

## WHAT IF WE ALL MADE ONE CHANGE?

### AT HOME

**Change a light bulb, or five.** Compared to incandescent and compact fluorescent bulbs, LEDs lower your electric bill, reduce carbon emissions and last much longer on average.

**Conserve our drinking water.** Install a low flow shower head (rated at 1.5 gallons per minute or less) and take shorter showers.

### AT WORK

**Be a friend to the trees.** Print less and only double-sided if you need to.

**Shut it off when you're off for the day**—the computer, the monitor, the desk lamp and anything else that's plugged in.

### ON THE ROAD

**Can you get to work without using your car?** By walking, biking and taking free public transit, you can save money, get some exercise and avoid the frustration of driving in traffic. Reducing weekly auto travel by just 20 miles can decrease carbon emissions by 1,000 pounds per year.

**Be cool and fuel efficient.** Drive with the windows down around town and roll them up when you hit the highway.

### IN THE COMMUNITY

**Be the best person you know at managing your "stuff."** 1. Can you live with fewer things? 2. If you're getting rid of something, do you know someone who can reuse it, or recycle it? 3. And when it comes to getting something new, would it work to find something that's nearly new? Or could you borrow it from someone else?

**Spread the word—your voice can make a difference.** Start by taking action and then encourage your friends, neighbors and family to act.



## GET INVOLVED!

Please visit [www.townofchapelhill.org/boards](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/boards) to learn more about boards that are dedicated to creating a sustainable community through social equity, diversity and inclusion, economic vitality and environmental protection, and how to become involved.

### SUSTAINABILITY BOARDS

#### *Council Committee on Sustainability, Energy and Environment (SEE)*

The SEE Committee is made up of four Council Members who explore and consider sustainable opportunities and technologies as they relate to increased resource efficiencies and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. The Committee makes recommendations on these topics and presents them to the full Council for their consideration.

#### *Council Committee on Boards & Commissions*

The Council Committee on Boards & Commissions has called for sustainability to be a theme that all Town boards and commissions utilize as part of their decision-making process.

#### *Related Boards*

Justice in Action Committee, Community Design Commission, Community Policing Advisory Committee, Cultural Arts Commission, Human Services Advisory Board, Housing Advisory Board, Parks, Greenways and Recreation Commission, Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board, Stormwater Management Utility Advisory Board

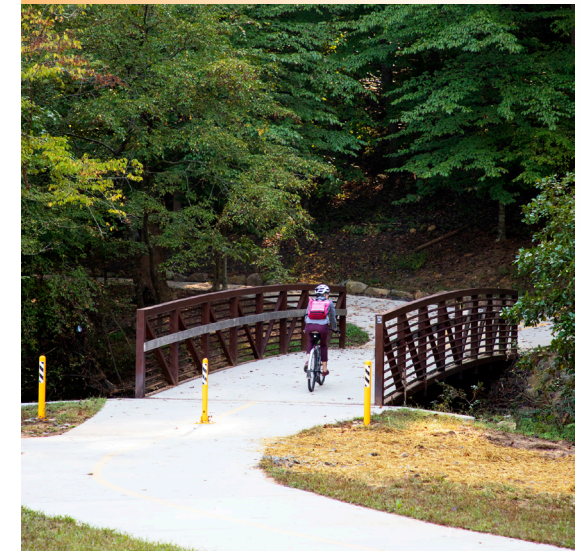
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# TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY



ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION

ECONOMIC VITALITY

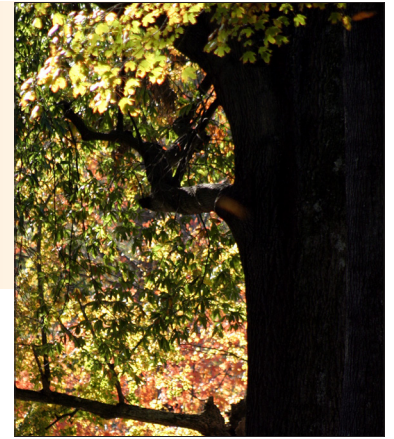
EQUITY, DIVERSITY  
AND INCLUSION

[www.townofchapelhill.org/greencity](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/greencity)

# TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

A sustainable community is “future friendly” – it’s a place that works to enhance today’s opportunities for tomorrow’s generation. Being sustainable is about making decisions and taking action, both big and small, that will leave our community better and more resilient than we found it. A sustainable community also finds a healthy and lasting balance between social, economic and environmental interests. It’s a place that values its history, monitors its progress, and innovates to solve problems. The pursuit of a sustainable community is the work of everyone who lives, works and plays within it. Our future begins today.

Please visit us at [www.townofchapelhill.org/greencity](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/greencity) and get involved.



## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### **Carbon Reduction**

In 2006, the Town of Chapel Hill became the first U.S. municipality to commit to a 60 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050 through the Carbon Reduction Program. As of the last carbon inventory, the Town has reduced operational emissions 6.7% per capita below 2005 levels (the base year). In 2017, the Council passed a resolution stating that the Town will do its part to meet the Paris Agreement – a 26 to 28% carbon reduction from 2005 levels by 2025.



### **Community Planning**

The Town’s Comprehensive Plan is the centerpiece of policies that promote compact-walkable, mixed-use development, alternative transportation, greenway development, and environmental protection. In 2017, the Town Council launched a project to protect what the community loves and add what it needs by re-writing Chapel Hill’s land development regulations and refining its Future Land Use Map – the vision for what the community wants to be by 2049.

### **Green Building and Development**

Developers are encouraged to provide 20 percent greater energy efficiency than conventional standards in their plans, increasing the potential for energy conservation and use of renewable energy. In addition to adding solar or being “solar ready”, developers are also encouraged to install electric vehicle charging stations as part of their project.

### **Green Municipal Buildings**

New or expanded Town government facilities are built to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System and the Architecture 2030 Challenge fossil fuel reduction targets.

### **Alternative Transportation**

Since 2002, the buses have been fare free in Chapel Hill, offering more than 6.5 million rides a year. The fleet itself includes over 40 hybrid-electric buses and the Town has received grant funding to purchase two all-electric buses. In addition, the Town has more than 15 miles of greenways and trails and has plans to double this.

### **Green Fleets**

The Town’s use of fuel efficient and alternatively fueled vehicles has resulted in a 15 percent reduction in carbon emissions from fleet vehicles since 2005.

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

### **Initiatives**

The Town’s Economic Development Office has supported several key economic initiatives over the first 10+ years of its

existence. Examples of these efforts include Launch Chapel Hill, the Carolina Square and 140 West downtown redevelopment projects, as well as the Small Art Business Loan Program to help fund the FRANK arts collective.

### **Launch Chapel Hill**

Launch, a startup and business accelerator, was formed as a partnership between the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at UNC’s Kenan-Flagler Business School, the Town of Chapel Hill and Orange County. Since its opening in 2013, Launch has created more than 1,100 jobs, served more than 75 companies, and raised more than \$12 million by its own companies. Today, 60% of the companies started at Launch are still operating within Orange County.

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

### **Affordable Housing Policy**

The Town has over 50 years of strong commitment to affordable housing, starting with the development of our first public housing neighborhood in 1967. Today, the Town owns and manages 336 public housing units for low-income residents and is initiating innovative approaches to affordable housing through collaboration and financial investment. Currently, there are more than 1,000 units of subsidized affordable housing throughout Chapel Hill. Since 2008, the Town has awarded \$4.67 million to preserve 452 units and support the development of more than 200 additional units of affordable housing. In 2014, the Town Council began dedicating a penny on the tax rate for affordable housing initiatives. More recently, the Chapel Hill community passed a \$10 million bond referendum to help the Town achieve its strategic plan for developing 400 new affordable housing units and preserving 300 existing units by 2023.

### **Building Integrated Communities**

In 2017, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) selected the Town of Chapel Hill to participate in the Building Integrated Communities (BIC) initiative. BIC is a collaboration between the Town of Chapel Hill, community residents and organization leaders, and UNC. The initiative aims to understand the experiences of immigrant and refugee residents and develop for Council consideration a series of recommendations that further support the integration, wellbeing, and leadership development of immigrant and refugee community members. The goal of the initiative is to make Chapel Hill an even more welcoming place for new residents from other parts of the world.

### **Living Wage**

Building on the Town’s Living Wage policy for full-time employees, in 2016 the Council took this commitment one step further by resolving to pay a living wage to all Town employees.

