



Wauwatosa, WI

Committee of the Whole

Meeting Agenda - Final

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

6:30 PM

Common Council Chambers and Zoom:
<https://servetosa.zoom.us/j/273225010>,
Meeting ID: 273 225 010

HYBRID MEETING INFORMATION

Members of the public may observe the meeting in-person or via Zoom at the link above. To access the Zoom meeting via phone, call 1-312-626-6799 and enter the Meeting ID.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ITEMS

1. Department of Public Works Annual Report

[26-1343](#)

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (414) 479-8917 or send an email to tclerk@wauwatosa.net, with as much advance notice as possible.



Wauwatosa, WI

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Staff Report

File #: 26-1343

Agenda Date: 7/28/2026

Agenda #: 1.

Department of Public Works Annual Report

Department of Public Works

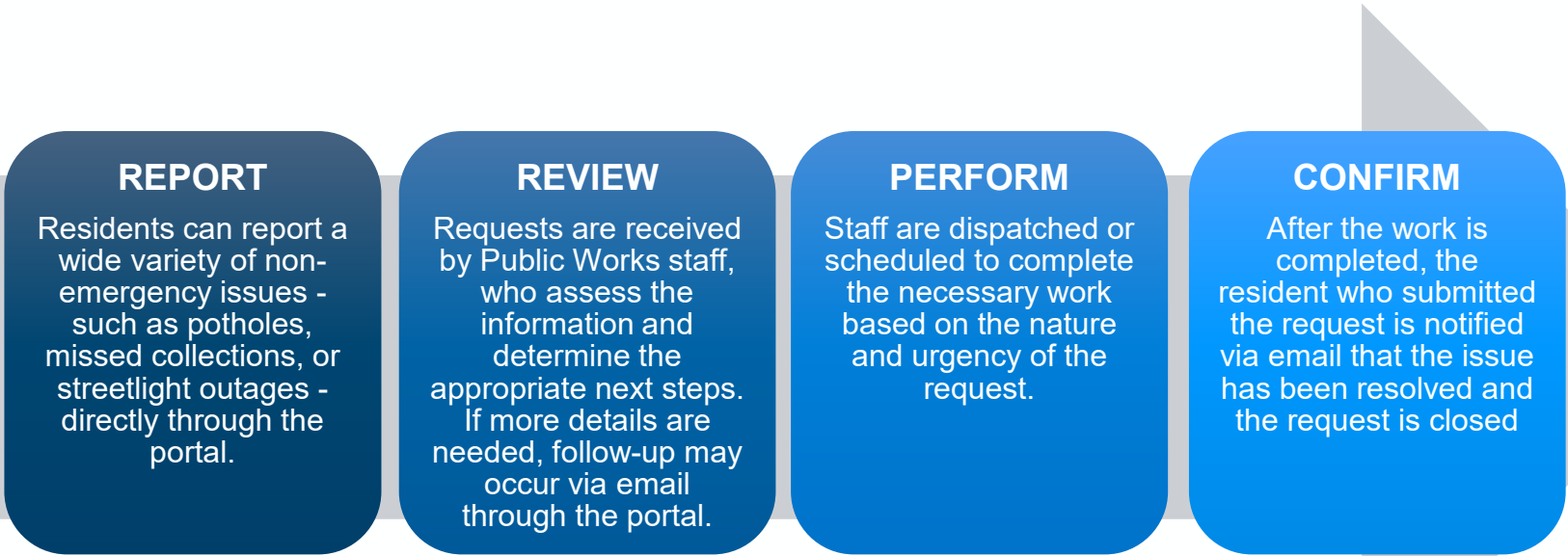
2026 Annual Report

Common Council
July 28th, 2026

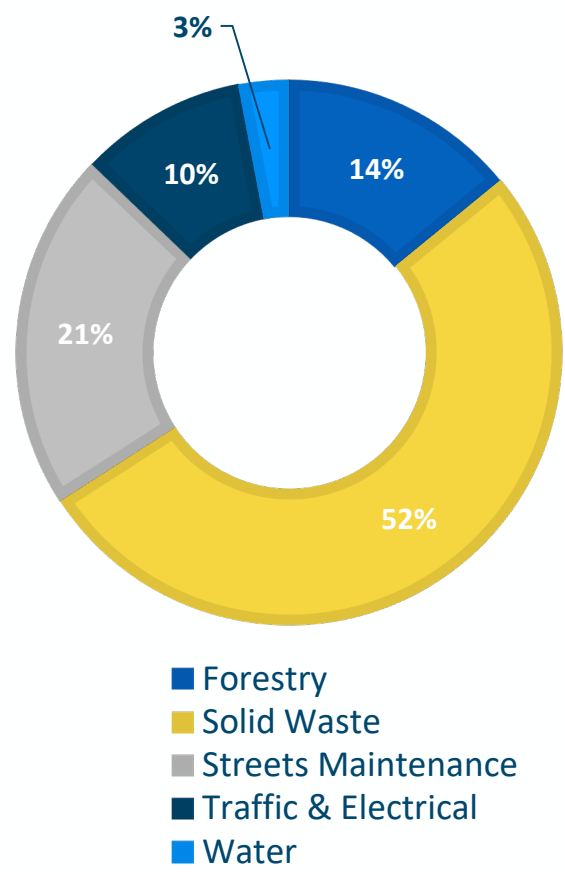


MAJOR INITIATIVES | REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

The Service Request Access (SRA) portal, launched in 2023, is a web-based system used by Public Works and other City departments to streamline non-emergency issue reporting. Residents can submit requests without creating an account, though signing up allows them to track the status of their current and past submissions. The portal also offers citywide visibility, helping residents see if an issue has already been reported. If a request is visible on the portal map, it means our staff is already taking action.



2026 YTD REQUESTS SUBMITTED VIA PORTAL BY DEPARTMENT



MAJOR INITIATIVES | REQUESTS FOR SERVICE

The SRA portal continues to provide residents with a convenient way to report concerns and request services online, in addition to traditional phone and email options. In 2025, the City experienced a 32% increase in total service requests compared to pre-SRA levels, demonstrating greater community engagement and improved access to City services. While this reflects the success of the program in making it easier for residents to connect with the City, it also increases the volume of work for staff, who remain committed to providing timely, high-quality service.

Resident Maintenance Requests	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (1/1-6/30)
Forestry	968	706	1,379	1,764	857	524
Solid Waste	913	786	862	1,196	1,121	727
Special Collections	619	785	658	997	906	419
Street Maintenance	271	199	261	605	572	471
Traffic and Electrical	147	101	99	248	312	219
Total	2,918	2,577	3,259	4,810	3,768	2,251

AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE

- City Assets- Initial Actions
 - Immediate Inspection of Critical Assets
 - Closure of Bridges/Buildings/Parks
 - Remediation of Park Buildings
 - Planning for permanent repairs





AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



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AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE

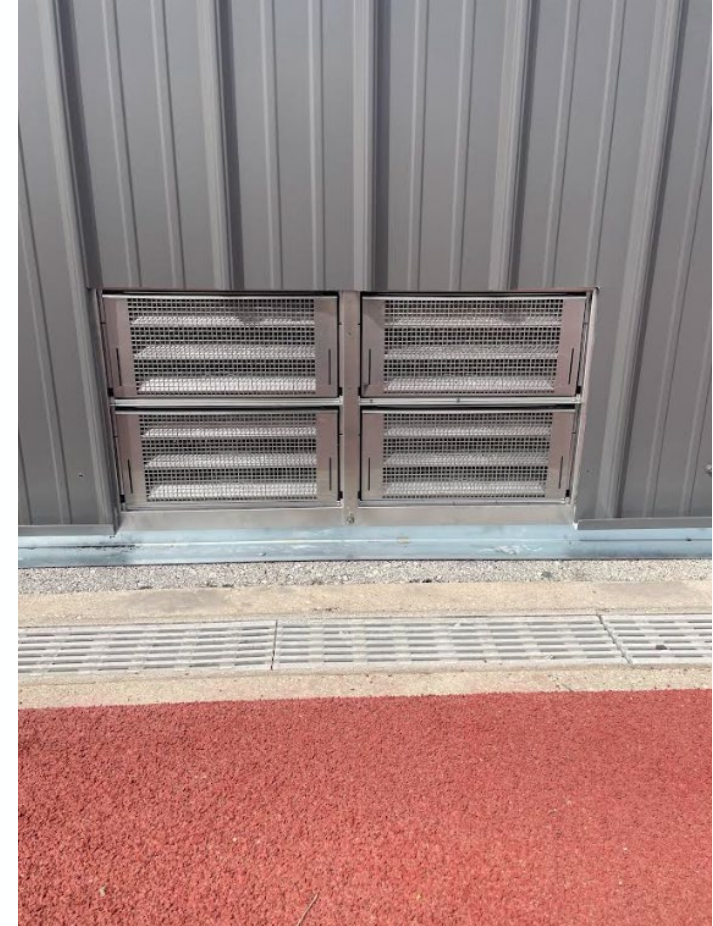
- City Assets- Post Event & Continuing Efforts
 - FEMA Data Collection, Meetings, Forms, Submittals
 - Ultimately, no funding was approved by the Federal Administration
 - Wisconsin Disaster Fund
 - City has applied for approximately \$500,000 and is awaiting a response
 - Capital Improvement Planning, Design, and Construction
 - All capital repairs have been made except for the softball field and basement of the Muellner Building, both are currently awaiting final scope and funding decisions.



AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



Hart Park Athletic Field



Hart Park Bleachers

AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



Hart Park Playground

AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



Hart Park – N. 72nd St. Parking Lot



N. 117th St. and W. Vliet St.

AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE



N. 70th St. Bridge Repairs

AUGUST 2025 FLOOD RESPONSE

- Private Property
 - Responded to 45 calls for service on the night/day of the event
 - City began immediate free curbside collection of all flood debris from homes
 - Nearly 2,000 staff hours spent
 - 1,982 residential pickups
 - 833 tons of debris collected and hauled to the landfill
 - City offered free drop-off of flood debris
 - Nearly 200 tons of debris dropped off
 - 684 visits between August 11-23.
 - Total Debris Management Costs
 - \$96,700 spent on outside assistance
 - \$85,000 spent on City staff time



2025 FLOOD RELATED REFUSE PICKUPS

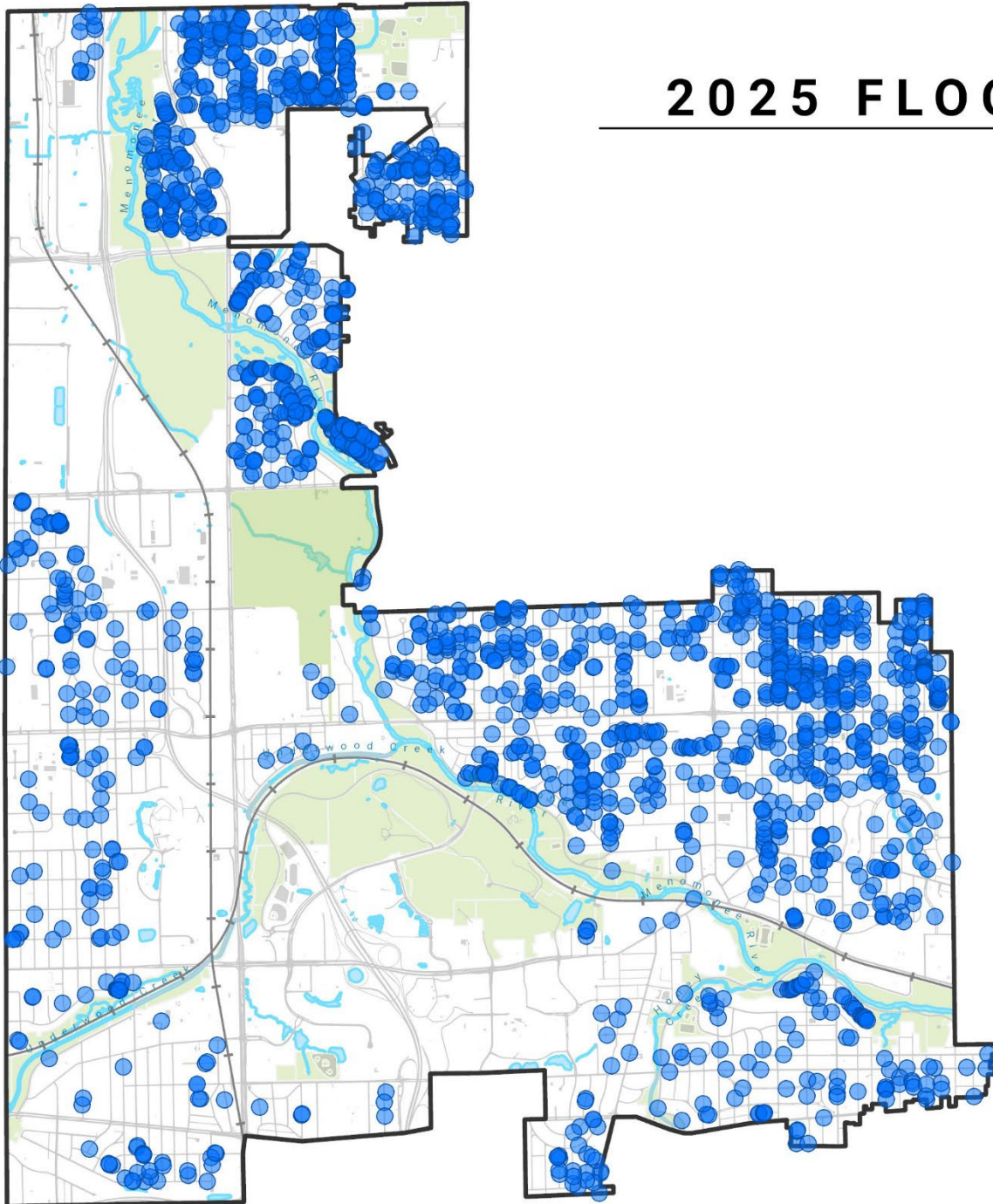
CITY OF WAUWATOSA

● REFUSE PICK UP LOCATIONS

1,982 PICKUPS

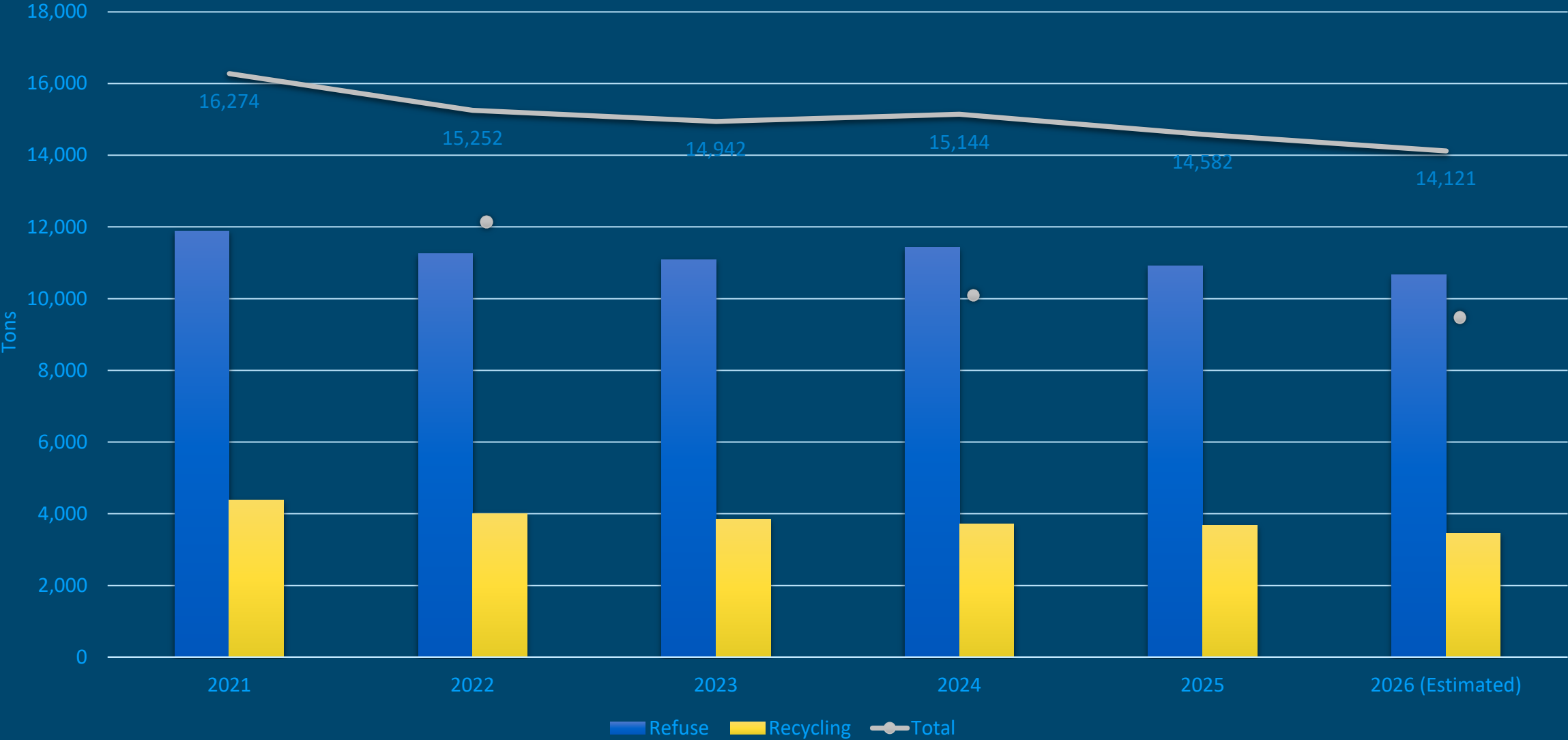
CONDUCTED ACCROSS

1,593 HOMES

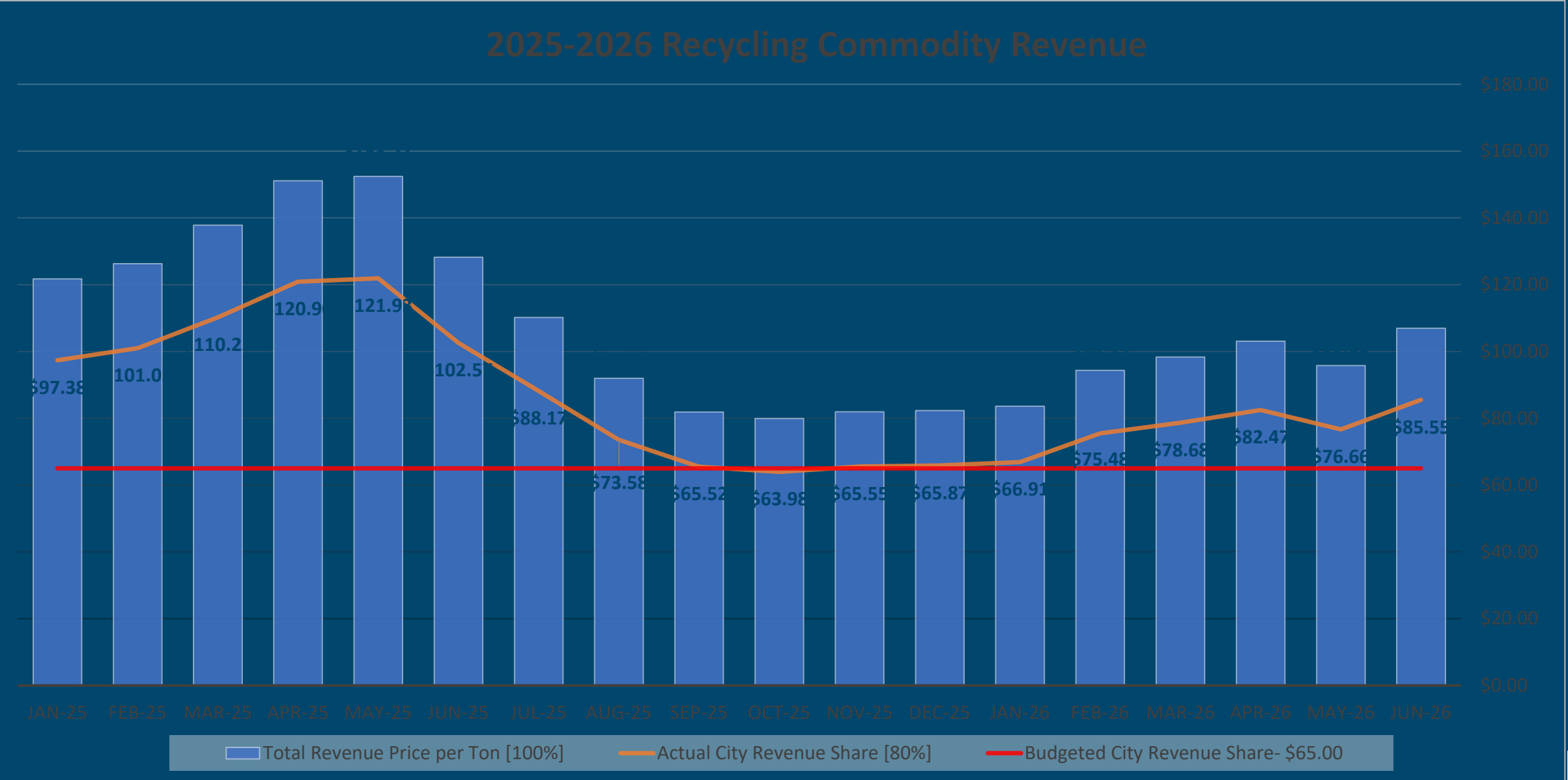


PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| REFUSE & RECYCLING VOLUME

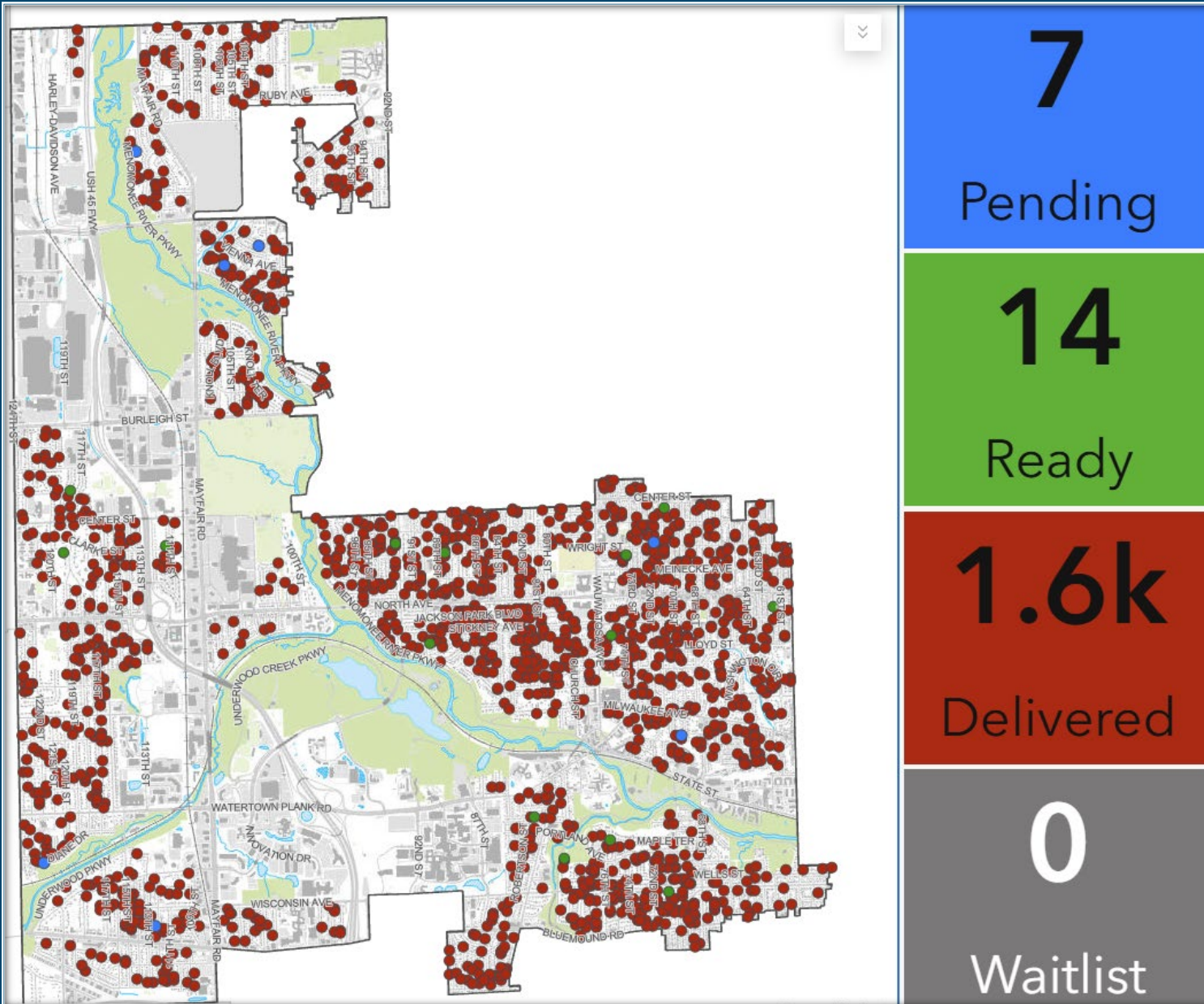
Curbside Refuse & Recycling Collection Volume Trend



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| RECYCLING COMMODITY REVENUE



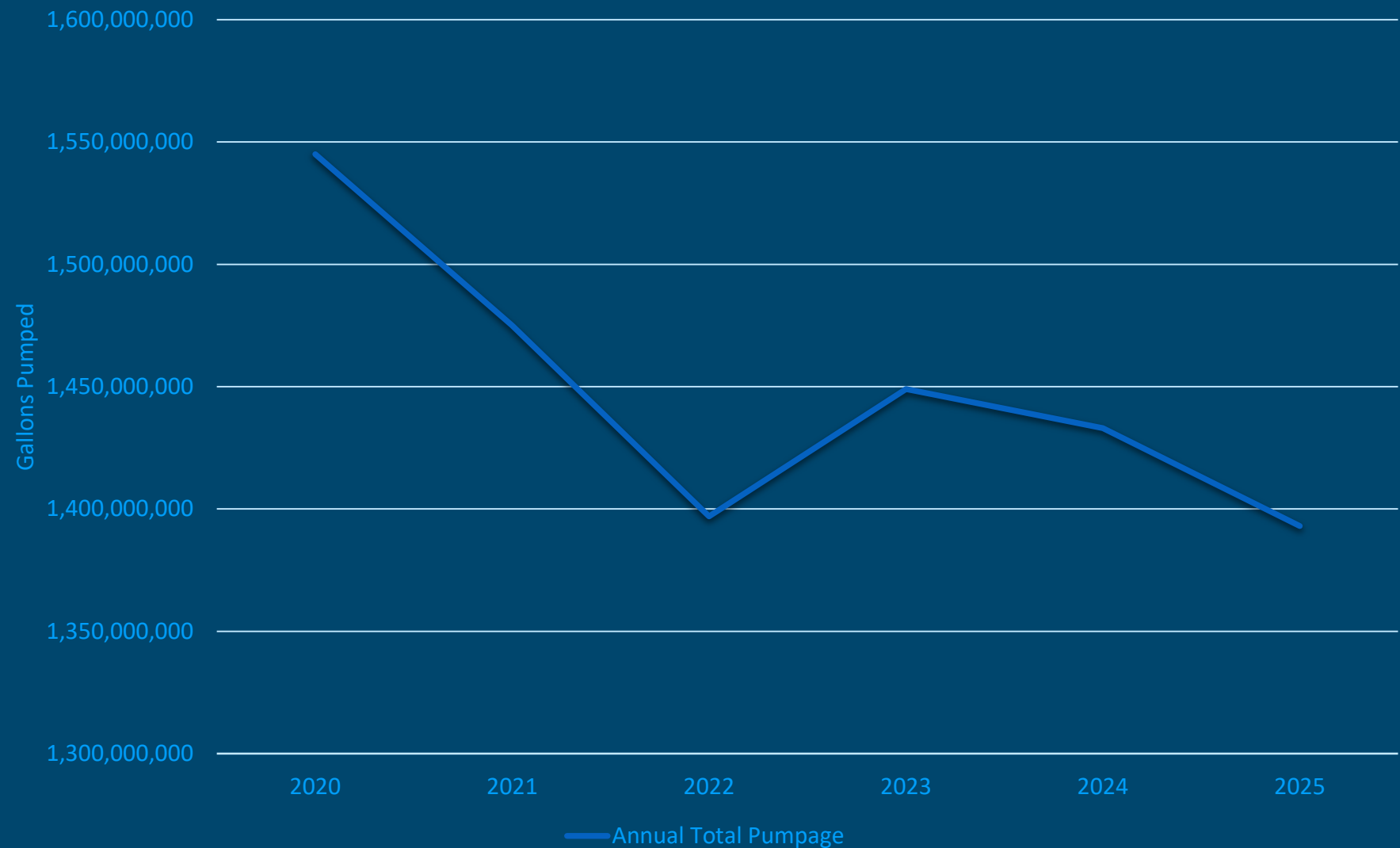
INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| YARD WASTE CARTS



- **1,662 yard waste carts requested** since the program launched.
- **Entire initial inventory sold out on the first day** due to overwhelming resident demand.
- **More than 1,000 carts requested within the first five days** of the program.
- **Positive feedback from collection crews**, who report the carts are helping to reduce the physical demands of yard waste collection.

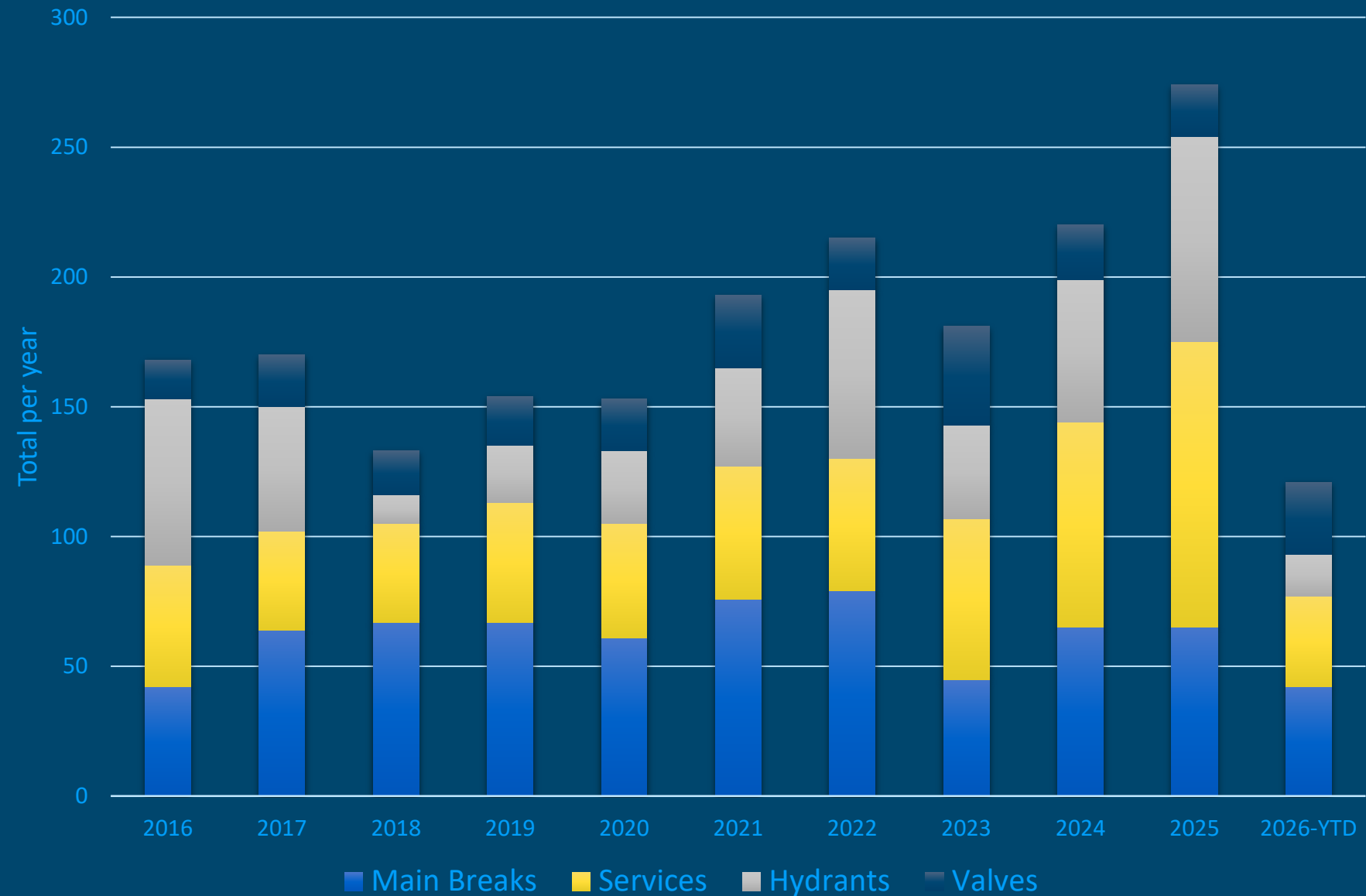
INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| WATER UTILITY

Annual Total Pumpage



- Annual citywide water use continues to trend slightly down.
- The addition of the Elm Grove service area has helped add revenue. A potential exists to serve more of Elm Grove.
- Additional developments and redevelopments are critical to help keep utility revenue up.

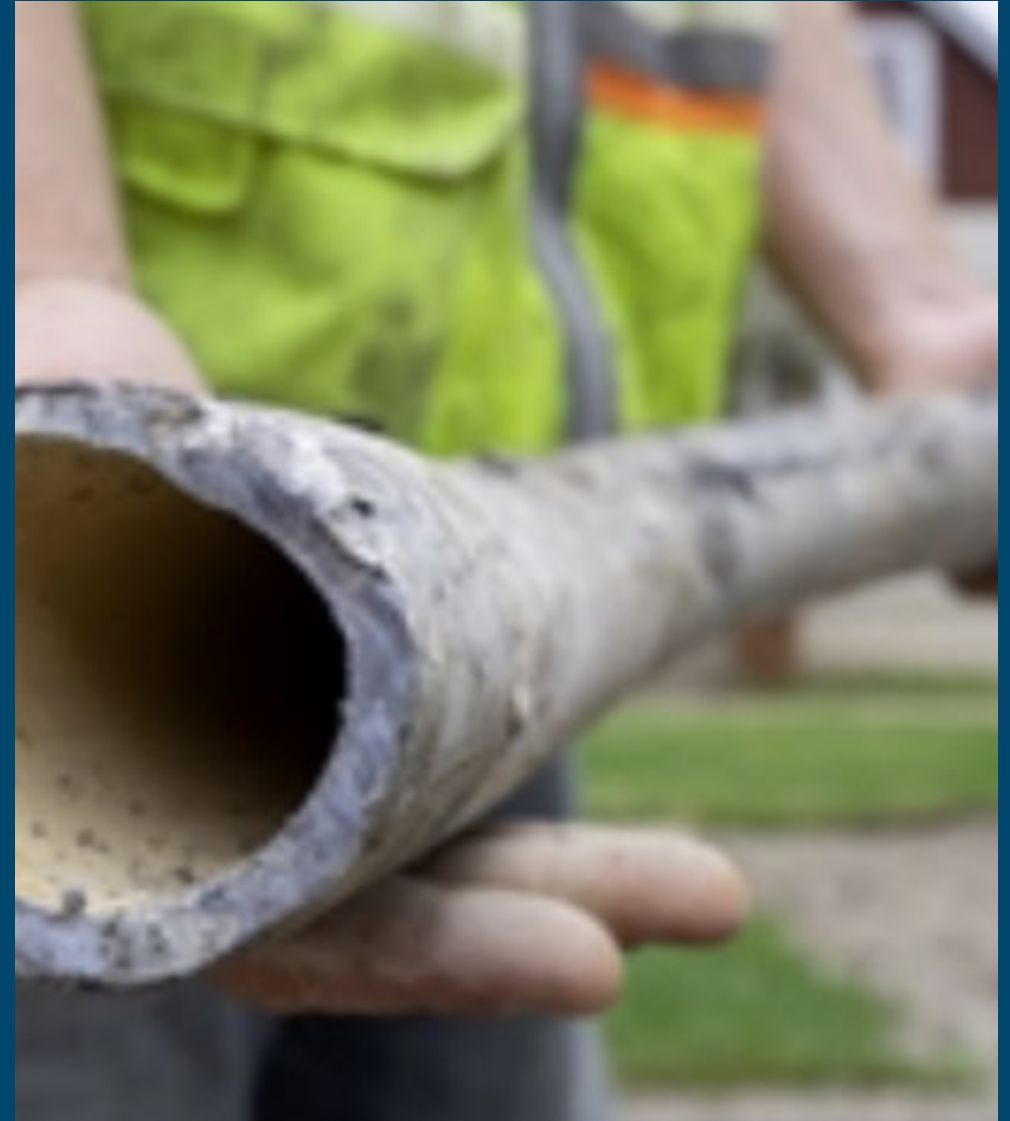
INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | WATER UTILITY



- Annual water main breaks continue to be relatively stable but are very weather dependent.
- Routine leak detection correlation helps to address and minimize water loss from main breaks.

INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | LEAD SERVICE LINES

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) in late 2024, however, various challenges to the law have occurred.
- Policy discussions and decisions will occur with Common Council Committee/s later this year.
 - First item to be discussed will be potential financial assistance for replacement of a portion of the privately owned portion of lead laterals.
- Please visit wauwatosa.net/lead to learn more about lead service lines in Wauwatosa.



Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – 2020 Energy Resolution



Photo: Arch Electric

Clean Energy Commitments in Wauwatosa

*The goals of the **Energy Resolution** passed by Common Council in 2020 include:*

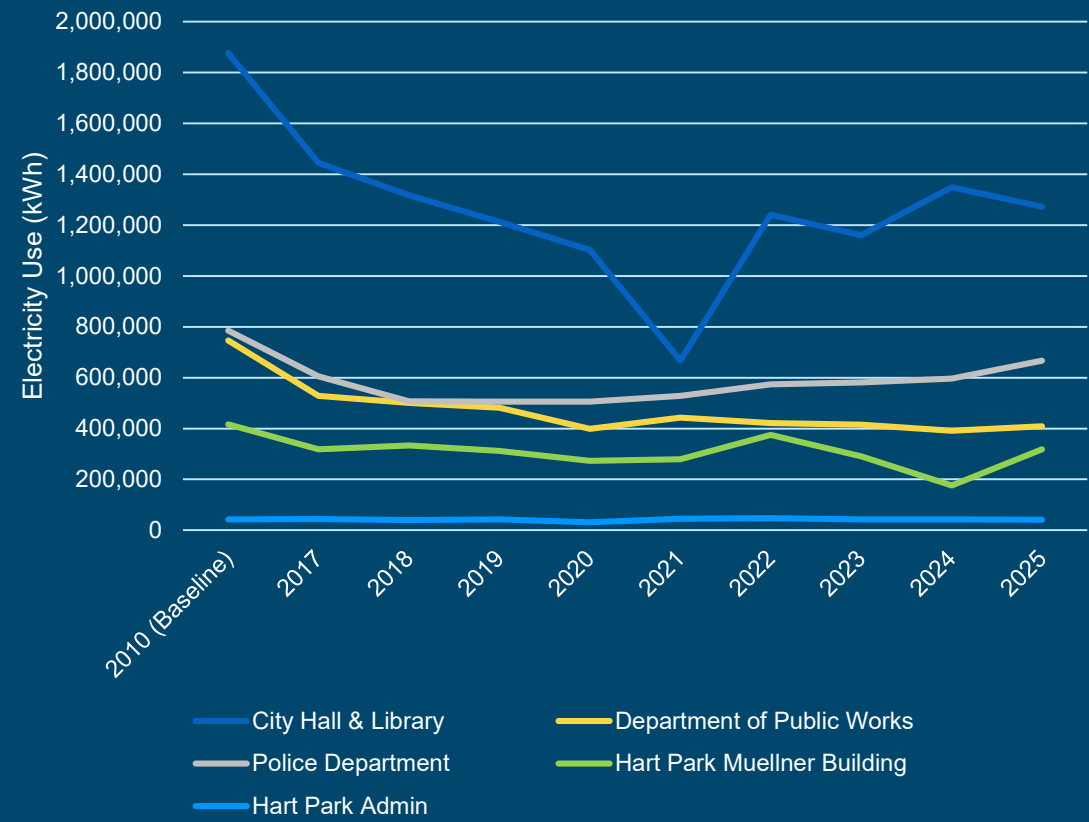
Source at least **25% of all energy** used for municipal operations from **local renewable sources** by 2025

Reduce **municipal greenhouse gas emissions 50%** by 2030

Achieve **community-wide carbon neutrality** by 2050

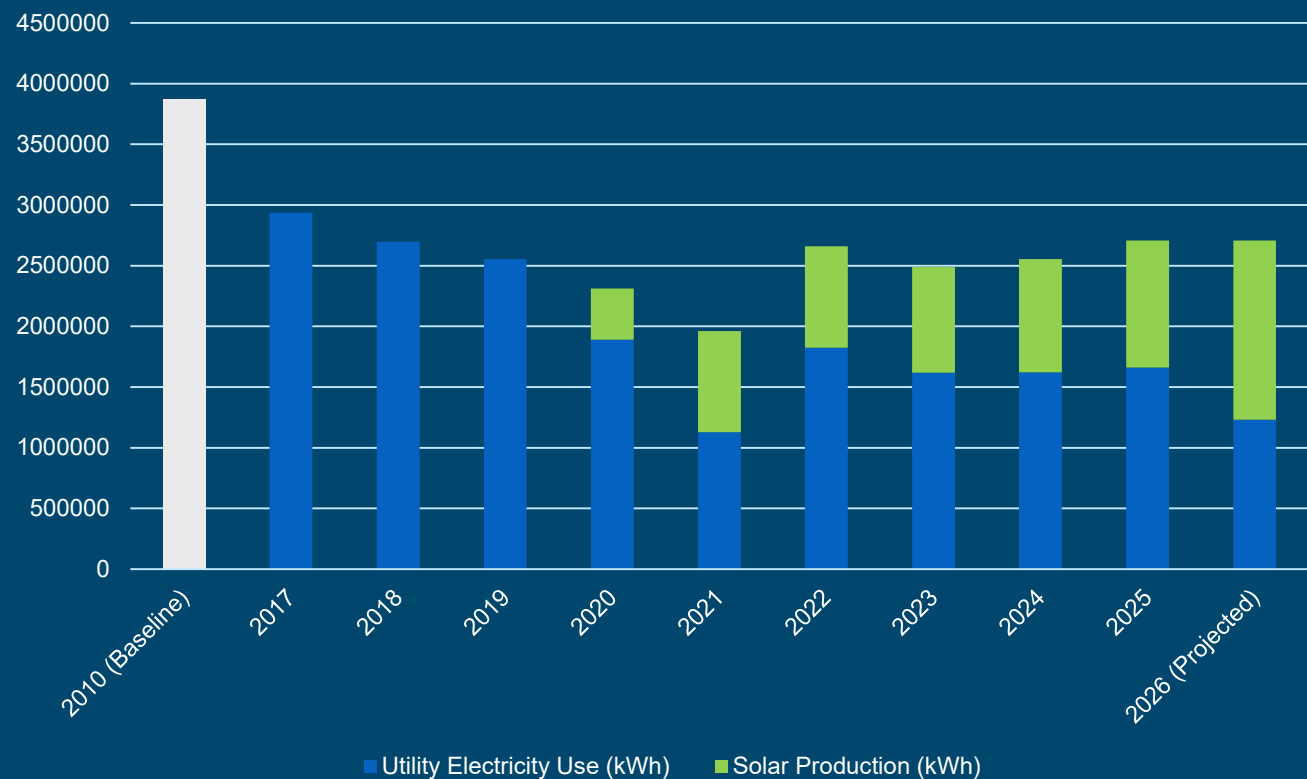
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| SUSTAINABILITY

Annual Electricity Use by Building



City Building Electricity Use and Solar Energy Production

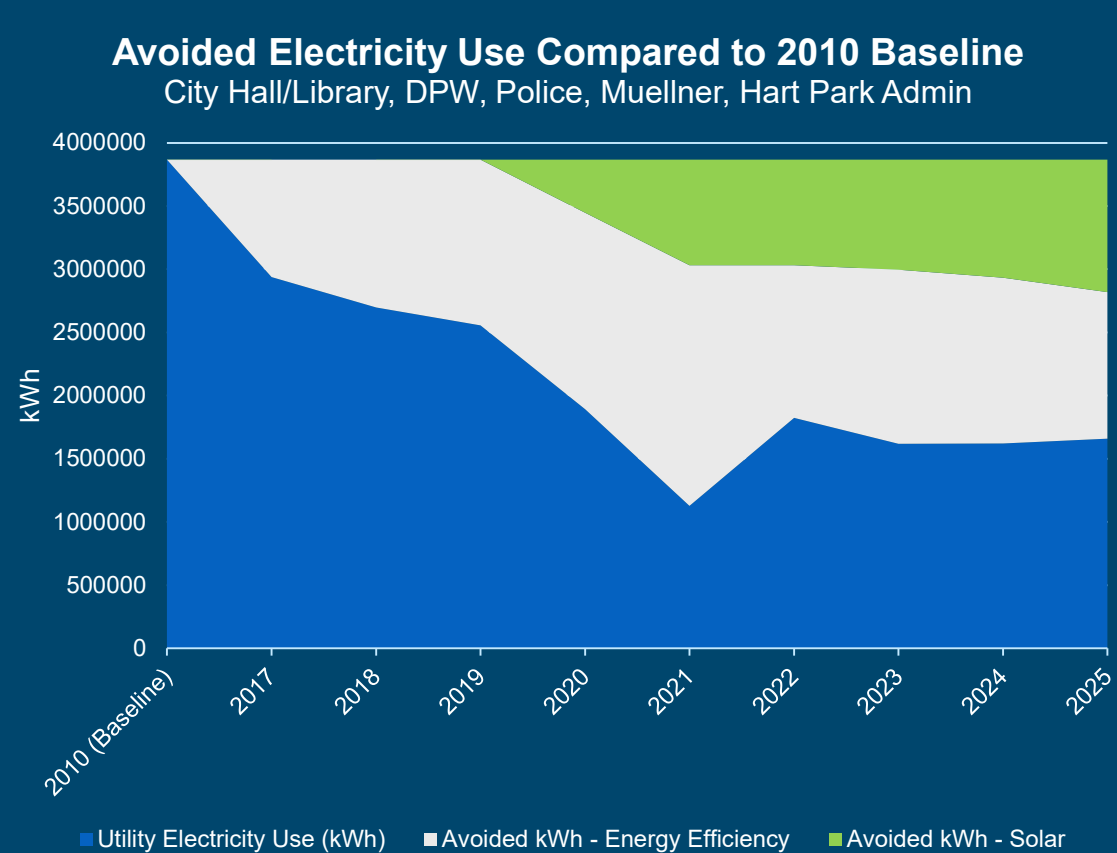
City Hall/Library, DPW, Police, Muellner, Hart Park Administration



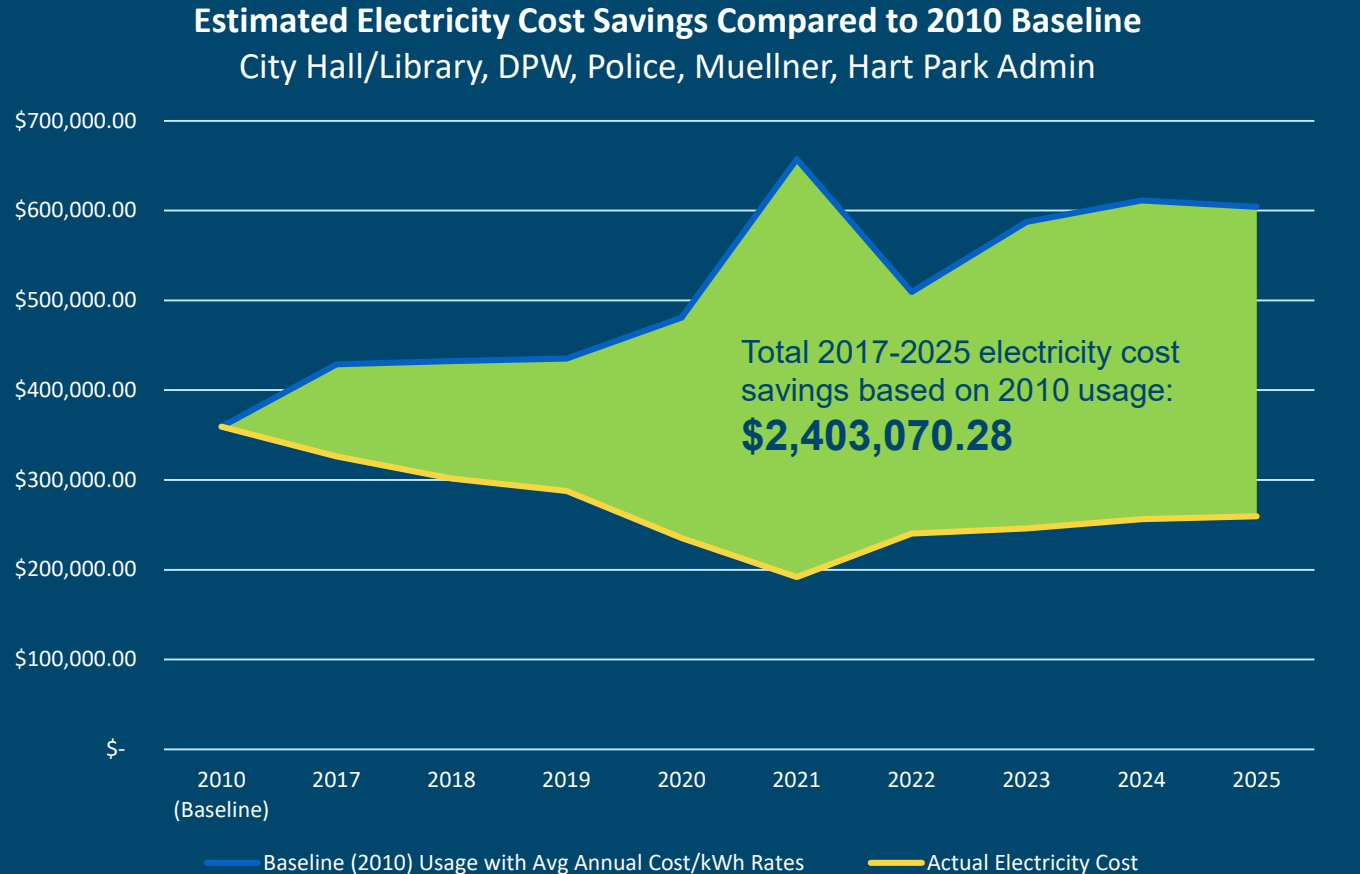
Energy efficiency upgrades and solar have resulted in a **30% reduction in electricity use** across these five municipal buildings between 2010 and 2025.

With a new solar array installed at the Hart Park Admin Building and expanded solar at Muellner in 2026, **renewable solar energy will account for nearly 55% of total electricity used** across these five buildings.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| SUSTAINABILITY



Energy efficiency and solar installations combined have resulted in **significant reductions in electricity use** in municipal buildings.



Electricity rates continue to rise. Without energy efficiency upgrades and solar, the 2025 electricity cost for these five municipal buildings would be **more than double** our actual 2025 cost with **over \$2.4 million in savings between 2017 and 2025.**

Note: These charts do not include Fire Stations or Utility owned buildings.

Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – Staff Priorities



Photo: Hart Park Muellner Building

Priority 1: Lead by example by continuing to incorporate and expand sustainability in municipal operations

We have a goal to **reduce our municipal emissions to 50% of 2010 levels by 2030**. This means we operate our buildings and fleet to reduce our carbon footprint, and we don't stop there. From the way our streets are engineered to the trees you see around our city, we're making conscious decisions to make Wauwatosa sustainable, because our residents shouldn't have to choose between an efficient or beautiful community.

What does this look like in Wauwatosa?

- Solar PV systems on municipal buildings, Police Department, Park buildings, and Fire stations
- Ambitious sustainability and energy efficiency goals included in City Hall and Library proposed projects
- Electric vehicles in the City's fleet
- Energy efficient LED street lights

Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – Staff Priorities



Priority 2: Reduce waste sent to landfills from Wauwatosa homes and businesses

We don't just focus on collecting garbage and recycling; we work to ensure Wauwatosa is moving towards **sustainable materials management**. We want to keep valuable items like food, paper, and metals out of Wisconsin's landfills and ensure hazardous items are managed safely and responsibly. We all play our role in achieving this goal by diverting as much as we can from landfills through reuse, donation, repair, recycling, and composting.

What does this look like in Wauwatosa?

- DPW collected 7.4 million pounds of recyclables and 17 million pounds of yard waste and leaves for composting in 2025
- Working to possibly launch a free food scrap drop off pilot for Wauwatosa residents in 2026
- Waste Wizard online resources
- Volunteer-run annual Tosa Green Summit

Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – Staff Priorities



Priority 3: Reduce single-occupancy vehicle miles traveled in internal combustion engine vehicles

Wauwatosa is proud to be a community where pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users all access what our city has to offer, and we're working hard to **ensure each transportation option is safe and convenient**. For city operations, we choose electric vehicles where we can, reducing our greenhouse gas emissions and benefiting our local air quality.

What does this look like in Wauwatosa?

- Nearly 50 miles of bike lanes and 189 miles of pedestrian sidewalks and paths
- Growing number of publicly available EV charging stations

Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – Staff Priorities



Photo: Department of Public Works Solar Array Installation

Priority 4: Accelerate commercial and residential building decarbonization

Our goal is to achieve **community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050**. Wauwatosa residents and business owners have options — and support from the city through programs and resources — to make their homes and businesses more environmentally friendly, affordable, and comfortable through energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, and electrification.

What does this look like in Wauwatosa?

- Gold-level SolSmart Community recognition
- Solar permit fee waiver program
- Partnership with Focus on Energy to share information about programs and incentives

Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals – Staff Priorities



Photo: Firefly Grove Park

Priority 5: Protect natural resources and increase climate resiliency

We protect Wauwatosa's green spaces and other natural resources to ensure our community remains for generations to come. As we deal with the impacts of a changing climate, including severe precipitation events and extreme heat, **resources like trees, native plants, permeable pavement, and green stormwater infrastructure** help keep us all safe.

What does this look like in Wauwatosa?

- Tree City USA recognition and over 25,000 publicly owned trees
- Green stormwater infrastructure to prevent flooding and improve water quality – nearly 580,000 gallons of stormwater can be captured by the wetlands, basins, and porous pavement systems in Firefly Grove Park.
- Additional wetland restoration project planned for 2026.

INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | ENGINEERING & CIP

- **Typical Capital Improvement & Large Maintenance Projects:**
 - **Roadway & Alley Paving Program- (~\$4-40M annually)**
 - **Sidewalk Replacement Program (~\$1M annually)**
 - **Sanitary Sewer Inspection and Repair/Lining Program (~\$1-3M annually)**
 - **Water Main Replacements (~\$2M annually)**
 - **Storm Sewer Replacements (~\$1-2M annually)**
 - **Bridge Inspection and Spot Repair Program (~\$60-500K annually)**
 - **Bus Stop Improvement Program (~\$60K annually)**
 - **Pavement Striping- (\$135,000 budgeted in 2026)**
 - **Roadway Crack Filling(~\$280,000 budgeted in 2026)**
 - **Roadway Sealcoating(~\$330,000 budgeted in 2026)**

INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | ENGINEERING & CIP

- **Significant Capital Improvements - Construction in 2026 includes:**
 - Reconstruction of Watertown Plank Road and 115th Street
 - Reconstruction of Perry Ct., Laurel Ct., and Maple Terrace
 - Center Street Roadway Reconstruction – 113th Street to 118th Street
 - STH 100 Resurfacing, Sidewalks, and Oak Leaf Trail Underpass – WisDOT w/ City Funds
 - Fire Stations 51 and 53 Pavement Replacement Project
 - Alley, Sidewalk, Pavement Repair Contracts at various locations throughout the City
 - Sanitary Sewer Spot Improvements, various locations
 - Storm Sewer Spot Improvements, various locations
 - Hart Park Tennis Court Bathroom Remodel
 - Traffic Calming Improvements at 5+ locations
 - Citywide Traffic Signal Retiming Project

INITIATIVES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS| ENGINEERING & CIP

- **Significant Capital Improvements- Planning efforts in 2026 include:**
 - **City Hall and Library Renovation Project**
 - **2027 Road, Alley, and Sidewalk Improvement Programs**
 - **North Avenue Reconstruction from Met-to-Wee to 76th Street (including bridges)**
 - **Highway 181 Rehabilitation Project from Center Street to Wisconsin Avenue**
 - **Wisconsin Avenue Multi-Use Trail (TAP Grant)**
 - **Schoonmaker Creek Watershed Flood Mitigation Project**
 - **MMSD's Menomonee River Levee Construction and Accreditation Project**
 - **Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Projects**
 - **Storm Sewer Rehabilitation Projects**
 - **Walnut Road UPRR Grade Separation Community Connector Project**
 - **Traffic Signal, Fiber Optic, and Lighting Infrastructure Improvements**
 - **Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program & Prioritization Projects**
 - **Elm Grove Water System Extension – Phase 2**

Thank you

