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City of Charleston Seeks Public Input on Draft Climate Action Plan

Charleston, S.C.--The City of Charleston's Office of Resilience and Sustainability has released the draft strategies and action items for the Climate Action Plan and is seeking public input to help shape the final plan.

What is the Climate Action Plan? The Climate Action Plan is a five-year framework to reduce carbon pollution in the city of Charleston. The plan currently looks at opportunities to reduce carbon emissions in three areas: buildings, transportation and waste.

The draft strategies and action items can be viewed here, <https://www.charleston-sc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/28907/Draft-Climate-Action-Plan-March-2021>.

Why is it important? Charleston has felt firsthand the very real impacts of climate change--an increase in flooding, more frequent storms and sea level rise, to name a few. Both adaptation and carbon reduction strategies will be required to protect the city and its resources now and in the future.

How to get involved. There are two ways to get involved:

1. Complete the community survey (open until March 28) and provide feedback on the specific strategies and actions items being proposed in the draft Climate Action Plan. The survey is available here, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6C8K7J5>.
2. Join a virtual community meeting on March 24, 2021 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. to receive a presentation of the draft Climate Action Plan, find out ways to help, ask questions and provide comments on the plan. Register to attend or to view the recording following the meeting at <https://uso2web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclce2orjMjHdDokXYY5-n4vP9R-TmH7Bk5>.

What they're saying: Director of Sustainability for the City of Charleston Katie McKain said, "The success of our Climate Action Plan is largely dependent on participation from the community, which is why we've made it a priority to engage our citizens from the start. Their input is at the heart of our current draft list of strategies, and will continue to shape the plan in all its forms until a final version is adopted."

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