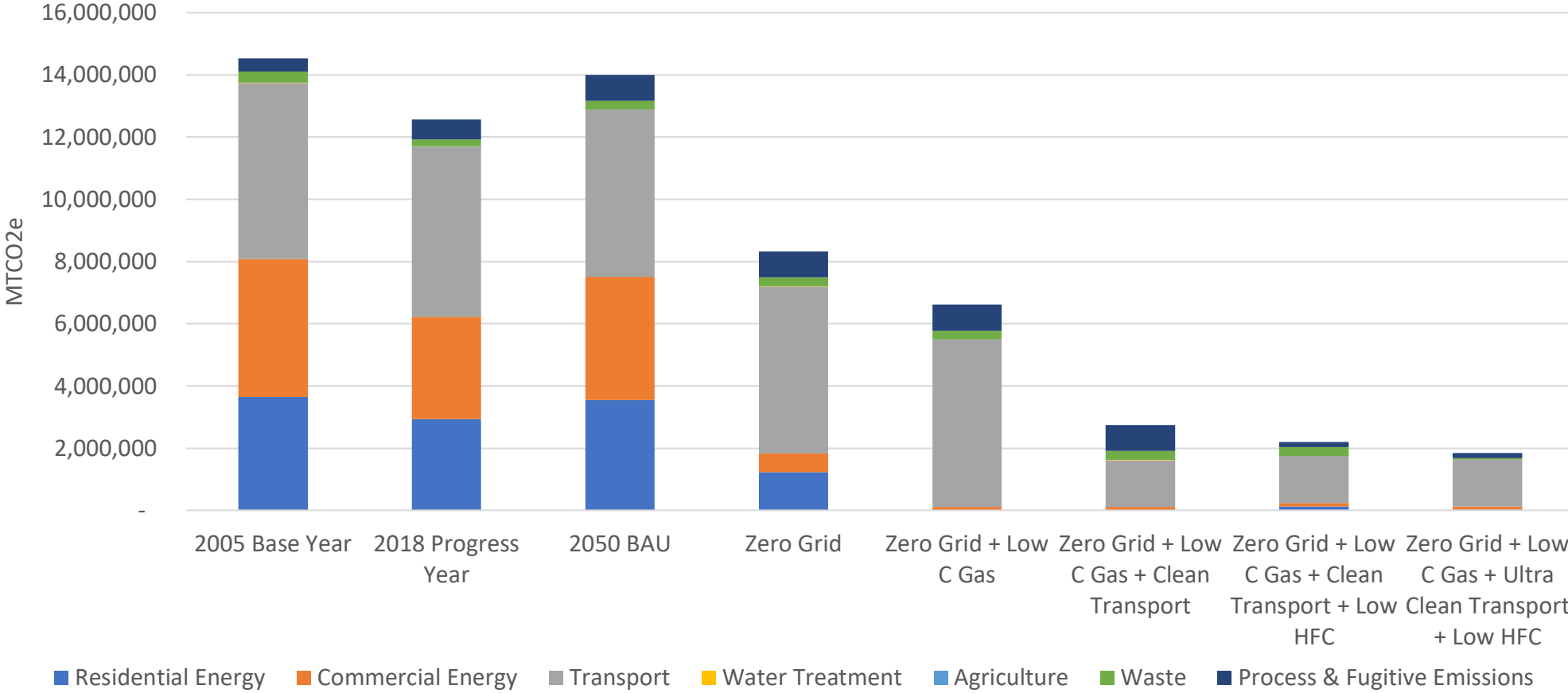
- Increase by 2% from 2018-2030
  - Associated with a decrease in on-road transportation emissions
- Increase by 11.5% from 2018-2050 (9% from 2030-2050)
  - Associated with economic growth, increased VMT, and greater aviation emissions

## Fairfax County BAU Projections



# Fairfax County Reduction 2030 & 2050 Scenarios

- Ranged from low to aggressive GHG reduction
- Task Force: High GHG reduction scenario to guide an 87% emission reduction



# Scenario E + More Aggressive Goal

## 87% Reduction by 2050

- Building & Energy Sector
  - Zero Carbon Grid
  - Electrification or renewable natural gas (RNG) use for nearly all of the residential sector (97% carbon free)
  - Electrification or RNG use for majority of the commercial sector (85% carbon free)
- Transportation Sector
  - 90% of Light-Duty Vehicles carbon free (primarily electrification)
  - 80% of Heavy-Duty Vehicles carbon free (mix electrification, RNG, hydrogen)
- Waste Sector
  - Reduction in carbon from waste by 80% from a variety of waste programs (reduction, composting, etc)
- Process Emissions
  - 80% reduction in process emissions (phase out of HFCs)

# Additional Opportunities

- Faster penetration of renewable natural gas
- Faster reductions in emissions from vehicles and fuels for medium and heavy-duty fleets, and off-road vehicles
- Purchasing carbon offsets and renewable energy credits (RECs)
- Electrification of heating and hot water systems
- Full electrification of light duty fleets
- Waste and sanitation system changes
- Government Operations represents approximately 4-5% of the community wide inventory and presents a unique opportunity to lead by example

# Climate Goals

Fairfax County

Maya Dhavale



# Tentative Climate Goals

At the July 29 Task Force meeting, the Task Force discussion indicated a preference toward:

- A carbon neutral by 2050 long-term goal
- An interim year goal in 2025 or 2030
- Sector-specific goals for transportation and energy sectors

# Example Goals from Relevant Jurisdictions

City/County	Long Term Goal	Interim Goal	Other Goals	Climate Action/Energy Plan
<b>Arlington County, VA</b>	2050 - Carbon neutral	NA – No interim year goal	2025 – 100% RE County Government 2035 – 100% RE Community	2019
<b>Albemarle County, VA</b>	2050 - Net zero	2030 - 45% from 2008 levels	Under development	Under development (Draft available)
<b>Alexandria, VA</b>	2050 - 80-100% from 2005 baseline	2030 – 50% from 2005 baseline	2023 – Net Zero Energy standards in new public buildings 2035 – 100% RE City Operations 2027 – 25% EVs for Municipal Fleet 2040 – 100% EVs for Municipal Fleet 2035 – 40% tree canopy	2019
<b>Washington, DC</b>	2050 - Carbon neutral	2032 – 50% below 2006 levels	2032 – 100% Renewable Energy 2045 – 100% Clean or Electric Public Transit	2018
<b>Frederick County</b>	2050 – Carbon neutral	2030 – 50% below 2010 levels	Under development	Under development
<b>Montgomery County, MD</b>	2035 - Carbon neutral	2027 – 80% below 2005 levels	2017 – 6 MW Solar County Government 2020 – Reduce Petroleum Consumption 20% County Government New County LEED Silver Buildings	Under development
<b>Prince George’s County, MD</b>	2050 - 80% from 2008 baseline	10% reduction in emissions every five years after 2010	2022 – 20% Renewable Energy County Government Various Energy Efficiency Goals	Under development for 2021
<b>MWCOG’s Regional Goal</b>	2050 – 80% from 2005 baseline	NA	NA	2017 <sup>31</sup>

# Feedback Opportunity #1

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# Prioritizing Climate Actions

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# Section Context

- The climate mitigation actions and evaluation criteria discussed in this section are not meant to be comprehensive.
- There will be an opportunity to provide feedback at the end of this section.
- The CECAP will focus on actions that can be accomplished by Fairfax County, while acknowledging the roles of State/Federal leadership.

# State/Federal Policies and Regulation

- Virginia Clean Economy Act
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
- Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI)
- Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards/Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule
- Federal leadership on climate mitigation and adaptation
- Investments in R&D to support difficult to decarbonize sectors

# Transportation/Commuting

- Investments in bike and pedestrian facilities
- Investments in transit
- Investments in electric vehicle infrastructure at County facilities
- Zoning and Land Use planning focused on transit, bikes and pedestrians (Transit Oriented Development, parking minimums, zoning restrictions, etc.)
- Promotion of carshares, carpooling, anti-idling, electric vehicles, etc.
- Leadership by example- electrification of County fleet
- Zero or Low emission vehicle rebates

# Your Home or Business

- Composting and other waste reduction programs
- Tree planting program
- Energy efficiency programs (such as Energy Star)
- Stronger energy codes or regulations (require energy efficient or low carbon construction or retrofits)
- Green Building bonuses
- Renewable energy policies/programs
- County Solar tax credit and zero cost permit

# Implementation Methods

- Zoning/Land Use
- Incentive-based programs (e.g. rebates)
- Education/outreach
- Infrastructure investments
- Regulation (e.g. building codes)

# Evaluating Potential Actions

- GHG mitigation effectiveness
- Cost of implementation
- Co-benefits
  - Air pollution
  - Quality of life
- Equity
- Economic opportunity
  - Job creation

# Feedback Opportunity #2

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# Public Engagement Process

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# Open Discussion on the Public Engagement Process

- Given the County's constraints (COVID, budget):
  - What works well?
  - What could be improved?

# Wrap Up and Next Steps

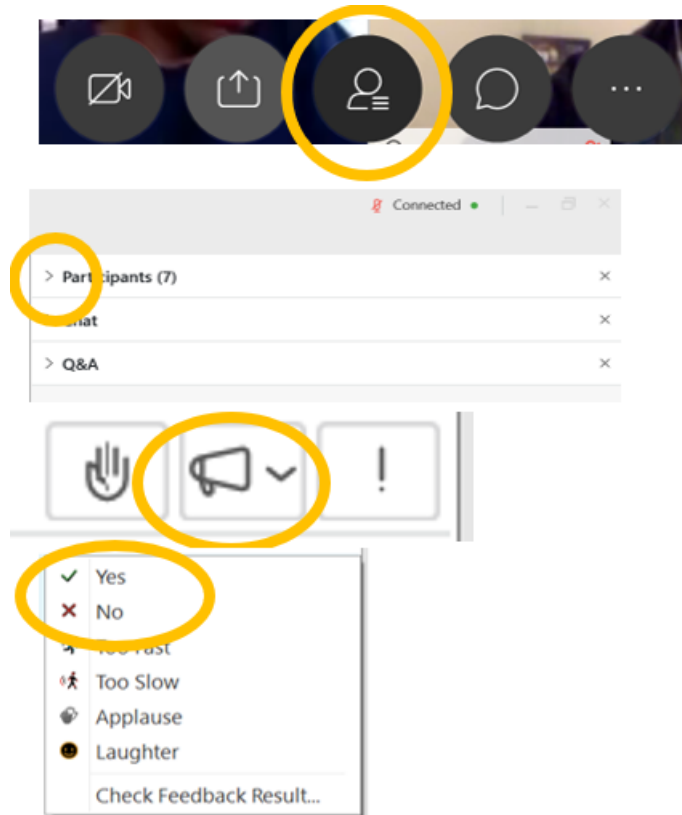
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# Let's Hear From You

1. Do you intend to respond to the survey?
2. Will you share the survey with at least 3 other people?
3. Is the next set of public meetings during Spring 2021?



# Providing Yes/No Feedback in WebEx

For Yes/No feedback:

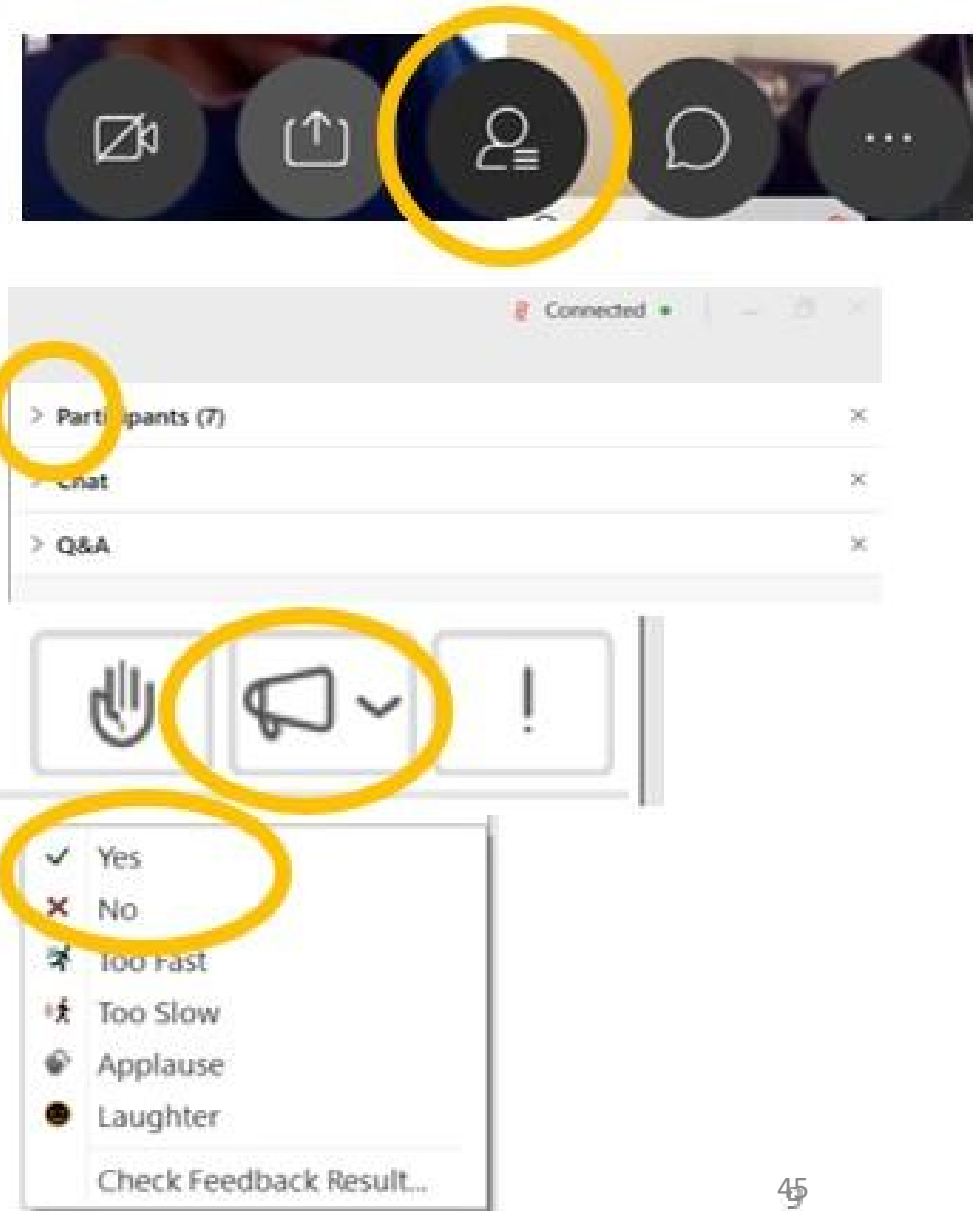
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3. Click on the megaphone in the → bottom right corner of the Participant Panel.

4. Use the check and X icons. →

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# Upcoming Dates

Online  
survey  
opens  
Aug 27

Task Force  
reviews  
public  
feedback

Task Force meetings  
held on ~bimonthly  
basis; open to the  
public

Online  
survey  
closes  
Sept 13

Task Force  
meeting on  
Sept 30;  
open to  
public

Public  
feedback  
meetings to  
review draft  
CECAP in  
Spring 2021

# Stay Informed

[CECAP Homepage](#)

[Office of Environmental & Energy  
Coordination \(OEEC\) Climate Action  
News Blog](#)

**Twitter:** @ffxgreen / #ffxCECAP

**Follow for updates on the CECAP process**, as well as information on climate and energy science, policy, and best practices.

**Learn** about the topics and trends driving the climate conversation in Fairfax County.

# Get Involved

- **Take the short climate planning survey.**
  - Open until September 13
  - Available in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese
- **Follow or Like** the [Fairfax County Climate and Energy Facebook page](#), and join the online conversation.
- **Email [cecapoutreach@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:cecapoutreach@fairfaxcounty.gov) to become a CECAP Implementation Partner.** Help advocate for and enact changes in your community that will lower our collective greenhouse gas emissions.



# Thank You!

For further questions, please contact:  
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[Maya.Dhavale@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Maya.Dhavale@fairfaxcounty.gov)

[CECAP Website](#)

Twitter: @ffxgreen #ffxCECAP