

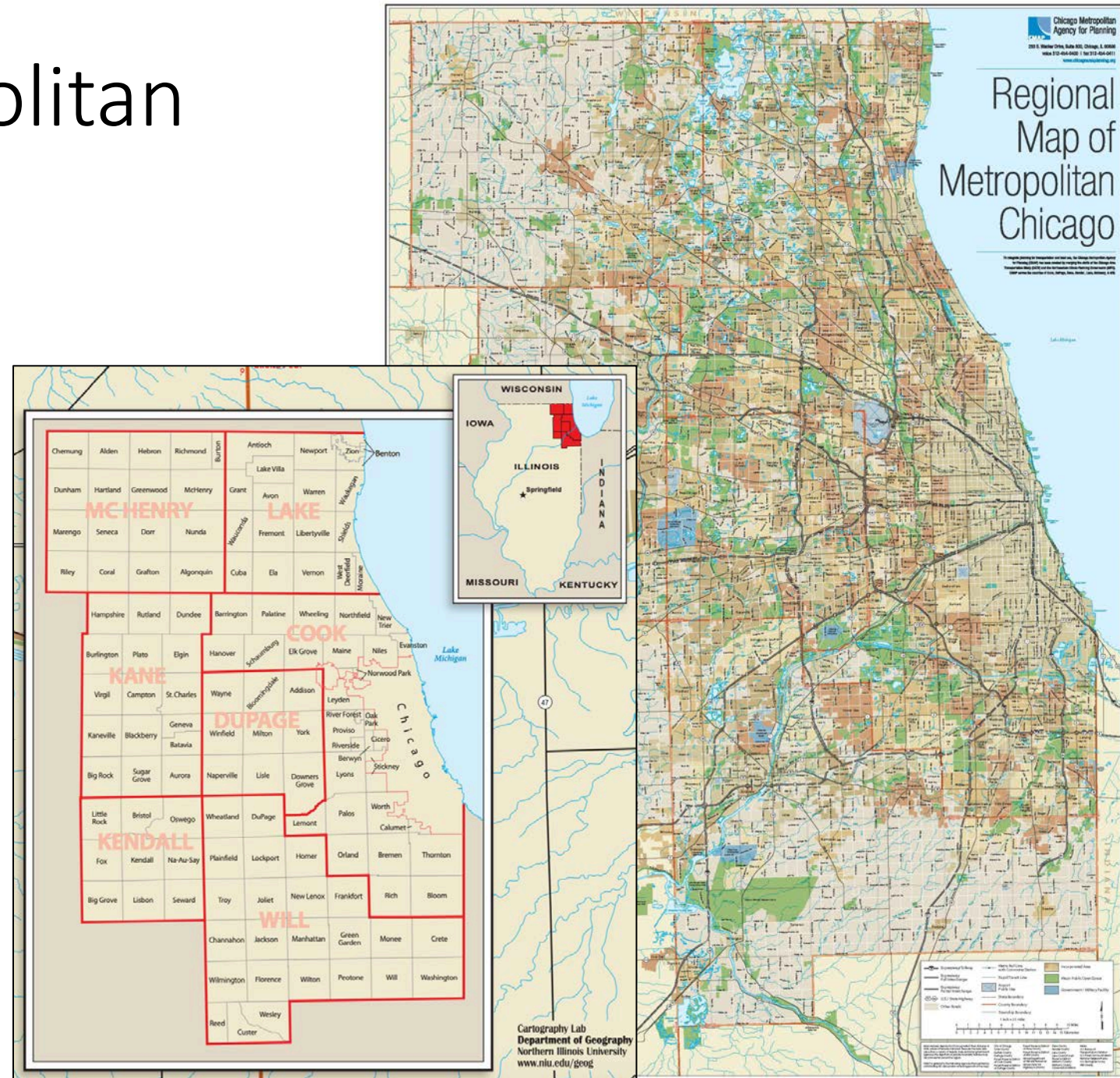
How the Greenest Region Compact Engages Municipalities in Sustainability

By Cheryl Scott, Greenest Region Corps Member
at the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus



About the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

- Membership organization of 284 diverse communities in northern Illinois
- Takes regional approach to public policy issues to collaborate and improve the quality of life, including on these issues:
 - Environment
 - Housing
 - 2020 Census
 - Age-Friendly Collaborative



Greenest Region Compact



Consensus Sustainability Goals in 10 Categories

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Climate |  Mobility |
|  Economic Development |  Municipal Operations |
|  Energy |  Sustainable Communities |
|  Land |  Water |
|  Leadership |  Waste |

Greenest Region Compact

49 High-Level Sustainability Goals in 10 Categories



Climate

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Maintain clean and healthful air
- Develop resiliency to climate change impacts
- Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation



Economic Development

- Promote innovation and a competitive workforce
- Cultivate local and sustainable development, jobs, and businesses



Energy

- Use energy for buildings and facilities efficiently
- Advance renewable energy
- Reduce energy consumption
- Enact policies that support clean energy
- Engage the community in clean energy practices



Land

- Encourage strategic development that upholds sustainability principles
- Conserve, restore and enhance natural features and ecosystems
- Support networks of accessible, well-used, and enjoyable parks
- Sustain a robust urban forest canopy
- Sustain beautiful landscapes that provide ecosystem services
- Achieve greater livability through sustainable land use and housing policies
- Cultivate a conservation ethic in the community



Leadership

- Enlist support for GRC2 goals through regional, state and national leadership
- Advocate for policies that align with and advance the GRC2
- Work collaboratively towards a sustainable region



Mobility

- Support safe and effective active transportation
- Maintain a diverse, safe, and efficient transportation network
- Support efficient transportation that uses resources wisely
- Integrate sustainability into transportation policies, programs, and regulations
- Promote public and sustainable transportation choices



Municipal Operations

- Lead by demonstrating sustainable values and practices
- Integrate sustainability into all municipal operations
- Operate a safe, clean and efficient fleet
- Collect and manage data to advance sustainability



Sustainable Communities

- Promote cultural vibrancy in the community
- Foster a culture of health, safety, and wellness
- Increase access to sustainably grown local food
- Sustain community principles that are welcoming, inclusive and equitable
- Promote a sustainable identity for the community
- Ensure local policies and codes support sustainability
- Cultivate community values based on principles of sustainability



Waste & Recycling

- Support sustainable material management
- Recycle materials across all sectors
- Divert waste from landfills
- Enact policies that cause sustainable material management
- Engage the community in waste reduction and recycling





Water

- Use and distribute water efficiently
- Protect and improve water quality
- Manage water system assets sustainably
- Optimize the use of natural and built systems to manage stormwater
- Practice stewardship of water resources
- Enact policies to protect water resources
- Engage the community in water stewardship



GRC Framework

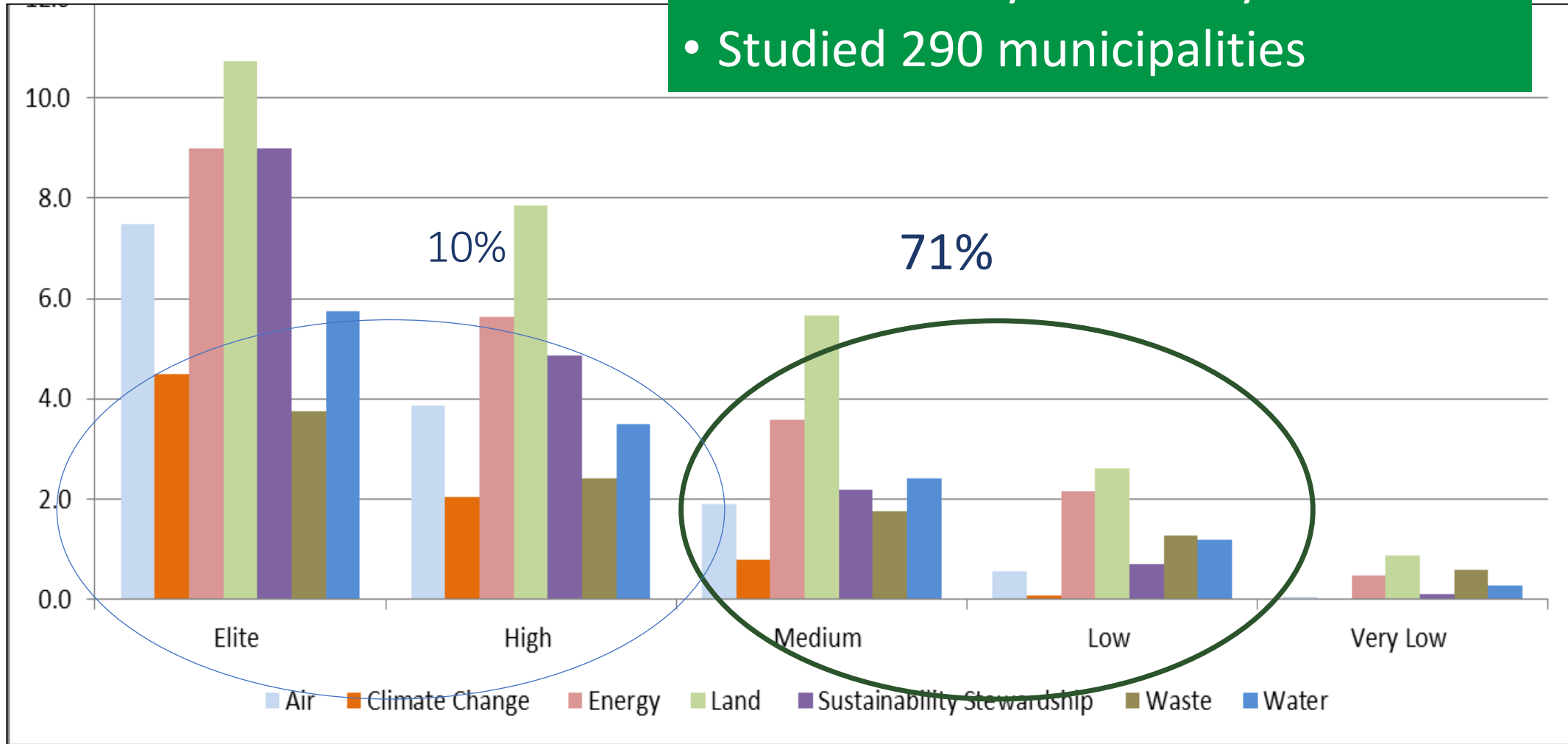
- Hundreds of objectives in the GRC Framework document
- One of most popular objectives municipalities completed: energy efficiency
- 283 local governments took actions to avoid putting 76.5 million lbs of CO2 in atmosphere

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M			
Category	GOAL		OBJECTIVE		Already achieved	In Progress	Planned for next 6 months	Planned for next 12-18 months	Interested in pursuing	Not planned	Not relevant	Link to Resource			
			> STRATEGY												
			+ ADVANCED STRATEGY												
ENERGY	Energy Efficiency	 <i>Use energy for building and facilities efficiently</i>	E1	> Conduct energy audits of municipal facilities								Y			
			E2	Support energy audits and retro-commissioning studies of residential, commercial and institutional facilities									Y		
			E3	> Conduct retro-commissioning studies to optimize public facility performance										Y	
			E4	> Implement operational changes recommended in the retro-commissioning study											
			E5	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a short-term payback (i.e. lighting, occupancy sensors)										Y	
			E6	Implement energy efficiency measures that have a longer-term payback											
			E7	Collaborate with utilities and other agencies to upgrade streetlight equipment and integrate smart technologies											
			E8	Achieve ENERGY STAR certification for municipal buildings											Y
			E+9	+ Utilize performance contracts to finance large energy efficiency projects											Y
			E+10	+ Demonstrate extreme energy efficiency with a model Passivhaus building											Y

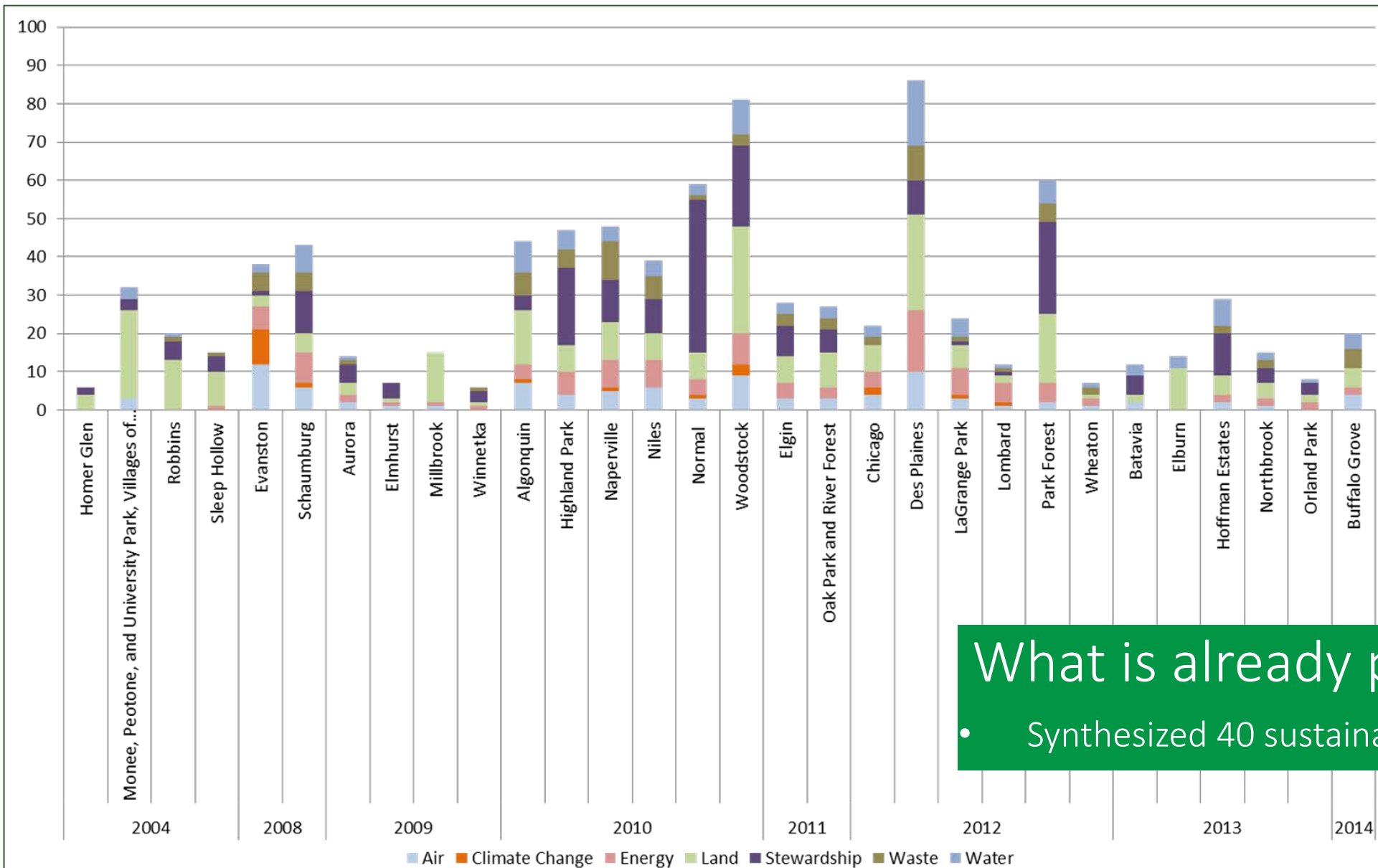
Creating the GRC

What is already underway?

- Studied 290 municipalities

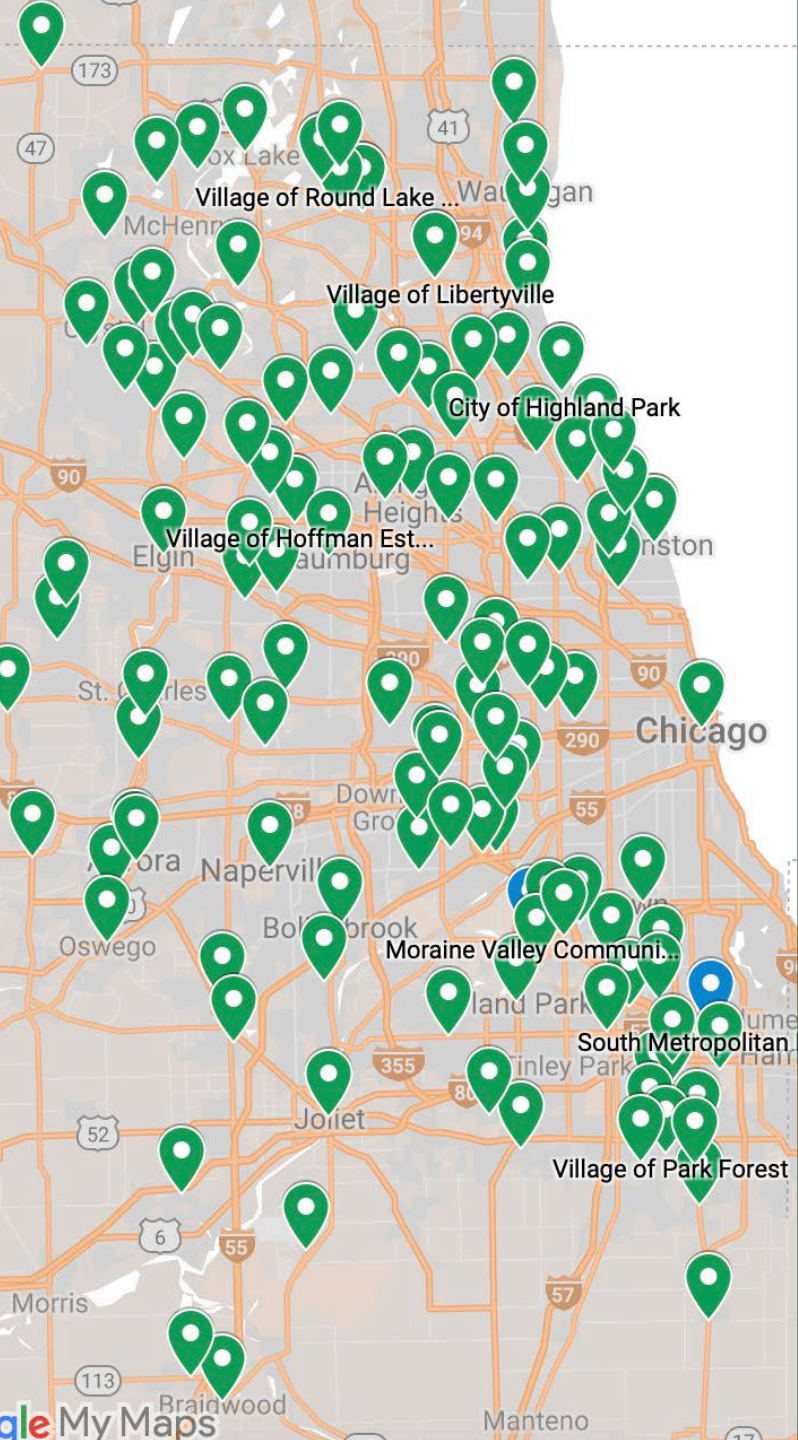


Creating the GRC



What is already planned?

- Synthesized 40 sustainability plans



GRC Communities

Formally adopted the GRC:

- 4 counties: Kane, Lake, McHenry, Will
- 10 COGs (councils of government, e.g., Lake County Municipal League)
- 126 municipalities

Some of the GRC municipalities include:

Algonquin	Blue Island	Chicago Heights	Elgin	Highland Park
Alsip	Bolingbrook	Crete	Evanston	Joliet
Aurora	Brookfield	Crystal Lake	Flossmoor	Lombard
Bartlett	Carol Stream	Darien	Fox Lake	Naperville
Batavia	Carpentersville	Elburn	Geneva	Oak Park
Bensenville	Chicago	Evergreen Park	Hazel Crest	Rockford

To find out if your municipality is a GRC community, view the map at:

<https://mayorscaucus.org/initiatives/environment/rec/>

Engaging Municipalities Through SolSmart

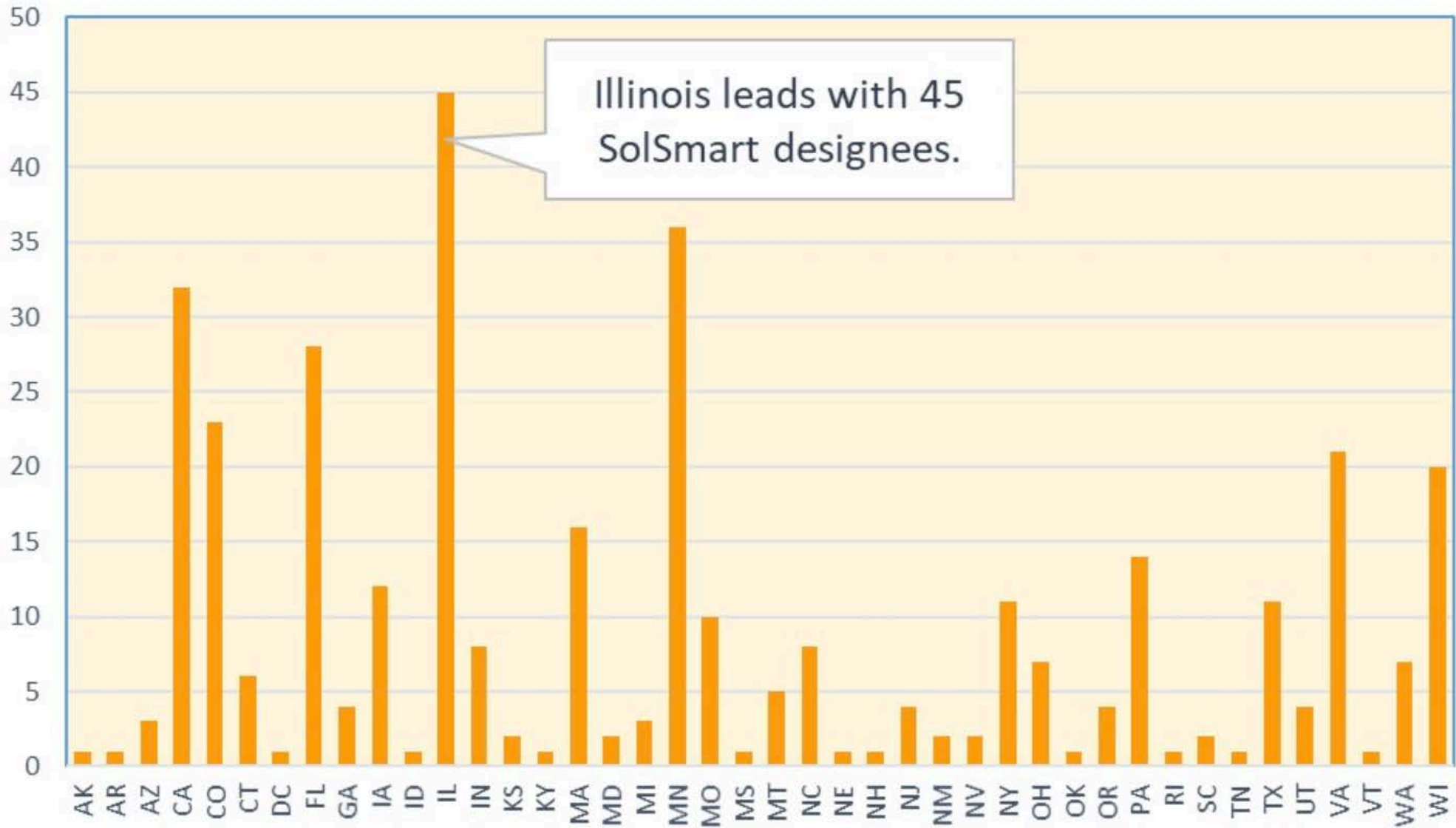


Advance renewable energy

35 local gov's streamlined solar codes & policies



SolSmart Communities by State



- Aurora
- Beach Park
- Brookfield
- Chicago
- Cook County
- Darien
- DuPage County
- Elgin
- Evanston
- Glencoe
- Grayslake
- Hanover Park
- Hawthorn Woods
- Highland Park
- Hillside
- Hoffman Estates
- Kane County
- La Grange
- Lake County
- Lake Forest
- Libertyville
- Montgomery
- Naperville
- Northbrook
- Oak Park
- Palos Park
- Park Forest
- Park Ridge

Engaging Municipalities Through the GRCorps



Dedicate staff to sustainability initiatives



GRCorps provides talent to 12 municipalities and partner organizations throughout the region



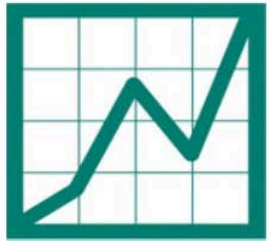
Carbon Footprint Calculator

- Travel: Your vehicle's miles per gallon, miles traveled/year, how much you take public transit or fly
- Home energy usage: electricity, natural gas, water usage
- Food: meat consumption
- Shopping: goods and services

The screenshot shows the 'Travel' section of the calculator. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for 'Get Started', 'Travel', 'Home', 'Food', 'Shopping', 'Your Footprint', and 'Take Action'. The 'Travel' icon is highlighted. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Travel' is displayed with an airplane icon. Underneath, the question 'HOW DO YOU GET AROUND?' is shown. There are two input fields: 'Your vehicles' with a '+. add' button and 'Consumption unit' set to 'miles per gallon'. A dropdown menu shows 'Gasoline'. The main input field contains '9700' and 'miles/year' with a red 'X' button. Below this is a slider ranging from 10 to 115, with a blue circle at 40 and a label '40 miles per gallon'.

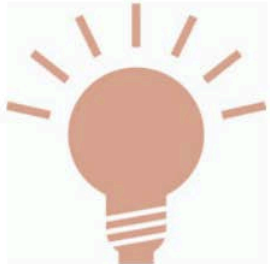
The screenshot shows the 'Home' section of the calculator. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for 'Get Started', 'Travel', 'Home', 'Food', 'Shopping', 'Your Footprint', and 'Take Action'. The 'Home' icon is highlighted. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Home' is displayed with a house icon. Underneath, the question 'HOW MUCH DO YOU USE IN YOUR HOME?' is shown. There are two sections: 'Electricity' and 'Natural Gas'. The 'Electricity' section has an input field with '850' and a dropdown menu set to '\$/year'. Below this is a slider ranging from 0 to 100, with a blue circle at 75 and a label '75 %'. The 'Natural Gas' section has an input field with '880' and a dropdown menu set to '\$/year'.

What You Can Do



2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Contribute to restaurants, agriculture, and businesses that produce and dispose of food products sustainably



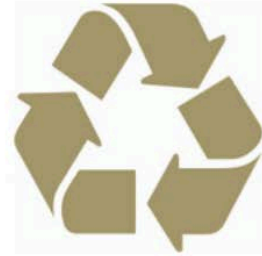
3. ENERGY

Investigate how hourly energy pricing can save you money and energy usage



4. LAND

Online order native plant seed mixes for pollinator or rain gardens, or attractive landscaping



5. WASTE AND RECYCLING

Reduce food waste by buying only what you need, freezing what you can use later, and store leftovers for later



6. WATER

Identify what your water service pipes are made of



7. LEADERSHIP

Share with us how you're celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth day - tag & like us on Facebook @GRCorps #earthday2020

Thank you!

Cheryl Scott
(not the meteorologist for Channel 7)

GRCorps Member

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

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Earth Day/ 22 April