

Green Ridgewood Summary of Key Initiatives

Village Council Presentation

Feb. 28, 2024



Agenda

- **Flooding: Range of Initial Proposed Solutions**
- **Columbia Graduate Students**
- **Climate Fresk**
- **Stormwater Ordinance, Newsletter**
- **Project 1000 Acres, Master Plan, Daffodil Festival/Earth Day Fair**
- **Final Thoughts**



Green Ridgewood

**Resilience, Flooding &
Stormwater Subcommittee**

Ideation Executive Summary

January 2024

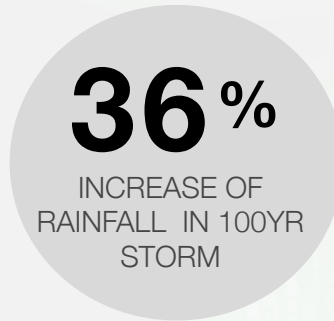


Rainfall 3.84" over a 24-hour period
12/17/23-12/18/23 @ 12 noon*

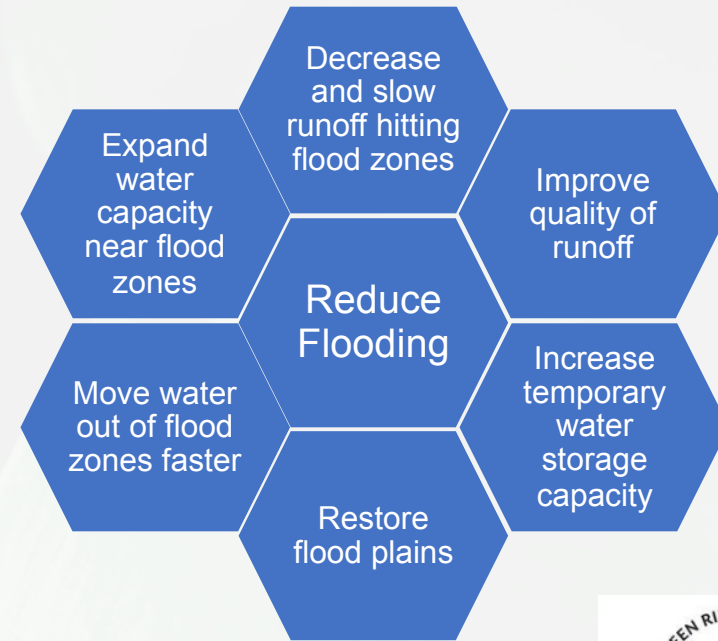


Challenges and Call to Action

By 2100 it is predicted that:



With increased rainfall and the number of heavy rainstorms, the risk to our habitation, residents, and infrastructure grows significantly.



20 Point Plan For Consideration/Study

Prioritize Ho-Ho-Kus Brook and Saddle River

Explore Capability to store water or expand water capacity during heavy storms

1. Increase wetland capacity
2. Subdivide property/purchase flood prone portion (NYC program)
3. Purchase homes in flood zone with existing programs. (Blue Acres, Flood Acquisition Plan)
4. Install detention and retention basins
5. Build a dam to reduce volume during major events
6. Explore Bergen County wide solutions up and down stream
7. Engage Army Corp of Engineers



20 Point Plan For Consideration/Study

Utilize Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure slows down the speed of stormwater reaching local waterways and improves water quality

1. Employ stormwater velocity reducers (planted vegetation beds)
2. Install rain gardens and bioretention basins that accept stormwater runoff
3. Expand tree canopy throughout Ridgewood (multiple benefits)
4. Riparian buffer restoration assessment for HHB and SR, including tributaries
5. De-snag and de-silt HHB and SR regularly (short-term benefit)



20 Point Plan for Consideration/Study

Deploy Stormwater Friendly Pavement

Rainwater filters through the pavement, reducing runoff by 80% and improves water quality

1. Leverage NJ's enhanced stormwater management controls to limit further growth of impervious cover
2. Target village owned facilities for permeable pavement (parking lots, Village Hall)
3. Streamline permitting process for pervious solutions
4. Explore disincentives for increasing impervious surfaces
5. Create dry well campaign for residents
6. Incentivize adoption of permeable pavement and dry wells with village tax credits or other financial mechanisms
7. Improve water flow by launching "Adopt a storm drain"
8. Promote business and homeowner education



Resilient Ridgewood

Spring 2023 Capstone

Village of Ridgewood, New Jersey

Columbia Graduate School of International &
Public Affairs (SIPA)

Advisor: Assoc. Professor Kathleen Callahan

Manager: Greg Porter

Deputy Manager: Conor O'Brien

Capstone Team: Belen Alvarez, Wanqing Dong, Skye Embray, Jimmy
Geffard, Menita Ranghar, Xiaohan Wang, Jennifer Wu, Simon Yacher,
Lee Yaron





Greg Porter



Conor O'Brien



Xiaohan
Wang



Belen Alvarez



Jimmy Geffrard



Wanqing Dong



Skye Embray



Simon Yacher



Jennifer Wu



Lee Yaron



Menita Ranghar



Kathleen Callahan

OUR TEAM

Project Teams



Flooding

How do we prevent people's homes and businesses from flooding?



Decarbonization

How can we expand renewable energy initiatives while reducing carbon emissions?

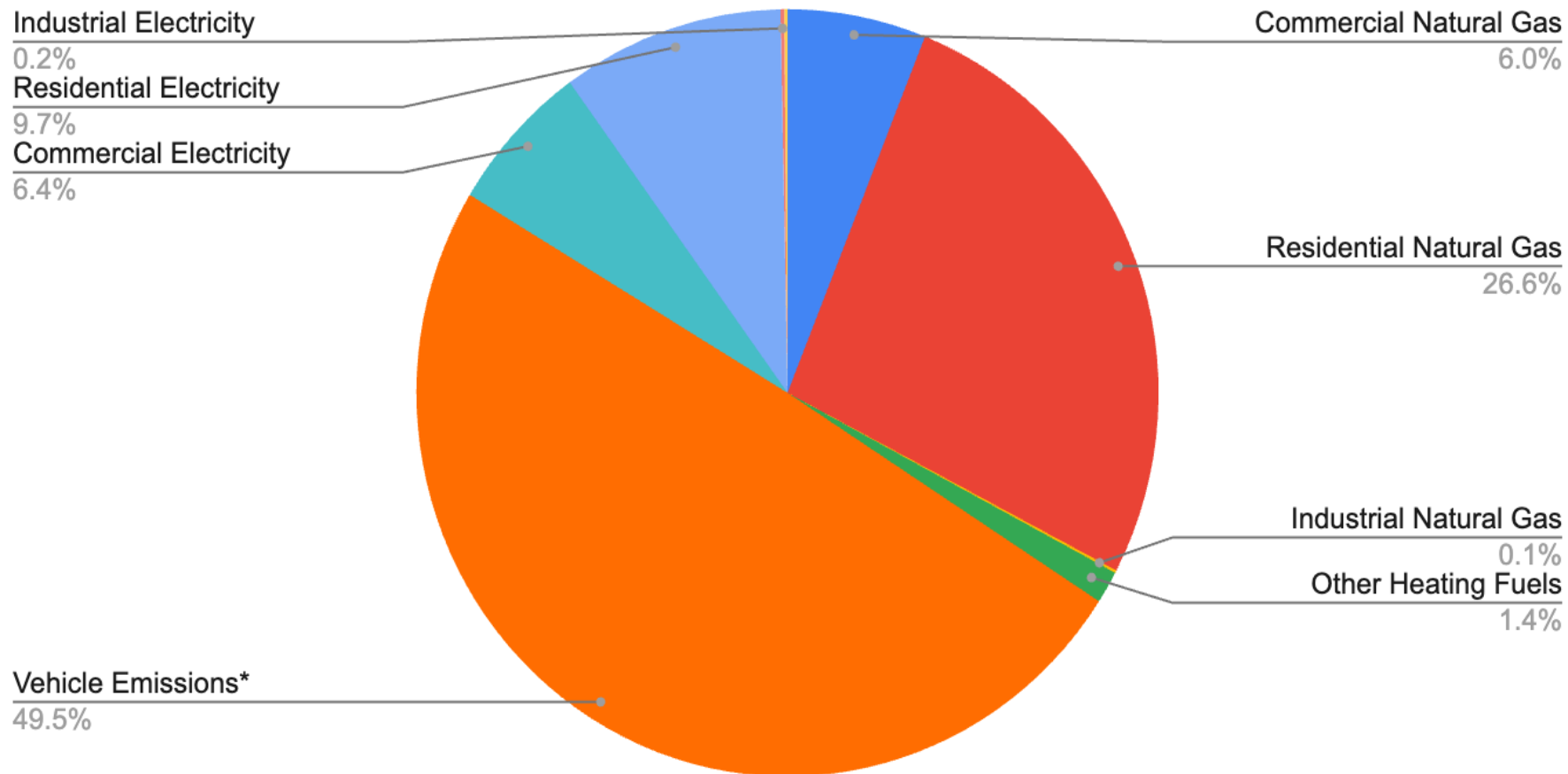


Funding/Comparison

How do we assess best practices, measure success, and pay for our programs?

Current Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Nearly half of Ridgewood's total emissions come from vehicles. **69%** of this is from **passenger cars**.





Data Refinement

Refine recommendations based on existing data relevant to context in Ridgewood gathered from Village leaders and outside organizations.



Develop Sustainability Roadmap

Assess Ridgewood’s landscape for flooding resilience, identify areas for decarbonization improvement, and develop implementable sustainability roadmap.



CL!MATE FRESK

All the cards are in your hands!

6 levers to equip organizations with the Climate Science they must have.



PLAYFUL

Our workshop is playful, fun and educational.



COLLABORATIVE

The workshop fosters team spirit and collective intelligence.



VISUAL

Because a picture is worth a thousand words.



CREATIVE

Time to be creative! Make your Collage unique: give it a title, add drawings etc.



SIMPLE

You only need the deck of cards, pens, paper, a table, and you are all set!



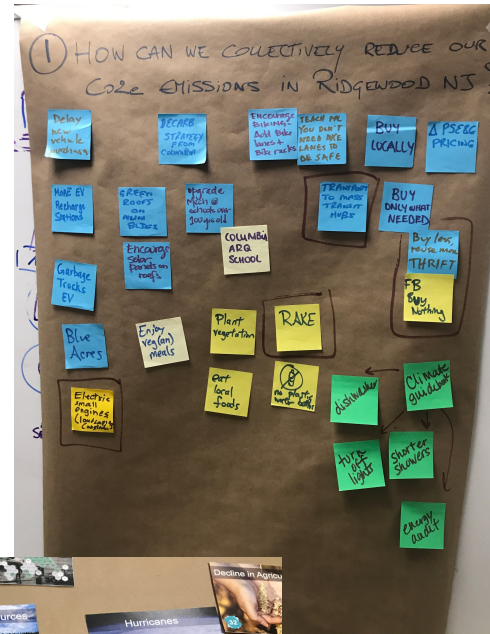
SCIENTIFIC

The content is based on the IPCC reports - the most reliable source of climate related data.

We played Climate Fresk in Ridgewood NJ on Jan 30th!

18 participants - full evening (6:30 to 9:30 pm)

1. They shared a common understanding of Climate Change stakes, causes & effects



3. They answered 3 questions:

- How can we **collectively** reduce our **CO2e emissions** in Ridgewood?
- How can we, in Ridgewood NJ, **adapt** to Climate Change?
- How can we, as a community, make that transformation **joyful & enjoyable**?

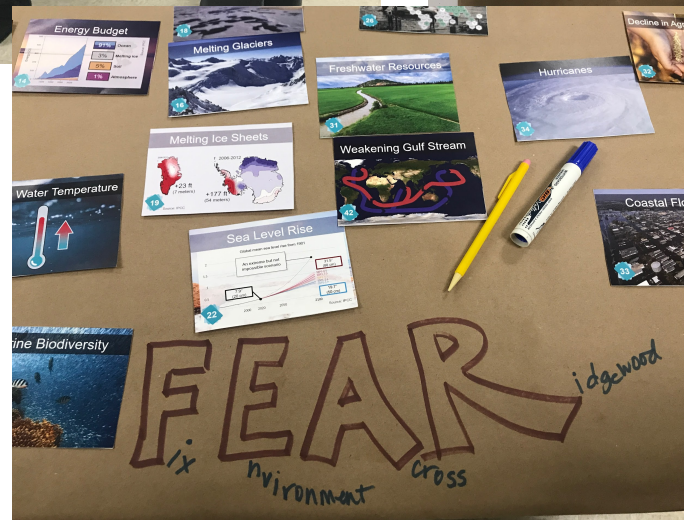


67 suggestions

Covering from **quick wins** (“rake”) to **structural projects** (“transport to mass transit hubs”)

Tackling CO2 reduction & Resilience

2. They expressed their feelings **vs the situation** and its consequences.



✓ Get people informed | ✓ Build the community | ✓ Nurture our Action Plans

Ridgewood is the 2nd US community to Partner with Climate Fresk



Other Ongoing Project Work

- Enhanced Stormwater Controls Ordinance
 - Mandated by DEP, ratification due no later than July 16, 2024
 - State proposed minimum requirements but urging stricter measures
 - Given our flooding issues, stricter measures can address flooding and water quality
 - GR working on a proposal to discuss with Engineering Dept.
- Green Ridgewood Newsletter
 - Coordinating with Communications
 - Initial Newsletter in March



Other Ongoing Project Work

- Project 1,000 Acres
 - No Mow May.....Slow Mow May (> 300 sign-ups last year)
 - Developing “Leave the Leaves” (around trees, in flower/bush beds)
 - Pollinator Pathways
- Implementation of Master Plan – focused 214 recommendations to 6 most critical:
 - Green Building Checklist (GBS-1.3)
 - Create a Timeline for EV’s (GBS-3.1)
 - Encourage Renewable Energy (GBS-2)
 - Expand Recycling (R-1)
 - Resiliency Planning (LU-9.1)
 - Emergency Response and Preparedness/Community Resilience Statement (LU-9.5)





Green Ridgewood 2024 Sub Committees

Six sub committees align with our ongoing Projects & recommended Master Plan Actions

Sub committee	Green Team	Communication	Earth Day	Resource Management	Green Building & Sustainability	Resilience, Flooding, & Stormwater
Lead	Mike Faherty	Caitlin O’Leary Justin Manger	David Refkin & TBC	Justin Manger	Beth Creller	David Refkin
Members	Adam Peterseil Joan Hubertus Alina Mordkovich Pamela Perron Chris Rutishauser Sofia Morino Luly Melarti Manpreet Tyagi Derek White	Yvone Nava Justin Manger Sophia Florida Nurhan Ezik Beth Creller Manpreet Tyagi	Everyone	Nurhan Ezik Beth Creller Yvone Nava David Refkin	Pam Perron Nurhan Ezik Mike Faherty Adam Peterseil Miles Luo Luly Melarti George Wolfson Justin Jonsson	Pam Perron Nurhan Ezik Sophia Florida Joan Hubertus Alina Mordkovich Caitlin O’Leary George Wolfson

Daffodil Festival / Earth Day Fair

2024 Daffodil Festival & Earth Day Fair

Celebrate spring within the Village
Remember The 3 B'S...
butterflies, brooks, & batteries



EVENT SPONSOR/ VENDOR/ PARTICIPANT- REGISTRATION FORM

Sponsor Donation \$350.00 _____

Sponsors will receive a prime preferred location, sponsorship signage, advertising, prominent marketing on the day of the event. Deadline for event sponsorship is **3/21/24**

Commercial Vendors \$150.00 _____

Food Vendors \$35.00 _____ *VOR Health Permit Required
Social & Charitable Organizations \$30.00 _____

Name of Organization/ Business _____

Please share the sustainable product or service that you will provide: _____

Address _____ Cell Phone # _____

Business Telephone _____ Contact Person _____

Email _____ Check # _____

Checks to be made payable to: The Village of Ridgewood,
Attn: Nancy A. Bigos, Parks & Recreation
The Stable, 259 N. Maple Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ 07450.
Further information, nbigos@ridgewoodnj.net or (201) 670 5560



2024 Members Green Ridgewood

David Refkin – Chair

Beth Gould Creller – Vice Chair

Yvone Nava

Justin Jonsson

Caitlin O'Leary

Nurhan Ezik

Justin Manger

Sophia Florida

Vivian Ewell, Student Liaison

Pamela Perron, Village Council Representative

Saurabh Dani, Board of Education Representative

Frank Mortimer, Parks & Recreation Conservation Board Representative

Jill Fasano, Village Staff Member



2024 Members

Ridgewood Green Team

Mike Faherty – Chair

Adam Peterseil

Joan Hubertus

Alina Mordkovich

Luly Melarti

Manpreet Tyagi

Derek White

Pamela Perron, Village Council Representative

Chris Rutishauser, Village Staff Member

Sofia Morino, Student Liaison



Final Thoughts

Call for Action

Key Opportunities

Building Partnerships for Success

Thank you for your support!

