

1 2023 RES-319

2 JOINING THE WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CLIMATE COALITION (WLGCC)

3
4 Dane County recognizes that climate change threatens our health, our economy, our
5 environment, and our quality of life and, therefore, is one of the greatest threats of our time.
6 Addressing and mitigating the major contributing factors, such as the burning of fossil fuels, is
7 imperative to slow climate change and protect the public welfare.

8 Dane County has been a leader in actions to mitigate climate change, both within county
9 government operations and on a countywide basis.

10 In 2020, the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change issued the Dane County Climate
11 Action Plan, which created a path toward cutting in half countywide greenhouse gas emissions
12 by 2030. The County Board adopted [2020 Resolution 181](#) supporting the Climate Action Plan in
13 2020.

14 In 2023, Dane County became the first county in Wisconsin to have 100% renewable offset
15 electricity for its own operations. The County Executive set a goal in the 2022 budget that Dane
16 County's facilities, fleet, and land operations would be carbon neutral by 2030.

17 The State of Wisconsin has set a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 and local
18 governments will be key to implementing Wisconsin's Clean Energy Plan.

19 The Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change helped bring local governments from
20 across the state together to talk about how to collaborate on climate action. Those efforts led to
21 the creation of the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC).

22 WLGCC is composed of local governments that work together to seek low-carbon and clean
23 energy solutions. WLGCC members recognize that climate change poses severe risks to
24 communities and that we cannot avoid the worst effects of climate change without effective
25 state policy.

26 WLGCC provides a platform for members to collaborate on overcoming barriers to
27 decarbonization, accelerating local climate change solutions, and ensuring the benefits of the
28 clean energy economy are distributed to everyone throughout the state.

29 WLGCC supports the following:

- 30 1. Increased state and federal funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy,
31 electrification of transportation and buildings, and advanced technology and research
32 development solutions
- 33 2. State policies and laws that enable local governments and others to implement such
34 actions to grow the clean energy workforce
- 35 3. A state plan to retire coal plants no later than 2040
- 36 4. Choices and universal access to clean energy to reduce cost and participation
37 barriers

38 5. Smart growth development policies and funding to reduce vehicle miles traveled and
39 to preserve natural resources, including agricultural, forestry, and recreational lands

40 WLGCC is in the process of transitioning from an informal coalition to a member-based
41 nonprofit corporation. There is no cost to becoming a member of WLGCC.

42 Dane County shares the goals of the WLGCC.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors authorizes
44 Dane County to join the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution authorizes the Dane County Office of Energy
46 & Climate Change to serve as Dane County's representative to the WLGCC and to contribute to
47 efforts to support the mission of the WLGCC and statewide climate action efforts.