



Golden Valley Energy Action Plan:

2023 PROGRESS UPDATE

The Energy Action Plan was developed during five workshops between August 2020 and January 2021. The plan was adopted in May 2021 and data-tracking began July 1, 2021. A team of community members worked together to develop a plan that reflects their best ideas and shared priorities.

This update summarizes actions and progress for the two-and-a-half years of the plan, from July 2021– December 2023.

VISION

Golden Valley will be a more sustainable and resilient community where the benefits of using and sourcing energy wisely accrue equitably to every resident, business, and visitor.

GOALS

Eliminate **65,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions** through electricity and natural gas savings in Golden Valley in the next 10 years—exclusive of Xcel Energy’s grid decarbonization efforts, a reduction of approximately 30 percent vs base-line.

Add an estimated **\$8.8 million in first year** energy savings to Golden Valley’s economy in 10 years with savings that residents and businesses will see from more efficient use of energy.

Help Golden Valley households most severely impacted by the costs of energy. This includes making certain these households are aware help is available and helping them to navigate the steps necessary to get the help they need.

FOCUS AREAS

The City identified three focus areas and eight strategies to concentrate resources and accomplish goals:

1. Reducing High and Severe Energy Cost Burden

- Locate Energy-Burdened Households
- Educate The Community
- Coordinate Service Delivery

2. Improving Energy Efficiency

- Conduct Residential Outreach, Including Multi-Family Buildings
- Conduct Business Outreach

3. Supporting Clean Energy

- Provide subscription Options
- Provide “Near-Site” And On-Site Renewable Energy Support
- Prepare For Electric Vehicles

PROGRESS

Total of **19,579 MTCO₂e eliminated** from electricity and natural gas
120 percent of six-month target complete

Total of **\$995,446 in first-year energy savings** for residents and businesses
45 percent of six-month target complete

Total of **72 energy-burdened households** supported
120 percent of six-month target complete

FOCUS AREAS UPDATES

Households signed up for
Home Energy Squad (HES):
 82
(191 percent of 2022 goal)

**Golden Valley rank for HES visits per capita in
 CEE 2023 Intercity Challenge for HES:**
 Seventh

Number of homes with Smart Thermostats:
 2023: 395
(Up 214 percent from 2022)

Premises participating in renewable programs:
 1,040 residential and 44 commercial and
 industrial

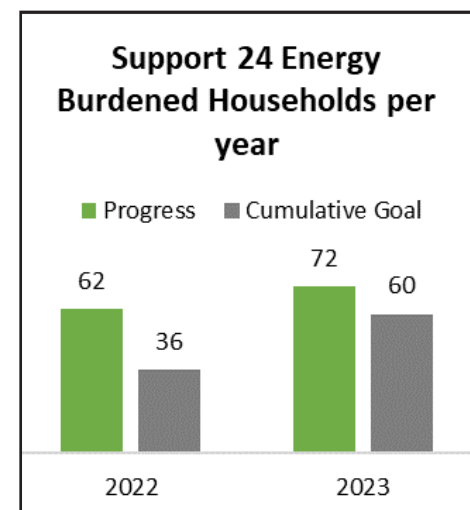
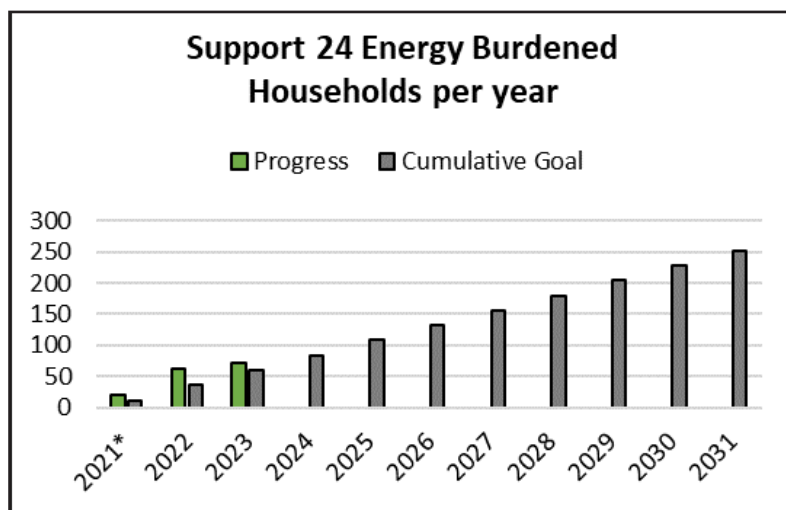
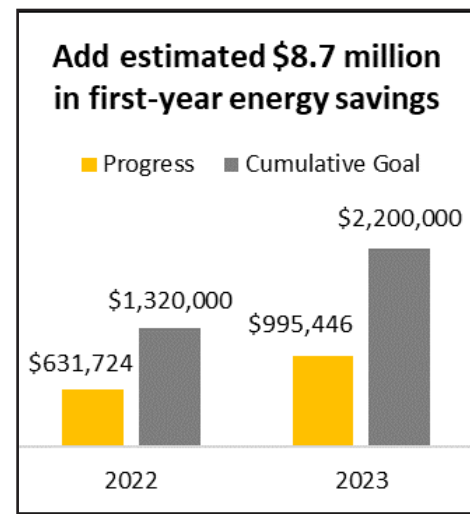
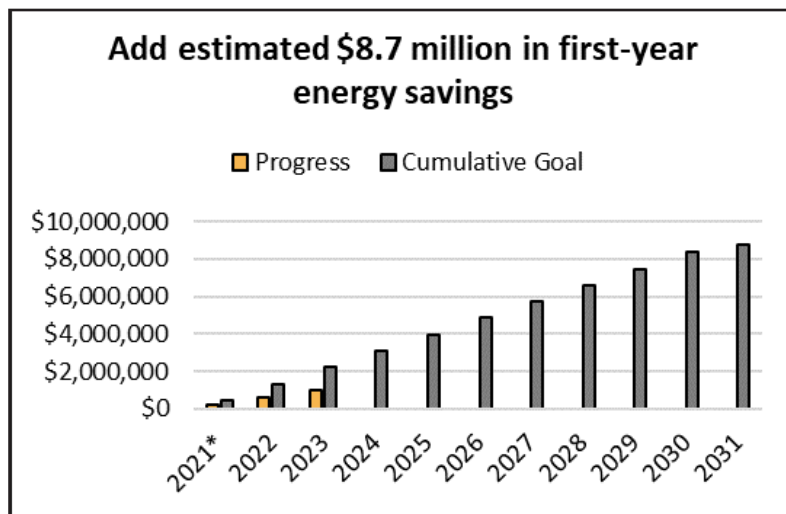
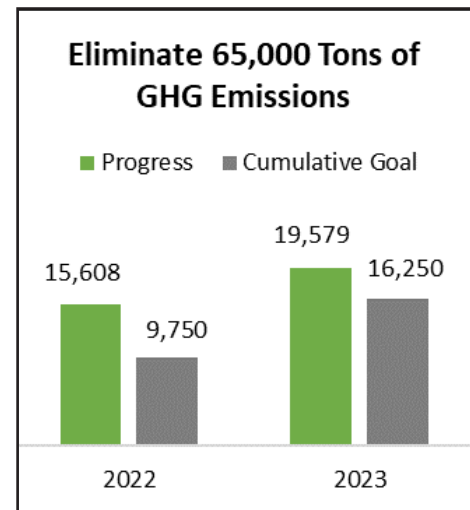
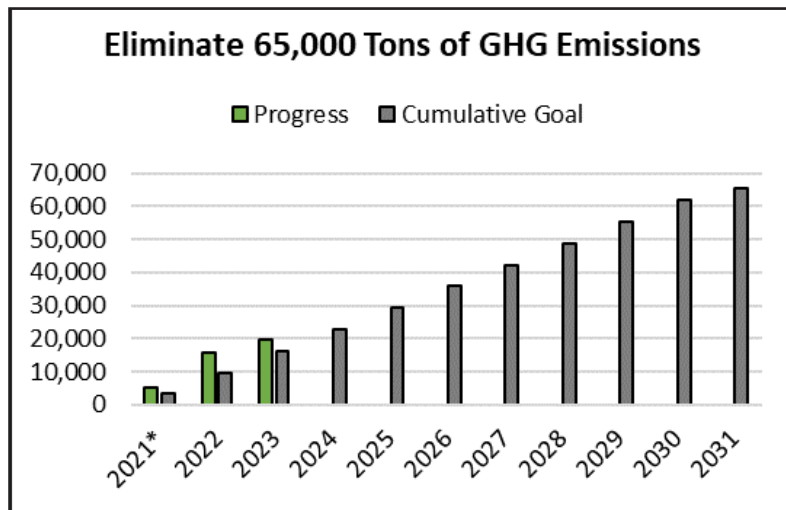
**Total kWh increase from
 renewable energy programs:**
 2023: 25.3 million kWh
(15 percent increase since 2019)

**Golden Valley's rank in electric vehicle (EV)
 ownership per capita among 30 most
 populous cities in Hennepin County:**
 Second
*(1.95 percent of city population owned
 an EV in 2023, up from 1.24 percent in 2022)*

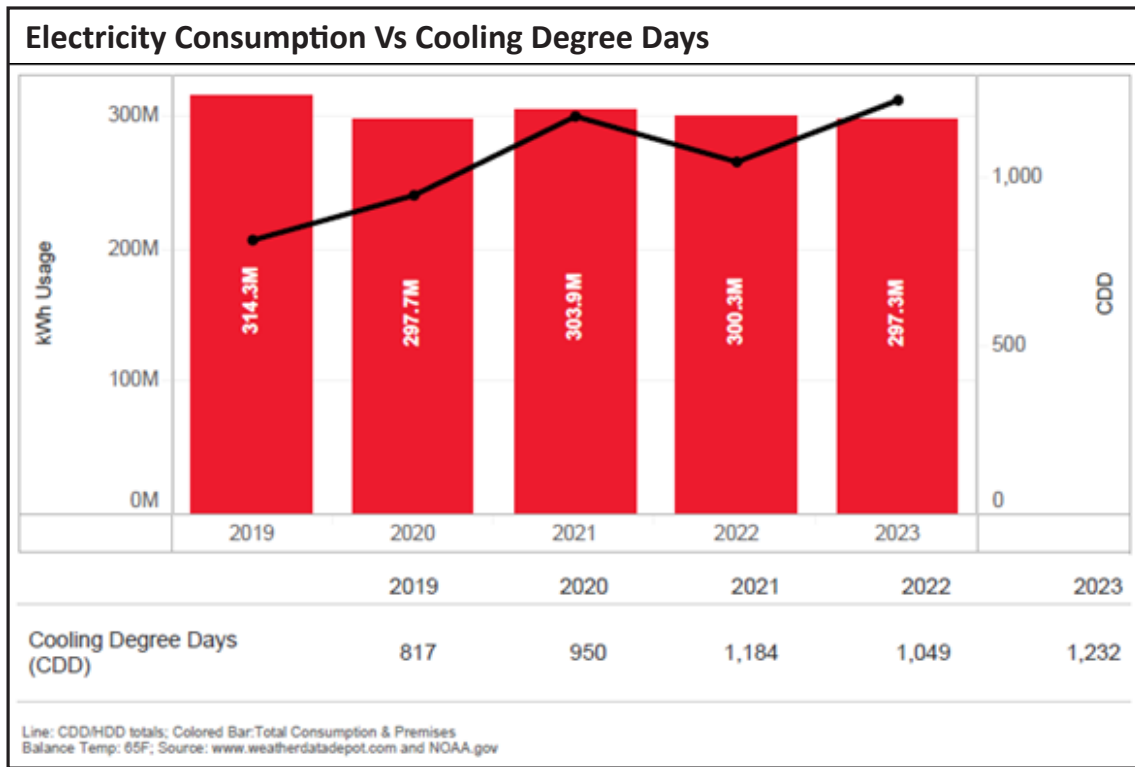
**Increase in EV ownership in
 Golden Valley since 2019:**
 160 percent
*(435 EVs were registered
 in Golden Valley in 2023)*

**Number of public EV chargers
 in Golden Valley:**
 Two Level 2 EV chargers—one at City Hall, and
 one at Brookview Golden Valley (added in 2021)

Compared to 2019 baseline:
 5.4 percent decrease in electricity usage across
 the city in 2023 despite a 50.7 percent increase
 in Cooling Degree Days



*2021 data is for July 2021–December 2021 only (6-month period)



IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Shared Home Energy Squad, Energy Assistance programs, and behavior change tips in City newsletter, social media, website, and at tabling events
- Planned and hosted an event for community members to learn about electric vehicles and electrification resources
- Continued promotion of Energy Hero business recognition program to highlight businesses who contribute to progress on the Energy Action Plan
- Presented about multi-family building efficiency at building owner and managers meetings
- Tabled at multiple community events and sustainability fairs in Golden Valley to share energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities with residents
- Created flyers to promote electrification of household equipment

GET INVOLVED

Visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/Energy to read more about the City's Energy Action Plan and find ways to support it. Contact the City at planning@goldenvalleymn.gov to learn how you can help achieve Golden Valley's energy vision.

ENERGY DATA GLOSSARY

Check out the [Energy Terms 101](#) interactive digital resource to learn more.

Demand Side Management (DSM): Demand Side Management (DSM) aims to encourage consumers to decrease energy consumption. Xcel Energy offers DSM programs, like efficiency rebates or energy assessments, to help consumers reduce and shift their energy consumption.

Premise: A premise is a unique identifier for the location of electricity or natural gas service. In most cases it is a facility location. There can be multiple premises per building, and multiple premises per individual debtor.

Cooling Degree Days (CDD): Cooling degree days (CDDs) are a measure of how hot the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days and correlates to cooling demands. For example, the more CDDs there are, the higher air conditioner use is likely to be. This is often seen through an increase in electricity consumption.

A degree day compares the mean outdoor temps recorded for a location compared to 65 degrees Fahrenheit. So, 3 CDD would be equal to one full 24-hour period of 68 degrees (3 degrees warmer than the baseline 65 degrees).

Heating Degree Days (HDD): Heating degree days (HDDs) are a measure of how cold the temperature was on a given day or during a period of days and correlates to heating demands. For example, the more HDDs there are, the higher furnace use is likely to be. This is often seen through an increase in natural gas consumption. A degree day compares the mean outdoor temps recorded for a location compared to 65 degrees Fahrenheit. So, 3 HDD would be equal to one full 24-hour period of 62 degrees (3 degrees colder than the baseline 65 degrees).

UNITS OF MEASURE

Greenhouse Gases (GHG): GHG are gases in the atmosphere that absorb and emit radiation and significantly contribute to climate change. The primary GHGs in the earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone.

Kilowatt-hour (kWh): A unit of electricity consumption

Therm (thm): A unit of natural gas consumption

Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (MTCO_{2e}): A unit of measure for greenhouse gas emissions. The unit "CO_{2e}" represents an amount of a greenhouse gas whose atmospheric impact has been standardized to that of one unit mass of carbon dioxide (CO₂), based on the global warming potential (GWP) of the gas.

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS

Windsource®: An Xcel Energy subscription program enabling customers to source their electricity from wind for an additional monthly cost

Solar*Rewards® Community: This subscription program enables customers to subscribe to a nearby, third-party community solar garden. Customers receive a credit for the energy produced by the portion of the solar garden represented by their subscription.

Renewable*Connect®: An Xcel Energy subscription program enabling customers to source their

electricity from solar and wind for an additional monthly cost

Solar*Rewards®: An incentivized Xcel Energy program for on-site solar installations, with excess energy generation sold back to Xcel Energy

Net-Metering: A non-incentivized Xcel Energy program for on-site solar installations, with excess energy generation sold back to Xcel Energy

POPULAR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

Home Energy Squad®: A residential energy assessment program from Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy that includes a home energy audit and installation of energy-efficient materials

Residential Heating and Cooling: A rebate program for residential customers who purchase high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment

HVAC+R Efficiency: A program where businesses can earn rebates from Xcel Energy on high-efficiency heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration, and more

Small Business Lighting: A free lighting and HVAC assessment program for small- and medium-sized business customers

Lighting Efficiency: Business customers can earn rebates from Xcel Energy for purchasing and installing LED lighting fixtures, bulbs, and control systems.