

Work and Resourcing Plan

1. Background

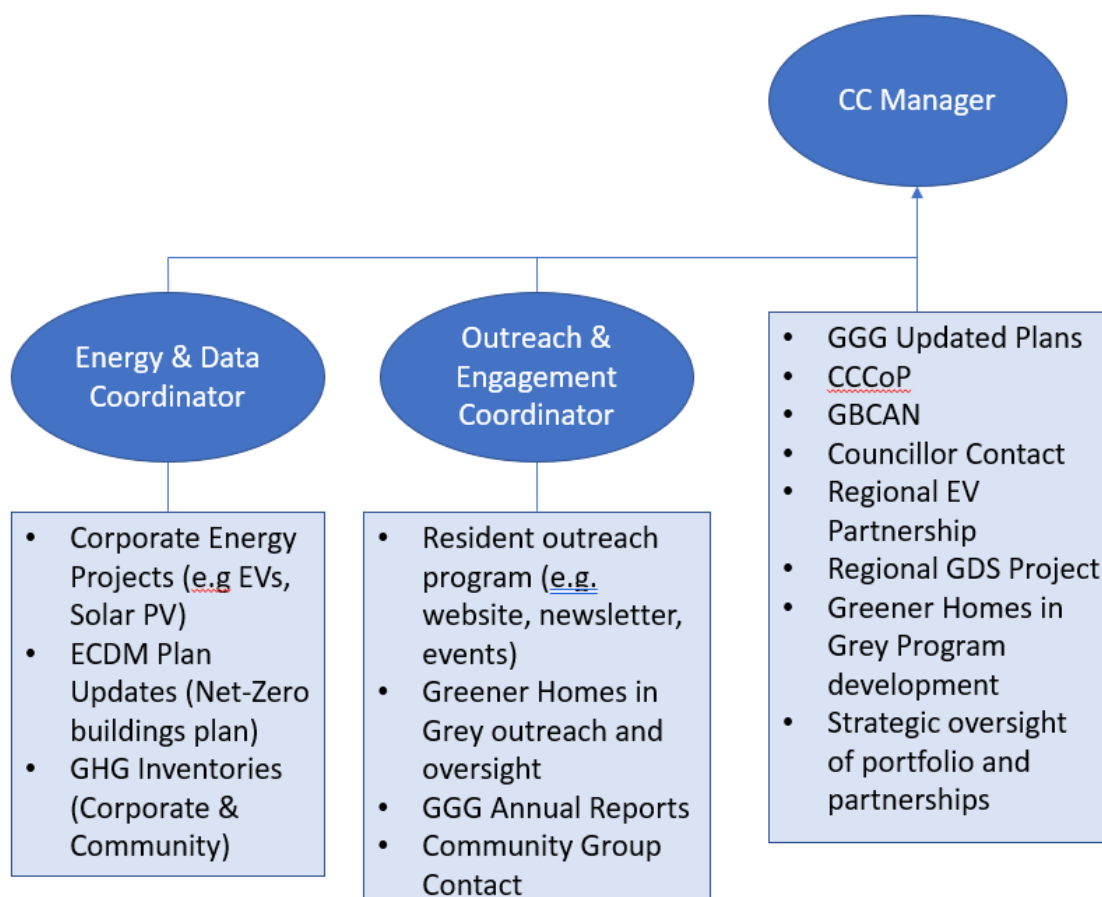
- In April 2022 Grey County launched our first Climate Change Action Plan, *Going Green in Grey* (G3).
- Council directed staff to continue and expand work supporting the actions in the plan and indicated that implementation funds would need to be included in future County budgets as business cases are developed for specific programs.
- G3 identified a series of priority actions:
 - Four Foundational Pillars to expand and continue
 - Action 1: Afforestation & Habitat/Wetland Protection
 - Action 3: Capacity Building for Sustainable Agriculture
 - Action 5: Expand Waste and Organics Diversion
 - Action 10: Compact mixed-use development
 - Five Priority Next Steps to initiate and advance
 - Action 7: Accelerate Zero Emissions Vehicles
 - Action 11: Green Standard for New Buildings
 - Action 12: Residential Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program
 - Action 16: Develop a Climate Adaptation Plan
 - Action 19: Establish a Climate Action Engagement Program
- The preliminary 10-year capital plan received by Committee of the Whole on September 8, 2022, included eight (8) climate action implementation projects.
- The projects indicated that their delivery is contingent on additional staffing resources.

2. Discussion

- The 2023 Climate Change Initiatives Operating budget proposes 2 new FTEs to deliver the projects identified in the Capital Budget.
 - 1 FTE is requested as a permanent Energy & Data Coordinator to focus on Corporate energy management and decarbonization projects.
 - This role will be ongoing as Council has made a commitment to document GHG inventories annually for Corporate operations and every two years for community-wide emissions.

- As much of the role will be focused on corporate decarbonization it is important to build institutional knowledge of our buildings and assets.
 - County Council has set a net-zero by 2045 target for corporate operations, 62% of corporate GHG emissions come from our buildings and over 80% of our building emissions come from housing. Ensuring we have a roadmap to deep retrofits for our buildings is essential to reach our overall climate goals.
- 1 FTE is requested initially as a 2-year contract Outreach & Engagement Coordinator to focus on education and outreach.
 - This role will support the Climate Change Manager in facilitating the Municipal Climate Change Community of Practice.
 - Achieving County of Grey's climate action targets will only be possible by engaging all local residents and businesses, G3 is a community-wide project that will depend on ongoing education, outreach and engagement activities.
 - The FTE will support the Greener Homes in Grey program, a priority as building operations account for 20% of overall local GHG pollution and the majority of buildings that exist today will still exist in 2050, making retrofits essential.

3. Proposed Climate Change Initiatives Section



4. Job Outlines

Energy & Data Coordinator

- Advance actions to meet County Council's Net-Zero by 2045 target for corporate assets as outlined in Going Green in Grey including energy retrofits and renewable energy projects.
 - Update ECDM Plan creating a net-zero buildings pathway for all existing County facilities.
 - Prepare annual progress report to Council on corporate decarbonization projects.
 - Creation of renewable energy plan for County assets.
 - Support Transportation department in transition to zero emissions fleet.

- Analysis of ROI and NPV of various energy efficiency projects to inform future capital budget processes to avoid stranded assets of new fossil fuel investments as carbon tax escalates operating expenses.
- Track corporate spending on energy and fulfil Provincial reporting requirements.
- Track corporate and community GHG emissions following the GPC protocol
 - Prepare annual corporate GHG inventory for inclusion in GGG Annual Report to Council and discussion with SMT
 - Prepare community-wide inventory every two years.

Outreach & Engagement Coordinator

- Advance Council endorsed Going Green in Grey Action 19: Establish a Climate Action Engagement Program to provide residents and business education and awareness about climate action opportunities.
 - Update Climate Action webpage for Going Green in Grey to develop robust information on climate action opportunities; potentially build stand alone climate action website similar to www.visitgrey.ca
 - Attends community events to promote GGG and makes presentations to students, community groups etc.
 - Responds to questions about Going Green in Grey from residents.
 - Work with Local Municipality staff to support their outreach efforts.
- Advance Council directed Going Green in Grey Action 12: Residential Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program, by promoting existing Federal and Provincial offerings and developing Grey County focused program.
 - Promotion, outreach and engagement to drive participation in existing residential energy efficiency programs including the Federal NRCAN Greener Homes Program, offering 0% interest loans for home energy retrofits.
 - Analysis of unique market features of County of Grey's housing archetypes and development of complimentary programs to accelerate home energy retrofits.
 - Supports residents who want to undertake home energy retrofits, acts as a 'retrofit concierge'.

Consequences of Not Proceeding

- Based on prioritization, certain projects in the workplan will be delayed resulting in rolling forward of elements of the requested 2023 Climate Action Capital budget.