

Park District of Oak Park

Sustainable Efforts



Sustainable Initiatives since 2015

(\$245,000 annual savings)

- Installed solar pv on 9 Park District Facilities (Over 1300 panels)
- Built PHIUS +Source Zero, LEED Gold & LEED Platinum Facilities
- Replaced all outdoor walk lights, Field Lights & Tennis Courts with LED
- Replaced all indoor lighting with LED
- Installed 5 cisterns for re-purposing rain/splash pad water (1.25 million gallons saved annually)
- Urban timber re-use
- Many smaller initiatives such as increased recycling/composting, battery powered landscaping equipment, native area management, native plantings, bioswales, rain gardens, smaller vehicles for maintenance, other efforts to cut miles driven and idling.



Ridgeland Common Solar System





Solar Efforts

- Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center (LEED Platinum)-2015
 - 19.6 kW System
- Longfellow Center -2016
 - 9 kW System
- Fox Center-2017
 - 9.3 kW System
- RCRC (LEED Gold) – 2017 & 2019
 - 256 kW System
- John Hedges Admin Center- 2018 & 2021
 - 19.2 kW

- Barrie Center- 2019
 - 8.2 kW
- Carroll Center (PHIUS + Source Zero) – 2020
 - 23.5 kW
- Oak Park Conservatory- 2019
 - 25 kW
- Stevenson Center- 2020
 - 9.4 kW
- **Under Construction- 2022**
 - **CRC- 315 kW**



Oak Park Conservatory 2019

- We have received \$100,000 funding from Green Mountain Energy's Sun Club from our pledge grant.
- Thank you to all our supporters for pledging on the actionable items.
- \$55,000 – Solar
- \$35,000 – Rain Water Collection
- \$ 5,000 – Bees
- \$ 5,000 – Tea Composting
- *Article written in NRPA Magazine





Carroll Center

- **Passive House Certified**
- **Net Zero Verified (2nd Verified in the state)**
- **True Net Zero Site**
- **Received \$588,000 Grant**
- **Community Asset**
- **Fully Electric Facility**
- **Geothermal HVAC System**
- **Renovation and Addition of a 100yr old facility**
- **Multiple press articles & NBC news coverage**



Water

- Cisterns: 1.25 million gallons saved annually (\$84,000 savings)
- **Conservatory**
 - 4 total tanks for 4750 ga capacity for watering in greenhouses & irrigation
- **Longfellow Park**
 - 9,000 gallon cistern collects splash pad and is used for irrigation
- **Field Park**
 - 7,500 gallon cistern collects splash pad and is used for irrigation
- **Austin Gardens Environmental Education Center**
 - 1500 gallon cistern collects rain water and uses it for watering and flushing toilets



..... **AND MORE**

- Community Recreation Center – Net Zero (\$1.8M ICECF Grant)
- PH Geothermal- Completed 2022 (Third System for PDOP)
- Continued zero waste concerts & community events
- Carbon Neutrality Plan – Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- Staff Sustainability Committee
- Strategic Goals- Green Lens heavily utilized
- Solar Trailer completed 2022
- Electrify Fleet and Facilities
- EV Charging stations- coming 2023



PDOP RECOGNITION

- IAPD's Best Green Practices
 - 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022
- Multiple articles in Wed. Journal
- Carroll Center featured on Front Page of Chicago Tribune and on ABC 7 News
- Carroll Center verified as only the second Net Zero building in the state
- Both Austin Gardens & Carroll received ASHRAE awards for design
- IL Green Alliance Emerald Award 2022
- Multiple tours held at both Austin Gardens & Carroll Center
- IL AIA Honors Award for Carroll & New Design for Austin Gardens



Greenhouse Gas Inventory

- Completed in 2022 for all properties for 2016, 2019 & 2021
- Using ICLEI software, same data set as Village of Oak Park
- Difficult to compare years with changing facilities and operations



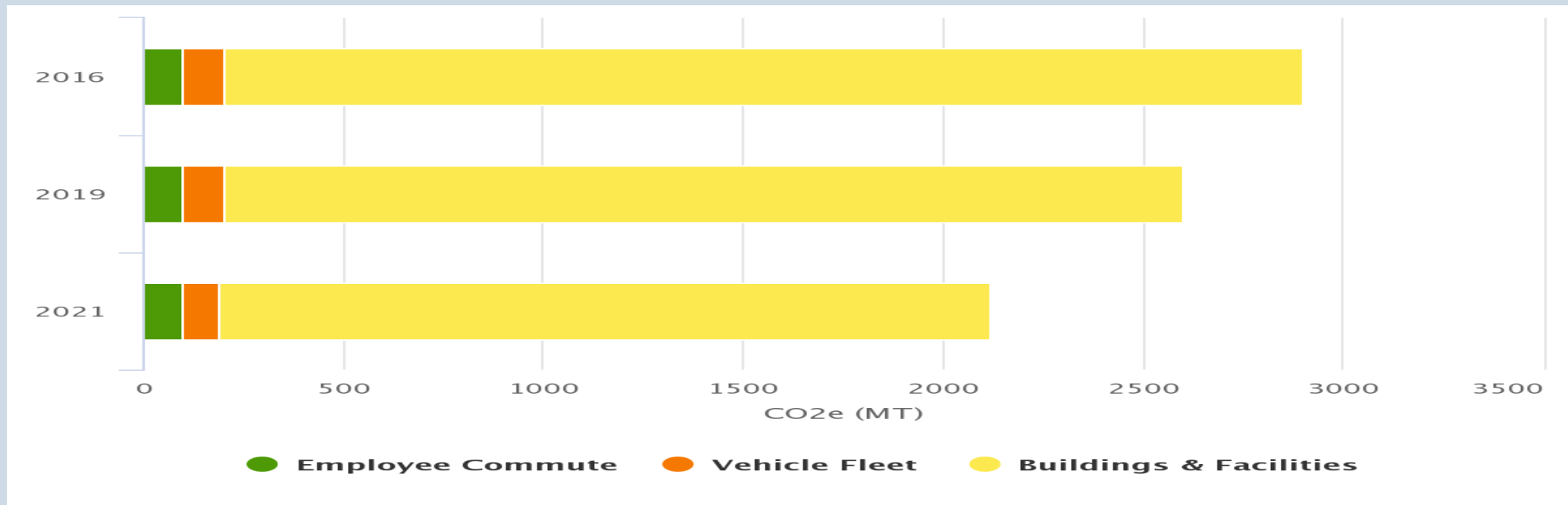
Energy Comparisons

2016

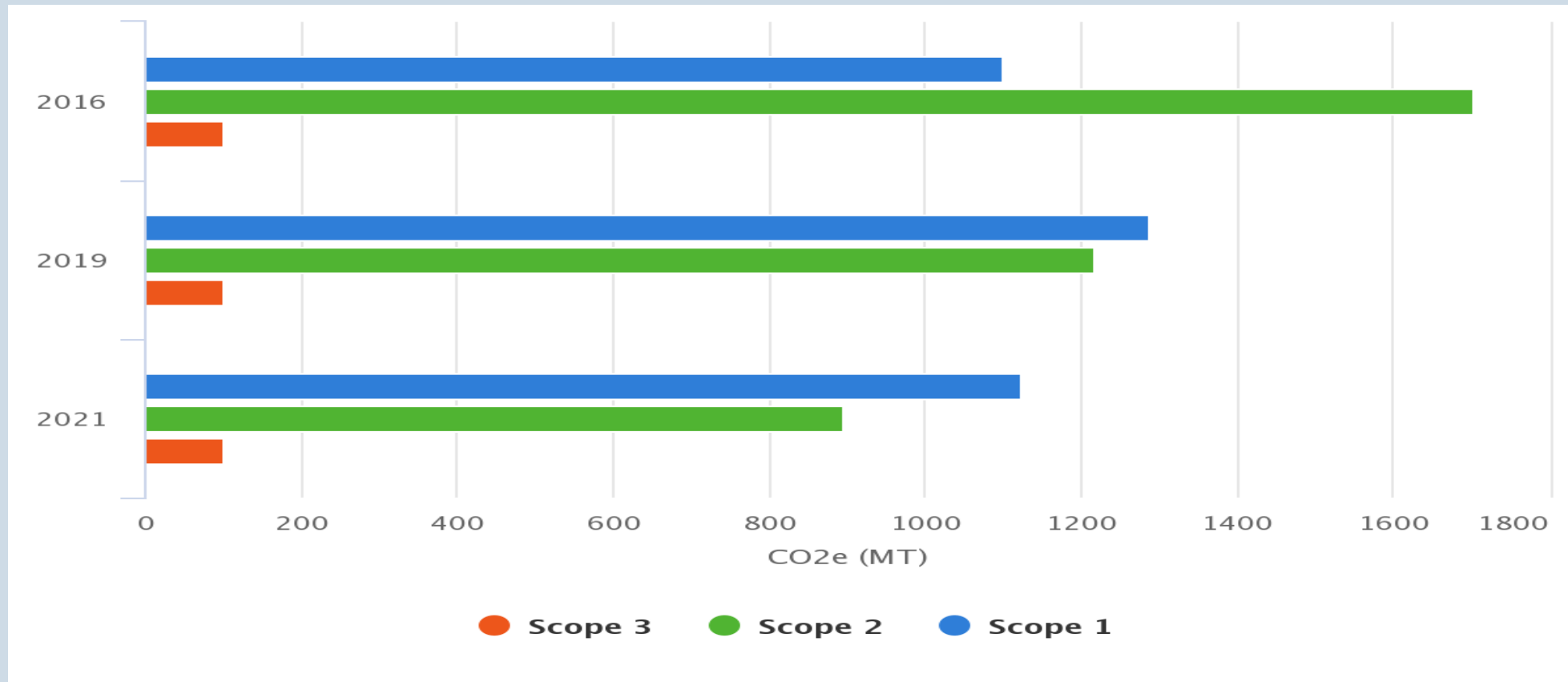
- Parks/Facilities –2699 Metric Tons
- Fleet – 102 Metric Tons

2021

- Parks/Facilities -1931 Metric Tons
- Fleet – 89 Metric Tons



Comparison by Scope



Next Steps

- Work through Forecasting and Planning tools
- Inventory 2022 data next Spring
- Input Carbon offset data (Brand new in software)
- Factor in Community Solar Purchasing
- Set goals in alignment with VOP Climate Action Plan
- Bring goal targets to Park Board for approval
- Identify specific action items

