

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Scranton Invites Public to Participate in Climate Action Plan Meeting

SCRANTON, PA. – The City of Scranton, in conjunction with Blue Strike Environmental, invites members of the public to a virtual public meeting on Thurs., June 13, from 6-7:30 p.m. to gather community feedback on the City's Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (SCAP).

"Failing to plan now for the impacts of climate change, extreme weather, and more is planning to fail future generations of Scranton residents," said Mayor Paige G. Cognetti. "We want our citizens to be informed and involved in the process so we can make positive changes across the City."

Blue Strike Environmental was awarded a contract to develop Scranton's first SCAP at a cost of \$49,765 in November 2023. The Climate Action Plan will "serve as a roadmap for the City to equitably achieve climate mitigation, resilience, and sustainability goals," including but not limited to methods to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; economic, public health, and equity opportunities, and feedback gathered by a planning committee and other stakeholders.

The goal of next week's public meeting will be to introduce to the SCAP, celebrate the City's achievements to date, introduce best practices, and brainstorm strategies. This engagement also seeks to identify potential opportunities, challenges, and model practice to guide the plan moving forward. The meeting will last 90 minutes and be conducted online, via Zoom.

The SCAP will build on the work completed in 2022 in partnership with the Local Climate Action Plan (LCAP) Program, a joint initiative by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and Penn State University, which created a comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory and outlined preliminary goals for climate action. The Plan is intended to serve as a resource for town staff, elected officials, and residents, empowering them to create a climateready, carbon-neutral, and emissions-resilient Scranton.

Residents can pre-register for the June 13 meeting at https://bit.ly/ScrantonClimate24.

Those who cannot attend but still wish to impact future sustainability efforts can take the City's Climate Action Plan Survey (CAPS) by visiting <u>https://scrantonpa.gov/caps</u>.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SCRANTON: Incorporated in 1866, the City of Scranton has a population of approximately 80,000 residents and is the sixth-largest municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Scranton City Hall is located at 340 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503. Residents requiring services should visit <u>www.scrantonpa.gov</u>.

###

