Meeting Report: Community Meeting #1 for the Iowa City Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

Location: Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn Street, Iowa City, IA 52240

Date: November 2, 2017

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Attendees: 95 participants registered at the sign-in tables; 13 Steering Committee Members; 4

members of the Consultant Team; and City representatives Mayor Throgmorton, Assistant City Manager Ashley Monroe and Sustainability Coordinator Brenda

Nations

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. <u>Presentation.</u> Iowa City Sustainability Coordinator Brenda Nations, Steering Committee and Consultant Team led an introductory presentation that touched on the rationale for developing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP), the City's overall targets, efforts to include broad community input and instructions for the evening's activities. See Attachment 1 for the slides that were presented.
- City Resource Table. The City staffed a resource table with supporting documents that lay the groundwork
 for the development of the CAAP. To see these documents, please visit the city's website here or go to
 www.icgov.org and search "climate." Also, participants were invited to provide any additional general
 comments and suggestions. The following were received:
 - Add an electronic survey option for people who don't enjoy crowded rooms (also to save people's time.
 - Less verbose presentation—it was nice but speakers spoke too long.
 - The activity was great and engaging!
 - Thank you for your work!
 - It would be great to have prairie and natural areas as part of adaptation.
- 3. <u>Interactive Writing Wall.</u> Participants were asked to write responses to the prompt "What does climate action mean to you?" There were a total of 57 responses as shown on the following page.



What does CLIMATE ACTION mean to you?:

Outreach, Education and Communications!	A better climate in the future for my grandchildren	Local Foods
No pesticide use!	The Earth will not exist for a long time with OR without us. It's our decision if we want to continue being able to survive on our planet. The time to act is now.	Plant-based
Stop CAFOS	Compassion	Permaculture! Organic /pesticide free food
Clean water is not a political issue	Love	But not toxic/GMO corn (which also happens to be local) or CAFO meat
Coming together as a community for mutual survival and reducing global warming skills.	Eat less meat	Understanding the science in non partisan
There is so much distraction right now, but if we don't address climate issues, all other victories become pyrrhic.	Talking implementable initiatives that reach a large group to have maximum impact.	Being responsible for our place in the web of life. Using our energies and creativity for the benefit of all the life born and unborn.
Resisting Trump's anti-climate/resources measures!	Restoring resources for future generations	Ride the bus
Get kids on board local everything plant based-diet health bodies healthy climate	Sustainable, just and abundant living for all life on Earth!	Everyone belongs/everyone matters: Whole foods; whole child (includes inner child); whole cities
Protecting our resources (example)	Turn empty buildings into small businesses and indoor town squares.	Feed me your leftover dinners (drew food in a house)
Trump is creating an opportunity to rebuild the cultural norms he is destroying in new ways to reflect: social justices, environments, and living in balance w/ nature	Use permeable pavement on the ped mall!	For is our medicine! Please stop poisoning our food!!! Amen! ☺
Climate Awareness. Must be able to reach those who don't feel a need to be involved, because they haven't directly been impacted yet! There is not time to hide or ignore.	Local is global.	Working as a community
Educating everyone about our planet and protecting it.	Please collaborate in building a safe food system – clean air, clean water, clean soil (used "to indicate repetition of the word clean)	(someone drew an arrow hitting the direct target in the "o" of "to")
I love the additional benefits you covered – reduced household energy costs, clean energy jobs, etc. We need to use these to reach those who aren't moved by the climate argument. We need as broad of support as possible.	Affordable, inclusive neighborhoods/housing options	Believe in science while looking to ancient ways radical change in living is imperative
Ensuring all our children will have a world worth living in.	Creativity!	Keeping a safe environment for future generations
Ramp up renewable energy use as fast as possible! Buy from outside lowa/lowa City, if needed, while also ramping up our production.	Apartments with garden spaces: Affordable apartments and garden space (section 8 inclusive)	Polar bears and coral reefs
Saving the human race from extinction.	Being aware of how we use our resources. Stop pollution!	Keeping the spread of water and water borne illnesses to a minimum
Thinking about your choices and actions	Native food sovereignty!	Climate action means saving humanity (drawing of a burning Earth next to this thought)
Thinking 7 generations into our collective future.	What happened to the neighborhood grocery store?	A better future for our children and grandchildren!
NOW- not later we need to do something proactive!	Transit service from outlying towns to downtown. Transit to CR <->IC. Have you seen the traffic on 380?	Make Iowa City greater

4. <u>Strategy Tables.</u> Participants were instructed to visit each table to review draft strategies on energy, transportation, waste, adaptation and other (catch-all). When reviewing, we asked participants to tell us two things: 1) This is good for lowa City, if agreed, place a blue voting dot next to it; and 2) I can play a role in this strategy, if agreed, place a green voting dot next to it. Additionally, participants were invited to write additional strategies at each table. Below are the results for each strategy area, followed by the individual results for each table. See Attachment 2 for photo documentation of the voting results.

Overall Strategy Vote Tally

Strategy Area	Number of strategies presented for voting	Total number of votes tallied for "this is important for lowa City"	Total number of votes tallied for "I can play a role in this strategy"	Ratio of "I can play a role in this strategy" to "This is important for Iowa City"	Number of added strategy ideas
Energy	11	582	138	0.237	13
Transportation	16	633	159	0.251	7
Waste	5	328	193	0.588	9
Adaptation	6	298	101	0.338	9
Other	14	591	190	0.321	12
Total Combined	52	2,432	781	0.321	50



ENERGY

Energy Strategy Descriptions	This is important for lowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Create or scale programs for smarter and less wasteful energy use.	61	19
On-site Renewables 2. Catalyze the development of renewable energy that will be generated and used at the same site.	51	10
Community Renewables 3. Support the development of local renewable electricity that offsite individuals and institutions can purchase.	47	11
Renewable Electricity Supply 4. Support Mid-American Energy in meeting its goal of 100% renewable electricity.	63	16
Electrification 5. Shift from sources such as natural gas to electricity which can be generated by renewables.	52	9
Landfill Methane Energy 6. Use methane gas from landfill for electricity and heat generation; aggressively combat methane leaks.	53	4
Net Zero Buildings 7. Adopt incentives and building codes that promote net zero retrofits and construction, in public and private districts.	59	9
Renewable Natural Gas 8. Utilize gas from livestock operations, wastewater treatment, or biomass for fuel.	41	3
Water Efficiency and Conservation 9. Reduce demand for potable waterand its associated energy use through efficiency, conservation, reuse and rainwater capture.	55	28
Historic Preservation 10. Historic preservation program focusing on energy efficiency in existing building stock	43	7
Residential Weatherization 11. Make Green lowa AmeriCorps program more robust, increase opportunities for residential energy audits, weatherization and retrofits.	57	22

ENERGY--I want to add a strategy!

New Strategy Idea	This is important for Iowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Develop a communications strategy to encourage neighboring municipalities to adopt their own CAAP plan	0	0
Get MidAmerican energy efficiency programs to demonstrate their effectiveness	1	1
Buy renewable energy from other sources besides MidAmerican if needed (See: Arcadia power approach) Especially to replace MidAmerican non-renewable energy in short term	6	3
Develop programs that integrate marginalized individuals (ie disabilities/Aspergers) that allow them greater access to volunteer and PAID opportunities in sustainability ie apprenticeships	3	2
Establish energy districts in each county like Winneshiek Energy District to weatherize homes and install solar PV, and advocate with IUB	3	1
Work on wide changes to allow large scale use of contoured water	4	0
Eat less meat	9	9
Develop city wide solar power that residents can purchase	3	1
Work with MidAmerican on the PAYS program (pay as you save) –they are opposed currently	2	0
Establish incentives for solar power use	5	0
Community power (like Cedar Falls) MidAmerican out with next franchises	1	0
Homeowner grants to install solar	0	0
Reduction targets for city and community should be aligned	1	0

TRANSPORTATION

	This is important for lowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Transportation Strategy Descriptions	Important	, can pisy a fore in an address,
Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure 1. Increase the number and connectivity of bike routes, sidewalks, and other infrastructure, such as secure bike storage.	59	20
Bike Sharing 2. Implement a user friendly, short-term bike rental program.	46	9
Car Sharing 3. Provide alternatives to car ownership and ease congestion by encouraging and increasing car sharing.	38	11
Ride Sharing 4. Encourage the use of car pools or ride sharing services as alternatives to driving alone, including carpool versions of ride hailing.	38	19
Commuter Solutions Adopt policies and incentives that encourage climate neutral or low emission options for traveling to work and school, including employer incentives for telework.	40	9
Parking Policies 6. Align parking policies with climate goals, including pricing, parking maximums, and employer parking benefits.	30	7
Transit 7. Bolster mass transit systems and incentivize their use through low or free fares.	45	10
Inter-city Rail and Bus Rapid Transit 8. Encourage investment in inter-city rail networks and low-emission bus rapid transit routes that connect lowa City with popular regional destinations.	49	6
9. Encourage local EV and Green Vehicle use through incentives, education, and infrastructure.	45	8
Location Efficiency 10. Adopt and enforce strategies that reduce transportation needs with compact, mixed-use, transit-oriented and walkable neighborhoods.	41	11
Transit Passes 11.Improve transit pricing and payment convenience to make it a first choice for workers, students, and visitors.	46	7
Renewable Fuels 12.Incentivize the use of renewable fuels, such as green diesel.	34	8
Local Goods 13. Promote local production and consumption of local goods to reduce goods transport.	54	21
Non-Fossil Fuel Goods Delivery 14. Incentivize non -fossil fuel modes for delivery of goods, such as bicycle cargo and electric delivery trucks.	42	5
Fleet Management 15.Transitioning fleets to lower-emission vehicles, or offering incentives	33	1
Outreach 16.Eco-Driving campaign	31	7

TRANSPORTATION--I want to add a strategy!

New Strategy Idea	This is important for lowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Work toward a regional public transit system	8	1
Free parking for electric cars (and charging stations)	3	0
(#4) Employers to facilitate carpooling (between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City)	4	0
Traffic control ped/walking only downtown and bikes	1	0
Expanded and improved pub transit	3	0
Ridesharing, specifically work with school district	1	0
More frequent buses	1	0



WASTE

Waste Strategy Descriptions	This is important for Iowa City Important	I can play a role in this strategy
Zero Waste 1. Divert waste from landfills to be reused, recycled, or composted; consider developing a zero waste plan for the community	72	49
Building Deconstruction 2. Reuse or recycle materials from buildings that are being deconstructed.	58	17
Composting 3. Increase compost food waste to divert it from landfills.	65	48
Reduce Consumption 4. Conduct outreach/increase education on reducing overall consumption; include information on decreasing our reliance on packaging materials and create systems for material reuse or recycling.	70	41
Outreach 5. Increase education and awareness about proper recycling, including easing access to locations for disposal and receptacle use. Opportunity to educate in large public facilities and at community events.	63	38

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WASTE--I want to add a strategy!

New Strategy Idea	This is important for Iowa City Important	I can play a role in this strategy
Begin educating kids early, grade 1 on, and they will educate their parents	9	3
Apartment recycling pickup	13	2
Please contact Juyin Park, she has phenomenal ideas	0	0
Beyond "outreach" work with industries/bus to reduce waste inputs and outputs. Perhaps partner more with lowa Waste Exchange/ECICOG	1	0
Increasing accessibility to employment and apprenticeship opportunities in sustainability or climate change action to individuals with disabilities/Aspergers	1	1
Encourage gardens and farms (goats, chickens, ducks) within city limits and improve access to market	4	3
Establish portion of power grid that is solar and residents can purchase shares for long term energy bill credits like CF	3	3
Need a way to conveniently save kitchen waste for a week before being picked up for recycling and composting	0	0
Apartment building recycling collection	0	0

ADAPTATION

Adaptation Strategy Descriptions	This is important for Iowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Tree Canopy Expansion 1. Reduce stormwater runoff and ease health problems associated with extreme heat by increasing tree cover.	61	25
Green Infrastructure		
Design water management to use methods that restore or resemble natural water systems.	55	14
Neighborhood / Building Rain		
Readiness 3. Retrofit homes and other buildings in neighborhoods prone to flooding.	41	9
Extreme Weather Preparedness 4. Prepare for heat emergencies, major storms and other extreme weather.	41	9
Urban Heat Island Reduction 5. Require pavement, roofs, and other built environment elements that help reduce the impacts of summer heat.	46	8
Outreach 6. Work across sectors to develop a general awareness campaign explaining climate and its impact at the community and individual levels.	54	36

ADAPTATION--I want to add a strategy!

New Strategy Idea	This is important for Iowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Plant large and small swaths of native plants and trees	10	3
Support by developers to ensure proper runoff (ie parking lots)	6	0
Removal of invasive species near waterways (ie Chinese Honeysuckle) and replace with deep rooted native grass and trees	3	1
Improve stormwater management through bioswales and native species on the street, allowing rain to percolate to water table	2	1
Host series of community bike rides for all ages with fun host	3	1
Need to work to get rental units renovated for energy conservation	2	1
Anything flooding for a 3 rd time-mandatory buyouts	3	3
Highlighting/including voices of those that are/will be effected most by climate change (low income communities)	2	2
Buy land in city or county and turn it into marshes and forests. Add nature to cityscape.	1	1



OTHER

Other	This is important for Iowa City	I can play a role in this strategy
Strategy	9	<u> </u>
Descriptions	Important	
·		
Implement a charge on carbon and use the revenue stream to fund emissions reducing activities.	53	15
Outreach Campaign 2. Create an education and outreach campaign to engage residents and businesses in GHG reduction efforts.	39	18
Funding and Financing 3. Create a climate action fund to help pay for and finance implementation.	46	4
Plant –based Diet 4. Reduce emissions by increasing plant-based consumption in diet, decreasing meat-based protein consumption, and buying local goods.	55	49
Land Use - Compact and Contiguous Development 5. Focus growth within the lowa City urban growth area by using the City's extra-territorial review powers to discourage sprawl and preserve prime farmland.	35	5
Land Use – Compact and Contiguous Development 6. Guide development away from sensitive environmental areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, woodlands, steep slopes, flood hazard areas, and streams.	51	10
Land Use – Compact and Contiguous Development 7. Blocks should be limited in size and laid out in patterns that ensure the connectivity of streets, provide for efficient provision of public and safety services, and establishes efficient and logical routes between residences, non- residential destinations, & public gathering places	40	7
Land Use – Industrial Development Buffers 8. Plan for appropriate transitions between residential neighborhoods and higher intensity commercial to ensure the long-term health of neighborhoods	34	6
Land Use- Industrial Development Buffers 9. Provide adequate buffer areas between residential areas and intensive industrial activity to mitigate any negative externalities, such as noise, odors, dust, and vibrations.	39	5
Land Use – Historic Preservation 10. Restore historic buildings by supplementing inherent sustainable features with modern sustainable technology and measures	31	4
Land Use- Adaptive Reuse 11. Conserve land, reduce urban sprawl and preserve place-based architecture through adaptive re-use of historic sites	44	9
Land Use – Outreach 12. Increase awareness of and ease access to, and provide digestible formats of City Ordinances, specifically around the Historic Preservation Plan, Sensitive Areas Ordinance and Open Space Requirements	30	7
Land Use - Outreach 13. Increase opportunities for community members to volunteer and attend events focused on preserving natural resources and/or hyperlocal beautification projects	41	23
Land Use – Outreach 14. Educate communities on residential lawn and garden care to reduce the use of chemicals and fertilizers, especially in urban growth areas of the City	53	28

OTHER--I want to add a strategy!

New Strategy Idea	This is important for Iowa City Important	I can play a role in this strategy
CARBON TAX—show local political will for a federal carbon fee and dividend-local efforts easier to achieve with federal backing	11	5
Build small farms (vegetable, fruit, small animal) surrounding IC to support local food and promote small healthy farming	7	2
Award small grants to students to develop computer games that teach green strategies, make games available as free apps	2	2
Reducing meat consumption is most impact an individual can make to reduce carbon footprint. Involves everyone! We need to expand on this. Hugely important!	11	9
Permeable pavement for parking lots and sidewalks - inexpensive	9	1
Local food production	4	3
Biodiversity in lieu of lawns and chem free	7	2
Restaurant menu items marked as climate smart	5	1
Reserving open/vacant (property) space for community gardensone garden every few blocks –yard shares for green space	2	1
More land use coordination among jurisdictions: local govs, school districts, etc	1	1
Free classes on sustainability for the community. Cultural or otherwise	1	2
Education of youth on environment that creates envy (?)	0	0

NEXT STEPS

- 1. Meeting Evaluation Survey will be sent to all participants who signed up and said we can contact them
- 2. Prioritization of Strategies
- 3. Broader community-wide survey

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Presentation slides
- 2. Pictures of original voting dot results
- 3. Photos from the meeting



Jim Throgmorton, Mayor

Community Meeting #1

for the Iowa City Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

November 2, 2017 • 6pm-8pm









Brenda Nations, Sustainability Coordinator

City Goals

2020: Reduce emissions by 26-28% from 2005 levels

2050: Reduce emissions by 80% from 2005 levels







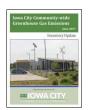






Why develop a climate plan?

- Define the climate challenges and opportunities
- Establish strategies that help reduce our impact on the climate while readying us for our changing climate
- Ensure benefits for all members of the community
- Measure our progress over the long term







Common-ground climate-related interests

- Reducing household expenses
- · Reducing municipal and business operational costs
- Clean environment & air
- Weather preparedness







Ingrid Anderson,Chairperson of the Steering Committee

<u>.</u>

- Formed by City Council ordinance
- 13 members
- Key stakeholders that represent Iowa City's diverse community

Steering Committee

- Provide input and leadership on climate work
- Engage people and businesses in Iowa City on the plan











Vision Statement

Iowa City will take immediate action to embrace opportunities, address challenges, and respond to the realities of climate change. Our efforts will reach our entire community using proactive and collaborative strategies including community engagement, local partnerships and technological advancements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and spur economic growth. Our goal is to create a more resilient, equitable, and livable Iowa City for all.





Lindy Wordlaw, **Project Manager - Consultant Team**





Timeline



Mitigation and Adaptation

- Mitigation: Addresses causes of climate change
 - Strategies to reduce or prevent GHG emissions
- Adaptation: Addresses impacts of climate change
 - Strategies to prepare for and adjust to current/future impacts





Strategy considerations

- Impact potential
- Cost
- Equity
- Co-benefits
- · Other potential factors







Tonight's Activities

- Strategy Tables (primary activity)
- Interactive Writing Wall









Strategy Tables



Five (5) Tables

- Energy
- Transportation
- Waste
- Adaptation
- Other (everything else!)





Strategy Tables



Strategy Tables

WASTE Waste Strategy Descriptions Zero Waste 1. Divert waste from landfills to be reused, recycled, or composted.





Other Activities

- Interactive Writing Wall
- Resource Table













What happens next?

November - December

- Survey about this meeting did you provide us with your contact information?
- Meeting documentation + prioritization of strategies
- Community-wide survey to gather more input



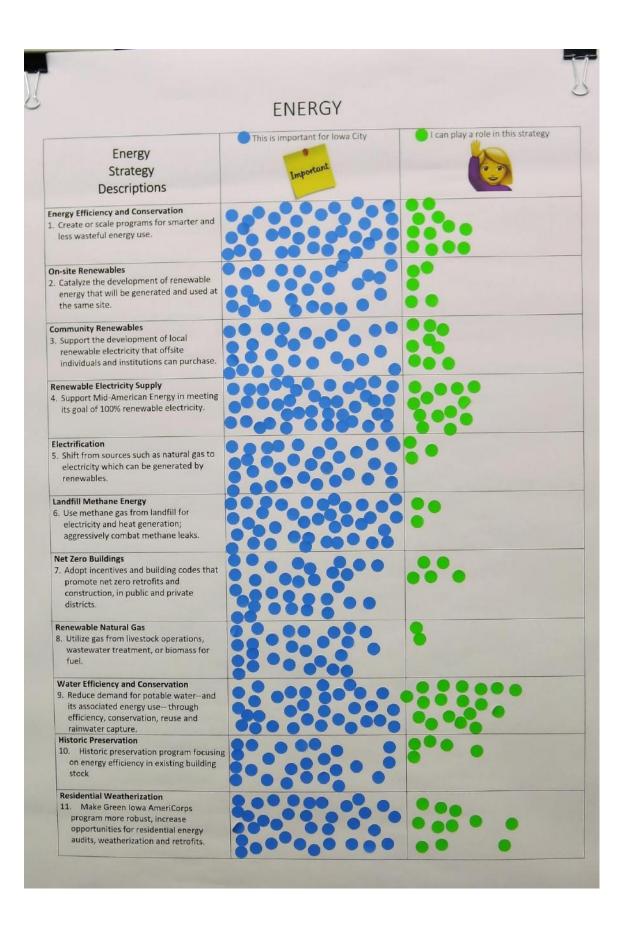


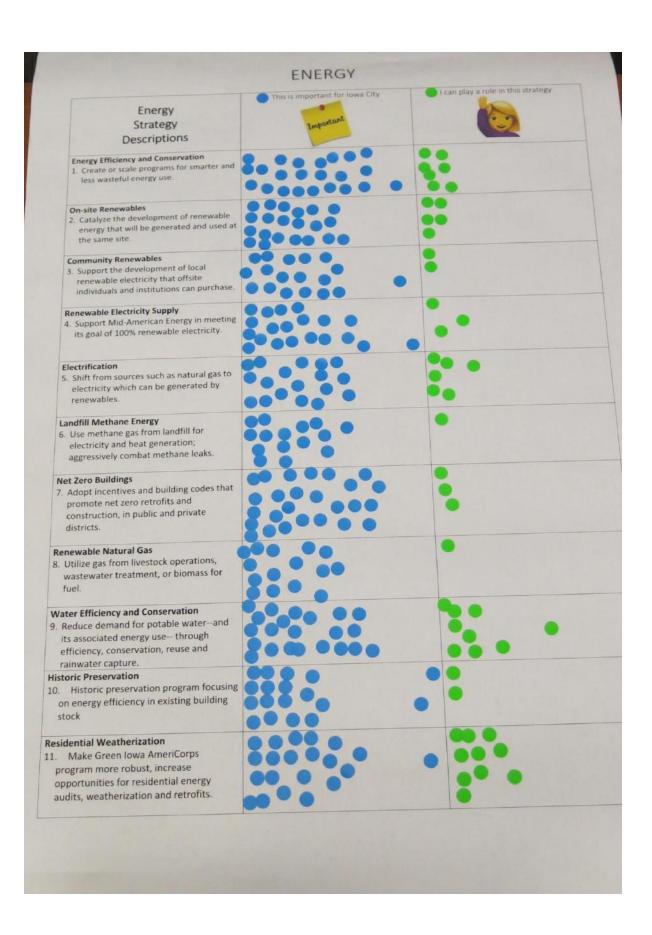


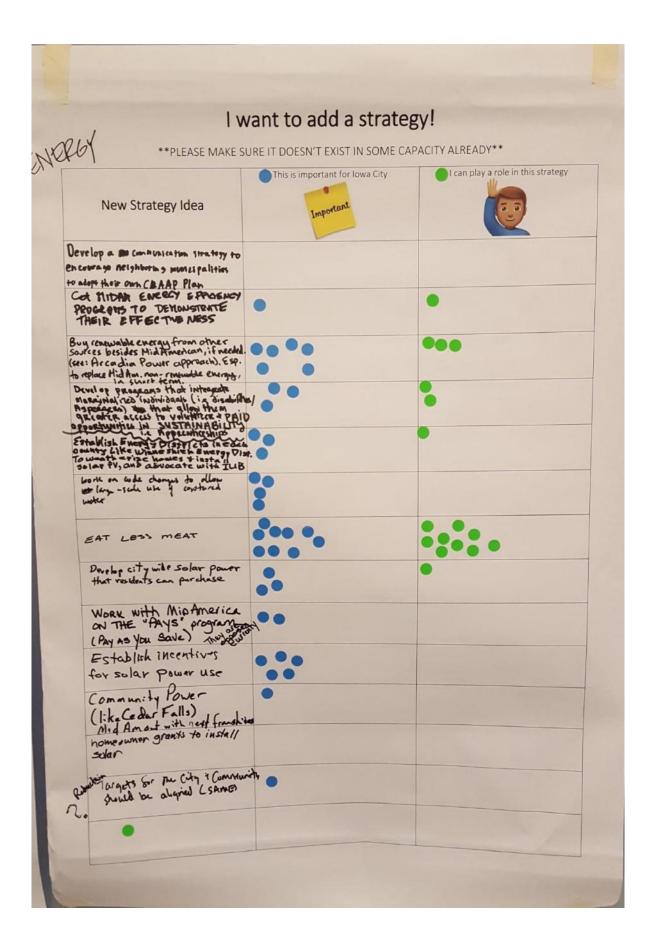
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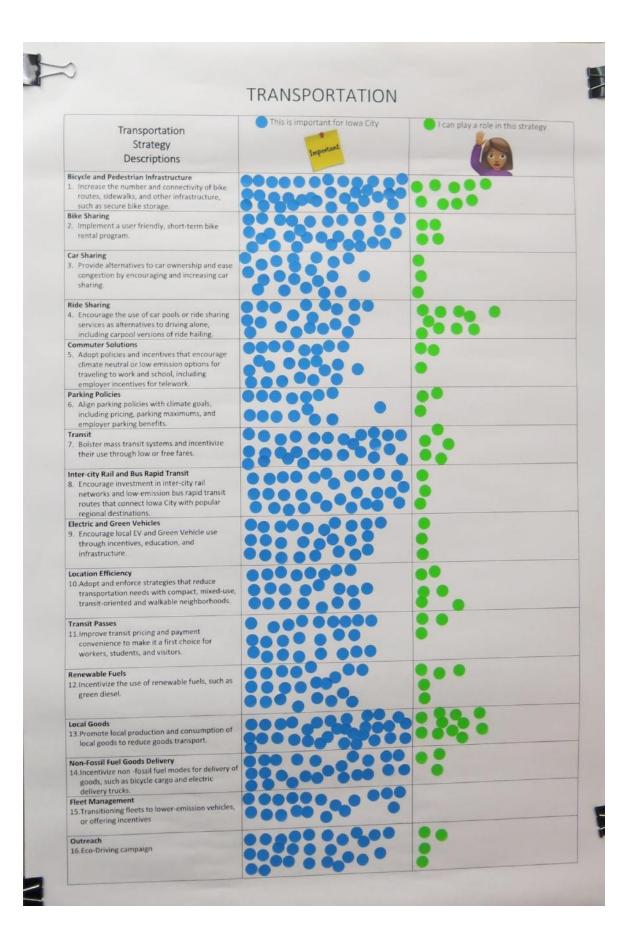


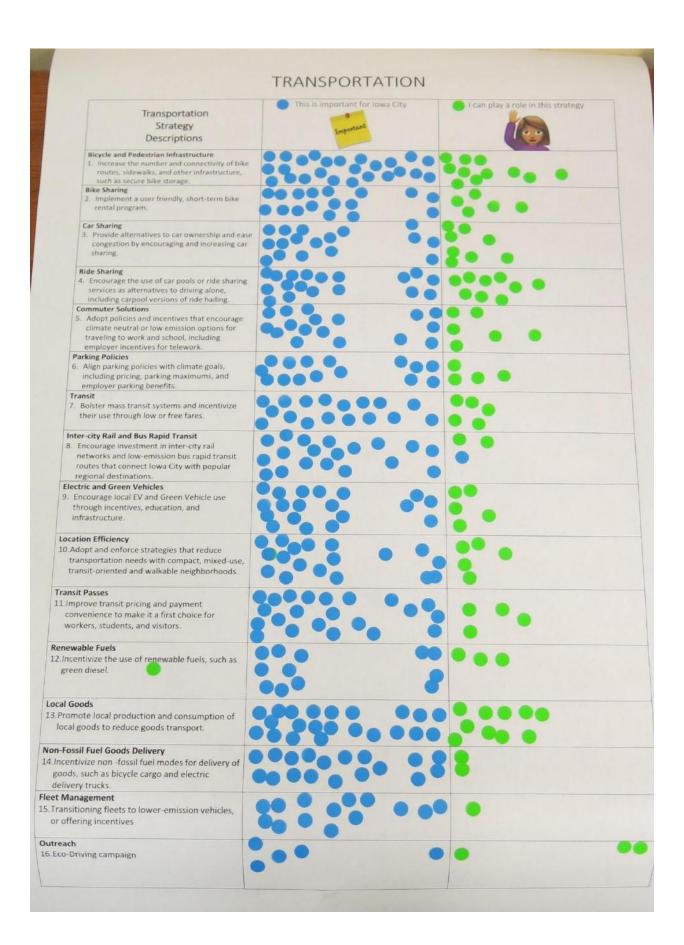


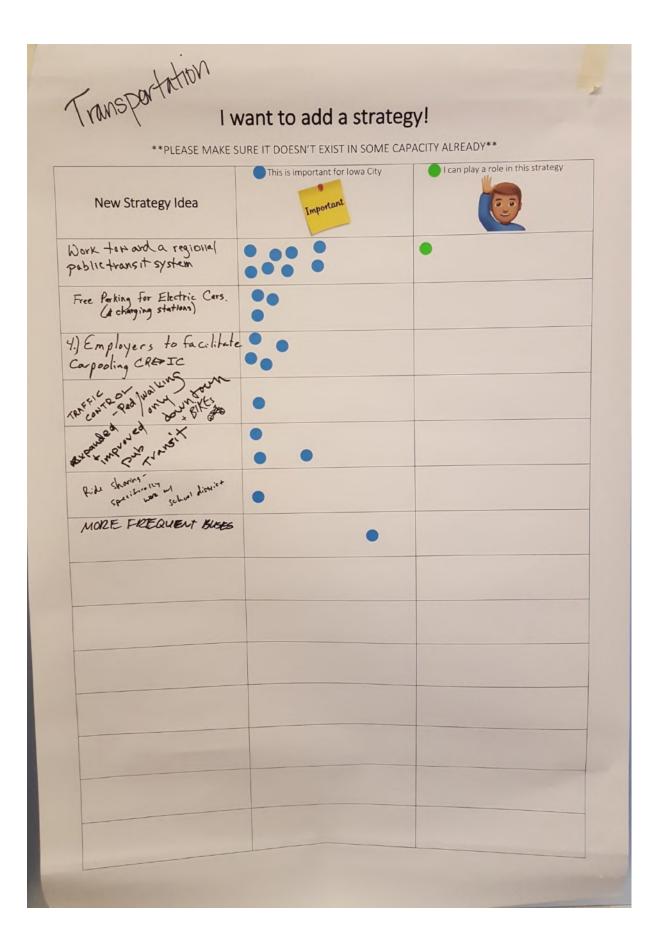




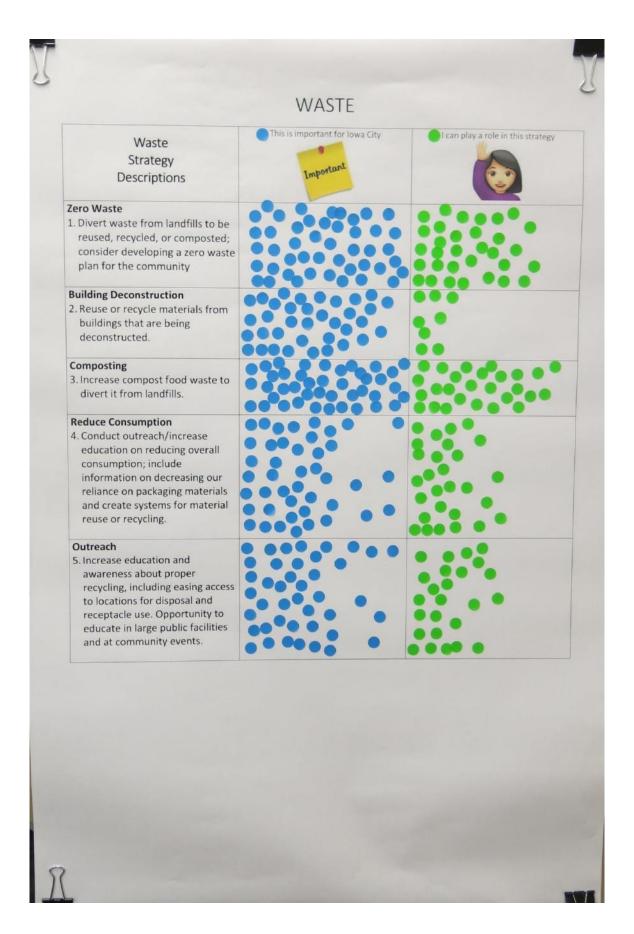
ENERGY - 3





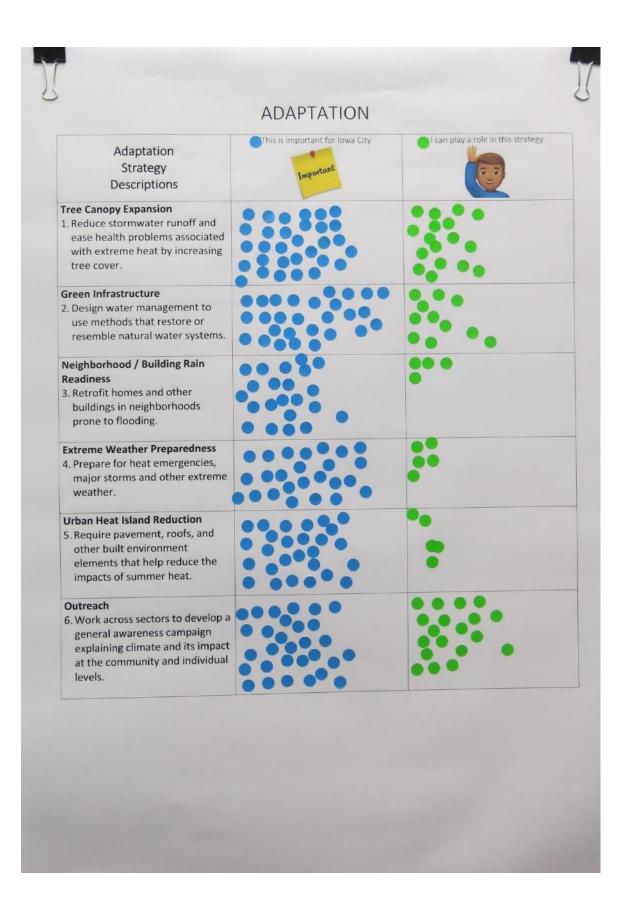


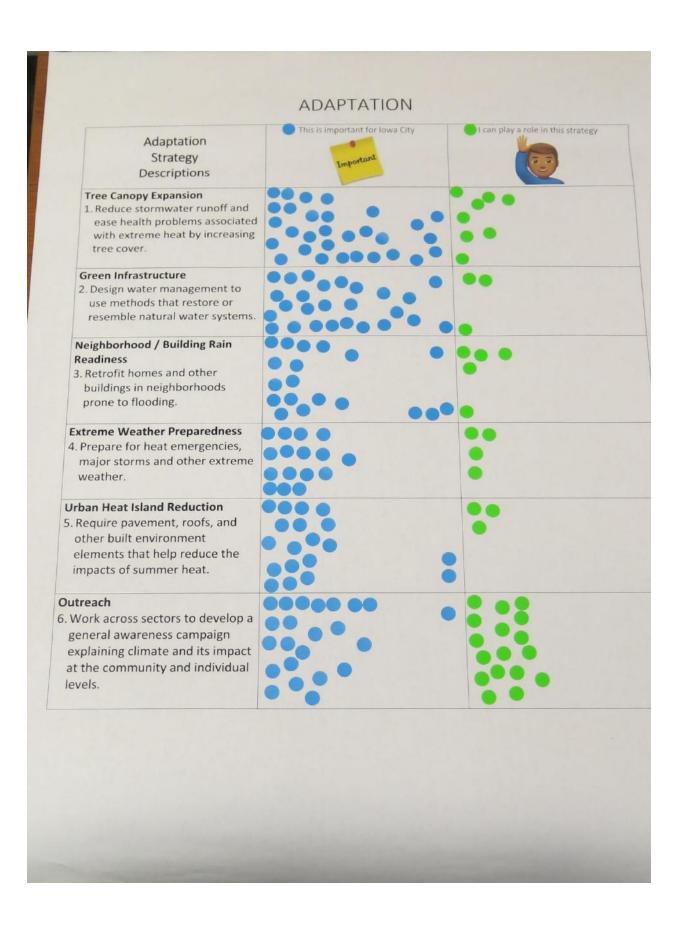
TRANSPORTATION - 3



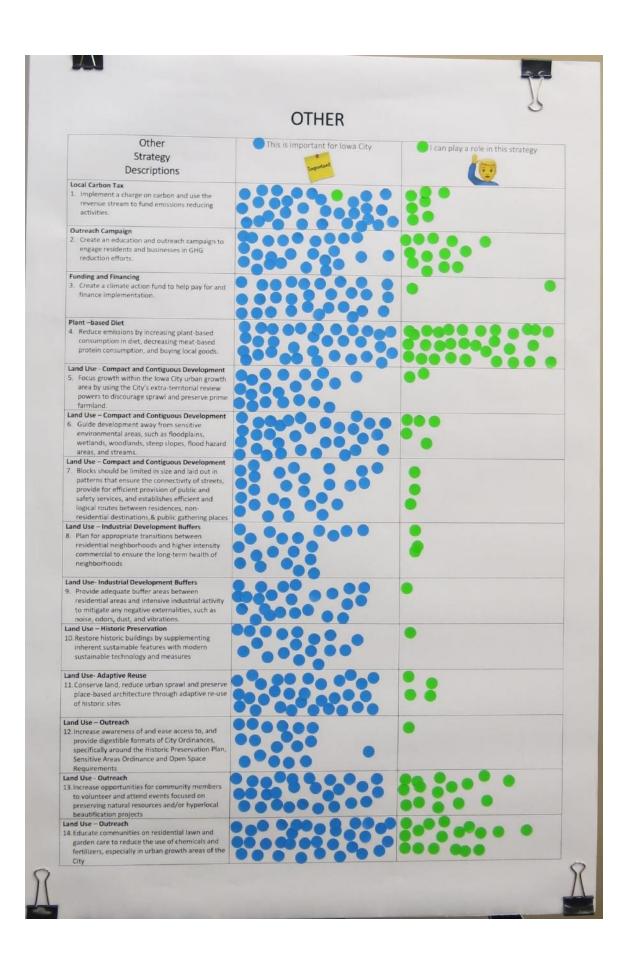
WASTE This is important for lowa City I can play a role in this strategy Waste Strategy Important Descriptions Zero Waste 1. Divert waste from landfills to be reused, recycled, or composted; consider developing a zero waste plan for the community **Building Deconstruction** 2. Reuse or recycle materials from buildings that are being deconstructed. Composting 3. Increase compost food waste to divert it from landfills. **Reduce Consumption** 4. Conduct outreach/increase education on reducing overall consumption; include information on decreasing our reliance on packaging materials and create systems for material reuse or recycling. Outreach 5. Increase education and awareness about proper recycling, including easing access to locations for disposal and receptacle use. Opportunity to educate in large public facilities and at community events.

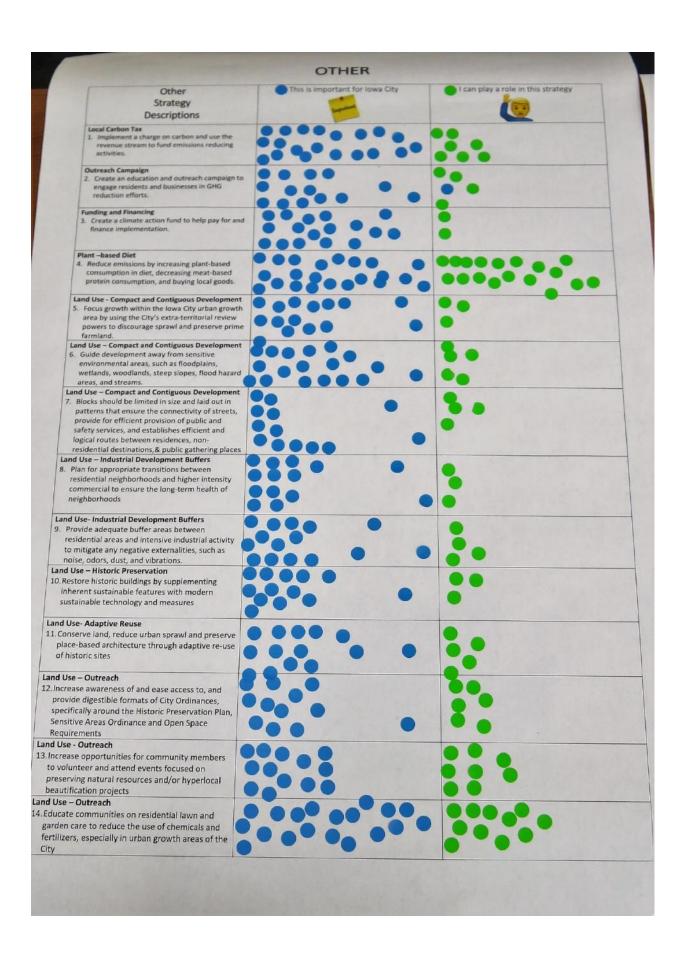
I want to add a strategy! **PLEASE MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T EXIST IN SOME CAPACITY ALREADY** This is important for Iowa City I can play a role in this strategy New Strategy Idea Important Begin educating kids early, qualet on, and my will educate their parents. Apartment recycling pick up. Please contact Jiyan Park She has phenominal ideas! Boyond "outreach" work with industries | 612 to reduce water in puts of outgins. Perhaps perturnary more of Iona Waste Exchange | Increasing means accessability to employment of apprenticeship appearanties in Sustainability or climate change action to individuals of disabilities | Aspergent Encourage gardens of farms (quates) chickens, ducks) within city limits and Improve access to market. Establish portion of power grid that is solar and residents can purchase Shares for long term energy to 11 cards . There a way to conveniently and. BEFORE REING DICKED UP FUR RECTICING TO COMPOSTING. APARTMENT BUTUDAL MELYCLIN-COLLECTION





Want to add a strategy! **PLEASE MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T EXIST IN SOME CAPACITY ALREADY** New Strategy Idea Plant Large and small snorthus of native plants and tices. Support By Developers To ENSURE proper RUNOFF Lie parking lots) Remoral of invisive species nor materials in this year water as the street native grass at the street, allowing rain to greate to add the street, allowing rain to greate to determine the water to determine the water to get sentence to the street, allowing rain to greate to determine the water to get sentence to get sentence to the street for all ages of fun hosts. N-el to work to get sentence to get sentence to the street of conservation.	is strateg
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TINCLUDING VOICES OF THOSE THAT ARE/WILL BE AFFECIED MOST BY CLIMATE (HANGE (LOWINGOME COMMUNITIES)	
BUT LAND IN CITY OR COUNTY AND TURN IT INTO MARSHES AND FORESTS. AND NATURE TO CITY SCAPE	





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Local Food Production	•	: •
Biodiversity in lieu of lawns & chen from		• •
Restaurant menu items marked as climate smart	::•	•
Reserving OPETY Vacant (property) Space for community gardens one garden makes every few blocks - Yard shares for garden space	••	•
more land use coordination among junisdictions local govs, school districts, etc.	•	
EECLASSES ON SUSTAINABILET FOR THE COMMUNEY? C VIRTUAL OR OTHERWISE	•	••
EPUCATION OF YOUTH THAT CREATES EMY		

























