

State of Connecticut
FY 2020

Sustainability Performance Plan

Capital Region Development Authority

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Senior Sustainability Officer



This report was written in compliance with section 5 of Executive Order 1.

EO 1 Background

On April 24, 2019, Governor Lamont launched the GreenerGov CT initiative by signing Executive Order 1 (EO 1) which directs Executive Branch agencies to advance environmental leadership and cost savings for taxpayers by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other sustainability objectives in energy use in buildings and vehicles, water use, and waste disposal.

EO 1 calls on agencies to recommit to and expand the state's Lead by Example (LBE) program to reduce the operating costs and environmental impacts of state government facilities and operations. EO 1 builds on the foundation of the state's LBE program by setting new sustainability goals, listed below, for Executive Branch agencies and invoking deeper levels of commitment and participation.

GHG

45% reduction in
GHG emissions
below 2001 levels

WATER

10% reduction in
water consumption
from a FY20 baseline

WASTE

25% reduction in
waste disposal from a
FY20 baseline

Since the GreenerGov CT initiative was launched, significant progress has been made towards laying the groundwork for expanded LBE initiatives in the future: governance structures were established, baseline data was collected, and financing and project strategies were developed. Additionally, agencies reported completing or making progress on 120+ sustainability projects in FY19 in the first annual agency Sustainability Performance Plans. Sustainability Performance Plans are plans drafted each year by Senior Sustainability Officers to detail agency progress and necessary goals, actions, and responsible parties to achieve the targets set in EO 1.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought significant changes to the operations of state agencies as agencies responded to the crisis. The impact of the pandemic on the sustainability goals of EO 1 is not yet known, but some effects will be documented in the FY20 Sustainability Performance Plans and the GreenerGov CT Progress Report.

CRDA and EO 1

CRDA's mission

- To stimulate new investment, rebrand and promote the district as a multicultural destinations for all ages to enjoy and as a vibrant multidimensional downtown
- Attract major sports, conventions and exhibitions
- Expand residential housing development as a way to enhance the economic and cultural vitality of the area
- Operate, maintain and market the Connecticut Convention Center
- Stimulate family-oriented tourism, art, culture, history, education and entertainment
- Manage designated facilities
- Stimulate economic development and new investment in the Capital region
- Development and redevelopment property to attract and retain businesses
- Facilitate the relocation of the area State office buildings

CRDA's FY20 participation overview

- Participation or minute review of Steering Committee meetings
- Participation or minute review of SMM project team
- Initiate reusing office supplies guidance
Disseminated recycling guidance to employees

CRDA staff involvement in EO 1

Lauren Vaz
Jennifer Gaffey

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Sustainability Project

including projects relating to infrastructure improvements or behavioral change that took place in owned, leased, or occupied space and were either in progress or completed in FY20

Sustainability Projects

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Location: CRDA office

Project Type: Behavioral - Waste

Description: Ensured recycling bins were at all staff offices or easily accessible

Status: Completed in FY 2020

Benefits Summary: Reduction of non-recycled waste

COVID-19 Impacts

Impact of COVID-19 on agency's ability to make progress on the goals of EO 1 in FY20

Made meeting attendance more difficult with increased covid-related tasks Recycling project would of been more effective with staff in the office full time

COVID-19 changes that have led to a positive sustainability outcome that will continue after the pandemic

Strategically evaluating building footprint needed for agency work

Reassessing agency fleet

✓ **Holding virtual meetings as a more regular practice**

✓ **Increased telework as a regular practice**

No changes to report

Resources Needed

Barriers encountered while making EO 1 progress in FY20

Funding

Staffing

✓ **Technical expertise**

No barriers encountered

Other

Specific type of support or resources needed to make progress on future sustainability projects

Short sustainability guidance memos or articles to pass along to staff about what they can do in the office and at home. Quick read examples.

Performance Data

The following data was pulled from EnergyCAP, the state's utility tracking software, on March 15, 2021. Note that utility data on agencies occupying space owned by another state agency may or may not be linked to their EnergyCAP accounts.

Total Utility Costs

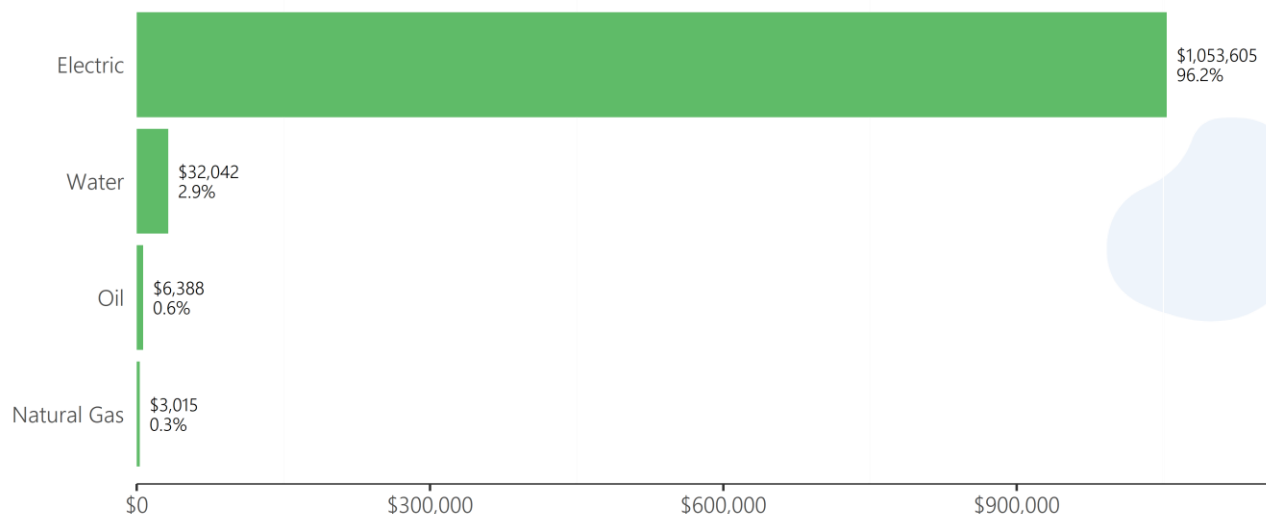
Commodity	Unit	Use			Cost		
		FY19	FY20	Change	FY19	FY20	Change
Electric & Natural Gas	MMBtu	44,289	39,784.0	-10.2%	\$1,147,735	\$1,056,621	-7.9%
Other Building Energy	MMBtu	9,977	441.8	-95.6%	\$24,756	\$6,388	-74.2%
Vehicle Gasoline	Gal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle Diesel	Gal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total GHG Emissions	mtCO2e	4,089	3,032.7	-25.8%	-	-	-
Water	Kgal	2,678	3,028.4	+13.1%	\$27,777	\$32,042	+15.4%
Total	-	-	-	-	\$1,200,269	\$1,095,051	-8.8%

*Gasoline and diesel costs estimated based on average weekly cost from EIA.gov, \$2.37 for gasoline and \$2.96 for diesel in FY20 and \$2.57 for gasoline and \$3.18 for diesel in FY19.

**Other Building Energy sources include oil, propane, steam, and chilled water.

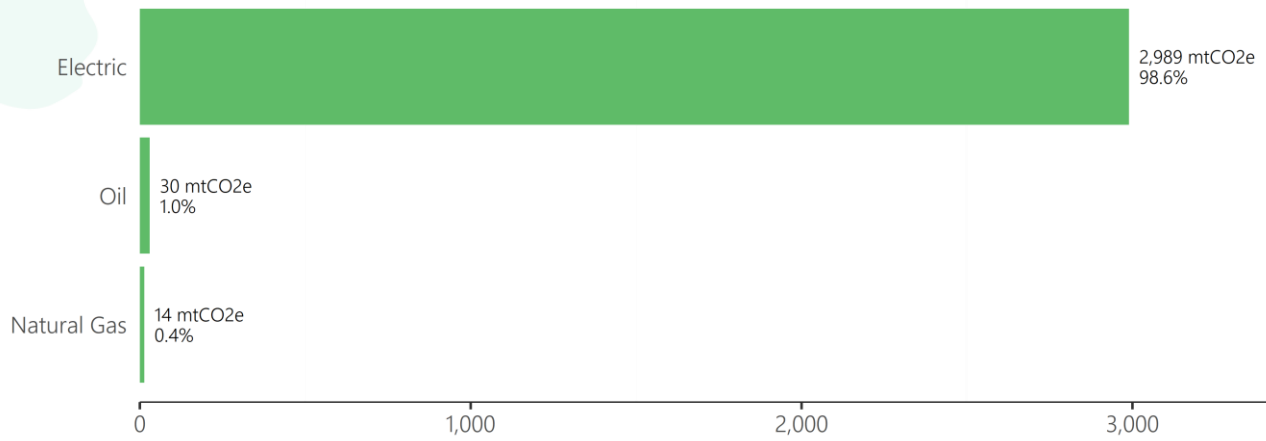
Commodity Cost Breakdown, FY20

The chart below represents the breakdown of commodity costs at CRDA in FY20.



GHG Emissions Breakdown, FY20

The chart below represents the breakdown of GHG emissions by commodity at CRDA in FY20.



Share of Utility Costs and GHG Emissions

The two charts below display CRDA's proportion of the FY20 total utility cost and the total GHG emissions of all agencies participating in EO 1.

