



A Letter from Mayor Vinis

"Think globally, act locally." Eugeneans have a long tradition of pursuing our vision as a just, sustainable, welcoming home of opportunity. We practice this perspective from the ground up; building local actions that will not only improve our lives, but model solutions for other communities. This plan summarizes Eugene's work to fulfill its commitment to reducing our use of fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions, and outlines the hard choices ahead that are needed to address climate change.

When we passed the Climate Recovery Ordinance in 2014, Eugene was one of the first cities in the US to put its climate goals into city code. The CRO calls on us to meet two community goals: 1) to reduce our fossil fuel use by 50% by 2030 compared to our 2010 usage; and 2) to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions by 7.6% annually.

Under the Climate Action Plan 2.0, the City leads by example, committing to reducing the organization's carbon footprint. The City and community partners are stepping up to take a leadership role as we work to achieve our community climate goals. The Eugene Climate Collaborative's commitments include providing effective and clean transportation options, clean energy, reducing waste, and promoting a circular economy together. The recommendations from the CAP2.0 Equity Panel's recommendations reframe our climate conversation to address those most vulnerable to climate change in our community.

The CAP2.0 is Eugene's pathway to address climate change by creating a better, more equitable, more livable community for everyone. This work is even more critical in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increased awareness of institutional systems impacting communities of color. Like climate change, the pandemic and oppressive systems do not impact all of our community equally. Our experience of these global crises should not distract us from our climate goals; they should inform and awaken us to the need for inclusive action that holds social equity at its core.

How we choose to approach this existential challenge is pivotal. This plan makes it clear that we will not meet our goals if we proceed on our current path. Facing such a crisis is sobering, and basing our actions on a realistic understanding of outcomes is essential to our success. This planning effort shows the importance of working with our community partners to find new ways to come together and leverage our collective strength.

Lucy Vinis