



Staff Report For Information

TO: Committee of the Whole – July 10, 2025
AUTHOR: Raphael Shay – Manager, Sustainable Development
SUBJECT: **Annual Reporting of Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

This report presents the Sunshine Coast Regional District's 2024 corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory and assesses progress toward achieving the Board's adopted emissions reduction targets of 20% by 2026 and 45% by 2030 (relative to 2019 levels). The report also identifies completed and upcoming projects contributing to these goals and outlines further considerations for meeting short-term targets. While no immediate decision is required, this update is intended to inform future operational, capital, and budget planning.

BACKGROUND

The Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Target Policy (Attachment A) includes the targets of reducing GHG emissions by 20% by 2026 and 45% by 2030 relative to 2019 levels. The policy also states that Sustainable Development Division will calculate corporate GHG emissions annually and report on options for meeting targets.

SCRD reports emissions to the Province of BC by July 31 of each year as part of the Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP).

DISCUSSION

As seen in Figure 1, emissions continue to be relatively stable following the COVID-19-associated decrease.

At 1,257 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e), **there remains 366 tCO₂e in reductions to achieve by 2026.**

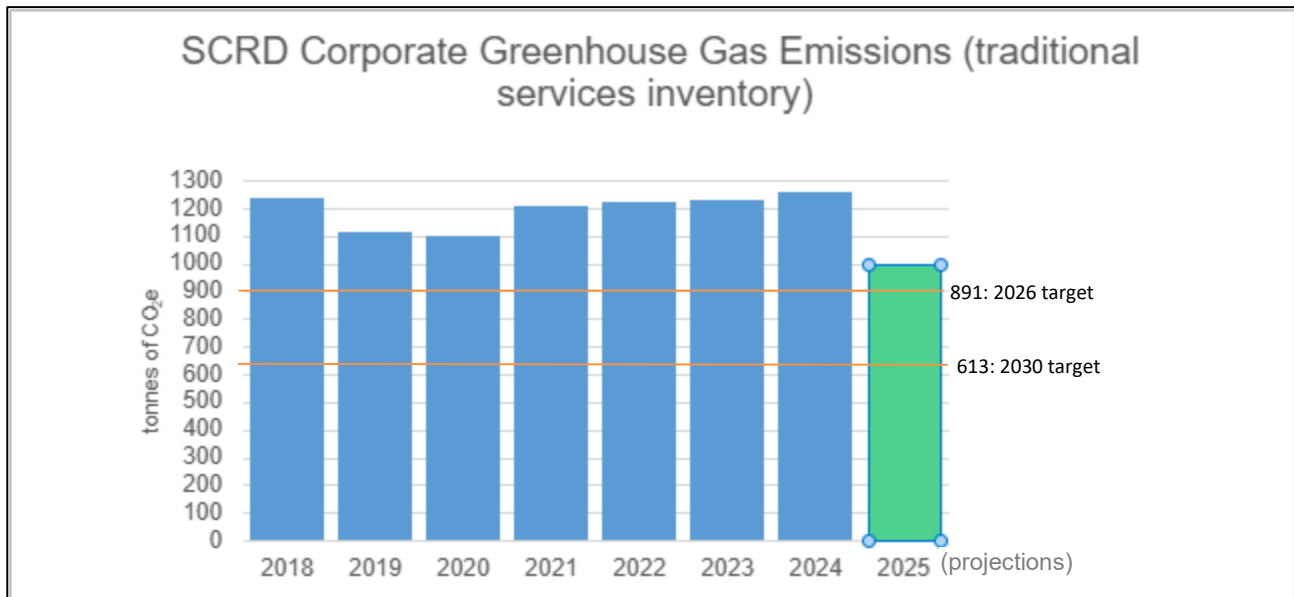


Figure 1. SCRD corporate GHG emissions

Figure 2 outlines where these emissions come from. The primary source of the SCRD's emissions remains natural gas used at aquatic centres (Figure 3). Fleet is the second largest source of emissions and this is distributed amongst all services.

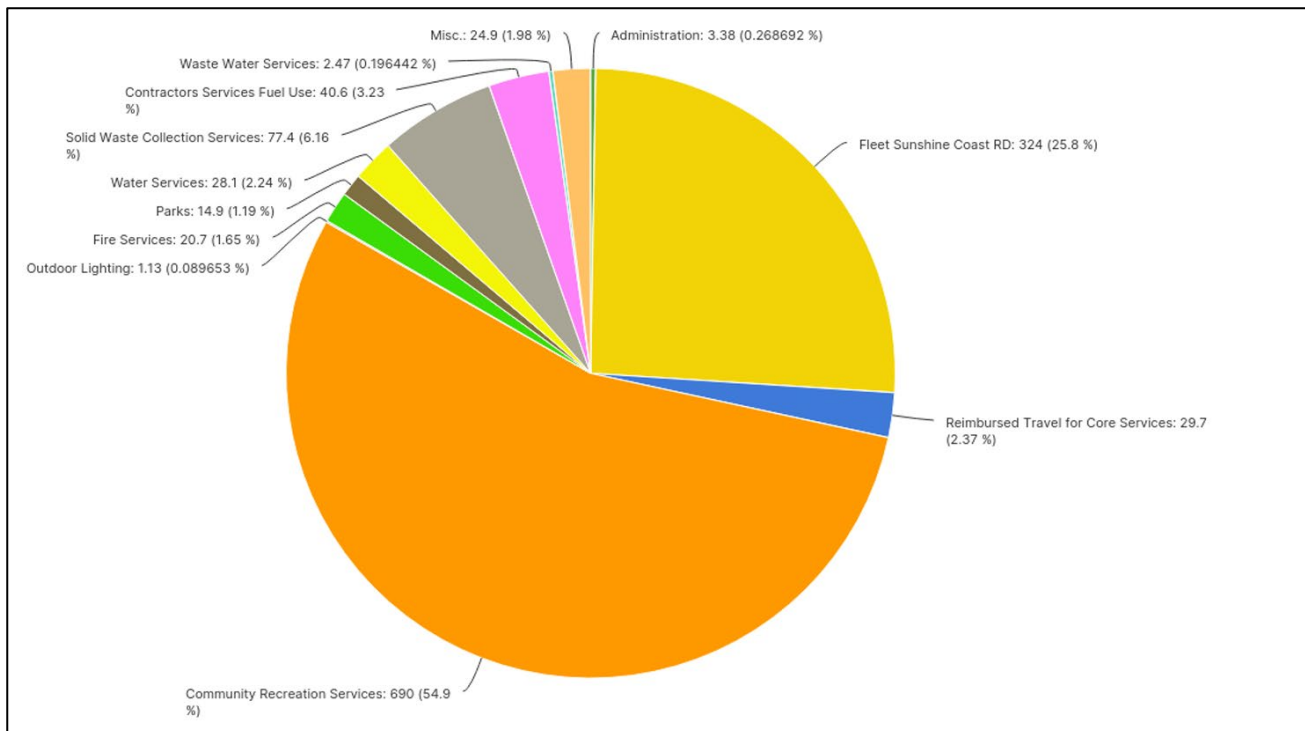


Figure 2. Corporate Emissions by Service Area

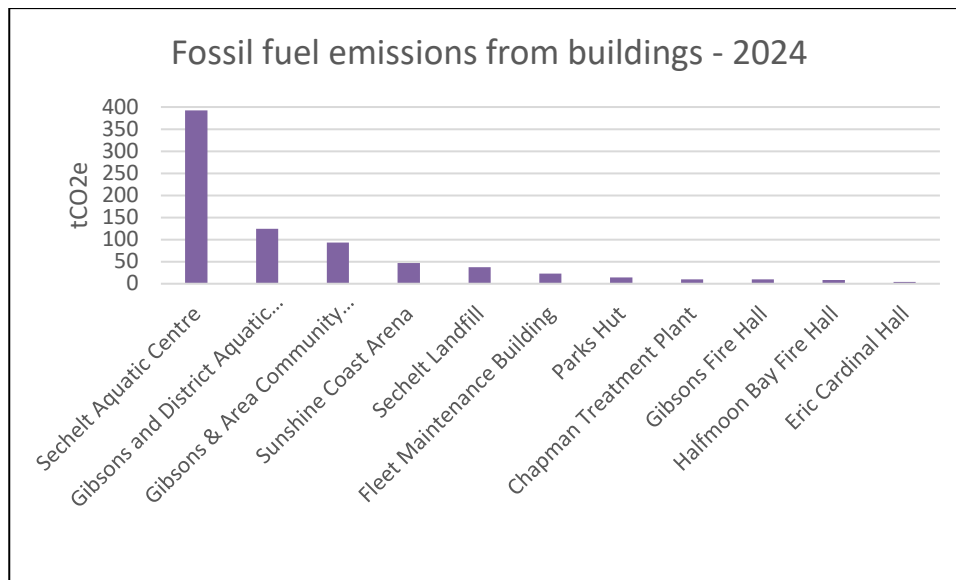


Figure 3. Fossil fuel related emissions from buildings 2024

High-level analysis reveals several projects in late 2024 and 2025 have materially reduced emissions. Some of these completed or underway projects outlined in the [policy and target-setting report of November 23, 2023](#) include:

- Heat pump replacement of Sechelt Aquatic Centre and repair of solar thermal system was completed in November 2024. This is expected to reduce corporate emissions by 15% or approximately 190tCO₂e.
- Electrification of the Sechelt Landfill representing approximately 3% of emissions or approximately 37tCO₂e.
- Electrification of some vehicles and installation of electrical charging stations and associated electrical system upgrades. Specific impacts will be modeled and calculated as the vehicles are purchased and usage data becomes available.
- Energy efficient design of Connor Park Hall.
- Develop a Fleet Strategy. Fleet Strategy and staff implementation recommendations are forthcoming.
- Complete timely low carbon electrification projects, including:
 - Gibsons and District Aquatic Facility totos pool natural gas water heater was at end-of-life and was replaced with an electric water heater.
 - Sunshine Coast Arena's domestic hot water tank was at end of life and was replaced with an electric hot water tank representing approximately 1% in corporate emissions reduction. Tests are underway to see if second domestic hot water tank is needed. Second hot water tank uses natural gas and is approaching end-of-life.

Forecast: these projects may enable emissions to be reduced to around 1,000tCO₂e by the end of 2025 as shown in Figure 1. An additional emissions reduction of approximately 110tCO₂e is required to achieve the 2026 target. Staff are working on how best to implement the Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Target Policy. Analysis will inform upcoming decisions in items such as capital planning, feasibility studies, service

reviews, and 2026 Budget proposals.

The 2023 policy discussion report outlined the following items that should be considered:

- Continue planning for the operations and maintenance expansion needs for Transit/Fleet services including working collaboratively with BC Transit on preparing for the electrification of the transit fleet. Although BC Transit emissions are out of the boundary under consideration in this Policy, electrification of the transit fleet can provide opportunities for reducing SCRD emissions.
- Increasing facility maintenance capacity to optimize facility energy performance.
- Increase project management capacity and Corporate Services capacity associated with asset management and grants to undertake low carbon electrification and efficiency projects.
- Complete several timely low carbon electrification and efficiency projects and a limited number of efficient fossil fuel replacement projects at Asset End of Life. These are being defined in collaboration with building and budget managers.
- Start developing renewable energy projects to further reduce GHG emissions of electricity consumption.
- By 2029, eliminating most emissions from either Gibsons and District Aquatic Facility (GDAF) or SAC by 2029 by replacing fossil fuel heating with low or zero-emission technology or closing a facility (potentially as part of a replacement plan that could include co-locating facilities for greater energy recovery). Larger projects such as these will require service level discussions and feasibility studies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Reporting on emissions and climate initiatives enables the SCRD to receive Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) funding from the Province of BC. LGCAP funding has been used to support emission reduction and climate adaptation planning at the SCRD. Future initiatives utilizing LGCAP funds will be identified in the budget process.

In 2024 SCRD received \$ 302,037 through this program. The unallocated accumulated funding from LGCAP is \$ 582,814.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

N/A

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The report describes corporate GHG emissions remain relatively stable and 366tCO₂e still need to be eliminated to meet the 2026 target.

Several projects that have been recently completed or are underway will reduce emissions materially but analysis reveals more work is needed to reach short-term targets.

Staff are considering this need and analysis of options will inform upcoming decisions in items such as capital planning, feasibility studies, service reviews, and 2026 Budget proposals.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Attachment A – Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions Target Policy

Reviewed by:			
Manager		Finance	
GM	X – I. Hall X – S. Gagnon X – R. Rosenboom	Legislative	
CAO	X – T. Perreault	Other	