



Cumberland County Commissioners Office

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County Looks for Resident Feedback on Climate Action Plan

“Improved air quality is the top outcome that would motivate residents to take climate change actions.”

Carlisle, PA – Cumberland County released its County Climate Action Plan (CAP) for public review and comment. The plan, developed with participation from residents, businesses, and local governments across the county, details realistic, voluntary actions that can be taken to reduce climate change impacts. The plan is available for review on the County [Planning Department’s website until September 30, 2021](#).

“Improved air quality is the top outcome that would motivate residents to take climate change actions,” said Cumberland County Planning Director Kirk Stoner. “That’s why one of our goals is to reduce transportation related greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) through means such as public transportation, alternative modes of transportation, and flexible work policies.”

Climate Action Plan Goals:

- Reduce transportation related greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reduce solid waste disposal greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with energy production and usage.
- Manage land use to reduce greenhouse emissions and increase resilience.

The success of the CAP is dependent on the active involvement of the entire community. While Cumberland County cannot require any group to implement these recommendations, the county seeks to lead by example by implementing recommendations for its own operations while encouraging others to take similar action.

More than 57% of Cumberland County businesses say that they see climate change as an opportunity to improve their local community, and some see opportunities for new job creation, products, and partnerships. The biggest barrier to entry for businesses remains the same as residents, at the cost of implementation.

The county’s climate change planning efforts began in 2020 with Cumberland County’s acceptance into the PA Department of Environmental Protection’s (DEP) Local Climate Action Program (LCAP). The CAP includes voluntary energy efficiency, transportation, land use, and waste reduction strategies for residents and businesses to help combat the impacts of climate change. The plan also discusses changes in temperature, precipitation, air quality, and greenhouse gas emissions that have been experienced in the county.

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Cumberland County is the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth and offers the perfect mix of small town, suburban and rural living. Established in 1750, Cumberland County consistently maintains one of the lowest tax and unemployment rates in the state, while providing exceptional services for its more than 259,000 residents. More information on Cumberland County can be found at www.ccpa.net.