



Tuesday November 26, 2024 5:30 p.m.

HOW TO ATTEND

- **In-person:** American Lake Conference Room (First Floor), Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW.
- **Virtually:** Online or by phone. Online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92038046123>. Or dial (253) 215-8782 and enter participant ID: 920 3804 6123.
- **Livestream:** YouTube.com/CityofLakewoodWA

Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should call 253-983-7887, as soon as possible in advance of the meeting so that an attempt to provide special accommodations can be made.

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Members: Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi- Vice-Chair, Alan Billingsley, Anessa McClendon, Kate Read, Janet Spingath, Shelly Thiel

Youth Council: Alexandra Corona-Hernandez, Nevaeh Tutt, Zoe Clifford, Irie Hinkle

Council Liaison: Ryan Pearson

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approving the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board of October 22, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Climate Change initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update
2. 2025 PRAB Work Plan

DIRECTORS REPORT

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting on Tuesday January 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Conference Room at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

ADJOURNMENT



City of Lakewood

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday October 22, 2024

City of Lakewood – Council Chambers

6000 Main Street SW Lakewood, WA 98499

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Telephone via Zoom: 253.215.8782 Participant ID: 920 3804 6123

CALL TO ORDER

Jason Gerwen called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Present: Jason Gerwen-Chair, Vito Iacobazzi- Vice Chair, Alan Billingsley, Kate Read, Janet Spingath, Shelly Thiel, Anessa McLendon

Staff Present: Mary Dodsworth – Director, Nikki York – Office Assistant

Youth Council Liaisons: Alexandra Corona-Hernandez-absent, Nevaeh Tutt-absent, Zoe Clifford-present, Irie Hinkle-present

City Council Liaison Excused: Ryan Pearson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VITO IACOBAZZI MOVED TO ADOPT THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 SECONDED BY KATE READ NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND MPU.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS

Playground Design and Planning for 2025: Daví de la Cruz asked the board to share how they define play. Board comments included, testing boundaries, tag, imagination, hide & seek, keep away, generational play, inside/outside, social or solitary, positive, fun, need to feel safe and exploratory i.e. bugs & leaves. Davi provided examples of historic play and discussed past playgrounds and challenges. The development of the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) helped expand playgrounds and advocated for standardization and safety. Although playgrounds may meet ADA accessibility guidelines it may not mean that it's inclusive. Recent trends in playgrounds

include opportunities for Adventure, Natural, Creative, Exploration, Water Spray Parks and Inclusive play. These all create more opportunities for socialization and generational play. Davi discussed the Inclusivity Checklist. The board discussed different playground options. Vito Iacobazzi mentioned that we don't have an endless pot of money so we should try to equalize play at regional parks and do the same with the neighborhood parks on a smaller scale. Shade, fencing and other amenities are just as important as the playground itself.

Directors Report:

Mary Dodsworth provided an update on the Partners for Parks Harvest Hoe Down fundraiser, Truck & Tractor Day, Forever Green Trails Conference, Tourism Board annual meeting, and staff member Elizabeth Schied's deployment for Emergency Management in North Carolina.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Kate Read asked about the possibility of moving the November Meeting a week earlier. Nikki York will send out a poll to see which date will work for most PRAB members.

Alan Billingsley shared the Partners for Parks presentation that was made at the Tacoma Rotary golf fundraiser for 150 people.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the American Lake Room at Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

ADJOURNMENT

Alan Billingsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Vito Iacobazzi seconded. MPU.

Jason Gerwen, Chair

Nikki York, Office Assistant



City of
Lakewood

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

Members:

Jason Gerwen, Chair	Kate Read
Vito Iacobazzi, Vice-Chair	Janet Spingath
Alan Billingsley	Shelly Thiel
Annessa McClendon	

Council Liaison:

Ryan Pearson, Councilmember

City Staff Support:

Mary Dodsworth, Director
Nikki York, Office Assistant

Meeting Schedule:

4th Tuesday of each month, 5:30 p.m., American Lake Room,
Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

2025 Work Plan:

1. Nisqually Partnership Project Update
2. Parks Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Update
3. Special Event Update
4. Street End Project community outreach and design recommendation
5. Climate Change initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update
6. Legacy Plan Update
7. Senior Services Update
8. Historic Preservation (H-barn, cemeteries, cottages, cultural resources)
9. Code Changes as requested by Council
10. Youth Council Update

Date	Topic(s)
01.28.25	Elect Chair /Vice-Chair, Review Council approved 2025 Work Plan,
02.25.25	Nisqually Partnership Project Update
03.25.25	Special Event Update
04.22.25	Youth Council Update, Prepare for Parks Appreciation Day
05.27.25	Parks CIP Update, Prepare for Joint Meeting with Council
06.09.25	Joint Meeting with Council
06.24.25	Street End Project community outreach and design recommendation
07.22.25	Historic Preservation (H-barn, cemeteries, cottages)
09.23.25	Climate Change initiatives and Urban Forestry Program Update
10.28.25	Senior Services Update
11.25.25	TBD



Special Events:

Date	Event
01.11.25	MLK Beloved Community Welcome Walk
05.17.25	Youth Fishing Event
05.30.25	Street Festival
Tuesdays June -August	Summer Concert Series
Tuesdays June-August	Farmers Market
07.19.25	SummerFEST
09.06.25	Fiesta de la Familia
10.11.25	Truck & Tractor Day
12.06.25	Holiday Parade of Lights

DRAFT

2025 Natural Environment and Climate Change Plan

11/26/24 PRAB

Tiffany Speir, Planning Division Manager
Planning & Public Works Department



Lakewood Urban Forestry Program Development

Lakewood's 2024 Comprehensive Plan Natural Environment (NE) and Energy & Climate Change (ECC) Elements direct the creation and maintenance of an Urban Forestry Program (UFP.)

NE-6 Maintain an urban forestry program to preserve significant trees, promote tree health, and increase tree coverage citywide.

NE-6.1 Maintain a comprehensive urban forestry program.

NE-6.2 Encourage the planting and regular maintenance of street trees to enhance urban greenery.

NE-6.3 Provide for the retention of significant trees and tree stands and the restoration of tree stands within the city.

NE-6.4 Maintain a city tree fund to preserve wooded areas, restore and enhance native trees, and provide for education and research.

NE-6.5 Work towards a citywide goal of 40% tree canopy cover by the year 2050.

NE-6.6 Consider opportunities to increase canopy and environmental equity when evaluating tree canopy distribution.

Lakewood Urban Forestry Program Development

Lakewood's 2024 Comprehensive Plan Natural Environment (NE) and Energy & Climate Change (ECC) Elements direct the creation and maintenance of an Urban Forestry Program (UFP.)

EC-5 Develop a Climate Resilient Community.

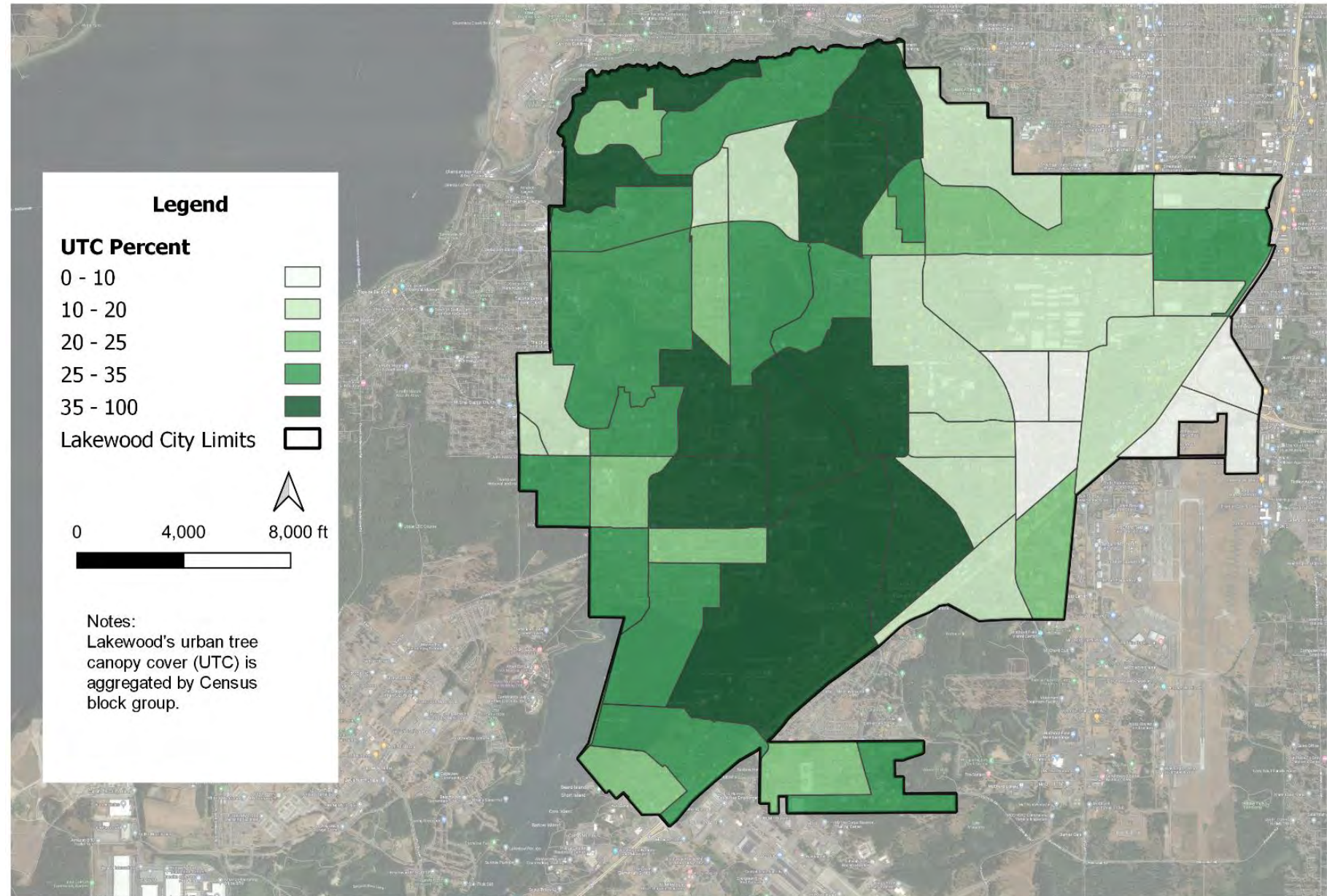
EC-5.5 Improve the Urban Tree Canopy. Enhance the quality and sustainability of the urban forest and urban tree canopy to mitigate urban heat island effects, address stormwater drainage concerns, and meet environmental quality goals.

Urban Tree Canopy Cover Distribution Lakewood, WA

The City has been preparing to craft an urban forestry program by gathering data about the current tree canopy from three sources:

Results from 2022 Tree Canopy Mapping for Code Updates

- Calculation of current tree canopy cover
- identification of prioritized planting areas

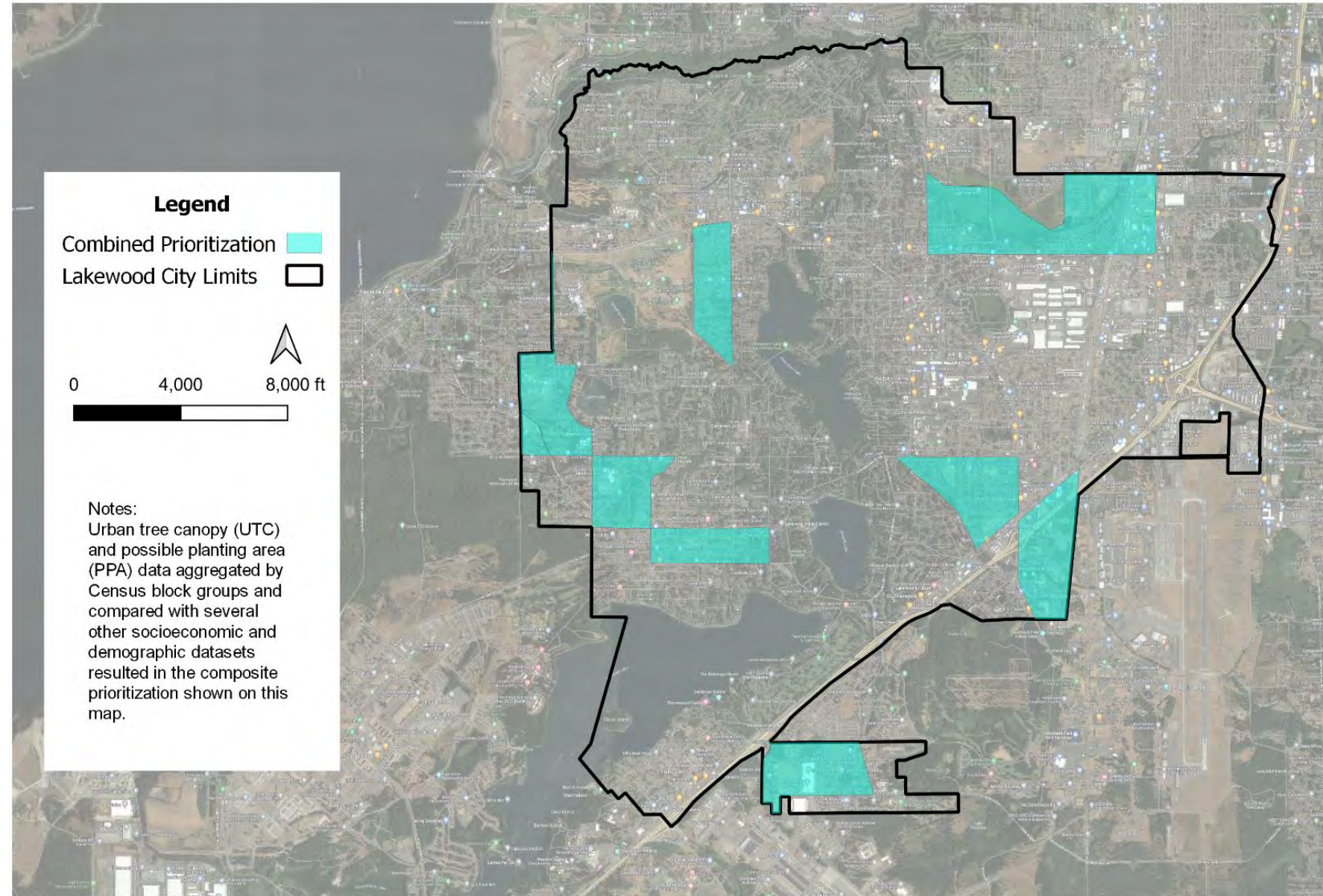


Tree Canopy Analysis: Prioritization of Census Block Groups Lakewood, WA

The City has been preparing to craft an urban forestry program by gathering data about the current tree canopy from three sources:

Results from 2022 Tree Canopy Mapping for Code Updates

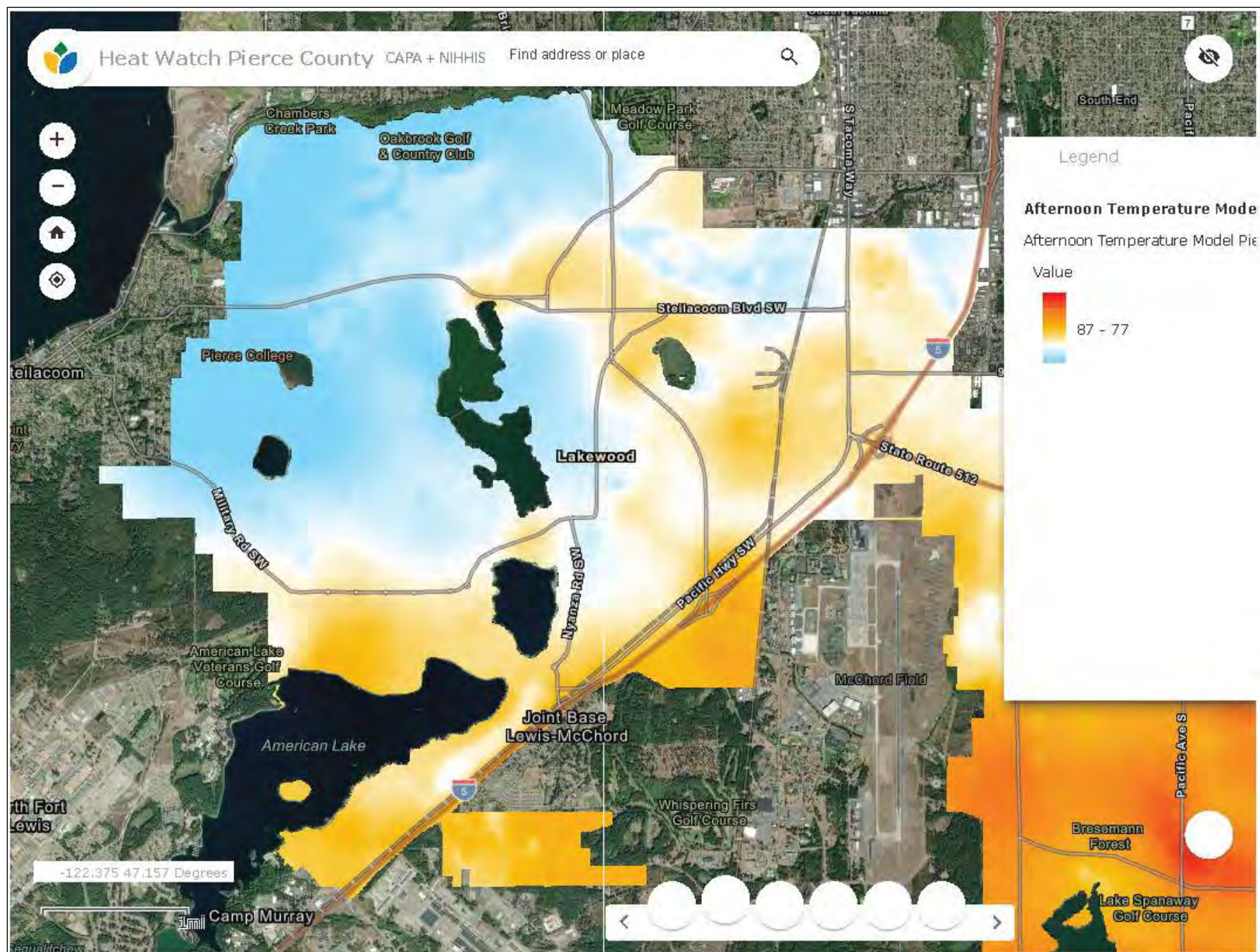
- Calculation of current tree canopy cover
- identification of prioritized planting areas



Lakewood, WA Tree Preservation Code Update 2022

The City has been preparing to craft an urban forestry program by gathering data about the current tree canopy from three sources:

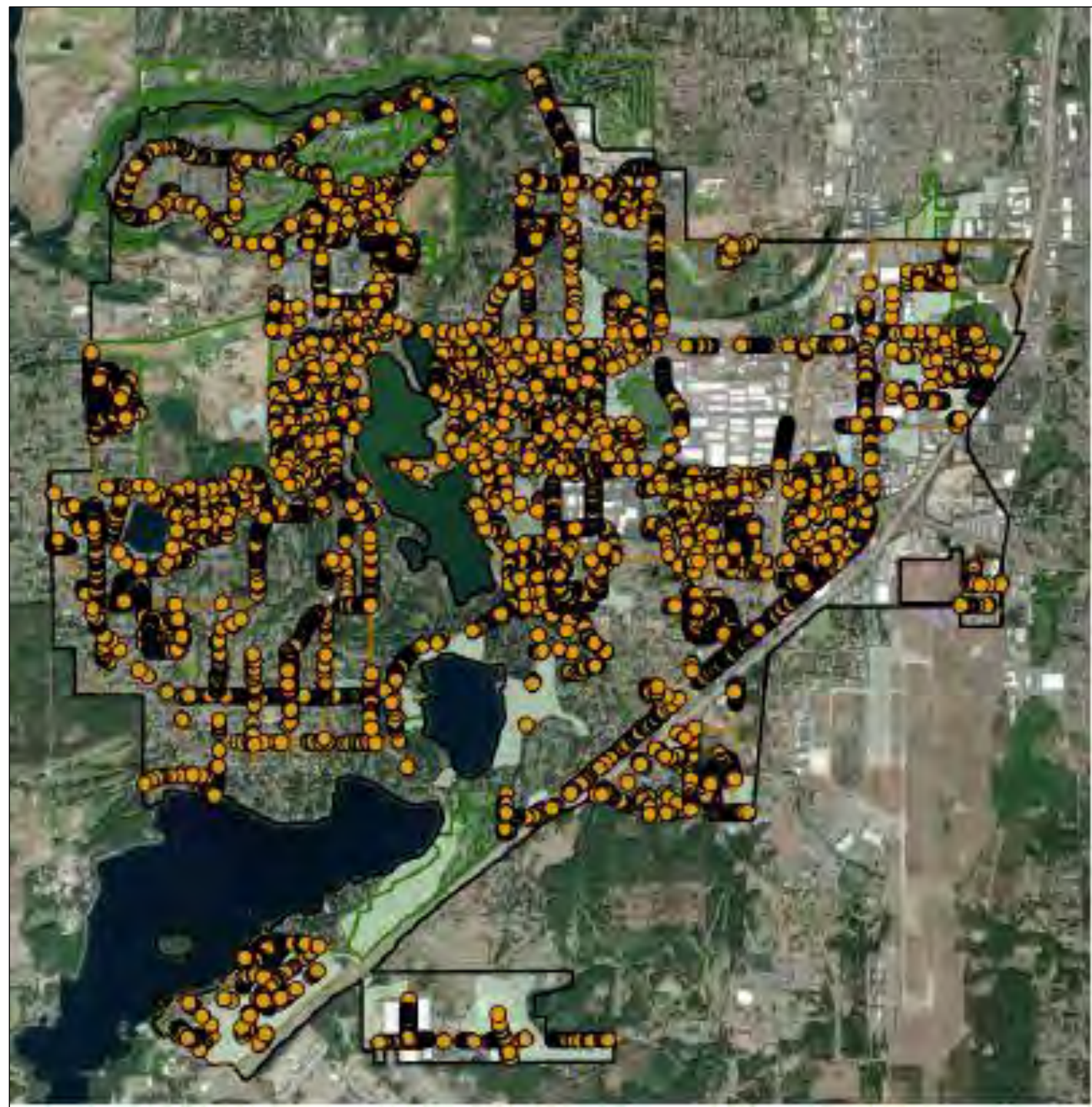
Results from Lakewood 2024 “Heat Watch Pierce County” Report



The City has been preparing to craft an urban forestry program by gathering data about the current tree canopy from three sources:

Results from Lakewood 2024 Tree Inventory

- Rights-of-way – particularly on arterials and in areas of Lakewood with less than an estimated 35% canopy cover
- Parks, Open Spaces, and Natural Areas
- Clover Park Technical College
- Pierce College
- Western State Hospital
- St. Clare Hospital, and
- Clover Park School District schools



Individual tree data was collected for **11,822 trees**

Once the 2024 Lakewood tree inventory report is available (expected in December), the City will begin the work of synthesizing the data from the three sources listed above to help identify the near-term priorities for the urban forestry program.

City of Lakewood	Public Institutional Grounds
City ROWs	Tillicum Elementary School
Active Park	Tyee Park Elementary School
American Lake Park	Idlewild Elementary school
Edgewater Park	Lake Louise Elementary School
Harry Todd Park	Dr. Claudia Thomas Middle School
Kiwanis Park	Lakes High School
Oakbrook Park	Clover Park High School
Ponders park	Lochburn Middle School
Primley park	Dower Elementary School
Springbrook Park	Custer Elementary School
Washington Park	Hudtloff Middle School
	Oakbrook Elementary School
	Lakeview Hope Elementary School
	Tillicum Elementary School
	Tyee Park Elementary School
	Idlewild Elementary school
	Lake Louise Elementary School
	St. Claire Hospital campus
	Pierce College Campus

In addition, GIS-based data was collected on **509 acres**

- Fort Steilacoom Park (340 acres) includes Pierce College
- Seeley Lake Park (47 acres) (Pierce County Park)
- Wards Lake Park (22 acres)
- South Puget Sound Wildlife Area (100 acres)

Lakewood Urban Forestry Program Development

Recommendations from the 2023 *Establishing the Roots of Urban Forestry in Lakewood, WA: An Implementation Guide*

This guide, developed for the City by the UW Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, provides background research and recommendations on how to responsibly craft an urban forestry program (UFP.) It includes best practices, case studies, City resource and administrative capacity assessments, and community engagement recommendations. The guide also includes the following implementation recommendations:

- Recommendation 1: Develop a mission, vision and goals for an urban forestry program;
- Recommendation 2: Complete a comprehensive resource assessment and begin restoration practices in the City;
- Recommendation 3: Develop a comprehensive community engagement strategy; and
- Recommendation 4: Create administrative capacity within the existing City organizational structure. This recommendation includes several budget templates, monitoring and evaluation guidance, and program evaluation guidance.

Lakewood Urban Forestry Program Development

Table 12 from the Implementation Guide lays out a 5-year plan covering forest health, tree population expansion, community engagement, equitable access, and sustainability actions.

YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5
Forest Health				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete FLAT phases 2 and 3, which includes comprehensive tree assessment - Standardize tree maintenance practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Begin four-phase restoration on priority MUs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue four-phase restoration on priority MUs, incorporating new MUs as possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Begin four-phase restoration on remaining MUs. - Hire an urban forester to lead restoration and maintenance efforts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue four-phase restoration on all MUs, including monitoring and ongoing invasives control.
Tree Population Expansion				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain 28% public UTC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain 28% public UTC. - Begin planting new trees on publicly owned land guided by four-phase restoration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain 28% public UTC. - Continue planting trees on publicly owned land guided by four-phase restoration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain 28% public UTC. - Continue planting trees on publicly owned land guided by four-phase restoration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain 28% public UTC. - Continue planting trees on publicly owned land guided by four-phase restoration. - Begin outreach to increase trees planted on privately owned land.

Remaining Items from 2022 Energy & Climate Change Three-Year Work Plan interrelate with pending Lakewood HB 1181, EECBG, Urban Forestry Program Items

- **Develop a five-year plan for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.**
- **Coordinate a regional electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure strategy with neighboring cities, Pierce County, and the State.**
- **Develop/promote an urban forest management/master reforestation plan (UFP.)**

NEXT STEPS

- Synthesize policies, data and action items from:
 - 2022 Tree Canopy Cover Analysis;
 - 2022 ECC Plan;
 - 2024 Comprehensive Natural Environment and Energy & Climate Change Elements;
 - HB 1181;
 - EECBG Program; and
 - 2024 Urban Heat Island Study, and 2024 Lakewood Tree Inventory
- Draft 2025 Natural Environment & Climate Change (NECC) Implementation Plan (10+ years)
- Draft 2025 Natural Environment & Climate Change (NECC) Work Plan (3 years)
- Planning Commission & City Council review in 2025

Background: 2025 Natural Environment and Climate Change Plan

In recent years, Lakewood has proactively adopted policies, regulations, and implementation actions related to energy, climate change, tree retention, and urban forestry.

In 2022, the City Council adopted a **15-item Three-Year Energy & Climate Work Plan** via Ordinance 776. As of now, 9 Work Plan items are completed, 4 items are ongoing, and 2 are not yet started.

Current Comprehensive Plan Policy LU-60 states as follows:

- 1) directs **establishing a city urban forestry program**; and
- 2) sets a **citywide tree canopy goal of 40% coverage by 2050** and directs the City to consider opportunities to increase canopy and environmental equity when evaluating tree canopy distribution.







Background: 2025 Natural Environment and Climate Change Plan

With the adoption of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations as well as new state laws requiring specific actions for climate change and resiliency planning, there is a need to update and refocus the City's Energy & Climate Implementation and Work Plans.

It is recommended that Lakewood address both the creation of an urban forestry program and implementing required climate change & resiliency items by adopting:

- **a 2025 Natural Environment and Climate Change (NECC) Implementation Plan; and**
- **a 2025 NECC Three-Year Work Plan**

2022 Energy & Climate Change Plan Unfinished Items

Item #	Measure	Status as of 11/4/24
2 	Develop a five-year plan for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.	Not started. City waiting for targets and template guidance being developed at state & regional levels.
6 	Work with Pierce County and its cities to develop a regional approach and best practices to address climate change.	Ongoing. Updated Pierce Co. Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) <u>adopted</u> in 2022. Lakewood a founding city of, and participating in, Pierce Co. Climate Conversation
9 	Advocate for improvements to the I-5 <u>corridor</u> the Nisqually Delta at both the state and federal levels.	Ongoing. Initial \$75M state funding secured, project scoping underway
12 	Every two years, or as otherwise dictated by Washington State, update LMC Title 15, Buildings and Construction Codes to address hazards resulting from climate change.	Ongoing
14 	Coordinate a regional electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure strategy with neighboring cities, Pierce County, and the State.	Not started.
15 	Develop/promote an urban forest management/master reforestation plan (UFP.)	Ongoing. Guidance Report from UW Evans School competed in 2023; Lakewood tree inventory and urban heat island mapping conducted in 2024.

HB 1181: “Improving the state's response to climate change by updating the state's planning framework”

In 2023, the State Legislature adopted [E2SHB 1181](#) that amended the GMA and added a significant new body of work for local governments as follows:

- Lakewood’s Comprehensive Plan, development regulations, and regional plans must:
 - support state greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals and per-capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT); and
 - foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards, among other requirements.

Lakewood has been awarded \$25,000 for activities in 2023-2025 biennium; additional funds for 2025-2027 and 2027-2029 are anticipated but depend on future state legislative sessions.

HB 1181 Tentative 5-Year Schedule for Lakewood

2024-2025

- Update the **Parks & Recreation Element** to include a tree canopy evaluation.
- Update the **Utilities Element** to include the general location, proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities, including electrical, telecommunications, and natural gas systems.
- Update the **Capital Facilities Element** inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities to include green infrastructure.

HB 1181 Tentative 5-Year Schedule for Lakewood

2025-2027 (funding pending state legislative action)

- Update the Lakewood Comprehensive Plan **Climate Change and Resiliency Element** to include a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) sub-element and climate resiliency sub-element consistent with E2SHB 1181:
 - develop a local emission inventory, conduct a Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Capita (VMT) study, and project emission reductions to inform the adopted Comprehensive Plan goals and policies; and
 - explore expected local climate impacts; audit existing plans and policies for climate resilience opportunities, gaps, and barriers; assess local assets' climate vulnerability and risk; and develop and prioritize science-based climate resilience goals and policies for Comprehensive Plans.

- Update the **Land Use Element** to:
 - include green spaces, urban and community forests. Give special consideration to achieving environmental justice in the element's goals and policies; and
 - reduce and mitigate the risk to lives and property posed by wildfires by using land use planning tools.

HB 1181 Tentative 5-Year Schedule for Lakewood

2027-2029 (funding pending state legislative action)

- Update the **Transportation Element traffic demand forecast** to:
 - address multimodal transportation demand forecasts and needs; and
 - address forecasts of traffic demands and needs outside of the City to inform an element that balances transportation system safety and convenience to accommodate all users of the transportation system to safely, reliably, and efficiently provide access and mobility to people and goods.
- Also update the **Transportation Element** to:
 - include estimated multimodal level of service impacts, giving priority to inclusion of transportation facilities and services providing the greatest multimodal safety benefit to each category of roadway users for the context and speed of the facility;
 - include an inventory of active transportation facilities and multimodal level of service standards for all locally owned arterials, locally and regionally operated transit routes that serve urban growth areas, state-owned or operated transit routes that serve urban areas, and active transportation facilities; and
 - include an Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan.

HB 1181 Tentative 5-Year Schedule for Lakewood

2027-2029

- Develop an **Urban Heat Resilience Strategy**.
- Develop **Native & Climate-resilient Planting Plans for Municipal Projects**.
- Update the City's **Urban Forest Management/Master Reforestation Plan**.

2025-2026 Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant (EECBG Program)

Lakewood has applied for a federal EECBG totaling \$123,000 to develop an Energy Plan. This effort will be coordinated with the HB 1181 work required for completion between '25 and '29.

A strategic energy plan is a long-term roadmap to focus and guide efforts and actions toward a defined energy vision. Plans catalog existing energy consumption, sources, users, articulates goals, develops strategies and actions to meet the goals, and identifies resources needed to ensure effective completion of these strategies.

Energy plan:

- identify areas of opportunity to reduce energy use and energy waste, switch to different energy sources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, anticipate increased energy needs and associated infrastructure, and/or improve resilience;
- Develop an **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan** (HB 1181 Item)