Determining Relationships to County Climate Priorities

Climate assessments include assessing whether each applicable activity factor for a ZTA or master plan relates to core GHG reduction actions within the most recent version of the County's Climate Action Plan, and if so, noting in the assessment if the action has a relatively high, medium, or low reduction potential as designated in the Climate Action Plan. The table below provides the full list of Climate Action Plan GHG reduction actions, their designated GHG reductions potential (from the Climate Action Plan) and the relationship to identified ZTA or master plan GHG impacting activities as listed in the Greenhouse Gas and Sequestration Checklist. While this table provides a starting point, it does not include a comprehensive list of all potential relevant ZTA/master plan GHG impacting activities that could apply to a specific ZTA or master plan. Planning staff should supplement climate assessments with additional data and information as appropriate. For more information regarding this table and guidance in preparing a narrative assessment, see Table 2 and associated text in the Final Report: *Climate Assessment Recommendations for Master Plans and Zoning Text Amendments in Montgomery County, ICF, December 1, 2022*. For more information regarding the Climate Action Plan, see the *Montgomery County Climate Action Plan, June 2021*.

Activity factor relationships to GHG reduction actions from the 2021 County Climate Action Plan

Climate Action Plan action	Climate Action Plan assessed GHG reduction potential	Relevant ZTA / master plan checklist GHG activities
E-1: Community Choice Energy Program	High	Electricity usage
E-2: Private Building Solar Photovoltaic Code Requirements	Medium	Electricity usage
E-3: Promote Private Solar Photovoltaic Systems	Medium	Electricity usage
E-4: Public Facility Solar Photovoltaic Installations and Groundwork	Low	Electricity usage
B-1: Electrification Requirements for Existing Commercial and Public Buildings	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-2: Electrification Requirements for Existing Residential Buildings	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-3: Energy Performance Standard for Existing Commercial and Multifamily Buildings	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-4: Electrification Incentives for Existing Buildings	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-5: All-Electric Building Code for New Construction	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-6: Disincentivize and/or Eliminate Natural Gas in New Construction	High	Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage, Efficiency
B-7: Net Zero Energy Building Code for New Construction	High	Building certifications, Electricity usage, Stationary fuel usage
T-1: Expand Public Transit	Medium	Vehicle miles traveled, number of trips, Public transportation use
T-2: Expand Active Transportation and Micromobility Network	Medium	Vehicle miles traveled, number of trips, Non-vehicle modes of transportation
T-3: Private Vehicle Electrification Incentives and Disincentives	Medium	Electric vehicle infrastructure access, Electricity usage
T-4: Constrain Cars in Urban Areas, Limit Major New Road Construction	Medium	Vehicle miles traveled, number of trips

T-5: Zero Emissions Public Buses and School Buses	Medium	Public transportation use, Electric vehicle infrastructure access, Electricity usage
T-6: Electrify County and Public Agencies Fleet	Medium	Electric vehicle infrastructure access, Electricity usage
T-7: Expand the Electric Vehicle Charging Network	Medium	Electric vehicle infrastructure access, Electricity usage
T-8: Transportation Demand Management and Telework Strategies	Low	Vehicle miles traveled, number of trips, Non-vehicle modes of transportation
T-9: Traffic Management Systems	Low	Vehicle miles traveled, number of trips, Non-vehicle modes of transportation
T-10: Electric Vehicle Car Share Program for Low-Income Communities	Low	Electric vehicle infrastructure access, Electricity usage
T-11: Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Electrification	Low	Electricity usage
S-1: Retain and Increase Forests	Not assessed (NA)	Area of forest
S-2: Retain and Increase Tree Canopy	NA	Area of non-forest tree canopy
S-3: Restore and Enhance Meadows and Wetlands	NA	Area of green cover, Nature-based solutions
S-4: Regenerative Agriculture	NA	Not assessed for ZTAs and master plans
S-5: Restore Soil Fertility, Microbial Activity, and Moisture Holding Capacity	NA	Not assessed for ZTAs and master plans
S-6: Whole-System Carbon Management and Planning	NA	Area of green cover, Nature-based solutions

Note: GHG reduction potentials were assessed in the June 2021 County Climate Action Plan. Within this plan the following definitions for reductions are used: High: >1,000,000 MT CO_2e, Medium: 500,000-1,000,000 MT CO_2e, and Low: <500,000 MT CO_2e. Actions that had no associated GHG reduction potential are not included in the table above. Carbon sequestration potentials were not assessed for the actions outlined in the County Climate Action Plan. Note that the Climate Action Plan does not include actions that explicitly address reducing embodied GHG emissions for buildings.
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/climate/Resources/Files/climate/climate-action-plan.pdf