

# Mountain View + Google: The Power of Public-Private Partnerships

Environmental Sustainability Program November 5, 2018



## Agenda



Sustainability "State of the City"

Civic Leadership project

Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE) project

Upcoming Events



## Background



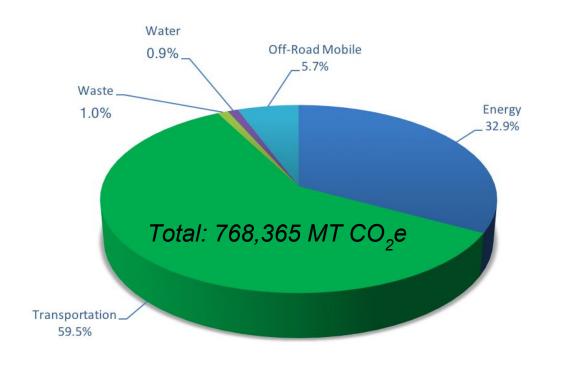
### Community GHG Reduction Targets

- Measured 2005 "baseline" GHG emissions levels
- Adopted absolute GHG reduction targets (Nov. 2009)

% Below 2005
5%
10%
15-20%
26%
37%
48%
58%
69%
80%



#### 2015 Community GHG Emissions



#### **Key Take-Aways:**

Transportation and Energy make up more than 90% of emissions

#### **Transportation**

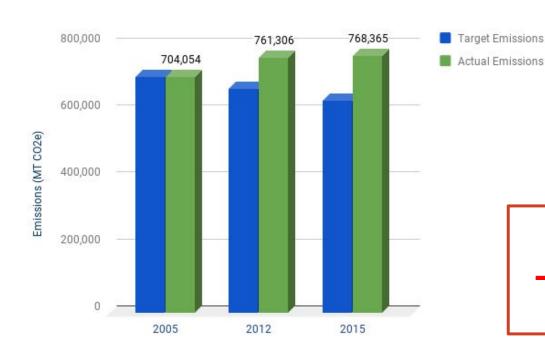
- 60% of emissions in 2015
- Up from 54% in 2012
- 22% increase (2005-2015)

#### **Energy**

- 33% of emissions in 2015
- Down from 39% in 2012
- 15% decrease (2005-2015)



#### 2005-2015 Target vs. Actual Emissions



#### **Key Take-Aways:**

#### 2012 Emissions

- 8.1% above 2005 levels
- 13.8% above 2012 reduction target

#### 2015 Emissions

- 9.1% above 2005 levels
- 21.3% above 2015 reduction target



## Civic Leadership Project

- Summer 2017: Google approached the City regarding their Civic Leadership program
- Fall Winter 2017: City brainstorming of potential projects
- Spring 2018: Project scope definition and agreement
- June Aug 2018: Project execution

<u>Project Scope</u>: assist the City in achieving its emissions reduction goals by:



- Streamlining the GHG inventory process
- Understanding the community better for more effective engagement





#### **City Staff**

- Steve Attinger, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator
- Erin Brewster, Environmental Sustainability Analyst II
- Hannah Perkins, Environmental Sustainability Analyst I

#### **Google Volunteers**

- Christopher Bian, Software Engineer
- Minyoung Lee, Partner Operations Manager for Market Research
- Debbie Sokol, Program Manager for Nest Store



## Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Streamlining

## Challenge #1



Due to GHG inventories being calculated every 3-5 years, the City has **not been able to assess progress** quickly enough to inform policies and programs



## Challenge #2



The process for Community and Municipal inventories has been very time consuming, making it **difficult to conduct inventories more frequently** 







The details of previous consultant-created, Excel-based inventories were often opaque or confusing, adding significant overhead to verify accuracy and quality assurance

## Project Scope



Recommend ways to reduce time to collect emissions inventory

Recommend ways to increase consistency of the process and report

Recommend tools and process





- Met with 2015 inventory team to identify difficulties and opportunities for optimization
- Interviewed City staff from relevant departments from whom data is requested (waste, vehicle fleet, etc.) to understand workflow involved
- Studied 2015 inventory process
- Trained on ClearPath inventory tool, its role, and differences from existing process outputs





## Optimize for Key Benefits

- Reduce burden on sustainability team and other city staff
- Streamline process based on current City systems
- Achieve transparency, auditability, and reproducibility for inventories
- ClearPath compatibility means inventories can be imported into an accepted standard tool (ICLEI ClearPath)



#### Find Common Workflow Pattern



Raw Data

Data Prep

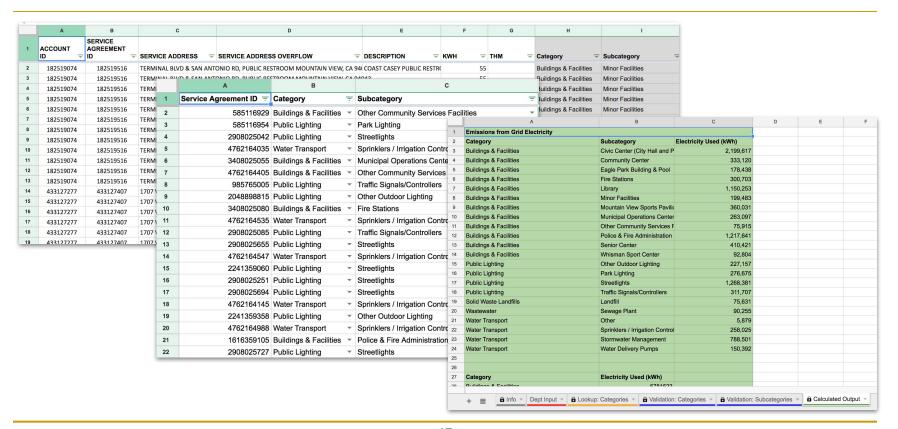
Category
Mapping

Protocol
Calculations

Output for
ClearPath

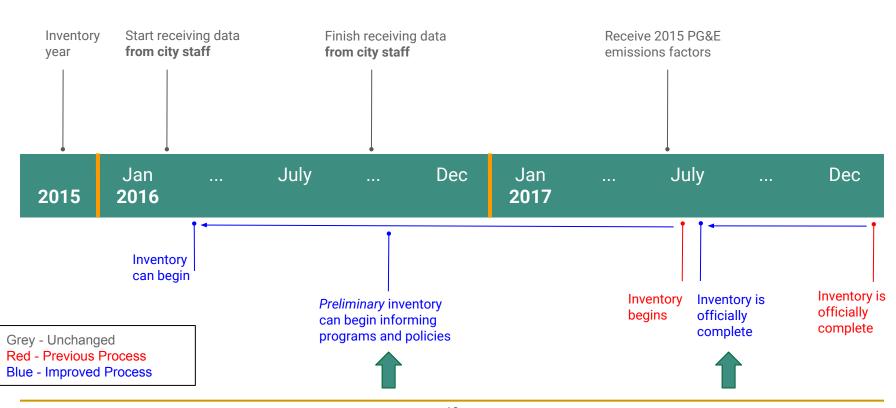


### Create Data Source Templates



#### Improved Workflow Timeline





## Measuring Impact

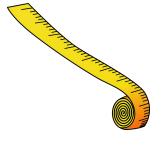


- 2015 GHG inventories
  - External consultant: 160 hours
  - City staff: 100 hours

~260 hours

- Future GHG inventories (based on Google's work)
  - External consultant: 0 hours
  - City staff: 40 hours

~40 hours



## CITY OF MOUNTAIN \

## What We Accomplished

#### **Original Scope:**

Recommend tools and process to reduce time, and increase consistency of the process and final report

#### **Completed Beyond Original Scope:**

Built and tested ready-to-use templates, and trained Environmental Sustainability Analyst on how to use, maintain, and build new templates



## Community Insights

## Challenge #1



98% of GHG emissions are attributed to community activity (vs. municipal operations)



## Challenge #2



The City has not achieved its community GHG emissions reduction targets to date







The City wants to improve engagement results through better understanding the community's needs and motivations around sustainable living



## **Project Scope**

 Identify key barriers and motivators for community members to choose to live more sustainably

Recommend key communication channels and strategies





## **Obtain Community Input**

Outreach efforts to collect community input included **surveys** and an **in-person community meeting**. Channels included:

- Postcards
- Mountain View Voice ads
- Printed surveys, flyers, sandwich boards downtown
- Social Media (Nextdoor, Facebook, Twitter)
- Email distribution lists (e.g. Neighborhood Associations, Chamber of Commerce)
- Google Ads





## **Obtain Community Input**

85% of attendees at the community meeting were **first-time attendees** of a sustainability-focused event!



#### **Collected 738 responses total**

- 43 community meeting attendees
- 695 survey responses



#### **General**

- Mountain View community is passionate about sustainability
  - 85% would avoid driving if good alternatives exist
  - 80% use landscaping waste collection for food waste/food soiled paper
  - 80% of those who do not have food scraps collection wants it
- 80% would prefer to frequent a "green business," all else equal

- Email preferred for time-sensitive notifications / quick announcements
- Website generally preferred for comprehensive information
- Social media preferences tend to vary; generally prefer Nextdoor, Facebook



#### **Property Owners**

- Financial incentives to cover upfront costs would help with home improvements around energy efficiency
- Focus education on contractors and architects
- Workshops for home energy efficiency improvements



#### **Renters**

- Wants programs incentivizing landlords and large apartment complexes to make changes around sustainability
  - e.g. building energy efficiency, shared composting
- Social media used for community building and sharing resources
- Wants to drive as little as possible



#### Parents of K-12

- Supports sustainability education for children
- Certain roads and intersections are too unsafe for children to bike/walk to school on their own
- Most active on social media; recommend building a parent-oriented social media community to communicate safety updates

#### Works in Mountain View / Lives Elsewhere

- Public transit / bike lanes across City boundaries are not well connected
- Wants employers to provide transit discounts or company shuttles
- Wants least amount of contact from City; recommend communicating transit updates and changes through employer





#### **Seniors**

- Most likely to use MV Community Shuttle for sustainable transit alternative
- Cost is a larger consideration
- Concerned about mobility

#### **Business Owners**

- Most feel like they already operate sustainably
- Strongly prefer email communications only

#### **Non-English Speakers**

- Prefers in-person outreach / education over written / online communication
- Most frequent carpoolers





## **Next Steps**

#### **GHG** Inventories



- Develop remaining data templates
- Complete 2017 Community GHG Inventory start-to-finish with new workflow and confirm results of streamlined process
- Explore advanced forecasting and planning features available through the ClearPath tool



Stretch Goal: consider sharing process and templates with other cities



## Community Engagement

#### **Engagement Strategies**

- Gather more data
  - Business owners
  - List segmentation
- Offer member-specific programs targeting specific concerns and barriers
- Track engagement metrics across communication channels





# Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE)

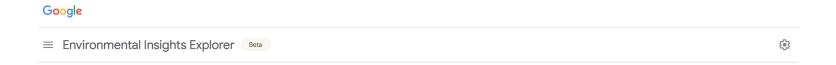
g.co/environmentalinsights



# Cities account for >70% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# Accelerate CO2 Reduction



ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS EXPLORER

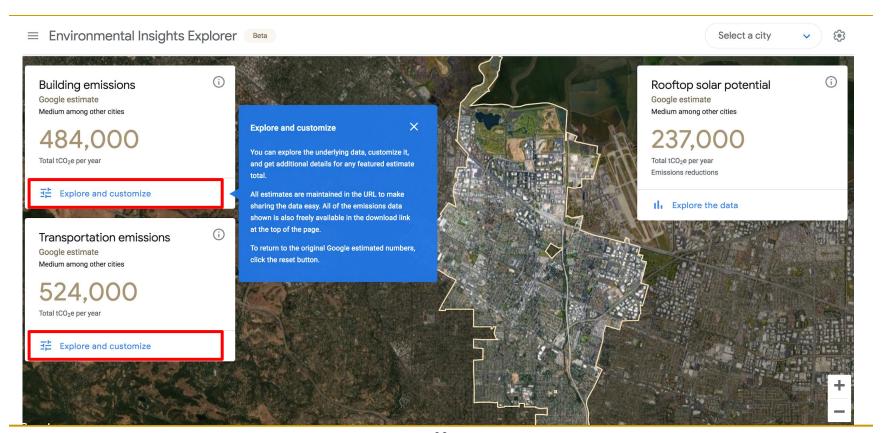
Impact begins with insights.

Explore data to make informed decisions and inspire action.









# **NASA Model Projections**



**Environmental Insights Explorer** 

Select a city

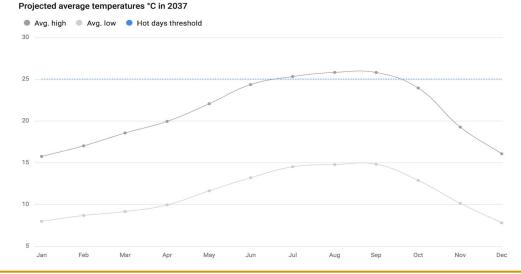
#### 20 year climate projections

O day decrease in cold days projected

From NASA Earth Exchange



The projected future days of heat will be similar to present day in Cape Town, South Africa



# **Transportation**





Select a city



Mountain View > Transportation emissions >





### (i)

#### Transportation emissions

Google estimate

524,000

Total tCO2e per year

Medium among other cities

#### Source:

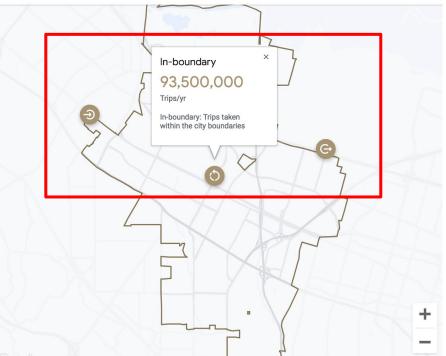
Google Maps uses aggregated location information from user trips to infer traffic, mode of travel, busyness, and total distances driven in a city. These are combined with an estimate of the types of vehicles and average fuel consumption of each mode.

#### Time period:

Total trips for year 2017.

#### Key assumptions:

Regionally estimated average fuel consumption and emissions from the Climate Action for Urban Sustainability (CURB) tool applied to all trips for each mode.



% of total transportation emissions

● 46% Inbound ● 46% Outbound ● 8% In-boundary



# Trips and Distance by Mode



Total combined # of trips

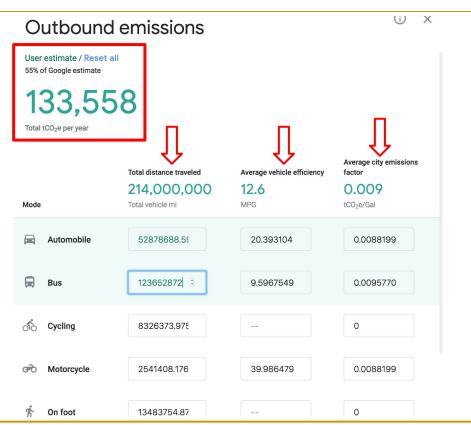
221,000,000

Total combined vehicle miles traveled

1,360,000,000







- Adjustable data values allow cities to explore how policies might affect emissions along mode shift, fuel efficiency and electrification strategies
- Allows city to modify/augment cases where they have better data
- Customized inventories can be sent to stakeholders to encourage dialogue or to tell a story

## Potential for Solar Offset



Select a city



1,003

Solar arrays

6%

Of total potential

Potential emissions reductions equivalent to

Passenger cars

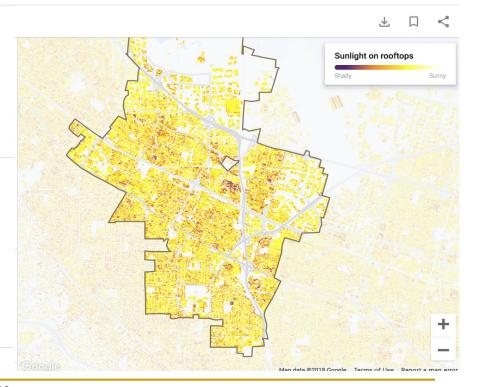
50,100

taken off the road for 1 year

Tree seedlings

6,070,000

grown for 10 years



## 2019 Goals



- Scale to more cities across the globe
- Partnering with cities to continue refining and validating models for accuracy
- Add new datasets



## Mountain View Uses of EIE



- A complement to our standard GHG inventory process
- Understand our transportation data in new ways
- Gain insights about potential for solar power



 Conduct "What if..." analysis toward making more informed policy and program decisions

# Acknowledgments - Google

### **Core Team**

- Christopher Bian
- Minyoung Lee
- Debbie Sokol



## **Support Team**

- Nick Cain
- Jen Carter
- James Driscoll
- Samantha Hennessey
- Rebecca Prozan
- Chris Sater

## Acknowledgments - City of Mountain View

### **Core Team**

- Steve Attinger
- Erin Brewster
- Hannah Perkins



### **Support Team**

- Eric Anderson (Planning)
- Hollis Burnette
- Nancy Doan
- Nancy Ducos
- Scott Estes
- Elizabeth Flegel
- Skip Gildea
- Tom Louie
- Jason Pedersen
- Audrey Ramberg
- Dan Rich
- Nirmal Sajjan
- Lori Topley
- Antoinette Wilson



"...we are already seeing the consequences of 1° C of global warming through more extreme weather, rising sea levels and diminishing Arctic sea ice, among other changes."

IPCC Report SR 1.5, October 2018

## Conclusion



- Climate Change the greatest challenge we face
- Civic Leadership Project results beyond expectations
  - Much cheaper, quicker, and more consistent GHG inventories
  - A better understanding of the outlook and barriers of community members
- Environmental Insights Explorer help Google refine further
- Impact at Scale share insights across the country
- Google Partnership identify other areas for collaboration

# **Upcoming Events**

FREE Workshop for Homeowners
 "Energy Efficiency Rebates and Incentives"
 November 29, 2018, 6:30 p.m.



City Council Meeting
 Review "Environmental Sustainability Task Force"
 recommendations
 December 4, 2018, 6:30 p.m.





# Appendix



# Data Source Templates

Spreadsheet Tab	Purpose
Info	Documentation
Dept Input	Consistent input format for raw data
Validation	Reduces human error
Category Lookup	Automate time consuming categorization
Variables	Transparent, easy to understand calculations
Calculated Output	Ready for ClearPath

