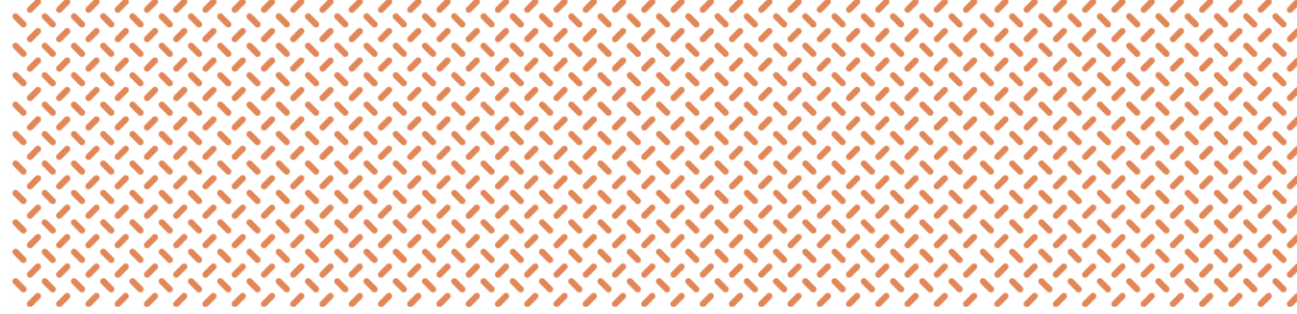




**SAULT
STE. MARIE**



City of Sault Ste. Marie Sustainability Report 2023 – 2024 & 2022 Community and 2023 Corporate GHG Emissions Update

Presented to: City of Sault Ste. Marie Council Meeting: May 12, 2025

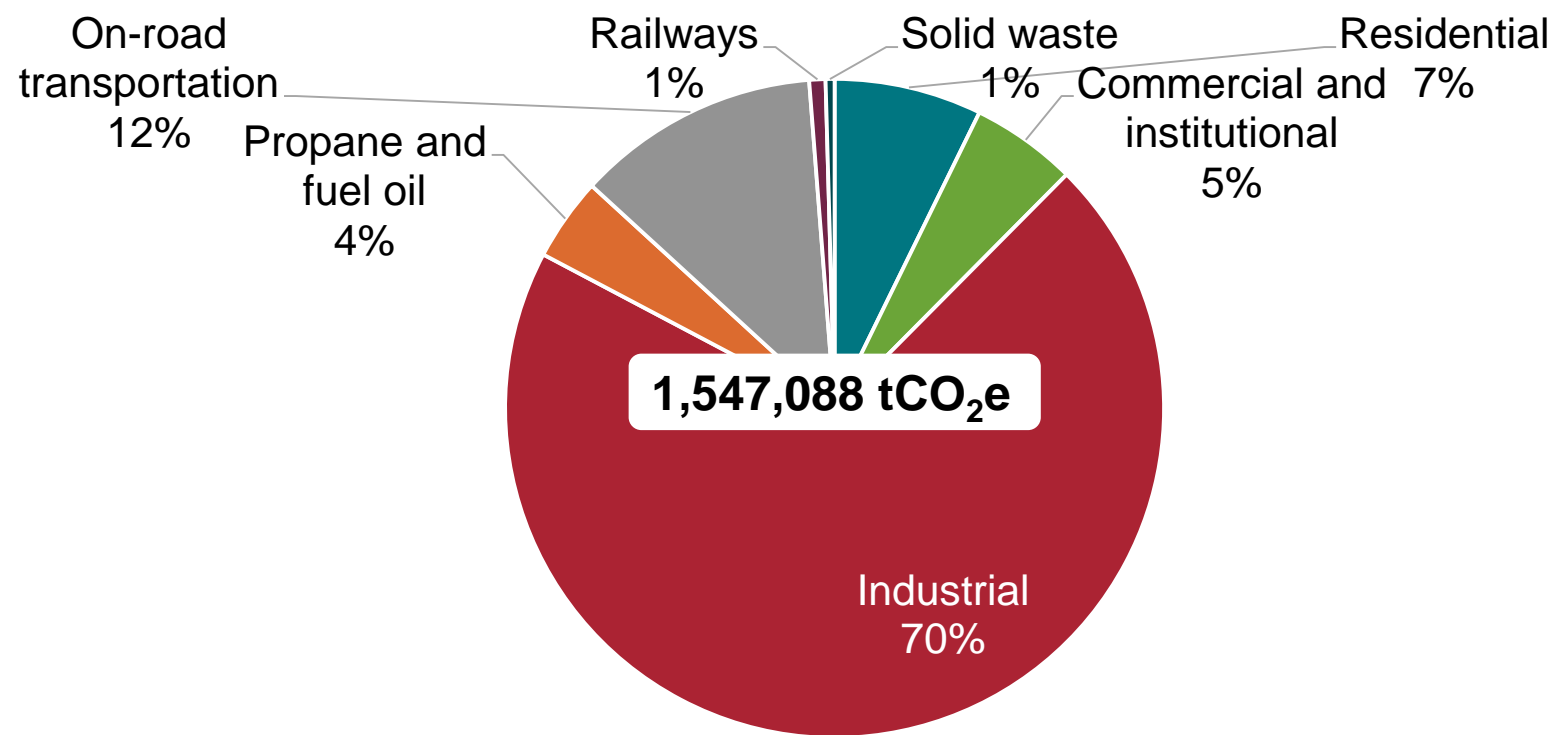
Prepared and Presented by: Emily Cormier, Sustainability Coordinator, Community
Development & Enterprise Services



Background

- December 14, 2024, marked the **four-year anniversary** of Council's unanimous endorsement of the *Sault Ste. Marie Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan 2020 – 2030*.
- Since the endorsement, the City has been working on increasing sustainability initiatives within its operations and the community
- This work is the result of **leadership** and **active partnerships** formed through a spirit of collaboration with departments and community partners
- The City's Sustainability Report aligns with the Sault Ste. Marie GHG Reduction Plan. Projects and initiatives are categorized under the plan's seven pillars, which are:
 1. Buildings & Energy – Community
 2. Buildings & Energy – Corporate
 3. Transportation
 4. Waste
 5. Green Space
 6. Economic Development
 7. Municipal Leadership

Results: 2022 Community GHG Inventory

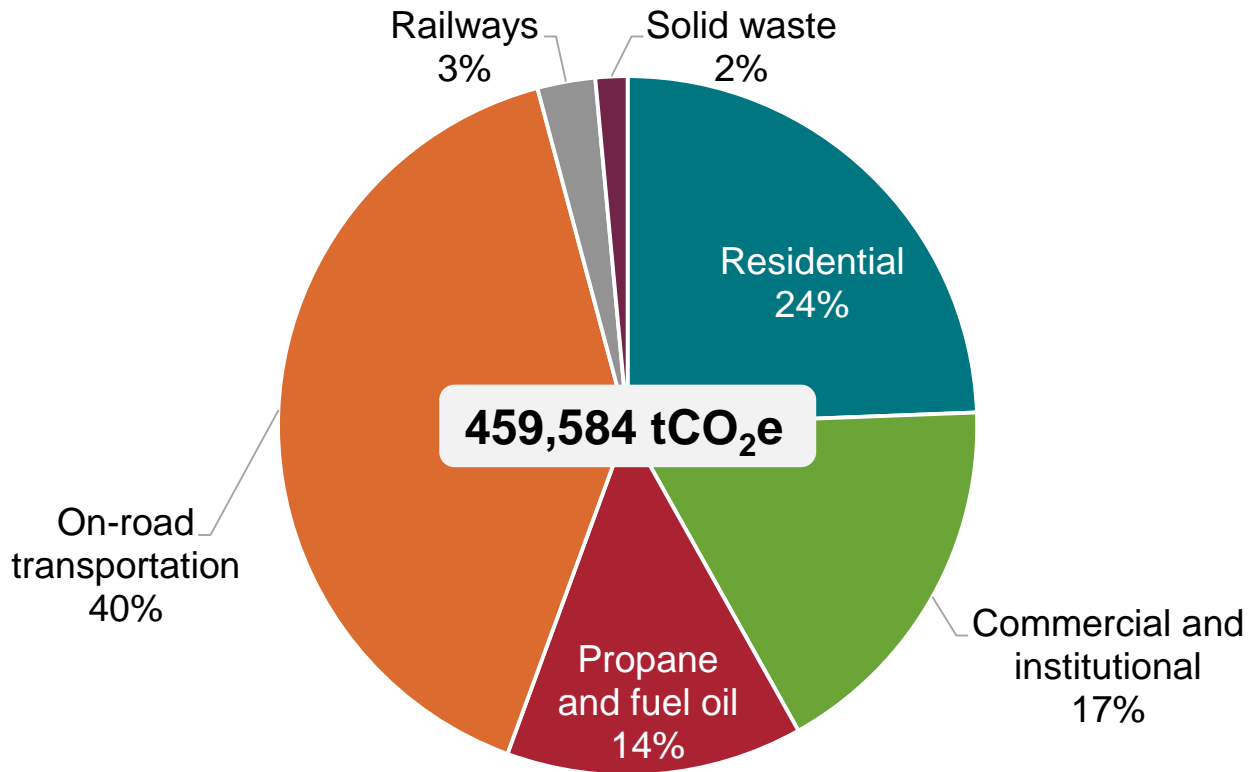


*Total community emissions have increased 3% from the 2017 baseline and are projected to rise to **1,763,680 tCO₂e (or 14%)** based on an average annual population growth rate of 0.7% (as of 2017) by the year 2037 if no serious action is taken.*

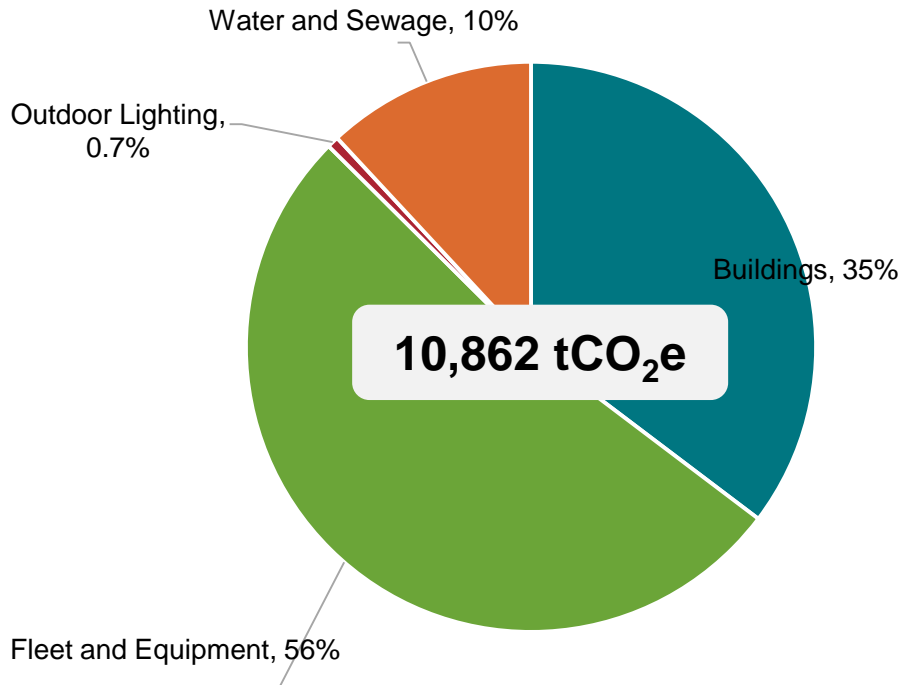
Key Insights: Community GHG Inventory

- **Industrial emissions** are the highest sector of emissions in Sault Ste. Marie based on their consumption of **natural gas**
- Other cities, such as Hamilton, have **industrial facilities** which generate 70% of community emissions*
- The **second** largest source of emissions is from **on-road transportation**
- High energy use from **natural gas** in the industrial sector coupled with a **lower population** result in higher per capita emissions
- Industrial emissions are monitored and regulated by the federal and provincial **governments**

Results: 2022 Community GHG Inventory without industrial emissions



Results: 2023 Corporate City GHG Emissions Inventory



*Total corporate emissions have increased 5% from the 2017 baseline and are projected to rise to **12,383 tCO₂e (or 14%)** based on an average annual population growth rate of 0.7% (as of 2017) by the year 2037 if no serious action is taken.*

Key Insights: Corporate GHG Inventory

- In 2023, the City spent approximately **\$9,599,011.30** on energy and fuel costs
- The majority of emissions come from **vehicle fleet** and **equipment**
- Building emissions mainly come from the use of **natural gas**
- **Streetlights** consumed the most energy for outdoor lighting, and emissions increased due to the increase of natural gas generation for electricity in Ontario.
- **Water treatment plants** use of **natural gas** emissions create the most emissions in wastewater
- Total corporate emissions are projected to rise to 12,383 tCO₂e (or **14%**) based on an average annual population growth rate of 0.7% (as of 2017) by the year 2037 if no action is taken
- To continue decreasing emissions, the City must prioritize **energy management** and **energy efficiency** in existing assets and new builds




ChargeIT Community Charging Infrastructure Plan approved by City Council

Community Efficiency Financing Feasibility Study approved by City Council 


\$109,623.61 allocated towards **19** Green Fund Projects


450+ Students participate in Yellow Fish Road (water pollution program)

 **41** Climate / Energy Funding grants / incentives submitted

\$303,678.69 secured to date

2 Electric ice resurfacers (Zamboni's) purchased by the City

2 Energy Incentive workshops delivered in partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Innovation 

Community Efficiency Financing Feasibility Study Completed 

March 22, 2024 Boulevard Garden By-Law came into effect



Battery Electric Bus Study launched

3,000+ Observations from City Nature Challenge held in partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority, Kensington Conservancy and Chippewa County with

500+ species identified

1000s Engaged through collaborations with multiple community partners on annual events such as the EV Showcase, Bike to Work Week, World Water Day, Youth Climate Summit, City Nature Challenge





2023 – 2024 Sustainability Highlights



2025 City Sustainability Priorities

- Corporate EV Charger Project (COMPLETE)
- Corporate EV Charging Study
- Transit Depot Solar Project
- John Rhodes Roof Replacement, Heat Recovery and HVAC Replacement Project (roof will accommodate future solar)
- FCM CEF Phase 2: Program Design for a home-grown community retrofit program in SSM
- 2023 Sustainability Report
 - 2023 Corporate Inventory
 - 2022 Community Inventory Update
- 2024 City of SSM Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan

2025 City Sustainability Priorities

- Deep Energy Retrofit Audit Project
- Active Transportation Master Plan
- Battery Electric Bus Study
- World Water Day 2025
- City Nature Challenge 2025
- Bike to Work Week 2025
- **Buildings to Net Zero Project** - the City of Sault Ste. Marie was selected as a cohort in ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) Building to Net-Zero (BNZ) Project, a project designed to support municipalities in the adoption of building energy performance frameworks. Work on this project is ongoing. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **Ecological Corridor Project Kickoff** –The City, Garden River First Nation, and the Algoma Highlands Conservancy are working with Ontario Nature on a project funded by Parks Canada to delineate and characterize existing protected areas and unprotected natural habitats to develop a consolidated ecological corridor to enhance connectivity between Lake Superior and Lake Huron.



Thank You. Questions?

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