

## Health, Safety and Well-being

Health, safety, and well-being includes addressing impacts of climate change like heat stress, air quality and allergens, food security, vector-borne disease, and mental health. Climate change can disproportionately impact communities that are already at risk of harm, like low-income families, communities of color, the elderly and children, and homeless populations. For example, extreme heat can endanger people without shelter or without air conditioning. The City can prepare for climate impacts by investing in community resources and public health.

### **Strategies and Actions**

To reduce negative climate impacts, strategies focus on addressing local air quality, food security, energy costs, and community resources. Many mitigation strategies have adaptation benefits. For example, warmer temperatures increase ground-level ozone, but efforts to minimize fossil fuel vehicle use can improve local air quality. Waste management strategies can also work synergistically with adaptation. As the climate changes, food production and therefore food sales may become more expensive. Preventing food waste through food donation can support multiple climate goals.

Preparing for extreme weather events can involve improving civic engagement and community resources. The City can promote neighborhood-led action, including preparedness training, involving the public in disaster planning, and creating community resilience centers.

**Goal HS-1. Prepare the community, public safety and health services for anticipated climate change impacts.**

Strategy HS-1.1: Include vulnerability assessments in planning efforts and enhance communication tools and strategies to prepare the community for anticipated climate change impacts.

HS-1.1.1	Develop and implement a plan to monitor climate change related illnesses. Utilize results in resource and policy planning, with particular focus on neighborhoods. Communicate results on a periodic basis to the public.	Priority
HS-1.1.2	Coordinate with community health improvement teams to incorporate climate change and CAAP goals into the Community Health Improvement Plan and Health Impact Assessment.	Priority
HS-1.1.3	Review and effectively communicate emergency and evacuation plans on a regular basis to update for climate change forecasted data, paying particular attention to flooding, extended heat waves, and tornadoes.	Priority
HS-1.1.4	Build City staff capacity to support community-led, neighborhood-focused resilience actions (e.g. identifying best practices, establishing resilience hubs, and implementing neighbor-based emergency response).	Priority
HS-1.1.5	Partner with outside agencies to offer community resilience model training.	Priority
HS-1.1.6	Conduct a needs assessment of accessible community centers for during extreme weather or other emergency situations. Create a development improvement plan, if needed.	Other
HS-1.1.7	Deploy point-in-time alert systems (e.g., RAVE, Nixle) to notify people of extreme weather events, periods of dangerous cold, and heat waves and refer them to resources on symptoms and prevention of climate-related illness.	Other
HS-1.1.8	Develop a long-term plan for potential growth in foreign and domestic refugees.	Other
HS-1.1.9	In planning for additional fire stations and resources, incorporate projections for increased grass, brush, and backyard fires.	Other

Strategy HS-1.2: Reduce incidences of heat-related illness and death.

HS-1.2.1	Identify a sustainable funding source for increased utility assistance for low-income residents, including support for energy efficiency projects such as weatherization.	Priority
HS-1.2.2	Increase availability to cooling mechanisms in low-income housing and rental units (e.g., air conditioning units, fans, window screens).	Other
HS-1.2.3	Develop a plan to improve bus stop shelters' ability to provide relief from extreme heat (reflective materials, cooling fans.)	Other
HS-1.2.4	Monitor number of utility disconnects during heat waves and assess if current policy should be updated for changing community needs.	Other

Strategy HS-1.3: Prevent and prepare for increased incidence of vector-borne diseases and illness or injury due to air and water quality issues.

HS-1.3.1	Create anti-idling policies and enforcement plans.	Priority
HS-1.3.2	Update property maintenance code to manage and mitigate mold or fungus.	Priority
HS-1.3.3	Establish funding and a program for trapping mosquitoes and ticks to monitor for disease or disease-carrying species.	Other
HS-1.3.4	Expand outdoor treatment to mitigate spread of vector-borne diseases when evidence of local disease is identified.	Other
HS-1.3.5	Identify sources of ozone pollution in Boone County and establish a county-wide system to gather and set thresholds to trigger actions.	Other
HS-1.3.6	Conduct a health impact assessment for areas that may have unsafe levels of air pollution from vehicle traffic, and use data to modify zoning.	Other

Strategy HS-1.4: Plan for a potential increase in demand for mental health care.		
HS-1.4.1	Form a team to develop action plans to address climate-related mental health resilience at the individual, neighborhood, and community level.	Priority
HS-1.4.2	Ensure community has robust resources to address increases in violence and crime, particularly domestic violence, during periods of stress including emergencies and heat waves.	Other

**Goal HS-2. Reduce emissions associated with the food system.**

Strategy HS-2.1: Increase production of local food.		
HS-2.1.1	Support organizations and schools promoting local food production and community gardens, through partnerships, funding, and educational programs including the benefits of a plant-based diet.	Priority
HS-2.1.2	Review ordinances and development regulations to promote urban farming.	Other
HS-2.1.3	Work with Regional Economic Development, Inc (REDI) to develop entrepreneurship program for commercial urban farming.	Other
HS-2.1.4	Update code to provide incentives or require developers to preserve topsoil and provide space for backyard or community gardens.	Other
Strategy HS-2.2: Assure food security, particularly among the most vulnerable populations.		
HS-2.2.1	Continue to provide enrollment assistance for participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program, and other food assistance programs.	Priority