

Taking Action to 2030

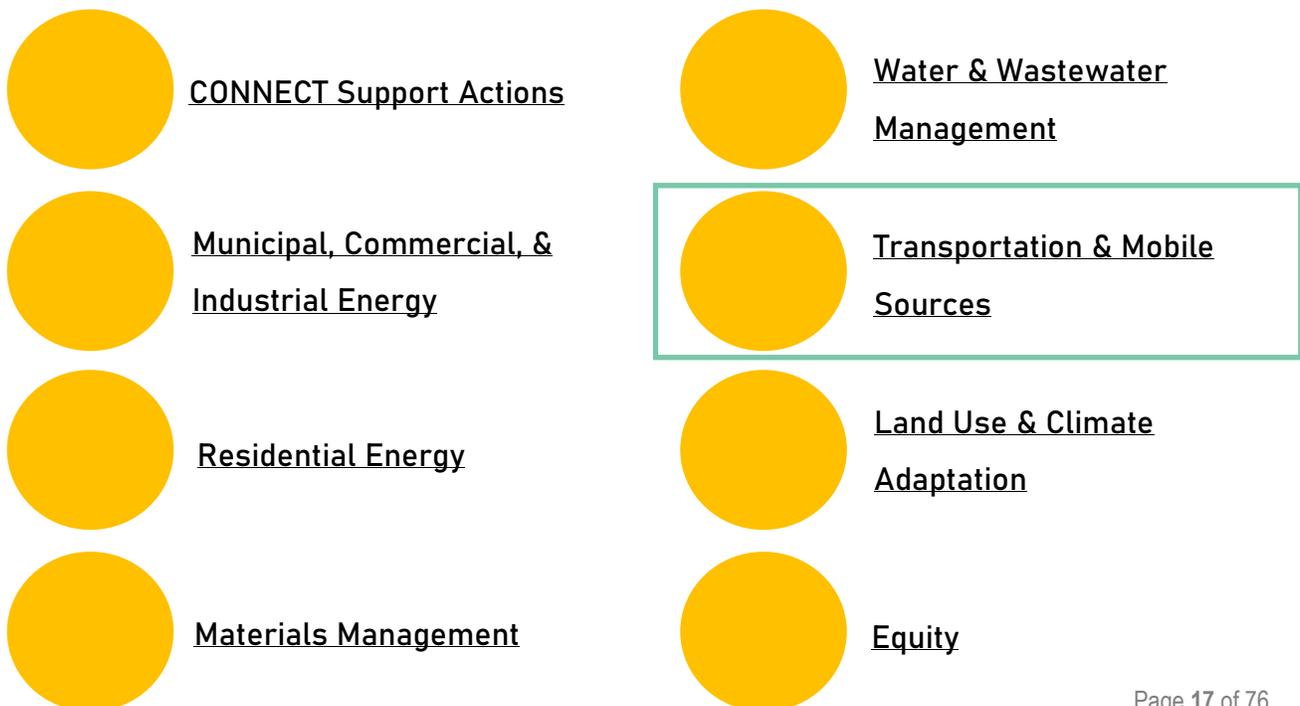
In the following chapters, CONNECT's goals and a series of objectives with actions are explored for each emissions sector. An "Objective" is an "end result", or target, and an "Action" is a means of realizing the objective. Noted on each objective is its emission reduction potential, and on each action is its [co-benefits](#) among other pertinent information. Links to resources are provided within each action. All community sectors draw on the potential actions of CONNECT, its partners, local government, residents, and businesses to achieve 30% emissions reduction by 2030, and subsequent reductions to 2050. Local governments should use and modify potential actions from these lists to implement in their own communities or climate planning efforts.

Symbol	GHG Reduction
	Small Reduction Potential
	Moderate Reduction Potential
	Large Reduction Potential

Symbol	Co-Benefit
	Supports jobs and economic prosperity
	Advances social equity
	Fosters resource security
	Improves public health and local environmental quality

Actions labeled as a "CONNECT Opportunity"  are considered climate actions that CONNECT may be able to implement in the form of a CONNECT-wide project to reduce our emissions or are actions from which members may find extra benefits when implementing together as a region.

Sectors covered will include:



Transportation

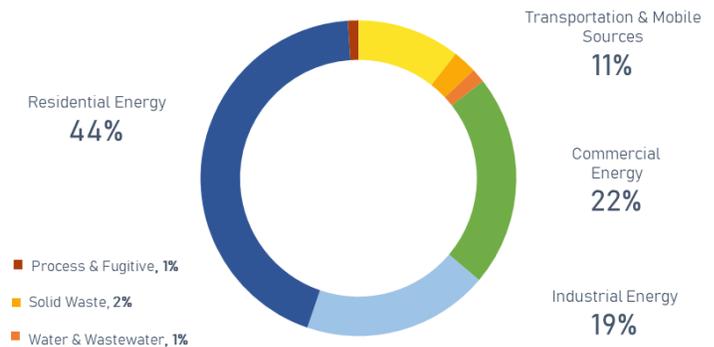
Gasoline and diesel exhaust are one of the most visible greenhouse gas emissions sources experienced in municipalities. Transportation and mobile sources account for 11% of CONNECT's total GHG emissions, however, if a community counts pass through traffic under their jurisdiction, transportation can become one of the largest sources of emissions.¹¹ In many CONNECT communities, the vast majority of residents travel by single occupancy gasoline vehicle, with most communities having pedestrian, biking, and public transit mode shares under 10%.¹² Emissions from municipal fleets that have not been replaced with electric or low-carbon fuel alternatives are also significant contributors to the community's emissions.

Shifting toward alternative and cleaner modes of transportation as well as increasing multimodal access to trails and parks, will help to lower emissions, improve public health outcomes, and make CONNECT communities more equitable. Switching to electric or hybrid vehicles is one of the primary ways a community can help reduce transportation emissions associated with transboundary trips in cars. As electric vehicles become significantly cheaper and travel further¹³, EV's are expected to become more widespread in your community – necessitating CONNECT's support of charging infrastructure.

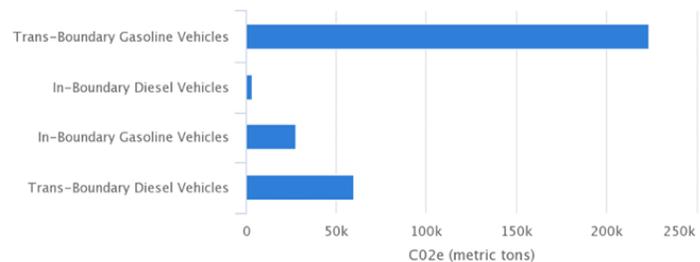
Municipalities can remove regulatory/permitting barriers to charging infrastructure and engage in public education to attract EV drivers to their communities. There are currently 13 public chargers in CONNECT communities outside Pittsburgh, however, in order to meet the statewide benchmark set in 2021 for achieving high EV use, CONNECT communities outside Pittsburgh should collectively look toward a goal of 80+ public chargers by 2030.¹⁴ The City of Pittsburgh currently meets and exceeds that target with 157 public chargers.

Local governments are key players in improving multimodal accessibility and removing barriers to electric vehicles...

CONNECT's 2018 Greenhouse Gas Emissions



2018 Transportation Emissions by Source



Figures: 80% of CONNECT's transportation emissions are from gasoline, and the majority of emissions are attributable to vehicular travel beginning or ending in CONNECT communities, rather than travel solely within a single community. Pass through traffic is not included. See Appendix for Methodology.

Besides emitting greenhouse gases, transportation fossil fuels also produce a host of criteria air pollutants when combusted, reducing local air quality and affecting our health. This chapter focuses on programs and policies to reduce emissions from transportation in CONNECT communities and includes infrastructure and design-oriented approaches as well as expansion of alternate modes such as walking, biking, or public transportation. **See Resources & Air Quality Vulnerabilities Section for more information useful to municipalities.**

*Expanding local public transportation and regional transit was among **the top ten climate actions** for residents in CONNECT...*

When asked how local governments can best help them with EV's, CONNECT residents want their municipality to:

1. *Add **public charging stations***
2. ***Publicize incentives** for the community*
3. ***Upgrade its own fleet** to electric*

The following tables contain CONNECT's objectives and potential actions for transportation.

	Objective	Benefits	Reduction Potential
Goal 4: Motivate cleaner modes of transportation by residents and in our fleets.	TR 1 – Encourage and increase accessibility to alternate modes of transportation such as walking, biking, or transit in our communities.		
	TR 2 – Increase electric vehicle use in municipal fleets and the broader community.		

Objective TR 1 – Alternate Modes of Transportation

Encourage and increase accessibility to alternate modes of transportation such as walking, biking, or transit in our communities.



Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?	Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?
TR-1A	Join other CONNECT communities to implement transit oriented development and zoning in your community.	0	Y	TR-1H	Expansion of Port Authority routes/frequency in CONNECT communities		Y
TR-1B	Prioritize compact and Complete Streets development strategies during planning and zoning for the community	-	Y	TR-1I	Implement an equitable fare program through Port Authority to increase ridership among lower income areas in CONNECT communities		Y
TR-1C	Implement new bike infrastructure, paths, and lanes, targeting busy or dangerous areas that can benefit.	-	Y	TR-1J	Work with SPC and Transit Operators Committee to advocate for more transit funding and ped/bike infrastructure in the region.		Y
TR-1D	Encourage carpool , vanpool , or bikeshare options in local government and the community.	-	-	TR-1K	Work with GASP and your school district to promote clean diesel idling and school bus policies in your community.	-	Y
TR-1E	Help your community form a neighborhood biking and walking committee to help build community and expertise around alternate modes of transport with BikePgh's Toolkit		-	TR-1L	Pursue a ACHD Air Quality Ambassador Mini-Grant to fund air quality outreach in CONNECT communities, particularly in the Mon Valley or in high traffic density areas		Y
TR-1F	Establish a transportation baseline by creating a survey asking where residents live, work, and how they travel to track progress to 2030		-	TR-1M	Pass an ordinance requiring clean construction practices by diesel equipment for certain municipal projects	-	-

Objective TR 2 – Electric Vehicles & Charging Infrastructure

Increase electric vehicle use in municipal fleets and the broader community.



Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?	Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?
Electric Vehicles							
TR-2A	Work with a partner to create a CONNECT member EV info sheet to help communities navigate EV issues		N	TR-2F	Use an EV incentive, such as AFIG or Level 2 EV Charging Rebate Program , to purchase a municipal electric vehicle at a lower cost.	-	-
TR-2B	CONNECT becomes a member of a consulting org like Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities on behalf of municipalities to assist with municipal EV needs, grant writing, permitting, technical support, etc.”		-	TR-2G	Build electric vehicle accommodations into development requirements	-	-
TR-2C	Join the voluntary Climate Mayors EV Purchasing Collaborative , to enable municipalities to procure electric vehicles and chargers at a discounted price and without bidding.		-	TR-2H	Implement energy efficiency and 100% renewable energy technologies in transit vehicles(i.e. Battery electric buses, clean diesel, etc.)		-
TR-2D	Using a toolkit , create a list of the top ten municipal vehicles to replace with electric and then compare with an electric vehicle alternative.		-	TR-2I	Conduct public education surrounding federal , state , & DLC EV and charging grants/rebates, or hold a ride and drive event, to increase EV use in your community.		-
TR-2E	Assess CONNECT governments current fleets, and vehicle turnover cycles for procurement opportunities		-				

Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?	Action Number	Action	Regional CONNECT Opportunity?	Reduces Climate Risk?
Chargers							
TR-2J	Adopt policies, parking rules , and zoning ordinances that enable electric vehicle growth and adoption .		-	TR-2M	Consider municipal incentives for commercial business or multi-unit dwelling charging infrastructure	-	-
TR-2K	Start a municipal initiative to organize local commercial businesses to be Duquesne Light charging partners "	-	-	TR-2N	Target public charging infrastructure to multi-unit dwellings and environmental justice areas in your municipality to receive higher consideration (pg11) for grant funding.		-
TR-2L	Install public EV chargers in local government spaces, such as parking garages, lots, parks, and other public venues.	-	-	TR-2O	Collaborate with utilities like DLC to ensure optimization of electrical grids for increased EV use in munis and cleaner EV impacts.		-