

Strategic Ways to Meet the Climate Crisis

5 stages to Zero Carbon

- 1) Shift energy demand – reduce peak demands – even out demand as much as possible – this reduces the need for building “peaker” energy plants – generally methane gas plants
- 2) Reduce energy consumption – increase energy efficiency as much as possible via
 - a. Appliances
 - b. Envelope
 - c. Cars, trucks,
 - d. Change to multi-mobile – walk, ebikes, public transit, etc.
- 3) Change the energy consumed – reduce/eliminate use of fossil fuels – move to solar, wind, water plus net tech: hydrogen, biofuels – Use incentives provided by Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Act
- 4) Generate energy on-site – solar panels, geothermal, new tech – small wind, others
- 5) Purchase remainder off site but only renewables – new wind, water and solar only

Local Ways to respond to this:

- 1) All new Buildings must be as energy efficient as possible – as close to net zero as possible – see our letter to Council on revising entitlement process
- 2) Get existing buildings to reduce their energy consumption, shift demand and use federal/state incentives to electrify their energy usage (let’s not just wait for Dominion to switch)
- 3) Continue to support federal, state and local methods to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to change to more multi-mobile vs. car centrist but also faster switch to EVs.