

County Executive
of
Howard County, Maryland

Executive Order: 2019-07
Dated: September 5, 2019
Subject: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions of County Government Operations

WHEREAS, Howard County recognizes the challenges and threats presented by climate change to the health, security, and prosperity of the community; and

WHEREAS, Howard County has shown leadership in environmental sustainability by setting an ambitious goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions of County government operations 45 percent below 2010 levels by the year 2030 and to reach zero emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, Howard County has joined the Maryland Energy Administration's Smart Energy Communities Program; and

WHEREAS, Howard County recognizes the significant contributions to greenhouse gas emissions represented by electricity use in its buildings and operations and by fleet vehicle petroleum consumption; and

WHEREAS, Howard County recognizes that by smartly investing in energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy, fleet optimization, fuel efficient vehicles including hybrid and electric vehicles, and employee education and engagement, it can have significant monetary savings and significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in the long term; and

WHEREAS, Howard County has made significant commitments in 2019 to energy efficiency, renewable energy, and fleet vehicle efficiency, including a commitment to convert nearly 8,000 streetlights to energy-efficient, long-lasting LED lighting; implementing a routine, systematic, and detailed investigation of energy use at all County buildings to identify and address energy inefficiencies as they occur; conducting a feasibility study of County buildings, parking lots, and lands to identify appropriate sites for solar with a goal to maximize solar energy production on public property; adding more than 40 new hybrid electric police vehicles to the County fleet; and installing more than 25 new electric vehicle charging stations at libraries, parks, community centers, senior centers, and County offices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, that Howard County government will reduce the per-square-foot annual electricity consumption in kilowatt hours of County government operations by 25 percent relative to the baseline year (Fiscal Year 2018) by June 30, 2023.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Howard County will establish an Energy Use Reduction Plan. The plan will outline the process by which Howard County will accomplish tasks and implement projects to meet the electricity consumption reduction goal outlined in this policy.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Howard County government will meet 20 percent of the electricity demand for local government operations with distributed, renewable energy generation on County-owned properties by 2024.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Howard County will establish a Renewable Energy Action Plan. The plan will outline the process by which Howard County will accomplish tasks and implement projects to meet the renewable energy generation goal outlined in this policy.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Howard County will reduce on-road vehicle petroleum consumption by the Howard County government fleet by 20 percent by 2024.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Howard County will establish a Petroleum Consumption Reduction Plan. The plan will outline the process by which Howard County will accomplish tasks and implement projects to meet the petroleum consumption reduction goal outlined in this policy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this ____th day of September, 2019.



Calvin Ball
County Executive

