

City of Aurora Energy Action Plan



Why Develop an Energy Action Plan

The year 2020 - bringing a global pandemic, economic recession, and racial justice protests - highlighted the critical importance of adapting to rapidly changing conditions, building resilience, and bringing equity to the forefront of community planning and decision-making. The City of Aurora applied to Partners in Energy as part of their larger efforts to **connect local business, institutions, multifamily building owners, and nonprofit organization with the resources they need** to recover, adapt, and thrive.

Representatives from these sectors, along with City of Aurora staff, formed the Energy Action Team, which helped build this plan from the ground up. With the help of this Team and supporting members of the community, we hope to achieve the team's vision and goals through implementation of this strategic Energy Action Plan.

Our Energy Action Plan Vision

The City of Aurora will be a leader in energy action, by piloting and sharing success stories and significantly increasing the number of customers participating in energy programs. In doing this, the City and its community members will keep energy-related operational and capital costs low, while contributing to a more reliable energy infrastructure and a greener, cleaner environment.

Energy Baseline: 2019



C&I facilities consumed **49% of total energy** and created **55% of green house gas emissions**



On average, C&I facilities spent **\$11,000** on energy bills



Aurora customers saved **\$2.8 million** on energy efficiency programs, an average of **\$3,000 per participant**

*Commercial and Industrial (C&I) facilities represent 9% of premises served.



PARTNERS IN ENERGY
An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration



Our Focus Areas

The Energy Action Team identified key strategies for each of the focus areas identified in City of Aurora's Partners in Energy application. The focus areas reflect priorities of supporting economic recovery and resilience, and bringing equity to the forefront of energy planning.

Businesses

- ✓ Connect property owners and tenants with energy program information and campaigns
- ✓ Share energy program information with new and existing businesses through existing City of Aurora channels
- ✓ Celebrate and recognize business energy leaders

Institutions

- ✓ Complete energy efficiency upgrades in facilities
- ✓ Connect local institutions (e.g., schools, health care facilities) with energy program information
- ✓ Conduct resiliency feasibility assessments

Multifamily and Nonprofit Organizations

- ✓ Connect multifamily and nonprofit property owners with targeted energy program information
- ✓ Share energy resources for the community through nonprofit partners



Impact and Results of Plan Implementation



142 additional participants in energy programs, above historical participation of 6,098 per year



Approximately **\$549,000** in energy cost savings



Additional **electricity savings of 5.6 GWh**, above historical electricity savings of 25.8 GWh per year



Additional natural gas savings of 65,000 therms, above historical natural gas savings of 84,000 therms per year



Greenhouse gas reduction of 2,700 MTCO₂e, equivalent to switching 102,300 incandescent lamps to light-emitting diode (LED) (EPA, 2021)



PARTNERS IN ENERGY
An Xcel Energy Community Collaboration