

**LAUDERDALE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
LAUDERDALE CITY HALL, 1891 WALNUT STREET**

1. **CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**
2. **APPROVALS**
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Minutes of January 20, 2026 Meeting
3. **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS**
4. **DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM**
 - a. Climate Action Plan Overview by Sydne Tursky of the Great Plains Institute
 - b. Climate Action Plan – Public Engagement Survey Results
 - c. Review Climate Action Plan Open House Event
 - d. Joint Meeting with Falcon Heights Environmental Commission on March 9, 2026
5. **SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**
 - a. Planning for Sustainability Fair
 - b. Establish Member Reach-Out Areas
6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Lauderdale Meetings is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: February 17, 2026 Lauderdale Environment and Sustainability Commission

Time: Feb 17, 2026 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84982362210?pwd=q95tvmwoUkr6fP19lhUy8JadEsT8S.1>

Meeting ID: 849 8236 2210

Passcode: 149977

Join instructions

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/84982362210/invitations?signature=BdcDpbQt-rcZkgdQ_xOIOAZ-B-MbVyOkTMPokton50Y

**LAUDERDALE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026
LAUDERDALE CITY HALL, 1891 WALNUT STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Winkelaar called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bryan Carlson, Jess Winkelaar, Monika Davis, Ewa Prochniewicz, and Ann Sisel.

Members Absent: Mindy Nakamoto and Josh Keller.

Others Present: Jeff Dains, City Council; Gregory Goodwine, Ramsey County.

Staff Present: Heather Butkowski and Jim Bownik.

APPROVALS

Chair Winkelaar asked if there were any suggested changes to the commission meeting agenda or the December 16, 2025, commission meeting minutes. There being none, Davis made a motion to approve. Sisel seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS / REPORTS

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM

A. Member Appointments and Declaring Open Seats

Initially, Bryan Carlson and Ann Sisel were appointed to one-year terms in December of last year. If they wish to continue, they can be appointed to two-year terms.

Winkelaar made a motion to appoint Bryan Carlson and Ann Sisel to a two-year term. Davis seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Gregory Williams' seat became vacant upon his death. Mindy Nakamoto did not respond to whether she would like to remain on the commission. Per ordinance, "A member will be deemed to have resigned after three unexcused absences from Commission meetings within a 12-month period." Mindy last attended the meeting on March 18, 2025.

Davis made a motion to declare vacant the seats held by Gregory Williams and Mindy Nakamoto. Prochniewicz seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Keegan McKye applied to be a commission member. His expertise lies in forestry. Members stated they thought those skills would be a good addition to the commission.

Sisel made a motion to appoint Keegan McKye to the vacant seat previously held by Gregory Williams with the term ending in December 2027. Davis seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

B. Climate Action Plan – Public Engagement Survey

The final version of the Climate Action Plan was provided in the packet and published online. There was no additional discussion.

C. Prepare for Climate Action Plan Open House

The commission members created plans for gathering feedback during the open house. Generally, commissioners will host tables for each of the six topic areas of the Climate Action Plan.

Commissioners volunteered for topics: Clean Transportation - Davis; Climate Smart Natural Land - Sisel; Clean Energy and Efficient Buildings - Carlson; Thriving Communities - Winkelaar; Healthy Lives - Prochniewicz, Clean Economy – Keller. Goodwine, Butkowski, and Dains will help where needed. Goodwine will recruit Recycling Ambassadors to help fill in other gaps. The group selected Mims Café to cater the event.

Goodwine presented materials on how to lead a World Café discussion. Additionally, Winkelaar provide information on the Minnesota Council of Churches guide on [Respectful Conversations](#).

The questions they use are:

- What are your personal experiences?
- What are your hopes or fears?
- Are there clarifying questions?

D. Establish Member Reach-Out Areas

Will discuss at a future meeting, time permitting.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. Review Climate Action Plan Event
- B. Minnesota Regional Indicators Website
- C. Climate Action Plan Spreadsheet
- D. Establish Member Reach-Out Areas

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

**LAUDERDALE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMISSION AGENDA TOPIC FORM**

Meeting Date

February 17, 2026

Agenda Item

Climate Action Plan

Action Requested

Consent Public Hearing Discussion
Action Resolution Work Session

DESCRIPTION OF TOPIC:

Sydne Tursky of the Great Plains Institute will be drafting the Climate Action Plan. She will spend the first part of the meeting presenting on that process. From there we will move into processing the results of the survey and open house with her.

Following are the results of the survey and a printed version of the flip chart material from the open house. Based on the feedback, commission members are asked to bring 3-4 action items from your topic area that we can begin discussing for inclusion on the sustainability matrix that Sydne will use to draft the Climate Action Plan.

City Hall Open House – 02/11/2026

Clean Economy

- Diverse group of folks (students, elders, renters, families, homeowners)
- Reuse projects like appliance swaps (senior items, pass to freshmen)
- Think of ways to use the walls on the highway – beautification/sustainability project
- Buy nothing – free/swap day for our community
- Clean up and restoration from corporate polluters – make them pay for the damage/accountability
- Green funding initiatives/assistance for small businesses

Clean Transportation

- Sidewalks able to be shoveled and maintained
- Sidewalks area +/- in winter maintenance – taking care of them
- Connectivity between Eustis, Como, etc.?
- Smaller garbage trucks in alleys
- Biking is difficult if you must go down/through 280 – something here to examine?
- Single hauler trash pickup
- Bus stop in Lauderdale vs. just on Larpenteur
- Park & ride is wonderful to use to go from Lauderdale to Minneapolis
- Maintain sidewalks
- Single hauler garbage pickup
- Shuttle that picks up in Lauderdale
- Streetcars
- Transportation options for seniors – shopping, etc.
- Transportation options for the Fern residents
- Include garbage pickup in property taxes

Climate Smart Natural Land

- Tree concerns (disease)
- Community gardens
- Community compost and garden
- Nurture trees and forest (Breck Woods)
- Plantings along the sound barrier wall of 280 – trees, bushes, vines for beauty, cool shade
- Encourage leaving leaves in gardens and composting
- Garbage single company
- Concerned about tree diseases and climate change, hail, etc.

Thriving Communities - How Can We Best Use our Resources?

- Shade trees “artificial canopy”
- Places of worship (peace?)
- Cool place during power outages
- Library? Other options?
- Affordable housing
- Winter compost collection
- Community connection and support – more neighborhood activities
- Save the trees
- Pond was good
- Native plants in boulevards
- Single company garbage pickup
- Save the sliding hill
- Thriving communities - feedback
- Reduce H2O – reuse
- Emergency hub facilities – be prepared

Clean Energy & Efficient Buildings

- White building?
- Solar Efficiency improvements? Wait?
- Solar 100% of what you use now? State restrictions?
- Snow loading on solar panels roof angle
- City Hall solar coming soon!
- Big trees in boulevards, smaller trees in backyards
- Invest City resources in solar energy
- Promote solar (how?)
- Generation rate of solar, 10% above what you use, legislative/state policies

Healthy Lives

- Unpredictable changes in weather, effects from climate warming on insects, more are moving north
- Plant more trees, it helps to cool the environment
- Are we prepared for weather emergencies? Like tornadoes?
- Pollinator gardens, vegetable gardens in yards
- Help for those who want to plant their boulevards with bee & butterfly friendly native plants
- Encourage residents to landscape for bees to the curb
- Edible landscaping, conservation of resources – rainwater capture, gardener energy
- Wildfire smoke affecting plants and covering with soot/dust
- Excessive use of plastic in food packaging
- Wild-looking gardens are OK
- Noticeable difference of heat and wildfires
- Rain gardens, bee lawns – what's next?
- Get children & youth involved in learning/gardening
- Water quality, testing water

Climate Action Plan Survey

61 responses

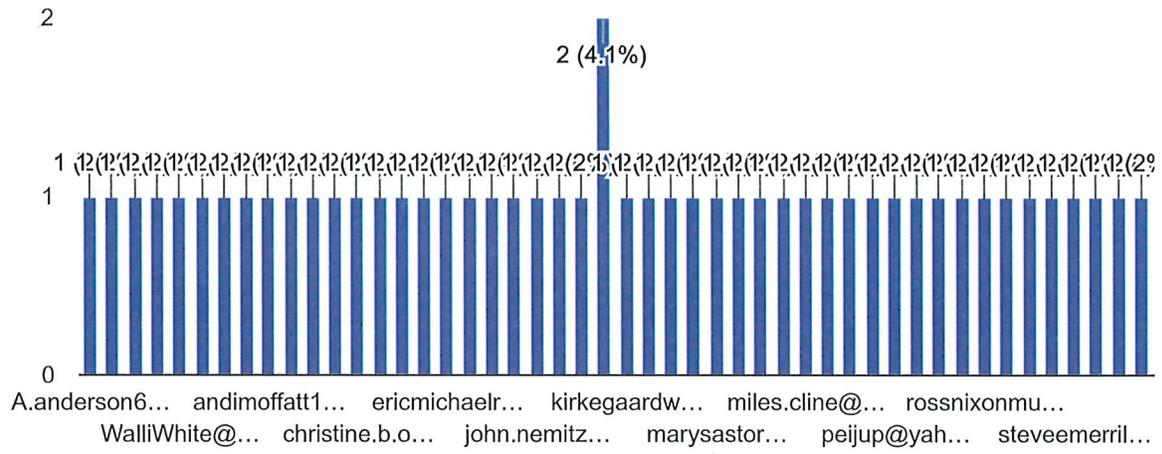
[Publish analytics](#)

Demographics

Email

[Copy](#)

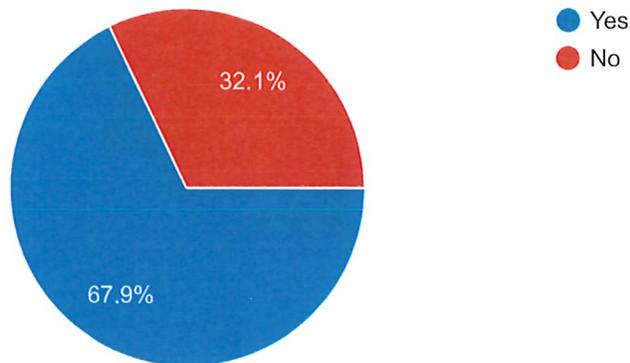
49 responses



1. Would you like us to add your email to the city emailing list?

[Copy](#)

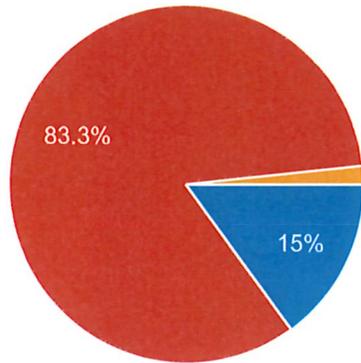
56 responses



2. Do you live in the City of Lauderdale

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60 responses

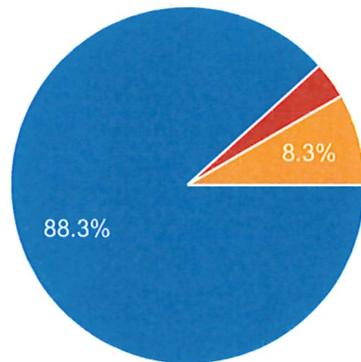


-  Yes, I rent a home or apartment in Lauderdale
-  Yes, I own a home or condo/ townhome in Lauderdale
-  No

3. Do you work, or own a business, in the City of Lauderdale?

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60 responses

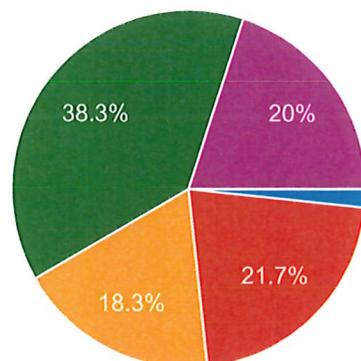


-  No
-  Yes, I own a business in Lauderdale
-  Yes, I work in Lauderdale

4. What age category describes you?

 Copy

60 responses



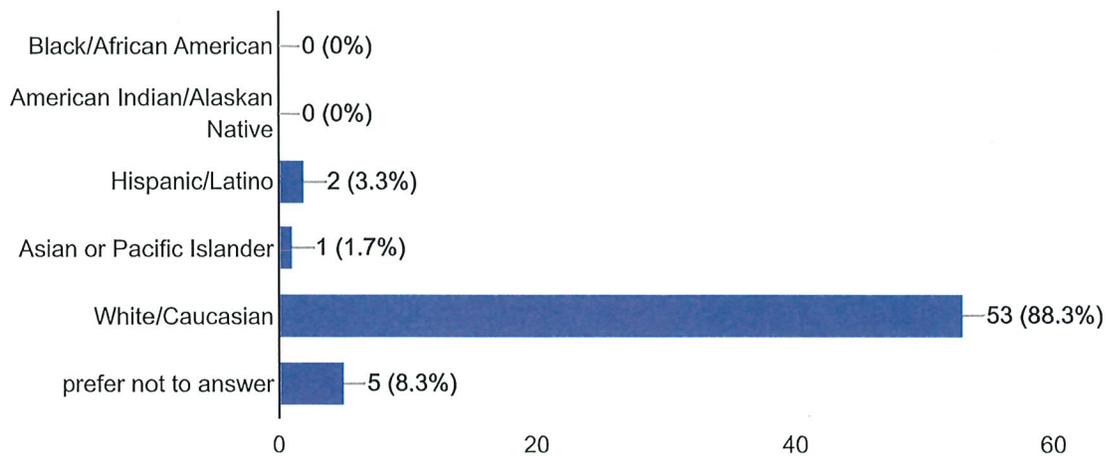
-  25 or younger
-  26 - 39
-  40 - 54
-  55 - 74
-  75 and over



5. Your Race/ Ethnicity (check all that apply):



60 responses

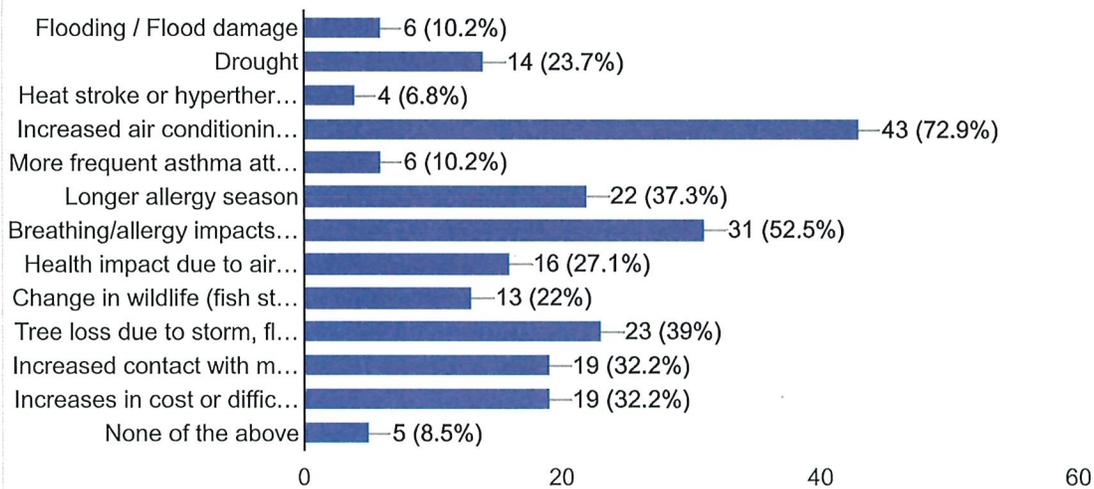


Personal Experiences with Climate Change

6. Have any of the following effects of climate change personally impacted you? (Check all that apply):



59 responses



Please list any other changes you have noticed or ways you have been personally impacted by climate change

18 responses

Psychological stress

Decrease in insect and bird populations

Increased heating costs.

Have noticed that lawn goes completely brown more often in summer now if I don't water.

increased humidity reducing activity outdoors and sensitivity to heat

large storms causing a large tree to fall. bad air quality due to smoke from wildfires over the summer. hail damage.

Water usage increase due to drought

Of the boxes checked above, I believe that these issues have been exacerbated over the past few years as conditions have become more extreme.

Increased flooding in spring/ice damage in winter

Higher energy bill costs

Extreme weather conditions caused me reducing time doing activities outdoor.

Extreme heat or extreme cold limits my time outdoors.

Fewer animals like pheasants

Increase in heating bills

Increased cost of utilities due to high cost of green energy initiatives.

Cloud seeding and weather engineering needs to stop. It is poisoning our land (gardens) and water sources . It creates unhealthy air to breathe. It takes away our sunny days.

Smoke from wildfires

fewer trees in my community leads to less shade



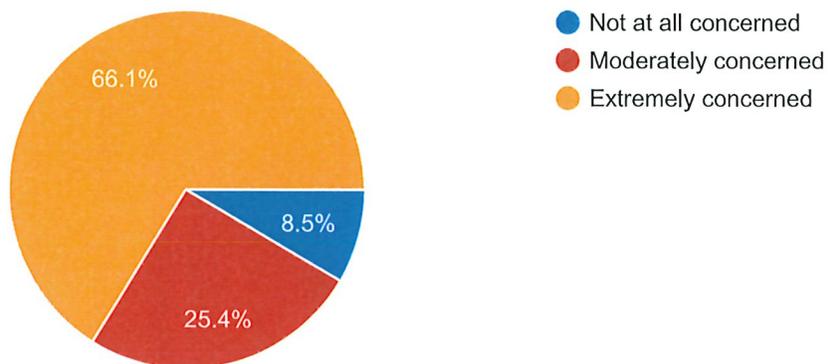
Background Information and Statewide Climate Projections

Climate Change Concerns

7. How concerned are you about climate change in general?

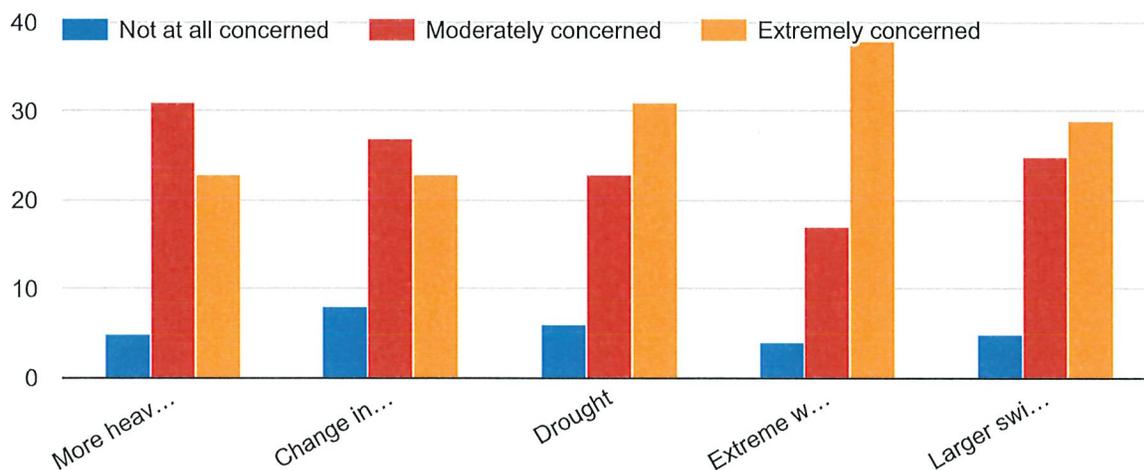
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59 responses

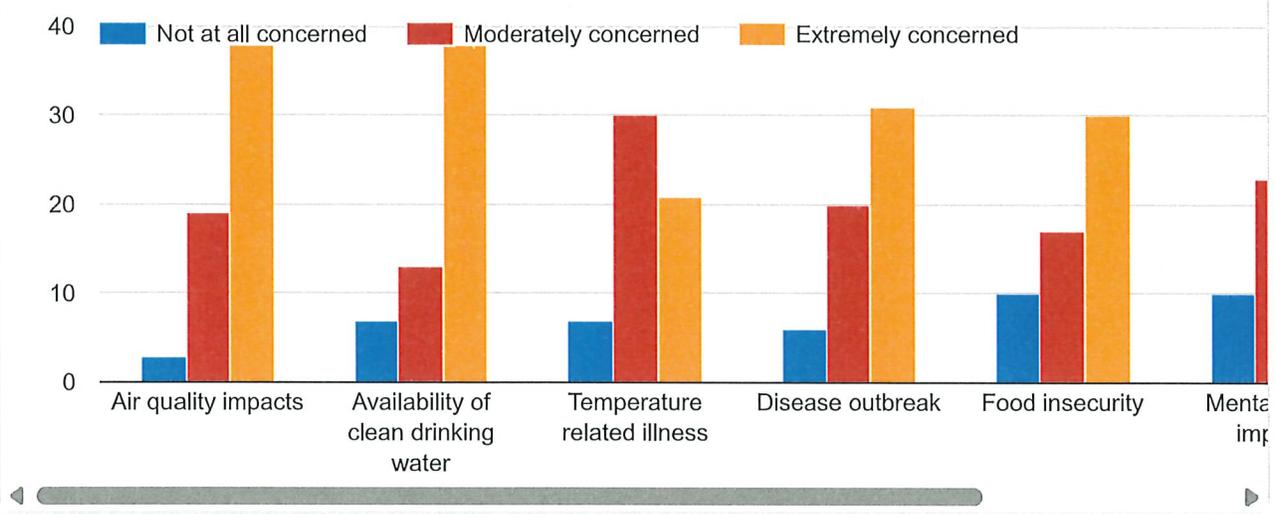


8. How concerned are you about the following weather projections for Minnesota?

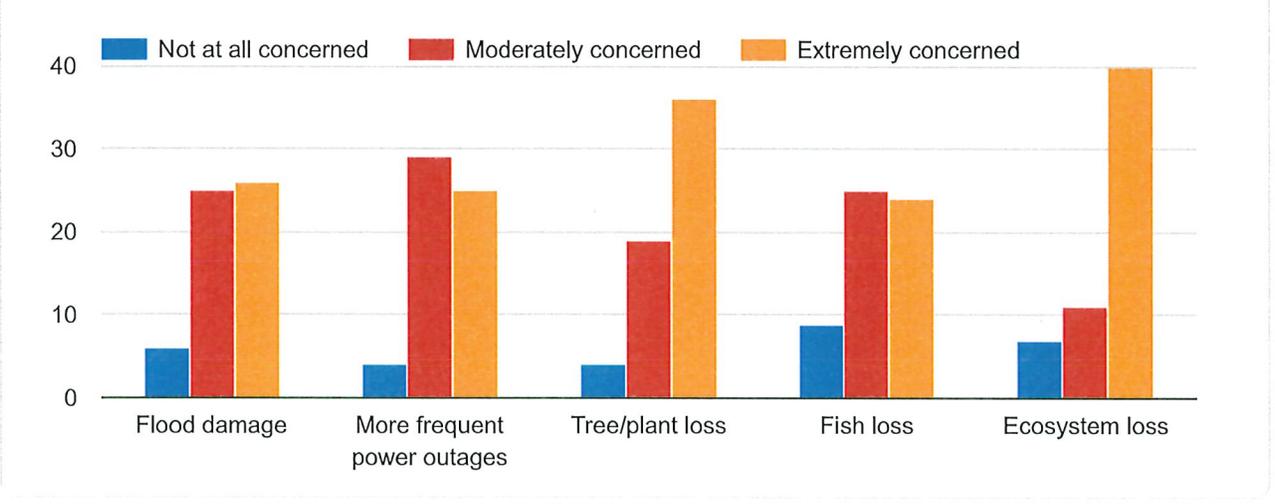
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9. How concerned are you about the following possible human health impacts of climate change?



10. How concerned are you about the possible infrastructure and ecosystem impacts of climate change?



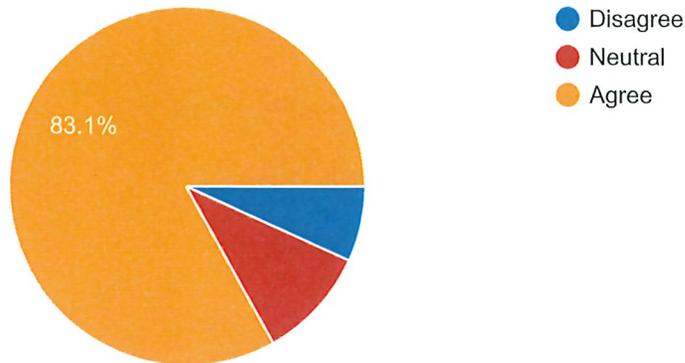
Taking Action



11. How much do you agree with the following statement: "It is important for Lauderdale to take action to prepare for the projected impacts of climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions?"

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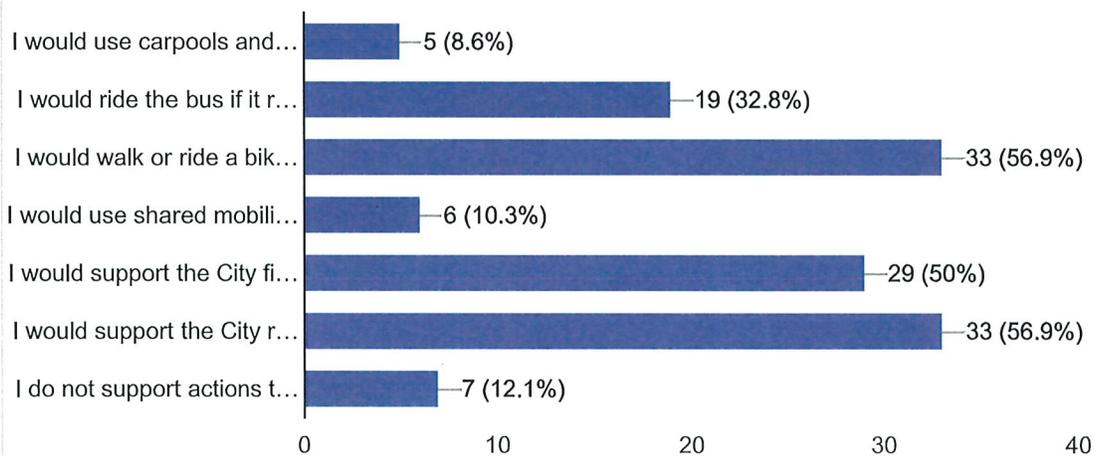
59 responses



12. Please select the following Transportation actions you would support or engage in (check up to three):

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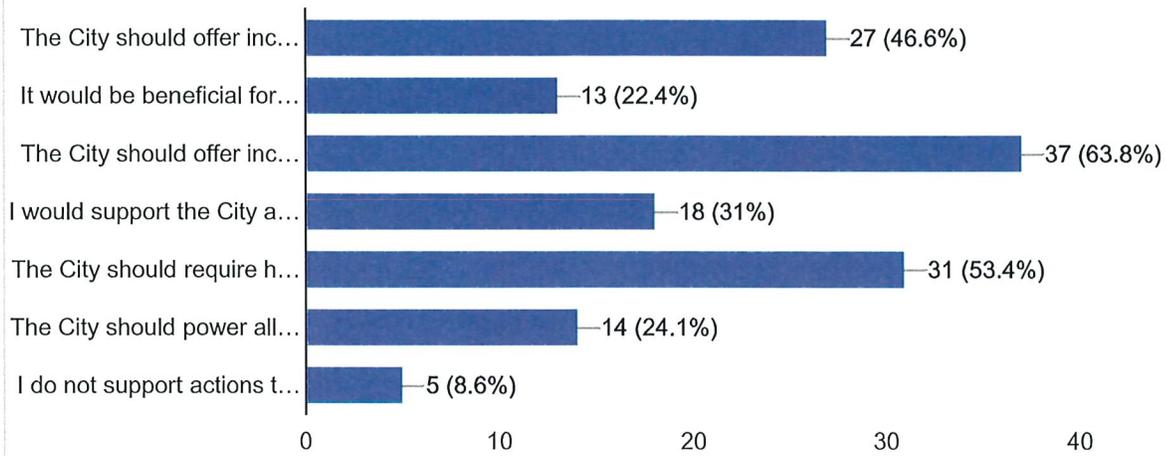
58 responses



13. Please select the following Building actions you would support or engage in (check up to three):



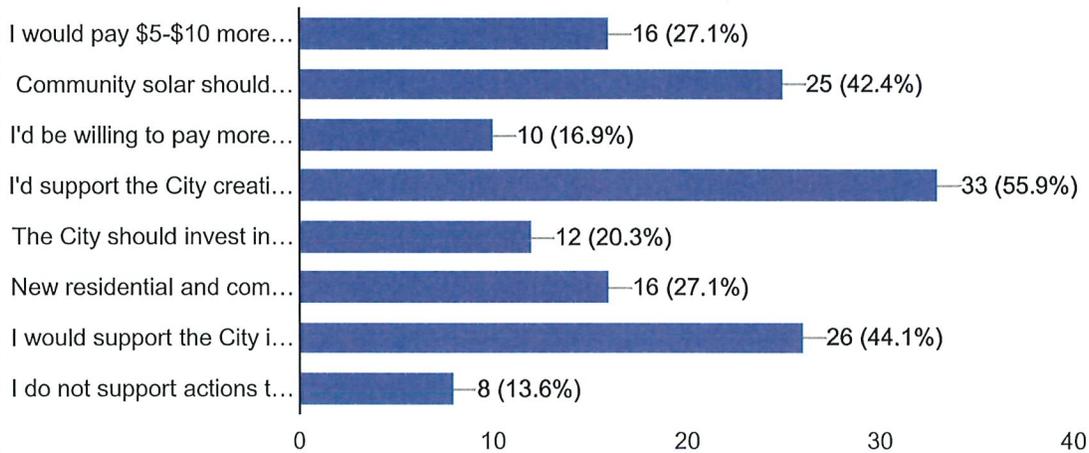
58 responses



14. Please select the following Energy actions you would support or engage in (check up to three):



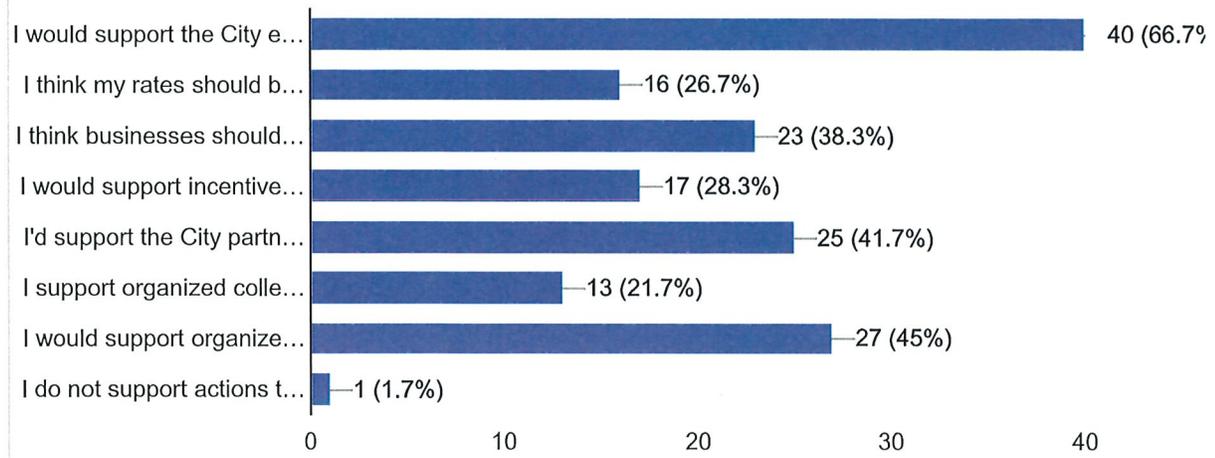
59 responses



15. Please select the following Waste reduction actions you would support or engage in (check up to three):



60 responses



16. What would you like to see the City do to help residents or businesses prepare for the impacts of climate change or reduce greenhouse gas emissions? List any other actions you would like to see here.

31 responses

The city should be more transparent regarding the 2030 comprehensive plan. Which would tear down the single family homes on Larpenteur Ave and replace with affordable housing infrastructure. Kick backs from the Met Council should also be made transparent to all residents regarding their financial aid to the city.

A single garbage hauler for Lauderdale!!

I would love to see more recycling and composting options throughout the city. More incentives for landlords to improve their units and make them more sustainable would be great.

Protect Breckeoods

Give the people a break who are actually trying to reduce gas emissions.

Cheaper Solar

Any effort to support residents migrate to solar power (including plug-in solar support)

Big supporter of native planting - having more education around this, maybe incentives for residents who do plant natives, a native garden in the park maybe?

There is no reason to exploit this agenda. We cant stop wildfires . Rather stop the crap they are releasing in the air from airplanes! Spraying all that crap is what is injuring us!

Plant bushes, vines and trees along the east side of the Hwy 280 sound barrier. Preserve and protect the Lauderdale Nature Area south of Larpenteur, including the woods known as Breck Woods, and work with Falcon Heights to maintain its continuity with the wooded land along the old trolley tracks in Falcon Heights. Explore the possibility of creating a community solar field in the watershed drainage area just west of Hwy 280 and north of Como (former site of Goodwill).

No non-reusable bags(plastic or paper), compost only takeout containers and bags. Compost options. Solar Power Action Planning Meetings.

Incentive and or education for tree trimming/care



Shovel larpenteur sidewalks do people xan actually walk, reduce waste, really implement comp plan green space, local transportation like the roseville circulator

Curbside organic recycling and organized collection are two, low hanging fruit items that could be readily implemented and have significant impact

Pass along any new or pertinent information from credible organizations who study these topics.

Improve walkability and decrease car-focused infrastructure

Improve the electrical grid to weatherproof it. For example, burying as much as possible to protect from storm damage.

More education to people in this topic (Emergency preparation and assistance)

Require commercial lawn services to reduce or eliminate pollutants and pesticides and, instead, adopt climate-friendly methods of lawn care, like natural gardens, fruit trees, and less lawn mowing. More gardens, less lawn, everywhere. Less machinery and more gardeners.

Insulation and conservation.

Eliminate high power and unnecessary public lighting causing light pollution.

Emergency preparedness plans

Lauderdale does best by doing less

I'd like the city to focus more on affordability of rising utilities and tax costs

Plant more trees in productive places (ex: around play grounds to shade the playground, along the street to cool the asphalt/concrete, etc)

Subsidies for solar, geothermal, wind install, or home insulation improvements.

Would like to see solar panels installed on top of, and a wind turbine behind (catch wind from 280) City Hall. Upgrade publics work building, upgrade City Hall installation, upgrade public works equipment to electric where feasible, like trucks and park mowers, weed whippers, snow blowers, etc.

Encourage planting more trees for shade and protect existing trees

Collaborating with a solar company to get a group of houses to install panels so all get a reduced cost / some oversight of the quality and connectivity of the installation.

Promote the conversion of regular lawns to more native/drought resistant/reduce use of chemicals/resilient yards and gardens.



Have city periodic collection events for chemicals, paint, electronics, etc. that people may accumulate or discard inadequately instead of taking them to collection centers.

Classes on recycling

save and replace our trees

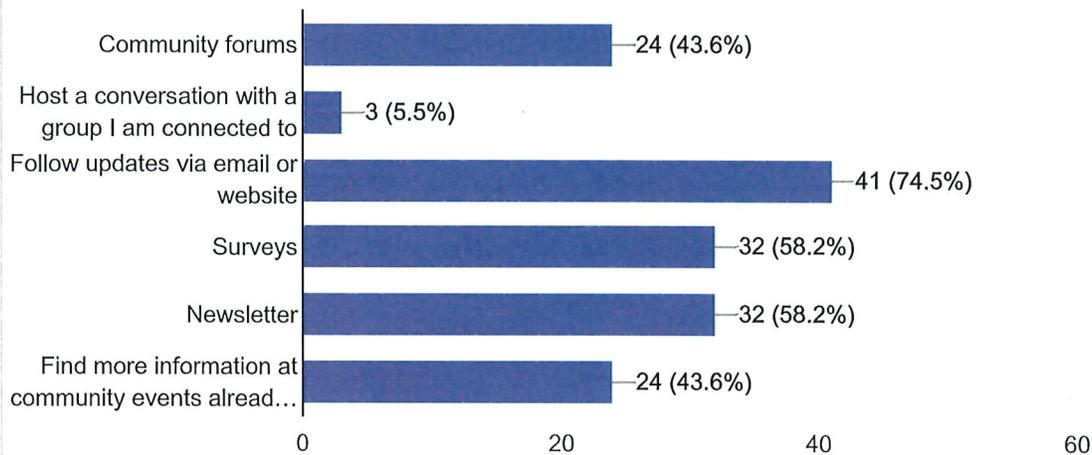
Team with UofM to energy audit all buildings in the entire town then use as basis for energy improvement projects

Using data & experiences as city scale medium term (10 year ?) research project to watch energy efficiency/energy bill #s & \$

17. How would you like to be involved in creating a plan to address climate change in Lauderdale? (check all that apply):

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55 responses



18. The Environment and Sustainability Commission is hosting an open house for residents to learn more about the climate action planning process and to share feedback on what you would like to see included in the plan. This event will take place on February 11, 2026 from 5pm - 7pm at Lauderdale City Hall.

 Copy

57 responses

