

# Information Item

Land Use Advisory Committee



**Meeting date:** September 17, 2026

## Topic

Climate Action Toolkit and Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Demonstration

|                                  |                                                                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>District(s), member(s):</b>   | All                                                                   |
| <b>Policy/legal reference:</b>   | Minn. Stat. 473.859                                                   |
| <b>Staff prepared/presented:</b> | Abi Phillips, Senior Planner, Local Planning Assistance, 651-602-1085 |
| <b>Division/department:</b>      | Community Development/ Regional Planning                              |

## Background

At the Sept 17, 2026, Land Use Advisory Council (LUAC) meeting, members will review and provide feedback on two new technical assistance tools: a Climate Action Toolkit and a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment.

In 2023, the state legislature added new climate planning guidance for comprehensive plans, which the Council translated into minimum requirements. At the September 18, 2025, LUAC meeting, members saw a demonstration of the Council's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Tool which helps local governments meet four of the new minimum requirements focused on reducing emissions. The Council also established the following minimum requirements focused on climate resilience:

1. Identify variables related to people, infrastructure, and the natural environment that affect residents' ability to withstand and recover from extreme heat and localized flooding in your community.
2. Identify strategies to address each of the variables identified in climate adaptation requirement.
3. Include strategies that support local food systems to increase access to healthy food, food security, and community resilience.

The Climate Action Toolkit and a Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment have been designed to help cities, counties, and townships meet these requirements.

### The Climate Action Toolkit

A collection of climate action strategy profiles, each describing:

- emissions reduction, social and/or ecosystem impacts
- application across different community settings
- examples of local governments that have used the strategy
- links to relevant resources

### The Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment (*publishing in November*)

Builds on the Climate Action Toolkit by giving local governments across the seven-county metro a data-based overview of variables driving human vulnerability to climate change by census tract. Users can:

- review variables contributing to vulnerability in their community
- select actions to address each vulnerability

- generate a downloadable report showing where vulnerability to extreme heat and localized flooding is highest, what's driving it and planned actions to address it

