



City of Atlantic Beach  
Green Works Community Action Plan  
Draft 2020



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to the numerous people who participated in community meetings, online discussions, and surveys. A heartfelt thank you also goes to the following individuals that have supported the creation of this plan. We could not have done it without you!

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**LETTER FROM THE MAYOR**



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## Executive Summary

Atlantic Beach, Florida is a charming, eclectic coastal town just east of Jacksonville that was incorporated in 1926. We are a family-friendly city of almost 14,000 residents with a keen sense of place. We love and value our parks and green spaces, our public beaches, and our lush maritime forest. With the future of our unique community in mind, the City of Atlantic Beach has constructed its first Green Works Community Action Plan (CAP) as a way to prepare for resilience challenges and maintain a healthy, prosperous, sustainable and equitable future for generations to come.

This CAP is for all those who have and/or will experience our beautiful oasis city in the past, present, or future. Atlantic Beach is a very livable community that has always valued its trees, beaches and parks, turtles, small businesses and family-friendly culture. Resiliency and sustainability are more than just caring for environmental assets. Resiliency and sustainable development also spurs a spirit of innovation and has the goal of high quality of life, a thriving natural environment, and economic prosperity for all in the city while building a society that thinks beyond its time.

The City of Atlantic Beach began the process of seriously planning for a sustainable and resilient future by establishing an Environmental Stewardship Committee in August 2017 and in January 2018 when its elected officials put environmental stewardship and LEED for Cities certification as a priority. On July 19, 2018, the City became the first LEED for Cities Pilot Silver certified city in Florida. In writing this CAP, the City is creating a living document that is meant to display and guide the city's current and future sustainability and resiliency-based endeavors that range from community programs and projects, policy development to infrastructure improvements – all with measurable outcomes. Measuring progress and performance leads to better management, more improvement, and ultimately, transformation. The CAP that you are currently reading is meant to be adaptable, allowing the City to check-in annually and adaptively manage based on economic, social, and environmental dynamic needs.

Resiliency is often defined as the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.” Sustainability was defined in 1987 by the Bruntland Commission as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” and is often characterized simply as taking care of the three P’s: people, planet and profits. There are numerous principles, plans, and indicators to measure performance across all three principles of societal resiliency and sustainability: **Economic, Social, and Environmental**.

Working with the LEED for Cities framework including former STAR Communities, our citizen-based Environmental Stewardship Committee, and the citizens of COAB, the following eight focus areas have been identified as priorities:

- Energy & Climate
- Green Buildings & Infrastructure
- Governance, **Community Outreach & Education**
- Natural Systems & Ecology
- Quality of Life / Livability
- Solid Waste
- Transportation
- Water



Figures: Rockefeller Foundation City Resilience Framework & The Three Capitals of Sustainability  
Photo Credit: Resilient Chicago & City of Satellite Beach 2017 Sustainability Action Plan

These eight focus areas include 59 subcategories of specific components that capture the goals and culture of the community with a focus on recommended actions for implementation.

Energy & Climate	Green Buildings & Infrastructure	Governance, Community Outreach & Education	Natural Systems & Ecology	Quality of Life / Livability	Solid Waste	Transportation & Land Use	Water
City Lead by Example	<b>Green Building Policy &amp; Incentives</b>	Good Governance & Oversight	Ecosystem Assessment	Demographic Assessment	Waste Performance	Transportation Performance	<b>Water Access and Quality</b>
Power Access, Reliability and Resiliency	Green Infrastructure Policy & Incentives	Innovation	Green Spaces	Quality of Life Performance	Special Waste Streams Management	Compact, Mixed Use and Transit Oriented Development	<b>Water Performance</b>
Energy & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance		Community Engagement	<b>Natural Resource Conservation and Restoration</b>	Trend Improvements	Responsible Sourcing for Infrastructure	Access to Quality Transit	<b>Integrated Water Management</b>
Energy Efficiency		Education	<b>Light Pollution Reduction</b>	Distributional Equity	Material Recovery	Alternative Fuel Vehicles	<b>Stormwater Management</b>
Greening the Energy Supply		Leadership Commitments	<b>Resiliency Planning</b>	Environmental Justice	Smart Waste Management Systems	Smart Mobility and Transportation Policy	<b>Smart Water Systems</b>
<b>Renewable Energy</b>			Biodiversity & Invasive Species	<b>Housing and Transportation Affordability</b>		High-Priority Site	
<b>Low Carbon Economy</b>			Outdoor Air Quality	<b>Civic and Community Engagement</b>		Infill & Redevelopment	
<b>Grid Harmonization</b>			Water in the Environment	<b>Civil and Human Rights</b>			
Climate Adaptation			Working Lands	Ambient Noise & Light			
GHG Mitigation				Arts & Culture			
				Historic Preservation			
				Social & Cultural Diversity			
				Aging in the Community			
				Active Living			
				Community Health			
				Food Access & Nutrition			

\*Bolded items are LEED for Cities credits

## FOCUS: ENERGY & CLIMATE

### HOW WE BENEFIT

As a coastal barrier island city with a diverse racial and socio-economic population, we must plan ahead to reduce our vulnerability to environmental, economic and social chronic stressors and acute shocks. Our focus is to reduce climate impacts through adaptation and mitigation efforts and increase resource efficiency. Energy consumption causes greenhouse gas emissions, which in turn causes climate change. While this is a global issue, local governments can impact the sources and sinks within their jurisdictions. Expanding alternative modes of transportation, improving energy efficiency, eliminating waste, and increasing vegetation can reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and provide other benefits to the community.

### OUR GOALS

Atlantic Beach has set short-, medium-, and long-term goals as outlined below. These include LEED for Cities recertification in 2021; transitioning city and county service vehicles to low-zero emissions; reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050; obtaining electricity from clean, renewable sources city wide by 2050; and committing to strategies that mitigate a two-degree Celsius rise in global temperature. There are many opportunities for no- and low-cost energy efficiency measures and renewable energy applications the City can implement to achieve its goals.

### TOP SHORT TERM GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>LEED v4.1 Recertification 2021</b></li><li>- Measure energy consumption and GHG emissions annually</li><li>- Develop a Sustainability Action Plan with public and private sector stakeholders</li><li>- Reduce GHG Emissions by at least 3% annually</li><li>- Replace all streetlight and public lighting to LED (or high efficiency) lighting by 2022</li><li>- Pilot a green roof project</li><li>- Acquire 10% of energy from renewable sources by 2025</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Acquire 25% of energy from renewable sources by 2030, 50% by 2040</li><li>- Reduce municipal energy use 25% below 2019 levels by 2030</li><li>- Run City Hall on 100% solar power by 2035</li><li>- Create and implement energy conservation incentives for community such solar panels and alternative fuel use vehicles</li><li>- Transition to 50% low/zero emission city fleet by 2030, 75% by 2035</li><li>- Transition 25% low/zero emission trash/recycling fleet by 2030, 50% by 2035</li><li>- Transition to 100% low/zero emission school bus fleet for COAB by 2035</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reduce GHG emissions by 80% by 2050</li><li>- Commit to remaining under 2°C in planning and actions</li><li>- Obtain 80% of electricity from renewable sources by 2050</li><li>- Transition 75% trash/recycling fleet to be low- zero emission source by 2040</li></ul>

\*Bolded items are tied to LEED for Cities

### PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

To date, the city has implemented several actions to support residents, businesses and city operations to support its climate and energy goals. Highlighted programs and policies include:

#### Energy Performance Score of 50

In July 2019, the City received a LEED for Cities Silver certification which entailed measurement of performance using 14 specific metrics. At that time the City scored 50 out of 100 in energy. This score comes from a metric of 8 tons of

carbon dioxide equivalent per year per capita. In general terms, the COAB is similar to a typical suburban community. Our score is lower than the local average (83) of other cities as well as the global average (80).

#### **100+ Trees Planted**

The City has planted approximately 100 new trees since December of 2019. These trees help reduce our urban heat island effect which in turn helps reduce everyone's energy bills, and help reduce greenhouse gas.

#### **Public Lighting Efficiency Improved**

The City has recently replace holiday decorations along street lights with LED bulbs which reduced power consumption from 48 watts to 4 watts per decoration. And we are working with JEA to replace all streetlight and public lighting to LED fixtures. Full replacement is expected to be completed by [REDACTED].

#### **PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES**

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our energy and climate goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

#### **BEST PRACTICES & COMMUNITIES LEADING THE WAY**

The CAP team has researched [case studies of best practices](#) and who is leading the way from our peer cities around the globe. These successes serve to inform and inspire our work locally, as well as contribute to scaling efforts to achieve a more significant, collective impact.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

The CAP team has compiled a [list of additional resources](#) relating to energy and climate as well as actions and best practices in this focus area.



FOCUS: GREEN BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE

HOW WE BENEFIT

Buildings impact resource consumption, ecological systems, human health and well-being and generate about 30% of greenhouse gas emissions from a city. Hence, green building practices are an essential component of a city’s sustainability strategy and they are critical to minimizing environmental impacts and ensuring efficient use of environmental resources. Furthermore, since green building practices can enhance climate resiliency, these spaces will be better equipped to withstand the potential impacts of global climate change. Our focus is to encourage the design, construction, and retrofit of buildings, parks, open spaces and landscapes using green practices. In this way Atlantic Beach will conserve energy and water, minimize waste, and create healthy and resilient environments for businesses, residents and visitors. The implementation of green building practices will also keep utility and maintenance costs down, benefitting low-income residents and small businesses.

Green infrastructure is also an integral component of a sustainable community. It can help communities protect the environment and human health while providing other social and economic benefits. In addition, green infrastructure and sustainable community approaches can help local governments that are struggling to pay for needed upgrades to stormwater and wastewater infrastructure. Benefits can include improved water quality, reduced municipal water use. • and flood risk mitigation; reduced ozone and pollution; increased recreation space and wildlife habitat; cost savings, increased property values, and jobs.

OUR GOALS

The City has set short, medium, and long-term goals for green buildings and infrastructure. These include piloting a solar array in a retention pond; incentivizing smaller sized homes, permeable surfaces and rain gardens; ensuring 100% of new and existing buildings meet green building standards; and reducing electricity consumption by 20% from 2019 levels by 2050. There are many opportunities and ways to incentivize green building and infrastructure throughout the city and ensure alignment of future development with the city’s long-term strategy.

TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Implement a voluntary benchmarking program</li><li>- Connect the City’s park system</li><li>- Conduct a green infrastructure assessment</li><li>- Encourage local, salvaged and/or recycled material sourcing</li><li>- 1 pilot LEED Zero certified public building by 2025</li><li>- Pilot floating solar array in retention pond</li><li>- Pass PACE legislation</li><li>- Host 2 public education workshop a year with an on-demand education video/webinar</li><li>- Provide consumer information on pervious benefits, surface types, and costs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reduce total electricity consumption by 10% from 2019 levels.</li><li>- Incentivize the use of pervious surfaces to reduce stormwater runoff</li><li>- Incentivize permeable and recycled concrete installation</li><li>- Incentivize smaller sized homes</li><li>- Allow 2 or more tiny/small homes to be built on lots if they meet LEED green building standards</li><li>- Allow Granny Pods</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ensure 100% of new and existing buildings meet LEED green building standards.</li><li>- Reduce total electricity consumption by 20% from 2019 levels.</li></ul>

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PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Reduced Impervious Lot Area** – The City changed its Land Development Regulation code to reduce total impervious lot area in all residential zoning districts.

**Green Infrastructure in Parks Master Plan** – The current version of the Parks Master Plan includes the beautification of City parks through green infrastructure and sustainable design.

#### **PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES**

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our green building and infrastructure goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

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## FOCUS: GOVERNANCE, COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

### HOW WE BENEFIT

With good organizational excellence and communications, a city can elevate achievement and success rates across multiple goals and objectives. These can include a higher bond rating,...

### OUR GOALS

The city has set short, medium and long term goals including a high school sustainability council, volunteer green business and citizen programs, and a recognition program. We plan to research and sign on to important leadership commitments, maintain a best quality bond rating, and achieve 90% of COAB community engagement in implementation of the CAP by 2050. This section has five subcategories. There are numerous opportunities for the city to empower, engage and inspire residents to achieve a sustainable and resilient community.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maintain a high quality bond rating</li><li>- Create and implement a sustainability and resiliency community education program</li><li>- Start a high school sustainability council</li><li>- Grow the Green Works Task Force to include more public, private, academic and nonprofit leaders in the city</li><li>- Start an AB Sustainability &amp; Resiliency Steward/Ambassador volunteer program</li><li>- Start a program that recognizes residences and businesses for sustainability behavior through yard signs and annual awards program</li><li>- Achieve 30% Atlantic Beach community engagement in progress of CAP</li><li>- Start a voluntary green business program by 2022</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Achieve a best quality bond rating</li><li>- Achieve 50% Atlantic Beach community engagement in progress of CAP by 2030</li><li>- Sign on to at least one leadership commitment</li><li>- Achieve <i>Special Places Designation</i> from APA</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Achieve 90% of Atlantic Beach community engagement in progress of CAP by 2050</li><li>- Maintain best quality bond rating</li></ul>

### PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Green Works Task Force** – The ESC’s 2020 workplan included drafting and passing a Atlantic Beach Sustainability Plan. In mid-2020, the Green Works Task Force was created under the LEED for Cities Subcommittee that includes several citizens who are subject matter experts.

### PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our governance, community outreach and education goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

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## FOCUS: NATURAL SYSTEMS & ECOLOGY

### HOW WE BENEFIT

By protecting and restoring the natural resources upon which life depends we can see the wide range of benefits natural systems provide, such as clean water, food, forest products, flood control, and natural resources. Ecosystem services also extend to cultural benefits such as aesthetic value and recreation. It is up to our community to demonstrate leadership by establishing robust natural resource protection goals and implementing strategies that improve the quality of natural resource areas.

### OUR GOALS

The city has set short, medium and long term goals for natural systems and ecology from ecosystem assessment and resiliency planning to becoming Dark Sky compliant, increase tree coverage and ultimately have a plan for no net loss of our canopy.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Promote and educate about benefits of tree planting and pervious surfaces</li><li>- Host one tree educational workshop a quarter</li><li>- Publish an FAQ page about tree ordinance, plantings, a list of trees that grow best in AB, and monthly social media posts about tree plantings</li><li>- Incentivize diverse tree composition – fewer palms and short-lived trees</li><li>- Host two weed best practices events a year</li><li>- Host two community-wide waterway and park clean up days a year</li><li>- Start a FL Friendly/NWF yard recognition program that elevates yards that save water, use no pesticides or chemicals, and nourishes bees, birds and other wildlife. (25 homes recognized in 2021:)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Convert all city-owned streetlights to be Dark-Sky compliant by 2030</li><li>- Achieve 10% increase urban tree coverage by 2030</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Achieve zero net loss of canopy</li><li>- Increase and maintain tree canopy to/by 40% (Crossover from Quality of Life/Liveability section))</li></ul>

### PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Vulnerability Assessment** – Completed a vulnerability assessment in 2019 and presented results to community groups such as Beaches Watch and the Presbyterian Church

**Adaptation Plan** -- Applied for grant funding from the state for a sea level rise Adaptation Plan. The plan will determine the appropriate and necessary actions to be taken to mitigate physical and social vulnerability to enhance resiliency.

**Parks Master Plan** -- Working on the Parks Master plan that will include green infrastructure and sustainable design.

### PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our natural systems and ecology goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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## QUALITY OF LIFE / LIVABILITY

### OVERVIEW OF GOALS, SUBCATEGORIES AND STRATEGIES

Quality of Life covers an array of critical topics, including human health, education, housing, economic conditions, civil rights, and safety. The education metrics focus on literacy and workforce readiness. The equitability metrics consider the affordability of housing and distribution of wealth. The prosperity metrics reflect economic performance and opportunities for upward mobility. Finally, the health and safety metrics look at susceptibility to outdoor air pollution and the impact of violence. Taken together, these metrics reflect the socioeconomic condition of the population living within the jurisdiction.

The city has set short, medium, and long term goals for quality of life and livability – two key aspects that make Atlantic Beach an oasis. The goals range from LEED for Cities recertification in 2021, starting a community garden, and improving walkability to reducing the number of impoverished families and reducing asthma, obesity, and lead exposure to maintaining tree canopy at 40% and ensuring food access. This is the largest section in the plan with sixteen subcategories. See full list of all goals, subcategories and strategies below.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LEED v4.1 Recertification 2021 -- Demographic Assessment, Quality of Life Performance, Trend Improvements, Distributional Equity, Environmental Justice, Housing and Transportation Affordability, Civic and Community Engagement, Civil and Human Rights</li> <li>- Create a community garden at Jack Russel Park with opportunities to sponsor plots. (15 plots active by end of 2021 with at least one sponsorship)</li> <li>- Improve walkability throughout whole city and increase walkability score by 2025</li> <li>- Improve beach accesses by 2022</li> <li>- Incentivize quieter and less polluting lawn equipment (e.g. Orlando solar powered program) and ban loud gas powered lawn equipment between 7-9am</li> <li>- Reduce number of families at poverty levels or below by 20% (SDG #1)</li> <li>- Start a local green job posting by 2021 Increase local green job count by 50 by 2022 (SDG #1)</li> <li>- Reduce number of families at poverty levels or below by 20% by 2025 (SDG #1)</li> <li>- Measure degree of hunger and reduce involuntary hunger by 20% by 2025</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create fast transit to airport by 2030</li> <li>- Reduce number of families at poverty levels or below by 50% by 2030 (SDG #1)</li> <li>- Reduce suicide rates by 100% by 2030</li> <li>- Reduce homelessness by 50% by 2030</li> <li>- Reduce involuntary hunger rates by 50% by 2030 (SDG #2)</li> <li>- Reduce hypertension, obesity and diabetes rate by 50% by 2030</li> <li>- Reduce lead exposure by 50% by 2030</li> <li>- Reduce asthma rates by 50% by 2030</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase and maintain tree canopy to/by 40%</li> <li>- Reduce number of families at poverty levels or below by 95% (SDG #1)</li> <li>- Reduce homelessness by 95% by 2040</li> <li>- Zero hunger by 2040 (SDG #2)</li> <li>- Ensure access to affordable, healthy food options (community gardens, grocery stores or farmers markets) within ½ mile of every resident.</li> <li>- Increase local food assets (local food hubs, food production or distribution facilities, household gardens, community garden plots) by at least a factor of five.</li> <li>- Reduce hypertension, obesity and diabetes rate by 95% by 2040</li> <li>- Reduce lead exposure by 99% by 2040</li> <li>- Reduce asthma rates by 95% by 2040</li> </ul>

## PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Safety** -- Installed new lighted crosswalk warning signals at 1) Plaza and Royal Palms Drive and 2) Sherry Drive and Sturdivant Avenue. This creates a safe environment for people accessing the multi-purpose path (thus reducing vehicle miles travelled).

## PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our quality of life and liveability goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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## SOLID WASTE

### OVERVIEW OF GOALS, SUBCATEGORIES AND STRATEGIES

Cities are large aggregators and consumers of materials and nutrients, accounting for the highest natural resource consumption affecting the environment and human health. The intent behind this focus area is to eliminate waste from mainstream operations and utilize it as a resource. The development of cities, with their high concentration of resources, capital, data and skills over a small geographic territory, provides opportunities to uniquely drive a global transition from a linear to a circular economy

The five subcategories in this section address adequate waste management infrastructure by proper estimation of waste generation and waste diversion, prepare the city or community to transition from a linear to a circular economy, and cover strategies adopted to improve operational efficiency of the waste management system.

The city has set short, medium and long term goals for solid waste – a hot topic for many who live in Atlantic Beach. The goals range from LEED for Cities recertification in 2021, starting a community composting program, and working with local restaurants to reduce food waste to increasing the number of recycling bins around the community and implementing an extended producer policy and striving to become a zero waste community. See the full list of all goals, subcategories and strategies below.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LEED v4.1 Recertification 2021 – Solid Waste Management, Waste Performance, Special Waste Streams Management, Responsible Sourcing for Infrastructure, Material Recovery, Smart Waste Management Systems</li><li>- 1:5 recycling bin to public trash can ratio by 2025</li><li>- Start a communal compost location to increase landfill diversion rate (One active location by end of 2021)</li><li>- Start a home composting educational and recognition program to increase landfill diversion rate (50 homes composting by end of 2021)</li><li>- Partner with local restaurants to improve food distribution and reduce food waste (Five local businesses partnering with BEAM by end of 2021)</li><li>- Reduce MSW generated by 30% by 2025</li><li>- Increase MSW diverted from landfill by 30% by 2025</li><li>- Collection site to collect difficult to recycle items by 2022</li><li>- Host two annual hazardous and electronic waste recycling events</li><li>- Collect and reuse unused paint for local</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 1:3 recycling bin to public trash can ratio by 2030</li><li>- Require COAB restaurants to reduce, reuse, and recycle by 2030</li><li>- Reduce MSW generated by 50% by 2030</li><li>- Increase MSW diverted from landfill by 50% by 2030</li><li>- Implement an EPR policy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Strive to become a "zero waste" community (90+% waste diversion rate). Strive to eliminate waste going to landfills using circular economy processes</li></ul>



façade facelifts - 20% of COAB participating in curbside compost pick up by 2025 - Double number of dog waste collection stations by 2022		
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## PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Beach Litter Basket** – In 2020, the City implemented the Beach Litter Basket program. The goal of this program is to remove trash and plastics from the beach, some of which can be recycled.

## PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our solid waste goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

## BEST PRACTICES & COMMUNITIES LEADING THE WAY

The CAP team has researched [case studies of best practices](#) and who is leading the way from our peer cities around the globe. These successes serve to inform and inspire our work locally, as well as contribute to scaling efforts to achieve a more significant, collective impact.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The CAP team has compiled a [list of additional resources](#) relating to energy and climate as well as actions and best practices in this focus area.

## TRANSPORTATION & LAND USE

### OVERVIEW OF GOALS, SUBCATEGORIES AND STRATEGIES

The transportation sector is responsible for a quarter of energy-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions worldwide. Land use is the key driver of mobility in a city, and rapid urbanization has disrupted land use patterns, resulting in urban sprawl and increased dependency on personal, motorized vehicles. This focus area encourages Atlantic Beach to adopt an integrated approach towards urban planning through mixed-use development, efficient transportation, better connectivity and engagement with stakeholders.

The seven subcategories and strategies that ask Atlantic Beach to measure the total vehicle miles travelled by their addresses, addresses land use and encourages compact development and access to diverse uses which discourages urban sprawl and encourages people to walk or bike thereby improving public health. There is also a focus on use of different types of transportation modes available in a city and offers strategies for comfort and safety of commuters and addresses intermodal connectivity for easy access and transition from one mode of transport to another. Alternative Fuel Vehicles encourages a shift to alternative fuel vehicles by providing infrastructure such as charging stations for electric vehicles and through policies and incentives. Smart Mobility and Transportation Policy intends to promote efficiency in operation of transport systems, and behavior change, thereby reducing environmental impacts. Finally, there is also an attempt to preserve and revive the urban fabric of a city by promoting engagement, community development and social and mental wellbeing as well as encourages preservation of historic structures and sites and focuses on growth and redevelopment for infill and other priority locations.

The city has set short, medium, and long term goals for transportation and land use. The goals range from LEED for Cities recertification in 2021, transitioning city and county fleets and contracted service fleets to low-zero emission vehicles, and a complete an access mobility study to reducing pedestrian and bike fatalities to attaining a healthy rating on Air Quality Index. See the full list of all goals, subcategories and strategies below.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- LEED v4.1 Recertification 2021 -- Transportation Performance, Compact, Mixed Use and Transit Oriented Development, Access to Quality Transit, Alternative Fuel Vehicles, Smart Mobility and Transportation Policy, High-Priority Site</li><li>- Transition to 25% of city fleet vehicles to low- zero emission by 2025.</li><li>- Increase the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and alternative fuel vehicles throughout the area – public and private by 2025</li><li>- Complete an access mobility study (e.g., walking/biking to stores and restaurants)</li><li>- Improve local mass transit and increase use by 2025</li><li>- Start a bike share/renting bikes program by 2022</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reduce total VMT by 20% by 2030</li><li>- Double street miles within the city that meet "complete streets" criteria by 2030</li><li>- Eliminate pedestrian and bike fatalities by 2030. (SDG #3)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Majority of trips made by foot, bike, carpooling, or transit. (SDG #3)</li><li>- Achieve a Gold ranking for the League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community Score. (SDG #3)</li><li>- Increase miles of safe, sustainable transportation infrastructure (bike lanes and paths, transit lines and sidewalks). (SDG #3)</li><li>- Attain a "good" rating on the Air Quality Index (AQI) 365 days/year. (SDG #3)</li></ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encourage no idling in carpool and bus lines during cool months</li> <li>- Install 10 EV Level 2 charging stations by 2022 in high use areas (beach accesses, Town Center, Mayport road, City hall, Adele Grage, Community Centers)</li> </ul>		
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#### PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**Bike Racks** -- At the 10th Street Beach Access, the City added a new bicycle rack and landscaping. Bike racks encourage people to bike which reduces the vehicle miles driven which directly relates to the reduction in greenhouse gases and wear and tear on our streets. The landscaping helps stabilize the ground and reduce stormwater runoff.

**Complete Streets Policy** – City is in the process of drafting a complete streets policy and resolution.

#### PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our transportation and land use goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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## WATER

### OVERVIEW OF GOALS, SUBCATEGORIES AND STRATEGIES

Water is the lifeline of any city. However, equity and access have been a major challenge in many cities. Water demand has been constantly increasing in urban and peri-urban areas and is stressing freshwater reserves, creating a perennial shortage of water in these cities. This focus area addresses water at multiple levels – meeting demand, maintaining water quality, reducing water losses, capturing stormwater, and managing urban floods. Water Access and Quality requires the implementation of policies and infrastructure for the equitable supply of clean and safe water to all members of society, along with the treatment of wastewater and stormwater before it is released into the environment. Water Performance Atlantic Beach to track and monitor per-capita water consumption in the domestic sector which we already started to do in 2019. Integrated Water Management focuses on reduced freshwater consumption and encourages the shift to a net zero water city. Stormwater Management focuses on strategies to capture the maximum possible quantity of rainwater to reduce runoff volume, prevent erosion and flooding, as well as recharge groundwater. These efforts will compliment Atlantic Beach’s resiliency efforts. Smart Water Systems encourages cities to improve operational efficiency, reduction in water losses, and monitoring of water flow within the city through the use of smart technologies such as smart meters.

The city has set short, medium, and long term goals for water. The goals range from LEED for Cities recertification in 2021, converting to water bottle friendly water fountains, reduce potable water use by 10/gal/day, and host a rain barrel program to achieving all waterbodies achieve Class III requirements, zero glyphosate use, to reducing potable water use on lawns significantly by 2040. See the full list of all goals, subcategories and strategies below.

### TOP GOALS

Short Term Goals (1-5 years; 2020 – 2025)	Medium Term Goals (5-15 years; 2025 - 2040)	Long Term Goals (20+ years; 2040 and on)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- LEED v4.1 Recertification 2021 -- Water Access and Quality, Water Performance, Integrated Water Management, Stormwater Management, Smart Water Systems</li> <li>- Explore reuse improvements</li> <li>- Determine our potable water consumption per capita rate</li> <li>- Reduce potable water use by 10/gal day by 2025</li> <li>- Double number of dog waste collection stations by 2022</li> <li>- Create and implement water conservation incentives for community such as low flow faucets/efficient flushing/xeriscaping</li> <li>- Convert water fountains to be water bottle friendly</li> <li>- Replace beach access showers to be water conservation friendly</li> <li>- Enhance Atlantic Beach's reputation as "AB Loves Trees" by promoting tree plantings and sustainable landscaping practices</li> <li>- Start a rain barrel program – Educate about the benefits of rain barrels, how to build one, and install city rain barrels</li> <li>- Expand education and outreach efforts to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Achieve a residential average annual water use target of 65 gallons per capita per day by 2030</li> <li>- Convert 80% of municipal landscape to Florida friendly low water plants by 2030</li> <li>- All Class III waterbodies within COAB to meet requirements (Fish Consumption; Recreation, Propagation and Maintenance of a Healthy, Well-Balanced Population of Fish and Wildlife) by 2035</li> <li>- Convert to zero glyphosate usage by City by 2030.</li> <li>- Meet U.S. EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program of Clean Water Act (CWA) or local, state, or national equivalent, whichever is stringent for 100% of wastewater generated by 2035</li> <li>- Meet the water quality parameter thresholds in NPDES permit program manual section 5.1.1 by 2035</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce gross potable water consumption per capita by 40% including potable water use on lawns by 2040. (SDG #6)</li> <li>- Ensure COAB mitigates inland flooding during future extreme weather events by 2040</li> </ul>

increase understanding of how to manage water resources and pollution prevention. - Ensure COAB has sufficient storage for water during extreme events by 2025 (SDG #6)		
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PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

TBD

PRIORITY NEXT STEPS & STRATEGIES

[Action steps and strategies](#) were prioritized by the ESC, city staff, and other Atlantic Beach citizens, businesses and partners as the next steps to achieving our water goals. The priorities are organized by subcategories, importance, feasibility, ease of achievement, cost, and duration to completion (e.g., short, medium or long term goal). **Please note: Draft CAP action steps and strategies list has not been prioritized yet because we are waiting for public input on priorities.**

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The CAP team has compiled a [list of additional resources](#) relating to energy and climate as well as actions and best practices in this focus area.

### **Measuring Progress: Goals and Baselines**

To be completed after public input process.

Will include a table matrix that includes focus area, goals, indicators/metrics, 2019 baseline data, Current data, and sources

## Appendices

### Still to be completed

- Public Engagement Process
- Roadmap – 2019
- Assessment Matrix - 2020
- SDG Alignment
- Glossary
- Sources